

Presentation



CLASSICAL GUITAR DUO



Rémi Jusselme & Tristan Manoukian

For more than twenty years, both as soloists and alongside other musicians, Rémi and Tristan have performed on numerous stages across the world: Russia, Japan, Korea, Central America, Spain, Italy, Norway, Poland, the United States, etc. Enriched by these experiences, they decided in 2020 to form a guitar duo, aiming to offer vibrant performances filled with an energy close to their hearts, built around composers chosen for the uniqueness of their voices.

Having become friends as teenagers in Catalonia thanks to their shared passion (the irresistible guitar!), they drifted apart as young adults in Paris, before reconnecting about ten years ago in Corsica. The joy they experience in blending their sensibilities, experiences, and perspectives around the practice and teaching of music has driven them to collaborate more and more regularly. They simply could not pass up the opportunity to experience together the subtle interplay of the guitar duo: this great two-headed lady with multiplied possibilities allows, through the magic of arrangement, the exploration of repertoires hitherto inaccessible. Finally playing Bartók on the guitar—an old dream come true!



WATCH

Micropieza III
Léo Brouwer



WATCH

Children's Song n°7
Chick Corea





- [➤ tristanmanoukian.com](http://tristanmanoukian.com)
- [➤ instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com/tristanmanoukian)
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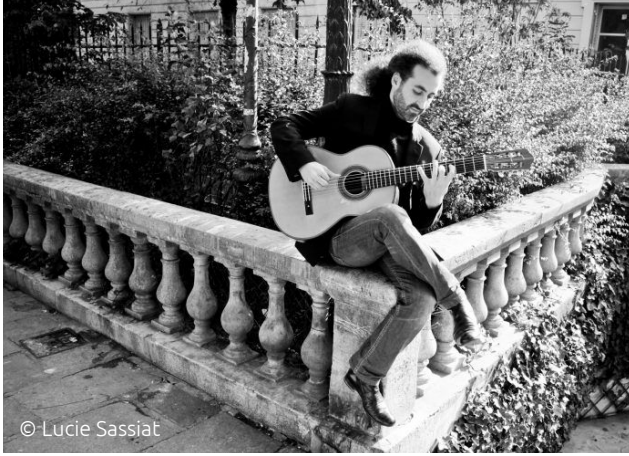
Tristan Manoukian

A guitar professor at the CNSMD de Paris, Tristan Manoukian regularly performs as a soloist in festivals and concert halls (Printemps des Arts de Monaco, USA, Italy, Germany). He premieres contemporary works and collaborates with numerous musicians and ensembles such as Ysire, Rosaces, Polychronies, and Alchemy, performing in France and abroad. He also continues to promote a new repertoire for the guitar through his arrangements, published by the Canadian publisher Les Productions d'Oz, the French publisher Fougeray, the prestigious Universal Edition in Vienna, and, more recently, 80 Days Publishing.

For several years, Tristan Manoukian has performed with guitarist Rémi Jusselme in a duo strongly committed to promoting a repertoire never played on the guitar before. He also composes music for documentary films and works as an actor-musician with theatre companies such as Pantai and DOZITHéâtre. He has shared his pedagogical expertise within various educational institutions: guitar didactics at the Pôle Supérieur de Lille and the CNSMDP, a course on artistic creation at the Pôle Supérieur de Paris-Boulogne, and mentoring students at Cefedem.

During his formative years, he had the immense privilege of being selected by Julian Bream to study under his direction at the Rencontres Musicales d'Évian.





- [➤ remijusselme.com](http://remijusselme.com)
- [➤ instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com/remijusselme)
- [➤ facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/remijusselme)
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Rémi Jusselme

A versatile musician, Rémi Jusselme is involved in a wide range of artistic projects. Throughout his career, he has shared the stage with a great number of other instrumentalists and ensembles (orchestras, quartets, vocal ensembles...), as well as popular or classical singers, dancers, and actors.

Born in Marseille in 1977, Rémi Jusselme won first prize in several international competitions in France and abroad, including the prestigious "Printemps de la Guitare" in Belgium, which rewarded a French guitarist for the first and only time. On this occasion, he recorded an album ranging from the romantic repertoire to contemporary creation.

His second opus, *Brasiliana*, a panorama of Brazilian music from popular genres to the avant-garde, was released in 2005 by Altaïs Music. A live DVD in Seoul was published in 2009, and his latest album *Exils*, dedicated to composers Toru Takemitsu and Atanas Ourkouzounov, was released in November 2016 on the Spanish label Contrastes Records, paying tribute to Toru Takemitsu on the 20th anniversary of his passing.

