

GÉRALDINE KELLER



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Géraldine Keller is an opera singer, vocalist and flautist whose repertoire is rooted in the creation of contemporary works, emphasizing the complementarity of written and improvised music. A former visual artist turned sound explorer, she has always pursued an open musical path, combining it with contemporary dance, musical theater, object theater, poetry and performance.

Since 1992, she is invited by numerous European ensembles, companies and festivals, and is closely involved in the creation of works by contemporary composers including François Rossé, Jean-Pierre Drouet, Christophe Havel, Hans Joachim Hespos, Thierry Alla, José Luis Campana, Alexandros Markéas, Arnaud Petit, Vinko Globokar, Sylvain Kassap, Frank Vigroux, Hèctor Parra, Martin Matalon, Sebastian Rivas, Jean-Christophe Feldhandler, Gonzalo Bustos, Jesper Nordin, Jürg Frey, Antony Pateras...

Thanks to her cross-disciplinary artistic adventures, she has forged lasting links and contributed to various projects with the ensembles Proxima Centauri (dir. Maribé Charrier), Ars Nova (dir. Philippe Nahon) and, more occasionally, with TM+ , 2E2M, Atmusica, Linéa, Ensemble Modern. Since 2006, she is a member of the European ensemble JH[IATUS], which presents programs combining written works and improvisations.

At the same time, she developed a fruitful collaboration with many french and european improvisers including Alfred Spirli, Jean-Luc Cappozzo (cd *Duo Air Prints*), Joëlle Léandre, Christine Wodrascka, Michel Doneda, Sophie Agnel, Claude Tchamitchian (cd *Acoustic Louzadsack*, cd *Sextet Traces*), Daunik Lazro - Dominique Répécaud - Carole Rieussec & Jean-Christophe Camps (cd *Actions soniques*) , Harald Kimmig, Jörgen Teller...

From 1996 to 2006 she was a member of the quartet *Da-Go-Bert*, whose music oscillates between atmospheric rock and free improvisation.

With Benjamin Bondonneau and Raphaël Saint-Remy, she takes part in both radio explorations, *Animaux en voie d'apparition* on France Culture - Création On Air (2017), and cartographic explorations, in the urban territory of *Champs-sur-Marne* or on an island *A Porquerolles*.

The encounter with the Alsatian poet and dramaturge Gaston Jung led to a long collaboration about poetry in French, Alsatian and German (1998-2006).

With Compagnie Le Grain-Théâtre de la voix (dir. Christine Dormoy) she sings in *Khoom* by Giacinto Scelsi (1998-2002), *Vertiges II- péra* by Jean-Pierre Drouet (2001-2007), *Ajour* by Novarina (2007), *13 Organa* by Arnaud Petit (2010).

She has also been an actress and singer in several theatrical projects: in *Les morts qui touchent* by Alexandre Koutchevsky, music by Martin Matalon (2013) and *Rêves d'Occident* by Jean-Marie Piemme, music by Jonathan Ponthier (2019) directed by Jean Boillot (cie La Spirale) and alongside author Raharimanana in *Parfois le vide* (2018), *Chants sacrés* and *Soonoo* (2021).

In her solo performances, she combines her long-term artistic experiences: improvisation as an essential matrix, a sculptural approach to sound, the body as the source and anchor of the voice, an exploratory vocality born from breath, poetry as a perceptive medium, and a particular attention to space.

Current adventures which she has joined :

- **Paysages Intérieur #3 - Babel Habile** by Karim Sebbar-Cie Pôle K, a visual and sonic poem questioning the origins of language (2022)

Origins of language (2022)

- ***Qui m'appelle?*** by Maguelone Vidal-Intensités: a sensorial operatic and collective experience on the expression of our singular identities (2023)
- ***Nô Man's Land*** by Raphaël Trano/Théâtre de l'Éventail, ongoing research questioning the contemporary imaginaries of femininity, working on the hybridization of forms (theater, music, dance) and aiming to create a resolutely contemporary Nô theater.

Her latest projects include :

- ***Le Cri de l'épervier***, a duo with Benjamin Bondonneau (clarinet/drawings), interweaves musical improvisations and collaborative paintings on texts by Luxembourg poet Anise Koltz.
- ***Ortie Brûlante*** duo with Christelle Séry (guitars), shifting from acoustic to hyper-electric sound on poems by Belgian writer Eugène Savitzkaya.
- ***Gegenlicht*** with violinist Dominique Pifarély crystallizes into an improvised duet on the poetry of Franco-Romanian author Paul Celan.
- ***Le lieu dit - Improtopie***, a trio with dancers Patricia Kuypers and Franck Beaubois, which elaborates improvisational bridges questioning space, body and voice.

Besides the instantaneous musical composition she has been practicing since her beginnings through improvisation in numerous concerts and performances, she has also composed the vocal and instrumental parts of the children's play *Soonoo* (2021), as well as several choral pieces for Raphaël Trano's current project *Nô Man's Land* (2023-24).

She also leads workshops and courses on improvisation, performing graphic scores and creating collective pieces. Since 2017, she has been teaching Contemporary Vocalities (vocal repertoire of the 20th and 21st centuries) at the high school for music, E.S.M. de Dijon / Bourgogne-Franche Comté, where she shares her taste for creation.