

ENSEMBLE NOBILES



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The vocal quintet Ensemble Nobiles, having celebrated their 10 year anniversary in January 2016, is a well established group in the a cappella scene. In recent years the ensemble has attracted attention with a number of competition successes, for example 1st prize at the German National Choir Competition 2014, a bursary from the German Music Council and the best vocal ensemble prize at the 13th International Choral Competition Maribor.

The vocal quintet receives regular invitations from renowned festivals, such as the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Leipzig Bach Festival, the Mosel Music Festival, the Kurt Weill Festival Dessau, as well as many others.

Regardless of whether a concert programme is of a sacred or secular nature, whether in Germany or abroad, the formation always manages to move the audience and animate them into singing along.

The precision, interpretation, the joy in their music-making and the thoughtfully formed programmes have been held in high esteem by the press. In the last five years more than 70,000 audience members in 13 countries have been able to witness all of this for themselves.

PRESSESTIMMEN

»The blend of their voices is sensational, and they are captured up close and warm so that the listener feels as though he is right in the midst of them. Their close brand of harmony put me in mind of the King's Singers, and I found listening to them a welcoming treat.«

SIMON THOMPSON | January 2013, www.musicweb-international.com

»As if these five men were one instrument.«

ALINA BRÜCKNER | 20th of August 2016, Helmstedter Nachrichten

»What an exciting experience [...]. The entire cast was impressed with the professionalism of the ensemble and greatly appreciates the warmth and hospitality with which they were received. It's been fun for all involved.«

SUSAN SHINN TURNER | 20th of November 2017, Salisbury/NC

»The ensemble's performance was marked by sensitive phrasing, expressive dynamics and absolutely perfect diction.«

RICK PERDIAN | 29th of March 2015, Singapore

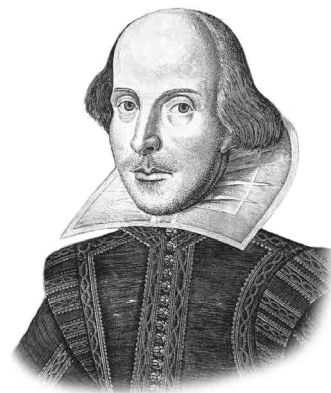
»Sie pflegten einen samtigen, weichen Vokalklang von instrumentengleicher Klarheit.«

MF | 28. Juni 2017, Gelnhäuser Neue Zeitung

»Mit spitzbübischem Charme schlugen sie den darin enthaltenen Schmalz zu einer fluffigen Creme auf und brachten die Zuhörer zum Lachen.«

KARIN BAUMANN | 25. Juli 2016, Ostfriesische Nachrichten

ARS POETAE



»All that we see or seem, Is but a dream within a dream« (Edgar Allan Poe)

It is not so much dreaming and mortality, but more the contemplation and sensuality of life, of which Edgar Allan Poe writes about in his poem, A Dream within a Dream. Since time in memorial, text and music have been essential forms of human expression to process feelings, hold on to thoughts and to enter into an exchange with the reader or listener. In 14 B.C. Horaz published in his Ars Poetica an essential literary phrase: »Prodesse et delectare« (Lat. To be useful and delight). This applies also to the following programme, as the works, ranging from the Renaissance to the modern are enriching and entertain the listener.

The symbiosis of Bible texts, music of the English Reformation and the modern tonal language allow for a sensuous experience. In the second half, the musical rendering of texts by world famous literary figures, such as William Shakespeare, Robert Burns, Edgar Allan Poe and Rainer Maria Rilke highlights what the text alone may not be able to express.

Image sources l-r: [above] William Butler Yeats sketched by John Singer Sargent (1908) | Edgar Allan Poe | Robert Burns © Wellcome Library, London | [below] Alfred Edward Housman photographed by Henry van der Weyde (before 1890) | Rainer Maria Rilke | William Shakespeare etched by Martin Droeshout 1623

Duration: 2 x 45 minutes
suitable for: Churches, Halls
needed: five music stands

ARS POETAE

Paul Heller
Thomas Tallis
Paul Heller
Thomas Tallis
Paul Heller

Bernd Franke

Jeremy Rawson
Miklós Klajn
Krzysztof Penderecki

Thesis
Lamentations I á 5
Antithesis
Lamentations II á 5
Synthesis

Luther Madrigals

Sanctus
Pater noster
Benedicamus Domino

*** (INTERMISSION) ***

Orlando di Lasso

Matthew Harris

Pierre Attaingant

Gregory Brown
Jeremy Rawson

Luca Marenzio

David Hamilton
Gregory Brown

Orlando di Lasso

Bernd Englbrecht

Bon jour; et puis, quelles nouvelles?

