Lorenza Borrani

Violin

Lorenza Borrani is an artist for our times: an inspiring and charismatic violinist, a much sought after leader of orchestras and a gifted chamber musician. Dedicating herself to timeless music in all its different forms and periods, she likes to challenge herself in every kind of repertoire. Lorenza’s musical journey has taken her from the traditional values of 19th and 20th century music to the creation of new work and the re-examination of old masters through the intensive study of historically informed performing. With all of her versatility and vitality she reincarnates the travelling virtuosos of the 18th and 19th century when – just as today – the most sought after musicians were in demand in all of the great music centres of Europe: Milan, Vienna, Paris, London, Berlin – to which should now be added Tokyo, New York, Sydney and Beijing.

Lorenza was born in Florence and studied at the internationally admired Scuola di Musica di Fiesole with teachers such as Alina Company, Piero Farulli, Zinaida Gilels and Pavel Vernikov. Later on she continued her Post Graduate studies with Boris Kuschnir at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz.

On completion of her studies, invitations as soloist and concert mistress came quickly and over the years she has collaborated closely with many great conductors and orchestras including Lorin Maazel with the Orchestra Toscanini and Claudio Abbado. As the principal leader of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe (COE), Lorenza has toured all over the world with, among many others, Bernard Haitink, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Vladimir Jurowski.

Lorenza is also much in demand as director and soloist. She has directed or led many important orchestras and ensembles including the Orchestra Mozart with Mozart’s Violin Concerto No.7 under Claudio Abbado, COE under Trevor Pinnock and Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Freiburger Barockorchester and Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Next season she will undertake an important tour with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and return to London for concerts with the London Chamber Orchestra.

As a keen chamber musician, Lorenza has collaborated with Isabelle Faust, Hélène Grimaud, Daniel Hope, András Schiff, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Janine Jansen, Irina Schnittke and Christian Tetzlaff to name a few.

In 2007 Lorenza, with a group of close musical friends, launched Spira mirabilis as a laboratory for the intense preparation and performance of orchestra and chamber music repertoire of all periods ranging from Beethoven through to Schoenberg covering many of the most important works by Schumann, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Bartók and Britten, all performed without a conductor. Recent successful additions to their repertoire have included Beethoven’s Symphony No.9 and Mozart’s Cosi fan tutte. By now these illuminating and ground breaking programmes have been heard and enthusiastically received in London, Frankfurt, Paris and Hamburg, as well as in many cities in Italy. Last year Spira was engaged in a residency at the Aldeburgh Festival where they performed a new work called Spiralling, created for them by Colin Matthews.

Lorenza has also engaged herself very intensively with the study and practice of classical performance on period instruments in collaboration with Spira and Lorenzo Coppola. This dedication to a better understanding of style, sonorities and historically relevant precedents have become important preoccupations in her international activities.

Lorenza plays a Santo Serafino (Venice 1745) violin provided by the Foundation (Fondazione Pro-Canale di Milano).

2016/17 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.