



Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique

The Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique (ORR) specialises in the music of the 19th and early 20th centuries. It has won plaudits for its performances of stylistic fidelity and intensity of expression in works by major early Romantic composers, from Berlioz to Beethoven, as well as later works by composers ranging from Verdi to Debussy.

The ORR gave the first complete staged performances in Paris of Berlioz's *Les Troyens* in 2003, and in 2019 marked the 150th anniversary of the composer's death with the first contemporary performances of his opera *Benvenuto Cellini* on period instruments. In the summer of 2023 the ORR, with the Monteverdi Choir and outstanding soloists conducted by Dinis Sousa, performed Berlioz's *Les Troyens* on a critically acclaimed European tour. Their performance at the BBC Proms received five-star reviews from the Financial Times, The Times, The Observer, Daily Telegraph and Evening Standard.

Other landmark projects have included Beethoven symphony cycles, Schumann Revealed and Brahms: Root and Memories, in which the Orchestra recorded the complete symphonies of each respective composer.

Additionally, the ORR has performed operas by composers including Weber (*Oberon* and *Le Freyschütz*), Bizet (*Carmen*), Chabrier (*L'Etoile*), Verdi (*Falstaff*) and Debussy (*Pelléas et Mélisande*) in new productions in France, Italy and London.

In 2025 the Orchestra will embark on a groundbreaking exploration of Rossini opera on period instruments conducted by specialist Jakob Lehmann, and beginning with scenes from *Ermione* in October 2025. Pablo Heras-Casado will also lead the Orchestra in Schubert 5 and Mozart Requiem, beginning a long-term collaboration with the ensemble.

The 2019/20 season marked 30 years since the founding of the ORR by John Eliot Gardiner, as well as the 250th anniversary of the birth of Ludwig van Beethoven. In celebration of these twin milestones, the orchestra embarked on another momentous project, performing a cycle of all nine of the composer's symphonies in residencies across Europe and the United States.

The London performances were postponed by the pandemic, but in May 2024 the ORR, conducted by Dinis Sousa, performed Beethoven's complete symphonies at St Martin-in-the-Fields in London and a selection of his symphonies at the Philharmonie de Paris. In its 60th-anniversary year, the Monteverdi Choir joined the ORR for performances of Beethoven's Mass in C major and Symphony No. 9. The ORR's recordings of Beethoven's symphonies have been described as a "tour de force...played at white heat", "glorious" and "magnificent" by Gramophone magazine.

"Five stars for a white-hot *Les Troyens* at the BBC Proms" *Financial Times*

"The Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique - the sound of the old instruments is simply stunning" *BR Klassik*