

# The Romanian Rhapsodies for violin & piano

**Clara CERNAT** *Violin*

**Thierry HUILLET** *Piano*

**CLICK** [Playlist Four Romanian Rhapsodies Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)



**A superb musical program of original works**

**A remarkable promotion of the rich Romanian folklore**

**from the 17th to the 21st century**

**Clara CERNAT & Thierry HUILLET : two exceptional musicians who have been sharing life and concerts for more than 20 years. They performed in many important venues and festivals around the world.**

**Wishing to reconnect with the great romantic tradition, having as an inspiration Franz Liszt's Rhapsodies, Thierry Huillet, pianist and composer, pays tribute to his spouse, the Romanian virtuoso Clara Cernat. For her, and with her collaboration, he composed four Romanian Rhapsodies for violin and piano. The world premiere of these works took place in 2020 at the great International Festival « Musiques Sacrées-Musiques du Monde » of the Sylvanès Abbey in the South of France.**

**From a musical and poetical point of view, the Rhapsodies are a great journey from the 17th to the 21st century, featuring essential themes of the Romanian folklore. These themes, in the past, have been sung, played or collected by the great European scholar and musician Dimitrie Cantemir, Prince of Moldavia, the legendary singer Maria Tanase, the great Gipsy minstrel violinists Grigoras Dinicu and Costica Pompieru, or the famous Pan flute player Anghelus Dinicu. Thierry Huillet and Clara Cernat, among others, develop Dinicu's well-known theme « The Lark », which became an iconic tune of Romanian music, played for the first time at the Universal Exposition of Paris in 1889, where Dinicu's Taraf won the Gold Medal.**

**After the stunning success of the concerts, Thierry Huillet composed the orchestration of the four rhapsodies. In September 2020, he recorded them, both in audio and video, conducting the Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse with Clara Cernat as a soloist.**

**« Let's thank the Gipsy minstrels, as they kept for us the Music, a treasure that, only now, we begin to appreciate ; they unearthed it, they relayed and entrusted it from father to son, with this holy care that they have for their dearest asset : Music ».**

**This marvelous quote of the great composer Georges Enesco perfectly illustrates this unique program of musical creation, inspired by the abundant and extremely rich Romanian folklore.**

**A dazzling virtuoso and expressive repertoire!**

## **CLARA CERNAT Violinist**



Clara CERNAT, violinist and viola player, is one of the representative artists of the great Romanian violin school. She lives in France with her husband, composer and pianist Thierry Huillet.

Clara Cernat was a disciple of Stefan Gheorghiu at the Bucharest Music Academy, where she was awarded the highest marks in numerous disciplines. She won several scholarships and she could deepen her art of violin at the Bonn International Music Academy, Germany, winning the diploma of the special program « Europe's greatest talents » (professor Igor Ozim), then at the Ecole Supérieure de Violon Tibor Varga in Sion, Switzerland (professor Tibor Varga). Clara Cernat's career took off after winning the 1<sup>st</sup> Prizes in both J.S. Bach and Città di Andria International Competitions, as well as the Mozart Special Prize and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in the Kloster Schöntal International Competition.

She is welcomed as a soloist in large venues around the world and in important festivals, such as Théâtre de la Monnaie (Bruxelles), Seoul Arts Center (South Korea), Théâtre du Châtelet (Paris), Palau de la Musica, Auditori and Teatro Liceo (Barcelona), National Center for Performing Arts (NCPA-Beijing), Filarmonica Romana (Italy), Festival Croisements (China), Enesco International Festival (Bucharest), Teatro Gran Rex, Centro Cultural Kirchner (Buenos Aires), Filarmonica Lima, Kings Place Festival (London), Accademia Santa Cecilia (Rome).

As a soloist with orchestra, she performs the main violin concertos as well as new works for violin or viola, together with well-known ensembles: Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre de Pau-Pays de Béarn, Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse, Korean Chamber Orchestra, National Radio Orchestra of Slovenia, Camerata Regala, National Radio Orchestra of Romania, Empordà Chamber Orchestra, Filarmonica Banatul Timisoara, Wind Orchestra of Barcelona, Ensemble Orchestral de Corse.

