

Program Holland Baroque Season 2027-2028

October 2027

UNSEEN VOICES – Voci della Pietà

Holland Baroque and La Néréide

With Camille Allérat, Julie Roset en Xenia Puskarz Thomas

Julie Roset, one of the most acclaimed sopranos of her generation, joins forces with her vocal soloists' ensemble La Néréide and Holland Baroque in a new Italian programme. At its heart are the Venetian ospedali: orphanages that developed into world-famous musical centres during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. A phenomenon that inspires both admiration and reflection.

Within their walls, girls and young women grew into musical stars. Their voices and instrumental virtuosity reached extraordinary levels of refinement and attracted visitors from across Europe. Composers such as Vivaldi, Galuppi and Porpora wrote specifically for these ensembles, creating a rich and virtuosic repertoire. The ospedali played a crucial role in the flourishing of Baroque music.

Yet the performers themselves remained hidden behind screens and grilles: heard by many, rarely seen. Mystery, discipline and artistic excellence made these performances legendary. The ospedali came to symbolize a rare opportunity for artistic development and recognition for young women. At the same time, this eighteenth-century practice raises questions. Did music offer these women a path towards education and independence, or was it also an instrument of obedience and discipline?

Experience what it was like to hear this music when the musicians and singers remained unseen and discover what happens when the voices and instrumentalists step into view. Holland Baroque and La Néréide bring these hidden voices to life once again.

Founded in 2019, the trio La Néréide unites Camille Allérat, Julie Roset and Xenia Puskarz Thomas in an exploration of the Baroque repertoire for equal voices. Their recordings, *Luzzaschi*, *Il concerto segreto* and *Le Cœur et la Raison*, highlight both the repertoire of the Ladies of Ferrara and music composed for the young women of Saint-Cyr in France. Driven by a desire to make often-forgotten female voices heard again, they perform at prestigious festivals throughout France and Europe.

Period: 30 Sept - 8 October 2027

Programme: Vivaldi, Galuppi and Porpora

Guest soloists: La Néréide: Julie Roset, Camille Allérat, Xenia Puskarz Thomas

Ensemble: ca. 12 musicians of Holland Baroque

This production uses a stage design consisting of a gauze backdrop and dedicated lighting.