



PRESENTS

THE

Lafayette

MUSICAL & IMMERSIVE

BICENTENNIAL TOUR (1824-1825)



© Jean-Baptiste Millot

DISCOVER AN EXPERIENCE

AROUND AN ICONIC FIGURE IN AMERICAN HISTORY...



© Library of Congress / © Moran Percy

© Library of Congress / © John Ward Dunsmore

MYS227 PAINTING BY DUNSMORE WASHINGTON AND LAFAYETTE AT VALLEY FORGE COPYRIGHT, 1907, BY BROWN & BIGELOW, ST. PAUL AND TORONTO

ON THE
200 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY
OF HIS TRAVELS
BACK TO THE
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA



© Château de Versailles, Dist. RMN / © Christophe Fouin

Summary

1. About the Tour
2. About the Orchestra
3. About Lafayette
4. The Program & Music
5. The Immersive Experience
6. Meet the Team
7. Support for the Tour & the Orchestra
 1. Financial proposal
8. International Press & Media
9. Discography
10. Contact & inquiry

1. About the Tour

The French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is organizing a musical and immersive tour in the United States of America from April 24th until May 4th 2025 to celebrate the bicentennial of Marquis de Lafayette's travels, 50 years after the war of Independence.

The tour will focus on the key cities and landmarks of Lafayette's visit in 1825, including but not limited to New York, Washington, Boston, Philadelphia, Nashville, New Orleans & others...

The orchestra will be led by conductor Thomas Zehetmair and concert's program will be related to Lafayette's story & the time period of his tour.

Furthermore, an immersive sound & light experience at the beginning of the concert will retrace the Marquis' travels and incredible story.



© Château de Versailles, Dist. RMN / © Christophe Fouin

2. About the Orchestra



© Léonard Cohade

Under the baton of Principal Conductor Thomas Zehetmair and Associate Conductors Enrico Onofri and Christian Zacharias, the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is thrilled to launch a brand-new musical season packed with adventurous programs, concerts and tours.

Thanks to the support and impetus of our Associate Conductors and the surrounding region as a whole, our unique ensemble has been able to successfully enrich its repertoire with a plethora of original and inventive projects, weaving together a series of concerts across stages near and far in perfect harmony.



From quartet to orchestra, the globally-minded string ensemble continues to project the charm of its region across international borders, all the while innovating within the metropolis of Clermont-Ferrand and its home streets in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes through a whole host of musical formats suitable for all kinds of audiences, from Baby concerts and Coffee concerts, to recitals in nursing homes and local residencies: a diverse approach recognised by the Ministry of Culture in 2019, awarding the ensemble the prestigious title of "Orchestre national en région".

Testament to the huge diversity of its repertoire, to date the orchestra has recorded 50 albums exploring an abundance of musical styles, from baroque masterpieces to contemporary creations. The ensemble is also the first French orchestra to create its own 100% freely accessible digital label, OnA Live, which has currently been streamed more than 400,000 times in almost 90 countries.



© Jean-Baptiste Millot

Since it was founded in 1981, the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes has always strived to reach a broad audience both regionally and internationally. Nestled in the heart of the Massif Central, the ensemble is praised amongst French orchestral music lovers for its unique sonority, strength and quest for absolute perfection. Initially formed with Jean-Jacques Kantorow at the helm, the orchestra has a signature sound that has gradually been shaped by the invaluable input of musical directors past and present, now instantly recognised across the world.



