

# THE POITOU-CHARENTES ORCHESTRA

The Poitou-Charentes Orchestra is a non-permanent one. It's composed of up to 70% of musicians teaching in the various academies of the area. The Orchestra has always worked according to the great principles of chamber music. A repertory perfectly adapted to its progression and great artistic rigour has allowed the Orchestra to reach a level of undeniable quality.

Since Jean-François HEISSER's arrival as Artistic Director in March 2000, the repertory of the Poitou-Charentes Orchestra has considerably widened, particularly with 20th century music, the great classic and contemporary pieces still present. Lastly, an increasingly important place is given to the Young Audience through specific programmes.

While the Poitou-Charentes Orchestra continues its mission within the four departments of the Region, it intends to travel beyond its borders and give new audiences and foreign countries an opportunity to discover its work.

## Jean-François HEISSER, THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Artistic Director Jean-François HEISSER, also a brilliant pianist, practises his skill as a soloist, or in association with chamber music ensembles on the greatest stages, in France and abroad. To the Orchestra, he transmits his taste for musical diversity. The programs and varied artistic experiences he initiated soon received unanimous support from both the musicians and the audience.

Just like his chosen instrument, Jean-François HEISSER experiences music in a polyphonic fashion : he plays the piano in solo recitals, in concertos with orchestra or in chamber formations, in counterpoint to his activities as a teacher and as an artistic director of festivals or orchestras.

His training at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris already bore the mark of this open-minded approach. As a student of the great Vlado Perlemuter, he complemented his Premier Prix in piano with top awards in chamber music, accompaniment and compositional technique. Successes at the international competitions of Vianna da Motta (Lisbon) and Jaén (Spain, where he received the first prize) won him the attention and esteem of such conductors as Dutoit, Conlon, Tilson Thomas, Krivine, Chung, Mehta, and Segerstam, and orchestras including the Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra.

His insatiable curiosity has made him an inspiring presence in concert seasons and festivals including La Roque-d'Anthéron, Saintes, Montreux, Kuhmo, Bratislava and Turin. His enthusiasm for Spanish music led him to a series of six recordings, now regarded as benchmark versions, of piano works by Falla, Albéniz, Granados, Mompou and Turina. He has also burned CDs of Schumann, Bartók, Beethoven, Debussy, and Dukas (Diapason d'Or of the year, selected by Télérama as one of the best recordings of the year).

His favourite musical partners are the Pražák, Lindsay and Ysaÿe Quartets, Marie-Josèphe Jude (in the piano duet repertoire), and Peter Csaba. He has performed the complete cycle of Beethoven concertos under the direction of Louis Langrée. In September 2002, at the « Piano aux Jacobins » festival in Toulouse, he gave Philippe Manoury's solo piano work La Ville in world premiere.

Since 1991, Jean François Heisser has taught at the CNSM in Paris, been president of the Académie Maurice Ravel in Saint-Jean de Luz, and devised the programmes for Les Soirées Musicales d'Arles. In 2000 he assumed the post of artistic director of the Orchestre Poitou-Charentes. His forthcoming recordings will be devoted to the Weber piano sonatas, the Brahms piano quartets with the Ysaÿe Quartet, and the same composer's complete works for two pianos with Marie-Josèphe Jude.

## OCTOBER11

MOZART Concerto for flute,  
harp and orchestra K.297c (299), in C major  
MAHLER Symphony n°4, G major,  
arranged by Erwin Stein BERLIOZ La mort de Cléopâtre

**Xu ZHONG – Conductor**  
Marie-Pierre LANGLAMET – Harp  
Tristan HAYOZ – Flute  
Nathalie GAUDEFROY – Soprano

Thursday October 13rd – ROUILLAC  
Friday October 14th – MARENNES  
Saturday October 15th – ROYAN

## NOVEMBER11

“Orchestres en fête”

PROKOFIEV Peter and the wolf op. 67  
DEBUSSY The toybox

**Jurjen HEMPEL – Conductor**  
Daniel MESGUICH – Solo

Tuesday November 22nd – LA ROCHELLE  
Thursday November 24th – LA TREMBLADE  
Friday November 25th – ROCHEFORT

## DECEMBER11

PROKOFIEV Peter and the wolf op. 67

**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor**  
Daniel MESGUICH – Solo

Saturday December 17th – POITIERS

## JANUARY12

Music in 1910

STRAUSS Der Rosenkavalier, waltzes, second sequence  
Alma MAHLER Waldseligkeit, Bei dir ist es traut,  
Die stille Stadt  
Gustav MAHLER Wo die schöne Trompeten blasen,  
Das irdische Leben  
Takénoni NEMOTO “Ce qu’a murmuré le vent d’est  
à l’oreille des arbres” for Mezzo and orchestra  
STRAVINSKI “Firebird”

**Jean-François VERDIER – Director**  
Marie LENORMAND - Mezzo-Soprano

Thursday January 12th – POITIERS  
Friday January 13rd – AIFFRES  
Saturday January 14th – MARENNES  
Sunday January 15th – ST MAIXENT

## FEBRUARY12

Spain

DE FALLA Concerto for harpsichord  
GERHARD “Don Quichotte’s dances”  
RODRIGO Concerto de Aranjuez  
Ernesto HALFFTER Sinfonietta  
DE FALLA “El amor brujo “

**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor**  
Olivier BAUMONT – Harpsichord  
Emmanuel ROSSFELDER – Guitar  
Antonia CONTRERAS – Cante Flamenco

Sunday February 19th – POITIERS – TAP

## MARCH12

Fondation de France’s project – Ecole de VERRIERES

**Ramon LAZKANO – Composer**  
**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor**  
OPC musicians

Saturday March 24th - VERRIERES

J. STRAUSS “Die Fledermaus”  
RAVEL “Oiseaux tristes” - extracted piece of “Miroirs”  
RAUTAVAARA “Concerto for birds”  
HAYDN Symphony n° 83, G minor “La Poule”  
ROSSINI “The thieving magpie”

**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor**

Thursday March 22nd – POITIERS  
Friday March 23rd – ROCHEFORT  
Sunday March 25th – CHATELAILLON

## MAY12

DEBUSSY, “Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune”  
Théodore DUBOIS, “Andante Cantabile”  
for violoncello and orchestra  
Concertant suit for piano, violoncello and orchestra  
SAINT-SAENS, “La Danse macabre “  
BIZET, “Carmen” suit n° 2

In partenership with the Palazzetto Bru Zane  
French romantic music center

**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor and piano**  
Mar COPPEY – Violoncello

Tuesday May 22nd – SAUJON  
Thursday May 24th – Festival de l’EPAU

BEETHOVEN Coriolan overture  
Concerto pour piano n°4 en sol majeur op. 58 and concerto n°5  
pour piano en mi bémol majeur op. 73 (Emperor)

**Jean-François HEISSER – Conductor and piano**

Tuesday May 29th – LIMOGES