Love Songs
I. Shall I Compare Thee To A Summer's Day?
II. Oh, When I Was In Love With You
III. A Red, Red Rose
IV. A Drinking Song

Tourdion

The Bailiff's Daughter
A Dream Within A Dream

Occhi dolci e soavi

Mein Leben ist nicht diese steile Stunde
Still, still, still

La nuit froide et sombre

Ein Jäger längs dem Weiher ging

ARS POETAE

NOTRE DAME

The Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris, dedicated to Maria and built 1163 to 1345, is one of the earliest Gothic churches in France and was the centre of the Notre-Dame movement in the 12th/13th Centuries. It was there that Pérotin reworked »Magnus liber organi de graduali et antiphonario pro servitio divino« (originally created by Léonin), one of the most important music-historical sources of this time.

It is no surprise that, not only churches, but also masses have been dedicated to one of the most important figures in Christianity and Islam, the Virgin Mary. One of the most well known Renaissance masses is the »Missa de beata virgine« by Josquin des Prés, the manuscript of which (Mus.ms. C) lies in the Bavarian State Library. It plays an important role in the list of the franco-flemish composer's work, as the first two movements were written for four voices and the following three movements for five voices.

The parts of the Ordinary and earlier pieces for multiple voices have been placed next to contemporary compositions, bridging the gap to the early masters and through the use of exciting contrasts, creating a varied spectrum of sounds.

Duration:	2 x 45 minutes
suitable for:	Churches
needed:	five music stands

Image: Manuscript Mus.ms. C, supposedly by Lukas Wagenrieder © Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München



NOTRE DAME

Pérotin	Viderunt omnes
Josquin des Prés	Missa de beata virgine (1) Kyrie
Jeremy Rawson	Jauchzet dem Herrn
Josquin des Prés	Missa de beata virgine (2) Gloria
John Cage	Litany For A Whale
Josquin des Prés	Missa de beata virgine (3) Credo

*** (INTERMISSION) ***

NOTRE DAME

Georg Christoph Biller	Gesang der Erzengel
Josquin des Prés	Missa de beata virgine (4) Sanctus
Christian Pohlers	There Is No Rose Of Such Virtue
Josquin des Prés	Missa de beata virgine (5) Agnus Dei
Léonin	Viderunt omnes
Pérotin	Ave maris stella



SPEAK YOUR PEOPLE'S LANGUAGE

This programme could also be called »Popsongs – yesterday and today«. View it as a treasury of songs, of the people, from the Renaissance to the modern age. Crossing epoch and language borders, we will speak our people's language by listening to how they talk.

The path leads from the Madrigal – one of the most important vocal musical forms in the Renaissance and early Baroque – to the German folk song, which gained huge popularity in the 19th Century, not least due to the efforts of Friedrich Silcher. The blossoming Lied form was reborn in the form of Songs through the influence of the Anglo-American culture.

Regardless of whether charming love songs about village life or recommending that all have a positive attitude to life: the composers of every time period listened to how people really talked, so that their stories, feelings and thoughts could be held on to and carried out into the world.

Duration:	2 x 45 minutes
suitable for:	Parlours, Halls
needed:	five music stands

Image: Pieter Bruegel the Younger: The Peasant Wedding Feast

SPEAK YOUR PEOPLE'S LANGUAGE

Orlando di Lasso	Bon jour; et puis, quelles nouvelles?
Luca Marenzio	Occhi dolci e soavi
Orlando di Lasso	La nuit froide et somber
Pierre Attaingant	Tourdion
Friedrich Silcher	Süss' Liebe liebt den Maien
Max Reger	Die Erde braucht Regen
Friedrich Silcher	Am Brunnen vor dem Tore
Max Reger	Das Sternlein
Friedrich Silcher	Das zerbrochene Ringlein
Matthew Harris	Love Songs
	I. Shall I Compare Thee To A Summer's Day?
	II. Oh, When I Was In Love With You
	III. A Red, Red Rose
	IV. A Drinking Song
Gregory Brown	The Bailiff's Daughter
	Still, still, still
Bernd Englbrecht	Ein Jäger längs dem Weiher ging

SPEAK YOUR PEOPLE'S LANGUAGE

*** (INTERMISSION) ***	
George David Weiss	What A Wonderful World (Arr. Gregor Meyer)
Irving Berlin	Blue Skies (Arr. Gregor Meyer)
Kurt Weill	Es regnet (Arr. Gregor Meyer)
Arthur Johnston	Pennies From Heaven (Arr. Ludwig Böhme)
Kurt Weill	One Life To Live (Arr. Christoph Küstner)

IT'S RATTLING IN THE PARLOUR

Although often underestimated and not taken seriously, the origins of parlour music in the royal courts cannot be ignored. During the 19th Century this style of music gained popularity across the growing middle classes. Easily comprehensible themes, excellently executed caricatures and sentimental melodies all existed simply to entertain.

