



Despite his undeniable talent and a musical output, most of which has survived, Natale Monferrato is unfortunately somewhat forgotten today. Is this because he never wrote opera but dedicated himself exclusively to sacred music? A friend of Monteverdi, successor to Cavalli at San Marco, colleague of Legrenzi, perhaps a pupil of Rovetta, he left us an impressive body of religious music: masses, antiphons, cantatas, motets. It is precisely his motets for solo viola and continuo that are at the heart of this programme. Monferrato's writing and musical style make him the 'missing link' between the Monteverdian tradition and the Italian sacred cantata of the early 18th century.



To support Paulin Bündgen's voice, the Céladon ensemble is composed for the occasion of a rich continuo, thus allowing to accompany every inflection of the music or the text. The closeness to the expressiveness of music composed for the stage is thus underlined, with some motets having all the characteristics of a lamento extracted from an opera scene. The expressiveness of music composed for the stage is thus underlined, with some motets having all the characteristics of a lamento extracted from an opera scene!

World re-creation. First performance 2018 - Abbaye de Fontmorigny. Repeats at the Rendez-vous de Musique Ancienne, Les Grands Concerts. Release in 2019 by Ricercar - Outhere

Ensemble Céladon | Paulin Bündgen

Paulin Bündgen, countertenor
Nolwenn Le Guern, viola da gamba
Luc Gaugler, violone
Marie-Domitille Murez, triple harp
Florent Marie, theorbo
Caroline Huynh Van Xuan, organ

Baptiste Audet | Artist secretary
baptiste@ensemble-celadon.com
www.ensemble-celadon.com
+33 (0) 9 51 20 76 66 | +33 (0) 7 81 41 76 43



ENSEMBLE CÉLADON

Borrowing its name from the hero of Honoré d'Urfé's *Astrée*, the ensemble Céladon explores the heritage of early music with charm and fantasy, seeking to reinvent the form of its concerts at each of its events.

Led by the singer Paulin Bündgen, the Ensemble enjoys exploring the repertoire linked to his countertenor tone and seeks to escape from the beaten track between medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music.

Since its formation in 1999, the Céladon Ensemble has created concert programmes with a strong and original identity, such as *Deo Gratias Anglia*, *Devozioni Veneziane*, *Les Douze figures de Marie*, *A la Muse Céleste* and *Nuits Occitanes*. To date, the ensemble has made 10 recordings.

The Ensemble is as interested in recreating forgotten works as it is in staging shows: *Sea Change*, the result of work with the singer-songwriter Kyrie Kristmanson, premiered in Venice and then programmed at the Café de la Danse and at the Théâtre de la Renaissance in Oullins; *No Time in Eternity*, born of a meeting with the composer Michael Nyman and hosted by the Musiques en Scène Biennial in Lyon, the Théâtre de la Croix-Rousse and the LUX Scène nationale in Valence.

Continuing its musical bridges, the Céladon ensemble created *IEΠOΣ | HIEROS*, a mirror between conducts from the Notre Dame School and compositions by Jean-Philippe Goude.

The ensemble Céladon performs in many French and European festivals such as Ambronay, Les Rencontres Musicales de Vézelay, Voix et Routes Romanes, Music in the Dales (UK), Les Nuits de Septembre (BE), Fondazione Pietà de' Turchini (IT), Julita (SE), Musica da Povia de Varzim (PT), Tage Alter Musik Regensburg (DE).



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Ensemble Céladon
P. Bündgen, direction.

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