Very active in the field of contemporary music, he collaborates with essential musicians and ensembles on the current stage (Musicatreize, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Les Siècles, Quatuor Bela, Les Métaboles...) and has played in international festivals in Paris, Seville, San-José (Costa Rica), Daegu, Daejeon (South Korea), Avignon "In" (France), Prades (France), Musica in Strasbourg (France), Folle Journée de Tokyo (Japan), the International House of Music in Moscow, the Novel Hall in Taipei, Tiara Koto Hall in Tokyo... He has worked in collaboration with composers Zad Moultaqa, Bruno Mantovani, Philippe Leroux, Felix Ibarrondo, Jean-Pierre Drouet, Atanas Ourkouzounov, Thomas Bordalejo, and Yan Maresz.

Rémi Jusselme was deeply influenced by the teachings of Laurent Blanquart, Gérard Abiton, and Pablo Márquez. He now teaches as a professor at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Tours, as well as the Pôle Supérieur de Toulouse (isdaT). He is a regular guest at Pôles Supérieurs, universities, and higher conservatories in France and abroad. He performs as a soloist and chamber musician in Europe and Asia, playing a Vicente Carrillo guitar with Savarez strings.

Complete 12 Dances by Enrique Granados

With this brand-new arrangement for two guitars of Enrique Granados's 12 Spanish Dances, Tristan Manoukian and Rémi Jusselme offer a new interpretation of this emblematic cycle of the piano repertoire. Choosing to retain the original piano keys — which is instrumentally demanding — preserves the harmonic richness and colors unique to each piece.

The guitar, through its natural connection to Spanish traditions, wonderfully highlights the dance rhythms and sublime melodic lines characteristic of Granados's writing. The dialogue between the two instruments brings clarity and depth, revealing the textures of the work in a different light. Balancing fidelity and reinvention, this transcription invites listeners to rediscover these dances within the intimacy and poetry of the guitar duo.

Dance n°1 Galante / Dance n°2 Oriental

Dance n°3 Fandango - Zarabanda / Dance n°4 Villanesca

Dance n°5 Andaluza / Dance n°6 Rondalla Aragonesa

Dance n°7 Valenciana / Dance n°8 Sardana asturiana

Dance n°9 Mazurka romántica / Dance n°10 Melancólica

Dance n°11 Zambra / Dance n°12 Bolero-Arabesca

In a Landscape

The program is structured around four fascinating figures:

- Meredith Monk (born in 1942 in New York) is an American dancer, choreographer, musician, and screenwriter. She writes minimalist and joyful works, echoed here by the superb and stripped-back *In a Landscape* by the revolutionary John Cage (philosopher and musician who passed away in 1992 in New York), another avant-garde figure and pioneer of experimental music. His emphasis on chance operations, indeterminacy, and unconventional instrumentation pushed the boundaries of music.
- The Hungarian Béla Bartók also died in New York, having taken refuge there during World War II. A true giant of 20th-century music, he tirelessly collected traditional repertoires from Central Europe. His powerful style, transformed by the rich timbres of the guitar, is of striking beauty.
- The *Micropiezas* by Cuban composer Leo Brouwer is the only original composition for two guitars in the program. With its humor, evocations of French and Cuban songs, collages, and polytonality, it completes this unique landscape program, designed as a musical stroll through that extraordinary era of artistic fertility that was the 20th century.

Overall, the program reflects the diversity of musical expressions that emerged during the 20th century, from the experimental and avant-garde to the folkloric, as well as the global and multicultural influences that shaped music during this era.

Ellis Island by M. MONK 3'

Suite op. 14 by B. BARTOK 10'

In a Landscape by J. CAGE 8'

Micropiezas by L. BROUWER 7'

Parlour Games by M. MONK 8'

6 Bagatelles by B. BARTOK 8'

Folkdance by M. MONK 4'



WATCH

Suite op 14 extrait
Béla Bartok



New York, New York!

Like millions of women and men during the 20th century, we arrived in New York via Ellis Island. Musically speaking, of course. For this toponym is also the name of an extraordinary piano piece by Meredith Monk, accompanying her film about migrants from all over the world who came to find a new life in the Big Apple. In turn, we wish to approach this city that haunted the mythology of the last century through a few creators who worked, lived, or composed there. Alongside Meredith Monk, we will play music by Béla Bartók (who ended his life there, refusing to compromise in a Europe under Nazi grip), Chick Corea (who studied in New York and discovered the flavor of its jazz clubs), and Astor Piazzolla (who composed a distant farewell there in memory of his father—Adios Nonino—unable to return to Argentina due to a lack of means).

