

# OPHELIE GAILLARD – Cello



« *Though on paper the music has an almost military precision, the supple, direct technique of the performer carries the listener through the movements with the fluidity of a mountain stream.* » ... could we read in the editorial published in the Diapason magazine of June 2011, (Ophélie Gaillard was awarded the Diapason d'Or for the Suites of Bach). The English Newspapers also underlined this appreciation. In August 2011, The Strad magazine wrote that "Gaillard was at the top " whereas in 2007 The Times already welcomed her "wizard fingering, big lyrical heart, and kaleidoscope of colors".

This brilliant Franco-Swiss musician embodies an insatiable curiosity, a taste for risk and an immoderate appetite for the whole of the concertante cello repertoire.

Voted "Revelation: Solo Instrumentalist of the Year" at the Victoires de la Musique Classique in 2003, she has since then appeared in recital at many prestigious venues.

Ophélie Gaillard is also a child of Baroque. From a very young age, she was specialized in the early and classical cellos and soon shared the stage with Christophe Rousset, Emmanuelle Haim and Amarillis. Then, in 2005, she founded Pulcinella, a collective of virtuosos with a passion for performance practice on period instruments.

Passionate by play and conduct experiences, her albums Vivaldi, Bach Arias, CPE Bach and Boccherini recorded with Pulcinella and soprano Sandrine Piau reaped excellent ratings and several awards.

3d prize at the Leipzig Bach International Competition in 1998, she recorded in 2000 Bach's complete Cello Suites for the Ambrosie label (Naïve) and enjoyed a great critical acclaim. She renewed that exploit in 2011, this time for the Aparté label, and received maximum ratings from Diapason, Strad magazine, etc.

Ophélie Gaillard also performs modern and contemporary works. She has made successful recordings of Britten's complete cello suites, is the dedicatee of

Pierre Bartholomée's *Oraison* as well as commissioner of several pieces by Philippe Hersant, Alexandros Markeas.

The Romantic repertoire is not neglected: she has successfully recorded the complete cello works of Schumann, Fauré, Chopin, Brahms and Richard Strauss.

She appears as a soloist with the Orchestre Symphonique de Bretagne, Orchestre de Cannes-Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur, the Polish Radio Orchestra (Gabriel Chmura), the Orchestre de Picardie (Edmon Colomer), the European Camerata, the Franz Liszt Orchestra of Budapest, the New Japan Philharmonic under the baton of Werner Andreas Alpert, the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse, the Romanian Radio Orchestra, the Czech National Symphony Orchestra (Strauss album), the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra as well as the Monte-Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of James Judd. Her album *Exils* with the Bloch's Schelomo and Korngold concerto recorded with the MCPO was highly acclaimed in 2017.

Her solo album *Dreams*, made with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the legendary Abbey Road Studios in London, proved to be a great public success.

A sought-after teacher, she regularly gives master classes in Europe, Asia and in Latin and Central America. She is invited as a member of the jury at International Cello competitions (ARD 2004-2019, Geneva 2020) and is a professor at the Haute Ecole de Musique of Geneva (HEM) since 2014.

She is regularly heard on radio (France Musique, France Culture, France Inter, Radio Classique, BR, Espace 2, BBC Radio 3) and often appears on television (France 2, Mezzo, Arte).

She worked with dancers as Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Damien Jalet, made a duo show with hiphop dancer Ibrahim Sissoko, and plays also regularly with traditional and pop musicians. In December 2015, her double-CD album *Alvorada*, blending 'highbrow' and popular Spanish and South-American music, won over a vast audience and was named a 'Star Recording' by The Strad magazine. After an extensiv tour in Latin America and Italy, a new album of bossa nova recorded live with brazilian singer Toquinho will be released on Fall 2019.

Ophélie Gaillard plays a cello by Francesco Goffriller (1737), generously loaned to her by CIC, and also a Flemish violoncello piccolo (anonymous).