The comedic highlights of Wilhelm Busch were surely the best. The listener will also find it difficult to stifle a smile during the humorous scenes of Richard Heinze.

The melodies of the Comedian Harmonists have been filling the halls and parlours of the world since the 1930s. It is almost impossible, with the crackling of the vinyl, to fully satisfy the anticipation of what is being heard. Fredo Jung has, however, newly arranged the songs and clothed them in a instrumental accompaniment, colourful, sentimental and virtuous.

Duration: 2 x 45 minutes
suitable for: Parlours, Halls
needed: five music stands, Piano
Setting: 1 Pianist, 2 Violins, 1 Viola, 1 Cello, 1 Double Bass (we can organise the instrumentalists, otherwise we are happy to make music with local musicians)



IT'S RATTLING IN THE PARLOUR

Fredo Jung	Es ist schon 100 Jahre her... 7 Erinnerungen an Wilhelm Busch (1832-1908) Prolog I. Da kommt mir eben so ein Freund II. Du fragtest mich früher nach mancherlei III. Wer möchte diesen Erdenball IV. Es stand vor eines Hauses Tor V. Ach, ich fühl es! Keine Tugend VI. Die Selbstkritik
Richard Heinze	Eine fidele Gerichtssitzung Ein fideles Gefängnis Ein Abend im Gesangverein zu Bummelsdorf

*** (INTERMISSION) ***

IT'S RATTLING IN THE PARLOUR

Milton Ager	Wochenend und Sonnenschein (Arr. Fredo Jung)
Erwin Bootz	Wenn die Sonja russisch tanzt (Arr. Fredo Jung)
Rolf Marbot	Mein kleiner grüner Kaktus (Arr. Fredo Jung)
Erwin Bootz	Ich hab' für dich 'nen Blumentopf bestellt (Arr.Fredo Jung)
Werner Richard Heymann	Liebling, mein Herz lässt dich grüßen (Arr. Fredo Jung)
Werner Bochmann	Die kleine Stadt will schlafen geh'n (Arr. Fredo Jung)
Rolf Marbot	Lebewohl, gute Reise (Arr. Fredo Jung)



SPOT ON: MANGER

Who was there? What happened? And why? No answer can be given to these questions of the nativity. The story of the baby in a manger is certainly well known. We invite you on a journey outside of the spotlight of the Holy Night.

The protection of the weak in the world is the assurance given to the people by God, that becomes one flesh on Christmas. The strength of this was expressed by Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his poem, »Von guten Mächten«. In his Christmas greeting from 1944 he wrote: »It is a large invisible realm in which you live, the reality of which you do not doubt. It is written in the old children's song of the angels »the two who cover me, the two who wake me,« and it is this preservation in the evening and the morning through higher powers which we Adults need just as much as the children.« Singing together underlines this thought, allows the listeners to join as a congregation and reveals the invisible band that reassures us that we are »secured by good forces« and strengthens our belief that God is with us »at dusk and in the morning and most assuredly on ev'ry day.«

Duration:	2 x 45 minutes
suitable for:	Churches, Halls
needed:	five music stands

Image: Cover of »Be welcome« by Carsten Kayser

SPOT ON: MANGER

	Improvisation über die Adventslieder Wie soll ich Dich empfangen und Die Nacht ist vorgedrungen
Gustav Holst Camille Saint-Saëns	In the bleak midwinter Sérénade d'hiver
Pérotin Peter Karl Wolfgang Berg	Viderunt omnes Es kommt ein Schiff Ich steh an Deiner Krippen hier (with the audience)
Michael Praetorius Goff Richards	Den die Hirten lobeten sehre (with the audience) Le Baylere
Paul Heller	Herbei, o ihr Gläub'gen Adeste fideles (with the audience)

*** (INTERMISSION) ***

SPOT ON: MANGER

Pérotin Anonymus William Byrd Paul Heller	Ave maris stella There is no rose of such virtue Beata viscera Maria virgines Maria durch ein Dornwald ging (with the audience)
Johann Stomius Orlando di Lasso	Resonet in laudibus Resonet in laudibus Joseph, lieber Joseph mein (with the audience)
Paul Heller	Von guten Mächten (with the audience)

IN GOD'S OWN COUNTRY

For the 500 year anniversary of the Reformation, Olaf Hörbe was chosen by the Landesbühnen Sachsen to adapt the historical novel »In God's Own Country« by Eberhard Görner for the stage. The theatre piece tells of the life and work of the Lutheran Heinrich Melchior Mühlberg, who, in 1741 was sent by the Frankesche Anstalten in Halle to be a preacher in the new world and to give the German Lutheran church structure and order.

