

A photograph of a man and a woman performing in a room with stone walls. The man, on the left, is wearing a black shirt with white polka dots and red pants, singing with his head tilted back. The woman, on the right, is wearing a black top and is seated at a piano, smiling. The background is a rustic stone wall with a warm, yellowish light.

CABARET **SIMEON**

« L'AMOUR N'Y A QU'ÇA D'VRAI »



CABARET **SIMEON**

« L'AMOUR N'Y A QU'ÇA D'VRAI »

For a poet to write songs, nothing surprising in that, is there?

If there is not always poetry in songs,

There is always song in poems,

And let's not forget that until the sixteenth century,

Poems were never thought of without music.

There is also the more recent tradition of poet-lyricists of the last century :

from Carco to MacOrlan, from Desnos to Prévert, from Vian to Andrée Chedid ...

If for awhile the link was stretched thin, the song losing its voice and the poem its rhythm, this was only temporarily. There are still a thousand creative pathways open to the poet, the musician, the singer.

The Cabaret by Isabelle Serrand and Wolfgang Pissors is one of those paths, along which I have accompanied them with enthusiasm.

They are to my mind great artists, who resort neither to ostentation nor showy tricks; they have qualities which are more rare : the truth and generosity of their convictions, their concern first and foremost for technical mastery, and - soul, for god's sake : the soul which is so lacking in so many «productions »!

Their cabaret is a microcosm of emotions : joy, seriousness and melancholy mingled, that little world of lost dreams and desires which each one of us carries within.

JP Siméon June 9, 2015

The Cabaret

The subject : today's man and woman, in the city : those who live in the street, jostle one another in the subway; those who love, be they young or old ... Love, in all its forms, is the theme; moving from humourous to tragic, from laughter to nostalgia.

After having long sung the repertory of 1930's and post-war poetry, Wolfgang Pissors and Isabelle Serrand wanted to create a show around the work of a contemporary author, deeply rooted in today's world. Thus was born the « Cabaret Siméon ... », the fruit of an encounter of three artists : author, composer, and singer.

All the lyrics are by Jean-Pierre Siméon, poet, playwright and sometimes-lyricist for the musical genre of which he is particularly fond : the song, a form which is deep, simple and direct. The texts were set to music by Isabelle Serrand, for Wolfgang Pissors.

The staging

Today more than ever, we - audience and performers - need this essential moment of exchanging, sharing which is live stage performance, with music and poetry, in that intimate space where words, song, piano meld together, unfiltered, unadulterated - and draw us together as well.

Bringing to life these brief moments of existence, linking them through music, expressing all the tenderness and humor of Jean-Pierre Siméon's texts, involves a true complicity between the performers, a deep mutual awareness and desire to make the audience a necessary partner, to be included in this complicity.

As far as there is « staging », it is mostly via the poetic and musical structure and its embodiment, pared down as to bring to the fore the body in song, in speech, in play, in dance. This is not a recital, or a nightclub act, but more a flowing, near-improvised stroll, alone or in duet, nocturnal and solitary or among the madding crowd ...

The piano enables the passage from the most expressive melody to percussive chords, with a carnival atmosphere, with here and there moments of hiatus that break with the recited rhythm of the text.

W.P et I.S

Text excerpts

Le moustique pique
la sangsue suce
le croco croque
et le chat chasse
tout décidément menace
et toi tu m'enlances
chéri
et toi tu m'embrasses
merci
l'amour n'ya qu'ça d'vrai...
from «l'amour n'ya qu'ça d'vrai...»

...Prends-moi prends-moi dans tes bras
petite fleur de misère
ta douceur c'est mes draps
l'oasis dans l'désert
dans le froid de la rue
petite fleur de détresse
c'est pas le froid qui tue
c'est le manque de tendresse
faut s'serrer bien fort
petite soeur du malheur
contr'le vent qui dévore
celui qui dévore le coeur...
from «Petite fleur de misère»

...Ah qu'ils sont mous
mais qu'ils sont mous mous mous mou les gens
et comme ils collent
aux dents de la vie
les gens
mous mous mous mous
ah qu'ils sont mous mais qu'ils sont mous caramel mou
from «Caramel mou»

ISABELLE SERRAND

Pianist and composer

TRAINING

- Instrumental and vocal :

Classical Piano with Pierre Pontier, CNSM de Lyon; Hélène Boschi, CNSM de Strasbourg; Ruth Friedenson, Ecole normale de Paris ; from 1974 to 1988.

Improvisation, harmony and counterpoint with Yvonne Desportes, 1976-1977.

Vocal training and choral direction with Philippe Caillard, 1982.

Vocal jazz with Laurence Saltiel, 2000-2004.

