

Frank Salomon Associates

Your partner for the most exceptional musical experiences

DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON'S FIRST CELLIST IN OVER 40 YEARS!

Camille Thomas, the first-ever female cellist signed by Deutsche Grammophon, is one of the most exciting young artists in recent memory. The Franco-Belgian cellist's rich, yet elegant, sound, and effortless virtuosity make her an audience favorite around the world.

Camille Thomas, cello

RECENT & UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

- Elgar Cello Concerto, w. National, Houston, Quebec Symphonies & LA Phil
- Anna Clyne *Dance* at Theatre du Chatelet in Paris w/Gábor Takács-Nagy
- *Voice of Hope* on DG with Stephane Deneve & Brussels Philharmonic
- World Premiere of Fazil Say's cello concerto "Never Give Up" (written for Camille)
- Schumann Cello Concerto w/Paavo Jarvi & Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen
- Lalo Cello Concerto w/Mikko Franck & Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia
- Saint-Saens Cello Concerto at Elbphilharmonie w /Philharmonisches Staatsorchester Hamburg

SAMPLE PROGRAMS

<1> *From Casals to Chopin, Song of the Cello*
(see p2 for notes)

Casals: Song of the birds "El cant dels ocells" cello solo
Chopin: Prelude op.28 no.4 (arr. by C. Thomas)
Franchomme; Nocturne op.14 no.1
Chopin: Prelude op.28 no.15 (arr. by Franck)
Chopin: Cello Sonata op.65
JS Bach: Orchestral Suite No.3 in D, 'Air for G String', vc/pn
Chopin: Nocturne in B minor op. posth.
- Lento con gran espressione
Franck: Air Russe Varié op.32
Popper: Hungarian Rhapsody op.68

<2> *Midnight in Paris*

includes works of **Duke Ellington**, **Nadia Boulanger** and a focus on music from the period between the world wars.

<3> *The Voice of Hope*

Ravel: Kaddish
Schubert: Gretchen am Spinnrade - Erlkönig - Litanei
Bruch: Kol Nidrei
Beethoven: 7 Var. on *Bei Männern welche Liebe fühlen*
Messiaen: Louange à l'éternité de Jésus
Franck: Cello Sonata in A Major, M. 8

Additional collaborations on consult

**Programs subject to change*



AWARDS & HONORS

- First cellist in over 40 years (and first-ever female cellist) signed to Deutsche Grammophon
- Forbes 30 under 30 – Europe Art & Culture
- European Broadcasting Union's "New Talent of the Year 2014"
- Nominated "Newcomer of the Year 2014" by "Les Victoires de la Musique" (French Grammys)
- Recording released in Partnership with UNICEF
- 'Voice of Hope' Museum films seen by thousands, incl. French TV, PBS Newshour, BBC

POPULAR RECORDINGS

- *The Chopin Project* (3CD Set DG, June 2023) - **over 10 million streams!**
- *Voice of Hope*, (DG 2020; Vinyl release 2023)
- *Saint-Saens, Offenbach* (DG)
- *Reminiscences* (La Dolce Volta; Winner ECHO Klassik Award)
- *A Century of Russian Colors* (Fuga Libera)

Camille Thomas records exclusively for DG

Frank Salomon Associates is the exclusive North American Management for Camille Thomas

"Camille Thomas... has all the requisite technique and produces a sound I can only liken to drinking hot chocolate: delicious, warming, full of flavour."
—Gramophone Magazine

Frank Salomon Associates

Your partner for the most exceptional musical experiences

PROGRAM NOTES - Chopin Project

"Music is the divine way to tell beautiful, poetic things to the heart."

— Pablo Casals

This program is a tribute to two great cellists of the past: Pablo Casals and Auguste Franchomme, both still alive in our memories through the song of their cellos, a mirror of the human voice and soul.

Casals is the start of the journey. His "Song of the birds", a traditional Catalan carol that he played all his lifetime, is like a symbol of his greatness. At the end of his life, he performed it at the United Nations when he received the UN Peace Medal. These were his words before he began playing:

'I have not played the cello in public for many years, but I feel that the time has come to play again. I am going to play a melody from Catalan folklore: El cant dels ocells - The Song of the Birds. Birds sing when they are in the sky, they sing: "Peace, Peace, Peace", and it is a melody that Bach, Beethoven and all the greats would have admired and loved. What is more, it is born in the soul of my people, Catalonia.'

Casals is known as the cellist who rediscovered the cello bible, the Bach Suites, and Bach is for me always associated with his name. He recorded the Bach Air transcribed for cello and piano by the famous German cellist Julius Klengel for Columbia Records in 1920. And David Popper, a cello virtuoso from Bohemia, composed many pieces for our instrument that Casals often played as encores on his concerts.

The other central person of this musical journey is the cellist Auguste-Joseph Franchomme. At the twilight of his life Frederic Chopin composed his sonata for cello and piano and dedicated it to his dear friend cellist Auguste-Joseph. This is the last work to be published during his lifetime.

The day before his death Chopin asked to hear it and Franchomme, at his bedside in a salon in the Place Vendôme, played the second and third movements ... Like the testament of a life that ends in full swing, each note of the sonata reflects the immense human and artistic friendship that binds the two men. Through music, transparent separation between their hearts and the heart of the world, they become immortal.

This eternity still vibrates today through Auguste Franchomme's instrument, a Stradivarius cello from 1730 today known under the name of Stradivarius Feuermann ... a mythical cello that I have had the immense honor to play for some years.

The very last letter of Chopin was addressed to Franchomme to whom he confided: "my favorite instrument is the cello". He will compose outside the piano almost only for this instrument and will even say that he finds no objection to his pieces for solo piano being transcribed for other instruments, as long as it is arranged with taste. Franchomme did not need to be asked and it is the work of all these legendary musicians that I am happy to bring to life in this program.

© Camille Thomas

Camille Thomas records exclusively for Deutsche Grammophon
Follow Ms. Thomas online at Facebook (@CamilleThomasCellist),
Instagram (@camillethomascellist), YouTube (@CamilleThomasCello), and Twitter (@CamilleThomasOF).
Visit her web site (camillethomas.com) for additional information about touring, recordings, and special projects.