





“Our work is only relevant  
when people tell us it is.”

Nina Simon, author

## Introduction

Following the whirlwind of emotions of the July 2024 season, the 2024-2025 season seems to have been synonymous with re-evaluation and concentration. With a total of 12 concerts, it was refreshing and musically important to recenter our forces: all the concerts this year have been with string ensembles of less than 15 musicians. As one of the musicians put it well, this “string camerata” feeling permitted us to open our ears and hearts even more to those around us, to concentrate on important technical and musical topics, and take Etesiane to a whole new level.

Personally, I found the results above any expectations, both humanly and musically. To name just one example, I remember vividly the first rehearsal of the tour repertoire in July 2025, when we read through the music. Even during the first reading, what was available to us as a “starting point” of our joint work was nothing short of other (international) orchestras or ensembles I’ve had the pleasure working with. Huge congratulations are deserved by all the musicians for having excelled to such a degree.

On an organisational side, we’ve been lucky to have the help of our trainee Manon D’Hermy during this season, and to continue receiving her help as production manager

for the upcoming season 2025-2026. Moreover, our second trainee, William Grynszpan also started his traineeship, as part of his master’s degree at the Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles.

Finally, no activity report of Etesiane could finish without thanking all supporters, on and off the podium. The list is long, starting with all the musicians who continue to believe in our mission and who give the best of themselves. Following with Cédric Hustinx and Denis Guerdon who gave us the opportunity to make the CD project a reality, under their record label Cypres. Moreover, all producer partners who wanted to share our music with their audiences, both in Brussels, Flanders, Wallonia, and France. Finally, everyone who joins in at a concert, talks about the project, and helps make it alive, and you, dear reader: thank you.

I feel humbled to witness the quality of the Etesiane orchestra and can’t wait to see what the next season will bring.

Brussels, 12 August 2025

*Gabriel Hollander*

Founder and music director of Etesiane



# Summary

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# Etesiane in a few words

So what is Etesiane and how does it stand out from other cultural organisations? What's the mission of Etesiane in the existing musical landscape?

Want to know more about Etesiane, the Belgian-based incubator of orchestral projects? Then read on.

1

We believe that happy people make the most inspiring music in the world. Hence, our primary emphasis is on the human element and connection during any Etesiane project.

2

We believe in flexibility and adaptability: thanks to a broad, international community of like-minded musicians, we are able to create orchestral projects of variable size, going from small string ensemble to symphonic orchestra.

3

We believe music is alive and full of energy, and composers of today are the same. That is why we ask contemporary composers to write pieces specifically for us and for our projects.

4

We believe the unknown is an opportunity for discovery and growth. That is why Etesiane focuses on the creation of project-based orchestras, bringing young professionals together during the span of one project.

# Etesiane in numbers

47 individual musicians and backstage/logistics participated in Etesiane projects in 2024-2025

12 concerts, in Brussels, Flanders, Wallonia and France in 2024-2025

2 world premieres by living composers in 2024-2025

904 musicians and soloists participated in Etesiane projects since 2021



# Closing concert at the Midis Minimes

29 August 2024, 30CC, Leuven  
30 August 2024, Conservatoire Royal of Bruxelles

What it meant for Etesiane to start the 2024-2025 season, was synonymous with the closing of the 2024 Midis Minimes festival series. We had the chance of performing two pieces of our Missa Brevis project in the grand hall of the Brussels Conservatory, in front (and behind) a packed

hall. Not less than 600 people attended this concert, and the room was so packed, that some sat on the podium as well.

The day before this concert in Brussels, we had the opportunity to have our Flemish debut during the Zomer van Sint-Pieters festival in Leuven.



## Distribution

### *Soloists*

Clara Inglese, soprano  
Julie Bailly, mezzo-soprano  
Maxime Jermann, tenor  
Leander Carlier, baritone

### *Violin 1*

Maritsa Ney  
Jérôme Lezaack  
Geneviève Ernould

### *Violin 2*

Pierre Vopat  
Mélina Wasson  
Hugo Ranilla

### *Cello*

Pierre Sutra  
Solène Beaudet

*Double bass*  
Natacha Save

### *Conductor*

Gabriel Hollander

## Musical program

Haydn: Missa Sancti Joannis de Deo, Hob.XXII:7

Mozart: Missa Brevis, KV 275



## Behind the scenes

We started our 2024-2025 season with quite an intense week. First of all, our soprano Clara Inglese was able to join us again (she had unfortunately to cancel her participation to the June 2025 project, part of the Midsummer Mozartiades festival). Hence, because of the slight change in team members, also in the strings, we needed to practice the program rapidly and efficiently.

