

Trio pour violon, violoncelle et piano

French composer Jacques Leguerney (1906-1997) has been recognized for his outstanding oeuvre of songs for voice and piano, mostly composed upon poems of the French poets of the Pleiade. After his death, the Leguerney Estate decided to allow the publication of his instrumental chamber music. These works, many of which were written in his early years, are valuable contributions to the French chamber music repertoire, representing the 20th century from its early years through World War II.

This *Trio* was composed in 1928, but not performed until December 3, 1932. The respected French musicians Hortense de Sampigny (violinist) and Jacques Serres (cellist) gave its first and, as far as we know, only performance along with Leguerney's friend and mentor, Thérèse Cahen, at the piano. The concert including this work was organized by the *Société Musicale Indépendante* at the concert hall of the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris. A review, in the *Journal des débats*, reads:

"We do not know this composer. Judging from his composition, whose variegated style reminds us of [Cesar] Franck, of Maurice Ravel and of Spanish dances, he must be quite young."

The same month as this performance, Leguerney's father, Marcel Leguerney, died. At this point, he interrupted his musical activity in order to take over his father's business to support his mother and sister. He was not able to resume musical composition until 1940, when the outbreak of the war led him to close the business.

This edition is based upon two autograph manuscript sources of the full score, as well as copyist's parts for the violin and 'cello. His first completed sketch as well as his final copy are in the Leguerney archives. The parts, made by a copyist, were obviously used for a performance, and contain suggested phrasing, as well as bowings (which we have not reproduced). We surmise that the violin and 'cello parts were used for the first performance. We also think that Thérèse Cahen must have kept her piano score, as the copyist's score of it was not found with the other parts.

We have added rehearsal numbers, and corrected a few notational mistakes in the manuscript.

We would like to thank Jean Libermann, cellist, and Marion Larigaudrie, violinist, for their advice in the preparation of this edition.

Trio pour violon, violoncelle et piano

Le compositeur français Jacques Leguerney (1906-1997) est surtout connu pour ses mélodies pour voix et piano, pour la plupart composées sur les poèmes de la Pléiade. Après la mort du compositeur, la succession Leguerney a décidé d'autoriser l'édition de sa musique de chambre. Ces œuvres, dont beaucoup ont été composées pendant la jeunesse du compositeur, sont des illustrations du répertoire de la musique française de la première moitié du 20^{ème} siècle.

Ce *Trio*, composé en 1928, est créé le 3 décembre 1932. Les musiciens illustres pour cette création (unique audition à notre connaissance) étaient la violoniste Hortense de Sampigny, Jacques Serres (violoncelliste) et la pianiste Thérèse Cahen (amie et mentor du compositeur). Ce concert, organisé par la *Société Musicale Indépendante* à la salle de concert de l'École Normale de Musique à Paris, a reçu une notice dans le *Journal des débats* :

«...Nous ne connaissons pas cet auteur. A en juger par sa composition, dont le style bigarré rappelle celui de Franck, de M. Ravel et des danses espagnoles, il doit être fort jeune.... »

C'est dans le mois même où eut lieu ce concert, que mourut le père du compositeur, Marcel Leguerney. Leguerney se voit contraint d'interrompre ses activités musicales pour diriger la société familiale et ainsi faire vivre sa mère et sa soeur. Il ne recommencera de composer qu'en 1940, quand la Guerre le force à fermer cette société.

Cette édition est basée sur deux manuscrits-autographes, ainsi que sur le matériel pour violon et violoncelle. Le manuscrit brouillon achevé ainsi que le manuscrit terminé sont dans les archives Leguerney. Le matériel, peut-être effectué par un copyiste, a été annoté pour l'interprétation et contient des indications de phrasé, ainsi que des indications d'archets (que nous n'avons pas reproduites). Nous imaginons que ce matériel a été utilisé pour la première audition. Nous pensons également que Thérèse Cahen a probablement gardé l'exemplaire du copyiste de la partition pour piano, car cet exemplaire n'a pas été retrouvé avec le reste du matériel.

