

Pearls of Baroque

The project “Pearls of Baroque” was founded in the fall of 2012. It consists of **two young violinists**, the prizewinners of International competitions and festivals, **Illia Bondarenko and Tetiana Zhmendak, who are 13-year-old today**. In 2010, the duo started the collaboration with the experienced adult colleagues, in particular – **Olena Zhukova** (harpsichord, Ukraine), **Ralph Rousseau Meulenbroeks** (viola da gamba, the Netherlands), **Konstantin Schenikov-Arkharov** (lute, Russia).

Concert appearances of the ensemble took place at the most prestigious concert halls of Ukraine, in particular: Kiev Philharmonic society, Kharkiv philharmonic society, Lviv house of organ and chamber music, National Actorhall and others.

The duo of young violinists Illia Bondarenko and Tetiana Zhmendak is the face of the great international charity initiative aimed to restore the sculptural and musical heritage of Baroque – the **“Puzzles of Eternity”** project, presented in **UN Library in New York** (October, 2014) and at the **Prince Henry of Wales Charity Ball in London** (November, 2015).

In the treasury of the ensemble there are two 60 minutes thematic programs: the “Pearls of Baroque” (2014), which consists of Austrian, German, and English music, and the “Magic World of Baroque. France, Italy” (2013).

The ensemble plays the music in **authentic tune 415 Hz using baroque instruments**. The musicians’ dresses and shoes are made by the **masters of historical costumes** and demonstrate the **national style of every country**.

As the violinists are very young themselves, we are very interested to make the musical and cultural heritage of Baroque epoch known and loved among the widest audience, specially, among the youth. Therefore the musicians always combine the historically-informed approach with the ardent artistic temperament during every performance. The presenter of the concerts always makes the historical and cultural excursion into the composers’ lifetime and creativity, into the specific of the style in each country. Usually, the concerts are accompanied with the video exposition of Baroque paintings, sculptures, architecture of the country which music we play.

Being in love with the magnificent world of Baroque, we’d like to share it with the colleagues and friends in the stage, and with the audience – both, the acquainted one, and those who just opens the unique treasury of Baroque.

The official You Tube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/jazztangokiev>

