

ORCHESTRE DE CHAMBRE DE LAUSANNE

Renaud Capuçon, Artistic Director

Founded in 1942 by Victor Desarzens, the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne (OCL) is today one of the most sought-after chamber orchestras in Europe. After six years under the artistic direction of the American conductor Joshua Weilerstein, the OCL is now led by the renowned French violinist Renaud Capuçon. The orchestra of around 40 musicians has a vast repertoire, from the earliest baroque to contemporary premieres.

The OCL very quickly became a presence in the most prestigious festivals and concert halls. It has participated in the Festival of Aix-en-Provence since the second festival and has been a regular guest at the Enescu Festival in Bucharest. Its tours in Germany and the USA have met with tremendous success, as have its concerts at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, at the BBC Proms in London, the Konzerthaus in Vienna or the Berlin Philharmonie. During season 2023-2024, the OCL will tour to Madrid, Barcelona and, for the first time, to the Philharmonie de Paris.

All through its history, the OCL has performed with top level soloists such as Clara Haskil, Alfred Cortot, Walter Gieseking, Edwin Fischer, Murray Perahia, Radu Lupu, Marta Argerich, Nikolai Lugansky, Daniel Barenboim, Arthur Grumiaux, Frank Peter Zimmermann, Paul Tortelier, Truls Mørk, Jean-Pierre Rampal or Emmanuel Pahud. The OCL has also been able to attract the most interesting conductors of their times, such as Paul Hindemith, Günter Wand, Christoph Eschenbach, Ton Koopman, Jeffrey Tate, Bertrand de Billy, Simone Young or Daniel Harding.

L'OCL has a significant discography: from the complete operas of Haydn in the 1970s and 80s under Antal Dorati to the concertos of Beethoven and Mozart with Christian Zacharias, not to mention recordings dedicated to Schoenberg and Webern (with Heinz Holliger) and to Spohr and Weber (with Paul Meyer). The OCL has recorded two albums with Joshua Weilerstein. The first two albums under the direction of Renaud Capuçon were published by Warner Classic. The first one is dedicated to Estonian composer Arvo Pärt (2021), and the second one including Vivaldi's Four Seasons and two concerti by Chevalier de Saint-Georges (2022). A recording of the complete Mozart Violin Concertos with Renaud Capuçon will be released in September 2023 on Deutsche Grammophon, his new recording partner. Other notable recent releases of the OCL include an album with Nicholas Chalvin dedicated to the music of Jean Françaix, and another one on Schoenberg and Webern with Heinz Holliger (winner of CHOC Classica award 2022).

The quality of the OCL is of course connected to prestigious guest soloists and conductors, but it is above all due to an identity forged through the years by a small number of artistic directors. The founder Victor Desarzens (1942-1973) was followed by Armin Jordan (1973-1985), then Lawrence Foster (1985-1990), Jesús López Cobos (1990-2000) and Christian Zacharias (2000-2013). From 2015 to 2020, Joshua Weilerstein continued the work of his predecessors while at the same time positioning the OCL for the 21st century with bold programming and imaginative use of new media. In autumn 2021, Renaud Capuçon became the orchestra's artistic director. The tremendous musical experience of the renowned French violinist and conductor, as well as his dynamism and his artistic profile have allowed the orchestra to further consolidate its international reputation, resulting in prestigious invitations across Europe as well as collaborations with renowned conductors and soloists such as Daniel Harding, Barbara Hannigan, Maria Joao Pires and Martha Argerich.

Season 2023-2024