Ellis Island by [Meredith MONK](#) 3'
Suite op. 14 by [Bela BARTOK](#) 10'
Children song by [Chick COREA](#) 11'
Decarisimo by [Astor PIAZZOLLA](#) 3'
Coral by [A. PIAZZOLLA](#) 5'
Adios nonino by [A. PIAZZOLLA](#) 5'
Folkdance by [M. MONK](#) 4'



Traversées (Crossings)

A crossing is, above all, a long journey across the ocean. Enrique Granados undertook this journey in 1916, bound for New York, for the premiere of his opera Goyescas. The return journey proved fatal in the midst of a global conflict, and he perished at sea, leaving behind a work inhabited by a romantic soul and fully steeped in his native land, Spain. The six Spanish dances in this program provide a beautiful showcase of his colorful music.

Astor Piazzolla made quite a few crossings, both on land and over the seas, starting with his first journey at the age of 3 from Buenos Aires to New York. He would return to Argentina, then leave to study music in Paris with Nadia Boulanger. The tango nuevo he created carries all these influences: tango, jazz, baroque music, and much more. With the six arrangements in this concert, we paint a complex and fascinating portrait of this extraordinary creator.

Dance n°1 Galante / Dance n°2 Oriental by [Enrique GRANADOS](#)
Decarisimo / Coral / Adios Nonio by [Astor PIAZZOLLA](#)
Dance n°5 Andaluza / Dance n°6 Rondalla Aragonesa by [E.GRANADOS](#)
Oblivion / Revirado by [A. PIAZZOLLA](#)
Dance n°10 Melancólica / Dance n°11 Zambra by [E. GRANADOS](#)
Libertango by [A. PIAZZOLLA](#)

RÉMI JOUSSELME ET TRISTAN MANOUKIAN

Les temps modernes

REMI JOUSSELME AND TRISTAN MANOUKIAN – Modern Times

Proven chamber musicians and eclectic artists, Rémi Joussemle and Tristan Manoukian met at a crossroads around a program that tells their human adventure and explores 20th-century music in a personal and bold way: Bartók, Brouwer, Cage, and Monk.

Extracts from the interview:

- **On the origin of the duo:** "We met as teenagers in Catalonia, then reconnected in Corsica about ten years ago... In 2019 or 2020, the program evolved by dint of playing!"
- **Why the title *In a Landscape*?** "We wanted to play 20th-century music to share it with a wide audience... *In a Landscape* is the title of a piece by John Cage, a brilliant experimentalist who offers something minimalist and almost Zen."
- **About their dynamic:** "We try to convey a shared energy. We have very different styles of playing: we don't try to standardize that, the duo must be more than the sum of our added qualities."

Guitars & Strings:

- **Tristan:** Plays a 2016 Florian Chauvet double-top guitar.
Strings: Savarez Cantiga Premium (blue tension in the basses, red in the trebles).
- **Rémi:** Plays a 2015 Vicente Carrillo lattice guitar (cedar top).
Strings: Savarez Cantiga Premium (blue tension).

CHAMBRISTES ÉPROUVÉS ET MUSICIENS ÉCLECTIQUES, RÉMI JOUSSELME ET TRISTAN MANOUKIAN SE SONT RETROUVÉS À LA CROISÉE DES CHEMINS, AUTOUR D'UN PROGRAMME QUI RACONTE LEUR AVENTURE HUMAINE ET EXPLORÉ DE MANIÈRE PERSONNELLE ET AUDACIEUSE LA MUSIQUE DU XX^E : BARTOK, BROUWER, CAGE ET MONK.

Vous avez toujours joué à plusieurs. D'où vous est venue l'idée de ce duo ?
Rémi : Nous nous sommes rencontrés adolescents, en Catalogne, puis nous nous sommes retrouvés en Corse, il y a une dizaine d'années. Nous avons discuté de beaucoup de sujets et avons déchiffré du Glass. Enfin nous avons été programmés par Pierre Millan (membre du duo *Agua e Vinho*, ndlr).

