

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

J.S.BACH VIOLA POMPOSA REVIVED IN VICENZA

VICENZA - violinmaker Dmitry Badiarov and stringmaker Mimmo Peruffo meet in Vicenza to create strings for a viola pomposa made by Dmitry Badiarov for Sigiswald Kuijken, a well known to the Italian audience famous baroque specialist and conductor of La Petite Bande.

The instrument known as viola pomposa, violoncello piccolo or viola di fagotto was supposedly invented by J.S.Bach. He used it in solo and accompanying parts. Bach's contemporaries praised it for its vivid, penetrating sound and even preferred it to violoncello. However it was abandoned later.

In October La Petite Bande will perform J.S.Bach cantatas nos. 55, 56, 98 and 180 on a European tour, in which pomposa will be used in arias. Sigiswald Kuijken will play it himself. Hopefully Italian audiences can have the pleasure to hear La Petite Bande and enjoy the hitherto unheard instrument as well.

Sigiswald Kuijken says, "this is a wonderful beginning, and the story will have an interesting continuation". Ryo Terakado, professor of Baroque violin in The Hague Royal Conservatory comments, "it has an interesting sound. I would like to have a pomposa too". Dmitry Badiarov says, "the problem of strings defeated many previous attempts to recreate the instrument. I was sure that Mr. Peruffo would find a solution". Mimmo Peruffo adds, "the late 17th century documents revealed the mystery".

Graduate of St. Petersburg State and Brussels Royal Conservatories, Dmitry Badiarov is a founder of Historical Violin Workshop in Brussels. His current activities include violinmaking, research and publishing. Further information available at violadabbraccio.com. Mimmo Peruffo is a founder of Aquila Corde Armoniche S.a.s. in Vicenza, stringmaker and researcher. He makes strings, writes articles and gives conferences on the history of strings. More information about his work can be found at aquilacorde.com.

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