Moreover, we took the opportunity during the rehearsal week to record a short video clip in the Studio Citygate in Anderlecht. This was an intense day of video recording, together with Ward Dhoore. These video clips are planned to be used as communication tools for the release of the Missa Brevis CD in May 2026.

Finally, thanks to the partnership between the Midis Minimes festival and the Zomer van Sint-Pieters festival, we received the opportunity to have our concert debut in Flanders, in the beautiful 30CC of Leuven. We appreciated that the programmer of the festival, Annick Dumalin, mentioned this anecdote to the Flemish audience of that day.

This intense week also implied for us working in 4 different locations during the 4-day long project. And probably, this element could be challenging for some, as on a logistical and organisational aspects, the musicians needed to rediscover their sound when being in the different locations.











# Recording of the CD

7-9 October 2024, Grand Manège, Namur

Even though 4 Etesiane musicians were part of the Unfolding CD, under the label of Trad Records, the recording of Etesiane's CD in October 2024 will become the first 100% Etesiane-produced CD. This achievement for the ensemble was possible thanks to the trust of the label Cypres and the CD comes in the line of the Missa

Brevis project. It features two short masses by Mozart and Haydn, as well as the recording premiere of Fiorini's Missa Brevis (which we premiered on 22 June 2024). The CD was recorded in the beautiful hall of the Grand Manège in Namur by Denis Guerdon and the artistic director for this project was Patrick Valls.

## Distribution

### Soloists

Clara Inglese, soprano  
Romane Cabaret, soprano  
Julie Bailly, mezzo-soprano  
Maxime Jermann, tenor  
Leander Carlier, baritone

### Violin 1

Maritsa Ney  
Geneviève Ernould  
Jérôme Lezaack

### Violin 2

Hiroaki Nagase  
Hugo Ranilla  
Méline Wasson

### Cello

Pierre Sutra  
Solène Beaudet

Double bass  
Natacha Save

### Conductor

Gabriel Hollander

Sound engineer  
Denis Guerdon

### Artistic director

Patrick Valls

## Musical program

Mozart: Missa Brevis, KV 65

Haydn: Missa Sancti Joannis de Deo, Hob.XXII:7

Fabian Fiorini: Missa Brevis (world premiere recording)



## Behind the scenes

For the recording of our CD, we welcomed Hiroaki Nagase for the first time during an Etesiane project. He led the second violins in the program for the CD.

Moreover, the soprano part is shared between Clara Inglese (for Mozart and Haydn) and Romane

Cabaret (for Fiorini), as both sopranos have a very different timbre — helpful for these different repertoires.

Finally, for anyone listening to the CD, there'll be a surprise: do send us a message when you have discovered it.









# Tsilogiannis' Missa Brevis

11 October 2024, Église Notre-Dame des Victoires au Sablon, Brussels

To finish off an intense week of recordings in Namur, we also played the opening concert of the 5th edition of the Lettres en Voix festival in Brussels. Moreover, the intimate setting of this concert in the beautiful church of Sablon in Brussels, was perfect to make the world premiere of the second commissioned missa brevis. This one, it was

Adrien Tsilogiannis who accepted the challenge of writing this new piece. We were delighted to witness the different approach of Tsilogiannis in his missa brevis, with respect to Fiorini's composition, which is on the CD.



## Distribution

### Soloists

Clara Inglese, soprano  
Julie Bailly, mezzo-soprano  
Maxime Jermann, tenor  
Leander Carlier, baritone

### Violin 1

Maritsa Ney  
Geneviève Ernould  
Jérôme Lezaack

### Violin 2

Hiroaki Nagase  
Hugo Ranilla  
Mélina Wasson

### Cello

Pierre Sutra  
Solène Beaudet

Double bass  
Natacha Save

### Conductor

Gabriel Hollander

## Behind the scenes

October being a month of potential (bad) flus, the orchestra had to study and practice rapidly Adrien Tsilogiannis' piece, without the composer himself. Luckily, the music is written in a clear way and the premiere was a success.

