

A choir of approximately 12 women, dressed in dark, long-sleeved robes, stands in a line in a forest. They are holding large sheets of music and appear to be singing. The scene is backlit by a bright sunset or sunrise, with golden light rays streaming through the trees. In the foreground on the right, a deer with large antlers is visible, looking towards the choir. The overall mood is serene and ethereal.

SILENTIUM!

ENSEMBLE

S I L E N T I U M ! e n s e m b l e

ABOUT US

Silentium! is an early music ensemble, which was formed in 2025 from the renowned Czech Ensemble Baroque of conductor Roman Valek and continues its long tradition: numerous recordings for Czech Radio and Czech Television, Supraphon, Pentatone (NE) and Aparté Music France, awards: a BBC Radio 3 tip, TOCCATA magazine's Album of the Month (DE), a full number of stars in Early Music Review magazine, a nomination for the Classic Prague Awards - Recording of the Year, etc.

In addition to its home orchestra, the Czech Ensemble Baroque also performs and records with the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, Concentus Musicus Wien, Musica aeterna Bratislava, and the Brno Philharmonic, It has performed with soloists such as Andreas Scholl and Adam Plachetka at many festivals (Festival International d'Opéra Baroque & Romantique Beaune, Rheingau Musik Festival, Prague Spring) and conductors Roman Válek, Tomáš Netopil and Alexander Liebreich.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)





A R T I S T I C L E A D E R

TEREZA VÁLKOVÁ

As the choirmaster of the Czech Ensemble Baroque, she has staged numerous vocal-instrumental works from the Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical periods. Her productions include both opera performances and purely vocal a cappella programs. She regularly records for Supraphon, Czech Radio, Czech Television, and various foreign media.

In collaboration with her ensemble, she participated in a workshop with the renowned vocal group The King's Singers. Since 2008, she has been a lecturer for the choral class at the Summer School of Baroque Music and is frequently invited to serve as a jury member and lecturer for choral competitions and workshops.



V O C E L C O N C E R T

AQUA ET VINO ET SPIRIT

The concert program "Aqua et Vino et Spiritus" features new cantatas by Lukáš Hurník that thematically explore the elements of water, wine, and spirit as symbols of life and joy. These modern compositions are enhanced by masterpieces from Heinrich Schütz and Giovanni Gabrieli, whose music adds rich baroque textures and spiritual depth. Schütz's "Selig sind die Toten" and Gabrieli's "Jubilate Deo" create a festive and joyful atmosphere that resonates beautifully with Hurník's cantatas.



CHOIR: 3-3-3-3 (12 singers)

ORCH: cemb, cb (2 players)

CHOIRMASTER: Tereza Válková

MICHAELA KOUDELKOVÁ

FLAUTO DOUCE THE INSTRUMENT OF ANGELS AND DEATH

Michaela Koudelková presents a captivating recital that showcases the recorder in a fresh and intriguing way. The program includes transcriptions of concertos by Johann Sebastian Bach, highlighting the instrument's versatility, which was once referred to as "the instrument of angels and death." Bach's compositions, originally intended for other instruments, gain new depth in the hands of the recorder, emphasizing both subtlety and dramatic power.



ORCH: 3-3-2-1-1, cemb/org (11 players)

RECORDERS: Michaela Koudelková



HEINRICH SCHÜTZ

GEISTLICHE CHORMUSIK

Heinrich Schütz is regarded as one of the most important composers of the German Baroque period. He skillfully blends the German Lutheran tradition with Italian influences in his sacred music. His work "Geistliche Chormusik" represents the zenith of his artistry, showcasing masterful polyphony and deep emotional expression of spiritual texts. This collection offers listeners a profound and meditative experience that remains timeless and relevant today.



CHOIR: 4-4-4-4 (16 singers)

ORCH: ge, the, org/ cb (3 players)

CHOIRMASTER: Tereza Válková

A black and white portrait of conductor Tomáš Netopil. He is smiling, looking towards the camera, with his arms crossed. He is wearing a dark, high-collared jacket. The background is a simple, light-colored wall.

TOMÁŠ NETOPIL

FROM THE KROMĚŘÍŽ ARCHIVE

Under the direction of renowned conductor Tomáš Netopil, forgotten treasures of Baroque music from the Kroměříž Music Archive are being revived through modern world premieres. The program features works by Pavel Josef Vejvanovský (Missa Orientalis), Philipp Rittler (Salve Regina), and Giovanni Sanches (Salmi brevi and 8 voci in doi chori). These pieces, composed between 1674 and 1685, offer a unique opportunity to explore a musical heritage that has remained hidden in the archives for centuries, providing a fresh perspective on the rich musical tradition of Moravia.



CHOIR: 4-4-4-4 (16 singers)

ORCH: 4-3-3ga-vln, cornets, 3trb, the, org
(17 players)

CONDUCTOR: Tomáš Netopil

A L E S S A N D R O S C A R L A T T I

MESSA DI SANTA CECILIA

Alessandro Scarlatti's "Messa di Santa Cecilia" is a beautiful example of Baroque sacred music that honours Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians. Scarlatti, a master of Italian Baroque opera and oratorio, combines rich melodies with dramatic contrasts in this mass, creating a work that is both sublime and spiritually profound. This Mass serves not only as a musical tribute to Saint Cecilia but also as a showcase of Scarlatti's compositional skill, requiring virtuosity in its performance.



CHOIR: 6-3-3-3 (15 singers)

ORCH: 3-3-2-1-1, the, org (12 players)

CONDUCTOR: Roman Válek



WORLD PREMIERE

ANTON NEUMANN

Anton Neumann, an almost unknown composer from the 18th century, created works that embody the spirit of Sturm und Drang. His highly expressive style features sharply alternating emotions that convey profound emotional depth. His Symphony in D major is vibrant and melodically beautiful, while his Requiem in F minor meditates on themes of death and hope. The Divertimento in C minor showcases the lightness and playfulness characteristic of Classical music. This concerto highlights the variety and beauty of Neumann's compositions.



CHOIR: 3-3-3-3 (12 singers)

ORCH: 3-3-0-1-1, cornet, 3trb, fg, the, org/cemb
(15 players)

CONDUCTOR: Marek Čermák

THE QUINTET

GESUALDO MADRIGALI

Carlo Gesualdo, Prince of Venosa, was renowned during his lifetime for his madrigals, which were notable for their expressive harmony and emotional intensity. His fifth book of madrigals, *Madrigali a cinque voci*, represents the pinnacle of his work, showcasing Gesualdo's experimentation with chromatic techniques and dramatic texts. This music is filled with contrasts and tensions, reflecting the composer's turbulent personality and his thrilling, innovative approach to music.

 The Quintet (5 singers)



A D V E N T N P R O G R A M M E

FLECHA ENSALADAS

Matheo Flecha the Elder was a Spanish Renaissance composer known for creating a unique genre of compositions called "ensaladas," which can be described as musical "potpourris." These pieces combine different languages, styles, and forms. Full of humor and dramatic scenes, Flecha's ensaladas represent a vibrant mosaic of Renaissance life and culture. They serve not only as musical entertainment but also as important testimonies to the rich tradition of Spanish polyphony, showcasing its ability to tell stories through metaphor. This music is particularly suitable for the Advent season.



CHOIR: 2-2-2-2 (8 singers)

ORCH: fl-vihuela, drums (3-4 players)

STAY IN TOUCH

If you are interested in these or other programs, please feel free to reach out to us. Additionally, we can stage works according to your specifications.

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THANK YOU

