



Philippe Herreweghe **Conductor**

Philippe Herreweghe was born in Ghent and studied at both the university and music conservatory there. During this period he started conducting and founded *Collegium Vocale Gent* in 1970.

Philippe Herreweghe's energetic, authentic and rhetorical approach to baroque music was soon drawing praise. In 1977 he founded the ensemble *La Chapelle Royale* in Paris, with whom he performed music of the French Golden Age. He founded several ensembles with whom he made historically appropriate and well-thought-out interpretations of repertoire stretching from the Renaissance to contemporary music. They include the *Ensemble Vocal Européen*, specialised in Renaissance polyphony, and the *Orchestre des Champs Élysées*, founded in 1991 with the aim of playing pre-Romantic and Romantic repertoire on original instruments.

Highlights of the 2020/21 season include guest appearances with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, the Philharmonia Orchestra London, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig. In addition, Philippe Herreweghe will conduct at the Salzburg Easter Festival in spring 2021 with a performance of Bach's "Mass in B minor" together with the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden and the Collegium Vocale Gent. He will also tour Asia with the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées.

Philippe Herreweghe has received numerous awards for his consistent artistic imagination and commitment. In 1990 the European music press named him "*Musical Personality of the Year*". Philippe Herreweghe and Collegium Vocale Gent were appointed "*Cultural Ambassadors of Flanders*" in 1993. A year later he was awarded the Belgian order of *Officier des Arts et Lettres*, and in 1997 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the Catholic University of Leuven. In 2003 he received the French title *Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur*. In 2010 the city of Leipzig awarded him its *Bach-Medaille* for his great service as a performer of Bach. In 2017 Philippe Herreweghe received an honorary doctorate at Ghent University.