

## BAM 2019 Winter/Spring Season

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**BAM and Les Arts Florissants present *Rameau, maître à danser*,  
Mar 1—3**

**Two rarely-seen opera-ballets by Rameau demonstrate the  
ensemble's continued supremacy in the French Baroque repertoire**

**Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor**

***Rameau, maître à danser***

By Jean-Philippe Rameau

Les Arts Florissants

Conducted by William Christie

Directed by Sophie Daneman

Choreography by Françoise Denieau, restaged by Gilles Poirier

Costume design by Alain Blanchot

Lighting design by Christophe Naillet

**BAM Howard Gilman Opera House** (30 Lafayette Ave)

Mar 1 & 2 at 7:30pm; Mar 3 at 3pm

Tickets start at \$30

**Jan 18, 2019/Brooklyn, NY**—Les Arts Florissants celebrates its 40th anniversary in New York with its 19th appearance at BAM, presenting a double-bill of two of Jean-Philippe Rameau's late opera-ballets under the title of *Rameau, maître à danser*. The program demonstrates the ensemble's continued supremacy in the French Baroque repertoire.

Although created separately, the two pieces on this program share commonalities. Both were composed by Rameau in his 70s, demonstrating his masterful command of the style. Both were intended for a more private and intimate presentation at the Fontainebleau, away from the glare of the Paris critics. Both are in the non-tragic genre of opera-ballet, with pastoral settings. Director Sophie Daneman, a Les Arts Florissants alumna, created a simple and unified staging by placing both orchestra and performers on stage, allowing visible interactions by all. *Daphnis et Églé* (1753) tells the story of two shepherds whose love for each other was only revealed to them by Cupid. According to some musicologists, it alludes to the affair between Louis XIV and Madame de Pompadour. *La Naissance d'Osiris* (1754) is an allegorical celebration of the birth of the Duke of Berry, future Louis XVI.

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BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

Outside the Temple of Jupiter in Egyptian Thebes, shepherds and townspeople gather in anticipation of a happy event, the birth of the god Osiris.

This presentation coincides with the 40th anniversary of Les Arts Florissants. This period instrument ensemble was founded by the American-born William Christie to explore the (then) seldom heard French Baroque music. It is now an organization that comprises the world-renowned ensemble with an expanding repertoire, a training institute for young singers (Le Jardin des Voix), and a newly established Fondation Les Arts Florissants–William Christie, which will perpetuate Christie's life's work in music performance, education, audience development, recording, publishing, and the art of gardens—both in his Thiré estate and abroad.

The cast are: Élodie Fonnard (Eglé), Reinoud Van Mechelen (Daphnis), Magali Leger (Amour), Cyril Costanzo (High priest), Magali Leger (Pamilié), Sean Clayton (a townsfolk) Cyril Costanzo (High priest of Jupiter), François Lis (Jupiter), Romain Arreghini, Bruno Benne, Andrea Miltnerova, Artur Zakirov, Robert Le Nuz, and Anne-Sophie Ott (dancers).

**William Christie**, a harpsichordist, conductor, musicologist, and teacher, is the inspiration behind one of the most exciting musical adventures of the last 40 years. His pioneering work has led to a renewed appreciation of 17th- and 18th-century French repertoire. He founded Les Arts Florissants in 1979 and received major public recognition in 1987 with the production of *Atys* at the Opéra Comique in Paris (the production's US debut was presented at BAM in 1989; its universally praised revival was presented at BAM in September 2011).

The vocal and instrumental ensemble **Les Arts Florissants** remains one of the world's most renowned and respected musical performance groups. Dedicated to Baroque music on original instruments, the ensemble takes its name from a short opera by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. William Christie and Les Arts Florissants made their first BAM appearance in 1989 and have returned with 18 critically acclaimed engagements, most recently with *Les Fêtes Vénitiennes* (2016 Winter/Spring Season).

**Sophie Daneman** studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and has gained international fame in a diverse repertory. Particularly appreciated as a vocal recitalist, she has performed in venues as London's Wigmore and Queen Elizabeth Halls, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Vienna's Musikverein, and New York's Carnegie Hall. Her opera roles include *Rodelinda*, Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare*, *Theodora*, Dalila in *Samson*, and *Pelléas et Mélisande*, among others. As a stage director, she directed the 2011 and 2013 editions of *Le Jardin des Voix*.

For press information, contact David Hsieh at [dhsieh@BAM.org](mailto:dhsieh@BAM.org) or 718.724.8027.

#### Credits

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Produced by Théâtre de Caen. Co-produced by Les Arts Florissants (with the support of the Selz Foundation) and Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles.

Les Arts Florissants receives financial support from the Ministry of Culture, the Département de la Vendée and the Région Pays de la Loire. The Ensemble has been in residence at the Philharmonie de Paris since 2015 and has obtained the French national label «Centre Culturel de Rencontre». The Selz Foundation, American Friends of Les Arts Florissants and Crédit Agricole Corporate & Investment Bank are Principal Sponsors. In 2019, Les Arts Florissants celebrates its 40th anniversary!

#### General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater) D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue  
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center

Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit [BAM.org](http://BAM.org).

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