Playing this concert meant for the orchestra a 4th and last concert in 2024 of the missa brevis project. Next time we'll come back to this, will be during 2026 when we present the CD.



## Musical program

Mozart: Missa Brevis, KV 65

Haydn: Missa Sancti Joannis de Deo, Hob.XXII:7

Adrien Tsilogiannis: Missa Brevis (world premiere)





# Händel with Noucelles

23 March 2025, Eglise Saint-Etienne, Braine-L'Alleud

La Noucelles choir is one of the long-standing supporters of Etesiane projects. For this concert with La Noucelles, the program consisted entirely of music by Händel. After their large 2024 project (Great Mass in C minor of Mozart), setting up this Händel project seemed like a good moment

to focus on another type of music and ensemble. The orchestra had the possibility of playing a strings-only piece. So, we chose the beautiful Lullaby for strings by Gershwin, also existing for string quartet.



## Distribution

### Soloists

Itzel Devos, soprano

### Trumpet

Corentin Duveau  
Rachelle Petrowitch

### Violin 1

Jérôme Lezaack  
Célestine Duret  
Vera Plancarte  
Huamantalla

### Violin 2

Sana Boutaleb  
Andrés Manrique Bedoya  
Raphaël Grandpierre

### Viola

Lucía Alonso Hernández  
Ondine Simon

### Cello

Manon d'Hermey  
Déborah Coppin

### Double bass

Tina Zhao

### Assistant conductor

Mélusine Escande  
Yeram Choi  
Sarah Waterman

### Conductor

Gabriel Hollander

## Musical program

Handel: My Heart Is Inditing

Handel: The King Shall Rejoice

Handel: Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened

Gershwin: Lullaby for strings

Handel: L'Allegro, il Pensiero et il Moderato



## Behind the scenes

For this project, we were happy to invite Jérôme Lezaack for the first time as the konzertmeister of an Etesiane project. Moreover, a few other new faces joined the orchestra for the first time, in the violins, viola, and cello section.

In the longer run, this project was a great way to work on deep string sound, which will be needed during our summer tour.

Finally, inviting Itzel Devos to take the role of solo soprano was a great match, both on a human and musical level, with the orchestra, the choir and the public.







# Etesiane on tour

16 – 26 July 2024,  
Brussels, Belgium  
Savoie, France

For the second year in a row, Etesiane has been invited to tour in the Savoie region in France. This time, the orchestra played 6 concerts: 5 as string chamber orchestra and 1 chamber music concert. This project was a first opportunity to delve deep into the repertoire of string orchestra: previously, the orchestra

has been mostly engaged for symphonic repertoire. Also, going on tour in a smaller group than during the summer of 2024 (the orchestra consisted of 57 musicians), made it possible to create deep and meaningful relationships between the musicians, which we hope will last in the future.

## Distribution

### *Soloists*

Leonie Raß, violin  
Jérôme Lezaack, violin  
Lucía Alonso Hernández, viola  
Manon d’Hermy, cello  
Tina Zhao, double bass  
Georges Kiss, harpsichord  
Catherine Fournier, harpsichord  
Corinne Bétirac, harpsichord  
Anna Scolamiero, harpsichord

