



2012 ROUSSEAU FOR ALL

Program's selection for non-French speaking public (audience)
Selection of events for non-French speaking public (audience)

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MUSIC

The Village Soothsayer and The Servant Mistress—Intermezzos

Le Devin du village et la Serva padrona—Intermèdes

2012 gets off to a musical start at the Grand Theatre of Geneva with three “Intermezzo” performances. These will be featuring two outstanding pieces from the mid-Eighteenth Century—Pergolesi’s *Serva padrona* and the famous *Devin du village* by Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Performed for the first time before Louis XV at Fontainebleau, on 18 October 1752, *Le Devin du village* narrates the misunderstandings of the young lovers, Colin and Colette, the intervention of the local seer, and the village fête which brings the intermezzo to a close. A series of episodes which remained fresh in everyone’s mind until the middle of the nineteenth century and which we have had the pleasure of rediscovering over the past fifty years.

Grand Theatre of Geneva

On 27 and 31 January 2012 at 8pm

On 29 January 2012 at 3pm

Reservations:

P +41 (0)22 418 31 30

E billetterie@geneveopera.ch

All Rousseau’s fault !

La Faute à Rousseau !

Both Rousseau’s *Pygmalion* and *La Mort de Cléopâtre* (*The Death of Cleopatra*) by Berlioz are described as “lyric dramas” but the two are quite different in style. With his *Pygmalion* Rousseau creates a new genre, the melodrama, which consists of the spoken word with musical accompaniment. Berlioz also used melodrama but his *Mort de Cléopâtre* is more like a scene from opera. This work is one of the dramatic cantatas originally composed by Berlioz for the famous Prix de Rome, which, however, he was not to win until the following year. Mozart’s *Paris Symphony* blends in well with the foregoing pieces—it was written in Paris in 1778, the year of Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s death.

Bâtiment des Forces Motrices

On 21 February 2012, 8.30pm

Reservations:

E billetterie@locg.ch

www.locg.ch (on-line payment)

Can’t be dead if she’s breaking wind

Femme qui pète n’est pas morte

Discover Rousseau’s world of music as he lived it himself with this concert bringing together works he may have listened to and readings of extracts from his autobiographical texts on music.

The Norwegian Lux Borea Baroque Ensemble combines with the Swiss actor, Pierre-Alain Clerc, for a voyage of discovery into the musicianship of this son of Geneva. Taking us into uncharted climes beyond *Le Devin du village* (*The Village Soothsayer*), it makes for a fascinating exploration of the virtuosity of Italian music and the mannered elegance of its French counterpart, which Rousseau was never really to forsake.

Place and dates to be confirmed (Autumn 2012)

Programme details at www.rousseau2012.ch



“JJR (Citizen of Geneva)”

“JJR (*Citoyen de Genève*)”

“This must be the art for which I was born. I first fell in love with it during my boyhood and it is to this alone that I have remained unfailingly true.”, Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

The 2012-2013 Season at the Grand Theatre of Geneva opens with an international work dedicated to Jean-Jacques Rousseau—“JJR (*Citoyen de Genève*)”.

This one-act opera serves to illustrate a free-ranging mind delving into a multiple variety of disciplines. It should not, however, be forgotten that Rousseau’s primary concern was and remained music. He may have suffered criticism as a composer but it was he that d’Alembert was to select to prepare the articles on musical theory for his *Encyclopaedia*.

Bâtiment des Forces Motrices

On 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21 and 24 September 2012

Reservations:

P +41 (0)22 418 31 30

E billetterie@geneveopera.ch

Pygmalion

Pygmalion

Nota Bene : *Music with Rousseau*, the Exhibition at the Library of Geneva between October 2012 and January 2013 (see page 7), provides an opportunity to discover *Pygmalion*, one of Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s musical compositions. This lyric drama, written in 1762, was also the piece chosen in 1912, at Ariana Park, for the celebration of the author’s Bicentenary.

In October 2012, the opera will be performed by Geneva’s Opera Studio Orchestra, directed by Jean-Marie Curti.

Cité Bleue Theatre

On 24 and 25 October 2012

Information:

www.rousseau2012.ch

www.ville-ge.ch/bge

Tic Tac Rousseau

Tic Tac Rousseau

The title of this amusing operatic performance starring marionettes comes from Rousseau himself writing about his childhood love for Mademoiselle Goton—“On my way along Coutance I could hear small girls calling out in stifled giggles, *Goton tic tac Rousseau* Goton’s clicked with Rousseau”.

