

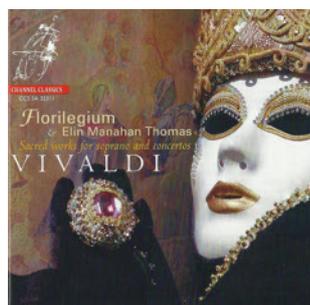
Friends of Florilegium

President ~ Dame Emma Kirkby OBE
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RECORDING NEWS

Florilegium's latest recording, of sacred works for soprano and concertos with Elin Manahan Thomas, was released in January.

This CD also included the recently-discovered *Il Gran Mogul*, a flute concerto performed here by Ashley Solomon.



BBC Radio 3's CD Review selected it as **Disc of the Week** (3 March 2012)

International Record Review has given it a review in its **Outstanding** category: *All is played with finesse and affection.* (IRR, Jan 2012)

Every period-instrument group does Vivaldi, but none better than this one. (ClassicsToday.com, March 2012)

Performance***** Sonics***** (MC)
Ashley Solomon and his superb period instrumental ensemble Florilegium continue to produce recordings that are thrilling in execution and imaginatively conceived. This disc is no exception. Strongly recommended (SA-CD, Dec 2011)

Intimate Vivaldi, a rich and warm account. What prevails is a neat 18th century elegance. (Gramophone, Feb 2012)

Florilegium

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Friends of Florilegium supports
The Florilegium Trust
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SPRING 2012

Arakaendar Bolivia Choir's first UK tour

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, Ashley Solomon has organised a tour by Arakaendar Bolivia Choir for June/July 2012. The details are now finalised, and the concert schedule will be:

Fri 22 June, 19.30; Spitalfields Festival, London (with Florilegium)
www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk box office: 020 7377 1362

Mon 25 June, 13.00; St Magnus International Festival, Orkney (with Florilegium)

Tue 26 June, 21.00; St Magnus International Festival, Orkney (with Florilegium)

www.stmagnusfestival.com box office: 01856 871445

Thu 28 June, 19.30; Beaminster Festival (with Florilegium)

www.beamfest.org.uk box office: 01308 862 943

(Fri 29 June-Wed 4 July – Spain)

Fri 6 July, 13.00; York Early Music Festival (with York University Chamber Choir)

Sat 7 July, 19.30; York Early Music Festival (with Florilegium)

www.ncem.co.uk box office: 01904 658338

Sun 8 July, 15.00; Cheltenham Festival (with Florilegium)

www.cheltenhamfestivals.com box office: 01242 505444

Mon 9 July, 19.30; Royal College of Music, London

www.rcm.ac.uk box office: 020 7951 4314

Arakaendar Bolivia Choir was formed by Florilegium's Director, Ashley Solomon, to work with Florilegium on their Bolivian Baroque choral projects, and he will direct all the performances. The Choir will be accompanied on the tour by Dr. Piotr Nawrot, the Polish Jesuit priest who has re-discovered and transcribed this music. He, together with Ashley Solomon, will give a pre-concert talk before most of these performances.

This is a rare opportunity to hear live this "captivating" young choir, who, in addition to performing works already on CD with Florilegium, will bring new works, not yet heard in this country. Contact details for each festival are given above, but please be in touch with the Florilegium Administrator, Jacky Guter, if you want further information, programme details etc. jackyguter@florilegium.org.uk



Ashley Solomon (centre, kneeling), Piotr Nawrot (right, standing) and the Arakaendar Bolivia Choir take a break from rehearsals in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, January 2012

Please support Florilegium; become a Friend!

Florilegium is acclaimed worldwide for its performances and recordings. However the group receives no public funding; its finite resources comprise ticket revenue and the committed generosity of its loyal supporters.

We are very grateful to our Friends and hope you will consider joining them. From £30 per annum – roughly the cost of a concert ticket – you could become a Friend of Florilegium.

