BLUE HOUR

LE CONCERT IDÉAL

MUSICAL AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARIANNE PIKETTY

"Le Concert Idéal defends artistic transcendence through the appreciation of differences, beyond forms and references,"

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From Bach to Piazzolla, from baroque reduction to contemporary creation, the violinist **Marianne Piketty** has developed a **career dynamic and varied** : professor at the CNSM in Lyon, **her performances as a soloist**, in recital, director of an ensemble, and with numerous chamber music projects.
Graduated from the CNSM in Paris and the Juilliard School in New York, she is one of the heirs to the **classical violin tradition** thanks to her training with great masters such as Itzhak Perlman or Yehudi Menuhin.

Marianne Piketty founded Le Concert Idéal with one idea in mind : to offer **musicians from so diverse and multiple horizons** a space of creative freedom which produces **innovative and original creations**.

A strong ambition that the violinist defends by creating bridges between different works, artists and eras, seeking **to overcome the constraints of time and space** to focus on interpretation, sensations, feelings, experience... In short, about music and what makes it's beauty : emotion.
Since its creation, Le Concert Idéal has been making **bold bets**, mixing **tango and Vivaldi**, making **Locatelli and Nante** resonate, combining the emblematic figure of the past, **Hildegarde de Bingen**, with **Philippe Hersant**, composer who forges the future.

The ensemble's first recording released in April 2016 by Harmonia Mundi, Little Village, received the ***Coup de Coeur* from the Charles Cros Academy**. In 2019, the Concert Idéal released its second album, **Fil d'Ariane**, on Evidence Classics. **L'Heure Bleue**, the third disc of the Concert Idéal will be released in April 2020 and was award nominated in the category Recording for Les Victoires de la Musique Classique 2021.
Today, the ensemble embarks on the adventure of a new creation: **Vivaldi, the golden age**.

BLUE HOUR

Creation 2019

Blue Hour is that fleeting moment between the end of the night and the dawning of the day, that moment of silence, uncertainty and promise where suspended life locks itself in or transforms itself ...

This project was born from Marianne Piketty's desire to **link the luminous music of Hildegarde de Bingen to Karl Amadeus Hartmann's Funeral Concerto**.

The German composer, fiercely opposed to Nazism, chose internal exile in 1933, refusing to take part in any cultural life but wishing to bear witness. Each of his works are **denunciations and calls for resistance**. His concerto, written in 1939 and dedicated to his four-year-old son, is a **real cry against human blindness** but also a **work that seeks to bring hope** and a deep faith in the future of humanity.

This music, with dark aspects, **resonates with the celestial music of Hildegarde de Bingen**. At the same time abbess, composer, doctor and writer, she was known to have been inspired from childhood by many divine visions. **The three Visions chosen are three founding pillars which guide towards the light**.

In order to question the 21st century, we commissioned **Philippe Hersant who wrote A Vision of Hildegard**, which is like a link between these two worlds - mystical vision and vision of hell.

Shostakovich's two pieces for string octet complete this program, echoing quotations from the concerto. Shostakovich was only 18 when he composed these **two movements, which were dedicated to the prematurely deceased friend of the poet Volodya Kurtchavov**. In these pieces all the **visceral force that strikes in Shostakovich's work** is unleashed and never leaves the listener indifferent.

Beyond a succession of works that could exist by their mere eloquence, strength and beauty, it is about plunging into a **sensory and intellectual experience** which reminds us that it is neither the places nor the times that determine our passions. .

Set in motion and brought to light by choreographer Olivier Fourés, nine musicians share the stage in an uncluttered setting that leaves room for music.

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Musical program

O Magne Pater

Hildegard von Bingen

Une vision d'Hildegarde

Philippe Hersant

Deux pièces pour octuor à cordes, op. 11

Dmitri Shostakovich

Rex Noster Promptus Est

Hildegarde von Bingen

Concerto Funèbre

Karl Amadeus Hartmann

Vos Flores Rosarum

Hildegarde von Bingen

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Sharing and outreach

With the desire to share the passion for classical music, the musicians of the Concert Idéal offer a large and diversified panel of educational actions.

Le Concert Idéal offers many cycles of workshops around its various programs in order to offer listening keys to audiences far from classical music :

- **10 Centuries of Music** : A musical journey through an unusual duo : Violin-Viola around L'Heure Bleue in order to retrace and make discover a musical millennium.
- School performances. **Le Concert Idéal adapts its shows** to 45 'formats to reach children from middle school to high school. Since its creation, the ensemble has reached more than 8 000 children through its actions.
- **The discovery of several musical eras** (ancient and contemporary) by 9 musicians during a rehearsal commented the artists.
- Le Concert Idéal takes you behind the scenes of a recording or a day's work with the stage director.

Discover a workshop

BLUE HOUR

In the press

In Hartmann's Concerto funèbre, Marianne Piketty is irresistible.

PIERRE GERVASONI (2020) Le Monde

5 STARS ★★★★★

Marianne Piketty's expressive palette makes this "Blue Hour" an interior journey of great density : refusing any demonstrative outrage, she gives the selected works a vision that is both coherent and profound.

SARAH LÉON (2020) CLASSICA

Blue Hour: this record gives faith in the future.

A-S. DI GIROLAMO (2020) GANG FLOW Le média de la musique classique

L'Heure Bleue represents that moment when time, like the music of this incredible ensemble, seems to stop, to freeze in a kind of grace... With this disc, Le Concert Idéal has never lived up to its name.

LAURENT PFAADT (2020) hebdoscope

A rich and inspired record, which invites you to look deep within yourself.

MARIE HUMBERT (2020) ComposHER

From time to time, in the world of classical music, an album appears that is unlike any other, as surprising by the originality of the concept as by its program. L'Heure Bleue is one of this kind of creation, unique.

MACIEJ CHIŻYŃSKI (2020) metrum lab

LES VICTOIRES de la Musique Classique

L'Heure Bleue was award nominated in the category Recording for les Victoires de la musique classique 2021!

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