

Bach and the Italian Style

Trio Arcomelo, Italy

Sydney Festival and the Italian Cultural Institute present an evening of baroque beauty



Photo: Trio Arcomelo © Laura Losito

“A real revelation; his interpretation is rich in poetry and sweet sound ... Bortolato obtains melancholic, delicate and sweet tones, with impeccable musicality and a contagious joy of playing,” **The Times (on Gianfranco Bortolato)**

Originally written for his eldest son’s organ lessons, Bach’s *Trio Sonatas* regularly tempt non-keyboardists to their instruments too. **Trio Arcomelo** – **Michele Benuzzi** on harpsichord, **Gianfranco Bortolato** on oboe and **Claudia Lopez Gomez** on violin – are the latest to treat six of the beguiling sonatas to expanded arrangements.

With violin and oboe alternately sharing and swapping the spotlight, **Trio Arcomelo** bring their own clarity and flavour to these deft manoeuvres in harmony and counterpoint, while staying true to the unmistakable spirit of Bach.

Founded by harpsichordist **Michele Benuzzi**, the **Ensemble Arcomelo** is a world renowned specialist Italian baroque ensemble, which has played at festivals all over the world including the Tirol Festspiele in Austria, the Festival Internacional de Musica Antigua de Daroca in Spain, and the Tochigi Kuranomachi Early Music Festival in Japan. Devoted to performing seventeenth and eighteenth-century music, the Ensemble are also masters of analysing baroque music and perfecting ancient instrument performances. Benuzzi studied at the Royal College of Music in London and has performed at major festivals across Europe, Australia and Asia. As a soloist he has recorded widely to international acclaim and he is now signed with Brilliant Classics.

Gianfranco Bortolato has performed solo and with orchestras in major concert halls and theatres around the world. Born in Venice, Bortolato studied music at the prestigious Scuola di Musica di Fiesole in Florence and Musik-Akademie der Stadt in Basel, where he was awarded the Konzerdiplom. He is currently Solo-Oboe of the esteemed Orchestra del Teatro dell’Opera in Rome.

The violinist of the trio, **Claudia Lopez Gomez** began studying the oboe at a young age with her grandfather Manuel Gomez, who played first oboe with the Guatemala Orchestra. Playing initially with the Antwerp Conservatory, Gomez successfully went on to collaborate with AMATI’s Chamber Orchestra in Rotterdam, and in Italy with Virtuosi Italiani and at Rome’s esteemed Teatro dell’Opera.

Trio Arcomelo promises an evening of timeless classics. This is an unmissable highlight for lovers of baroque presented by some of Italy’s finest early music specialists.

MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2015

8-26 JAN

Oboe Gianfranco Bortolato
Violin Claudia Lopez Gomez
Harpichord Michele Benuzzi
Where City Recital Hall, Angel Place
When 21 January at 8pm
Price Premium \$55
A Reserve \$45/\$41
B Reserve \$39/\$35
Duration 70minutes no interval
Bookings Sydney Festival 1300 856 876
City Recital Hall 02 8256 2222
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