

Programme Notes Ciconia Consort season 2024-2025

IV. April/May 2025

The Era of the Crystal Palace

soloist: prize winner ARD Music Competition 2023

'The Era of the Crystal Palace' expresses the Belle Epoque, the intriguing time of the major World Expo's, with the rising of the Paris Tour Eiffel, London's Crystal Palace and the unbridled belief in progress. The 1989 Paris Exhibition in particular had a major influence on Western music, where Debussy, among others, was inspired by Javanese dance and gamelan music. The Dutch-Indies Constant van de Wall composed this Eastern gamelan music in a wonderful way for string instruments. George Antheil, the composer of new techniques, who shocked with the use of sirens and airplane propellers, wrote his swinging *Serenade for String Orchestra* in a romantic modern style with influences from Prokofiev and jazz.

The beautiful harpsolo in *Conte fantastique* by André Caplet, a student of Claude Debussy, will be performed by a prize winner of the International ARD Musikwettbewerb 2023. And the concert concludes with the amazing orchestration of Ravel's string quartet by Rudolph Barshai.



Crystal Palace London
– World Expo