### *Clarinet*

Arthur Ferrand

### *Violin 1*

Leonie Raß  
Cristóbal Provoste  
Julie Syne  
William Grynszpan

### *Violin 2*

Jérôme Lezaack

Zowy Bahnen  
Dahud Le Meur

### *Viola*

Lucía Alonso Hernández  
David Dupouy

### *Cello*

Manon d’Hermy  
Déborah Coppin

### *Double bass*

Tina Zhao

### *Assistant conductor*

Hon Ning Cheung

### *Conductor*

Gabriel Hollander

## Musical program

Bach: Harpsichord Concerto, BWV 1057  
Bach: Concerto for 4 Harpsichords, BWV 1065  
Barber: Adagio for Strings  
Bottesini: Grande Allegro di Concerto “Alla Mendelssohn”  
Brahms: Clarinet Quintet, Op. 115  
Britten: Simple Symphony  
Bruch: Kol Nidrei  
Glazunov: Elegy for String Quartet, Op. 105  
Mendelssohn: Symphony for Strings No. 12  
Monti: Czardas  
Mozart: Adagio et Fugue (C minor)  
Mozart: Clarinet Quintet, KV 581  
Schubert: Arpeggione  
Sibelius: Impromptu for Strings  
Tchaikovsky: Serenade  
Vivaldi: Four Seasons (Summer)  
Williams: Indiana Jones Theme

## Behind the scenes

In this second international tour to Savoie in France, we wanted to give the opportunity to every section leader to choose their concerto piece. We found out that this was really appreciated by the public, as they could meet the musicians in different ways.

For this tour, we were happy to meet musicians of the 2024 edition once again, as well as introduce the project

to newcomers. The results, both on human and artistic levels, surpassed all expectations, and showed us how deeply meaningful playing music is for our musicians.

On an international level, 3 musicians came from abroad specifically for this project (The Netherlands and Austria), which allows musicians to share their experiences and ways of making music.





# Meeting familiar faces again and welcoming new ones

We began rehearsals on Wednesday 16 July in Brussels, welcoming 12 musicians, 1 assistant conductor and 1 photographer. With respect to the 2024 tour project, this group was certainly smaller and we chose a new venue to rehearse in: the Saint-Andrew's church in Ixelles, Brussels, where some of the musicians had previously rehearsed the October 2024 "missa brevis" project.

The orchestra started rehearsals with a first reading of Britten's simple

symphony. And what an energy sounded in the Saint-Andrews church: it was like the end of the 2024 tour just happened yesterday.



# Inviting Hon Ning Cheung, assistant conductor during the rehearsal period



For the first time, we opened applications for an assistant conductor via social media posts (Instagram and Facebook). Out of all applications, Hon Ning Cheung was chosen and arrived in Brussels coming

from Lucerne (Switzerland).

It was a pleasure for the orchestra to have Hon Ning in Brussels. She was present during all rehearsals and was able to connect with the musicians, both humanly as well as musically. Moreover, she received daily podium time to try out several pieces of the program. Finally, during the "pre-tour concert" of 19 July, Hon Ning conducted a portion of the concert in front of the Brussels audience.



# Welcoming back Homaar and the Brussels youth



On the second day of the rehearsals in Brussels, we welcomed for the second time the social organisation Homaar. Homaar is a place to grow for youngsters in need of help and support, and it uses techniques of art and music therapy in their work with young people.

During this second attempt, the Homaar youngsters were again fully submersed in the orchestra rehearsal during the afternoon. During the breaks, they were able to connect with the musicians and share their experiences.

This year, the three youngsters of Homaar were accompanied by Cynthia Janssens of Homaar and Margot Vercautter (intern). This renewed experience with Homaar is evidence of Etesiane's desire to create more durable links with social initiatives around the orchestra.





# New catering team for the rehearsals

This year, for the first time, we had the pleasure to invite the catering team Dumi, during the rehearsals in Brussels. What was originally planned as a “standard” catering service, rapidly became an interesting mix of synergies: the musicians were delighted to meet their cooks during the rehearsal period, and our cooks loved the live music they were hearing while cooking.

Moreover, even though Dumi had previously cooked many times for family and friends, this was their first occasion to cook as an “planned service” for a group they didn’t know before.

We’re happy to see new synergies created between the orchestra members and the world surrounding us. Creating and fostering these links is part of our mission.





## Concert in Macot

On Monday 21st of July, the Belgian National Day, the orchestra played its first concert of its tour in France in the beautiful Eglise de Macot. We started the concert with the 12th string symphony of Men-

delssohn, followed by Vivaldi's Summer (from the 4 seasons). On the solo violin was Jérôme Lezaack, leader of the second violins during this tour.

After Vivaldi, we continued with the well-known Adagio for strings by Barber, finishing the concert with Britten's Simple Symphony.



