

INFLUENCES LATINES

Pascal CONTET & THE TRAVELLING QUARTET

Biographies

Pascal CONTET (accordion)



For over 20 years, Pascal Contet has been a leader for the creation of contemporary music, and a pioneer of the genre in France. With the creation of around 300 new works to his name, he has collaborated with many composers, including Luciano Berio, Bernard Cavanna, Joshua Fineberg (USA), Jean Françaix, Bruno Mantovani, and Martin Matalon.

Following his private study in France, Contet continued his musical studies in Fribourg (CH), the Hanover Academy of Music with Elisabeth Moser, the Copenhagen Royal Conservatory (DNK), and the Graz Academy of the Arts (AUT) with Mogens Ellegaard.

Contet is the laureate of multiple foundations and prizes including the Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet Vocational Foundation (awarded and bestowed by French President, François Mitterrand), the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation, the Gyorgy Cziffra Foundation, the Lavoisier Foundation, the Gus Viseur Prize, and the Samfundet Prize (awarded by the Danish government).

As a soloist, Contet has performed under the direction of many notable conductors including Pierre Boulez, François Xavier Roth, Pascal Rophé, Jean-François Heisser, Jean –François Verdier, James Wood, Susanna Mäkkli, Denis Comtet, Arie Van Beek, Laurent Petitgirard, and Daniel Tosi. He has performed and been the dedicatee of many concertos by a wide range of composers, including Bernard Cavanna, Benjamin Ellin, Jean Françaix, and Christophe Julien. He has appeared in performance with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Philharmonisches Orchester Freiburg (DEU), the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, the Orchestre de Bratislava, the Orchestre Les Siècles, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, the Orchestre National de Lille, the Orchestre National de Lorraine, the Orchestre Victor Hugo - Franche-Comté, the Orchestre d’Auvergne, the Orchestre de Perpignan-Méditerranée, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, the Orchestre de Picardie, the Orchestre Symphonique de Bretagne, the Alma Chamber Orchestra, and the Orchestre de l’Opéra National de Paris where he premiered Mantovani’s opera, *Ahkmatova*.

Contet has collaborated with a wide variety of artists in diverse fields of expertise, from theater to electronic music, to create new and innovative music and mixed media productions. Contet also enjoys improvisation and jazz. His collaborative improvisation CD, “3,” with contrabassist, Joëlle Léandre, which debuted in March of 2014, received the “Choc” award from Jazz Magazine, the “Coup de Coeur” from the Académie Charles Cros, and was elected to be on the Citizen Jazz website in 2014. In June of 2015, under his personal label, PLEIN JEU, distributed by Socardisc, Contet released UTOPIAN WIND, a compilation of 13 “comprovisés” titles that combine improvisational and compositional techniques. In 2014, he performed a new trio at the Europa Jazz Festival with artists Scanner and Joel Cadbury in a mix of electro, rock, and contemporary music.

Contet works frequently on the connection between music and image, accompanying many cinema concerts and compositions for TV and cinema in this capacity, including the film *Port-Au-Prince Dimanche 4 janvier* by François Marthouret (screenplay by Marc Guilbert and Peter Kassovitz), based on the book *Bicentenaire* by Lyonel Trouillot.

Visit Contet’s website, www.pascalcontet.com, for a comprehensive look into the things that inspire and propel him toward new and revolutionary artistry.

Anne GRAVOIN (violon)



Anne Gravoin was unanimously awarded first prize of violin and chamber music at the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique in Paris. She was a student of Gérard Poulet and became a member of the Menuhin Foundation in 1986 as well as participating in many concerts as a soloist.

Concerts as a soloist in 1985 at the Deux Sevres Festival, in 1988 at the Gramont Festival. Solo violin of the European Bow Ensemble since 1989, Outdoor Operas since 2006 ... On tour in Japan 1993, China 2000 & Latin America 2001. Solo violin of the Tours Orchestra between 2001 and 2004 and of the Awards Orchestra of the CNSM in 2003.

