

Freiburg Baroque Consort

Small groups often tend to be overshadowed by larger bodies. Not so with the Freiburg Baroque *Consort*. Parallel to the rise to fame and acclaim of the FBO, these solo artists have also established their own name.

The *Orchestra* delves into music ranging from Baroque to modern, reassessing its terms and probing its relevance for today's public. And with the same curiosity, the *Consort* moves through territory of its very own: beyond the bounds of Baroque mainstream and on to where composers were especially mad and ingenious and where the paths get pretty narrow. They are mainly interested in discovering 17th century music for small orchestras, exploring the solo aspects and potential of the gems of this period.

Violins, violas and the especially colorful continuo ensure a repertoire ranging from early Italian Baroque, Lawes and Purcell to late Baroque string sonatas, leading the way to famous festivals like Utrecht and Innsbruck. The unique quality of the ensemble was obvious to the critics on the first CD with works by Biber and Muffat. It won the Diapason d'Or in France. On concert tours of its own, the *Consort* has gained international renown, travelling from the south of France to Scandinavia and from the Balkans to South East Asia. And it is by no means unusual for their tour route to overlap with that of the FBO.