

Bois de Cologne

Historical harps, recorders, serpent, portative, fiddle and violin, not a common instrumentation - and a very vital one. Old-time music is not mimicked here, but lived: atmosphere, density without fuss. In the center the music itself: Music from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Early Baroque.

Bois de Cologne's music-making is characterized by a love of improvisation and experimentation: many of the old melodies not only require a careful, source-critical arrangement, but also an imaginative interpretation. To empathize with the music of bygone eras and to be inspired by it - these are important aspects of Bois de Cologne's work.

The instruments are excellent replicas of historical models. The Harp plays melody or continuo; the recorders, from the tiny sopranino to the (externally) edgy headhigh sub-bass, are air spirits, voices, tongue art and breath. The fidel, bordun-colored, gently in viola position. Bois de cologne, a wood that bears special fruits.

The ensemble consists of a core that can expand depending on the project. From the duo recorder / harp to the quartet, different constellations are possible. The trio variant with gothic fiddle / violin is particularly specialized in medieval music, the trio with two recorders and harp plays programs from early to high baroque.



Cologne

Ensemble Bois de

Programs

About tears, madness and humor

Ever since music is being documented, it has been the composers' attempt to express feelings. This sometimes happens only in a title, but also often through musical metaphors, such as the so-called "sigh motive", used in baroque music as an expression of sadness. In the different epochs there are various variations in the tonal language.

In this programme Bois de Cologne ensemble presents emotional music from five centuries, from the Middle Ages to the Baroque: with recorders, serpent, harps, fiddle, violin and a lovingly painted medieval portative. Guided by the moderation of the musicians, the listener experiences a journey of diverse feelings. Grief, love and sorrow, serenity, quiet and lively devoutness and pure joy of life, all this can be found in the compositions of Mattheis, Dowland, Falconieri, Chedeville, Baltzar and the anonymous works of the Middle Ages.

The varied instrumentation of the different pieces, from solo to trio, guarantees a colourful concert with tears, madness and humour...

Program Cast

Meike Herzig, Konstanze Jarczyk and Albrecht Maurer

Videos

Heaven on Earth



Already in an Indian writing from the 2nd century it says "The abode of music is heaven" with which music in itself would already be heaven on earth. The program of course explores further facets of the topic: for example the miracles of Mary on earth described in the Cantigas de Santa Maria, a description of heavenly Jerusalem, or in an anonymous Chaconne about the contrast of paradise and hell, and music that does not seem of this world as e.g. by Thomas Preston. Music from the Middle Ages to the Early Baroque, with small excursions into traditional music and improvisation. In short: A heavenly mixture that is not only played but also moderated by the musicians.

Some quotes from a review in the edition of 9.1.2016 in the "Generalanzeiger":

.. a thematically very beautifully arranged program between heaven and earth, which was musically extremely multifaceted.

... also in the numerous baroque pieces of the evening the extraordinary ingenuity of the musicians was evident, regarding both, the instrumentation of the pieces as well as their detailed interpretation.

... altogether... an exquisite program with excellent musicians.

Programme Cast

Meike Herzig, Cora Schmeiser, Konstanze Jarczyk and Stefan Horz

Clips

Douce Memoire (Ortiz)

Scarborough Fair

Se l'aura spira (Frescobaldi)

Time stands still (Dowland)

Stairway to Heaven

Zefiro torna (Monteverdi)

All'italiana

Information about this program will follow soon

Ensemble members

[Meike Herzig](#)



Recorders, serpent, portative

[Biography](#)

[Cora Schmeiser](#)



Voice

[Konstanze Jarczyk](#)



Historical Harps

www.konstanze-jarczyk.de

[Albrecht Maurer](#)



Violin and fiddle

[Katharina Hess](#)



Recorders

[Stefan Horz](#)



Harpsichord