

IL POMO D'ORO

The ensemble **il pomo d'oro** was founded in 2012. It is characterized by an authentic, dynamic interpretation of operas and instrumental works from the Baroque and Classical period. The musicians are all well-known specialists and are among the best in the field of historical performance practice. The ensemble so far worked with the conductors Riccardo Minasi, Maxim Emelyanychev, Stefano Montanari, George Petrou, Enrico Onofri and Francesco Corti. Concert master Zefira Valova leads the orchestra in various projects. Since 2016 Maxim Emelyanychev has been its chief conductor, and since 2019 Francesco Corti is principal guest conductor.

Il pomo d'oro is a regular guest in prestigious concert halls and festivals all over Europe. After the worldwide success of the program «In War and Peace» with Joyce DiDonato, in 2020 **il pomo d'oro** and Maxim Emelyanychev will present the new program «My favorite things» with the American Mezzosoprano.

The discography of **il pomo d'oro** includes several opera recordings: G. F. Händel's *Agrippina*, *Serse*, *Tamerlano*, *Partenope* and *Ottone*, Leonardo Vinci's *Catone in Utica*, and Alessandro Stradella's *La Doriclea*. It features Recitals with the countertenors Jakub Józef Orliński, Franco Fagioli, Max Emanuel Cencic, and Xavier Sabata, with mezzosopranos Ann Hallenberg and Joyce DiDonato and with sopranos Francesca Aspromonte and Emöke Barath. Among the instrumental albums the recordings of Haydn's violin and harpsichord concertos as well as a cello album with Edgar Moreau received *Echo Klassik Awards* in 2016. Further instrumental recordings are dedicated to the violin concertos and the harpsichord concertos by J.S. Bach, with Shunske Sato and Francesco Corti as soloists, and to virtuoso violin concertos with Dmitry Sinkovskiy.

In 2019, the albums *Anima Sacra* with Jakub Józef Orliński, and *Voglio Cantar* with soprano Emöke Barath received the prestigious Opus-Klassik award, and the recording of G.F. Händel's *Serse*, conducted by Maxim Emelyanychev, was awarded the important Italian 'Abbiato del Disco'. In 2018, the recording of Alessandro Stradella's opera *La Doriclea*, conducted by Andrea di Carlo, received the important German 'Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik'.

'Virtuosissimo' with Dmitry Sinkovskiy, released in 2019, received a Diapason d'Or. 'Facce d'amore', second album of **il pomo d'oro** with the Polish countertenor Jakub Józef Orliński, was released in December 2019 and is since then on tour. First releases in 2020 are Handel's *Agrippina* with Joyce DiDonato in the title role and *Cembalo Concertos* by J.S. Bach with Francesco Corti.

Il pomo d'oro is official ambassador of El Sistema Greece, a humanitarian project to provide free musical education to children in Greek refugee camps. **Il pomo d'oro** plays charity concerts and offers workshops and music lessons according to the El Sistema method on a frequent regular basis in various refugee camps in Greece.

The name of the ensemble **il pomo d'oro** refers to Antonio Cesti's opera from the year 1666. Composed to the wedding celebrations of Emperor Leopold I and Margarita Teresa of Spain, *Il Pomo d'Oro* was probably one of the largest, most expensive and most spectacular opera productions in the still young history of the genre. 24 different stage designs, a horse-ballet of 300 horses, a fireworks display of 73,000 rockets, numerous 'special effects' - superlatives, which should make the Emperor's court the highlight of cultural splendor in Europe.