



■ CONSTELLATIONS

Ensemble Links & Ensemble De Caelis

Participative creation

Voices, instruments, circus, video, amateur and smartphone choruses

Cultural actions for amateur choruses (adults & children)

The hypnotic music of Steve Reich has a dialogue with that of Pérotin, Pink Floyd and Stockhausen. The public is in the heart of the creation of Jonathan Bell which encloses this show.

Singers : Laurence Brisset, Eugénie De Mey, Marie-George Monet, Estelle Nadau, Hélène Richer, Caroline Tarrit,

Percussions : Stan Delannoy, Vincent Martin - claviers : Laurent Durupt, Trami Nguyen

Musical direction : Rémi Durupt

Circus performer : Julien Cramillet - **visual artist** : Hicham Berrada - **staging** : Lionel Parlier

Computer music design : Jonathan Bell - **Sound engineer** : Pierre Favrez

Duration : 1h20

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THE PROJECT

CONSTELLATIONS traces out a poetic and oneiric path between dramatic expression and a wide variety of musical styles: a resonant and visual constellation of suns, suspended and evocative like a lunar image in a dreamlike moment.



CONSTELLATIONS is a story of encounters: initially between the Links and De Caelis ensembles, then between Pérotin's Ars Antiqua music and that of Steve Reich, to create a spellbinding and original work incorporating music, circus and video.

Bringing together musicians and visual artists, the Links Ensemble has set itself the task of inventing new, often participative concert formats. In their desire to encourage amateur choruses to perform contemporary music and make it more fun and more accessible, it was only natural for Links to come together with the De Caelis Ensemble, a specialist in medieval music and contemporary creation.

The two ensembles will be presenting Proverb by Steve Reich, with forays into Pink Floyd and Stockhausen. There will also be modal improvisations inspired by Pérotin's Organa and Jonathan Bell's piece Le temps des Nuages, composed for the two ensembles and an amateur chorus to a text by Michel Onfray. Taken from his book Recours aux forêts, published by editons Galilée, it is a poetic and philosophical meditation on the need to set one's destiny in nature and the cosmos.

Pérotin's music dazzled the West by its inventiveness. The use of rhythmic forms, numerous repetitions and imitations, gives it a stimulatingly exhilarating, quasi-hypnotic quality. Clearly, a fertile source of inspiration for Steve Reich.

At IRCAM, Jonathan Bell has developed a process that allows an amateur chorus to receive musical instructions via a mobile telephone, thus gaining access to the creative process without the often formidable barrier of score reading.

Specifically created for the performance, the chorus is dispersed among the audience. The spatialised sound leaves the listener immersed in a unique experience.

To lend image and substance to the musical programme, the artists' collective has devised a world in motion. An ethereal universe comprised of fascinatingly spectacular poetic colours and forms that bring together the aerial choreographies of Circus performer Julien Cramillet and the chemo-hypnotic videos of visual artist Hicham Berrada created in real time on stage. CONSTELLATIONS will explore all the theatre's public areas to offer an astonishing sensorial adventure that has to be felt and experienced in total immersion.

