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Concert: Ensemble C Barré: The (Plucked) String Theory Project

Ensemble C Barré
Natalia Korsak
Thomas Keck
Eva Debonne

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Ensemble C Barré
Natalia Korsak, mandolin
Thomas Keck, guitar
Eva Debonne, harp

THE (PLUCKED) STRING THEORY PROJECT

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Saturday, August 31st, 2019
7:00 pm
Program

Elurretan (2017)  
Mikel Urquiza  
(b. 1988)

Carillon, Récitatif, Masque (1974)  
Hans Werner Henze  
(1926-2012)

Polychordo (2019)  
Evis Sammoutis  
(b. 1979)

Ratzfatz (2019)  
Birke Bertelsmeier  
(b. 1981)

Au Coeur d’Une (2018)  
Frédéric Pattar  
(b. 1969)

Supported by

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About the Ensemble and the Project

C Barré is an instrumental ensemble of twelve core musicians founded and directed by Sébastien Boin. Currently associated with GMEM-CNMC-Marseille, a national center for musical creation, this inimitable group is made up of musicians that are profoundly invested in the creation and dissemination of contemporary repertoire. The makeup of the ensemble is unique, featuring very unusual combinations, and all its members are strong improvisers with a deep knowledge of other artforms as well as musical traditions.

Based in Marseille, which is both the biggest port and oldest city of France, one can easily see why the ensemble works regularly with composers from the Mediterranean basin. These last few seasons, the ensemble performed at the Philharmonie de Paris, Festival of Île de France, Radio France, Printemps des Arts de Monte-Carlo, Festival of Marseille, Festival Les Musiques and the Grand Théâtre de Provence with groups such as the International Contemporary Ensemble (New York) and Neue Vocalsolisten (Stuttgart) as well as choreographers and dance companies such as Nederlands Dans Theater, Johanne Suanier, Michel Kelemenis and Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company (New York).

The (Plucked) String Theory Project involves the commission and presentation of new and existing repertoire as well as readings of student works featuring an ensemble of three plucked strings: mandolin, guitar and harp. This distinctive combination stems from Ensemble C Barré’s core of twelve musicians. This particular trio combination was immortalized in the twentieth century by composer Goffredo Petrassi with his Seconda Serenata in 1962. A few years later, Hans-Werner Henze composed his Carillon, Récitatif, and Masque. This wonderful combination offers exciting and original timbral possibilities, and it is still underrepresented. This project aims to help showcase its repertoire and ignite more interest, first in the USA and France and then beyond.