The music in the piece was written by Paul Heller. The music mirrors what happens on the stage: the opposites of the old and new worlds, the inner conflict of the protagonist, the threat of external influences. This way, the music forms an acoustic backdrop for the production, although Ensemble Nobiles not only sings but is also actively involved in the happenings on stage.

The piece is available in two versions. Further information upon request.

LARGE VERSION

Duration: 2 x approx. 70 minutes
suitable for: Theaters, Open-air Stage
Cast: 15 Actors, Ensemble Nobiles, up to 50 Community Players

SHORT VERSION

Duration: approx. 75 minutes
suitable for: Churches, Halls, Theaters
Cast: 6 Actors, Ensemble Nobiles, 2 Extras



FROM OUR MUSIC LIBRARY

A GERMAN MASS

This Musical Service, based on the Deutsche Messe by Franz Schubert brings together musical Renderings of the Ordinary from the early age of polyphony and Motets of the 20th and 21st Centuries. The connection between old and new is exactly what has captivated audiences and will surely continue to do so.

Duration: 2 x 45 minutes
suitable for: Churches
needed: five music stands

VESPER FOR ST. THOMAS

With this evening prayer, Ensemble Nobiles allows us to catch a glimpse of the musical education they received. Every Friday, as members of St. Thomas Boys' choir, the singers played an active role in creating the Liturgical form of the Vesper. The Gregorian chanting, sacred compositions of the renaissance period, romantic and modern songs, as well as well know pieces to sing along to, make this a particularly special programme and concert experience.

Duration: 65 minutes
suitable for: Churches
needed: stands, programme

FROM OUR MUSIC LIBRARY

LEIPZIG LIEDERTAFEL

At the start of the 19th Century, men would gather in groups or singing circles, coming together over their love of good food, wine and singing. With well known folk songs, bemused melodies and frivolous toasts, this programme will dust off the old clichés of the male voice choirs.

Duration: 2 x 45 minutes
suitable for: Parlours, Halls
needed: five music stands

FROM LIED TO SONGS

A musical journey guides the listener from the folk songs and their subtle beauty over national gems of the Romantic era, through to the Anglo-American internationally renowned Songs, also born out of the afore mentioned traditions. The sounds of Edvard Grieg, Antonín Dvořák and Jean Sibelius as well as Kurt Weill and Friedrich Hollaender make it almost impossible for you not to tap your feet or nod along.

Duration: 45 & 35 minutes
suitable for: Parlours, Halls
needed: five music stands

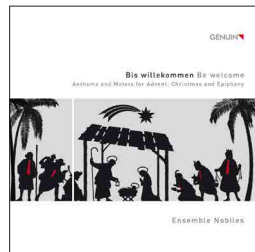
AUDIBLE



GENUIN
2012
18,90 EUR

A GERMAN MASS

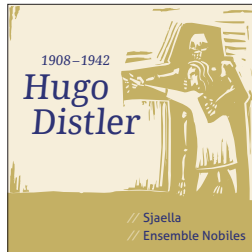
Sacred Works by Schubert, Distler, Palestrina, Cornelius i.a.



GENUIN
2014
18,90 EUR

BE WELCOME

Anthems and Motets for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany



RONDEAU
2012
15,95 EUR

HUGO DISTLER

Motets from the Sacred Choral Music and the Circle of the lit. Year



GENUIN
2017
18,90 EUR

LANDKJENDING

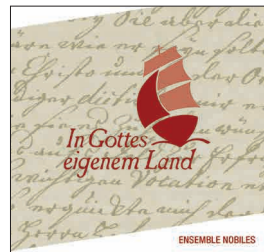
Secular pieces for men's choir by Dvořák, Grieg and Sibelius



GENUIN
2013
7,50 EUR

GREETING CARD WITH MINI-CD

approx. 15 minute excerpt from the CD Be welcome



NOBILES
2017
5,00 EUR

IN GOD'S OWN COUNTRY

Stage music for the play of Landesbühnen Sachsen. Approx. 20 min.





All photographs taken by Christian Wolf, unless otherwise stated.

CONTACT

In addition to the programmes listed here (where we reserve the right to make changes), other compilations for specific occasions or dramaturgy specifications are possible. Please let us know your wishes.

Ensemble Nobiles is exempt from VAT on the basis of § 4 (20a) UStG. Appropriate certificates are provided on request. The details of taxation abroad are to be clarified in individual cases.

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ENSEMBLE NOBLES