Tristan : Effectivement, nous avons des sources d'inspiration communes et avons toujours pratiqué la musique de chambre ; nous avons même l'expérience du duo de guitares, séparément, entre autres autour du grand répertoire. En 2019 ou 2020, le programme n'était pas définitif (Schubert, Debussy, Nazareth...), mais a évolué à force de jouer !

Pourquoi ce titre : *In a Landscape* ?

R et T : Nous avons eu la volonté de jouer la musique du XX^e, de façon à la partager avec un large public. La question de la modernité (dont on pourrait dire qu'elle démarre avec la seconde école de Vienne) est délicate, puisque chaque compositeur a son langage, qu'il y a une forme d'intellectualisation et de complexité. Or nous avons voulu retrouver une sorte d'immédiateté.

R : Plus précisément, *In a Landscape* est le titre d'une pièce de John Cage, génial expérimentateur qui propose ici quelque chose de minimaliste et presque zen. Nous avons donc un paysage de la musique du XX^e, mais il pourrait y en avoir des centaines !

T : Quant au sous-titre, « de chair et d'os », c'est une parole de Bartok à propos de la suite op.14 (présente dans le programme du duo, ndlr) : il avait envie de sortir d'un expressionnisme post-romantique pour quelque chose de plus resserré. De fait, il s'agit de lignes plus que de réalisation harmonique, avec une densité très forte.

Comment avez-vous choisi le programme ?

T : Meredith Monk a cristallisé le programme définitif. Nous sommes tombés d'accord sur plusieurs pièces qui constituent un programme « en arche », où se répondent les compositeurs.

R : La présence de New York chez quasiment tous les com-



NOUS ESSAYONS DE FAIRE PASSER UNE ÉNERGIE COMMUNE. NOUS AVONS DES JEUX TRÈS DIFFÉRENTS : NOUS NE CHERCHONS PAS À UNIFORMISER ÇA, LE DUO DOIT ÊTRE PLUS QUE LA SOMME DE NOS QUALITÉS AJOUTÉES.

positeurs est un hasard. Nous voulions un programme expressif et rythmé, tout en contrastes (entre calme et vitalité).
T : Nous essayons de faire passer une énergie commune. Par ailleurs, nous avons des jeux très différents : nous ne cherchons pas à uniformiser ça, le duo doit être plus que la somme de nos qualités ajoutées.

R : Il y a aussi une temporalité étirée dans ce programme, qui fait partie de nos plaisirs d'auditeurs et qui nous a conduits à nos choix.

Vous semblez porter une affection particulière à Meredith Monk...

R et T : Elle est très connue sur la scène minimaliste new-yorkaise, pour plusieurs formes d'expression : chant, danse... Elle a écrit néanmoins une musique pour piano abondante. *Ellis Island* notamment est en lien avec l'histoire. Cela permet de continuer à chercher un répertoire original.

On note que le principe de l'arrangement est quasi-omniprésent.

T : En fait, l'idée est simplement de jouer de la musique qu'on aime ! On essaie, en voyant si c'est faisable, on trouve des solutions...

R : C'est une forme d'appropriation, notamment des œuvres impossibles à jouer en solo.

R et T : Et puis c'est aussi le bonheur de se retrouver !

Sur quelles guitares jouez-vous, et avec quelles cordes ?

T : Je joue sur une double table Florian Chauvet de 2016. Elle a suffisamment de puissance et ses qualités de son se prêtent à nos explorations musicales. Par ailleurs j'utilise des Savarez Cantiga Premium (bleues dans les basses et rouges dans les aiguës).

R : J'utilise également des Cantiga Premium bleues. Et ma guitare est une Vicente Carrillo de 2015, avec table en cèdre. C'est une lattice : elle est puissante et chaleureuse. _____



2026

Saturday 4 July

Bazoches-sur-Guyonne (78) • Maison Jean Monnet – European Parliament Traversées

Thursday 6 August

Nice (06) • Matisse Museum • Nice Classic Live • Complete set of the 12 dances by E. Granados

Friday 21 August

Taipei (Taiwan) • Formosa International Guitar Festival

Saturday 26 September

Dun-Le-Poëlier (36) • Church • Classical Music in Berry

2027

Saturday 13 February

Loches (37) • Complete set of E. Granados's 12 dances

Saturday 20 February

Dinard (35) • A selection of works by Mozart, Chopin, Granados, Schubert and Vivaldi

2–3 March

Montpellier (34) • Cité des Arts

12–13 March

Mulhouse (68) • Conservatoire

19–20 March

Magos da guitarra Festival (Portugal)



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