



EUROPEAN HANSEATIC ENSEMBLE

The European Hanseatic Ensemble

Patron: Jan Lindenau, Mayor of the Hanseatic City of Lübeck and “Vormann” of the Hanseatic League

The hanseatic cities in Northern Europe with Lübeck at the top were poles of economic wealth and middle class prosperity. At the same time the Hanseatic League incited a diverse flourishing of culture, including music. The goal of this European project is to rediscover the great musical heritage of this region in the years around 1600 and to revive it for our time through concert performances. The project is coordinated in the **European Hanseumuseum** in Lübeck.

The **European Hanseatic Ensemble** will be newly formed each year, consisting of musicians that particularly excelled in the masterclasses of the previous year. The project which was established in 2019 is aimed at talented young musicians who study or have studied Early Music at a European university or conservatory.

The ensemble is composed of vocal soloists and instrumentalists who play on instruments of the time around 1600: cornets, trombones, violins in old scale, viole da gamba, dulcian, lute instruments and organ. About 20 young musicians from several European countries will take you on a journey into a world of sound that shaped the musical life of the old Hanseatic cities roughly 400 years ago.

They will explore music by composers who worked in the hanseatic cities and whose works have largely been neglected in today’s concert business – unjustly so! For there are marvellous compositions of various different genres that were popular during this time: motets in the style of classical vocal polyphony, multi-choral works following Venetian examples, as well as compositions in the concertant style of the early baroque era.

The artistic direction has been placed in the hands of **Manfred Cordes**, an internationally renowned specialist in European music of the 16th and 17th century, long-standing professor for Ancient Music at the University of the Arts in Bremen and conductor of the Ensemble Weser-Renaissance Bremen.

Under his direction the ensemble will tour through different hanseatic cities with a newly developed programme each year. The debut tour will take the European Hanseatic Ensemble on a great journey in fall 2020 with the concert programme “Es erhob sich ein Streit im Himmel – Festive music of the hanseatic cities for Michaelmas”.

Through its affiliation with the **European Hanseumuseum**, the ensemble has found its ideal home. The 800 year-history of the Hanseatic League can be traced closely here like nowhere else. The Hanseumuseum offers a combination of staged historical scenes, cabinets with valuable original objects and interactive features presenting astonishing new historical aspects of cultural and urban development and enabling the museum to convey an informative and fascinating impression of the world of the Hanseatic League. During their visit in Lübeck the museum offers the participants of the masterclasses the opportunity to gather valuable insights into the history of the Hanseatic League, the era that they are exploring in their music.

European Hanseatic Ensemble
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In cooperation with