Numerous broadcasts have been dedicated to Clara Cernat (KBC1 TV Séoul, France3, BBC, Radio France, CCTV China, Slovenian Radio-TV, RAI, Deutsche Welle, Radio România, TVR).

Her eclectic repertoire and her taste for beautiful and rare works brought her unanimous recognition. Her CDs and DVDs, with music by Enesco, Bloch, Turina, Kunc, Beethoven, Brahms, Fauré, Liszt, Saint-Saëns, Huillet have been warmly reviewed by the critics (Événement Télérama *ffff*, 5 Diapasons, Recommandé par Classica, Coup de cœur Piano Magazine, Le Choix de France-Musique). Her recordings for the Romanian Radio entered the Gold Phonothèque.

She is also much sought-after chamber music artist, both as a violinist and as a violist, being particularly recognized as a favorite performer of George Enesco's music. Together with Thierry Huillet, pianist and her partner in life and on stage, she founded a duet, playing worldwide and unanimously praised by the music lovers, in concert halls and on internet.

Clara Cernat is a senior professor at the Toulouse Conservatoire (France) and often gives violin and viola master classes.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/cernathuillet>

# Thierry HUILLET Conductor, Composer & Pianist



## Thierry HUILLET, Composer

The essence of Thierry Huillet's life is composition, which occupies an ever-expanding place in his world, with a catalogue of about 120 works, from solo instrument to symphonic orchestra, as well as vocal compositions (catalogue available on [www.musique21.com](http://www.musique21.com) ).

Important institutions have commissioned works to Huillet: Radio-France, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre symphonique du Pays Basque, Orchestre Les Passions, Wind Orchestra of Barcelona , Epinal International Piano Competition, La Cité de l'Espace Toulouse, Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse, Orchestre de Pau-Pays de Béarn, Musica Activa Barcelona, as well as many festivals: Abbaye de Sylvanès, Comminges, les Orgues d'Urrugne, Notes d'Automne, Eclats de Voix.

Huillet's orchestral works are played by important world orchestras. For exemple : "Le Petit Prince, Concert pour orchestre" : Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre National de Lille, Musique de l'Air, Orchestre Symphonique du Pays Basque, Orchestre Symphonique de Mulhouse, Orchestre Natională de cameră a Republicii Moldova, Orchestre de Pau-Pays de Béarn, Orquesta de Extremadura, Orchestra din Neuquen-Argentina.

"Un Requiem" for 2 sopranos & string orchestra (Laura Tătulescu, Sarah Defrise & Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse), "Le Carnaval de la Forêt" & "Seven Tales by La Fontaine" (Orchestre Symphonique du Pays Basque) "Concerto Porteño" (Clara Cernat & Korean Chamber Orchestra), "Fantaisie et Hymne sur le Se Canto" (Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse), piano concert (Barcelona Wind orchestra), cello concerto ( Damien Ventula & Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse).

Thierry Huillet regularly conducts orchestras and ensembles.

His works are played in major festivals and concert halls throughout the world :  
Enesco International Festival Bucharest, Festival Croisements NCPA Beijing, Suona Francese Italy, Auditori Barcelona, Filarmonica Romana Italy, Musique en Polynésie Tahiti and many others.  
His scores are published by several editors: Alphonse Leduc, Soldano, Editions du Lorient and Lelia Productions.

Many recordings of his works are available at Lelia Productions, worldwide distributed.  
Thierry Huillet is a senior professor in the Toulouse Conservatoire and often gives master classes in various countries. He is frequently invited as a juror at International Piano Competitions.

### **Thierry HUILLET, Pianist**

He won the First Prize at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, USA (1987).  
He also met with success in several further competitions, such as the Busoni International Piano Competition (1985 & 1994) and Tokyo International Piano Competition (1989).  
He spent intense musical years at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris, studying with Pierre Sancan and Germaine Mounier, also attending master classes with Paul Badura-Skoda and Leon Fleischer.

