

## MUSICA RICERCATA

The ensemble MUSICA RICERCATA was created in 1987 on the initiative of Michael Stüve and other musicians situated primarily in Florence, Italy. In 1989 it emerged as a Cultural Association and in 1998 as an 'Onlus' (*a non-profit organisation of social benefit*) with the aim of promoting art and culture. Initially inspired by Florence's musical heritage, its concert activities, distinguished by the rarity of their programming and in particular, the exceptional themes considered, eventually embraced all epochs, from ancient Babylonian and Hellenistic to modern day music, with a repertoire of approximately 1100 publicly performed compositions and over 530 musical events. The ensemble has performed in four continents participating in numerous festivals among them: the *Festival de Musique et d'Art Baroque en Tarentaise* 1989, the *Sagra Musicale Umbra* 1995, the International Festival of Monfalcone 1996, the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino 1996, the 1998 concert season of the Ateneo Musica Basilicata, the *MittelFest* of Cividale del Friuli 2001, the *Fest in Schönbrunn* of Vienna 2002, the Kiryu Chamber Music Festival in Japan 2003, Tuscany Week in Moscow, Russia 2003, the 40th anniversary celebration of the twinning of Kyoto-Florence in Kyoto 2005, the *1er Festival Culturel International de Musique Symphonique* in Algiers 2009. The ensemble recorded for radio and television broadcasts, directed popular concert series in Tuscany and organized national and international conferences on musicological themes, many of which financed by the European Commission and by the Italian Ministry of Culture. Among them:

- 'The History of Bowed Instruments', Cherubini Conservatory, Florence, 8-9 November 2001;
- 'Music and the Crisis of Sonority', Palazzo Vecchio, Florence, 21 September 2002;
- 'Mozart in Florence - Italy and Chamber Music in the Late 18th Century', Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence, 29-30 September 2006;
- 'The Music of Ancient Greece', Palazzo Panciatichi, Florence, 4 October 2008;
- 'Ancient Music in the Mediterranean - Greece and Sardinia', Villa La Petraia, Florence, 27 November, 2010;
- 'Voyages in the World of Amerigo', Palazzo Medici Riccardi and the Church of Ognissanti, Florence, 21-22 November 2012.

Musica Ricercata also participates upon invitation in organized conventions of other institutions such as:

- 'Music and Poetry in Greece', *I Concerti della Normale* Season 1997-1998, Pisa, 10 November 1997;
- 'Greece', Conference for the opening of the *MittelFest* of Cividale del Friuli, 20 July 2001;
- 'Music and Territorial Growth - Local Management and Planning within the European Context', National Study Conference, Savona Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Palazzo Comunale of Savona, 26-27 September 2003;
- 'The Culture of Renaissance Florence', The University of Osaka, 7 April 2005;
- 'From the Trio Sonata to the String Quartet - Chamber Music Between the Baroque and Classical Eras', *Landesmusikrat* of the Rhineland-Palatinate Region, Germany, 19-21 October 2007;
- 'Music in Museums', Lorenzo de' Medici Institute, Florence, 20-22 February 2014;
- 'The Lyres of Ur - the Rediscovery of the Music of Ancient Greece and Mesopotamia', Lorenzo de' Medici Institute, Florence, 17-18 April 2015;
- 'Giuseppe Castiglione (1688-1766), Jesuit Artist in China', day of study organized in Florence by the Accademia delle Arti del Disegno, by the Museo dell'Opera di Santa Croce and by the Giuseppe Castiglione - Lang Shining Study Society, with a Musica Ricercata concert of Chinese and Ibero-American Music handed down from Jesuit missionaries, 29 January 2016;
- 'Florence circa 1600 - Patrician Families and the Financing of Culture', Master of Arts in Museum Studies, Lorenzo de' Medici Institute, SAGAS Department-University of Florence, 11-12 April 2019;
- 'A Millenium of Permutations in the Music of Ancient Greece', lesson in streaming from the 'Gallerie degli Uffizi', Florence, 22 September 2021.

Musica Ricercata curates conference proceedings as well as numerous other publications. Three of its projects on ancient, medieval and classical music were selected by the European Commission for their cultural programmes *Kaleidoscope* 1996, *Kaleidoscope* 1997, L.E.A.D.E.R. in 1998-1999 and *Raphael* 1999-2000. Ulterior European funding provided through the programme *NextGenerationEU* has allowed for the creation of the *Interactive Digital Archive MUSICA RICERCATA*: [www.musicaricercata.eu](http://www.musicaricercata.eu).