



We need to talk / Il faut qu'on parle !

with Noémi Boutin and Matthew Sharp, cellos

Lemon Tree, Aberdeen

Saturday 26th October, 7pm

Programme

Frédéric Pattar	<i>Around Agôn</i> (world premiere)
Laura Bowler	<i>Two Cellos</i> (world premiere)

*"We Need to Talk/ Il faut qu'on parle" is a project co-commissioned and co-produced by: Cie Frotter | Frapper - Noémi Boutin, **sound** and Centre International des Musiques Nomades, Grenoble*

Lighting design by Simon Gane (Red SG Productions)

Programme notes

Frédéric Pattar *Around Agôn*

Around Agôn represents the idea of a joust in four distinct movements.

It is an imaginary dual not only between two musicians, but also between two languages and two poets (Blake and Rimbaud), and an internal dual between the instrumentalist and his/her relationship with their own voice. In some ways it is about rediscovering that which seems extremely familiar, like the American novelist Gertrud Stein when living in France re-invented her own language as if it were a foreign language.

Around Agôn attempts to explore ontology and tragedy through playfulness, humour and a certain lightness.

Frédéric Pattar, 2019

Laura Bowler *Two Cellos*

Two Cellos investigates the two performer's relationship with their instruments, each other and their culture. Using iconic texts from Shakespeare and Simone De Beauvoir, the work highlights the contemporary societal politics of Europe (including the UK). The work also draws on the explorations that Matthew, Noémi and I undertook in preparation from the project, and as a result is a work not simply composed for two vocalising cellists, but quite specifically for Matthew and Noémi.

Laura Bowler, 2019

Biographies

Frédéric Pattar was born 1969 in Dijon where he started studying music. He then went on to study electroacoustic music in Châlon-sur-Saône from 1989 to 1992, and continued his studies in Lyon from 1995-1998. In 1999 he began studying at IRCAM in Paris.

Among his prizes and awards is the 2005 composition prize from Fondation André Boucourechliev. His works have been commissioned by the Festival d'Automne à Paris, the Musée du Louvre and others and performed by renowned ensembles including Ensemble Intercontemporain, Accroche Note, Cairn, and the Manfred Quartet. His close collaboration with the ensemble L'Instant Donné resulted in several pieces created with the ensemble in mind.

Frédéric Pattar's compositions are for the most part chamber works, sometimes scored to include less conventional instruments such as Fender Rhodes piano or the zarb, a goblet-shaped Persian drum. The music is rhythmically flexible, at times quite lyrically melodic; at intensive dramatic highpoints, the lines coalesce into harmonic textures of unique brilliance and radiance.

Laura Bowler described as "a triple threat composer-performer-provocatrice" (Arts Desk-Premiere of FFF at Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival) is a composer, vocalist and Artistic Director specialising in theatre, multi-disciplinary work and opera. A professor of composition at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and at the Royal Northern College of Music, she is also the Founder and Artistic Director of Size Zero Opera, a company specialising in the creation and performance of contemporary opera.

She has been commissioned across the globe by ensembles and orchestras including the BBC Symphony Orchestra, ROH2, Opera Holland Park, The Opera Group, Manchester Camerata, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Quatuor Bozzini (Canada), Ensemble Phace (Austria) and Ensemble Linea (France), Zubin Kanga (Australia), among other groups both in the UK and abroad.

Noémi Boutin entered the Paris Conservatory at age 14. A winner of numerous competitions, she performs as a soloist, as a chamber musician and in several ensembles in venues and festivals across France as well as in Japan, China, Spain, Italy and other countries.

An artist of her time, Noémi has been recognised for her commitment to contemporary music. A champion of colourful and demanding compositions, she works closely with composers from a variety of musical backgrounds, including François Sarhan, Oxana Omelchuk, Aurélien Dumont, Misato Mochizuki, Magic Malik, Joëlle Léandre, Frédéric Pattar, Michael Jarrell, Frédéric Aurier, Jean-François Vrod and Jacques Rebotier. Passionate about unexpected musical adventures, Noémi Boutin has also shared the stage with circus artists, actors and jazz musicians.

In 2017, she released her first solo album, the cello suites of Britten recorded by NoMadMusic at the Arsenal de Metz.

Matthew Sharp described as a 'Virtuoso of the arts' (The Times) has performed worldwide as solo cellist, baritone, actor and director. His solo appearances include with the RPO, LPO, RLPO and CBSO. He has sung principal roles for Opera North and Royal Opera House and acted principal roles at the Young Vic and National Theatre Studio.

From Glastonbury to Glyndebourne, he has worked with an extraordinary spectrum of leading artists from Sir John Tavener to Marta Eggert to Dave McKean to Caryl Churchill. His own music and theatre works have toured to major festivals globally. He has given over sixty world premieres and recorded for Sony, EMI, Decca, Naxos, Somm, NMC, Avie and Whirlwind. (www.matthewsharp.net)

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