

The Palazzetto Bru Zane presents

B
PALAZZETTO
BRU ZANE
CENTRE
DE MUSIQUE
ROMANTIQUE
FRANÇAISE

SONGS WITH ORCHESTRA

JULES MASSENET (1842-1912)

Recorded at the Salle des concerts de la Cité de la musique – Philharmonie de Paris, from 17 to 20 November 2020.

Published by *Éditions musicales du Palazzetto Bru Zane*

First recording of 22 songs

Release date: 24 June 2022



Jodie Devos, *soprano*
Cyrille Dubois, *tenor*
Véronique Gens, *soprano*
Étienne Dupuis, *baritone*
Nicole Car, *soprano*
Chantal Santon Jeffery, *soprano*
Orchestre de chambre de Paris
Hervé Niquet, *conductor*
1 CD / 80 pages (texts and libretto)

Bru Zane Label

Distribution
outthere
DISTRIBUTION

Available for download and streaming on the main digital platforms and libretto available for download online

BZ 2004

SPPF
les labels indépendants

Introductory texts in French, English and German – Sung texts in French and English

Introductory texts by Jean-Christophe Branger, Alexandre Dratwicky and Hervé Oléon

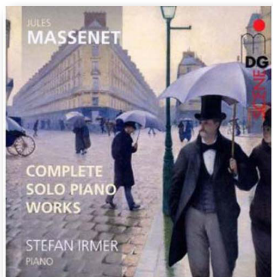
Massenet was not only the composer of *Manon* and *Werther*. In the shadow of his stage works slumber many *mélodies* decked out in subtle and delicate orchestrations, which we are delighted to revive here. These previously unrecorded works have been entrusted to a team of first-rate artists, most of them fervent champions of French poetry and its musical settings.

The dawn of a renaissance

The Palazzetto Bru Zane team has been taking interest in *mélodies* with orchestral accompaniment for years, and just unveiled a body of Massenet's work that were virtually unknown. How could such a body of work have remained unpublished for so long, despite the quality of the poems (some of them by Hugo), the originality of their orchestration, the care lavished on the vocal writing which makes them a real pleasure for the performer, and the signature of such a celebrated composer? This mass of compositions – probably more than a thousand titles in all – consists mostly of pieces that are still unpublished and, for that reason, have never been recorded. To pay appropriate homage to the variety of this repertory, to its atmospheres that combine the rusticity of the *musette* with the quivering lyricism of love and the fervour of mystical ecstasy, one must be meticulous in the choice of solo. The crystalline voice of Jodie Devos, the bright timbre of Cyrille Dubois and the flexibility of Chantal Santon are matched by the intense vocal *chiaroscuro* of Nicole Car and Étienne Dupuis, and the oft-praised shimmering line of Véronique Gens in the *mélodie*, of which she is one of the leading specialists. The Orchestre de Chambre de Paris encounters here a repertory ideally suited to its size, and Hervé Niquet's precise and lively baton skilfully grasps and structures Massenet's kaleidoscope of musical intentions.

PUBLICATIONS

CDS



Jules Massenet *Complete solo piano works*

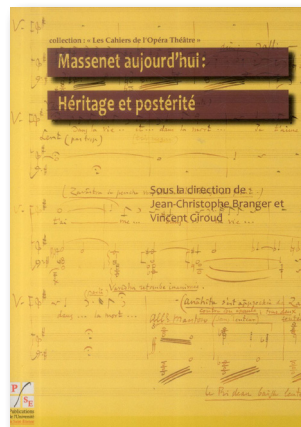
Stefan Irmer piano
MDG – 2012
with the support of the
Palazzetto Bru Zane



Jules Massenet *Mélodies*

Sabine Revault d'Allonnes
soprano
Samuel Jean piano
Matthieu Fontana cello
Timpani – 2012
with the support of the
Palazzetto Bru Zane

BOOK



Massenet aujourd'hui : Héritage et postérité

Coordinated by Jean-Christophe Branger
and Vincent Giroud
PUBLICATIONS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ
DE SAINT-ÉTIENNE – 2014
with the support of the PALAZZETTO BRU ZANE

CD-BOOKS



Jules Massenet *Thérèse* (1907)

ORCHESTRE ET CHŒUR
DE L'OPÉRA NATIONAL
DE MONTPELLIER
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON
Alain Altinoglu conductor
'French Opera' Series
vol. 3
BRU ZANE LABEL – 2013



Jules Massenet *Le Mage* (1891)

CHŒUR LYRIQUE ET ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE SAINT-ÉTIENNE
LOIRE
Laurent Campellone conductor
'French Opera' Series
vol. 5
BRU ZANE LABEL – 2013

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More information on the digital data
on the nineteenth-century French repertory

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