



Jean Claude HENRIOT (Piano - France)

Born in Paris in 1948 to a couple of primary school teachers, he began playing the piano at the age of five under the watchful eye of his mother, who had herself taken piano lessons for many years. He successively trained with Germaine Mounier, Jean Batalla, Marcelle Brousse, Yvonne Lefébure and Yvonne Loriod, but the teachings of Jeanne-Andrée Guérin, his first teacher, have had a permanent impact on him.

Belonging to a generation that turned twenty in 1968, he became involved in the events of May: then a student at the Paris Conservatoire, he chaired a co-management committee to which we owe a number of changes to the regulations, such as the possibility for students to change teachers without having to resign and retake the entrance exam, or a student representation within the board of directors. His interest in public affairs then led him to engage with the so-called forces of Progress for about ten years, from which he resigned, disappointed, in 2002.

It is this mixture of curiosity and convictions that makes him a fierce defender of contemporary music: in addition to the ever-renewed joy of meeting living composers and sharing their questions, Jean-Claude Henriot is convinced that it is the duty of professional musicians to bring the music of their time to life, and thus give it a chance to survive the times. A regular contributor to the Ensemble Intercontemporain for many years, he recorded with the Messiaen Quartet and under the direction of the composer the Quartet pour la Fin du Temps by Olivier Messiaen, which he subsequently played all over the world. Since the early 2000s, he has also been a faithful travelling companion of the Aleph Ensemble, with whom he has performed on numerous occasions and recorded the first version of Maurizio Kagel's *La Rose des Vents* in 2017.