## Concert in Courchevel



The second concert of our tour was of great importance to the Fêtes musicales de Savoie festival, organiser of our tour: this concert was the 1000th concert of the festival.

To celebrate this achievement, the orchestra was hired to accompany the

music director of the festival, Georges Kiss, with his ensemble of 4 harpsichords in Bach's concerto BWV 1065. Before that, Bach's concerto for 1 harpsichord with 2 recorders was part of the first half.

To complement the program, we played Mozart's Adagio and fugue at the start of the concert and Bottesini's interesting composition Grande allegro di concerto "Alla Mendelssohn", based on Mendelssohn's violin concerto. However, Bottesini wrote the solo part for double bass, played by Tina Zhao.



## Chamber music concert in Valmorel

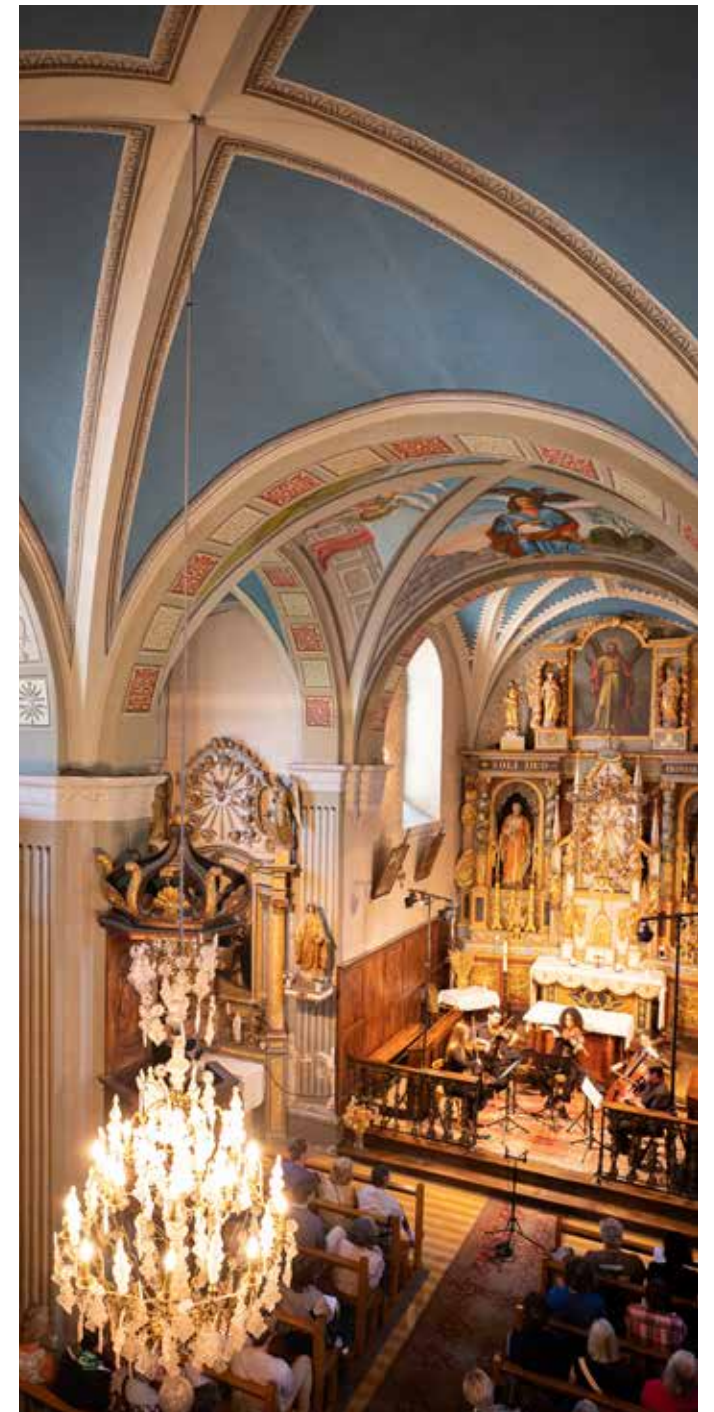


The third concert of our tour was somewhat special, as it allowed a small chamber music group to perform music for strings and clarinet. Arthur Ferrand, our photographer of the tour, swapped his camera for his clarinet and was accompanied by the string quartet consisting of Leonie Raß, Cristobal Provoste, Lucía Alonso Hernández and Déborah Coppin.

