

## **Freiburger Barockorchester**

Often they are referred to for short as "The Freiburgers", a clear sign not only of endearment, but also of the fact that the Freiburger Barockorchester has long since become an established institution. And their repertoire is no longer just Baroque music, but meantime extends far beyond Classical and into late Romantic and contemporary music. At the initiative of Siemens Arts Program, five European composers are currently writing works for the Freiburger Barockorchester (premier: 27.8.2005 at the Lucerne Festival). The musical homeland of the Freiburgers, however, is still the music of the 17th and 18th centuries.

In addition to concerts with guest conductors, the orchestra usually works with its musical directors Gottfried von der Goltz and Petra Müllejans, who conduct even larger ensembles from the leader's chair.

With this recipe for success, the Freiburger Barockorchester performs worldwide, at all the large concert halls and the most important international festivals.

In the 2005/06 season, they will continue their successful collaboration with singer Cecilia Bartoli. A three-part tour in February and June 2006 with works by Händel and Caldara will take them to Portugal, Spain, England and Turkey. The season opens with a German tour. Under the direction of Trevor Pinnock and with singer Carolyn Sampson, the FBO will present an English program: "If love's sweet passion". A production of the opera *La Clemenza di Tito* anticipates the 2006 Mozart Year. René Jacobs will conduct a concertante performance of this, Mozart's last, opera in Brussels, Cologne, Paris and Berlin; a CD will also be produced with harmonia mundi France. The FBO will end the year 2005 with René Jacobs and a well-known work whose interpretation by Jacobs is destined to be extremely surprising, not just for audiences: Händel's *Messiah*. There will be concerts in Athens, Paris, Valencia, Castellon, Milan, Rome, and on New Year's Eve in Freiburg, plus a CD production for harmonia mundi France.

In March 2006, the FBO will perform Bach's orchestra suites without a conductor in Nantes, Lyon, Metz, Wolfsburg, Rotterdam and Leiden. In summer there will be two projects to mark the Mozart Year: a collaboration with the SWR Sinfonieorchester Freiburg and Baden-Baden as a "Homage to Mozart". In addition to works by Mozart, the FBO together with the SWR Sinfonieorchester will give a first performance of a work by Jörg Widmann. René Jacob's stage production of *Don Giovanni* is destined to be a major event in the Mozart Year. A recoding of this opera is also being produced with harmonia mundi France, further evidence of the long-term link between the musicians and the French recording label.