

APOLLO·5

Celebrating its 15th year in 2025, APOLLO5 continues to thrill, move and inspire audiences as one of Britain's smallest but most impressive vocal groups. Comprising a soprano, mezzo-soprano, two tenors and a bass, the ensemble – which takes its name from the ancient Greek god of music – has become known for its ability to connect with intimacy and directness, showcasing with rich, dynamic and distinctive sound how powerful five voices alone can be. With a versatile approach to music programming, and a repertoire spanning renaissance, classical and contemporary choral works to folk, jazz and pop, the group's five voices bring the music of five centuries to life.

APOLLO5 has delivered an ambitious education programme and accumulated a busy touring schedule that has taken the group to many European countries, the USA and Asia. In addition to performing at prestigious UK venues such as the Barbican Centre, Wigmore Hall, Cadogan Hall, St John's Smith Square and Wembley Arena, the group has toured extensively across Belgium, Germany and France.

The group has released six solo studio albums on the VOCES8 Records label. *Haven*, which explores the music of troubled, displaced and persecuted composers and features a full setting of William Byrd's *Mass For Five Voices*, was released in 2023 to critical acclaim.

Other albums include *Where All Roses Go* and *O Radiant Dawn* (both of which charted in the top five of the UK Classical Charts), winter disc *A Deep But Dazzling Darkness*, and *Invocations*, a piano-accompanied treasury of favourite songs recorded with composer and arranger Fraser Wilson. In January 2025, APOLLO5 will release their seventh album, *Anam*, a Gaelic-tinged programme of 'music to move the soul'.

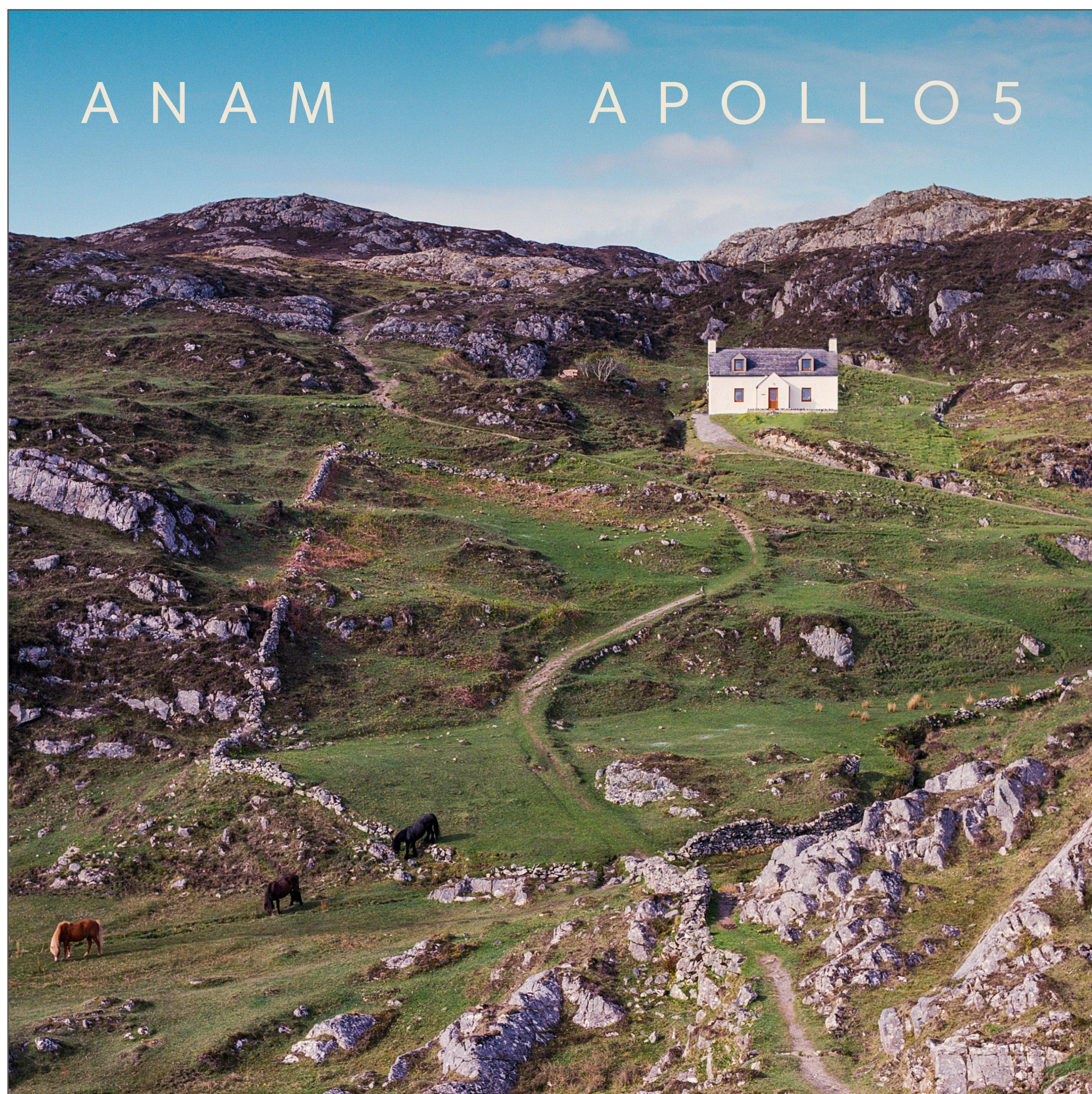
As part of the VOCES8 Foundation, APOLLO5 works alongside VOCES8 and Paul Smith to deliver a transformative programme of workshops, masterclasses and concerts to over 40,000 young people annually in the UK, Europe, the USA and Asia.



