

Claudio Astronio is an eclectic musician: he is harpsichordist and organist and conductor. He actually conducts mainly his early instruments ensemble “*Harmonices Mundi*” and the “*Bozen Baroque Orchestra*” and performed regularly by the most prestigious festivals in Europe, USA, Japan and Canada. He has performed duo and conducted such musicians as Gordon Murray, Doron Sherwin, Max Van Egmond, Dan Laurin, Gemma Bertagnolli, Federico Guglielmo, Susanne Ryden, Yuri Bashmet, Emma Kirkby and Gustav Leonhardt. He has participated in numerous radio and television broadcasts all over the world and has recorded several CDs, for *Stradivarius* label and for the magazine *Amadeus*; his recordings have received various international awards from *Musica*, *CD Classica*, *Amadeus*, *Classic Voice*, *Alte Musik Aktuelle*, *Diapason*, *Repertoire*, *Le monde de la musique*, *El País*, *Ritmo*, *Diverdi*, *Goldberg*, *Gramophone*, *Continuo and Fanfare* (USA): among them the complete Keyboard work of Antonio de Cabezón, which received with the first 3 volumes the honour of “Recommendation of the Month” by the French magazine *Diapason*, the Spanish *Goldberg* and the American magazines *Continuo* and *Fanfare*. His recording of the Third part of the *Klavierübung* by Johann Sebastian Bach has gained the recommendation from the French magazines *Repertoire* (10) *Diapason* (5) and “CD of the month” from *Le monde de la musique* (“**Choc**”, July 2001) and his last CD “*Bach, the Leipzig Chorales*” has been recommended from *Gramophone*.

In 2007 his debut as opera conductor with Gluck’s “*Orfeo e Euridice*” produced by Ravenna Festival, directed by Graham Vick and repeated in the most important theatres in Italy. Recently has conducted a stage version of Bach’s *Matthaeus Passion* in a dance project with the coreographer Ismael Ivo. In 2007 will appear his new release recording with the *Bozen Baroque Orchestra*: Vivaldi’s motets for 2 sopranos double choir and double orchestra with Susanne Ryden, Gemma Bertagnolli and Max Mauthe.

Among his musical interests are also Jazz and pop music: he won the award *Premio Recanati per la canzone d’autore* 1996 and 1997. He has also conducted *Banda Osiris* and is involved with the jazz-singer Maria Pia de Vito, Michel Godard and Paolo Fresu in two crossover musical projects called “*Chaconne*” and “*Coplas a lo divino*” where early music and early instruments meet modern patterns of improvisation. He also wrote and published several articles for musicological reviews (*Musica domani*, *Galileo*) and has recently published the modern edition of the complete keyboard work of Antonio de Cabezón published by *Ut-Orpheus* in Bologna. He holds masterclasses in organ and harpsichord in Italy, Spain, Norway, USA and other European countries and currently teaches organ at the European Academy of Ancient Music as well as harpsichord and ensemble music at the Antonio Vivaldi Institute of Music in Bolzano.

He is the founding member of the *Musica Antiqua Association* in Bolzano and works as artistic director of the International Festival of Early Music together with the *Accademia Europea di Musica Antica* called “*Antiqua.bz*”.