Nous avons ajouté des numéros de répétition ainsi que corrigé quelques oublis de notation dans le manuscrit.

Nous voulons remercier Jean Libermann, violoncelliste, et Marion Larigaudrie, violiniste, pour leur conseils dans la préparation de cette édition.

Mary Dibbern, appointed Head of Music for the Minnesota Opera starting in 2009, has worked internationally as a collaborative pianist and vocal coach since 1978. She has worked for all of the major French opera companies, as well as numerous North American, European and Asian venues. She is an accomplished master class teacher and advisor for emerging classical vocalists. Her recital recordings include *Mélodies de Jacques Leguerney* (Claves), winner of a Grand Prix de Disque: *Offenbach au Menu* (Maguelone); and *Mélodies de Jacques Leguerney, Vols I and II* (Harmonia Mundi France). She worked with Jacques Leguerney for nineteen years, encouraging him to allow the performance of his yet unpublished scores. She continues this important work in collaboration with Musik Fabrik as the musical expert representing the Leguerney Estate.

Mary Dibbern, nommée “Head of Music” à l’Opéra de Minnesota à partir de 2009, est chef de chant et pianiste-accompagnatrice, ayant travaillé pour toutes les compagnies d’opéra françaises les plus importantes, ainsi que de nombreuses compagnies d’opéra en Amérique du Nord, Europe et Asie. Elle a également une grande expérience des masterclasses et des conseils pour les jeunes artistes lyriques. Parmi ses enregistrements on peut citer *Mélodies de Jacques Leguerney* (Claves), Lauréat du Grand Prix de Disque; *Offenbach au Menu* (Maguelone); et *Mélodies de Jacques Leguerney, Vols I et II* (Harmonia Mundi France). Elle a travaillé avec Jacques Leguerney pendant dix-neuf ans, l’encourageant à permettre la programmation de ses œuvres inédites. Elle continue ce travail important en collaboration avec Musik Fabrik comme expert musical représentant la succession Leguerney.

References/Sources :

Mary Dibbern, Carol Kimball, Patrick Choukroun. *Interpreting the Songs of Jacques Leguerney: A Guide for Study and Performance*, Pendragon Press. Vox Musicae: The Voice, Vocal Pedagogy, and Song, No. 3. Hillsdale, NY: 2001.

Patrick Choukroun: Jacques Leguerney ou La Célébration de la mélodie française, Nouveau Doctorat de musicologie, Volume I, Université de Paris IV-Sorbonne, U.F.R. de musique et musicologie, 1995.

Durée totale/total duration:
12'45"

Trio

pour Violon, Violoncelle et Piano

I.

Jacques Leguerney

Sans lenteur mais d'une expression tendre

♩ = 110

Violon

Violoncello

Piano

mf

mf

Sans lenteur mais d'une expression tendre

♩ = 110

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p

p

Jacques Leguerney : *Trio* pour Violon, Violoncelle et Piano

2
10

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

10

f

f

f

The image shows a musical score for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The score is written for measures 10 through 14. The Violin part starts with a whole rest in measure 10, followed by a half note G4, a half note F#4, and a half note E4 in measure 11. The Viola part starts with a whole rest in measure 10, followed by a half note G3, a half note F#3, and a half note E3 in measure 11. The Piano part starts with a whole rest in measure 10, followed by a half note G3, a half note F#3, and a half note E3 in measure 11. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *fz* (forzando). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vc.) staves, measures 15-18. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 15 starts with a treble clef and a key signature change to two flats. The Violin part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 15-16 and a fermata in measure 17. The Viola part has a similar melodic line. Both parts are marked *pp* (pianissimo). A box with the number '2' is above the first measure of the Violin staff in measure 17.

Piano accompaniment for the first system of 'The Swan'. The score is written for piano (Pno.) and features a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The first system consists of two staves. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a quarter note Bb3, followed by a quarter note A3, and then a half note G3. The music continues with various chords and melodic lines in both hands.