



## **BALTHASAR NEUMANN CHOIR**

A deep passion for music, outstanding artistic quality, and an irrepressible joy for singing. This is what the Balthasar Neumann Choir, founded by Thomas Hengelbrock in 1991, stands for. The vocal ensemble succeeds in surprising again and again with their energetic interpretations, creating magical moments for audiences around the world. The particular blend of the pure, warm Balthasar Neumann sound touches and fascinates in equal measure, making this choir unique. This sound combined with intensive rehearsal and an in-depth study of the works and their composers gives rise to the high quality of the choir, which was named by Gramophone Magazine as "one of the best choirs in the world". Numerous awards, including several ECHO-Klassik prizes and a Gramophone Award, underscore the ensemble's reputation.

Under the direction of Thomas Hengelbrock, the singers work in international residencies and give concerts at renowned concert halls and festivals. The choir cooperates with the Balthasar Neumann Orchestra as well as with other musical partners such as the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, the Camerata Salzburg, the Symphony Orchestra Basel, the Orchestre de chambre de Paris and guest conductors such as Pablo Heras-Casado, Ivor Bolton, Howard Arman and Pablo González. In addition to historically informed performances of works such as Wagner's "Parsifal", Monteverdi's „Vespers“, Beethoven's "Missa solemnis", and the original version of Mascagni's "Cavalleria rusticana", the choir is increasingly devoted to contemporary compositions and works across genres and disciplines. Starting this season, conductor Lionel Sow will work closely with the Balthasar Neumann Choir and Thomas Hengelbrock, leading numerous projects of the ensembles.

The singers also regularly share their knowledge and passion for music with future generations through masterclasses, workshops, and other educational projects. Within the framework of the Singers' Academy, they work intensively with young vocalists and enrich the work of the Balthasar Neumann Academy through joint projects.

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