

SPEEDMEETINGS SUBSCRIPTION FORM

COMPANY : LA MAIN HARMONIQUE

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Describe your company in a few words :

La Main Harmonique Ensemble & Frédéric Bétous

For many years, Frédéric Bétous performed as a counter-tenor at large music festivals in France, and worldwide in prestigious musical ensembles. Nowadays, he devotes most of his time to the artistic direction of his ensemble, La Main Harmonique. He also undertakes to explore the polyphonic masterpieces of the European Renaissance, gathering around him singers and instrumentalists enthused with the desire to share the treasures of this marvellous musical heritage. Firmly rooted in the present with the commissioning of pieces, La Main Harmonique ensemble draws an essential part of its inspiration from coming together with contemporary composers, and demanding a place for the performer/composer which keeps as closely as possible to the work. It is a fertile meeting place for specialised musicians wherein curiosity, audacity and musical excellence combine in a continuously renewed spirit of discovery.

La Main Harmonique ensemble has a residency at the Collégiale de La Romieu (Gers). It is also very active in its local Gascony district in the heart of the Armagnac region. At its *Musique en Chemin* Festival, it puts on an ambitious programme in a casual atmosphere. The event takes place at the main sites along a section of the *Chemin de Compostelle* (the Way of Saint James). The “Way” is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site.

La Main Harmonique Ensemble is supported by the Ministry of Culture (DRAC Midi-Pyrenees Regional Direction of Cultural Affairs) the Midi-Pyrenees Region, the Department of Gers and the Commune of La Romieu. The ensemble is a member of the FEVIS (Fédération des Ensembles Vocaux et Instrumentaux Spécialisés - Federation of Specialised Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles) and the PROFEDIM - Syndicat professionnel des Producteurs, Festivals, Ensembles, Diffuseurs Indépendants de Musique (Professional Union of Producers, Festivals, Ensembles and Independent Broadcasters of Music)

Which project would you like to present during your speedmeeting sessions :

Une Autre Odysée

Music : Alexandros Markéas – Monteverdi, Gesualdo, Vittoria
Ensemble La Main Harmonique
Scenography : Bruno Graziani
Texts : Yannis Ritsos- Erri de Luca

« Une Autre Odysée », « A different Odyssea » is a requiem for the migrants who die in the Mediterranean Sea trying to reach Europe. Inspired by the text Solo Andata by the Italian poet Erri de Luca, Alexandros Markeas will create a piece, in which his music and Renaissance masterpieces chosen by Frédéric Bétous – songs by Gesualdo, Monteverdi, Vittoria_ will tell the story of these travels. The scenography will show pictures of the sea to put the light on both aspects : beautiful and dangerous. The sound technique will mix the 6 voices, the two violas and the saxophone, creating a context beyond time and borders.

This creation is an attempt to abolish the style differences in the music (mix of contemporary music, ancient music and a sound system) to give a project that corresponds to the story of the refugees throughout the centuries and over the borders.

Une Autre Odysée – Alexandros Markéas
Tristis est anima mea- Carlo Gesualdo
Moro lasso – Carlo Gesualdo
O vos omnes – Tomas Luis de Victoria
Sfoga con le stelle – Claudio Monteverdi
Or che'l ciel e la terra – Claudio Monteverdi
Ecco mormorar l'onde – Claudio Monteverdi

More information : <http://www.lamainharmonique.fr/une-autre-odyssee/>

Video Presentation - interview with Alexandros Markeas : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDhD4yENBq8>

Performers : 6 singers, instrumental trio (2 viola da gamba, 1 saxophone)

Ces Liens d'Or

This programme was thought as a rediscovery of the intimate context of interpretation for the French Renaissance songs. Singing them surrounded by soundscapes and a sound system created by Arno Tartary gives the opportunity to the audience to enjoy the songs as if each singer was really close to each person.

About the world :

Mondain, si tu le sais - Pascal de l'Estocart (1537-1587)
Chassons ennuy - Guillaume Costeley (1530-1606)
L'un aimera le violet - Claude Lejeune (1530-1600)

Love

Amour tu fais de nos cœurs - G. Costeley
Toutes les nuitz – Roland de Lassus (1532-1594)
Lautrier priay de danser deux fillettes - G. Costeley
Ces liens d'Or – Antoine de Bertrand (ca. 1540-1580)
Qui souhaitez avoir tout le plaisir - Pierre Sandrin (ca. 1490-1561)

Love and pain

Une Jeune Fillette – Jean Chardavoine (1537-1580)
Au joli bois - Claudin de Sermisy (ca. 1495-1562)
Las je n'yray plus jouer - G. Costeley
Je suis déshéritée - Pierre Cadéac (ca. 1505-1564)

Peace

La nuit froide et sombre – Roland de Lassus
Revey venir du Printans - C. Lejeune

Performers : 6 singers, 1 renaissance lute

More about Ces Liens d'Or : <http://www.lamainharmonique.fr/ces-liens-dor/>

Pictures of the creation :

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153175264541512.1073741827.30453281511&type=3>

Sacrae Cantiones

Polyphonic music during the Renaissance period was notated in separate partbooks (bass, tenor, etc.) and not in score form. Over time, many manuscripts or printed leaflets were dispersed and definitively lost. Tragically, this fate befell the Bassus and Sextus part-books for Book II of Carlo Gesualdo's (1566-1613) SACRAE CANTIONES which effectively made the entire collection of pieces un-performable without a reconstruction of the Second Book. In 2013, the CESR (Centre d'Études Supérieures de la Renaissance) of Tours, backed by recent findings in musicology, was the driving force in restoring as accurately as possible the incomplete Book II to its original form. This has been a musical revelation, audible evidence of profound research that will be finalized by strong academic work. As a result of the "re-naiissance" by La Main Harmonique of this Book, in partnership with the CESR, the world premiere recording of this completed work will be released in the spring of 2015.

Moreover, as an echo and an extension to these newly resurrected SACRAE CANTIONES, La Main Harmonique has commissioned a piece by Caroline Marçot, thus stretching the dialogue with Gesualdo's work into a modern creative act.

Caroline Marçot is a young French composer, whose impressive list of works was printed by Editions Jobert-Lemoine. Some of her vocal and instrumental pieces were commissioned by the Orchestre des Jeunes de la Méditerranée, the Paris Cité de la Musique, Musique Nouvelle en Liberté, and performed by Daniel Reuss, l'ensemble Clément Janequin, Laurence Equilbey, Geoffroy Jourdain, Rachid Safir...

Performers : 8 singers and 1 triple harp

Learn more : <http://www.lamainharmonique.fr/en/sacrae-cantiones/>

Listen : <https://soundcloud.com/la-main-harmonique/sets/sacrae-cantiones-carlo>