

## THOMAS BLOCH

Thomas Bloch (born 1962) is a french musician who lives in Paris. He is a worldwide prominent classical soloist specializing in the rare instruments (ondes Martenot, glassharmonica, cristal Baschet). His performances range from classical and contemporary music to songs, rock, theatre music, opera, improvisation, film music, world music, ballet music. He is also a composer and a producer.

Receiving a a First Prize for ondes Martenot at the Paris Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique (with Jeanne Loriod) and a Masters Degree in Musicology at the University of Strasbourg, Thomas Bloch has performed over 2500 times in 40 countries and appeared on over 100 recordings, as well personal or as an invited performer.

He teaches ondes Martenot at the Strasbourg Conservatoire, he is a musical director for the Evian Music Festival (France) and is responsible for presentations of his instruments at the Paris Musée de la Musique.

Among numerous notable collaborations : Radiohead, John Cage, Gorillaz and Damon Albarn, Tom Waits, Marianne Faithfull, Bob Wilson, Emilie Simon (*The March of Penguins*), Milos Forman (*Amadeus*), Jean-François Zygel, Michel Plasson, Myung-Whun Chung, Paul Sacher, Maurice Bourgue, Alexei Ogrintchouk, Patrick Gallois, Andras Adorjan, Pierre-Yves Artaud, Vladimir Mendelssohn, Philippe Muller, Gil Sharon, Roger Muraro, Jay Gottlieb, quatuor Rosamonde, Balanescu quartet, Orlando quartet, Artis quartet, Michel Redolfi, Marcel Landowski, Jacques Chailley, Philippe Sarde, Isabelle Huppert, Charles Berling, -M-, Yvan Cassar, Manu Dibango, Fred Frith, Phil Minton, Lara Fabian, Vanessa Paradis...

Thomas Bloch was invited to give the first 20th century audition of the original version with glassharmonica from the *Mad Scene (Lucia di Lammermoor)* by Donizetti) in Milano *Scala* and he has played ondes Martenot as a soloist for the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra centenary (cond. Antoni Wit). He often plays in all concerts hall in Paris (Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Opera, Olympia, Salle Pleyel...) and in Amsterdam Concertgebouw, in Zürich Tonhalle, in Tokyo, New York, Mexico, Los Angeles Sydney, San Francisco, Budapest, Bogota, Stockholm, Helsinki, Prag, Tel Aviv, Seattle, Reykjavik, Salzburg, Berlin, London, Philadelphia, Lisbon, Riga, Firenze (Maggio Musicale), in Prades Pablo Casals Festival, in Luzern Festival, in Kuhmo Festival, in La Chaise Dieu Festival, in Presences Festival (Paris), in Musica (Strasbourg), in Beethoven Festival (Bonn)... He has been part of more than 200 TV and radio programs.

He has awarded by the *Classical Music Award 2002* given by European critics during *Midem* (Cannes) together with *The Choice of Gramophon* magazine, *Best of the Year 2001* in *Audiophile* and *Choc* in *Le Monde de la Musique* for his interpretation of Olivier Messiaen's *Turangalila-Symphonie* (Naxos) with Antoni Wit (cond.) and François Weigel (piano), *Victoires de la Musique*, Prix de l'*Académie Charles Cros* and four times best soundtrack during the *World Subaquatic Movies Festival* in Antibes.

As a soloist of his rare instruments, Thomas Bloch performs almost the complete classical and modern repertoire but also premieres 10 to 15 new works each year. He is also the first musician who played alone and without stop the complete Erik Satie's *Vexations*, a 24 hours piano piece.

He also gives numerous performances for specials events : 150th Luis Vuitton Cup - America's Cup anniversary, Canal + (TV) 20th anniversary, BNP - Paribas Foundation 10th anniversary, for General Electric, Christofle, Corning Museum of Glass, Versailles castle...

Thomas Bloch has recorded for most of labels (Columbia, EMI, Erato, Deutsche Grammophon, Harmonia Mundi, Philips, RCA, Sony Classical, Toshiba, Naïve, D&G, K.617...). Since a few years, he appears in about 10 personal recordings on Naxos.