DUO VOCE HUMANA

Marie-Noëlle Cros et Franck Besingrand

Andante

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

from the motet "Hör mein Bitten" (1844)

voice & organ

Sortie in G minor (1858) Louis James Alfred Lefebure-Wely (1817-1870)

organ

O Salutaris Hostia (1855) Louis James Alfred Lefebure-Wely (1817-1870)

voice & organ

Pièce Héroique (1878) César Franck (1822-1890)

organ

Panis Angelicus César Franck (1822-1890)

from La Messe solennelle (1872)

voice & organ

Ave Maria Camille Saint-Saens (1835-1921)

voice & organ

Fourth Organ Symphony (Opus 13, 1872) Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

VI. Finale organ

Ave Maria (1877) Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

voice & organ

Impromptu Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

from Pièces de Fantaisie (1927)

organ

Hymne au Soleil Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

from Pièces de Fantaisie (1927)

organ

Les Angélus (Opus 57; 1929) **Louis Vierne** (1870-1937)

Au Matin - A Midi - Au soir

voice & organ

Eclairs d'Aube (1992) Franck Besingrand

In memoriam Jean Langlais

organ

The Holy City Stephen Adams (1841-1913)

voice & organ

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It was during a recital on the historic organ of Micot de Vabres-l'abbaye, in June 2011, that Marie-Noëlle Cros and Franck Besingrand decided to create Duo Voce Humana, combining the colours of the organ with the expressiveness of the human voice. Since then, Duo Voce Humana has performed extensively throughout France, presenting programs that touch the heart and move the human spirit. Constructed around themes such as Advent, Easter, Salve Regina, and Ave Maria, their programs are carefully chosen from a vast repertoire spanning the baroque to the 20th century.

Franck Besingrand pursued his musical studies at the Regional Conservatory of Toulouse where he obtained several honours, including the Composition Prize. A prizewinner at organ and composition competitions, several of his compositions have been published by Combre et Rubin. Besingrand performs in concert regularly in France, notably in Paris at Notre-Dame, la Madeleine, St. Roch, and St. Augustin, and at international organ fesivals in France such as Bordeaux, Toulouse, Bourges, Rouen, Le Mans, Albi, and Avignon. His international tours have taken him to Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Spain, and to Canada where he has performed several times in Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto. His large repertoire ranges from music of the baroque to symphonic and contemporary organ music. Among his six CDs, *Splendeur de l'orgue en fête au dix-huitième siècle*, recorded on the historic organ of Cintegabelle, received unanimous praise from the musical press. His most recent CD, *Louis Vierne: Clair Obscur* with soprano Marie-Noëlle Cros, is on the Hortus label.

Marie-Noëlle Cros began her musical career as a violinist. After fifteen years as an orchestral musician, her musical interests led her to voice. Within a short time, she was engaged as an oratorio soloist, performing a wide range of repertoire. She appears regularly in Parisian concerts at La Madeleine, St. Germain des Prés, St. Séverin, and le Cirque d'Hiver, as well as at festivals in France and Europe with the Amadeus Orchestra of Radio Poland, Minsk Opera, National Opera of Lithuania, Camerata of St. Petersburg, Orchestra of the Republican Guard, Opéra National de Lyon, and Opéra Régional de Cannes. In the field of baroque music, she has performed oratorios, recitals of opera airs and cantatas with numerous ensembles in France. Her discography includes the motets for soprano and orchestra by Vivaldi, the complete German Airs by Handel, the Requiems of Dvorak and Von Suppé, Honneger's Jeanne au Bucher, a CD dedicated to works for soprano, French horn and piano, and recordings of the complete collection of songs by Daniel Stirn and Henri Loche.