

Quick info to help your listening

Prepare for a more active listening to the Klezmer meets Circus concert by learning more about the peculiarities of the program.

Origins of klezmer music



Boris Dubrov: "Lively Klezmer" (Oil on canvas)

Klezmer is a musical tradition developed by the Jews of Central and Eastern Europe (or Ashkenazi Jews).

According to musicology, this music takes probably its origins from Slavic and Gypsy music.

From this original musical ancestor, klezmer has grafted themes and musical structures adapted to Jewish communities and their religious life.

Klezmer has traditionally been popular music played in ceremonies (even sometimes Christian ones). Thus in the Jewish community of Eastern Europe, klezmer develops in parallel with classical music which is sometimes also chosen to guide the education of children in the Haskala movement influenced by the Age of Enlightenment instance. By bringing these two poles together in the same concert, our orchestra and Kleztory celebrate our oneness around the universal feelings conveyed by music.

Features of klezmer music

Klezmer music was originally used to liven up dances. The performances could last a very long time. Thus, the pieces are made of slower and faster sections to consider dancers' and musicians' fatigue. These changes of speed are part of the tradition. The pieces' structure often consist of a melancholy introduction that evolves into a frenzied dance. The finals are sometimes animated by spectacular accelerations

Typical instruments in the spotlight are mainly the clarinet and the violin. Other various instruments add a lively rhythmic base.

Video

Listen carefully

Video



During a monologue by Alina Ichmuratov, pay attention to this melancholy sounding instrument played by Airat Ichmouratov. The duclar or clarduk combines a clarinet mouthpiece with the tube and the bell of a traditional Armenian instrument called a duduk.



Kleztory and its influences

Celebrating 20 years of existence and having performed over 1,000 concerts, this klezmer-friendly group draws inspiration from the traditional repertoire and other musical styles to deliver an authentic sound. The influences of classical music and jazz also meet inspirations drawn from country, folk and blues.



About the program

The program showcases **Airat Ichmouratov's** prolific talent as a composer and orchestrator as much as his quality as a performer in his musical group.

The first piece ***One Day of an Almost Ordinary Life*** gives significant space to the I Musici string orchestra that accompanies this clarinet concerto.

For the other pieces in the concert, Kleztory comes on stage with a selection of his best hits. The musicians of the orchestra will support this uplifting energy.



A little bit of circus - The Straps

Wait for the piece ***Ajde Jano*** for a performance by Mathilde K. Richer in aerial straps, a circus discipline requiring spectacular brute force. This apparatus is generally made of 2 nylon or cotton ribbons wrapped around the artist's hands at its ends. Between an aerial ballet and a gymnastic performance, a strap act usually includes poses and postures held on the straps and swings in the air.

Consult the full program of the show