

O VILANELLA

Influences of Italian Renaissance popular music

Originating in Naples, the villanelle emerged in the 16th century and embodies the influence of folk music on so-called classical music, giving Italian music a rhythmic complexity and melodic purity that can be found in the canzonette and madrigal, and later in opera.

The boundary between classical and popular music was indeed more blurred during the Renaissance, both in Italy and elsewhere in Europe, as was the case with religious and secular music. What we consider to be distinct genres today were more easily intertwined, and the artistic links and interactions between the court, the street and the church were tremendously dynamic.

Continuing to explore the relationships between music and musicians from seemingly opposite worlds, L'Achéron sets out here to highlight the folk roots of Italian Renaissance and Baroque music: from Naples to Rome, Florence and Venice, from Giovanni Domenico da Nola to Girolamo Frescobaldi, Johannes Hieronimus Kapsperger, Giovanni Pierluigi Palestrina and Claudio Monteverdi, the apparent simplicity, rural lyricism and galvanising strophic form will naturally echo the popular music of today.



Se l'aura spira

4 or 6 musicians



Céline Scheen, soprano

Thanks to the support of the Philippart Foundation, Céline Scheen completed her training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London with Vera Rosza. Céline Scheen sings at the most prestigious festivals and venues, under the baton of renowned conductors. A lover of early music and its diversity, she chooses to focus on concerts, with a repertoire ranging mainly from Renaissance madrigals to the late Baroque period.

Céline Scheen enjoys a special collaboration with Le Banquet Céleste, conducted by Damien Guillon, with whom she has recorded several albums, including Bach's Psalm 51 BWV 1083 (2016), Affetti amorosi, dedicated to G. Frescobaldi, and Trinitatis (2023), dedicated to the cantatas of J.S. Bach. A loyal partner of Christina Pluhar, she sings with L'Arpeggiata in a series of concerts in Europe, the United States and Asia. Passionate about the convergence of the arts, she has enjoyed collaborations with, among others, the contemporary ballet company Pina Bausch, shared the stage at La Cigale with DJ Arnaud Rebotini, and in 2024 will take part in a new creation by choreographer Alban Richard, Come kiss me now.