

Clarnival

Berlioz | Debussy | Connesson | Boutry | Kosma

French Touch

"La crème de la crème" of
French repertoire for clarinet quartet

 CLARINET &
SAXOPHONE
CLASSICS

CELEBRATING
30
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY

FESTIVAL Roger Boutry

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|----|-------------------|------|
| 1. | I. Allegro Vivace | 1:11 |
| 2. | II. Allegretto | 1:24 |
| 3. | III. Andantino | 1:44 |
| 4. | IV. Presto | 1:23 |

PRÉLUDE ET FUNK Guillaume Connesson

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| 5. | Prélude, Très lent et intérieur | 4:12 |
| 6. | Funk, Joyeux | 6:47 |

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| 7. | ARACHNOPHOBIE Maxime Aulio | 4:36 |
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| 8. | GOLLIWOGG'S CAKEWALK Claude Debussy
extrait du Children's Corner | 3:02 |
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| 9. | UN BAL Hector Berlioz
extrait de la Symphonie fantastique | 4:43 |
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| 10. | LA CANDÈLA Duo Brotto-Lopez | 4:00 |
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| 11. | CLAIR DE LUNE Joseph Kosma | 4:18 |
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| 12. | TANGO VIRTUOSO Thierry Escaich | 5:04 |
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| 13. | TREUJENN-GAOL Rudy Mathey
Dañs Trikot, Laridé, Mazurka, Cercle Circassien, Kas a-Barh | 11:21 |
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| 14. | ROSSIGNOLET DU BOIS Traditional Occitan | 3:58 |
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Total Timing: 57.52

FRENCH TOUCH

“La crème de la crème”
of French repertoire for clarinet quartet

General de Gaulle famously described Belgium as a country “invented by the English to annoy the French”. As a group of Belgians revisiting some of France’s cherished musical pieces, we run the risk of being accused of the same. The true *raison d’être* of the album French Touch is, however, to offer the *crème de la crème* of French cultural landscape, albeit with our own unique touch.

For this degustation, Berlioz and Debussy couldn’t be more appropriate to serve as an *hors-d’œuvre* but as Clarnival positions itself in the *avant garde* of the clarinet quartet repertoire they are accompanied by more daring choices such as Aulio, Boutry and Connesson.

Always a la mode, Clarnival proposes a journey from gypsy jazz with Kosma through tango thanks to Escaich. It shouldn’t be seen as a *faux-pas* as we take a detour with the traditional folk music of Occitania with Brotto-Lopez or Brittany with Mathey nor as a *déjà-vu* as we cover, with a twist, an older patrimonial song, Rossignolet du Bois, with the participation of Camille Bauer, our very own *femme fatale*.

To enjoy French Touch, take a comfortable seat in a *chaise longue*, with a *crème brûlée*, *café au lait* or a *cognac* and *laissez-faire* Clarnival carry you away with our musical *joie de vivre*.

Steve Norrish



FESTIVAL Roger Boutry

Roger Boutry takes you on a journey of orchestral citations, showing the whole range of instrumental possibilities of the four soprano clarinets. With this piece – foreshadowing a festival of styles, sounds and eras – Clarnival rolls out the red carpet for you! Enjoy!

PRÉLUDE ET FUNK Guillaume Connesson

This clever play on words proposed by Guillaume Connesson is a perfect example of the “new consonances era”. By taking an older mode of composition and turning it on its head, he proposes a highly contrasting suite of two movements at the opposite ends of the spectrum. “This Prelude and Funk is a bit of an extension of my Disco-Toccata (1994), which musically attempted the same rapprochements”, says Guillaume Connesson.

ARACHNOPHOBIE Maxime Aulio

In this piece, the young French composer Maxime Aulio uses all the richness and possibilities of the clarinets by exploring various playing modes (flatterzunge, slap,

glissandi,...). The arrival of cinema has opened up a highly developed musical imagination, but Maxime Aulio doesn't even need images to make you enter the universe of our arthropod friends.

Not for the faint-hearted...

GOLLIWOGG'S CAKEWALK Claude Debussy

extrait du Children's Corner

An excerpt from the 6-part suite for solo piano “Children's Corner”, dedicated by Claude Debussy to his daughter Claude-Emma, known as “Chouchou”, on her third birthday, with the annotation “With her father's tender apologies for what follows”. In this new arrangement, Clarnival explores the richness of the timbres of four different clarinets and offers listeners the fun and lightness of four performers who managed to keep their somewhat childlike souls.

UN BAL Hector Berlioz

extrait de la Symphonie fantastique

“I wrote my *Symphonie fantastique* with great difficulty for some parts, with incredible ease for others”, said Hector Berlioz. This piece, in

the quartet's repertoire since its creation, was the easiest and most obvious choice for this album. Clarnival offers you this elegant opening to the second part of the album, hoping that the latter will make you dance.

