

HARMONICA VOYAGERS



Pressbook

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Antoine LE ROUX on harmonica and **Paul DEBA** on the piano offer with humour and enthusiasm the noble quality of the chromatic harmonica which is an instrument with thousands of acoustic and technical possibilities. This original duet enhances the most beautiful and demanding works of the popular classical musical repertoire (J.Brahms, V.Monti, D.Chostakovitch ,etc...) and it also offers an eclectic choice of standard popular music.

Antoine and Paul take their audience through the American West with works by **Ennio Moriconne**, **Elmer Bernstein** or **Victor Young** (Once Upon in the West, The Magnificent Seven), riding a galloping horse or by a crackling camp fire deep in a canyon, according to the style of the movies or the composers.

You will also travel in the world of **Jazz**, a magnificent opportunity of sounds for the harmonica, with great wild hits: Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespy or Toots Thielmann. And you will find yourself in some exotic salon where one dances the **Argentinian Tango** on the most charming melodies by Astor Piazzolla. A musical trip, colourful, as full of humour as impressive with virtuosity, which leave the souvenir of an exceptional moment.



Antoine LE ROUX, a talented chromatic harmonica player belonging to the new generation, accompanied by Paul DEBA, a superb pianist (mostly playing Jazz but not only that..) and music arranger, performed a magnificent concert, certainly the most beautiful of the festival, associating jazz standards, classical music, film music, arranged for the duet and happily so. The whole concert, performed with humour and “joie de vivre” on stage, was shared with the audience which, as was expected, acclaimed them with a vibrant standing ovation.

LES MUSICIENS

ANTOINE LE ROUX

Antoine started blowing the mouth organ as soon as he was seven year old and has never ceased so far. He has been seen on numerous stages and in numerous national and international competitions. He was invited by the Moscow Bolchoï in 2003 following a remarkable performance at the Rosa Vetrov Festival in Moscow. Two years later, he was finalist of the International Harmonica Competition of Trossingen (Germany). He played for the Opera Garnier in Paris in 2016 and for the “Orchestre National d’Île de France” in 2017. Antoine, who has diverse musical tastes and can play several instruments, cultivates partnership with numerous musicians and in different styles such as classical music, Jazz, film music or Celtic music.



PAUL DEBA

When Paul DEBA worked for the London BBC, he played regularly with Johnny Dankworth, Buck Clayton, Bill Coleman and Hal Singer. Recently in France, he associated with the sax and flute player Carl Schlosser. In 2004, he founded the “Paul Deba Trio”, a high level musical group whose first CD album, “PULSATION”, was greeted by national and European critics. Paul is also well acquainted with the chromatic harmonica as he was the excellent soloist of “The Vagabonds de l’Harmonica” Trio , one of the rarest professional harmonica trios which was distributed and supported by the prestigious British Record Company DECCA. As of the age of 17, Paul shared the stage with such great harmonica artists as Claude Garden or Jerry Murad.



[Lien vers les extraits audios](#)



[Lien vers les vidéos](#)

ARTICLES DE PRESSE

SUD
OUEST



The audience consisted of more than 200 spectators last Sunday at the concert hall of Sorlut for the concert given by Antoine LE ROUX, harmonica player, accompanied by Paul DEBA who has played all over the world. This was a duet on the Sorlut stage and yet, the repertory, especially chosen by Antoine LE ROUX for the occasion, **was really appreciated by a standing audience which applauded and asked for more encores.** "A pleasure shared by the organizers so much so as the commentaries after the concert expressed satisfaction", said Christian Seugnet of the "Sorlut Animations" society, who added that the date of January 19th, 2019 was already reserved to welcome, as each year, the mouth organ performance on the Sorlut stage.

For the first time in its history, the **Opera Garnier**, welcomed within its 19th Century building an instrument born in the same period and personified by a **talented harmonica player** we all know very well: Antoine LE ROUX. That was from march 7th till April 1st, during 12 performances when Antoine LE ROUX played the "Waltz of Flowers" from Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker", while moving about on stage among the dancers of the Opera Garnier. "The Palais Garnier" is a listed historic building, as is "The Carnegie Hall" in New York, listed "National Historic Landmark", where Larry ADLER and Buddy GREEN made a triumphal success, and of course Claude GARDEN with the Boston Pop Orchestra in Boston.

That was the same with **Antoine LE ROUX**, congratulated at the end of these concerts by the managers of the Opera Garnier, including the artistic director...These are as many prestigious places contributing to make the harmonica known among the general public.

JEAN
LABRE



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 : [link to videos](#)

 : [link to audio clips](#)

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