On the program, the musicians played two important clarinet quintets of the repertoire: Brahms and Mozart, and in between, the string quartet played Glazunov's Elegy for string quartet (op. 105).

The church of Avanchers-Valmorel on Wednesday 23 July was packed with an attentive crowd. And a perfect spot for a dog to take a nap.

On a personal note, the parents of our konzertmeister Leonie travelled to this concert and attended other concerts during the tour.





## Concert in Termignon



On Wednesday 23 July, the chamber musicians of the morning played a second concert with the rest of the orchestra in the beautiful church of Termignon.

Unfortunately, the fatigue of the musicians could slowly be felt: this was the third day after 4 intense rehearsals days in Brussels followed by a 14-hour long bus drive to France. Luckily, the orchestra could rest the following morning

and get back on track with their usual energy.

On the program of this 4th concert of the tour: the same Allegro and fugue of Mozart as the day before, Adagio for strings (Barber) and Mendelssohn (string symphony no. 12). Moreover, the program was completed with Sibelius' beautiful melodies of his Impromptu for strings and the string serenade by Tchaikovsky.

As with the other programs of this tour, we had a new soloist during this concert: Lucía Alonso Hernández who played an arrangement of Schubert's Arpeggione sonata with the orchestra. The public was so enthusiastic, that they applauded at the beginning of the development.

## Concert in Les Allues

On Thursday 24 July, the orchestra could rest in the morning: the musicians went either for a walk to a nearby mountain peak or to the cascade in Saint-Paul-sur-Isère. In the evening, with full energy restored, the musicians played in their 5th concert of the tour in the baroque church in Les Allues.

The program was similar to former concerts (Mendelssohn, Sibelius, Britten) and we added one more concertante piece: Bruch's Kol Nidrei for cello solo, played by Manon d'Hermey. Manon's interpretation was extremely well received: the packed church gave her and the orchestra a standing ovation.

The view into the valley next to the church gave the musicians the opportunity to take portrait photos (see the social media posts of the orchestra).



## Concert in Valmorel



For the 6th and last concert of the tour, on Friday 25 July, the orchestra went back to Valmorel (where the chamber music concert had taken place a few days earlier). What should have been an outdoor concert unfortunately had to be organised inside on account of the rapid weather change in the mountains.

We found ourselves in the cosy "Salle Rencontres Et Musiques" to play the final event of the Acousticîmes festival, organised in Valmorel, parallel to the Fêtes musicales de Savoie.

On the musical program, we played for the last time selections of the tour repertoire: Mozart, Britten, Sibelius

and Tchaikovsky. To finish off our 2025 tour, we chose Barber's Adagio for strings, which held the entire public in its intense emotions.

Moreover, the solo piece of our last concert was Monti's well-known Czardas for solo violin, played by our konzertmeister Leonie Raß. This was part of the huge success of this last concert: after the emotional ending and 2 encores called for by the public, all musicians hugged on stage and were ready to close their instrument bags.

The next day, we said goodbye to a few musicians staying in the mountain area and returned by bus to Brussels, Belgium.