LA CANDÈLA Duo Brotto-Lopez

The most beautiful Mazurka of any folk ball, sublimated by the suave sound of the clarinet quartet and the magnificent voice of Camille Bauer. You've met the one who makes your heart beat, now it's time to ask him or her to dance. The candle light is about to go out, once in the darkness, Shhhh...

CLAIR DE LUNE Joseph Kosma

Debussy, Beethoven, Sinatra, The Police, ... The Moon is an inexhaustible source of inspiration for many. Joseph Kosma and Django Reinhardt decided to put the clarinet in the spotlight in this ballad and gypsy jazz standard. The quartet shares with you a very personal and hushed version of this sublime melody.

TANGO VIRTUOSO Thierry Escaich

"His [Thierry Escaich's] music is characterised by a feverish lyricism, a relentless rhythmic drive and a constant search for shimmering harmonic and instrumental colours." This work is intended for four different instruments (sopranino, soprano, basset horn and bass clarinet) so that their colours blend and alternate to create a twirling melodic-harmonic-rhythmic fabric.

TRUJENN-GAOL Rudy Mathey

"Cabbage stalk" is the nickname of the clarinet, supposedly given for its shape. This suite of five themes, composed especially for "French Touch" explores traditional Breton dance rhythms and will give you the experience and atmosphere of a real "Fest-Noz"! Get your dancing shoes on!

ROSSIGNOLET DU BOIS Traditionnel Occitan

Gentlemen, as long as you are respectful, the nightingale will offer you the best advice on seduction. But don't be too enterprising, or the mood may change in the blink of an eye. Nevertheless, listen until the end, it might surprise you!



THE SONGS

LA CANDELA

Veires de flòc
Rires e jòc
Man dins ta man
Una candèla m'ajuda pas
Per amagar
Te sensualitat
Òm fa coma òm pòt
Per renegar
L'amor al costat
E la candèla me basta pas
Per amagar
Cò que volèm far
La nuèit avança
E las umbras dançan
Tut a l'entorn de ieu.
E ton agajj dins lo meu
Me fa ublidar
las uras que passun.
E la candèla
Se murís paurèla
Al moment lo mai volgut.
E tos pòts dins la nuèit
crosan los meus
Shhh...

Glasses of Floc
Laughter and games
Hand in your hand
A candle does not help me
To hide
Your sensuality
One does what one can
To deny
The growing love
And the candle does not stop me
From hiding
What we want to do
The night draws on
And the shadows are dancing
All around me.
Your eyes on mine
Make me forget about
the hours passing by.
And the candle,
Is dying miserably,
At the least desired time.
And your lips in the night
Cross mines
Shhh...

Duo Brotto-Lopez

LE ROSSIGNOLET DU BOIS

Rossignolet du bois, rossignolet sauvage
Apprends-moi ton langage,
apprends-moi-z' à parler.
Apprends-moi la manière comment il faut aimer,
comment il faut aimer.

Comment il faut aimer, je m'en vais vous le dire.
Faut chanter des aubades
deux heures après minuit.
Faut lui chanter: « La belle, c'est pour vous
réjouir, c'est pour vous réjouir ».

On m'avait dit, la belle, que vous avez des pommes,
Des pommes de reinette
qui sont dans votre jardin...
Permettez-moi la belle, que j'y mette la main,
que j'y mette la main.

Non, je ne permettrai pas que vous touchiez mes
pommes!
Prenez d'abord la lune et le soleil en main.
Puis, vous aurez les pommes qui sont dans mon
jardin, qui sont dans mon jardin...

Traditionnel Occitan

Woodland nightingale, wild nightingale
Teach me your language,
teach me to sing.
And tell me the way, how to love,
how to love.

How to love, I'm going to tell you.
You'll have to present dawn serenades two
hours after midnight.
And sing to her: "The purpose is rejoicing you,
rejoicing you".

My love, they say that you have apples.
Pippin apples in your garden...
Please allow me, my love, to put my hand there,
to put my hand there.

No, I won't allow anyone touching my apples.
Take the moon and the sun in hand first.
Then, you will have the apples which are in
my garden, which are in my garden...

CLARNIVAL

The Belgian clarinet quartet Clarnival has been on its musical journey full of discovery, virtuosity and emotion since its creation in 2011. Winner of the competition "Prix de la Fondation Horlait Dapsens" and known for its eclectic and fun repertoire – a big fusion of genres and rhythms, in which you'll hear the clarinet in all its versatility – the quartet performs regularly on Belgian, Luxemburgish and French stages.

