

Concerto Copenhagen tours China from May 9-12
With music inspired by the sounds of the season: Springtime!

From May 9 to May 12 Concerto Copenhagen tours China with stops in Beijing, Shanghai and Nanjing. Under the musical direction of Lars Ulrik Mortensen the “Ensemble for Timeless Music” presents works from the Baroque to the modern era that are inspired by spring. Soloists on the tour are violinist Fredrik From and flautist Torun Torbo. Kick-off concert in Copenhagen is on May 7.

The seasons have always been a great inspiration for composers, especially spring, when nature comes alive from its winter hibernation. Even in the Baroque period, music can be found that often tried to imitate the sounds and moods of spring, from birdsong to the tinkling of a brook. Particularly well-known is “The Spring” from “The Four Seasons” by Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) where the music tries to recreate the sound of spring, when the nature is awakening from the winter’s slumber. The songs of birds are repeatedly imitated, as in Vivaldi’s two concertos for violin and flute, where you can hear the cuckoo (il Cucu) and the bird “Il gardenello”, which in English is known as the songbird the goldfinch.

The program is complemented by “Le Journal de Printemps” by Johann Caspar Ferdinand Fischer (1656-1746), the Concerto grosso no. 3 in d-minor called “The Garden of Harmony” by Charles Avison (1709-1770) – an arrangement of a harpsichord sonata by Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757) and Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936) orchestral suite called “Gli Uccelli” (the Birds) – in a version recomposed by Danish composer Karl Aage Rasmussen (*1947) for Concerto Copenhagen’s small baroque forces.

Concerto Copenhagen is a Danish baroque orchestra that describes itself as an “ensemble for timeless music”. The ensemble members, under the artistic direction of conductor and harpsichordist Lars Ulrik Mortensen, play on baroque instruments and in historically informed performance practice, while at the same time making references to the present and the future. As ambassadors of Scandinavian Baroque music, they have long transcended the borders of the Nordic countries and sounds and build bridges to other (musical) worlds. Concerto Copenhagen has, over several years, engaged in various outreach and educational initiatives. These initiatives encompass a wide range of activities, including music performances accompanied by picture books for young children, appearances at hospitals and nursing homes, collaborations with the National Gallery of Denmark to provide educational programs for primary school classes, as well as partnerships with other organizations for special projects aimed at young audiences. Additionally, Concerto Copenhagen collaborates with the MGK programs in Copenhagen and St. Annæ Gymnasium on workshop projects for young talents and works together with the Royal Danish Academy of Music to conduct workshops and courses on baroque music for conservatory students. In 2023 the orchestra received the great acknowledgement of being adopted on the Danish Finance Act 2024.

www.concertocopenhagen.com

CONCERTO COPENHAGEN

also on:

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUV5_CWPXOpwEzYgakpTDrA

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/concertocopenhagen/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/concertocopenhagen/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/concertocph>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/3bAYWBSC170iRoa7KEJu5p>

Tour dates:

May 7, 2024 at The Black Diamond, Copenhagen

May 9, 2024 at Concert Hall, NCPA Beijing

May 10, 2024 at Shanghai Concert Hall

May 12, 2024 at Jiangsu Centre for the Performing Arts, Nanjing, Concert Hall

Program:

Johann C.F. Fischer:	Le Journal de Printemps, Suite in C-major op. 1 no. 1
Antonio Vivaldi:	Il Rosignuolo (The cuckoo) violin concerto in A-major, RV 335
Charles Avison/Domenico Scarlatti:	Concerto grosso no. 3 in d-minor (after Scarlatti)
Antonio Vivaldi:	Il Gardinello (The Goldfinch) flute concerto in D-major, RV 428
Antonio Vivaldi:	La Primavera (Spring) from The Seasons RV 269
Respighi/Rasmussen:	Gli Uccelli (The Birds)

Cast:

Fredrik From, solo violin

Torun Torbo, solo flute

Concerto Copenhagen

Lars Ulrik Mortensen, musical direction

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