

LITHUANIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



Founded in 1960 by Prof. Saulius Sondeckis (Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, 1960–2004) the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra (LCO) is recognised as one of the finest and most internationally acclaimed Lithuanian orchestras. The LCO was the first among Lithuanian orchestras to make its debut in the West at the Echternach Festival in Luxembourg in 1976, which embarked them on an international career and new possibilities.

The Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra has toured almost every European country, North and South Americas, Japan, Egypt, and the Republic of South Africa. The audiences have applauded the LCO at the Berlin Philharmonic, Musikverein in Vienna, Royal Festival in London, Santa Cecilia in Rome, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Pleyel Hall in Paris, Gewandhaus in Leipzig and at many other famous concert halls in Europe. They have repeatedly appeared with Mstislav Rostropovitch, Yuri Bashmet, Gidon Kremer, Vladimir Spivakov, Tatyana Grindenko, Igor Oistrakh, Yevgeny Kissin, David Geringas and Yehudi Menuhin, among many others jazz and rock projects like with Demis Russous and others.

During almost five decades of its illustrious career, the LCO has collaborated closely with many famous soloists, conductors and choirs in numerous performances and on more than 100 recordings of diverse repertoire, with a special affinity for the works of Bach and Mozart. The Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra has also given a number of world premieres of works by many celebrated composers, including Alfred Schnittke, Arvo Pärt and Pēteris Vasks, who have dedicated their works to the Orchestra.

"... With its rendering of the light and vigorous opus by Mozart, the orchestra once again presented itself for the audience as an orchestra well versed in the secrets of the highest mastery, able to create stylish and lively interpretations. <...> The interpretation of the symphony is worthy of superlatives only! Playing without a conductor, the orchestra was as precise as a perfectly geared mechanism. Yet, a mechanism is inanimate, while the performance of the orchestra's musicians was noted for fresh breathing, tasteful articulation, and fascinated us with filigree intonations, flexible dynamics and meaningful phrasing..."

7 meno dienos, 2006

"...The Orchestra today it is on an up close to stratospheric! Already in the first half of the concert there was a sparkle in the orchestra, but in the second half they were really tempestuous. The final movement of a piece was totally amazing, from a slow start reaching a blistering pace, with dynamics like I have rarely heard from this orchestra, and, it seemed, having enormous fun with it..."

Music and Life – Everywhere!, 2006

"... Thanks to the performers' clear articulation, each sound in Joseph Haydn's roulades became as if crystalline, clear and transparent, with delicate dynamic lining. <...> The orchestra's ensemble quality and excellent teamwork created an impression of one performer, one body consisting of a multitude of individual cells, playing on stage..."

Muzikos barai, 2005