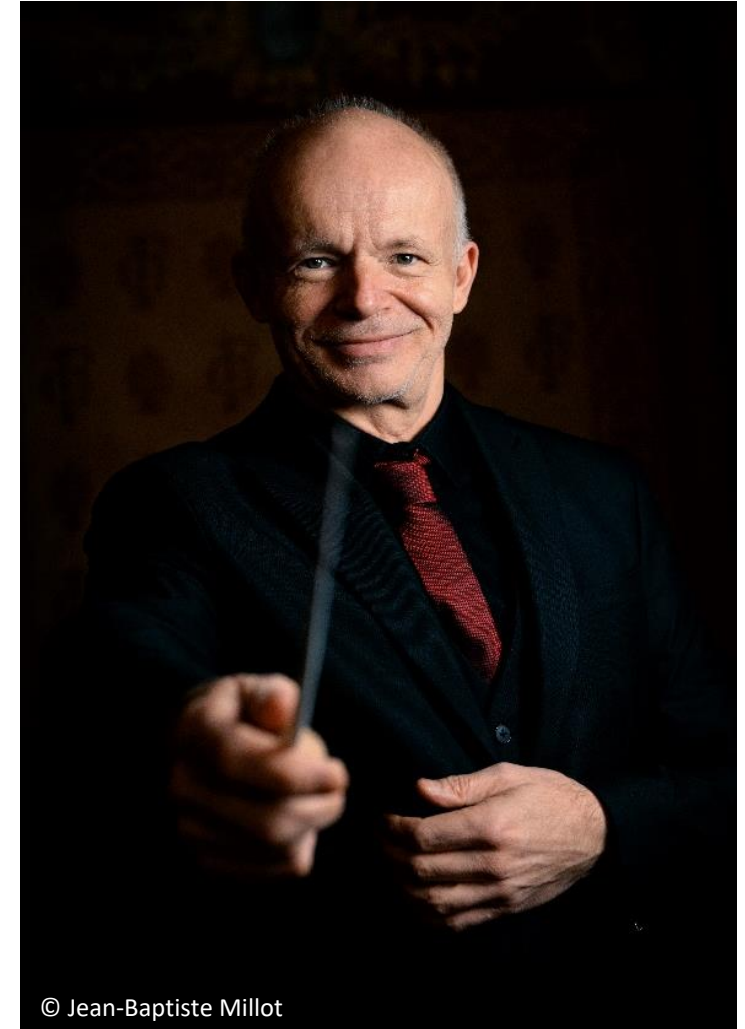
"The orchestra cultivates artistic excellence to offer its audiences subtle sensations and renewed experiences of better living through music. Every season, the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes makes a greater commitment to bringing the pleasures of music to as many people as possible, by developing numerous partnerships with institutions, cultural and social operators, in order to develop solidarity, civic and educational actions, as well as supporting creation and professional integration. Enabling everyone to discover the pleasures of music."

Lila Forcade – Orchestra Director

The Conductor: Thomas Zehetmair

Thomas Zehetmair enjoys enviable international acclaim not only as a violinist, but also as a conductor and chamber musician. He is Principal Conductor of the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. Zehetmair has appeared as a conductor and violinist with orchestras including Seattle Symphony, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Orchestra of the Eighteenth-Century, Budapest Festival Orchestra and Hamburger Philharmoniker.

Thomas Zehetmair has an extensive and varied discography as a violinist, conductor and with the Zehetmair Quartet. His recording of the Paganini Caprices attracted a Midem Classic Award and his rendition of the Elgar Concerto with the Hallé Orchestra under Sir Mark Elder received a Gramophone Award in 2010. Recent recordings include Brahms Four Symphonies and Bruckner Symphony No.3 with Musikkollegium Winterthur. He received an Opus Klassik Award 2020 for his latest CD release of Bach Six Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin which was also selected by the New York Times as one of "The 25 Best Classical Music Tracks of 2019" and by Die Zeit as one of their favourite recordings of 2019. The Zehetmair Quartet has been awarded the Paul Hindemith Prize by the City of Hanau for outstanding musical achievement. Thomas Zehetmair was honoured by the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik and holds honorary doctorates from the Liszt University in Weimar and Newcastle University.



The Concert Master: Guillaume Chilleme



First Prize of the Swedish International Duo Competition with the pianist Nathanael Guin, and third Grand Prize and Special Prize from Paris conservatory's Students in the International Competition Marguerite Long-Jacques Thibaud, Guillaume Chilleme is among the most talented violonists of his generation.

Being passionate about string quartet repertoire, he founded in 2011 the Quatuor Cavatine and received the 3rd prize and Haydn special prize at the International Competition of Chamber Music in Hamburg. In August 2013 he received with his quartet the second prize at the prestigious International String Quartet Competition in Banff (Canada).

Guillaume Chilleme forms also for many years a duet with the pianist and friend Nathanaël Guin with whom he has built a large discography.

Since 2016 Guillaume Chilleme is concertmaster of the Orchestre national d'Auvergne. He is also often playing as concertmaster for famous European orchestras like Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre de Radio France, OBC Barcelona, Camerata Salzburg, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse, Gulbenkian Orchestra Lisbon...

He has been a regular member of Les Dissonances, David Grimal's chamber orchestra. Guillaume Chilleme is teaching at the International Menuhin Music Academy in Switzerland.

