

PETER HANSON BIOGRAPHY

Peter has been the Concertmaster of Sir John Eliot Gardiner's Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique for over 25 years. Highlights include appearing as Concertmaster soloist for European and U.S. tours of Beethoven's Missa Solemnis, a 2017 BBC Proms performance of Berlioz's Damnation of Faust and in 2018, major European and US tours of the Berlioz and Verdi Requiems including two performances at Carnegie Hall, New York. Early 2020 saw performances of all the Beethoven symphonies in Barcelona and New York.

Peter formed The Eroica Quartet in 1993 with colleagues from the world of period instrument performance. The group immediately attracted attention with their vision of a revived Romantic approach to the string quartet literature, from Beethoven to Debussy. Their performance style was so unusual at the time that it struck listeners as radical. In 1997 they began their first Beethoven cycle, appearing at the City of London Festival and in the same year appeared at the Aix-les-Bains Nuits Romantiques Festival in France.

The Eroica quickly became established, and toured extensively in the United Kingdom as well as making visits to France and the U.S. Their American debut was in Washington, D.C. and the New York debut was in February 2001, at the Frick Collection.

For Harmonia Mundi USA they recorded the Mendelssohn and Schumann quartets and Beethoven quartets Op. 74, 95 and 135. For Resonus Classics they recorded the original 1825 version of Mendelssohn's Octet, Op. 20 and, more recently, the quartets by Debussy and Ravel. Released to coincide with the 150th anniversary of Debussy's birth, this album represents the first modern recording of the works to feature performances on gut strings and with aspects of period performance.

Peter is a Director of the Carmel Bach Festival in California. His role includes Chamber performances, directing the String Orchestra and appearing as Concertmaster for most of the Festival Orchestra concerts. The CBF Orchestra is flexible with regard to period and modern instruments and style: the 2018 Festival saw a performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons at Hz415 on baroque instruments, followed by Piazzolla's Four Seasons at Hz440 on modern instruments, with Peter as soloist.

Peter also appears as Director elsewhere; recent engagements include projects with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Kymi Sinfonia in Finland and Orquesta da Camera in Spain. He was recently Guest Concertmaster with the Luxembourg Philharmonic and in 2017, was Guest Concertmaster for a Beethoven and Gade project with Concerto Copenhagen under the baton of Lars Ulrik Mortensen. Peter returned to Singapore in 2018 and Concerto Copenhagen in 2019 and has been invited back to Singapore in 2021.