“Exceptional cohesion and effortless style... faultless.” ★★★★★ — BBC Music Magazine

“An unbroken spectrum, [creating] the illusion of larger forces.” — Choir & Organ

“Harmonious without the slightest concession to quality... the rapt listener would be hard put to find fault.” — Yorkshire Times



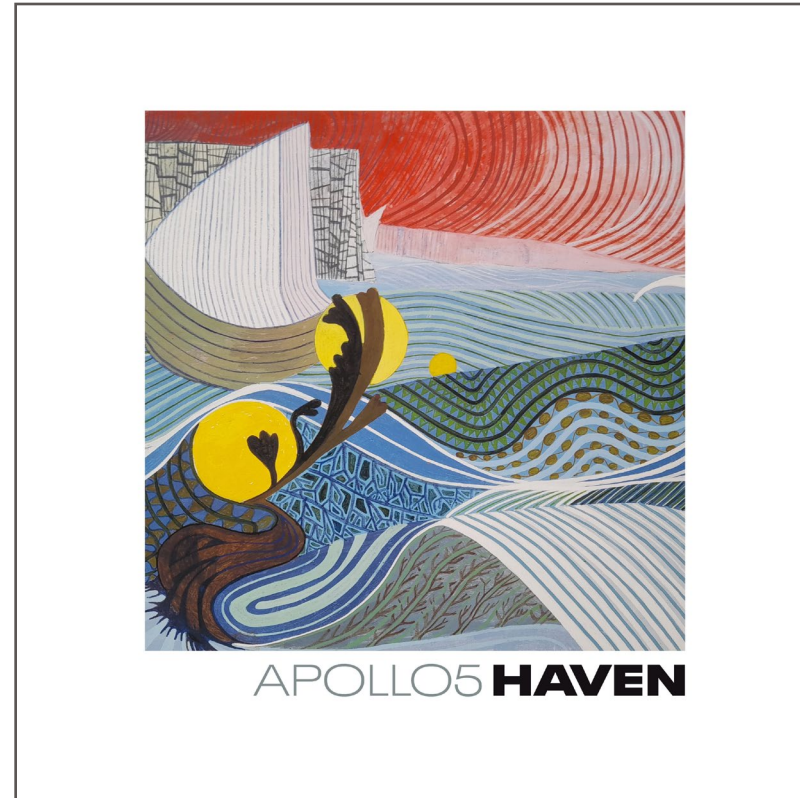
Current programme

Anam

Anam is a collection of 'music to move the soul', taking its cue from the title – 'anam' is the ancient Gaelic word for the soul – with a programme that celebrates a rich bardic tradition of storytelling inspired by human emotion, landscape and heritage. Some of the compositions featured in the programme were written especially for the ensemble in traditional Gaelic styles or with Gaelic text, and there are new arrangements of Scottish and American folk songs. The programme also encompasses the impassioned madrigals of Renaissance Italy and new settings of Romantic English poetry.

Anam explores how a strong connection to tradition, homeland and nature can inspire music and poetry that feels somehow timeless in imagery and emotional depth, with a power to move the listener from generation to generation.