It takes a fresh, playful but revealing look at the life of the illustrious Genevan writer. Accompanied by a small, street-music orchestra, it illustrates the brutal turning-points in a life of high aspirations quickly brought to nothing by adverse fortune. An innovative patchwork of symbol, ambience, unusual sound, subtle harmony, and illuminating insights.

Cité Bleue Theatre

On 22, 23 November 2012 at 8.30pm

On 24, 25 November 2012 at 5pm

Reservations:

P +41 (0)22 792 01 66



Seer far from his village

Le Devin loin du village

When it came out, the musician Rousseau's *Le Devin du village* (The Village Soothsayer) was tremendously popular. We have quite forgotten the ecstatic opening reception given to the opera, which led to a whole series of works inspired by Rousseau's scenario. It was performed in Russian before the court of Catherine II; it was a source of inspiration for the very young Mozart; and has undergone various adaptations in English, Quebecois, and even Creole.

This is a light-hearted look at the unexpected interplay between the different versions of *Le Devin du village*, in a production directed by Mathilde Reichler and performed by the Lunaisiens Baroque Ensemble. The public's reception of the Devin is also one of the themes of a documentary film, directed by Jean-Michel Djian and Nancy Rieben, which presents a general overview of Rousseau the musician.

Place and dates to be confirmed
Program details at www.rousseau2012.ch

EXHIBITIONS

“Dead or alive, he’ll always be stirring things up”

“Vivant ou mort, il les inquiétera toujours”

For three centuries, the work and person of this citizen of Geneva have been a focus of animated controversy. Even today, the author of the *Confessions* rarely fails to arouse the emotions of his readers. As he himself foresaw, “Dead or alive, he’ll always be stirring things up”.

This Exhibition, retracing the long history of Rousseau’s on-off relationship with his contemporary and posthumous publics, illustrates the fitful terms on which he lived with his contemporaries— his conflict with Diderot and the Encyclopaedists, his rivalry with Voltaire, etc. There will be numerous autographic manuscripts outlining these exchanges, together with original and rare editions, paintings, engravings, and also posters.

Three-site Exhibition

Geneva Library

Martin Bodmer Foundation

Voltaire Institute and Museum

From 20 April to 16 September 2012

Opening Hours and Information:

www.rousseau2012.ch

International Education and Jean-Jacques Rousseau

L’éducation internationale et Jean-Jacques Rousseau

L’éducation internationale et Jean-Jacques Rousseau, is an Exhibition which takes as its theme the influence of Rousseau’s pedagogical theories on the practice and development of international education.

The Tercentenary is an opportunity to remind ourselves of the influence of Rousseau on international education and to reveal it to pupils through a programme of educational activities, in the classroom and outside, which allows them to follow in the footsteps of Jean-Jacques. The results of this unique learning adventure will be on display between 14 April and June 2012 in the Salle Stereva, Geneva International School, with the intention of highlighting the links between modern-day educational theory and practice and the ideas of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Geneva International School

Salle Stereva

Grande Boissière Campus

From April to June 2012

Information: www.ecolint.ch

Rousseau Watches

Des montres signées Rousseau

The history of our Genevan philosopher’s family, including as it does several watchmakers and artisans working in related crafts, makes for a perfect microcosm of Geneva craftsmanship in the Seventeenth Century. This Exhibition of timepieces from individual collections and from those of public and private institutions showcases watch and clock-making masterpieces of the Seventeenth Century. It is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue providing a description of each exhibit, preceded by articles written by experts in the economic, social, artistic, and literary history of Geneva.



Patek Philippe Museum

From 11 mai to 13 October 2012

Information:

P +41 (0)22 807 09 10

www.patekmuseum.com

“Thrilled by botany” Rousseau

“Je raffole de la botanique” Rousseau

The Exhibition of the Botanical Gardens and Conservatory, devoted to the “philosopher botanist”, is organised as an exploratory walkabout. Eleven theme stops present the originality of Rousseau's botanical thinking, and touch upon his influence on the history of botany together with his writings, such as *Letters on the Elements of Botany*.

The walkabout is accompanied by sound recordings, which plunge us deep into the space-time of Rousseau.

City of Geneva

Botanical Gardens and Conservatory

From 25 May to 14 October 2012

Information:

www.ville-ge.ch/cjb

“It is of Man I have to speak—Rousseau and Inequality”

“C'est de l'homme que j'ai à parler, Rousseau et l'inégalité”

The Exhibition “C'est de l'homme que j'ai à parler, Rousseau et l'inégalité” illustrates a key moment in the development of our ideas about humankind. The quotation is taken from his *Discourse on the Origin and Basis of Inequality among Men*, a text providing a new interpretation of human nature and life in society.