"The composition of the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes - 21 string soloists - is unique in the French musical landscape. We aim to refocus our artistic work on a chamber vision of musical expression, with specialists in the Baroque, Classical and contemporary repertoires as well as instrumental conductors. The modernity of the collegiate form and the purist vocation of this artistic team shape our vision and our programming. Back to basics! A leitmotiv for a return to the roots of our chamber orchestra: an orchestra composed of soloists and conducted by soloists."

Lila Forcade – Orchestra Director

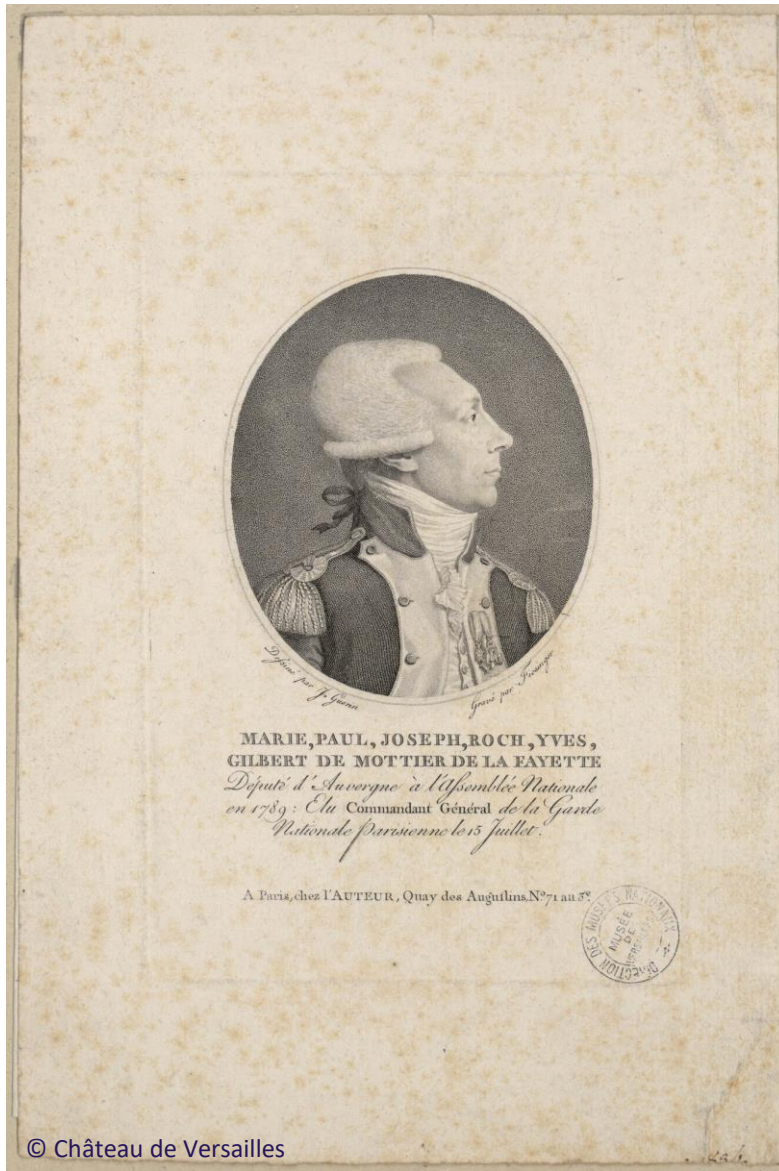
3. About Lafayette

Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, better known as Marquis de Lafayette, was born on the 6th of September 1757 in the Château de Chavaniac (Haute – Loire, France). Orphaned at the age of 13, this young noble descended from an illustrious Auvergnat family.

Lafayette was impassioned by the ideas of philosophers and faithful to the ideals of freedom. That is why the announcement of the war of independence in the British colonies of America on the 4th of July 1776 reinforced his will to fight at the sides of the young nation. His will was strengthened by the news of the disastrous fate met by insurgents at the doors of New York.



© Château de Versailles



A major-general in the American army at the age of 20, and a friend of Washington who treated him like a son, Lafayette was a true hero, contributing to the insurgents' military successes, including the capture of Yorktown in 1781. He managed a long and illustrious career, remaining for posterity the hero of the American war of Independence.

However, one should not forget that he also remains an emblematic figure of both French revolutions in 1789 and 1830. He fought in respect of his beliefs, defending freedom throughout his life. As a result, he turned out to be a rare and engaging politician.

He travelled back to the United States in 1824-1825 as part of an official invitation of thanks by the country he helped to gain freedom. He is still today regarded as one of the most important characters in the American War of Independence and Franco-American History.

