



The **Oberton String Octet** is one of the most exciting and up-and-coming young chamber music ensembles in Austria and inspires the audience with innovative programming and high technical brilliance. For the **debut album *Slavic Soul*** on the renowned German label **ARS Production**, on which the **world premiere recording** of the double quartet by Nikolay Afanasyev can be heard, they received a nomination for the German music prize **Opus Klassik** in three categories as well as a nomination for the German **Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik**. On the occasion of **Astor Piazzolla's 100th birthday**, the second recording **Tangabile** set new standards in tango music for strings.

Concerts in many parts of Europe and around the world line the career of the chamber music group, e.g. appearances at the **Musikverein Graz**, at the **Wiener Konzerthaus**, at the **Vienna Film Festival** in Yekaterinburg, at the opening concerts of **Festwochen Gmunden** and **Attergauer Kultursommer**, several years of participation as the ensemble in residence at the **Steirisches Kammermusikfestival**, appearances at the **Sounding Jerusalem Festival** and the **Carinthischer Sommer** as well as a performance on the occasion of the Celebrations for the **100th anniversary of the Republic of Austria** in the Vienna Hofburg in the presence of Federal President **Alexander Van der Bellen**.

The Oberton String Octet is breaking new ground with its **Obertonreihe**, an innovative **concert series in Graz** for octet and string chamber music. In addition, the Oberton String Octet founded the **Oberton+ Chamber Orchestra**, which regularly performs with renowned soloists such as **Julia Hagen, Lidia Baich, Paul Gulda, Aaron Pilsan, The Wave Quartet, Markus Schirmer, Benjamin Herzl, Andreas Schablas, Tamás Varga, Reinhard Latzko** and **Jevgenijs Cepoveckis**.

Another focus of the ensemble is the **musical education of young people**. Thanks to regular cooperation, the Oberton String Octet visits **elementary schools, high schools** and **music schools** to arouse young people's interest in classical music with workshops and interactive exchange.

The Oberton String Octet was founded in **2015** at the **University of Music Graz**. Chamber music at the highest level is an important concern for the eight young musicians from all over the world. The focus of the ensemble's work is the **popularization of the string octet genre** and its standard works, the **expansion of the genre** through innovative arrangements, the **rediscovery of rarely performed works** as well as **contemporary compositions** by young composers and world premieres. In **cooperation with ORF**, several recordings were made for the Austrian music archive.

The ensemble is also committed to the **good cause** and performs at **charity events**, e.g. in cooperation with the Lions Club or Caritas. In addition, at the beginning of 2020, a **fundraiser** initiated by the Oberton String Octet raised funds for the northern Italian regions hard hit by Corona.