

## Maude Gratton biography

Born at Niort, Western France, in 1983, Maude Gratton enjoys an international career as keyboard soloist on organ, harpsichord and piano. She also performs regularly alongside such musicians as Jerome Hantai, Philippe Pierlot, Damien Guillon, and Bruno Cocset. For several years, she has been a member of the Collegium Vocale de Gent under Philippe Herreweghe and of Le Concert Français under Pierre Hantai.

She is a founder member of Il Convito, a chamber music ensemble formed in 2005. It was prizewinner on the Declic programme sponsored by Cultures France in 2007. The ensemble has appeared at numerous festivals in France (La Folle Journée, Saintes, la Roque d'Antheron...) and abroad (North, South and Central America, Belgium, Sweden...). In recent years, she has founded and now directs various projects in Western France, including L'Académie de Musique de Saint-Loup, and the Musiques en Gatine festival. She also takes part in the Vannes Early Music Institute directed by Bruno Cocset.

Her first solo recording featured works by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach. It won a Diapason d'Or in 2009 and was Editor's Choice in Gramophone magazine. She was organ soloist in music by JS Bach on the debut CD of the Banquet Celeste, conducted by Damien Guillon, as well as in music by [the German Baroque organist Matthias] Weckmann, directed by Philippe Pierlot.

Several CDs have appeared on Mirare in 2014 and 2015 : sonatas for cello and piano by the eighteenth century Anglo-French composer Georges Onslow with soloist Emmanuel Jacques, and JS Bach's The Musical Offering with the Ricercar Consort. Still to come is a second volume of WF Bach's harpsichord concertos of. A disc of organ solos by JS Bach will appear on Phi, Outhere music, in 2016.

Maude Gratton is a graduate of the Paris Conservatoire (Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique) in harpsichord, basso continuo, organ and Renaissance counterpoint. She took second prize in the Concours International d'Orgue at Bruges, 2003, and was declared Young Soloist of the Year 2006 on Radios Francophones Publiques (French Public Radio).

Translated by Rick Jones