

— ÉCOUTE —
AVITAL COHEN, FLUTE
CHRISTOPH JÄGGIN, GUITAR

“We inhale the world and
breathe out meaning. While we can.
While we can...”

Salman Rushdie, *The Moor's Last Sigh*

‘Écoute!’ call Avital and Christoph to each other as they feel their way through the labyrinth that is sound, seeking and marvelling, so to speak. With acute perception they seize music for themselves, and, like Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s Little Prince, they know that you can see and hear better with a swiftly beating heart.

Could ÉCOUTE’s instrumentation be any better? The crisp tones of the guitar align themselves with the narrative poetry of the singing, breathing flute, lighting up like glinting stars in the night sky, giving a glimpse of the fathomless breadth of the universe. Through the sounds of the flute and the guitar, melody and harmony weave into a tapestry in which the secrets of life are easily entangled.

ÉCOUTE want to lay down the gauntlet, to dare the attempt to understand. For is music a comprehensible language, as is often suggested? If so, what does it say to us, what does it talk about? Of truth? What is truth, how true is it?

Avital Cohen and Christoph Jäggin came together to form the duo ÉCOUTE in December 2013, to give voice to the little-known, and yet so valuable and complex music for flute and guitar. The duo’s repertoire includes masterpieces from the past as well as the most recent times. Their concert programmes are exciting and uncommon. Mastery of their craft, sensitive perception, informed interpretation and, by no means least, the fine art of mediation are among the strengths of the duo that have been praised. Soon after the duo’s establishment they were entrusted with the premieres of a Swiss, a Finnish and a Danish composition. In 2015 the duo will perform together with the Japanese soprano Asako Motojima at the ‘VI. International Qara-Qarayev Festival for Contemporary Music’ in Baku (Azerbaijan) where four new works composed for ÉCOUTE will be played for the first time. In 2016 ÉCOUTE will respond to the invitation to the ‘Forum für Neue Musik’ (Forum for New Music) in Oberstdorf and Kempten (Germany). Here too they have been entrusted with a premiere performance.

REPERTOIRE

EDGAR ALANDIA (*1950)
ANONYMUS (17./18. Jh.)
CARL PHILIPP EMANUEL BACH (1714-1788)
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

NORMA BEECROFT (* 1934)
GUNNAR BERG (1909-1989)

WILLY BURKHARD (1900-1955)
NICCOLÒ CASTIGLIONI (1932-1996)
ARCANGELO CORELLI (1653-1713)
KARL HEINRICH DAVID (1884-1951)
EDISON DENISSOW (1929-1996)
CHARLES DIEUPART (ca. 1667 - ca. 1740)
JEAN-JACQUES DÜNKI (* 1948)
GIROLAMO FRESCOBALDI (1583-1643)

KASPAR FRITZ (1716-1783)
HENRI GAGNEBIN (1886-1977)
ERIC GAUDIBERT (1936-2012)
HANS HAUG (1900-1967)

JACQUES-MARTIN HOTTETERRE (1674-1763)

KLAUS HUBER (* 1924)
JOSEPH KREUTZER (1790-1840)
JACQUES IBERT (1890-1962)
JO KONDO (* 1947)
JEAN MARIE LECLAIR (1697-1764)
FRANK MARTIN (1890-1974)
JOHANN GOTTFRIED MÜTHEL (1728-1788)
GRACIELA PARASKEVAÍDIS (* 1940)
JAVIER PARRADO (* 1964)
CERGIO PRUDENCIO (* 1955)
BENT SØRENSEN (* 1958)
HARRI SUILAMO (* 1954)
GEORG PHILIPP TELEMANN (1681-1767)
TORU TAKEMITSU (1930-1996)
HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS (1887-1959)
LEONARDO VINCI (1690-1730)
ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)
FRITZ VOEGELIN (* 1943)
JUDITH WEIR (* 1954)
CHRISTIAN WOLFF (* 1934)
ISTVÁN ZELENKA (* 1936)
ALFRED ZIMMERLIN (* 1955)

Paya (1989)
Obras del archivo musical de Concepción
Hamburger Sonata
Sonata C major BWV 1033
Sonata E major BWV 1035
Tre pezzi (1960-1961)
9 duos (1984)
The Princess and the Pea (1953) for speaker, flute and guitar
Serenade op.71/3 (1944)
sic (1992)
Sonata A major op.5/9
Duo concertant (1943)
Sonata (1977)
Suite f minor
Nulla dies... (1991/94)
Canzona detta „La Bernardinia“
Canzona „La Donatina“
Sonata op.2/1
Eglogue (1965)
Wolkenblau (1999) (for soprano, flute and guitar)
Capriccio (1963)
Double concerto (1966) for flute, guitar and chamber orchestra
Suite op.2/2
Suite op.2/3
Suite op.2/4
4 Small Pieces (1958)
Trio op.16 (with clarinet)
Entr'acte (1935)
Dithyramb (1996)
Sonata e minor op.9/2
Drey Minnelieder (1960) (with soprano)
Sonata D major
solos (1998)
Salto al Alba (1995)
Vértices (2001)
Camelot by Night (1988)
5 Katzenhaiku (2006) (with bariton and 2nd guitar)
Sonata a minor
Toward the sea (1981)
Distribucão de flores (1932)
Sonata D major
Concerto for alto flute, guitar and strings
que no haya salida (1996)
Gentle Violence (1987)
Flutist and Guitarist (1993)
... es ist eine schöne Sache um die Zufriedenheit... (2002)
Aufgang (2014) (with soprano or bariton)

