

The background is a dark blue astronomical chart. It features several thin, light blue lines representing celestial paths or constellation boundaries. Scattered across the chart are numerous small, circular star symbols, each with a yellow center and a brown, textured outer ring. In the upper-middle section, there is a small illustration of two figures in classical attire; one figure is holding a crescent moon. The title 'Ziethranometria' is written in a large, ornate, gold-colored font, with the first part being highly decorative and the second part in a more standard serif style.

Ziethranometria



Named after Johann Bayer's 1603 atlas of the constellations, the first inventory of the entire observable universe, the ensemble Uranometria was founded and is directed by Aleksandra Brzósowska and Félix Verry (violins). They share a passion for rediscovering and sharing unusual or little-known repertoires, and are particularly rigorous in their historical approach, aiming to restore as much as possible of the sound world of the late Renaissance and Baroque periods: specialised instruments for each period and appropriate instrumental technique, improvised ornamentation, etc.



Uranometria offers thematic programmes, always accompanied by explanations to make it easier for audiences to understand and familiarise themselves with these unusual repertoires. The variable-geometry ensemble is generally made up of musicians trained at the CNSMD in Lyon and the Schola Cantorum in Basel.

Programs

A Cabinet of Curiosities

The Cabinet of Curiosities is a perfect illustration of the various trends that emerged from the period between the Renaissance and the Age of Enlightenment: the development of scientific thought and knowledge, the interest in exoticism provoked by colonial expansion, and a taste for the occult and the unusual. Capricci and Quodlibets, imitations and parodies, musical riddles, carnivalesque fantasies and sonatas in stylus phantasticus make up a programme in the form of a cornucopia, a disparate collection of motley and picturesque objects. The concert is set on a stage where the musicians play around a table covered with objects typical of a cabinet of curiosities.

*Pieces by Biagio Marini, Johann Heinrich Schmelzer,
Marco Uccellini, Antonio Bertali, etc*

Musicians: 2 violins, viola da gamba, theorbo



The Corrupted Garden

Canons & musical riddles in instrumental music from the 17th century

Known today mainly for its use in nursery rhymes and popular songs, the canon is one of the principal compositional devices of the Renaissance. This program offers a selection of instrumental pieces from the following century that still use this compositional technique. Hidden away in books of apparently ordinary instrumental music or presented as a display of bravura in theoretical treatises, these games of musical deduction go far beyond the simple canon in the manner of *Frère Jacques*, mixing complex mathematical proportions, palindromes and mirrors, and esoteric references to ancient mythology or biblical texts. This “corrupted garden”, named after a sonata in the form of a musical labyrinth by Johann Erasmus Kindermann, is an invitation to discover music that may be cerebral but is always entertaining, where the order of the pieces is determined at random by a throw of the dice.

Musicians: 2 violins, viola da gamba, harpsichord

*Pièces by Giovanni Battista Vitali, Marco Uccellini,
Johann Theile, Johann Erasmus Kindermann, etc*



Listen to Félix Verry, the ensemble's co-director and violinist, speak about this program on the Métaclassique podcast (in french):

[>click here \(at 37 min\)<](#)

Programs for two violins

Uranometria offers various types of programs for two solo violins, suitable for small spaces that provide an intimate atmosphere and proximity to the audience.

The programs can focus either on late Renaissance and seventeenth-century music, or on the late Baroque period, with different instruments and playing techniques appropriate to the period in question.

Early Baroque program

*Canons and fantaisias by
Johann Vierdanck, Giuseppe
Giamberti, Thomas Morley,
etc*



Late Baroque Program

*Sonates and dances de Georg
Philipp Telemann, Jean-
Marie Leclair, Joseph
Bodin de Boismortier, etc*

We also offer these programs for two violins and in these two styles around the themes of Christmas and Easter.

Contact



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