

il pomo d'oro is an orchestra founded in the year 2012 with a special focus on opera, but equally committed to instrumental performance in various formations. The musicians united in this group are among the best to be found worldwide for authentic and vivid interpretation on period instruments. Together with the young chief conductor Maxim Emelyanychev they form an ensemble of outstanding quality, combining stylistic knowledge, the highest technical skills, and artistic enthusiasm. The collaboration with violinist and conductor Riccardo Minasi led to an award winning first recording (Vivaldi, *Per l'Imperatore*). The second recording, Vivaldi's violin concertos *Per Pisendel* with Dmitry Sinkovsky as soloist and conductor, received a Diapason d'Or. In 2012, **il pomo d'oro** also recorded 3 solo CDs with three countertenors – Max Emanuel Cencic (Venezia), Xavier Sabata (Bad Guys) and Franco Fagioli (*Arias for Caffarelli*), under Riccardo Minasi's direction. The album *Arias for Caffarelli* was awarded the Choc de l'annee 2013 by the French magazine 'Classica'. A further contribution to the Naive-Vivaldi-Edition was a recording of the *Concerti per due violini*, played and directed by Riccardo Minasi and Dmitry Sinkovsky, released in October 2013. In conjunction with a book project about the Venetian Gondola by American writer Donna Leon, **il pomo d'oro** recorded a collection of ancient Venetian Barcarole, sung by Vincenzo Capezzuto. A recital of various Agrippina Arias – most of them world premieres on CD – with the Swedish mezzosoprano Ann Hallenberg, directed by Riccardo Minasi, was released in 2015. Agrippina won the International Classic Music Award and the International Opera Award. A second album with Max Emanuel Cencic, *Arie Napoletane* (directed by Maxim Emelyanychev), was released in November 2015. It includes many world premiere recordings of the still to be rediscovered Neapolitan repertoire. In 2016, **il pomo d'oro** recorded its first recital with the American mezzosoprano Joyce DiDonato, *In War & Peace*, released in November 2016, followed by a concert tour in Europe and the US, conducted by Maxim Emelyanychev. For this album Joyce DiDonato was awarded the Echo Klassik for 'Singer of the year 2017'. A second recital with Ann Hallenberg was recorded in the fall 2016, presenting *Greatest Hits from the Venetian Carnevale 1729* – **il pomo d'oro's** first recording under the direction of Stefano Montanari. The recording season 2016 closed with a first collaboration with Enrico Onofri and the young Italian soprano Francesca Aspromonte. In March 2017, **il pomo d'oro**, led by Zefira Valova, recorded a new recital of *Handel-Arias* with countertenor Franco Fagioli. In November 2017 **il pomo d'oro** gave a series of concerts with the young Russian violin virtuoso Alina Ibragimova playing a classical and romantic program.

il pomo d'oro so far recorded five complete operas: *Handel's Tamerlano*, *Catone in Utica* by Leonardo Vinci, – awarded with an Echo Klassik 2016 – *Handel's Partenope* (all directed by Riccardo Minasi), and *Handel's Ottone* (directed by George Petrou). Among the singers are to be heard Franco Fagioli, Max Emanuel Cencic, Xavier Sabata and Karina Gauvin. In 2017 the opera '*La Doriclea*' by Alessandro Stradella was recorded under the direction of Andrea de Carlo and will be a world first release of this opera in 2018.

Another *Handel-opera* recording under the direction of Maxim Emelyanychev with a stellar cast concludes the recording year 2017,

Further instrumental recordings include Haydn's concertos for harpsichord and violin, co-directed by Maxim Emelyanychev as harpsichord-soloist and Riccardo Minasi as violin-soloist (to be released in early 2016), and a violoncello recital with Edgar Moreau with works by Haydn, Boccherini, Platti, Graziani, Vivaldi, which was released in November 2015. Both recordings won the Echo Klassik Award 2016. A new recording with violinist Dmitry Sinkovsky explores the repertoire of the *Virtuosissimi* of the baroque violin, such as Locatelli, Tartini, Leclair, Pisendel, and others.

Il pomo d'oro is a frequent guest in the most important concert venues in Europe and the United States, such as Théâtre des Champs Elysées, Theater an der Wien, Barbican Center, Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall (2017), Philharmonie Berlin (2017), Herkulessaal München, and many more.

El Sistema Greece

In 2016 **il pomo d'oro** became ambassador of EL SISTEMA GREECE, a humanitarian project to fight the loss of home and identity by offering musical education and encourage own musical activity, to bring concerts, to create cultural transfer by exchanging musical traditions and to help integration by combining musical and language education. **Il pomo d'oro** plays concerts and offers workshops and music lessons according to the El Sistema method on a frequent regular basis in various refugee camps in Greece.