

# Bons Baisers de Bergame

a **FRENCH** musical play —  
— in **ENGLISH**

**Text and performance:** Corentin Colluste

**English adaptation:** Héroïse Chouette

**Direction:** Léa Debarnot and Kim

Aubert **Music:** Claude Debussy

**Images, photographs and videos:**

Nayel Zeaiter, Louis Matray  
and Alexis Boullay

**From 10 to  
100 years old**





## The story

*"I kiss you, and not a word is spoken when our lips only utter a confession of the flesh, so much stronger than any word, so much that nothing else exists but us."*

A lecturer talks about Claude Debussy. He relates a sweet love encounter under the moonlight, within the passionate and sentimental end of the 19th century. Note after note, he translates for us the precise story he can perceive in the *Suite Bergamasque*, a masterpiece he plays on the piano. However, during this quite serious conference, his private life suddenly seems to interfere. Which encounter is he really talking about? Isn't he just mixing everything up?







## Two eras

The planned lecture is going off tracks, but it still gives actual historical information. We learn about Claude Debussy's life, about cultural trends he was associated with, about the musical structure of the *Suite Bergamasque*... The play itself is as informative as it is fictional, and it makes us travel to 19<sup>th</sup>-century France.

With that moving and funny one-man show, the Groupe Ubürik wants to address current societal and sentimental issues. How do we love today? What encounter mechanisms do we set up? *Bons Baisers de Bergame* shows us a man being torn between overwhelming desires and social representations he has of love.



## Through the mirror

Music stands at the very centre of the action: a piano turns its back to the audience in the middle of the stage. During the play, the lecturer makes us hear Claude Debussy's music while he guides us through his personal deciphering of this piece. Above the piano, a large mirror allows us to dive into his gaze and observe how he is going to deal with his own dilemmas.

No external intervention will be needed to disrupt his speech. All by himself, he will get tangled up in his explanations, for the pleasure of all!



# Backgrounds



## *Corentin Colluste – author, composer, musician and actor*

A self-taught composer, he graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure Louis Lumière in 2009, after three years of sound-engineering studies. This gave him a dozen opportunities to compose music for short films. Passionate about creations that approach music as a real narrative element, he develops his writing within theatre companies, such as the Groupe Ubürik, the Fugaces, Furiosa, or the Petit Théâtre Dakôté.

He plays several instruments (piano, keyboards, guitars, bass, percussions, accordion, etc.) and performs in solo concerts with French songs he wrote. He also finds his way as an author and an actor, notably with the shows *Bons Baisers de Bergame* or *Les Portraits Dérobés*, in which he tries to combine theatre and music codes.

## *The Groupe Ubürik*

Since 2009, the Groupe Ubürik has been based in Auvergne, France, and has created multidisciplinary plays involving theatre and music as essential components. The group gives a preponderant place to words, symbols and images.

With energy, humour and poetry, it addresses touchy issues, such as mourning, revolt, disability, identity, sexuality... In producing theatre, the Groupe Ubürik aims for quality and accuracy, while keeping it poetic and accessible for everyone.

The activities of the group take place in rural areas. Along with decentralisation concerns, the artists are keen to offer technically autonomous plays for all types of venues. They consider the audience as the centre of their reflexion.



# On stage

Duration of the play: 1h10.

Minimum stage space: 17 feet wide x 10 feet deep. Relative darkness is needed as the show involves a video projector. If necessary, the Groupe Ubürik can provide and set up its own light and sound equipment for this show.

Depending on possibilities, the performance can be given with a real upright piano, or with a digital piano (provided by the Groupe Ubürik). *Bons Baisers de Bergame* is available in both languages, French or English.

## Contact details

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