Clarnival's mission is to share its love of music with all audiences. To this end, the quartet regularly joins forces with other artistic disciplines (dance, theatre, painting and cinema) in order to diversify its discourse and its approach to concerts, as in its current film-music based spectacle "Movi(e)ng on !"

Clarnival is also synonym for the sympathetic and entertaining atmosphere during these relaxed concerts performed by 4 clarinetist friends from all over Belgium.

Whatever their musical affinities - be it jazz, folk, classical or contemporary - each of their skills enriches the sound and style of this original band. Arranging and composing makes their repertoire almost endless...



THE MUSICIANS



CAMILLE BAUER

mezzo-soprano

Camille Bauer, the Belgian mezzo-soprano discovered the pleasure of singing by joining the *Hainaut Children's Choir* as well during her singing lessons at the Enghien Academy. By continuing her studies at the conservatories of Brussels, Antwerp and Paris (CNSM), she had the opportunity to interpret Hänsel (*Hänsel and Gretel* by Humperdinck), the child (*L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* by Ravel) and the Second Woman (*Dido and Aeneas* by Purcell). After her studies, she joined the *Opera Studio* of the Opéra National du Rhin.



PHILIPPE LEMAIRE

sopranino and soprano clarinets

Philippe Lemaire started playing the clarinet at the Music Academy of the German-speaking Community of Belgium before studying clarinet, solfeggio and choir conducting at the Royal Conservatory Brussels. Prize Winner of several competitions including *Dexia Classics Competition* and the *European Competition for Clarinet and Chamber music*. He is now sharing his passion for music as a clarinetist, musical arranger of different ensembles, choir conductor and clarinet and solfeggio teacher.



RUDY MATHEY

soprano clarinet, basset horn

Rudy Mathey, the “black sheep” of the quartet studied clarinet and bass clarinet at the Royal Conservatory Liège. During these mostly classical chamber music and orchestra studies, Rudy developed a deep passion for contemporary music and improvisation. Since his graduation, he has been performing in numerous groups notably *Hopper* and *Laps*. The convergence of different styles (klezmer, Balkan music and jazz) has a high priority during his artistic creations.



BETHSABÉE HATZFELD
soprano and bass clarinets

Bethsabée Hatzfeld took her first musical steps at the Music Academy of Jette (Brussels), before studying at the Royal Conservatory Brussels. The winner of the *International Clarinet Competition of Veliz*, she performs regularly as bass clarinetist, solo clarinetist or chamber musician. Furthermore, she participates in numerous projects and creations, such as in *Montañita*, a Belgian world music group.



CÉDRIC DE BRUYCKER
soprano clarinets (Bb, A)

Cédric De Bruycker embarked on his musical studies at the Music Academy of Arlon. Enchanted by the beauty of the sound and colours of the clarinet, Cédric then decided to continue studying at the Royal Conservatory Brussels, before finalizing his degree in the Department of Contemporary Music of Gent's Conservatory. Prize winner of numerous international competitions including the *European Competition for clarinet and chamber music* and *International Clarinet Competition of Velizy*. He is regularly performing with different ensembles including *Spectra*, *Musiques Nouvelles*, and *Sturm und Klang*.



Philippe Lemaire, soprano and soprano clarinets

Cédric De Bruycker, soprano clarinets (Bb, A)

Rudy Mathey, soprano clarinet, basset horn

Bethsabée Hatzfeld, soprano and bass clarinets

Camille Bauer, mezzo-soprano (10,14)

Christian Debaue, artistic direction

Patrick Lemmens, recording engineering and editing

Arrangements, Rudy Mathey (8,10,11,14), Philippe Lemaire (9)

Festival, Roger Boutry © 2014 Gérard Billaudot Editeur SA

Arachnophobie, Maxime Aulio ©Hal Leonard

Prélude et Funk, Guillaume Connesson © 2013 Gérard Billaudot Editeur SA

Tango Virtuoso, Thierry Escaich © Gérard Billaudot Editeur SA.

Photos: Alexandre Mhiri © 2022 Design: Alexandre Mhiri and Hannah Whale

Origination of booklet and liner notes: Rudy Mathey and Bethsabée Hatzfeld

Final Artwork, Fruition. Mastered by Willowhayne Records

Album recorded at Arsonic (Mars ASBL) Mons, November 2022

With the support from "Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles"

Many thanks to all KissKissBankBankers, to Steve Norrish for his intro text, to our photographer Alexandre Mhiri, to Joachim Loneux for his precious folk insights, to our sound engineer Patrick Lemmens, to our musical director Christian Debaue, as well as Victoria Samek and her team at Samek Music.

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