- University :

DEA (post-master's degree) 20th century Musicology, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales Ircam (Analysis of contemporary operas : P.Hersant, P.Dusapin, G.Pesson, 1994)

EXPERIENCE

Pianist-accompanist for theatre, based on texts by Roland Dubillard :

- Paternelle I, directed by S. Kalfa (Festival des langagières de Reims, 2001, espace Kiron, 2002).
- Paternelle II (théâtre Kleber Méleau de Lausanne, 2003, théâtre du Rond-Point 2004).
- Comme un bouchon (Avignon Festival 2004, Lucernaire, 2006), with Ariane Dubillard et Simon Bakouche

Pianist-accompanist for musical theatre :

- Cabaret Siméon (created 2015), with Wolfgang Pissors
- Zusammen*Ensemble, with Wolfgang Pissors, Cité universitaire de Paris, Galerie végétale de Paris, Tавannes Festival (2011), Goethe Institute (January 2013), tournée en Allemagne (de janvier à juin 2013).
- Les Zoizeaux, with Ariane Dubillard (Péniche-opéra, 2009, théâtre Kleber-Méleau de Lausanne, 2010, Théâtre 13 de Paris, 2010).

COMPOSER

- For the theatre :

- Beyond her participation in the theatrical works (see above) as pianist and composer, Isabelle Serrand has written the music for « Diablogues de sourds », Théâtre de la Huchette (1990), Dedans notre maison, théâtre de la Bastille (1995), Cabaret Dubillard, Maison de la poésie (1998).
- For Mime Marceau and his company, she composed the original instrumental music for the mime work Chapeau melon (Espace Cardin (1998), with François Raubert for the orchestration).
 - For the Théâtre de la jeune lune Theatre Company : theatre music (1984-1988).

- For the cinéma :

- Music for feature-length film « Spolecnice » by Anna Vovsova et Zuzana Zemanova (Prague, télévision, 2000).
- Music for seven episodes of « Josef a Ly » by A.Vovsova et Z. Zemanova (Prague, télévision, 2003).

- Songs :

- Cabaret Siméon (création: April 2015) based on texts by Jean-Pierre Siméon.
Creations of songs for two voices : 2nd Prize, City of Paris (1984).

- For musical theatre :

- L'Escalier (Creation 2016), libretto and score, for soloists, choir and instrumental ensemble.

www.isabelleserrand.com

musiquevivante@yahoo.fr

WOLFGANG PISSORS

Actor, singer

TRAINING

- Cours Simon, Paris under the direction of Rosine Margat and Chantal Brière; 1990 - 1993.
- Conservatoire Frédéric Chopin (15th district, Paris), lyric workshop under the direction of Claude Allard; 1996 - 2001.
- Voice and movement training, with Zygmunt Molik.
- Meyerhold workshop, under the direction of Gennadi Bogdanov, director-founder, Moscow School of Theatrical Biomechanics.
- Musical training, Centre d'art polyphonique, Paris.

EXPERIENCE

- Theatre :

- Under the direction of Nicolas Liautard :
 - « Il faut toujours terminer qu'est ce qu'on a commencé » (Le Mépris) Théâtre de la Colline, Paris (2015), Théâtre de Lorient, Centre Dramatique National (2015).
- Under the direction of Christian Schiaretti :
 - dans «l'Opéra de Quat'Sous» (création TNP 2005 Théâtre de la Colline 2006),
 - «Ervart ou les derniers jours» by Frédéric Nietzsche (2006), operetta «La Créole» by Jacques Offenbach 2009.

Has also performed regularly for many years as an actor and singer in the multidisciplinary shows of choreographer Myriam Dooze : «Les trois Ecus d'Or», «Hé Eau», «Juste Ciel», «Hummm», «Le Jardin où Poussent les Etoiles de la Chance», «Vivio»(création 2015)

- Cinéma :

Films and telefilms for the following directors :

- Woody Allen, Philippe Bérenger, Luc Besson, Joyce Bunuel, Paul Cowan, Stephen Frears, Robert Guédiguian, Caroline Huppert, Claude Lelouch, Jean-Paul Rappeneau, Jérôme Salle.

Songs, sung poetry, musical theatre :

- Creation of musical theatre piece «Zusammen*Ensemble», with pianist and composer Isabelle Serrand, chosen in 2013 for performance as part of the festivities marking the 50th anniversary of the Elysée Treaty. (Tours in France and Germany, January - June 2013).
- Cabaret Siméon, creation based on texts by Jean-Pierre Siméon, April 2015.
- L'Escalier, creation of musical theatre piece ; projected date : end 2016.

www.wolfgang-pissors.com