MUSICAL PROGRAMME

Steve Reich (1936), Pendulum Music

Pérotin (1160-1230), Sederunt, organum quadruplum,

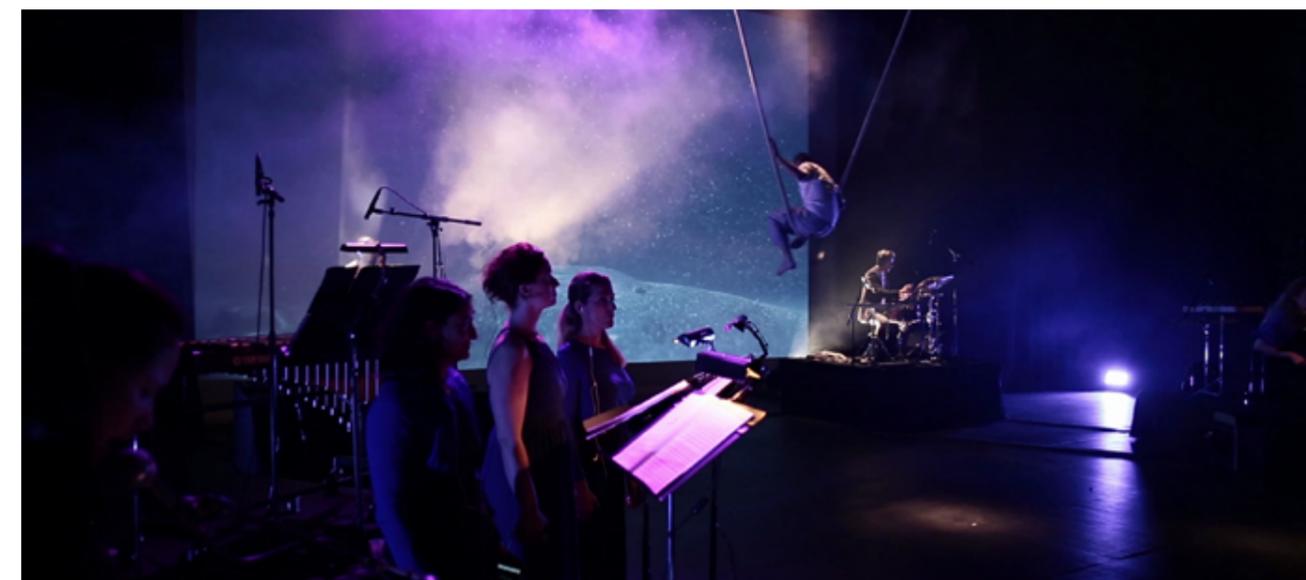
Stockhausen (1928-2007), Tierkreis (for 5 voces and 5 instruments)

Pink Floyd (created in 1965), On the run

Jonathan Bell (1982), Le temps des nuages, for instrumental and vocal ensemble, electronics and amateur choir, on Michel Onfray's text.

MUSICAL CREATION TECHNOLOGY AND AMATEUR ENCOUNTERS WITH SMARTVOX

The composer Jonathan Bell has invented a transmission method that allows him to orchestrate numerous



human and electronic sources. The performers—5 vocal soloists and an amateur chorus—are equipped with earphones connected to smartphones controlled and synchronised on a network (local Wi-Fi network). He creates a man-machine dialogue that is both poetic and a technical feat. Each performer receives audio instructions: Pitch, rhythms, texts. As such, the composer comes close to musical performance in the Middle Ages when hearing took precedence over sight.

Born out of a long-standing collaboration between Jonathan Bell and the De Caelis Ensemble, the Smartvox project offers an access to contemporary music that overcomes the often difficult barrier of reading current pieces. We seek to reveal creation from within through experimentation. The system provides simple access to microtonality and polyrhythm via the autonomy offered by the earphones. It thus fulfills our wish to offer instructive guidance to an amateur chorus with the help of professional singers and to introduce and share a passion for this little-known music.

An amateur chorus will be specially created for the occasion. Two or three workshops are needed in advance to use the Smartvox system. The chorus will be dispersed amongst the public to spatialise the sound and totally immerse the audience.

MUSICIANS - THE LINKS EN-

SEMBLE

As a collective, LINKS brings together musicians committed to creation, improvisation, or composition, and visual artists: photographers, film directors or scenographers united by a shared passion for art in all its forms. Its artists seek to offer multiple concert formats (slide-shows, performances, installations, multidisciplinary performances) translating their eclecticism and their desire to closely connect the different dimensions of live art through the use of video, dance, circus or photography. This artistic approach brings the artists into contact with major 20th century works (Reich, Stockhausen, Ferrari, Xenakis) as well as creations by today's composers (Sakai, Bedrossian, Jodlowski, Ricks...). In addition to its production projects in France and abroad, the Ensemble also creates a forum for music and encounters embracing a variety of different audiences.



SINGERS - DE CAELIS ENSEMBLE



Formed in 1998 by its artistic director Laurence Brisset, the De Caelis Ensemble specialises in the performance of unaccompanied vocal works of the Middle Ages. The Ensemble's passion for this little-known repertoire has resulted in a body of work that is based upon knowledge of original sources, of systems of notation and of the context of the works concerned.

The Ensemble likes to spur unlikely encounters between the masters of the past and those of today. It places early music in a living and creative process, shedding new light on our heritage. Ground of experimentation and research into timbre, ornamentation and improvisation, De Caelis invites every season composers to discover the specificities of its directory. The Ensemble is committed to the creation and performance of contemporary works and presents them in programmes intended to create resonances between two periods of great creative innovation: the Middle Ages and the present day. De Caelis explores spaces: the art of the singing a cappella offers a singular experience which takes shape as well in old places as in current rooms. The desire to transmit these past and present writings by the naked voice, at the same time fragile and powerful, remains the ambition of the Ensemble.