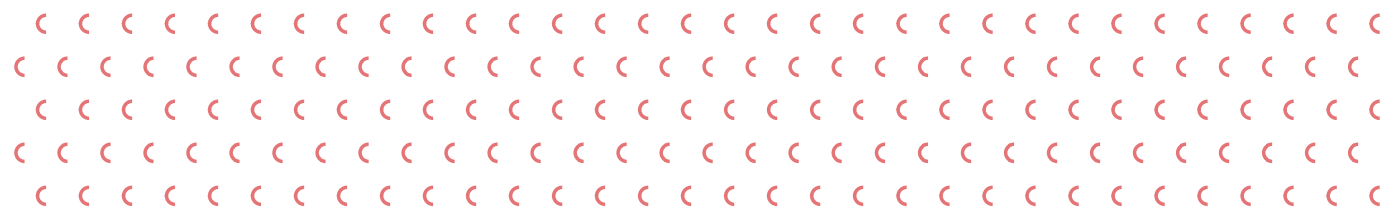




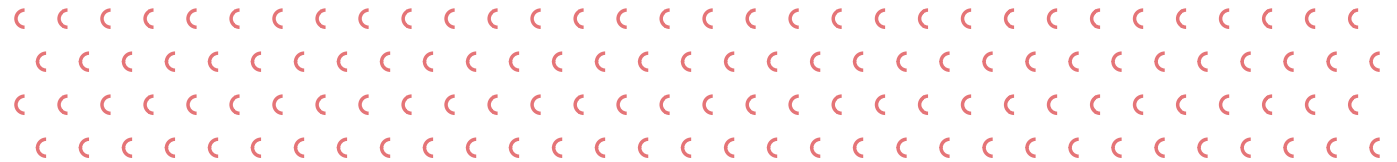
# Personnel involved in the Etesiane projects of 2024-2025

<i>Soloists</i> Anna Scolamiero, harpsichord Catherine Fournier, harpsichord Clara Inglese, soprano Corinne Bétirac, harpsichord Georges Kiss, harpsichord Itzel Devos, soprano Julie Bailly, mezzo-soprano Jérôme Lezaack, violin Leander Carlier, baritone Leonie Raß, violin Lucía Alonso Hernández, viola Manon d’Hermy, cello Maxime Jermann, tenor Romane Cabaret, soprano Tina Zhao, double bass	Hiroaki Nagase Hugo Ranilla Julie Syne Jérôme Lezaack* Leonie Raß* Maritsa Ney* Mélina Wasson Pierre Vopat Raphaël Grandpierre Sana Boutaleb Vera Plancarte Huamantalla William Grynszpan Zowy Bahnen  <i>Viola</i> David Dupouy Lucía Alonso Hernández Ondine Simon  <i>Cello</i> Déborah Coppin Manon d’Hermy Pierre Sutra Solène Beaudet  <i>Double bass</i> Natacha Save Tina Zhao  <i>Backstage</i> Arthur Ferrand	Cristóbal Provoste Dahud Le Meur David Dupouy Déborah Coppin Julie Syne Jérôme Lezaack Leonie Raß Lucía Alonso Hernández Manon d’Hermy Muriel Hollander William Grynszpan Zowy Bahnen  <i>Artistic director (CD project)</i> Patrick Valls  <i>Assistant conductor</i> Hon Ning Cheung Mélusine Escande Sarah Waterman Yeram Choi  <i>Conductor</i> Gabriel Hollander Jérôme Lezaack Leonie Raß  <i>Sound engineer</i> Denis Guerdon Nikos Leivaditis	<i>Photographer</i> Arthur Ferrand BRG George Sgouromallis Ilse Van Droogenbroeck Malou Van den Heuvel Mathias Mattéo  <i>Videographer</i> Nikos Leivaditis Ward Dhoore  <i>Communication</i> Arthur Ferrand Déborah Coppin  <i>Catering</i> Dumi
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# Institutional partners



**Culture.be**  
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# Summary of the 2024-2025 season activities

29 August 2024	Zomer van Sint-Pieter Festival 12h15 30CC, Leuven
30 August 2024	Closing concert at the Midis Minimes Festival 12h15 Conservatoire Royal of Bruxelles
7-9 October 2024	Recording of the CD Grand Manège, Namur
11 October 2024	Opening of the Lettres en Voix Festival 20h Église Notre-Dame des Victoires au Sablon, Brussels
23 March 2025	Händel with Noucelles 17h Eglise Saint-Etienne, Braine-L'Alleud
19 July 2025	Pre-tour concert 16h Saint-Andrews Church, Brussels
21 July 2025	Tour concert 1 21h Eglise de Macot, La Plagne
22 July 2025	Tour concert 2 21h Auditorium de Courchevel
23 July 2025	Tour concert 3 11h Eglise Sant-André des Avanchers-Valmorel
23 July 2025	Tour concert 4 28h30 Eglise Notre-Dame de l'Assomption, Termignon-Val-Cenis
24 July 2025	Tour concert 5 21h Eglise des Allues, Saint Martin
25 July 2025	Tour concert 6 18h Théâtre de Verdure de Valmorel





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