



For immediate release:

OAE appoints two Co-Principal Oboes

The orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment has appointed two new Co-Principal Oboes, Daniel Bates and Katharina Spreckelsen.

Daniel Bates says, of working with the Orchestra:

I was first invited to play with the Orchestra, at relatively short notice, for a programme of late Mozart symphonies under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle. It was terrifying but I loved it. The musicians you are playing with are massively passionate about what they are doing, it's almost evangelical. You don't get that everywhere you go. People don't just spend the break times texting or checking Facebook. They are discussing musical ideas and trying to find ways in which to make things better or more homogenous. The key thing for me is that I feel challenged and supported by my colleagues each time I play with them.

Katharina Spreckelsen adds:

I have played with the OAE as a guest for the past 20 years. Many of the players in the OAE have been colleagues of mine in other ensembles, so going 'in' to the OAE never felt like joining a group of strangers. Although I never was a member, I always felt drawn to the unique setup of the Orchestra – the main attraction for me is the possibility to work as a fixed ensemble with many different conductors and leaders. This is something that makes the OAE quite different from what I know. And the artistic input that the players can have is a very exciting aspect of the orchestra.

Katharina initially studied medicine for 2 years before turning to music and studying with the late Michel Piguet in Basle and then with Paul Goodwin in London. Katharina has taught historical oboes at the Royal Academy of Music for the past 15 years and is currently principal oboe of the English Concert, the Early Opera Company and Cantus Coelln. Her work with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment will see her focussing on Baroque repertoire.

Daniel has previously worked as an actor, having trained at LAMDA. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music before accepting music scholarship to study at Pembroke College, Cambridge. He is principal oboe with the Irish Chamber Orchestra and the City of London Sinfonia and has played as guest principal with international orchestras and all major UK orchestras. He will take up his position on Classical and Romantic projects from early 2016.

Notes to Editors:

Player-led and ceaselessly innovative, the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** is one of the world's most respected period ensembles. They are a resident at Southbank Centre, associate orchestra at Glyndebourne Festival Opera and tour both nationally and internationally.

Contact:

Charles Lewis, Marketing and Press Officer – charles.lewis@oae.co.uk / 020 7239 9374