



Amis du Festival Valloire baroque

Press release

September 10th 2011

The 2011 Festival Valloire Baroque: a vintage season!

August 2nd – August 11th

The second edition of the Festival Valloire Baroque will remain a landmark, owing to the very high quality of the performers invited to illustrate the season's theme: "Baroque music, from Italy to Germany". Amandine Beyer, Benoît Haller, or Marcel Ponseele, were among the most prestigious guests, together with Raquel Andueza, a soprano of outstanding class.

Ten concerts offered performances of the works of such great composers as Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann, Scarlatti... but also of the recently explored repertoire of lesser known musicians as Rosenmüller or Marini.

Unheard of! A jewel of baroque music, Monteverdi's Vespers to the Blessed Virgin, was presented at a mid-festival concert. This masterpiece, magnificently interpreted by La Chapelle Rhénane, has impressed the audience by its sumptuous beauty, wonderfully enhanced and echoed by the rich baroque décor of the Valloire church, for which, one might have thought it had been composed.

Another novelty! The Master Class for vocal soloists, crowned by a concert of the participants, gathered 9 young talented singers, soon to be heard on the stages of European opera houses.

The Proms, these musical promenades in the company of the musicians, each a combination of short concerts, a picnic, a hike in the mountains and "libre cours" lectures on music and Savoy's patrimony, indispensable, privileged moments, have definitely established themselves as the trademark of the Festival Valloire baroque.

The 2010 season of the Festival has surpassed the expectations of "connoisseurs", by the demanding choice of the works and the interpreters' first-rank quality. It has also provided an opportunity for a wider audience, usually unfamiliar with, even shy of, classical music, to experience the wonder and delight it conveys.

The musical "Calls to the Festival," repeatedly performed by various artists in the streets of Valloire, have, no doubt, drawn many of these new amateurs to the concerts.

The total dedication of the artists was tangible, challenged as they were to offer "their very best" by their hosts' friendliness and the organizers' professionalism. Indeed, a specific aspect of the Festival is that it should be sustained by the inhabitants of Valloire and by vacationers. The involvement of an ever-widening circle of both local and external volunteers is a proof of its success and a source of enrichment.

The festival remains tightly anchored to its founding values which combine "a taste for effort and the pursuit of pleasure, equally present in the hikes in the mountains and the practice or audition of music". Such is the new style, distinctive of the Festival, a mix of music, patrimony and mountain scenery.

In 2012, for its 3rd season, the festival will celebrate English Baroque Music.

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A few figures

10 concerts:

- 2 concerts addressed to a younger/wider audience
- 1 Master Class concert
- 4 Proms concerts over 2 days of musical Proms
- 3 evening grand concerts

Over 2000 persons attending!
(a 46%-increase from 1500 in 2010)

3 “libre cours” lectures with a total of 220 persons attending

Media coverage - See attachments

National level:

- Article in **La Croix** (July 30/31)
- Mention in **Diapason** (A guide to the festivals Nr. 593)
- Referencing on the websites of **Télérama** and the **Ministry of Culture**

Regional level:

- France Bleue Pays de Savoie** – 4 daily flashes from 31/07 to 07/08, 2 interviews on 02/08 and 05/08
- Two articles in **Le Dauphiné Libéré** 30/07 and 10/08
- Referencing on sites and in brochures of **the Rhône-Alpes Region**: La Maurienne, Les Pays de Maurienne, l'Office de Tourisme de Valloire...
- Daily programmes on **Radio Valloire**
- TV report to be broadcast on **TV8 Mont Blanc**