LA CHIMERA

Artistic direction Eduardo Egüez

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EARLY MUSIC PROGRAMMES

THE QUEEN'S LOVER

Travel diaries of the Count of Villamediana

Ortiz, Besard, Caroubel, Lassus, Dowland, Campion, Monteverdi...

With Céline Scheen, soprano La Chimera (6 musicians)



Juan de Tassis y Peralta, the second Count of Villamediana, was one of these brilliant but dissolute aristocrats, involved in scandals that earned him several exiles. Legend has it that he was Queen Isabel's lover and that he set fire to the Aranjuez theatre to get a moment with her.

He was also a poet and playwright, author of such violent satires against the Madrid court that, according to legend, Philip IV ordered his assassination in 1622, to avoid trials that would have tarnished the monarchy.

Eduardo Egüez and La Chimera offer us one of their secret journeys, following this sulphurous gentleman throughout Europe, with music by Ortiz and Vazquez in Spain,

Besard and Caroubel in France, Desprez and Lassus in Flanders, Caccini and Monteverdi in Italy, and Dowland and Campion in England. They accompany the radiant voice of Céline Scheen.

Live recording Radio France Musique - concert 18/01/2023, Paris:

https://soundcloud.com/user-95879433/sets/concert-la-chimera-celine/s-

 $XnZI7kQYcVw?si=8b813ad66fdf457e880aa5acd7474537\&utm_source=clipboard\&utm_medium=text\&utm_campaign=social_sharing$

Staff: 7 artists

JOHN DOWLAND

Lachrimae & Songs

With Zachary Wilder, tenor La Chimera (6 musicians)



John Dowland brilliantly embodies the refinements of Elizabethan music, his famous Lachrimæ bathed in a subdued light of sometimes overwhelming melancholy. However, the typically English flavour of his Songs requires an accomplished art of singing, which willingly turns its gaze towards innovations from Italy.

Eduardo Egüez and La Chimera, great experts on Monteverdi, recall this filiation, surrounding a great singer before the Eternal, the tenor Zachary Wilder.

Listen to the album:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0isGxZft9qQ&list=OLAK5uy n7Wm IWEH3nshAzFo0Yv9bqCUUHjeMsks

Staff: 7 artists

AY FORTUNA CRUEL

The Golden Age of Spanish Music

Barbara Kusa, soprano Eduardo Egüez, baroque guitar and vihuela



In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Spain and its empire experienced a 'Golden Age' that has become the stuff of legend, with all forms of art flourishing gloriously, while the political power of the Iberians began an imperceptible decline. If it was not deaf to the sirens of the great Franco-Flemish polyphony of the 16th century, Iberian music nonetheless managed to preserve an irreducible identity, reaching heights of refinement without forgetting its popular roots: the Barvaezes or Hidalgo were admirable champions of this. Two artists who literally breathe this music guide us in a fascinating exploration.

Video Teaser:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVwcHan7Wyk

Listen to the album:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UkEy6p83uw&list=OLAK5uy_nyLiokzQuMJhh0nL82nSo2Ex5KUQIiCKE

Staff: 2 artists

CAHIER DE LUTH

Mila, Narvaez, Daça, Mudarra, Paladino, Da Milano, Da Rippa, Dall'Aquila, Borrono...

Eduardo Egüez, lute & vihuela



video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDQwB0sN9bE

Staff: 1 artist

VILLANCICOS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF PUEBLA

El Cancionerio of Gaspar Fernandez

La Chimera (5 solo singers, 9 musicians)



syncretistic scores with glee!

The arrival of the Conquistadors in South America and the installation of the Jesuit missions were at the origin of a fascinating phenomenon of syncretism. The Jesuits, in particular, brought with them scores that gradually integrated indigenous sounds and languages such as Guaraní, giving rise to works between two worlds that are as singular as they are sparkling.

Eduardo Egüez and his Chimera delve into a completely new repertoire based on the composer Gaspar Fernandez, who was, among other things, choirmaster at the prestigious Cathedral of Puebla in New Spain. With frenzied rhythms and melodies of immemorial beauty, La Chimera explores these unique and strikingly

Audio extracts:

https://soundcloud.com/user-95879433/sets/el-cancionero-de-gaspar

Staff: 14 artists

MEXICAN SPLENDOURS

Baroque polychoral gems from the Cathedral of Puebla

5 solo singers La Chimera (9 or 13 musicians) Voz Latina Choir (12 singers)



With their characteristic joyful fervour, the musicians of La Chimera, directed by Eduardo Egüez, reveal the musical splendours of 17th-century New Spain, composed by the choirmasters of the prestigious Cathedral of Puebla, a city whose cultural influence was the pride of the Spanish crown.

