

## ENSEMBLE NOVALIS

**Etienne Lamaison**

Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

**Sophia Vaillant**

Piano

with

**Paul Bendzsa**

Clarinet

Four Pieces, Op. 5 (1913)

Alban Berg  
(1885-1935)

A LAMAISON, Op. 48\* (1993)

Michael Parker  
(b. 1948)

Variations, Op. 27 (1935-36)

Anton Webern  
(1883-1945)

Clair (1980)

In Two Parts

Franco Donatoni  
(b. 1927)

Sonata for Two Clarinets (1918, rev. 1945)

I. *Presto*  
II. *Andante*  
III. *Vif*

Francis Poulenc  
(1899-1963)

## INTERMISSION

Chô\* (1993)

Thierry Pécou  
(b. 1965)

12 Notations (1945)

Pierre Boulez  
(b. 1925)

Prelude and Fugue After Bach,  
Opus 44a\* (1991)

Michael Parker

\**World Premiere*



**Memorial**  
University of Newfoundland



**Etienne Lamaison** was born in 1966 in Angers where he began his studies in clarinet at the Conservatoire National du Région with N. Boudon, graduating in clarinet in 1984.

After working with M. Arrignon and G. Deplus, he entered the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique (CNSM) of Lyon. He worked there with J. Di Donato and in 1989 obtained his certificate in clarinet (with unanimous first class honours) as well as various other electives. Along with a certificate in chamber music in an ensemble of voice, clarinet and piano, he took a class in compositional technique at the CNSM of Lyon.

From an eclectic approach to music, he has specialized in the interpretation of works of the 20th century for solo clarinet (Stockhausen, Donatoni) for which he has become noted, especially after his six month residency in the extraordinary environment of the Banff Centre for the Arts. The training in chamber music there was intense, with coaching by artists of international renown such as G. Sebok, A. Kuerti and R. Aitken. During this residency, he participated in the premieres of several works, particularly those of Canadian composers (M. Parker, S. Volet, H. Bانشaw). The close relationships which he enjoyed with these artists has led him to commission new works from them.

He has also distinguished himself at several international competitions, becoming a semi-finalist in 1989 in Geneva (Switzerland) as well as finalist and winner of the Hans Romney Memorial Prize at Tunbridge Wells (Great Britain).

He is currently member of the chamber music ensemble **Novalis**, clarinetist with the Orchestra of Bretagne and is furthering his studies on the Bass Clarinet at the CNSM of Paris.

Born in 1969, **Sophia Vaillant** began her studies of the piano when she was five years old. After completing all her musical studies at the Conservatoire National de Région de Boulogne-Billancourt in the class of Geneviève Ibanez, and graduating (with unanimous first class honours) in piano in 1987, and in chamber music in 1988, she entered the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique of Lyon in the piano class of Pierre Pontier and in the chamber music class of Alain Meunier, Jacques Prat, and Jacques Aboulker.

In 1992 she was awarded the Diplôme National d'Etudes Supérieures Musicales (unanimous first class honours) in Performance. Drawn by her love of chamber music, she attended the Banff Centre for the Arts in Canada on full scholarship for the six month winter session of 1991/92.

Sophia Vaillant has also been coached by such great artists as Yvonne Loriod, Jean-François Hesser, Georgy Sebok, Jean-Pierre Drouet, Michel Becquet and Robert Aitken.

She has already given several concerts as soloist and in chamber music ensembles in Canada and in France (Paris, Lyon, Monaco and Haute-Provence, Haute-Savoie and Provence Côte d'Azur).

Currently, Sophia Vaillant is continuing her studies at the Guildhall School in London where she is also on scholarship.

**Paul Bendzsa**, woodwind specialist, teacher and performer has been a faculty member at Memorial University since 1976. His enthusiasm for new music and musical adventure has led him to founding memberships in a diverse number of ensembles: The Atlantic Arts Trio, the Canadian Saxophone Quintet, Fusion, and most recently the Blue Rider Ensemble. As a result of these collaborations a number of tours have taken him across Canada, to England, Spain, Hong Kong, Korea and Australia where newly commissioned and classical music have been performed.

*The artists would like to express their appreciation to Gerard Walsh and Roxanne Morrissey for their generous hospitality during their stay in St. John's.*