

## **duo b!z'art**

b!z'art or bizarre?

Endowed with a strong artistic personality, motivated by a constant search for cohesion and precision, this duo of pianists on 1 and 2 pianos (or rather a single person with 20 fingers?) is out of the ordinary and *déjà vu*...

Passionate and committed musicians, Geoffrey Baptiste and André Roe like to share their love of music wherever they can take it, with great simplicity and complicity with the public.

Every year, they make numerous tours across Europe (Scandinavia, the British Isles, the Baltic Republics, Slovenia, Croatia,...) as well as in China.

Influenced by their musical tastes ranging from romanticism to 20th century music, their concerts revolve around strong and original themes (An American in Paris, Aboard the Orient Express, Tales and Legends...) combining undisputed masterpieces with unjustly forgotten works.

Alongside these recitals, they also offer musical performances where the concert is lived as a "complete" experience, combining music, theatre and visual projection, during which they ensure that the spectator lives a passionate artistic story.

In addition, they attach great importance to sharing their passion with the young and regularly propose educational concerts for children, whether in partnership with cultural institutions (cultural centres, theatres, festivals, etc.) or directly in schools.

The duo b!z'art was founded in 2004 by André and Geoffrey after their studies, having met in the class of Professor Evgeny Moguilevsky at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels.

## **Geoffrey Baptiste**

Geoffrey has always been deeply attracted to ensemble music and the pleasure of communication it provides. That is why, as soon as he finished his studies at the Conservatories of Liège and Brussels, he decided with pianist André Roe to found the duo b!z'art.

At the same time, in 2006 he joined the Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège as an orchestral pianist and celesta player, with which he gives many concerts each year in Belgium and abroad. He also collaborates occasionally with other chamber music ensembles, as well as with the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra and the Zuidnederland Philharmonic.

In January 2010, he played the Fantasy on Polish Airs by F. Chopin, accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of Liège under the direction of François-Xavier Roth.

He is also a laureate of numerous competitions in Belgium, France and Italy, including the Dexia Classics competition where he was rewarded both in chamber music and piano soloist.

He also shares his passion for music as a piano teacher and accompanist at the Ourthe-Vesdre Amblève music academy in Remouchamps.

## **André Roe**

Born in a Belgian and English family, André graduated from the Royal Conservatories of Liège and Brussels (class of E. Moguilevsky), the « Koninglijk Conservatorium van Brussel » and the « Ecole Normale Alfred Cortot de Paris » (class of S. Markarov). He obtained numerous awards for young musicians in Belgium, France and Italy, including Dexia Classics as well as the Peleman's Prize awarded by the Belgian Composers Union for his interpretation of the national repertoire.

He shares his love of music with the public with the duo b!z'art, but also as an orchestral keyboard player. He has frequently collaborated with the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra, the Luxembourg Chamber Orchestra, the Liège Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, The Royal Air Force Music of Belgium, the Royal Opera Orchestra of Wallonia, The Lucilin Ensemble, the Solistes Européens Luxembourg.

He passes on his passion as an accompanist and piano teacher at the Ettelbruck Music Conservatory in Luxembourg, after having taught at the Royal Conservatories of Liège and Brussels as well as at the « Institut Supérieur de Musique et de Pédagogie » in Namur.