



## “FARINELLI’S ORPHEUS”

“Orpheus”, Nicola Porpora (1736)

Raffaele Pe, countertenor  
George Petrou, conductor  
Armonia Athenea / La Lira di Orfeo, ensemble barocco

Interpreters: **1 soloist (recital) / 7 soloists (full opera) 21 instrumentalists**  
(2 ob, 2 hrn, 2 fl, 8 vl, vla, 2 cello, cb, fg, thb, cembalo)

Nicola Porpora’s Orpheus marks an extraordinary moment in the history of baroque opera in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The most acclaimed castrato singer of his time, and maybe of all times, Carlo Broschi “Farinelli” concludes his career as public entertainer in London with this emblematic title never sung before: Orpheus.

For the event Farinelli asks his friend Neapolitan composer Nicola Porpora to create an opera which includes his favorite tunes from all his most successful previous appearances in a pasticcio combined with brand new works by Porpora himself. For this special performance some of the finest singers are employed by Porpora including Senesino in the role of Aristeo and Francesca Cuzzoni as Euridice.

This recording project follows the first acclaimed live performance of the opera created in Martina Franca in August 2019 directed by Pierluigi Pizzi / Massimo Gasparon. The project may include Orpheus arias only as solo vocal recital or the full opera with 7 singers (3 CD).

Performance edition by **Giovanni Andrea Sechi**

First performance in modrn times **Festival Martina Franca** (August 2019)

Recording due **February 2020**

Duration (vocal recital) **70’** (full opera) **180’**

### Recital programme

Nicola Porpora (1686-1768)

*Sinfonia da “Orpheus”*

Johann Adolf Hasse (1699-1783)

*“Sempre a sì vaghi rai”*

Nicola Porpora (1686-1768) ?

*“Son pastorello amante”*

Nicola Porpora (1686-1768)

*“Parte talor dal mare”*

Nicola Porpora (1686-1768)

*“Dall’amor più sventurato”*

Francesco Araja (1709-1770)

*“M’abbandoni, amato bene”*

Johann Adolf Hasse (1699-1783)

*Sinfona in sol minore Op. 5 n. 6*

Johann Adolf Hasse (1699-1783)

*“Vado seguendo Amore”*