

LES VOYAGES DE L'AMOUR

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1682-1765)

"Les Voyages de l'Amour: Arrivée des Genies Elementaires"

Extrait de l'Opéra-Ballet, op. 60

Michel-Richard Delalande (1657-1726)

12ème Suite: *Gracieusement - Mineur - Presto - Gigue - Quatuor - Air vif*

(from: *Symphonies pour le Souper du Roy*)

Jean-Féry Rebel (1666-1747)

Sonate Sixième

Grave - Legerement - Gracieusement - Viste

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1682-1765)

Premier Ballet de Village en trio, op. 52

INTERVAL 25 MIN

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1682-1765)

Concerto à cinq parties, op. 37

Allegro - Adagio - Allegro

Michel Corrette (1709-1795)

Première Suite, op. 12

Prélude - "Les Amants Enchantés"

Michel-Richard Delalande / André Cardinal Destouches (1672-1749)

Suite Les Elemens

March – Air pour les heures – Air pour les divinisés

Air pour les heures et les zephyrs – Passepied

*Chaconne (from: *Symphonies pour le Souper du Roy*)*

Jean-Fery Rebel (1666-1747)

"Les Caractères de la Danse", Fantaisie

Prélude - Courante - Menuet - Bourrée - Chaconne - Sarabande - Gigue - Rigaudon -

Passepied - Gavotte - Sonate - Musette - Sonate

LES VOYAGES DE L'AMOUR - French Delights

In the Opéra-Ballet *Les Voyages de l'Amour* by Joseph Bodin de Boismortier, the personification of Love goes on a journey through baroque France. Love is tired of making everybody around him happy, while he himself stays alone. He thus decides to go on search of a pure soul, who can truly love him. His trip takes him to the court, to cities and to villages. He finally finds his love in a small french village. It is the sheperdess Daphné who falls in love with him, purely for who he is.

With *Les Voyages de l'Amour*, Ensemble Meridiana retraces the journey of Love to the different settings and throughout the social classes of baroque France. With their large palette of different instrument combinations they intend to show the liveliness and versatility of French baroque music.

The very popular **Joseph Bodin de Boismortier** lived as a "freelance composer" in Paris. Uncommon for the time, he successfully edited and sold his compositions without the aid of a patron. Boismortier takes us to the city *salons* with his chamber music and to the countryside in his lively *Ballet de Village*.

Michel Richard Delalande was in the service of Louis XIV. He mainly composed church music, but was also famous for his *Symphonies pour Les Soupers du Roy*, designated to accompany the king's dinner.

Jean Féry Rebel was Louis XIV's court composer. He composed *Les Caractères de la Dance* for the famous ballerina Françoise de Prévost who with her light and expressive style introduced dramatic dancing to the French court.

Michel Corrette served as organist at the Jesuit College in Paris and adds to this programme the earthly pleasures of love!



BIOGRAPHY

Since its formation in 2006, multi award-winning Ensemble Meridiana has established itself as one of Europe's finest Baroque ensembles of its generation. The five members of Ensemble Meridiana come from four different countries. They met during their studies at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel, Switzerland where they specialised in early music.

Ensemble Meridiana are the winners of three major international competitions: the 4th International Telemann Competition (2007, Magdeburg Germany), the International Young Artists Competition (2009, York UK) and the Göttinger Reihe Historischer Musik der Händel-Gesellschaft Göttingen (2011, Göttingen Germany).

Ensemble Meridiana has performed in prestigious international festivals, such as Händel Festspiele Göttingen, Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music London, Stour Festival, Sastamala Gregoriana Festival Finland, Freunde Alter Musik Basel, Arolsen Baroque Festival, Magdeburg Telemann Festival, Leipzig Bach Archive Summer Concerts, J.S. Bach's house in Eisenach, York Early Music Christmas Festival, Brecon Baroque Festival and London King's Place. Major concert tours have taken them to the UK, Norway, Germany, Romania, Ireland, Finland and Switzerland.

Their first CD Tastes of Europe supported by the NCEM and the Fidelio Charitable trust was released by Linn Records to great critical acclaim. Meridiana has performed on radio throughout Europe, on stations such as BBC Radio 3, MDR Figaro, RSR Espace 2, Bayerischer Rundfunk and on TV Romania. They have twice been invited on the Early Music Show on BBC Radio 3.

They released their second CD, Les Voyages de l'Amour, with Chandos Records in 2016.

Meridiana has also been active in musical education; teaching on international summer courses such as Dartington International Summer School, Sastamala Gregoriana Masterclass and Sligo Baroque Festival.

They are renowned for their friendly presentation, versatile programming and exuberant playing.

The musicians distinguish themselves through their excellent musical clarity, esprit, humour and, above all, much love...

www.ensemblemeridiana.com