INSULA ORCHESTRA

2022 I 2023 SEASON

INSULA ORCHESTRA
PERIOD INSTRUMENTS
MUSICAL AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR LAURENCE EQUILBEY



BEETHOVEN - FARRENC
EQUILBEY - ANGELICH

DIFFUSION

SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 9 2022

insulaorchestra.fr

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Louise Farrenc (1804-1875)
Overture n°2
Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Piano concerto n°2
Louise Farrenc
Symphony n° 2

Nicholas Angelich, *piano*
Insula orchestra
Laurence Equilbey, *conductor*

Duration: 1h40 with an interval

Numbers: 45 musicians

Diffusion: september 17 - october 9 2022



Laurence Equilbey, her Insula orchestra on period instruments and Nicholas Angelich invite us to join an animated journey through Beethoven's work.

Once again, **Nicholas Angelich** asserts himself as the ideal partner for Insula orchestra. Having already successfully joined forces on the **Warner label (Concertos n°4 and 5)**, the pianist and the period instrument ensemble pursue together their exploration of this iconic repertory.



The French symphonic exception. At a time when Parisians swore by opera, Louise Farrenc took on the risky game of the symphonic repertoire. **Heir to the Germanic aesthetic**, she successfully premiered the second of her three symphonies in 1846 at the prestigious Société des Concerts du Conservatoire de Paris. Admired by her peers for her inventiveness, the robustness of her style and the finesse of her orchestrations, Farrenc's work is once again enjoying serious acclaim: **it is only fair.**

The three symphonies of Louise Farrenc will soon be recorded by Laurence Equilbey and Insula orchestra for the Warner Classics - Erato label.

AUDIO / VIDEO RECORD

Nicholas Angelich, Insula orchestra, Laurence Equilbey, 2018.
Ludwig van Beethoven - Concerto pour piano n°5

PRESS REVIEW

On the recording of Farrenc's symphonies n° 1 and n° 3 on the Erato - Warner Classics label :

« Rarely can Farrenc's music have spoken with so much power and so much eloquence; rarely can her genius have shone through so brightly. »
***Colin Clarke, Classical Explorer*, july 2021**

« Laurence Equilbey plays with the fruity colors of the Insula Orchestra's «period» woodwinds, which sing in concert with the strings in a framework whose tension does not let up. »
***Gérard Condé, Diapason*, september 2021**

« Unlike Johannes Goritzki (CPO, 1997) and Christoph König (Naxos, 2017), who recorded these two works, Laurence Equilbey works on period instruments. The result will not surprise those who know the formidable work done by the Insula Orchestra since its creation: raw sonorities, energetic but not brutal direction, and the structure of the orchestral fabric is always clear. The pulse leaps in the lively movements, and the slow movements offer moments of delicate poetry. Above all, the wind sections do justice to the composer's instrumental imagination. »
***Jacques Bonnaure, Classica*, september 2021**

On the recording of Beethoven's concertos n° 4 and n° 5 on the Erato - Warner Classics label :

« From the very first chords of Concerto n° 5 and the subsequent exposition, the power of the period instruments is stupefying. Such is the intensity worked up by Laurence Equilbey. Her Romantic approach brings a luminous warmth that perfectly suits the rounded timbre of Nicholas Angelich, performing here on an 1892 Pleyel. »
***Pianiste*, November - December 2018**

« Nicholas Angelich's articulation is refined, and the upper register of the piano has a crystalline quality. Thanks in part to Laurence Equilbey's light and flexible touch, piano and orchestra sometimes seem like a single entity (...) Angelich's pianism is always a pleasure, and here it casts a lovelly spell. »
Michael Church, *BBC Music Magazine*, january 2019



NICHOLAS ANGELICH

PIANO

Nicholas Angelich began studying the piano at five with his mother. At the age of seven, he gave his first concert with Mozart's Concerto K. 467. He entered at 13 the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris where he studied with Aldo Ciccolini, Yvonne Loriod, Michel Beroff and Marie Françoise Bucquet. He won the First Prize for piano and chamber music.