Co-founder in 1986 with Véronique Fizman of a violin-piano sonata titled «Sans Tambour ni Trompette». More recently, a CD was recorded of a series of sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms. She is also first violinist of the «Travelling Quartet». A CD entitled «All You Need Is...» of new arrangements of a selection of Beatle hits is available from Music Booking Orchestra. For over 25 years, artists, directors, arrangers, composers and producers have been trusting Anne to book all kinds of musicians for session and live venues, from large symphony orchestras to smaller chamber music ensembles.

Mathilde STERNAT (violoncelle)



Mathilde Sternat has been awarded a cello and chamber music first prize at the National Music Conservatoire of Paris and finished her curriculum with additional studies in Chamber Music. In 1997 she recorded Luigi Boccherini's complete quintets for two cellos with Roland Pidoux and Jean-Pierre Rampal. As a soloist she has been invited to perform with the Montpellier Symphony Orchestra and the Padeloup Concerts. She has performed in various venues with the Chamber Music Orchestra of Salzburg. Mathilde is quite versatile and has accompanied many artists on stage (Patrick Bruel, Elodie Frégé, Nolwenn Leroy, Mestari, Malia, Damien Saez, Michel Sardou, Pierre Boussagnet, Laurent Voulzy...) and recorded some of their albums as well. She has

composed for the theatre and writes string arrangements on a regular basis, more specifically for quartet.

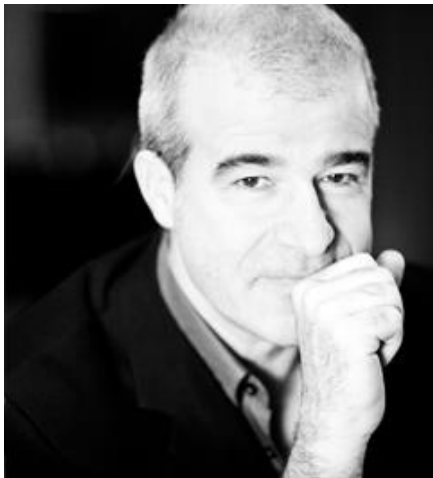
David BRACCINI (violon)



Further to his musical studies at the Bastia Music Conservatory, David Braccini attended the Conservatoire Supérieur de Paris where he was unanimously awarded a gold medal in Huguette Déat's class. Soon after, his love for chamber music lead him to found the Hölderlin Quartet, whilst training with the Isaye Quartet. He finished his studies with Margarita Karafilova at the Lausanne Conservatoire in Switzerland where he was awarded an outstanding virtuoso first prize. He became member of the European Union of Chamber Orchestra from 1996 to 2000 with performances on a worldwide scale (Germany, Brazil, Italy, Great Britain, Middle East and Asia). He plays in the most prestigious parisian symphonies and with different ensembles including

Harmonia Nova or Le Banquet where he is the soloist, as well as the Pelléas Chamber Orchestra and the 2E2M ensemble. He is the solo violinist and musical director of the Classik Ensemble since 2009. David Braccini is a member of the Orchestre de Paris since april 2008.

Vincent PASQUIER (contrebasse)



Vincent Pasquier is a double bass soloist for the Paris Orchestra, professor at the Paris CRR, concertist and composer. He has been awarded double bass first prize at the National Music Conservatoire of Paris studying with Jean-Marc Rollez. He has been awarded International Performance prizes in Geneva in 1983, Markneunkirchen in 1985 and Reims in 1988. He has played recitals and « Masters Classes » in Finland, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Italy, North Korea, the United States and France. He regularly appears with Gilles Apap, Christian Zacharias, Augustin Dumay, Maria Jao Pires, Gérard Caussé, Raphaël Oleg, Vadim Répin, Schlomo Mintz, Jean François Heisser, Brigitte Engerer, the Wanderer trio, the Cherubini, Ysaÿe

and Sine Nomine quartets, the Paris Bastille octet, Michel Portal, Christian Rivet and Laurent Korcia. A solo CD released by Maguelone of Franz Schubert's Arpeggione sonata, Fryba and Kodaly. A CD released by Auvidis of «The History of Soldier» of Stravinsky featuring Gérard Depardieu, Carole Bouquet, Schlomo Mintz and Pascal Moragues.



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