

PRESS INVITATION

Fabio Bonizzoni and La Risonanza join soprano Roberta Invernizzi to perform Vivaldi and Handel at Wigmore Hall on 21 July



21 July
Wigmore Hall
7:30pm

Roberta Invernizzi soprano
La Risonanza
Fabio Bonizzoni harpsichord & direction

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Ercole su'l Termidonte RV710

Aria: Da due venti

Griselda RV718

Aria: Ombre vane, ingiusti orrori

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Overture from 'Rodrigo' HWV 5

Antonio Vivaldi

Catone in Utica RV705

Act 2 Scene 4 Aria: Se mai senti spirarti sul volto

Dorilla in Tempe RV709

Aria: Rete, lacci e strali adopra

George Frideric Handel

Giulio Cesare in Egitto HWV17

Aria: Piangerò la sorte mia

Antonio Vivaldi

Dorilla in Tempe RV709

Sinfonia

George Frideric Handel

Rodelinda HWV19

Aria: Ritorna, o caro e dolce mio tesoro

Giulio Cesare in Egitto HWV17

Aria: Da tempeste il legno infranto

Fabio Bonizzoni and his critically acclaimed ensemble **La Risonanza** join soprano **Roberta Invernizzi** to perform a programme of **Vivaldi** and **Handel** at **Wigmore Hall** on **21 July 2015**. All Vivaldi arias in this programme follow on from La Risonanza's successful recording of *Vivaldi Opera Arias* with Invernizzi in 2012, which Gramophone claimed was "**another winner for La Risonanza and a triumph for Invernizzi**". The concert is part of Wigmore Hall's **Early Music and Baroque** series.

La Risonanza have had a long-standing musical partnership with **Roberta Invernizzi**, having recorded numerous discs together, in addition to live performances. Their most recent disc together – Handel's ***Duetti da camera*** – was released in 2014 to critical acclaim. This follows their CD of Handel's Neapolitan serenata ***Aci, Galatea e Polifemo***, also with Roberta Invernizzi. The recording sessions took place at the historic 7th-Century **Abbey of St-Michel en Thiérache, France**. The cast was completed by renowned French mezzo-soprano **Blandine Staskiewicz** in the role of *Galatea* and Argentinian bass-baritone **Lisandro Abadie** as *Polifemo*.

Fabio Bonizzoni's attention on recording the music of Handel has, thus far, yielded seven discs devoted to the early Italian-texted cantatas. The press and public alike were delighted with the superb series of **Handel cantatas** recorded for **Glossa**. The series received three Stanley Sadie Handel Recording Prizes and a Gramophone Award. One critic from *Klassik.com* considered the recording "**a feast for the ears**".

In addition to a concert performance of John Eccles' *Semele* at the **Early Music Festival** in **Utrecht** on **3 September**, **Fabio Bonizzoni** and **La Risonanza** will perform Handel's chamber music with soloists **Roberta Invernizzi**, **Silvia Frigato** and **Thomas E. Bauer** at the **Konzerthaus Blaibach** on **6 September** and at the **Kulturviertel Kapuzinerstadl** on **7 September**.

Fabio Bonizzoni

Fabio Bonizzoni is one of Italy's most celebrated harpsichordists and organists. For several years he played with leading orchestras specializing in early music including the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra, Le Concert des Nations and Europa Galante before pursuing his career as a soloist and director, dedicating himself in particular to his own ensemble La Risonanza.

Having graduated in organ, organ composition and harpsichord in Ton Koopman's class at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, Bonizzoni now teaches harpsichord at the Conservatory himself. In Italy he is also harpsichord professor at the Conservatory of Novara in and president of the "Associazione Hendel", a musicological society devoted to the studies of Handel's music in his country.



As a soloist, he has recorded many albums on the Spanish label *Glossa* showcasing works by Claudio Merulo, Giovanni Salvatore, Giovanni Picchi, Francesco Geminiani, Bernardo Storace, Domenico Scarlatti and J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations and the Art of Fugue. His latest release is devoted to the two books of toccatas by Girolamo Frescobaldi.

Bonizzoni is also a sought-after conductor and has appeared with many ensembles throughout Europe. Most notably in April 2011, he was invited to appear as guest conductor of the orchestra of Teatro alla Scala in Milan in the new ballet "*L'altro Casanova*". Recent engagements include conducting the Wroclaw Baroque Orchestra in Poland and the Dutch Bach Society in The Netherlands.

Roberta Invernizzi



Roberta Invernizzi has become one of the outstanding voices of Baroque music in modern times, contributing with her crystalline soprano and an unfailing dramatic sense to the rediscovery of much neglected music, from Italy in particular. Hailing from Milan, Roberta Invernizzi's music studies initially encompassed the piano and the double bass before she took up singing under the guidance of Margaret Heyward, later specializing in both Baroque and Classical era music.

