

Medieval Meets Jazz

A pianist with boundless curiosity, Baptiste Bailly grew up musically within numerous creative ensembles in both France and Spain. Although he comes from the world of improvised music, Baptiste has always been intrigued and moved by the melodies of the Middle Ages, and in 2022 he embarked on the creation of a project reinterpreting songs from the 14th century, particularly inspired by the idea that as the centuries pass, melodic sensitivity remains intact.

Freed from any constraints of the present, the timelessness of the feelings it conveys gives this music great freedom in its interpretation, enough to make it resonate today in the world around us, with the instruments that surround us. It is in this way's, #Amour Courtois carries an anachronistic aesthetic, contrasting Baptiste Bailly's piano, Matthew Baker's baryton, and Efen López's hurdy-gurdy and ouds, with 14th-century songs, mostly from the French repertoire: Machaut, Binchois, and Lescurel.

The jazz world places great importance on the notion of "standard." However, a song isn't born standard: it becomes one. As it travels from one musician to another, across space and time, it changes face, while retaining its original identity.

It is through this prism that Baptiste Bailly, Matthew Baker et Efen López approach their arrangements. In this way, while the original melodies are respected as closely as possible, with the aim of preserving their essence, they change the settings, time signatures, chords, context, and costumes. Improvised or newly written passages are integrated into the pieces, like moments of intimate expression nourished by the eclecticism of their personalities and influences, revealing a touching and spontaneous musical craftsmanship, boundless and timeless.