Florilegium prides itself on a close relationship with its audiences, expressed through Friends of Florilegium. Friends' benefits and privileges include:

- A free copy of Florilegium's limited edition compilation CD
- A regular Newsletter
- Priority booking for certain concerts promoted by Florilegium
- Complimentary or discounted CDs as they are released
- Social events providing opportunities to meet the members of Florilegium



Director's Circle members

- receive up to 3 free CDs a year
- are acknowledged in Florilegium's concert programmes
- are invited to attend rehearsals

Florilegium's 20th anniversary celebrations: the final chapter

Since the last Newsletter was produced, the following photos have been received, taken during rehearsals and at the reception following the final concert. (taken by James Johnstone).



Above left: Neal Peres Da Costa (harpsichord) and Daniel Yeadon (cello). Two of the original group, they came from Australia to participate in the celebrations. Above right: Original violinist Rachel Podger, who Guest Lead the concerts, with current Leader - and her former pupil - Bojan Cacic.



Above left: the anniversary cake; Above right: special guest Dame Emma Kirkby with Co-Founder and current Director, Ashley Solomon; Below: Ashley making a speech during the Reception



Bach series, 2013; Kings Place, London

The annual 'Unwrapped' series at London's Kings Place in 2013 will be **Bach Unwrapped**.

Florilegium are playing the first concert on **Sunday 30 December 2012** (at 15.00). This concert will include Bach's Cantata *Susser Trost, mein Jesus kommt* BWV 151 (for the 3rd day of Christmas), Cantata for New Years Day: *Gott, wie dein Name, so ist auch dein Ruhm* BWV 171; Ashley Solomon will perform the Partita for Solo Flute, and Alexandra Bellamy will be the soloist in the Concerto for Oboe d'amore and strings in A major BWV 1055. The group will also be joined by singers Elin Manahan Thomas (soprano), Sally Bruce-Payne (mezzo), James Oxley (tenor) and Jimmy Holliday (bass).

Florilegium's next concert will be on **Saturday 4 May** (at 19.30), including, amongst other works, Cantata *Ich habe genug* BWV 82a and Cantata *Mein Herze schwimmt in Blut* BWV 199, to be sung by the soprano Katharine Fuge.

The third concert will be on **Wednesday 12 June** (at 19.30) and will consist of three organ trio sonatas in Florilegium's arrangements, and the complete *Musical Offering* BWV 1079.

Finally, on **Sunday 20 October** (at 11.30), Ashley Solomon and Terence Charlston will perform a programme of Bach's complete sonatas for flute and harpsichord.

In addition there will be three concerts in London's Wigmore Hall in 2013, so Florilegium hope you might be able to attend some of these events in the capital next year. Full details of the Wigmore Hall concerts will be in the next Newsletter, but the dates are Tuesday 8 January, (Easter) Saturday 30 March and Wednesday 23 October.

Florilegium at Wigmore Hall Next concert: Thursday 24 May

Florilegium will be celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Frederick the Great, one of the greatest musical patrons in history, with two concerts in London's Wigmore Hall. The first concert, on **Thursday 24 May**, is entitled "Frederick the Great: An Evening at the Palace of Reason". This programme includes works by the King, his flute teacher Quantz, court harpsichordist CPE Bach and his principal violinist Benda, as well as JS Bach's trio sonata and riccercars from his *Musical Offering*, based on a royal theme composed by the King himself.

Tickets are now available online (www.wigmore-hall.org.uk) or by phone: 020 7935 2141.

The other concert will be held on **Thursday 25 October**. In addition to the above composers, this concert will include concert arias from Carl Heinrich Graun's opera *Cesare e Cleopatra*, for which Florilegium will be joined by soprano Elin Manahan Thomas. Tickets for this concert will be available later in the year.



Florilegium CDs

Don't forget you can purchase CDs direct from Florilegium via the website. Go to www.florilegium.org.uk and follow the link from the home page. There are YouTube videos on that page, including one of the new Vivaldi recording, reviewed overleaf.

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