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Basel Chamber Orchestra

One of the most exciting formations to be touring on the international orchestra scene." (Fono Forum)

Based in Basel, successful internationally - the Basel Chamber Orchestra impresses audiences everywhere. The energy-charged concerts which sparkle with a love of music are the trademark of this creative top orchestra. As one of the few ensembles of its kind, the versatile Basel Chamber Orchestra is just as much at home playing baroque instruments as it is playing music from the 20th and 21st centuries.

Founded in 1984 by graduates of various Swiss musical colleges, nowadays invitations to the most important concert arenas and festivals of the European classical music scene are just as much part of the schedule as the orchestra's own subscription concerts in Basel. Educational projects, music to accompany readings and a range of chamber music in the urban ambience of the Ackermannshof restaurant in Basel round off the repertoire. Diverse CD recordings with famous labels like Sony, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi, RCA Records and OehmsClassics are evidence of the excellent quality of the orchestra.

The orchestra enjoys playing under the direction of its own concertmaster and appreciates the cooperation with various conductors such as Paul Goodwin, Mario Venzago, Trevor Pinnock and Giovanni Antonini. With the latter, the musicians are working on the cycle of Beethoven's symphonies. The recording of symphonies 1-8 is already available from Sony and received the «Ensemble of the year 2008» award from ECHO Klassik for the recording of the 3rd and 4th symphonies. The orchestra could affirm this success last year: Under the direction of its concertmaster Julia Schröder co-starring soprano Nuria Rial it won the ECHO Klassik 2012 in the category «Best Opera Recording (opera arias and duets)» for the recording of Telemann's arias. The documentary «Bartok Quinten» [*Bartok's quintets*] (2010, directed by Christine Burlet), which provides a colourful look behind the scenes of the Chamber Orchestra Basel has been broadcast on the television channels SF1 and 3sat.

The list of soloists who have performed together with the orchestra is renowned: Cecilia Bartoli, Sol Gabetta, Andreas Scholl, Sabine Meyer, Vesselina Kasarova, Angela Hewitt, Renaud Capuçon, Victoria Mullova, Núria Rial and many more.

The 2014/2015 season will feature the performance and CD recording of Beethoven's 9th symphony under the direction of Giovanni Antonini. Also in the season the Chamber Orchestra Basel is looking forward to working with outstanding soloists and conductors such as Christoph Poppen, Heinz Holliger, Fazil Say, Emmanuel Pahud, Sandrine Piau, Julia Lezhneva and the Juilliard String Quartet. Contemporary works of Heinz Holliger and Fazil Say as well as an original performance of an original commissioned piece for twelve instrumentalists and live electronics by the composer Maurilio Cacciatore round off the program for the upcoming period.

2013 Clariant has joined Credit Suisse as main sponsor of the Basel Chamber Orchestra.

Season 2014/15 (General Management)