

AUSTRIAN BAROQUE COMPANY

„Explosive music-making, glorious recorder-playing, Baroque swing” – this is how one could describe the basic aims and achievements of those top players from the original-instrument scene who came together to create the Austrian Baroque Company, a group which is celebrated internationally, receiving the highest praise and many CD awards since its formation in 2001.

The founder and director of the distinguished Baroque ensemble is the recorder virtuoso Michael Oman, who trained in Austria, Holland and Italy. For many years this exceptional Austrian musician has impressed public and press alike with his unbounded energy and joyful music-making, and with his period instrument band has conquered the national and international music scene.

The Austrian Baroque Company (ABC) brings together chamber music specialists trained at leading European music universities who are dedicated to playing on period instruments. The main focus of their repertoire is the vast store of instrumental and vocal music of the 17th and 18th centuries. Numerous artistic projects from intimate recorder recitals to Baroque recorder concertos (by Vivaldi, Telemann, Sammartini and others) have already been presented to the public and recorded on CD.

Praise in Early Music publications and international CD awards (the latest of which was the coveted “Orphée d’Or” from the Académie du Disque Lyrique Paris – one of the highest awards made by the international specialist press) document the outstanding work of the Austrian Baroque Company, which has been described as “unbelievably agile, tempestuous, partly attaining the status of folklore” and “a ravishing celebration by a group with Danube blood in their veins”. After many years of co-operation with the ORF (Austria Broadcasting Company), in 2009 the ensemble began a collaboration with Sony Music (deutsche harmonia mundi) with CDs of „Exit Baroque“ and Handel’s „Nine German Arias“ with the Spanish star soprano and Echo-prizewinner Nuria Rial.

Ever since the ensemble was formed in 2001 the Austrian Baroque Company has accepted invitations from a wide range of countries and is a regular guest at international festivals.

www.abcmusic.at