

A suite of suites...

Kebyart recital 2023-2024

Jean-Philippe **Rameau** (1683-1764)

Suite in E minor RCT 2 from Pièces de clavecin avec une méthode (1724), 19'

Arr. Kebyart Ensemble

Allemande

Courante

Gigue en rondeau I

Gigue en rondeau II

Le Rappel des Oiseaux

Rigaudon I - Rigaudon II et Double

Musette en rondeau. Tendrement

Tambourin

La Villageoise. Rondeau

TBD

New Commission for Saxophone Quartet (2023)

Maurice **Ravel** (1875-1937)

Le tombeau de Couperin (1914-17/1919), 26'

Arr. Kebyart Ensemble

Prélude

Fugue

Forlane

Menuet

Rigaudon

Tocatta

Jean **Françaix** (1912-1997)

Suite for Four Saxophones (1990), 17'

Prelude. Larghetto

Subito Presto

Scherzo

Larghetto

Piccolo Intermezzo alla Parigina

Finale

A suite of suites. This programme is articulated through suites by French composers: multidimensional works in which different characters, mainly dances, succeed each other, resulting in a kaleidoscope of emotions. *The Suite in E minor* by Rameau was published in the books *Pièces de Clavecin* and includes as its centrepiece an evocative "recollection of birds". Ravel paid homage to another of the great French Baroque composers, in this case François Couperin. Written during the course of the First World War, *Le Tombeau de Couperin* was dedicated to different friends who died during the war disaster. Jean Françaix's style was always marked by a great sense of wit and humour in his writing. In this *Suite* from 1990, his second work for saxophone quartet, that comic spirit is not lacking, nor is his playful vision of traditional harmony. To complete the programme, a commission from a living composer who can fit into this proposed musical framework will be presented.





Curriculum

Born in Barcelona, Kebyart is one of the most promising ensembles of the current music scene. These four talented musicians share an endless passion for chamber music and wish to bring fresh air in the way classical music is communicated. Their endeavour to transform their performances into a unique experience results in an explosive and vibrant staging, which has been praised by audiences and specialized critics. The distinctive signature of Kebyart is revealed in a creative and open approach to the repertoire, which goes in three directions: the original literature, the commitment with nowadays music and their own arrangements of wide variety styles.

Their glittering career has sparked the interest of the major concert halls in Europe and consequently they have been selected as ECHO Rising Stars for the 2021-22 season, crystallizing in their debut in more than a dozen venues and festivals such as Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Wiener Musikverein, Paris Philharmonie, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden... In addition, they have been touring in countries all around Europe and Asia being scheduled in the seasons of Wigmore Hall, Konzerthaus Berlin, Stadtcasino Basel, Schubertiáda Vilabertran, Palau de la Música Catalana, L'Auditori...

Their interpretations have secured them some of the most recognised European chamber music awards. Among them, the Orpheus Swiss Chamber Music Competition (Switzerland), the International Franz Cibulka Competition (Austria), and two of the most important prizes in their country: the Primer Palau, organised by Palau de la Música Catalana and the prestigious BBVA Chamber Music Prize. Additionally, from 2018 they are one of the European Chamber Music Academy (ECMA) groups.

Since its beginnings in 2014, Kebyart has searched for excellence through a never-ending interest in musical roots, being ESMUC (Barcelona) and Musik-Akademie (Basel) their two academic epicentres. This engagement with the message of music has led them to receive continuous tuition from some of the most renowned musicians and chamber groups such as Cuarteto Casals, Rainer Schmidt (Hagen Quartett), Hatto Beyerle (Alban Berg Quartett), Cuarteto Quiroga, bassoonist Sergio Azzolini, pianists Claudio Martínez-Mehner, Anton Kernjak and Kennedy Moretti, and saxophonist Nacho Gascón. Furthermore, in order to reach new horizons, they enrich the sonority of the saxophone quartet collaborating with outstanding artists like Dénes Várjon, Xavier Sabata and Albert Guinovart.

And where does their name come from? Explosive contrasts of tempi, dynamics and colours. These are the qualities of gamelan gong kebyar, a group of instruments that become a unity after a long time of collective practice. The unique virtuosity and energy of kebyar causes the ecstasy of Balinese community, emotions that the four saxophonists aim to bring to their audiences.

As ambassadors of the brands, Kebyart plays Selmer Paris saxophones and Vandoren accessories.

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