

The Ensemble Les Talens Lyriques, taking its name from the subtitle of Jean-Philippe Rameau's opera *Les Fêtes d'Hébé* (1739), was formed in 1991 by the harpsichordist and conductor Christophe Rousset.

Championing a broad vocal and instrumental repertoire, spanning the period from early Baroque to the beginnings of Romanticism, the musicians of Les Talens Lyriques aim to throw light on the great masterpieces of musical history, while providing perspective with rarer or little known works that are important as missing links in the European musical heritage. This musicological and editorial work, which contributes to its renown, is a priority for the ensemble.

The repertoire of Les Talens Lyriques includes works by Monteverdi (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*, *L'Orfeo*), Cavalli (*La Didone*, *La Calisto*), Landi (*La Morte d'Orfeo*), **Pallavicino** (*Le amazzoni nell'isole fortunate*), Handel (*Scipione*, *Riccardo Primo*, *Rinaldo*, *Admeto*, *Giulio Cesare*, *Serse*, *Arianna in Creta*, *Tamerlano*, *Ariodante*, *Semele*, *Alcina*, *Agrippina*, *Saül*), Lully (*Persée*, *Roland*, *Bellérophon*, *Phaéton*, *Amadis*, *Armide*, *Alceste*, *Isis*), **Desmarest** (*Didon*, *Vénus et Adonis*), Mondonville (*Les Fêtes de Paphos*), Cimarosa (*Il Mercato di Malmantile*, *Il Matrimonio segreto*), Traetta (*Antigona*, *Ippolito ed Aricia*), Jommelli (*Armida abbandonata*), Martin y Soler (*La Capricciosa corretta*, *Il Tutore burlato*), Mozart (*Mitridate*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Così fan tutte*, *Die Zauberflöte*), Salieri (*La Grotta di Trofonio*, *Les Danaïdes*, *Les Horaces*, *Tarare*, *Armida*), Rameau (*Zoroastre*, *Castor et Pollux*, *Les Indes galantes*, *Platée*, *Pygmalion*), Gluck (*Bauci e Filemone*, *Alceste*, *Orphée et Eurydice*), Beethoven, Cherubini (*Médée*), García (*Il Califfo di Bagdad*), Berlioz, Massenet, Gounod (*Faust*), Saint-Saëns, and others.

The re-creation of these works goes hand in hand with close collaboration with stage directors and choreographers: Pierre Audi, Jean-Marie Villégier, David McVicar, Eric Vigner, Ludovic Lagarde, Mariame Clément, Jean-Pierre Vincent, Macha Makeïeff, Laura Scozzi, Natalie van Parys, Marcial di Fonzo Bo, Claus Guth, Robert Carsen, David Hermann, Christof Loy, Jetske Mijnsen, Alban Richard, David Lescot **or Phia Ménard**.

Les Talens Lyriques explore not only opera, but other genres as well: secular madrigals, cantatas, *airs de cour*, symphonies, and the vast corpus of sacred music (masses, motets, oratorios, *Leçons de Ténèbres* and so on). Varying in size from just a handful of musicians to over sixty, representing every generation, the ensemble appears all over the world.

In 2021-2022, Les Talens Lyriques are proud to celebrate their 30th anniversary. This season offers the opportunity to travel across the Ensemble's 200 years repertoire, going from Cavalli (*La Calisto*) to Beethoven (Symphonies n°7 and 8) and also bring together every musical genre that is at the heart of Les Talens Lyriques' mission: numerous operas, some well-known, others much rarer (*Psyché* by Lully, *La Vestale* by Spontini, *Le amazzoni nell'isole fortunate* by Pallavino...) chamber music from Bach, Telemann, Couperin, Pergolesi, Leclair and many others, recitals featuring young singers like Grace Durham ("Plaisir d'amour"), Florie Valiquette ("Bach sans frontières") or Ambroisine Bré ("Les larmes de la Vierge").

The Ensemble's rich discography comprises some sixty references on various labels (Erato, Fnac Music, Auvidis, Decca, Naïve, Ambroisie, Virgin Classics, Ediciones Singulares (Palazzetto Bru Zane), Outhere and Aparté). Les Talens Lyriques recorded the famous soundtrack for Gérard Corbiau's film *Farinelli* (1994), which sold over a million copies. Released in September 2019, **Gounod's** *Faust* (PBZ) has received numerous awards: Gramophone Choice, *Presto Musical* editor's choice, Diapason d'or, Choc Classica 2019...

The 2020-2021 season was marked by successful recordings such as **Mozart's** *Betulia liberata*, **Armand-Louis Couperin's** harpsichord pieces, Saleri's *Armida* released by Aparté and **Landi's** *La Morte d'Orfeo*, recorded at the Dutch National Opera, released by Naxos.

In 2021-2022, the Ensemble will be pleased to release Lully's *Acis et Galatée* (Aparté), and Christophe Rousset's harpsichord solos: an unprecedented manuscript by Madame de Théobon (Aparté), Bach's seven toccatas for harpsichord (Aparté) and Bach's *Die Kunst der Fuge* (Aparté).

Since 2007 the musicians of the ensemble have been working on a project aimed at introducing schoolchildren to music through a programme of ambitious artistic actions and innovative educational initiatives. They are in residence in schools in Paris and the Paris region (Île-de-France), where they have created an orchestra class and a small choir, known as "Le petit chœur des Talens". The three t@lenschool educational applications (downloadable free of charge) have met with much enthusiasm and have received several national and international awards.

[Mandatory particulars:]

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Since 2011 Les Talens Lyriques have been associate artists, in residence at the Singer-Polignac Foundation in Paris.

Les Talens Lyriques are founding members of FEVIS (Federation of Specialised Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles) and of PROFEDIM (Professional Union of Music Producers, Festivals, Ensembles, and Independent Distributors) and members of the EEMN (European Early Music Network).

www.lestalenslyriques.com

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