

MR HANDEL & HIS MERRY MUSICIANS

LONDON 20
HANDEL
FESTIVAL 26

Arcangelo | *New Ensemblists*

The Foundling Museum
22 February 2026

INFORMATION SHEET

Arcangelo's New Ensemblists return to the London Handel Festival with a new programme exploring music composed by Handel and his contemporaries for the illustrious musicians of Handel's orchestra at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

The Arcangelo New Ensemblists programme was founded in 2020 to support the next generation of outstanding ensemble instrumentalists dedicated to period performance.

The programme addresses the lack of professional gateway training in this specialist area, bridging the difficult transition from conservatoire to an exciting, rewarding and sustainable performing career.

Tom Foster
Director / Harpsichord

Leo Appel
Carmen Lavada Johnson-Pájaro
Violin

Jaume Pueyo Solà
Viola

Martin Egidi
Cello

Francisco Javier Sánchez Castillo
Bassoon

Programme

Concerto all'Inglese in B-flat from *Le Bizzarie universali*, Op.8
William Corbett

Violin Sonata in G minor Op.1 no.3
Pietro Castrucci

Concerto in G major Op.5 no.7
Michael Christian Festing

Trio sonata in G minor Op.3 no.5
Giuseppe Sammartini

Sonata in A minor/E minor for Cello and Basso continuo
Nicola Francesco Haym

Concerto alla Spagniola in B-flat from *Le Bizzarie universali*
Op.8 William Corbett

Violin Sonata in D minor Op.1 no.7
Pietro Castrucci

Sonata in G major Op.5 no.4, HWV 399
George Frideric Handel

London Handel Festival 2026

From Heavenly Harmony

The 2026 London Handel Festival, From Heavenly Harmony, is a five-week celebration of Handel's music guided by the Festival's purpose to enrich lives through Handel's music, the programme channels heavenly harmony, revealing the composer's gift for touching every human emotion while lifting listeners toward the sublime.

Highlights include Rachel Podger, Jonathan Cohen and Hilary Cronin performing ***Neun Deutsche Arien*** alongside iconic works for solo Baroque violin, the Arcangelo New Ensemblists at the Foundling Museum, and the return of The English Concert with a programme pairing Handel's ***Chandos Anthems*** with Bach's ***Brandenburg Concertos***. Opera Settecento present a Handelian World Premiere ***Titus L'Empereur***, while the ***International Handel Singing Competition*** continues with its Semi-Final and Gala Final in early March.

Later in the Festival, Paul McCreesh and the Gabrieli Consort make their debut with ***Acis and Galatea*** and the ***Ode for St Cecilia's Day***, and the Handel Opera Studio presents its first fully staged production of Handel's ***Tamerlano*** at Shoreditch Town Hall. Events unfold across historic London venues closely tied to Handel's life, including St George's, Hanover Square, and Handel Hendrix House.

Alongside the performances, more ways than ever to get involved including the ever-popular annual ***Come and Sing!***, an expanded Creative Learning & Participation programme offers relaxed and family events, youth singing projects with Westminster schools, and a series of intimate ***Lunchtime at The Charterhouse*** concerts featuring rising stars and leading young ensembles.

The London Handel Festival *enriching lives through Handel's music*

We rely on the generosity of donors, grants and gifts to achieve our ambitions as we receive no regular public subsidy. If you enjoyed this evening's performance why not join our growing community of supporters by becoming a member of the London Handel Festival.

Annual membership options start from as little as £50 per year.

**To book tickets or find out more about becoming a member
of the London Handel Festival, visit
www.london-handel-festival.com or email membership@londonhandelfestival.org.uk**