

# Voces suaves

The Basel vocal ensemble Voces Suaves cultivates the historically informed performance of music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods with soloists. Its warm and full sound combined with a nuanced musical rhetoric make the ensemble's interpretations unmistakable and the music an immediate emotional experience. The longstanding collaboration between the singers has led to a great familiarity that lends the performances of Voces Suaves a special intimacy.

Founded in 2012 by Tobias Wicky, the ensemble consists of a core of eight professional singers, most of whom have a connection to the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis. Since 2016, the ensemble members have been working without a permanent musical director and develop their programs collectively. This means that the creative will of each individual member is required and everyone bears equal artistic responsibility. The line-up varies depending on the program. Instrumentalists are brought in as required.

Voces Suaves focuses on the vocal music of the early German Baroque period and the rich treasure trove of the Italian madrigal tradition. Large-scale Italian oratorios and masses form a further focus of the repertoire. In addition to works by famous composers such as Claudio Monteverdi and Heinrich Schütz, the ensemble is also committed to performing compositions by little-known masters such as Stefano Bernardi, Giaches De Wert and Giovanni Croce.

Voces Suaves has been invited to important festivals throughout Europe, including the Festival d'Ambronay, the Ravenna Festival, Festival Oude Muziek Utrecht, Oslo Internasjonale Kirkemusikkfestival, Festival Misteria Paschalia Krakow, the Berlin State Opera and the Innsbruck Early Music Festival. From 2014 to 2016, the ensemble was part of the European funding program "eeemerging, Emerging European Ensembles Project".

Collaborations exist with renowned ensembles such as the Ensemble Concerto Scirocco, the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, the Concerto Romano, Capriccio Stravaganza and the Capricornus Consort Basel. These collaborations enable the performance of larger-scale works. Voces Suaves also has a long-standing collaboration with the organists Michelle Vannelli, Jörg-Andreas Bötticher and Johannes Strobl.

Since 2015, various recordings by Voces Suaves have been released on the labels claves records, Ambronay éditions, Arcana (Outhere Music) and Deutsche Harmonia Mundi and have been awarded various international prizes (including the Diapason découverte, Choc de Classica).