Nicholas Angelich followed master-classes with Leon Fleisher, Dmitri Bashkirov, and Maria Joao Pires. In 1989 he won the Second Prize of the International Piano Competition R. Casadesus in Cleveland and in 1994 the First Prize of the International Piano Competition Gina Bachauer. In 1996 he was invited as a resident of the International Piano Foundation of Cadennabia (Italy). In 2002 he received the "International Klavierfestival Ruhr - Young Talent Award" (Germany) from Leon Fleischer where he performed in June 2003. At the Victoires de la Musique Classique 2013, he received the Victoire of the "Instrumental Soloist of the Year".

He made his debuts in May 2003 with the New-York Philharmonic under Kurt Masur at the Lincoln Center in New-York. Valdimir Jurowski invited him to open with him the 2007/08 season of the Russian National Orchestra in Moscow.

For the 2018-19 season, Angelich will perform with the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montreal, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Chicago Symphony, Insula Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, and the National Symphony Orchestra. He will appear in solo recitals in Liège, Alicante, Paris, among many others.



LAURENCE EQUILBEY

CONDUCTOR

Conductor and musical director of Insula orchestra and accentus, Laurence Equilbey is acknowledged for her demanding, yet open-minded approach to her art. Her exploration of the symphonic repertory has seen her conducting the orchestras of BBC of Wales, Hessischer Rundfunk, Lyon, Bucarest, Liège, Leipzig, Brussels Philharmonic, Café Zimmermann, Akademie für alte Musik Berlin, Concerto Köln, Camerata Salzburg, Mozarteumorchester Salzburg...

In 2012, with support from the Département des Hauts-de- Seine, she founded Insula orchestra, an ensemble devoted to the classical and pre-Romantic repertory, using period instruments. With accentus, Laurence Equilbey continues to interpret the great vocal music repertoire.



Laurence Equilbey supports contemporary creation and she's also Artistic Director and Director of Education at the Department for Young Singers at the Paris Conservatory. The extensive recorded work of accentus has received wide critical acclaim. In 2014, she recorded with Insula orchestra Mozart's Requiem on the naïve label; then Gluck's Orfeo ed Euridice with Franco Fagioli, released in September 2015 on the Deutsche Grammophon label (Archiv Produktion). With Warner Classics –Erato, Laurence Equilbey has released Mozart's Coronation Mass and Schubert's orchestrated lieder (2017).

INSULA ORCHESTRA : INSTRUMENTS OF THEN, SPIRIT OF TODAY

Insula orchestra's artistic project is built around a repertoire ranging mainly from the Classical to the Romantic eras. Mozart, Schubert or Weber form naturally the core of this repertoire with symphonic programmes as well as programmes with choir and soloists. The orchestra performs on period instruments.

Founded in 2012 by Laurence Equilbey with local government support from the Département des Hauts-de-Seine, Insula orchestra is in residence in a
new artistic venue, La Seine Musicale, designed by architects Shigeru Ban and Jean de Gastines on Ile Seguin, an island in the River Seine just a few miles downstream from Paris.

The orchestra is in charge of selecting part of the programme for the 1,100-seater auditorium. It also performs at other major French and international venues and leading festivals. Since its foundation, the orchestra has been invited to play at Philharmonie de Paris, Vienna's Theater an der Wien, Salzburg Mozart Week, Basel Stadtcasino, Elbphilharmonie, Ludwigsburg Festival and London Barbican Centre.

Insula orchestra has also developed a comprehensive, innovative programme of cultural and educational initiatives across its home base in the Hauts-de-Seine department, notably to foster awareness among potential audiences who have never had the opportunity to approach classical music, as well as participatory classes for young people and schools.



OUR BEETHOVEN / FARRENC DISCOGRAPHY



BEETHOVEN [248]
PIANO CONCERTOS
N° 4 AND 5

Nicholas Angelich,
Laurence Equilbey,
Insula orchestra

Warner Classics – Erato
21 september 2018



FARRENC
SYMPHONIES 1 AND 3

Laurence Equilbey
Insula orchestra

Warner Classics – Erato
july 2021

SUPPORTERS

CONTACTS

Samuel Serin, *General Manager*
s.serin@insulaorchestra.fr
+33 (0)6 03 21 13 67

David Bodou, *External relations manager*
d.bodou@insulaorchestra.fr
+33 (0)6 87 88 26 32