

The beginning of the Year of Czech Music has been adorned by an extraordinary Czech success abroad!

The world-renowned Baroque orchestral and choral Ensemble Inégal in Prague and its conductor Adam Viktora have received the prestigious French *Diapason d'Or* award for their latest compact disc – the world premiere recording of the *Missa Paschalis* for Easter by the Czech Baroque genius Jan Dismas Zelenka, whose star has been rising rapidly during recent years. This is already the third time Ensemble Inégal has received this important distinction for recordings of music by Zelenka, which is a unique success having no parallel among Czech musicians. The review in *Diapason* magazine appraises the recording as follows: The *Missa Paschalis* is the work of a brilliant musical strategist [...]. Under the magnificent leadership of Adam Viktor all its parts are unified as though uttered in a single breath, absolutely perfect [...]. Ensemble Inégal has presented to the world in its concerts and recordings a major portion of works by Zelenka that were unknown until recently, and has thus become the most outstanding discoverer of music by this Czech genius. As Ensemble Inégal's conductor and artistic director Adam Viktora says: This is an honour not only for our performance but especially for Jan Dismas Zelenka. It's fascinating that in the twenty-first century the world is discovering a Czech as one of the most important composers of European Baroque music.

