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François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles

Ravel: *Ma mère l'Oye*; *Le Tombeau de Couperin*; *Shéhérazade*, ouverture de féerie

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AllMusic Review by Blair Sanderson

François-Xavier Roth and his period instruments orchestra **Les Siècles** have taken the principles of historically informed performance practice and authentic instrumentation into 20th century repertoire with their recordings of **Igor Stravinsky's** great ballets and other modernist works. For this 2018 release on Harmonia Mundi, **Roth** and his handpicked orchestra present music by **Maurice Ravel**, following their successful 2017 release of *Daphnis et Chloé* with fresh performances of the complete ballet *Ma mère l'Oye*, *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, and the overture *Shéhérazade*. Listeners who know these pieces well from conventional orchestral performances may be startled by the distinctive sounds of handcrafted winds and the great variety of percussion instruments, and the reduced size of the orchestra emphasizes the chamber timbres **Ravel** used so impeccably. Harmonia Mundi's reproduction is immaculate to match, and the depth of the sound creates a sense of spatial dimensions rarely found on a standard CD. Highly recommended.

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Release Date	April 27, 2018
Duration	56:22
Genre	Classical
Styles	Ballet Orchestral
Recording Date	October 31, 2016 & November 1, 2016
Recording Location	Boulogne-Billancourt, la Seine Musicale Cité de la Musique et de la Danse Soissons Londres, Southbank Centre Philharmonie de Paris

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Track Listing

Sample	Title/Composer	Performer	Time
Ma mère l'Oye, Complete Ballet			
1	I. Prélude. Très lent Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:05
2	Premier tableau: Danse du rouet et scène. Allegro Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	1:58
3	Interlude. Un peu moins animé Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	1:14
4	Deuxième tableau: Pavane de la Belle au bois dormant. Lent Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	1:38
5	Interlude. Plus lent Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	0:50

CLOSE

Animated	Capricious
Elegant	Energetic
Flowing	Gentle
Graceful	Magical
Melodic	Playful
Shimmering	Sparkling

Sample	Title/Composer	Performer	Time
6	Troisième tableau: Les Entretiens de la Belle et de la Bête. Mouvement de valse modéré Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	4:00
7	Interlude. Lent Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	0:40
8	Quatrième tableau: Petit Poucet. Très modéré Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:32
9	Interlude. Lent Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	1:20
10	Cinquième tableau: Laideronnette, impératrice des pagodes. Mouvement de marche Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:24
11	Interlude: Allegro Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	1:07
12	Apothéose: le jardin féerique. Lent et grave Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:39
13	Shéhérazade, ouverture de féerie Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	13:18

Le Tombeau de Couperin, Suite d'orchestre

14	I. Prélude. Vif Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:00
15	II. Forlane. Allegretto Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	5:39
16	III. Menuet. Allegro moderato Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	4:42
17	IV. Rigaudon. Assez vif Maurice Ravel	François-Xavier Roth / Les Siècles	3:16

blue highlight denotes track pick