Other programmes and releases

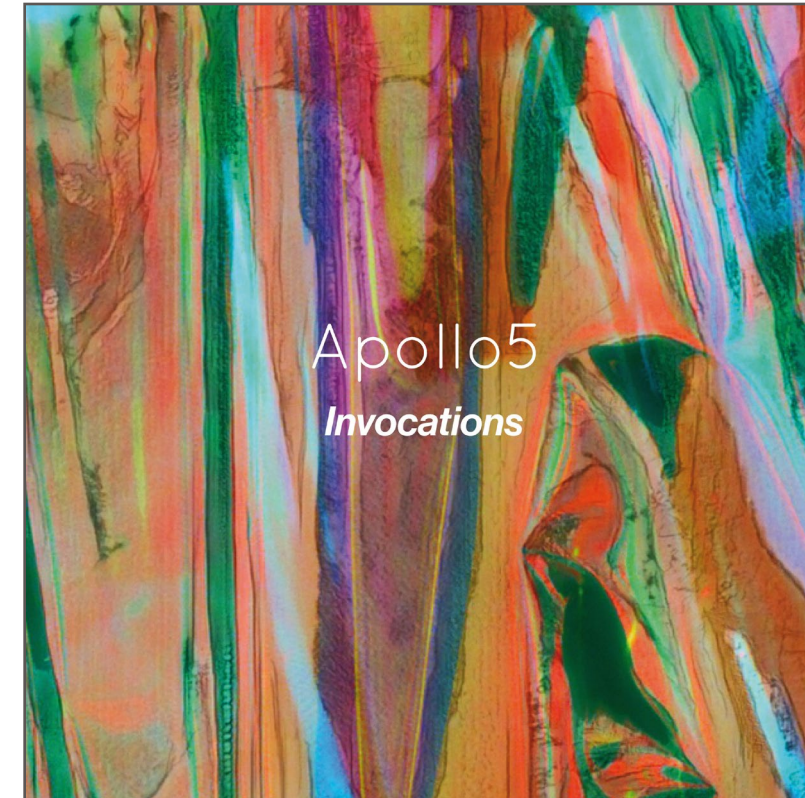


Haven

This bold programme pairs William Byrd's Mass for Five Voices, which was written secretly after a clandestine conversion to Catholicism in the late-16th century, with interspersions from contemporary composers of today. Some items respond directly to Byrd's setting of the mass, whilst others speak of their own exile and the feeling of safety found in sanctuary, with new compositions and arrangements by Taylor Scott Davis, Michael McGlynn and APOLLO5's soprano Penelope Appleyard. Together, these pieces form a dramatic and moving collection that speaks of music as a vehicle for escapism, a solace against the storm of personal upheaval, dislocation and adversity.

▶ Agnus Dei from Mass for Five Voices by *William Byrd*

"The level of polish and perfection is remarkable... every syllable is clear, the ensemble blended and balanced, and the intonation is flawless."
— **Planet Hugill**

