



Rachel Podger

Review Season 2026

"Queen of the Baroque Violin"

The Sunday Times

"The unsurpassed British glory of the Baroque violin"

The Times

"Podger, one of the finest of today's Baroque violinists, takes up the challenge posed by Biber's 1681 sonata collection with élan. Her affinity with the material allows a free and spontaneous delivery - a flexibility her continuo partners from Brecon Baroque follow to the dot."

BBC Music Magazine Recording of the Month, 5* (Just Biber)

"Podger brings Biber's baroque brilliance to life...a wonderful album, pairing her dynamic fiddling with equally colourful playing from members of Brecon Baroque"

The Times, 5* (Just Biber)

"Podger rises brilliantly to these sonatas' extreme challenges'...[bringing] an expressive freedom that never takes too many liberties, but remains true to the spirit of the music."

The Guardian (Just Biber)

"Her calibration of a playful spontaneity with precision proved beguiling, ornaments flickering with an elegantly charming yet intentional ease."

The Strad (Brilliant Baroque)

"There's no doubting the sheer brilliance of her articulation."

Gramophone, Editor's Choice (Just Biber)

<https://www.percius.co.uk/artists/rachel-podger>

"Beautiful sonorities and accomplished execution came across like a polished studio CD with fierce fearlessness, in-the-moment risk taking, and lighter-than air, en-pointe dancing."

**Boston Musical Intelligencer
(Concert with Haydn and Handel Society)**

"Podger...demonstrates just why she is so admired by audiences and fellow artists alike."

Gramophone, Editor's Choice (Muses Restor'd)

"Podger calls it a riotous joy to play and it is to listen to as well"

BBC 3 Record Review (Muses Restor'd)

"The ensemble is a coterie of some of the finest early musicians on the scene who evidently relish the art of musical conversation, the guiding ethos of the English consort."

BBC Music Magazine, 5* (Muses Restor'd)

"Her leadership and communication with the entire group is natural, infectious, and inspiring. Often described as violinist and conductor, perhaps it's worthwhile to make the distinction that she conducts the musical intention throughout the whole group, like the way metals share electric flow with one another...She exudes energy and momentum through free gestures, and the orchestra responds with openness."

Ludwig Van Toronto ('Influencers' with Tafelmusik)

"There was virtuosity and bravura here, but what really told was the performers' sense of enjoyment in the music."

**Planet Hugill ('Rachel Podger & Friends' at
Highgate International Chamber Music Festival)**



Credit: Brecon Baroque Festival