The Exhibition, which leads us from Geneva to the Pacific Isles by way of the Alps and the East, presents the interaction between Jean-Jacques Rousseau and his contemporaries and his relevance to many of our present-day concerns.

MEG Conches

Geneva Ethnography Museum in Conches

From 15 June 2012 to Spring 2013

Information and Mediation Programme:

www.rousseau2012.ch

www.ville-ge.ch/meg

Nota Bene : Music with Rousseau

Nota Bene : de la musique avec Rousseau

This Exhibition looks into certain aspects of Jean-Jacques Rousseau as a musician with a view to evaluating the extent of his influence on composition in French-speaking Switzerland.

In addition to suggesting a new system of musical notation, Rousseau became involved in the famous “Querelle des Bouffons” (“Quarrel of the comic Actors”) between those who favoured Italian music and those who preferred the French style. He was very much at odds with Rameau, the leading musician



of the time. He also composed *Le Devin du Village* intermezzo and brought out a highly successful *Dictionary of Music*.

Geneva Library

From 16 October 2012 to 19 January 2013

Information:

www.rousseau2012.ch

www.ville-ge.ch/bge

“Rousseau—Physical and Emotional landscape”

“Rousseau : de la topographie au paysage émotionnel”

A keen traveller and walker, Jean-Jacques Rousseau had a special way of taking in landscape, based on his observations of the local terrain, weather, and flora. He attributed to each landscape an intrinsic character corresponding to its special idiosyncracies. Far from sharing his contemporaries' view of Nature as something menacing and disturbing, he beheld it with devotional wonder.

The idea of inspirational landscape, a transfiguration brought about by Rousseau, as revealed in several of his philosophical texts, was to be taken up, illustrated, and blazed abroad by painters and engravers throughout Europe.

Rath Galleries

From 28 June to 16 September 2012

Information:

www.ville-ge.ch/mah



CINEMA

All Rousseau's Fault : Series of short-length films

La Faute à Rousseau: une collection de films courts

Swiss and international film-makers together with film-making students were invited to come up with an individual take on Jean-Jacques Rousseau's life and works. This has resulted in a series of uninhibited, four-minute productions presenting unexpected, thought-provoking angles on the philosopher's thinking, thus allowing the audience to appreciate the pertinence and impertinence of this philosopher of the Enlightenment.

Ile Rousseau

From 19 January

Maison Rousseau et de la Littérature

From 1 February

Information:

www.lafautearousseau.com

WALKABOUTS

The Solitary Walker

Promeneur solitaire

In Autumn 1765, Jean-Jacques Rousseau withdrew to Saint-Pierre, an isle in the Lake of Bièvre. He refers to this between 1776 and 1778 in the Fifth Walk of his *Reveries of a Solitary Walker* when the memory of his island stay serves to express the special relationship which he felt he had with Nature. It was also on Saint-Pierre that he laid the foundations of a magnificent herbarium.

Following in the steps of Rousseau, the musician Stephan Eicher, a native of Switzerland's lake-lands region, firstly lived for a time on Saint-Pierre, where he made recordings of characteristic sounds and completed the unfinished herbarium. He went on to visit the house where Rousseau was born in Geneva and spent time walking around the narrow streets and alleyways of the Old Town. As he was doing so, he became aware of numerous parallels between the two locations. These experiences have resulted in an audio-guided city walk illustrated with photographs showing, among other things, the completed Ile Saint-Pierre herbarium.

**Audio-guided Walk downloadable
at www.rousseau2012.ch**

From 19 January to 12 December 2012

All Roads lead to Rousseau

Tous les chemins mènent à Rousseau

Tous les chemins mènent à Rousseau is a series of walks enabling us to relive the historical context in which Rousseau was brought up and his ideas were born. Small holders containing outlines of the walks are available, together with summaries in English to enable everyone to share in the political, economic, scientific, artistic, and architectural history of 18th century Geneva.

At the same time, ("Heritage Guides") "Guides du patrimoine" will be offering guided visits, conducted in several languages including English, German, Italian, and Swedish, dealing with each of the five foregoing topics. Their commentaries will use the streets and buildings of Old Town Geneva as instructional resources.

City of Geneva

From 1 April to 31 October 2012

Timetable of Guided Visits:

www.rousseau2012.ch

www.espace-rousseau.ch



2012
ROUSSEAU
POUR TOUS