



## ABOUT APOLLO'S FIRE

(Updated Profile, August 2022)

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*"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: 527 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. Dedicated to the baroque ideal that music should evoke the various *Affekts* or passions in the listeners, Apollo's Fire brings to life the music of the past for audiences of today, with **Passion. Period.** The Apollo's Fire musicians are creative artists who share Sorrell's passion for drama and rhetoric.

In Europe and the UK, Apollo's Fire has performed 5 tours including sold-out concerts at the **BBC Proms in London**, the **Aldeburgh Festival** (UK), **Madrid's Royal Theatre**, and **Bordeaux's Grand Théâtre de l'Opéra**; with concerts at the **Irish National Concert Hall** (Dublin) and the **Irish National Opera House** (Wexford), as well as venues in France, Italy, Austria, and Portugal. The ensemble has had many live radio broadcasts across 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 **Carnegie Hall** (2018 and 2022), the **Tanglewood Festival** (2015, 2017, and 2021), the **Ravinia Festival** (2017, 2018, and 2021), the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** in NY (numerous times), the **Boston Early Music Festival** series, the **Library of Congress**, the **Aspen Music Festival**, Caramoor Festival, and major venues in Toronto, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Most of these concerts have been sold out. In 2021, Apollo's Singers made their debut with the New York Philharmonic under the baton of Jeannette Sorrell, winning rave reviews.

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 10 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 2020, bringing its subscription concerts into the homes of patrons around the world.

Apollo's Fire has released **29 commercial CDs** and won a GRAMMY® award in 2019 for the album *Songs of Orpheus* with tenor Karim Sulayman. AF's recordings of the Bach *St John Passion*, Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, and the Monteverdi *Vespers* have been chosen as best in the field by the Sunday Times of London (2020 and 2021) and BBC Magazine (2022). **Ten of the ensemble's CD releases have become best-sellers on the classical Billboard chart:** Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* (Billboard Classical #2, 2021), 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).

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#### **SHORT VERSION: 337 words**

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– The Sunday Times, London

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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 (twice), the Tanglewood and Ravinia festivals (3 times), the Boston Early Music Festival series, the Aspen Music Festival, 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. Most of these concerts have been sold out. In 2021, Apollo's Singers made their debut with the New York Philharmonic under the baton of Jeannette Sorrell, winning rave reviews.

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

With over 10 million views of its YouTube videos, Apollo's Fire has released 29 commercial CDs and won a GRAMMY® award in 2019 for the album *Songs of Orpheus* with tenor Karim Sulayman. Ten 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*.

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