

LES DOUZE FIGURES DE MARIE

MUSIQUE MARIALE DANS L'ITALIE DU 17ÈME SIÈCLE



Sacred literature paints a portrait of the Virgin Mary that is both rich and vague. Protean, black Virgin or Madonna, she is also in turn a loving or grieving mother, a model wife or a glorious queen; the litanies dedicated to her call her the Mystic Rose, the Gate of Heaven, the Morning Star, the Splendour of the World! But also the Help of Christians or the Advocate of the oppressed.



A consoling and benevolent figure, a universal mother, she brings comfort and security to the faithful who praise her. Countless musical works have been dedicated to her since the Middle Ages, in a variety of forms and with a wide range of personnel.

In this programme, the two artists of the ensemble Céladon focus on Marian music for voice and continuo in 17th century Italy.

A multitude of works written for small forces were produced in the various religious institutions of the great cities of Venice, Bergamo, Mantua and of course Rome. Each convent, each monastery thus hired the services of prestigious choirmasters who composed full time for their patrons and protectors.

Through their selection of works by the most illustrious composers of the peninsula (Monteverdi, Strozzi, Frescobaldi, Grandi...), Paulin Bündgen and Caroline Huynh Van Xuan reveal to us, in 12 portraits, the facets of Mary that resonate with their own sensibility.

Ensemble Céladon | Paulin Bündgen

Paulin Bündgen, countertenor
Caroline Huynh Van Xuan, organ

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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 event.

Directed by the singer Paulin Bündgen, the ensemble enjoys exploring the repertoire linked to his counter-tenor voice and seeks to get off the beaten track between medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music.

Since its creation in 1999, the Ensemble Céladon 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 much interested in recreating forgotten works as in staging shows: *Sea Change*, the fruit of a collaboration with the singer-songwriter Kyrie Kristmanson, premiered in Venice and then programmed at the *Café de la Danse* and the *Théâtre de la Renaissance* in Oullins; *No Time in Eternity*, born of an encounter 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 de Valence*.

Continuing its musical bridges, the Céladon ensemble created *IEΠOΣ | HIEROS*, a mirror between conductors 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 Povoia de Varzim* (PT), *Tage Alter Musik Regensburg* (DE).



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