The sacred music composed for the religious festivities bears witness to the formidable musical syncretism between the local traditions stemming from pre-Columbian rhythms and dances, the African musical traditions of the black populations who arrived in South America as slaves, and the European heritage carried by the Jesuit missions.

The result is a flamboyant, festive, rhythmic and colourful music that Eduardo Egüez and his musicians make us discover with a truly contagious pleasure!

Video extracts:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dh-9_lehzBs&list=PL5HXbQentZPkaYtTDKFtFls9GGvF3N95e

Staff: 26 or 30 artists

LA PELLEGRINA

The most famous celebration of the 16th century

La Chimera (2 solo singers, 17 musicians) Chœur Voz Latina (12 singers)



When the Florentine Medici royal family celebrated one of its festivals that were famous all over Europe, then each artistic spectacle had to surpass the previous one in terms of pomp and effort. In May 1589, on the occasion of the marriage of Ferdinand de' Medici to Christina de' Lorraine, the greatest theatrical spectacle ever staged in Florence and the whole of Italy took place. Girolamo Bargagli's play "La pellegrina" ("The Pilgrim") was only a marginal aspect and the six musical interludes before, between and after the acts were the main event.

There is probably no better or more beautiful testimony to Renaissance secular music than these interludes, in which the harmonies of the spheres ring out, the muses have singing contests, the singer Arion sings one of his legendary laments, the God of the Muses, Apollo, defeats a dragon and descends from heaven with his companions from the realms of music and dance to give harmony and rhythm to the earth.

vidéos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5b1cshEakB0 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jksb_kJ5LM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=in60TdvH-CE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_B1foTxmYw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2Ubqs9EzwM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5CBt0m6h_M

Staff: 31 artists

FUGA Y MISTERIO

Bach & Piazzolla

With Simone Rubino, marimbas La Chimera (14 musicians)



Simone Rubino and Eduardo Egüez come together to give life to a new journey that brings together two worlds united by an ancient compositional technique: counterpoint, of which Bach and Piazzolla were two masters, three centuries apart. Simone Rubino, with his sunny Italianism, and Eduardo Egüez, a native of Buenos Aires like Piazzolla, offer us a bouquet of marvellous pieces, including Bach's famous Toccata and Chaconne as well as Piazzolla's Verano Porteno and Oblivion. A surprising encounter between the music of Bach and Piazzolla!

Listen to the album:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzYRuqH-IYo&list=OLAK5uy kRR90LHtkF9MTB4b1mMZJB9R5nzaaUcBI

Videos:

PIAZZOLLA: Verano Porteño: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTX1Hr_aLwU BACH: Concerto en Mi Majeur BWV1042 (Allegro): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfB5hSbDxiw PIAZZOLLA: Fuga y Misterio: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j11a_kc_Ouw PIAZZOLLA: Oblivion; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBMK-AkgGX8 BACH: Chaconne - Partita n°2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdplZrazUZE

Staff: 15 artists

SOUTH AMERICAN BAROQUE AND FOLKLORE PROGRAMMES

MISA DE INDIOS, MISA CRIOLLA

Ramirez's famous Misa Criolla & works of South American colonial baroque

Barbara Kusa, soprano Luis Rigou, Andean flûtes & singing La Chimera (8 musicians)

+ Choir

This programme is possible with a local choir



This iconic Chimera programme has continued to draw enthusiastic crowds since its premiere in 2014. Superb works from the South American colonial baroque illuminate the famous Misa Criolla by Argentine composer Ariel Ramirez, a mythical work composed in 1964 that brings together rhythms, musical forms and instruments from traditional Argentine and Bolivian music.

The musicians of La Chimera, of Argentinean origin, draw on their roots to sublimate this score with delicacy and move us straight to the heart. A festive programme full of fervour, which is without doubt one of the Chimera's great successes of the last ten years!

Listen to the album:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hm60ZW7JPCQ&list=OLAK5uy mGFNMpvh1N drgHUCznT4lZjJPOCKmve4

video extract :

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6W5C4JjTJg

Staff (Chimera only, without the choir): 10 artists

GRACIAS A LA VIDA

Ancient and modern music from Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Paraguay and Argentina

Barbara Kusa, soprano Mariana Rewerski or Luciana Mancini, mezzo-soprano Luis Rigou, Andean flutes and singing La Chimera (9 musicians)



America has had the most varied cultural and linguistic imprints. And it is perhaps in the music that we can find a unifying value.

This programme by Ensemble La Chimera spans five centuries and reveals the prodigious treasures of South American baroque music discovered in the last two decades and the influence they have had on folklore that is still alive today.

