

The Ghosts of Hamlet

Around the myth of Hamlet, fragments of lost and found operas

The legend of Prince Hamlet, first told in Saxo Grammaticus's *Gesta Danorum*, is the basis for Shakespeare's famed tragedy, but in the 18th century, the same tale inspired numerous Italian operas. Sadly, these operas have an important point in common: they have all been lost! Musicologist Paolo Vittorio Montanari has worked meticulously to research and reconstitute these works, making possible the creation of a completely original new project, based on musical fragments rediscovered in different Italian libraries.

These long-lost scores composed by Scarlatti, Gasparini, Carcani, and Vignati focus primarily on two female characters from Hamlet's orbit: the romantic Veremonda (who Shakespeare named Ophelia) and Gerilda (Gertrude), Hamlet's mother, who is torn between love for her son and passion for her cold and unfaithful husband. The charismatic and dynamic soprano Roberta Mamelli brings to life these two women who inspired Scarlatti and his contemporaries to compose arias that are expressive, brilliant, and charming in turns. In addition to the pleasure of discovering such delectable musical tidbits unfamiliar to modern ears, this project transports you into Hamlet's exciting, ambiguous, and fascinating universe, with his ghosts animating a pleasant stroll through a rediscovered Italian Baroque landscape.



Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu Franck-Emmanuel Comte



Program

Arias and Sinfonias, extract from:

Ambleto, Francesco Gasparini,

Venise 1705

Ambleto, Domenico Scarlatti,

Rome 1715

Ambleto, Giuseppe Vignati, Milan
1719

Ambleto, Giuseppe Carcani, Venise
1742

Libretto from Zeno and Pariati



Cast

Roberta Mameli, soprano Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu (Reynier Guerrero, solo violin) Franck-Emmanuel Comte, harpsichord and direction Paolo Vittorio Montanari, musicologist and edition



On stage

1 soloist, 14 instrumentalists (strings, oboe, bassoon, theorbo, harpsichord)



Duration

1h10



Roberta Mameli, soprano

Born in Rome, Roberta Mameli graduated in singing at the Nicolini Conservatory in Piacenza and in violin, followed by master classes with Bernadette Manca di Nissa, Ugo Benelli, Konrad Richter, Claudio Desderi, Enzo Dara. She's currently considered one of the spearheads in the Baroque repertoire for versatility, crystalline voice as well as for her great interpretative and acting qualities.

She is regularly guest of the most important Opera Theaters and Music Halls as: Konzerthaus and Theater an der Wien in Wien, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Cité de la Musique in Paris, Teatro Comunale in Bologna, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and Teatro "La Pergola" in Florence, Auditorium of Lyon, Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Teatro Regio in Turin, Victoria Hall in Geneva with famous Conductors as Claudio Cavina, Christopher Hogwood, Fabio Biondi, Jordi Savall, Daniele Callegari, Federico Maria Sardelli, Ottavio Dantone, Ryo Terakado, Alan Curtis, Diego Fasolis, Jean-Luc Tingaud, Leonardo Garcia Alarçon, Jeffrey Tate, Claudio Abbado.

Much in demand for the Baroque repertoire, Roberta Mameli works with several Ensembles on period instruments as Cappella Cracoviensis, Accademia Bizantina, Le Concert des Nations, La Venexiana, Modo Antiquo, Europa Galante, Stuttgarter Kammerorchester, I Barocchisti, Cappella Mediterranea, Akademie für Alte Musik.



Franck-Emmanuel Comte, harpsichord & direction

Conductor and harpsichordist specialized in the performance of baroque and classical repertoires on historical instruments, Franck-Emmanuel Comte strives above all to share his passion with the broadest possible audience. His artistic projects are habitually developed in tandem with musical outreach initiatives.

In 1992, he founded Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu (CHD), a Lyon-based instrumental ensemble dedicated to the baroque repertoire, which he is continues to lead as artistic director. He has directed the orchestra in more than 1500 concerts and recorded more than 20 CDs.

Regularly invited to conduct in cultural capitals in Europe and worldwide, Franck-Emmanuel Comte is particularly interested by regional baroque repertoires and interdisciplinary or out-of-the-ordinary projects. Strongly committed to transmission and professional integration, he teaches baroque aesthetics at the Université Catholique de Lyon and is a member of the jury of the Concours international de chant baroque de Froville, which discovers new vocal talents every year.

Fantasmi di Ambleto: video





Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu

Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu is a major player in the French baroque scene. The ensemble is known for its sensitive and dynamic interpretation of 18th-century vocal and instrumental repertoire driven by its systematically historically-informed, philological approach.

Under the direction of Franck-Emmanuel Comte, the ensemble particularly promotes the originality and uniqueness of the baroque manuscripts conserved in the libraries Auvergne-

Rhône-Alpes region, and has produced numerous reconstructions and editions of previously unknown works, rich music marked by Lyon's privileged relationship with Italy.

Transposing the richness and diversity of baroque music into our era is also one of the principal artistic axes of Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu. Invested in stimulating collaborations, the ensemble creates close encounters between baroque aesthetics and a wide variety of diverse cultures and artists.

Transmission and outreach are at the center of the ensemble's creative work, with countless interdisciplinary and educational projects that complement their concerts targeting larger and more varied audiences.

Under the direction of Franck-Emmanuel Comte, the ensemble has given more than 1500 concerts in European and world capitals and as part of numerous international festivals. Their recordings are widely acclaimed in the international press.

Le Concert de l'Hostel Dieu's projects are supported by Ville de Lyon, Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, DRAC Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Institut Français, Centre National de la Musique, SPEDIDAM and Maison de la Musique Contemporaine.

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