VIDEO - HICHAM BERRADA, visual artist



A genuine theatre of alchemy, the work of Hicham Berrada is the fruit of a performance in which the artist combines different products in a beaker to reveal a world set in motion by different reactions. These transformations of matter, filmed and simultaneously projected on a screen, plunge the spectator into a magical world of fascinating colours and shapes. From laboratory to studio, from chemical experiment to performance, Hicham Berrada succeeds in creating a chemically activated nature.

BIOGRAPHIES

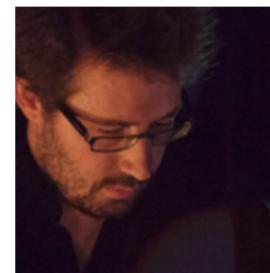


Laurent Durupt - Artistic director of the Links Ensemble Composer

A pianist and a composer, in residence at the Villa Médicis in 2013-2014, Laurent Durupt produces works covering a wide spectrum of sound creation. His works range from precisely written compositions using electronics (*Sonate en triΩhm*, 2011) to the exclusively instrumental (*Vertical Speed*, 2015) to sound installation (*Minimal Music for Maximum Space*, 2015), as well as improvisation (*Studi Sulla Notte*, 2013) and musical theatre (*La Nuit Acoustique*, 2015).

His works are performed all over the world (Paris, Lyon, Strasbourg, London, Rome, Palermo, Valencia, Bogota, Vitoria, Chelsea, Manchester, Saint Petersburg, Vancouver, Dallas, San Antonio and New York).

A graduate of the CNSMDP and IRCAM, he is the co-founder of the LINKS duo and the LINKS Ensemble, and he performs regularly with visual artist Hicham Berrada (*Présages*). He has also worked with author-director Olivier Cohen (*Zéphyr*, at the Théâtre du Chatelet in 2010), scenographers Fabian Offert and Anna Schewelew (*P-server*, at the théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, 2013), visual artist Théo Mercier (*Du futur faisons table rase*, at the MAC in Créteil, 2014), photographer Malik Nejmi (*Une Odyssée*, 2015 and *Traversés*, 2016) and the filmmakers Nora Martirosyan (*Paris-Erevan*, 2015) and Martina Magri (*La tentation de la Forteresse*, 2016).



Rémi Durupt - Artistic director of the Links Ensemble Musician and conductor

A "Surveyor of sound", Rémi Durupt has embraced various forms of musical expression from repertoire and electronic composition to free improvisation. His eclecticism has led him into a variety of musical projects with contemporary ensembles in France and abroad (Links, Onceim-improvisation orchestra, Paris Percussion Group, Eklekto, Linéa, Warning). It has also resulted in collaborative efforts leading to the creation of new solo works and pieces for chamber music (F. Bedrossian, O. Rumbau, J. Tejera, L. Durupt, V. Cordero). Having long been fascinated by the multiple facets of musical creation and keen to share his experiences as a performer of modern music,

it was only natural for Rémi Durupt to turn his attention to contemporary ensembles. He currently directs the Links Ensemble (Paris) after studying under Laurent Gay (Geneva), Nicolas Brochot (Evry), Jean-Philippe Wurtz (Académie Linéa, Strasbourg) and Vittorio Parisi (Dedalo Ensemble Academy), and receiving the B. Bettinelli Prize. Rémi Durupt has won numerous international percussion competitions, including the Geneva International Music Competition (2009) and he has trained with singular artists (percussionists, composers, educators, improvisers) in Strasbourg, Geneva and Paris (Jean Geoffroy, Emmanuel Séjourné, William Blank, Yves Brustaux, Alexandros Markeas, Vincent Lequang, Jens MacManama, Jean-Yves Bernhard). He is currently teaching at the CRR in Rennes and at the Pôle Supérieur Poitou-Charentes (Tours).

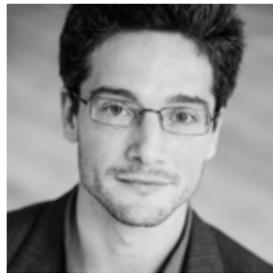


Laurence Brisset - Artistic director of the De Caelis Ensemble
Mezzo-soprano

Laurence Brisset initially studied harpsichord with William Christie and Noëlle Spieth at the Lille Conservatory (CNR) before devoting herself to singing. She was unanimously awarded a Premier Prix in voice at the Versailles Conservatory (CNR) and was admitted to the postgraduate course in opera at the Conservatoire National Supérieur of Paris, studying with Xavier Depraz. She simultaneously studied early musical notation and took part in many concerts and recordings with the Organum (1983-2000) and Discantus (1989-1992) ensembles.