Thierry Huillet has played as a soloist with Symphonic Orchestras around the world: the Cleveland Orchestra, RAI Orchestra, Tokyo Symphony, Romanian National Radio Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Lille, Ensemble Orchestral de Paris, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse, Orchestre des Pays de Loire, to name a few.  
In Moscow, he met his wife-to-be, Clara Cernat, Romanian violinist and violist, with whom he recorded numerous CDs, performing works of Enescu, Turina, Bloch, Liszt, Brahms, Saint-Saëns, Chausson and many others. Their CDs were warmly welcomed by the press (ffff Télérama, Le Choix de France Musique, Recommandé par Classica, Diapason).  
Important venues welcome Huillet around the world : National Center for Performing Arts Beijing, Auditori Barcelona, Kings Place London, Bunka Kaikan Tokyo, Ateneu Bucharest, Hanoi Opera, Severance Hall Cleveland, Salle Gaveau and Théâtre du Châtelet Paris, Cecilia Meireles Concert Hall Rio de Janeiro, Teatro Coliseo and Teatro Grand Rex Buenos Aires, Filarmonica Lima. He has given many recitals in South Korea, Japan, China, Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Italy, Romania, Croatia, Slovenia, Belgium, Spain, Greece, France, UK, Austria, Portugal, Hungary, Czech Republic, USA, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, Guatemala, Tunisia, Libya.

### **Thierry HUILLET, Conductor**

Thierry Huillet conducted in prestigious concert halls : Seoul Arts Center, Halle aux Grains de Toulouse, Filarmonica de Burgos, Filarmonica de Oviedo, Teatro Metropol de Tarragona, Palais des Congrès d'Ajaccio, Palais Beaumont de Pau, Timisoara University, and important festivals : Pirineos Classic Spain , Festival de Madiran France, Sunetul Sinagilor Romania.  
He is invited as a conductor by the Korean Chamber Orchestra Seoul, Pori Sinfonietta Finlanda, Orchestre de Chambre de Toulouse, Ensemble Orchestral de Corse, Orchestre Symphonique du Pays Basque France, etc.  
From his piano, he is conducting the classical piano concerts : Bach, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, also contemporary works .

[Click : THIERRY HUILLET EN VIDEOS](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/cernathuillet>

[www.musique21.com](http://www.musique21.com)

**Clara CERNAT Violin**  
**Thierry HUILLET Piano**

**Program 1 : Colors of Romania**

*(60 minutes without intermission)*

- Thierry HUILLET** « The Post Horn »
- Thierry HUILLET** « Hora Rhapsody »
- Ciprian PORUMBESCU** « Balada » *(harmonization by Thierry Huillet)*
- Thierry HUILLET** « Voyage Rhapsody »
- Thierry HUILLET** « Valahia Rhapsody »

**Program 2 : Rhapsodies from the World**

*(1st part 40 minutes, intermission 15 minutes, 2nd part 33 minutes)*

- Thierry HUILLET** « The Post Horn »
- Franz LISZT** « Hungarian Rhapsody »
- Thierry HUILLET** « Voyage Rhapsody »

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- George Gershwin** « Rhapsody in blue »  
*Arrangement for violin & piano by Thierry Huillet*
- Thierry HUILLET** « Valahia Rhapsody »

### **Program 3 : Rhapsodies from Europe**

*(1st part 42 minutes, intermission 15 minutes, 2nd part 38 minutes)*

**Edvard GRIEG**                      Sonata for violin and piano opus 13

- Lento doloroso ; Allegro vivace
- Allegretto tranquillo
- Allegro animato

**Thierry HUILLET**                      « The Post Horn »

**Thierry HUILLET**                      « Hora Rhapsody »

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**Thierry HUILLET**                      « Voyage Rhapsody »

**Isaac ALBENIZ**                      « Sevilla »

**Thierry HUILLET**                      « Valahia Rhapsody »

#### **LINKS Youtube**

[Playlist Romanian Rhapsodies Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)

[Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)

[Liszt Hungarian Rhapsody Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)

[Porumbescu Balada Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)

[Albeniz Sevilla Clara Cernat & Thierry Huillet](#)

#### **Other links :**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cernathuillet>

[www.musique21.com](http://www.musique21.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/CernatHuilletDuet/>

<https://www.facebook.com/huilletcomposer/>

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