Invernizzi's talent for characterization has been superbly demonstrated across the Gramophone Award-winning series of recordings on *Glossa* of Handel's chamber cantatas in Italian with Fabio Bonizzoni, through her visceral and vivid portrayals of Arcadian characters from goddesses and nymphs to shepherdesses. Her prowess there led Fabio Bonizzoni to write recitatives with her in mind for his creation of a pasticcio opera in *Gli strali d'Amore*, with arias by André Campra. The flamboyant revival in recent years of music from the Neapolitan Baroque led by Antonio Florio and I Turchini owes much to Roberta Invernizzi's contributions, whilst on the opera stage diverse roles in recent years have seen her perform in Handel's *Rinaldo* and *Agrippina*, Vivaldi's *Ercole sul Termodonte* and Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and

L'incoronazione di Poppea (as well as in Mozart, Grétry and Berton). Reactions from the international press have praised her singing for its "intensity and delicacy, her control of pitch and phrase production", her "great radiance of tone" as well as frequent notes of approval for her sensitivity, refinement and subtlety.

La Risonanza



Founded by Italian harpsichordist Fabio Bonizzoni in 1995, **La Risonanza** champions Italian baroque music composed between the end of the 17th and the first half of the 18th Century. They have already released 23 celebrated CDs in the genre, with the release of

Fabio Bonizzoni performing Handel's *Duetti da Camera* being the most recent.

La Risonanza achieved considerable acclaim for their previous CD releases. Most notably, the seven volume series of Handel's Italian Cantatas received a Gramophone Award in 2011 and three Stanley Sadie Handel Recording Prizes. Their CD was Editor's Choice for Gramophone magazine in October 2010 and David Vickers praised the series saying **'Every so often a series comes along where every issue is worthy of inclusion as an Editor's Choice. More than that, it seems an injustice not to include it.'**

Future engagements

29 August 2015 6.00 pm
Hohenloher Kultursommer
Hohenlohe, Stiftskirche Öhringen, Germany

6 September 2015 11.00 am
Kulturwald Festspiele Bayerischer Wald
Konzerthaus, Blaibach, Germany

7 September 2015, 7.00 pm
Kulturwald Festspiele Bayerischer Wald
Kapuzinerstadl, Deggendorf, Germany

HANDEL Duets and Trios

Roberta Invernizzi *soprano*
Thomas Bauer *baritone*
Silvia Frigato *soprano*
Caterina Dell'Agnello *cello*
Fabio Bonizzoni *harpsichord and musical direction*

3 September 2015 8.00pm
Early Music Festival Utrecht
TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht, The Netherlands

JOHN ECCLES *Semele*

Cast: Stefanie True (*Semele*), Giorgia Cinciripi (*Ino/Cupid*), Marivi Blasco (*Iris*), Marina de Iiso (*Juno*), Emanuele Bianchi (*First Augur/Second Priest*), Alessio Tosi (*Second Augur/Third Priest*), Jean-François Lombard (*Athamas*), Fulvio Bettini (*Jupiter*), Richard Helm (*Cadmus*), Iason Marmaras (*Somnus/Apollo*), Sebastian Szumski (*Chief Priest*)

La Risonanza
Fabio Bonizzoni *musical direction*

Prizes for La Risonanza

STANLEY SADIE RECORDING PRIZE

2007 Award Handel Italian Cantatas Vol I *Le Cantate per il Cardinal Pamphili*

2010 Award Handel Italian Cantatas Vol V *Clori, Tirsi e Fileno*

2011 Award Handel Italian Cantatas Vol VII *Apollo e Dafne*

GRAMOPHONE AWARD

2011 Award Handel Italian Cantatas Vol. VII *Apollo e Dafne*

Praise for La Risonanza

***** *'Bonizzoni can take risks where others can't, owing to the brilliance of his musicianship matched with intellect that plumbs the depths of the score.'*

Berta Joncus, BBC Music Magazine, January 2013

***** *'Under Fabio Bonizzoni's stylish direction, the ensemble once more beguiles our senses'*

Nicholas Anderson, BBC Music Magazine, December 2012

***** *'La Risonanza marries instrumental finesse to expressive flair.'*

Graham Lock, Early Music Today, March 2010

'...in Roberta Invernizzi they have a soprano soloist of rare elegance. The sound is superb and the whole disc a jewel among Baroque releases.'

David Denton, Yorkshire Post, 10 July 2009

'another collector's item from Bonizzoni and his dazzling ensemble.'

Hugh Canning, Sunday Times (Review of Handel: Italian Cantatas Vol 4)

'Risonanza are Italian musicians who sing and play idiomatically, with poised precision: a welcome illumination of a neglected corner of musical history.'

Nicholas Kenyon, The Observer, 30 August 2009

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