

Le Souffle des cordes - The Breath Of Strings String Octet

Derya Turkan : Istanbul kemence

Kiko Ruiz : Flamenco Guitar

Serkan Halili : Kanoun

String Quartet : **Florent Brannens**, violon, **Amandine Ley**, violon, **Julien Dabonneville**, Viola, et **Barbara Le Liepvre**, Cello

Renaud Garcia-Fons : Five String Double Bass, concept et composition

After Silk Moon and Farangi duets, Le « Souffle des Cordes » (the Breath of Strings 8tet) is the third opus in a trilogy devoted to the encounter and mixing of stringed instruments from different regions of the world. The original repertoire, composed by Renaud García-Fons, is the result of a genuine writing process, which respects the authenticity of the playing, the style and the culture of these instruments from different traditions. The music of the Souffle des Cordes travels a world abolished by all borders, from the extreme East to Africa, from rock to flamenco bulería, humorously evoking the baroque with Mamamouchi, the energy of the Balkans with Skopje Melodija, drawing on the richness of the timbres and playing modes specific to the strings a source of inspiration renewed with each piece. Derya Turkan and Serkan Halili represent Ottoman and Middle Eastern music, while Kiko Ruiz on guitar instills the fervor and groove of flamenco. Florent Brannens, Amandine Ley, Aurélia Souvignet-Kowalski and Nicolas Saint-Yves, all members of the Radio France philharmonic orchestra, based on the writing of Renaud García-Fons, structure the entire repertoire and bring rigor Western-style chamber music. As for Renaud García-Fons' double bass, a solo instrument in its own right, thanks to its multiple tones and its different playing modes, it constitutes a real link between these different musical worlds, but also between written and improvised music. More than a simple rapprochement, the Souffle des Cordes testifies to a real desire for sharing and exchange between cultures.

Renaud and his group are fabulous musicians. The music here is a declaration of love for a music which has no borders, is about harmony and is, essentially, humane....

Henri Texier

Concert Program

1. Serene walk

Dès que tu avances sur le chemin, le chemin apparaît

As soon as you walk on the path, the path appears. Djalâl ad-Dîn Rûmi

2. Aníname ! Comfort me!

Le bonheur est parfois caché dans l'inconnu.
Happiness is sometimes hidden in the unknown. **Victor Hugo**

3. Qi Yun The rhythmic breath

Que soit animé le souffle rythmique
Let the rhythmic breath be animated. Éloge de la beauté. **François Cheng**

4. Jinete Viento Buleria Flamenco Style

En la luna negra de los bandoleros, cantan las espuelas...
In the black moon of the bandits, the spurs sing...
Canción de jinete, **Federico García-Lorca.**

5. Chiche hoop The child with the hoop

Pour qu'un enfant grandisse, il faut tout un village.
For a child to grow, it takes a whole village. **African proverb.**

6. Rock my strings

J'ai tendu des cordes de clocher en clocher ; des guirlandes de fenêtre en fenêtre ; des chaînes d'or d'étoile en étoile et je danse
I stretched ropes from steeple to steeple; window-to-window garlands; chains of gold from star to star and I dance. **Arthur Rimbaud**

7. Le souffle des cordes

Je veux rendre grâce au Divin... Pour la musique, mystérieuse forme du temps.
I want to give thanks to the Divine... For music, the mysterious form of time.
Jorge Luis Borges

8. Mamamouchi

Baroque and buffoon waltz, burlesque Turkishness, country Fandango.
Belle Marquise, vos beaux yeux me font mourir d'amour...
Beautiful Marquise, your beautiful eyes make me die of love...
Le bourgeois gentilhomme, **Molière.**

9. Le bal des Haftan

Dans le cœur de certaines personnes brillent des parcelles lumineuses comme le soleil, et pourtant, ces personnes ont une apparence ordinaire.
In the hearts of some people shine patches of light like the sun, and yet these people have an ordinary appearance. **Ostad Elahi**

All compositions and arrangements by Renaud Garcia-Fons