



Ensemble Matteus

Jon So we have Jean-Christophe Cassagnes who is the Managing Director of the Orchestra. Jean-Christophe, your orchestra is internationally famous for playing music in a historically informed manner. If by some miracle Vivaldi turned up to tonight's concert, do you think he would recognise your style as being the same as his?

Jean-Christophe I know it is a difficult question, but yes, for the moment some Vivaldi works are well known only for Romantic interpretation, and our job is to recover the original and Vivaldi will be happy to hear that, but we are working on this side with our music publisher and for historical interpretation and also, you know, the Baroque music is like a jazz music, not, not so written, not.....

Jon Not exactly as it is written

J-C Yes, not exactly, yes

Jon Is that because you are trying to attract a wider audience to your concerts?

J-C Yes, yes

Jon You like to play in a style that is historically accurate but at the same time attractive to a modern audience, a wider audience than maybe than would usually turn up to a Vivaldi concert?

J-C Yes, yes

Jon OK can we talk about the instruments?

J-C Hmm yes

Jon Because the majority of the instruments in your orchestra they are modern copies, aren't they?

J-C Yes

Jon Erm do you have any Stradivarius instruments or some very old instruments, maybe?

J-C Er some musician has older instruments but it is very expensive, very expensive, but sometimes last year we had a musician who had a real Stradivarius with him but er you know it is very expensive

Jon Very rare yeah, so which instruments do you think have change the most?

J-C I think it's more er er brass, brass instrument the horn or trumpet because er you know for the historical instrument they are no valves for instance and there is natural.

Jon So, talking about this season now finally, what concerts do you think would be unmissable for our audience?

J-C The next concert is in the Rossini we will do Le nozzi di Teti e di Peleo it's a Cantata for five singers and a chorus and er we, we will give two concerts in Brest and two concerts in Rennes in June in Brest in April and er two concerts in June, you will see.

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Jon François Naulot, thank you very much for joining us, what is your particular role with the orchestra?

François I'm the orchestra's Stage Manager, which means I'm in charge of the logistic of the orchestra the Ensemble Matheus and some support to organise tours, which means first thing is travels, trains, flights, many things, and hotels of course, and then the technical aspect, which is dealing with what we need on stage, and sometimes we have to rent instruments when we go and travel to for... a different country. So if we go to Spain for one day and we rent harpsichords, we have to make sure the harpsichord is okay, and that the player feels okay with the instrument, so that's not easy because you have to organise before and decide which instrument you need and then you arrive, you play on it and if it works, its okay, but if its not..

Jon Is it easy to rent things like harpsichords ...?

François No, no, no, harpsichords in Bretagne, for example, it's not that easy, you have to do it before.

Jon Okay. Do you have a busy schedule ahead this year travelling?

François Yes, we went to Spain, we are going next week to Poland, and we spent almost a month in Vienna, so we have many things going on, and actually, here also in Brittany we have things, er,concerts almost every month so..

Jon In Brittany?

François In Brittany.

Jon Ah excellent. Okay. Anyway, the concert's just about to start in about another ten minutes, so thank you very much for spending some time with us and good luck.

François You're welcome, my pleasure