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## A magical way to spend an afternoon

A moment of reverie, lying in a deckchair, gazing at the sky, with the Song of the Sirens flowing over you - a charming musical siesta. From bass to piccolo, seven voices blend perfectly to create a harmonious soundscape the like of which you've never heard. The astonishing range, colour and expression of this new instrument are apparent in the repertoire, composed in-house.

## Musical siestas

Mécanique Vivante's Recitals are based on a symphonic form with our music composed in several movements. From high-tempo trance to fluid adagios with infinite and minute variation in tone, the colourful music of the Siren Orchestra is stirring, moving and, like the Sirens of mythology, completely irresistible.

Artistic director : Franz Clochard - Composer : Benoît Louette - Lighting designer : Pierre Wendels



## The Journey

Constantly looking to innovate and create, Franz Clochard founded Mécanique Vivante in 1989 to apply his prodigious energy to his two loves: music and mechanics. His love of turning everyday objects to unfamiliar use found its apotheosis the day he came across an air raid siren. The pure sound and astonishing range of frequencies led him to realise the potential to make this siren sing. It's been an extraordinary voyage, rich with encounters and experiences. 20-odd years of artistic and technological R \& $D$ have led to the creation of the seven-piece Siren Orchestra: a piccolo, two sopranos, two altos, a tenor and a bass.
Mécanique Vivante's Song of the Sirens takes the listener on an unprecedented musical journey with a brand new voice. You have never heard anything like it!

## Technical info

## Staging:

Seven musical sirens suspended from stable, decorative brackets, are arranged in a semi-circle in front of the public. Reclining chairs, in blocks of five, can accommodate 200 people. This can be increased to 300 seats, site and acoustics permitting.
Depending on the site, the Sirens can be arranged around the audience. This configuration gives a very different sound, surrounding the spectator with resonance. However, this configuration reduces the number of spectators.

## Content:

Alfresco Recitals take the form of 20 minute recitals, each different and each with a live performance of Franz Clochard on Sirenium. The cycle of 'movements' can be repeated several times a day.
Musical encounters can be envisaged, with our associated musicians: giant-bell trombones, orchestral tympani, Icarus guitar (which needs to be seen to be believed). Each encounter is staged, lit and stage-managed by the company. They necessitate a certain amount of technical input and personnel. It is also possible to perform with guest musicians. This type of musical encounter needs to be planned well in advance since it involves creation and composition of the music as well as staging.

## Planning

Arrival team : D-2 midday • Departure : D+1 midday Setup and breakdown : 12 hours

## Board \& lodging

Single rooms and meals for 4 people from D-2 midday to $\mathrm{D}+1$ midday

## Technical requirements

## - 1 manager for the company

- 2 technicians for setup \& breakdown
- 2 TRI-PHASE 380V-32A-50Hz electrical supplies - 7 PAR 64 with power blocks for nocturnal shows - 7 LED strips with dimmer
- Permanent security for the installation (guards)

Contacts
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