

## Barokksolistene



“The whole joyous evening was a liberation, carrying us back to a time when the words “classical” and “folk” hadn’t yet been invented, and music was simply music” **The Telegraph**

Founded and led by Norwegian violinist Bjarte Eike, **Barokksolistene** is recognised as one of the world’s most dynamic and exciting early music groups, fusing virtuoso musicianship with flawless ensemble playing. Constantly striving to reach out to new audiences, their passion to engage with folk and experimental music, improvisation, visual arts, dance and storytelling has led them to create unique concert experiences which play to sold-out audiences worldwide.

Nowhere is this more evident than in their signature project “*The Alehouse Sessions*”. Curated and devised by Bjarte Eike, this is an ever-changing look into the music of the English 17<sup>th</sup>-century tavern, with the group diverting away from the traditional concert model to create an evening that is “innately theatrical, genre bending and suffused with great musicianship” (The Strad). An album was released on Rubicon Classics and immediately made the UK top 10 classical charts. Since then Barokksolistene has toured Alehouse throughout Europe and the US and it continues to return season after season, each time with new ideas. A favourite at the major European festivals, *The Alehouse Sessions* has found itself a home in spaces as diverse as barns and rock clubs, candlelit theatres and major concerts halls including Elbphilharmonie Hamburg and Usher Hall Edinburgh, excelling in all cases by the immediacy of the music and the connection between performers and audience. In 2023, *The Alehouse Sessions* was broadcast as a feature film on BBC Four. *The Alehouse Sessions* has given rise to several new productions, including *The Nordic Sessions* (focusing more on Scandinavian traditions) and *Microbrew*, featuring folk dancers from the Norwegian group Mamelukk – the latter was performed at the BBC Proms in 2025.

Their album *The Image of Melancholy*, one of the group’s first major recordings, was released on BIS and explores the use of melancholy in music throughout the centuries. It went on to win “International Recording of the Year” at the Danish Prisen Awards.

Barokksolistene’s newest album “*The Playhouse Sessions*” was also released by Rubicon Classics and was enthusiastically received, with critics praising the exhilarating and stylish performances.

On stage their collaborations have found them working with artists as diverse as choreographer Liam Scarlett on his ballet *Vespertine* and Norwegian jazz musician Jon Balke, whose *Siwan* project explores the links between North African Arabic, Andalusian and baroque music and has resulted in three acclaimed albums on ECM.

Further projects have included performances of Malcom Bruno’s reconstruction of Bach’s *St Markus Passion* and a series of major opera productions, including a staged *Messiah* with Netia Jones at the Bergen International Festival and Handel’s *Alcina* for Den Norske Opera Oslo. They took their approach to integration further, appearing on stage both as musicians and actors in productions of Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas* at Den Ny Opera Esbjerg and most recently at Longborough Festival Opera 2025, which was met with great critical acclaim.

Upcoming performances in the new season include appearances at Fratopia Festival in Frankfurt, the Mosel Musikfest and Wiener Konzerthaus.

---

Valid for use until 1 September 2026  
For updated versions please contact  
[info@rayfieldallied.com](mailto:info@rayfieldallied.com)