Her deep interest in the Middle Ages was shared by several friends and led them to found the De Caelis ensemble in 1998 with Brisset as artistic director.

She is a qualified teacher of vocal technique and divides her time between concerts and voice teaching. She also acts as a tutor for the Royaumont Foundation under the aegis of the Programme for Research and Interpretation of Mediaeval Music (PRIMM). Since 2005 she has given regular master classes in the music and culture of the Middle Ages at the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique of Geneva.



Jonathan Bell, composer

Jonathan Bell (1982) is a composer. His music is influenced by Franco-Flemish polyphonists, American minimalism (Morton Feldman), and spectral music. He graduated from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (4 prizes), and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (Doctorate in Musical Composition). Since 2007, he collaborates intensely with the vocal ensemble De Caelis, who performs his music in various festivals (Île-de-France, European church music festival...), France Musique, and in collaboration with other ensembles (Links ensemble, choirs of several cathedrals). In Germany, he receives commissions from the Zafraan ensemble (Berlin) and the SKAM collective (Stuttgart). In 2014-16, he followed a two-years IRCAM residency, where he developed the SmartVox web-application, dedicated to the interpretation of computer-assisted polyphony. Since September 2017 he has been a professor and researcher in musicology at Aix-Marseille University. Compositions available online: <https://jonathanbell.eu/>
<https://www.babelscores.com/JonathanBell>
<http://www.smartvox.eu>



Julien Cramillet, circus performer

Trained in the National Center for the Circus Arts of Châlons-en-Champagne (CNAC). His exit of the CNAC is punctuated by the show « Am », staged by Stéphane Ricordel in 2010, with a national and international tour in the year 2011. Then he works with the company HVDZ on the creation « Les Atomics », in 2012. Pursues his way with the creation of « Everything is good », with the Company Pré-o-coupé, supervised by Nikolaus and Christian Lucas. He plays currently « the One who falls », supervised by Yoann Bourgeois. Julien creates his own company in September, 2011, and creates « Welcome », brought out in 2014, creation of a duet dance and flying rope with Camille Blanc. And a second project with José-Luis Córdova, duet of climbing and flying rope, for an release planned in 2017. In the same time, Julien is brought to teach various artistic subjects for a highly varied public. He carries his work around the subject voice / body, with his tools that are the flying rope, and the balances on handsmains.



Lionel Parlier, stage director

Actor, director of theater and opera, teacher, Lionel Parlier organizes training courses-gathering as well singers as actors. He manages from 1994 till 1998 a workshop of research and experiment which makes about sixty professional actors cross itself. From 1999 till 2002, he is named art director of the Festival of Luzège in the Haute Corrèze, festival of drama, opera, dance and plastic arts in rural areas. In At the same time as the direction, he conceives the scenography, the costumes or the light of several of his shows. He also has the opportunity to collaborate with dancers and circus performers. The opera « Postcard from Morocco » of Dominick Argento, which he stages with the Young Voices of the Rhine is distinguished Better realization of a studio of opera for the season 2002/2003 (Opernwelt, Jahrbuch / Book of year 2003), and the CD « At the never dreamed clearest night » of Philippe Jaccottet and Patricia Dallio in whom he participates is nominated Very favorite of the Academy Charles Cros 2014. He teaches, among others, at Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers of Paris and at the Ecole normale supérieure of Paris as well as at the University Paris 8 Vincennes - saint Denis.

PRODUCTION

- ENSEMBLE LINKS -

www.ensemblelinks.fr

- ENSEMBLE DE CAELIS -

www.decaelis.fr

The De Caelis Ensemble enjoys the support of the DRAC Normandie, and the Normandy Region and receives the aid of ADAMI, SPEDIDAM, the Musique Nouvelle en Liberté and the Institut Français. It was awarded the Prix Liliane Bettencourt for choral singing (2016), and that Foundation will be supporting the Ensemble in the years to come. The Ensemble's primary sponsor is Mécénat Musical Société Générale. De Caelis is a member of Profedim, the Federation of Specialized Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles (FEVIS) and the Futurs composés network.

Partnership

-THEATRE FIRMIN GEMIER - LA PISCINE

Pôle national des arts du cirque

direction Marc Jeancourt

www.theatrefirminagemier-lapiscine.fr

CONSTELLATIONS enjoys the support of the DRAC Île de France - Ministry of Culture and Communication

CONTACT

Production and distribution

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