



ABOUT APOLLO'S FIRE

(Updated Profile, November 2021)

"The U.S.A.'s hottest baroque band"

-- Classical Music Magazine, UK

"Sorrell and her dazzling period band... are incandescent."

-- The Sunday Times, London

"Led by a brilliant harpsichordist, Jeannette Sorrell, the ensemble exudes stylish energy – a blend of scholarship and visceral intensity." -- GRAMOPHONE

LONG VERSION: 516 words

Named for the classical god of music, healing and the sun, Apollo's Fire is a GRAMMY®-winning ensemble. The period-instrument orchestra was founded by award-winning harpsichordist and conductor Jeannette Sorrell, and is dedicated to the baroque ideal that music should evoke the various *Affekts* or passions in the listeners. Apollo's Fire is a collection of creative artists who share Sorrell's passion for drama and rhetoric.

Hailed as *"one of the pre-eminent period-instrument ensembles"* (THE INDEPENDENT, London), Apollo's Fire has performed five European tours, with sold-out concerts at the **BBC Proms in London** (with live broadcast across Europe), the **Aldeburgh Festival** (UK), **Madrid's Royal Theatre**, **Bordeaux's Grand Théâtre de l'Opéra**, and major venues in Lisbon, Metz (France), and Bregenz (Austria); as well as concerts at the **Irish National Concert Hall** (Dublin), the **Irish National Opera House** (Wexford), the Birmingham International Series (UK), the Tuscan Landscapes Festival (Italy), and Belfast Castle with a live broadcast carried by the Associated Press of Europe.

AF's London 2014 concert was chosen by the DAILY TELEGRAPH as one of the "Best 5 Classical Concerts of 2014, with their critic writing, *"An evening of superlative music-making... the group combines European stylishness with American entrepreneurialism."*

North American tour engagements include sold-out concerts at **Carnegie Hall** (2018), the **Tanglewood Festival** (2015 and 2017), the **Ravinia Festival** (2017 and 2018), the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** in NY (2013, 2014, and 2015), the **Boston Early Music Festival** series, and the **Library of Congress**, as well as concerts at the **Aspen Music Festival**, Caramoor Festival, and major venues

in Toronto, Los Angeles and San Francisco. The ensemble has performed two major U.S. tours of the Monteverdi Vespers (2010 and 2014) and a 9-concert tour of the Brandenburg Concertos in 2013.

At home in Cleveland, Apollo's Fire frequently enjoys sold-out performances at its subscription series, which has drawn national attention for creative programming.

With over 8 million views (total) of its YouTube videos, Apollo's Fire is one of the most popular baroque orchestras on the worldwide internet. The ensemble also launched a "Worldwide Watch-at-Home Series" in October 2020, bringing its subscription concerts into the homes of patrons around the world.

Apollo's Fire has released **27 commercial CDs** and won a GRAMMY® award in 2019 for the album *Songs of Orpheus* with tenor Karim Sulayman. AF's recordings have won rave reviews in the London press: "a swaggering version, brilliantly played" (THE TIMES) and "the Midwest's best-kept musical secret is finally reaching British ears" (THE INDEPENDENT). **Nine of the ensemble's CD releases have become best-sellers on the classical Billboard chart:** Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* (Billboard Classical #2), the Monteverdi *Vespers*, Bach's Brandenburg Concertos & Harpsichord Concertos, a disc of Handel arias with soprano Amanda Forsythe titled "The Power of Love" (Billboard Classical #3, 2015), *Songs of Orpheus* (Billboard Classical #5, 2018), and Jeannette Sorrell's five crossover programs - *Come to the River – An Early American Gathering* (Billboard Classical #9, 2011); *Sacrum Mysterium- A Celtic Christmas Vespers* (Billboard Classical #11, 2012); *Sugarloaf Mountain – An Appalachian Gathering* (Billboard Classical #5, 2015); *Sephardic Journey – Wanderings of the Spanish Jews* (Billboard World Music Chart #2 and Billboard Classical #5, 2016); and *Christmas on Sugarloaf Mountain* (Billboard #3, 2018).

SHORT VERSION: 305 words

"Sorrell and her dazzling period band... are incandescent."

– The Sunday Times, London

Named for the classical god of music and healing, Apollo's Fire is a GRAMMY®- winning ensemble based in Cleveland, Ohio. The period-instrument orchestra was founded by award-winning conductor-harpsichordist Jeannette Sorrell, and is dedicated to the baroque ideal that music should evoke the various *Affekts* or passions in the listeners. Apollo's Fire artists share Sorrell's passion for drama and rhetoric.

Apollo's Fire has performed five European tours, with sold-out concerts at the BBC Proms in London, Madrid's Royal Theatre, Bordeaux's Grand Théâtre de l'Opéra, the National Concert Hall of Ireland, and venues in France, Italy, Austria, and Portugal.

Chosen by the DAILY TELEGRAPH as one of London's "*Best 5 Classical Concerts of 2014*," Apollo's Fire was praised for "*superlative music-making... combining European stylishness with American entrepreneurialism.*"

North American tour engagements include Carnegie Hall, the Tanglewood, Aspen, and Ravinia music festivals, the Boston Early Music Festival series, the Library of Congress, the National Gallery of Art,

the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, and major venues in Toronto, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The ensemble has performed two major U.S. tours of the *Monteverdi Vespers* and a 9-concert tour of the *Brandenburg Concertos*. At home in Cleveland, Apollo's Fire enjoys sold-out performances at its series, which has drawn national attention for creative programming.

With over 8 million views of its YouTube videos, Apollo's Fire has released 27 commercial CDs and won a GRAMMY® award in 2019 for the album *Songs of Orpheus* with tenor Karim Sulayman. Nine of the ensemble's CD releases have become best-sellers on the classical Billboard chart, including Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, *Monteverdi Vespers*, Bach's *Brandenburg Concertos*, and Sorrell's 5 crossover programs: *Come to the River – An Early American Gathering*; *Sacrum Mysterium – A Celtic Christmas Vespers*; *Sugarloaf Mountain – An Appalachian Gathering*; *Sephardic Journey – Wanderings of the Spanish Jews*; and *Christmas on Sugarloaf Mountain*.
