

Duo Azar



Carl-Emmanuel Fisbach, saxophone
Wenjiao Wang, piano

Born to a bicultural French-South American artistic family, **Carl-Emmanuel Fisbach** has consistently sought to explore and expand the saxophone's repertoire. Above and beyond the more traditional works he performs as a soloist (Auvergne Orchestra, Ekaterinburg Philharmonic) and within the Denisov and Azar Duos, he collaborates regularly with composers and ensembles (Ensemble Intercontemporain, Red Note Ensemble) and is a member of the "Futurs composés" network dedicated to new music. He integrates transcriptions into his repertoire, including tango. This open and eclectic approach has led to invitations to perform in international festivals (Flâneries Musicales de Reims, Festival Archipel Geneva, Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, Suntory Hall Tokyo). His recordings feature Hispanic repertoire (Duo Azar, PAI Records, 2011) and new works for saxophone and cello (Denisov Duo, Meyer Foundation, 2014). A third CD for saxophone and percussion with original arrangements by Piazzolla and new works is released in 2016 (Tango Continuo, Paraty-Harmonia Mundi). Carl-Emmanuel Fisbach teaches at the Conservatories of the Paris 9th and 15th arrondissements, is a guest Professor at the Conservatoire of Lima, and has given master-classes throughout Europe, South America and Asia. A graduate of the Paris Conservatoire, he is a prize-winner in several national and international competitions.



Wenjiao Wang was born in China in 1985. At twelve, she was admitted at the Shenyang Conservatory of Music. In 1997, she was invited as a guest soloist with the Aiyue Symphony Orchestra of North-East China. In 2003, she began her international career in France. She studied at the National Superior Conservatory of Paris for Music and Dance where she obtained a Piano Master's Degree and a Master's Degree in Chamber Music. She is supported by the Safran Foundation and the Bonnat Museum of Saint-Jean-de-Luz (France). She is also the prize winner of the Alfred Reinhold Foundation. Wenjiao Wang regularly gives concerts as a soloist in France, Salle Gaveau, Salle Cortot, Grand Salon des Invalides, Cité de la Musique, Orsay Museum, Opéra Comique and abroad. In 2006, she was invited at the Festival Printemps des Arts of Monte-Carlo. In 2007, she performed during the Festival Musique sur Ciel for a concert broadcast live on France Musique. In 2008, she gave a recital in Thann in commemoration of the concert given by Frantz Liszt on July 6th 1845. The same year, she was invited to perform at the Festival Encuentro Internacional Arte Joven in Mexico. She performed in Argentina and Peru during a tour comprising several concerts on the presentation of her first album released in 2011 - PAI Records, Duo Azar, centered on Spanish music and Tango. In 2012, she was invited at Festival 1001 notes in the Limousin region (France) and gave a recital at the Festival du Périgord Noir. In December 2012, she performed a double concerto by Mozart with the Orchestre de l'Alliance at the Salle Gaveau in Paris.



It is not without reason that the musicians of Duo Azar chose this name in 2008. Play on words, language mixture ... This name recalls the duality between the fragility of music at the concert performance and the unique encounter between two sensitivities.

As an unusual chamber music formation, Duo Azar arouses the curiosity of the public at every concert. For eight years, both musicians have set themselves the permanent challenge to present new facets of their instruments. The saxophone, a chameleon instrument par excellence, still has unsuspected potential. Its precision, as well as its expressive features, places it exactly at the same level as the other instruments of the symphonic orchestra. The alloy of its tone with that of the piano, the latter being the best known of all classical instruments, opens up whole new possibilities of sounds, a breeding ground for innovation.

The first album “Albéniz, Ravel, Villa-Lobos, Piazzolla” of the Duo Azar discloses the identity of the two musicians. This ambivalent achievement demonstrates a strong desire to combine pleasure with high quality music. The repertoire of this recording, uplifting the musicians, is widely accessible to both specialized and general audiences. The Duo Azar presents the world premiere recording of Piazzolla’s Tango-Studies in its complete instrumentation, a new arrangement of the first book of Iberia by Albéniz, signed David Walter and Wenjiao Wang, and a fresh look at other unavoidable works.

The second album of Duo Azar includes works by Johann Sebastian Bach and Paul Hindemith. *The compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach and those of Paul Hindemith are highly complementary and make natural bedfellows on a recording. Simply and sincerely yet boldly and freely, the Duo Azar has juxtaposed transcriptions of two sonatas for flute and harpsichord by Bach with sonatas for oboe and piano and for horn (or saxophone) and piano and the rare Trio by Hindemith – for whom Bach was a source of inspiration.* © Serge Soufflard, Viola Soloist of the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris.



