

SILENTIUM! ensemble

In 2025, the music scene welcomed a new early music ensemble, **SILENTIUM! ensemble**. Its artistic director is **Tereza Válková**, who served as the choirmaster of the Czech Ensemble Baroque under conductor Roman Válek from 2008 to 2024. Currently, both ensembles continue to collaborate while embarking on their own distinct artistic chapters.

SILENTIUM! ensemble builds upon the rich experience gained within the Czech Ensemble Baroque, where Tereza contributed to many of its significant artistic successes, including recordings for prestigious labels such as Supraphon, Pentatone, and Aparté Music France.

The ensemble collaborates with soloists such as Adam Plachetka, Hana Blažíková, Simona Šaturová, Jean-François Lombard, and others. It performs at major festivals (Prague Spring, Smetanova Litomyšl, Leoš Janáček International Music Festival, Znojmo Music Festival, etc.). It works with orchestras including Concentus Musicus Wien, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, and Musica Aeterna Bratislava, as well as conductors Tomáš Netopil, Roman Válek, Andreas Scholl, and Marek Čermák.

SILENTIUM! ensemble continues to focus on the authentic interpretation of Renaissance and Baroque music while bridging the past with the present. Its repertoire appeals to a broad audience, featuring renowned compositions by Johann Sebastian Bach or Claudio Monteverdi, **modern-day world premieres** of rediscovered works by authors such as Pavel Josef Vejvanovský, Philipp Jakob Rittler, and Anton Neumann, as well as contemporary compositions by Lukáš Hurník, Tigran Mansurian, and Ola Gjeilo.

In 2026, SILENTIUM! ensemble anticipates two extraordinary artistic milestones: The first is the **world premiere recording and performance** of unique works from the Kroměříž Music Archive under the baton of **Tomáš Netopil**. The second highlight of the season is the magnificent **Coronation Concert** marking the 400th anniversary of the Habsburgs, produced by the Znojmo Music Festival, which will be conducted by the world-renowned countertenor legend **Andreas Scholl**.

SILENTIUM! is also actively involved in educational projects that bring early music closer to young listeners and students. It organises the **Summer School of Baroque Music** workshop and, most notably, the early music concert cycle *Bacha na Mozarta!* in Brno and the Zlín Region.

SILENTIUM! is an ensemble that unites a passion for early music with a deep respect for historical legacy, delivering unique musical experiences imbued with profound emotion.

TEREZA VÁLKOVÁ, Artistic Director

Born in Třebíč, Tereza Válková began her musical education at the Brno Conservatory (piano). She continued her studies in solo singing at the Academy of Early Music in Brno and in choral conducting at Charles University in Prague under the guidance of Jiří Kolář and Marek Štryncl (studying Gregorian chant with David Eben). She subsequently graduated in solo singing from the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Ostrava and has completed numerous courses in early music interpretation.

As a member and soloist of various vocal ensembles, she has performed at concerts and competitions throughout Europe (Italy, Poland, Germany, Austria, Ireland, France, etc.). She

focuses primarily on the historically informed interpretation of music from earlier stylistic periods.

From 2007, she served as the choirmaster of the Czech Ensemble Baroque. Under its banner, she founded a vocal quintet specialising in high vocal polyphony and 17th-century madrigals. In 2017, *The Quintet* premiered Lukáš Hurník's madrigal cycle *Poslední léto s Juliet* (Last Summer with Juliet) and filmed the first successful debut music video in the Czech Republic for Monteverdi's madrigal *Io mi son giovinetta*.

As a choirmaster, she has rehearsed a wide range of Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical vocal-instrumental works, including scenic opera productions and purely vocal and a cappella programs. She regularly records for Supraphon, Czech Radio, Czech Television, and foreign media. Together with her ensemble, Tereza Válková participated in a workshop with the renowned vocal group The King's Singers. Since 2008, she has been a lecturer for the choir class at the Summer School of Baroque Music. She is regularly invited to serve as a jury member and lecturer at choral competitions and workshops.

In 2025, she founded her own early music ensemble, **SILENTIUM! ensemble**.