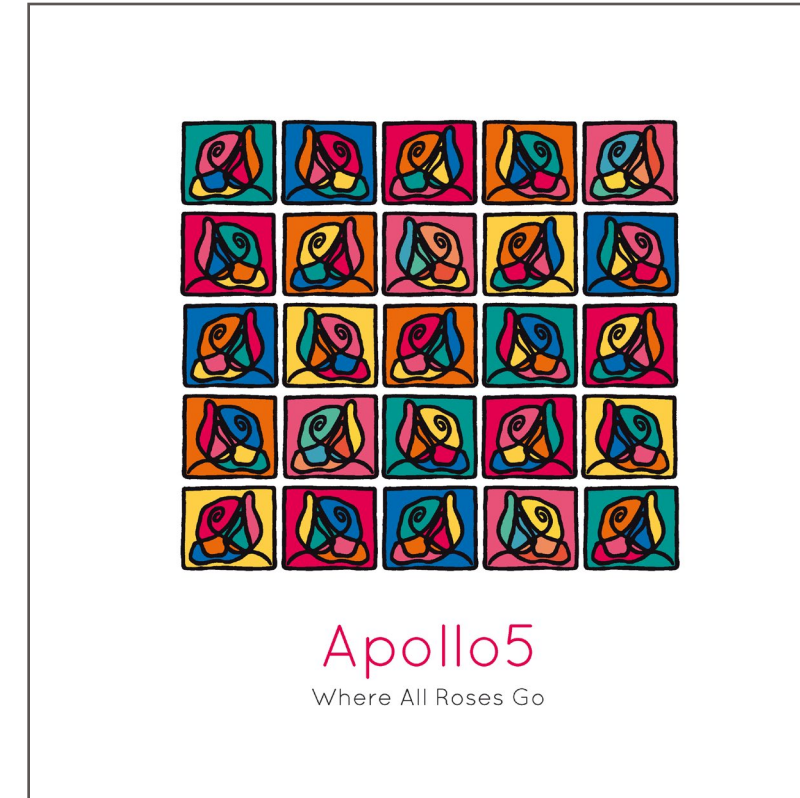


Invocations

Invocations was ignited by each of APOLLO5's members picking songs of personal significance, with these choices then transformed into brand new arrangements by associate composer and pianist Fraser Wilson. Weaving together these cherished songs with Fraser's freshly composed material, an exciting and evocative new programme of work has been created, novel and original – yet strangely familiar. *Invocations* harnesses the power of Fraser's writing for voices, and taps into a recent career spent redressing traditional folksongs in new, contemporary clothing.

▶ Ubi Caritas by *Ola Gjeilo*

Record of the week. ★★★★★ — **Scala Radio**

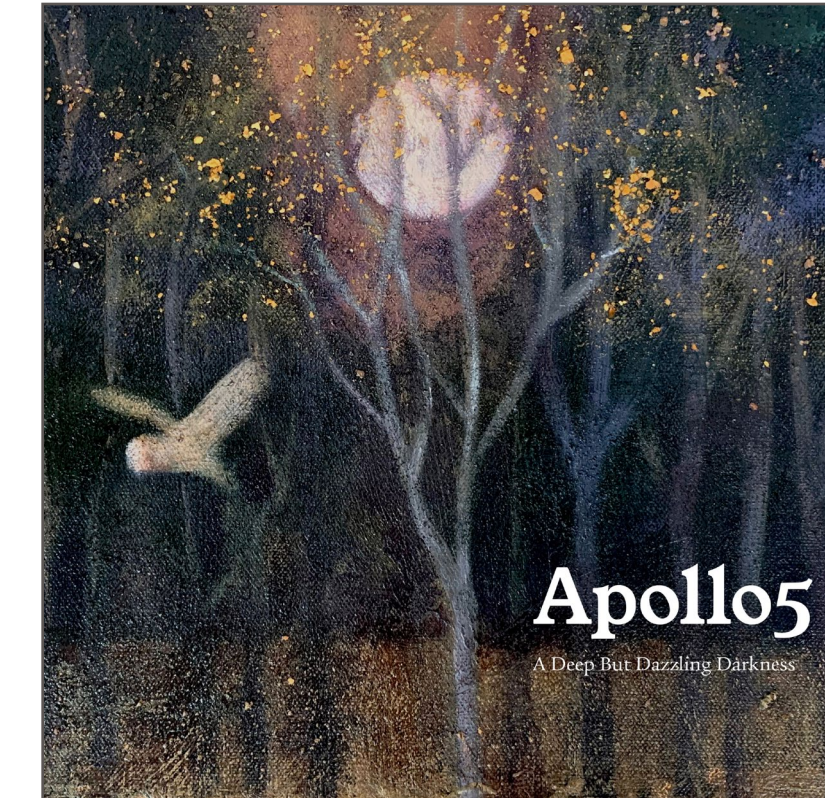


Where All Roses Go

Marking the tenth anniversary of APOLLO5, this programme is an ode to love in all its manifestations. *Where All Roses Go* unites a diverse collection of choral music spanning 500 years, a rich tapestry intricately woven with conflicting strands: life and loss; beauty and mortality; brave romance and fragility in rejection.

▶ Where All Roses Go by *Michael McGlynn*

"Dazzling." ★★★★★ — **BBC Music Magazine**
"Such diversity showcases the vocal ensemble to stunning effect, with pinpoint accuracy of intonation, well-blended tone and an infectious zest for adventure." ★★★★★ — **Choir & Organ**



A Deep But Dazzling Darkness

A Deep But Dazzling Darkness conjures up the wonder of winter's changing landscape through the very best contemporary choral writing for the festive season. The programme illuminates the magical quality of dark winter nights whilst speaking of a time of rejoicing and celebrating with the sharing of gifts and through the miracle of birth, hailed with wonder and elation.

▶ The Owl by *Toby Young*

"Expert singing, unexpected choices, with some subtle arrangements made specially for this intimate ensemble." — **The Observer**