Bach & Hindemith
Label Paraty,
PIAS Harmonia Mundi, 2019



Duo Azar
PAI Records,
2011

Program suggestions:

Program 1 « Bach & Hindemith »:

Oboe Sonata, Paul Hindemith
I *Munter*
II *Sehrlangsam – Lebhaft –
Sehrlangsam, wiezuerst –
Wiederlebhaft*

*Sonate pour flûte et clavecin en mi
bémol majeur*, BWV 1031, Jean-
Sébastien Bach
I *Allegro moderato*
II *Siciliano*
III *Allegro*

Suite, Rudolph Holzmann
I *Preludio*
II *Arietta*
III *Intermezzo scherzoso*
IV *Alla Marcia*
V *Postludio (quasi Chorale)*

Sonate pour flûte et clavecin en la majeur, BWV
1032, Jean-Sébastien Bach
I *Vivace*
II *Largo e dolce*
III *Allegro*

Alto Horn Sonata, Paul Hindemith
I *Ruhigbewegt*
II *Lebhaft*
III *Sehrlangsam*
IV *Lebhaft*

Trio, Paul Hindemith (*featuring viola guest)
I *Solo, Sehrlbhaft, stürmisch – Arioso,
Sehrlangsam – Duett, Lebhaft*
II *Zweiter Teil: Potpourri. Schnelle Halbe –
Lebhaft. GanzeTakte – SchnelleHalbe –
Prestissimo*



Program 2 « Albéniz, Ravel, Villa-Lobos,
Piazzolla »:

Iberia, Livre I (arrangement D. Walter / W.
Wang), Isaac Albéniz
Evocación
El puerto
Corpus Christi en Sevilla

Sonatine, Maurice Ravel
I *Modéré*
II *Mouvement de menuet*
III *Animé*

Fantasia, Heitor Villa-Lobos
I *Animé*
II *Lent*
III *Très animé*

Six Tangos-Études, Astor Piazzolla
I *Décidé*
II *Anxieux et Rubato*
III *Molto Marcato e Energico*
IV *Lento meditativo*
V
VI *Avec anxiété*

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More program suggestions:

20th century French Music
Claude Debussy: *Rhapsodie*
Maurice Ravel: *Sonatine*
Francis Poulenc: *Sonate* (transcr. Oboe)
Olivier Messiaen: *Louange à l'éternité de Jésus* (from *Quatuor pour la fin du temps*)
Darius Milhaud: *Scaramouche*

20th century Russian Music
Ida Gotkovsky: *Variations Pathétiques*
Sergei Rachmaninoff: *Vocalise*
Marina Dranishnikova: *Poème* (transcr. Oboe)
Edison Denisov: *Sonate*

Schumann & Franck
Robert Schumann: *Romance; Adagio and Allegro*
César Franck: *Sonate en La Majeur*

Today's music
Philippe Leroux: *SPP*
Bruno Mantovani: *L'incandescence de la bruine*
Christian Lauba: *Stan*
Luis Naón: *Yendo*
Piet Swerts: *Klonos*

Historical saxophone
Jules Demersseman: *Fantaisie sur un thème original*
Hector Berlioz: *Chant sacré*
Hyacinthe Klozé: *Daniel, Fantaisie dramatique d'après Edgar Depas*
Jérôme Savari: *Fantaisie sur des motifs du Freischütz*
Jean-Baptiste Singelée: *Fantaisie*
Claude Debussy: *Rapsodie*

Legendes
André Caplet: *Légende*
Florent Schmitt: *Le songe de Coppélius ; Légende*
Claude Pascal: *Sonatine*
Claude Debussy: *Rapsodie*
André Caplet: *Impressions d'automne*

A trip between France & Germany
Claude Debussy: *Rhapsodie*
Paul Hindemith: *Sonate*
Florent Schmitt: *Légende Op. 66*
Erwin Schulhoff: *Hot-Sonata*
Darius Milhaud: *Scaramouche*

Cabaret 1930
Georges Gershwin: *Three Preludes*
Erwin Schulhoff: *Hot-Sonata*
Rudy Wiedoeft: *Valse Marilyn; Valse Vanité*
Jean Matitia: *Au bonheur des Dames; Devil's Rag*