— ÉCOUTE —



AVITAL COHEN

lives in Zurich. She performs as a soloist and chamber musician with various ensembles in Germany, France, Switzerland, Japan, the USA and Canada. Her repertoire includes classic and contemporary works, among these a work composed for her by Andreas Sorg for alto flute and piccolo. She has taken part in concerts at the 'Heidelberger Schlossfestspiele', the Heidelberg Chamber Music Festival, the 'Speyerer Gitarrensommer', the 'Musical Salon' at Schaubek Castle and the Swiss Harp Festival amongst others. A concert at the Tonhalle in Zurich with the Beyond Ensemble (Avital Cohen, flute, Mikayel Hakhnazaryan, cello, and Anne Sophie Vrignaud, harp) is being planned (28. December 2014) as are numerous concerts with diverse programmes with the ÉCOUTE duo, including at the Yehudi Menuhin Forum, Bern (March 2016).

Avital Cohen studied with renowned professors including Prof. Shigenori Kudo and Prof. Raymond Guiot. Her qualifications are from the École Normale de Musique de Paris („Diplome d'exécution" with distinction), the Rubin Academy Jerusalem (B.Mus) and the Musikhochschule Mannheim (artistic training with subsequent soloist's diploma). In addition to this she has taken part in masterclasses with Aurèle Nicolet, Alain Marion, Pierre-Yves Artaud, Maxence Larrieu and Robert Stallman.

www.avitalcohen.com



CHRISTOPH JÄGGIN

Christoph Jäggin studied guitar in Winterthur and Vienna (basic study, advanced and concert diploma with distinction). His most important tutors were Prof. Karl Scheit and Prof. Dr. Hermann Siegenthaler.

The sensitive and fragile cosmos of the guitar holds a lasting fascination for Christoph Jäggin. In collaboration with him, many renowned national and international composers have interpreted this delicate world in individual and enduring ways; many more than 100 new works have been dedicated to him.

Another focus for Christoph Jäggin is the research into the historic Swiss guitar repertoire. A striking result of this work is a repertory of all Swiss guitar music, which is freely accessible on the internet. He has given concerts throughout Europe, in the Middle and Far East and Central and South America. Numerous publications (music, records, CDs, texts).

www.christophjaeggin.net

NEXT CONCERTS

13/9/2014

Wasserkirche, Zurich, Switzerland (with Sergej Aprischkin, Bariton and Sayuri Takahama, Guitar)
Compositions from N. CASTIGLIONI, A. ZIMMERLIN (World Premiere),
J.-J. DÜNKI, H. SUILAMO (World Premiere)

14/9/2014

Haus am See, Kastanienbaum, Switzerland (with Sergej Aprischkin, Bariton and Sayuri Takahama, Guitar)
Compositions from N. CASTIGLIONI, A. ZIMMERLIN, J.-J. DÜNKI, H. SUILAMO

21/9/2014

Musikhaus Randazzo, Zurich, Switzerland
Compositions from A. CORELLI, G. PH. TELEMANN, J. S. BACH, M. ROWAN, J. G. MÜTHEL

7/12/2014

Kloster St. Katharina, Wil, Switzerland
Compositions from A. CORELLI, K. HUBER, J.-J. DÜNKI, J. G. MÜTHEL, U. BÜHRER, J. S. BACH

11/1/2015

ONO, Bern, Switzerland, „Hommage à Gunnar Berg“
Compositions from G. BERG (World Premiere), N. CASTIGLIONI, J.-J. DÜNKI

23/3/2015

SIKNA, Zurich, Switzerland
Compositions from A. CORELLI, G. FRESCOBALDI, J. S. BACH, J. DOWLAND, N. SHERIFF, J. G. MÜTHEL

21/4/2015

Orgelhalle Baku, Azerbaijan (with Asako Motojima, Soprano),
VI. Qara Qarayev international contemporary music Festival
Compositions from N.N. (World Premiere), A. ZIMMERLIN (WP), Y. PAGH-PAAN, N.N. (World Premiere),
J. WYTTENBACH, I. ZELENKA

4/26/2015

Felicja Blumental Music Center Tel Aviv, Israel
Compositions from A. CORELLI, G. FRESCOBALDI, J. S. BACH, J. DOWLAND, N. SHERIFF, J. G. MÜTHEL

3/2016

Concerts in Kempten and Oberstdorf, Germany (with Asako Motojima, Soprano) *Forum für neue Musik*
Composition from HANS-JÜRGEN GERUNG (World Premiere)

Israel-Tour (with Asako Motojima, Soprano)

Concert Yehudi-Menuhin-Forum, Bern, Switzerland (with Asako Motojima, Soprano)

CONTACT

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