From the sacred pages of the Jesuit missions of the 16th century to mythical songs such as Gracias a la Vida by the Chilean Violeta Parra, Alfonsina y el Mar by the Argentine Ariel Ramirez or El Condor Pasa by the Peruvian Alomia Robles, La Chimera invites us to a fascinating exploration of incredible melodies and intoxicating rhythms.

A musical journey to the heart of the Guaraní and Inca territories, which have now become Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Chile and Argentina.

Listen to the album

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zs-RoWonDRM&list=OLAK5uy_IXIUcaqf9C0iFzYWornkJFoHcFvINxijE

Staff: 11 artists

IGUAZÚ

Ancient and modern music from Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina

Barbara Kusa, soprano
Luciana Mancini, mezzo-soprano
Luis Rigou, Andean flutes and singing
Lixsania Fernandez, viola da gamba and singing
La Chimera (8 musicians)



"Iguazú", the famous waterfalls in the heart of the rainforest, at the crossroads of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, evoke the grandeur and power of the immense Paraná River. A sacred river that gives birth, day after day, to centuries of Latin American history. Along its fertile banks, for centuries, native peoples and tribes, foreign colonizers, Jesuit communities, African slaves and European immigrants have lived, crossing their cultures and drawing inspiration from each other to create new musical genres and a unique, colourful and mixed repertoire.

La Chimera invites you to embark on the musical canoe that will sail on the slow current of this majestic river, with its songs and charms, from yesterday and today.

Listen to the album

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxV-ichIQC0&list=OLAK5uy_m6vCmyKpXCXUNC3INUyw0pkBYViElcETI

Staff: 12 artists

NOCHE SERENA

A journey through the musical worlds, old and new, of Spain and Latin America.

Barbara Kusa, soprano Luis Rigou, flutes and vocals La Chimera (6 to 8 musicians)

More than 500 years ago, Spain discovered the "Terra Incognita", which later became "America". One of the most important cultural exchanges in history began, after a conquest carried out for purely economic and military reasons.

During this period, there was a real syncretism between the two cultures of the old and new worlds. The concert programme looks at this fascinating cultural process by examining a specific geographical region, the "Virreynatos" - along the Andes mountain range.

Ranging from early Spanish music to 20th century South American folklore, played on ancient instruments (viola da gamba, baroque guitar, theorbo) and enhanced by traditional Andean instruments (flutes, charango, bombo), this programme is a joyful and festive exploration of a cultural and musical history like no other.

Audio extracts:

Chayita del Vidalero:

https://concertsparisiens.fr/PRO/folder 17/NOCHE%20SERENA%2005%20Chayita%20Del%20Vidalero.mp3

Vuelve Barquilla (XVIIe) :

 $https://concertsparisiens.fr/PRO/folder_17/NOCHE\%20SERENA\%2006\%20Vuelve\%20Barquilla.mp3$

Pampa de los Guanacos:

https://concertsparisiens.fr/PRO/folder_17/NOCHE%20SERENA%2007%20Pampa%20De%20Los%20Guanacos.mp3 **De los alamos vengo (XVIIe):**

https://concertsparisiens.fr/PRO/folder_17/NOCHE%20SERENA%2012%20De%20Los%20Alamos%20Vengo.mp3

Sueños de la Vendimia:

https://concertsparisiens.fr/PRO/folder_17/NOCHE%20SERENA%2013%20Suen%CC%83os%20De%20La%20Vendimia.mp3

Staff: 10 artists (can be reduced to 8)

TRIBUTE TO MERCEDES SOSA

Songs by León Gieco, Ariel Ramirez, Violeta Parra, Atahualpa Yupanqui, Los Carabajal...

Creation concert: Tuesday 4 April 2023, Salle Cortot, Paris



La Chimera and Eduardo Egüez pay a vibrant tribute to one of the legendary figures of their musical heritage.

Mercedes Sosa (1935-2009) is the voice of Argentina. She is Mother America, Pachamama, the voice of the earth. A voice that comes from afar, that preserves the indigenous memory of this place that has always been tormented. But also from Argentina, which courageously protests, which fights against injustice.

A struggle that Mercedes will pay for with her exile. She, the "cantadora popular" who recounted the sufferings of her people, would be expelled from her country, after arrests, threats, censorship, during the years of the military dictatorships.

It was said that she, a communist, would endanger public order. So she was denied venues, her records were withdrawn from the market, her songs were banned from

radio stations, her voice was silenced. Forced to travel the world, this voice has nevertheless reached everywhere, and with it the history of his country.

Staff: 8 artists