4. The Program & Music

Conductor and violin : Thomas Zehetmair

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart : Concerto nr 5, K.201, A major, 24'
Ruth Crawford Seeger : Andante for strings, 3'
Ludwig van Beethoven : Quartet in A minor, opus 132 arranged
for string orchestra, 50'

Program note :

Mozart fifth violin concerto was composed in the year 1775 (beginning of the Independence war).
Beethoven wrote his quartet in A minor in 1825, date of Lafayette's tour.
Ruth Crawford Sieger is an American composer of the 20th century.

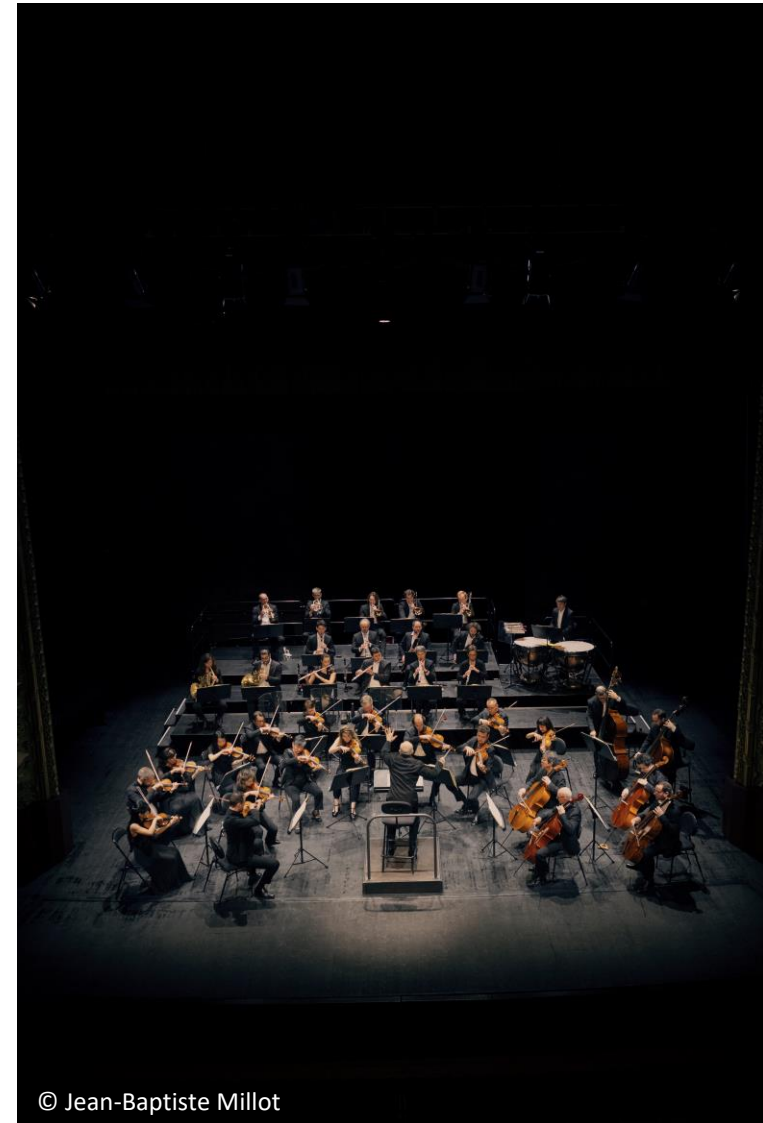


Composition #1

Mozart: Concerto nr 5, K.201, A major, 24'.

Just as the Battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775 marked the beginning of the American War of Independence, and heralded Lafayette's imminent departure, at the age of twenty, aboard "La Victoire" for his first campaign alongside George Washington, Mozart began composing five violin concertos during the same year, 1775.

The Concerto in A Major K 219, the last of the series composed in 1775, is probably the most accomplished, standing out from its predecessors for its expressiveness, fullness of tone and genuine dialogue with the orchestra. Mozart does not really break with the conventional style, but there is a clear progression in the thematic development of the subjects. The 19-year-old composer later abandoned the genre, sketching out two more concertos but never completing them.



© Jean-Baptiste Millot

Composition #2

Ruth Crawford Sieger : Andante for strings, 3' (in French)

An integral part of the string quartet composed by Ruth Crawford in 1931, the Andante was an instant hit with the public.

The first woman composer to be awarded a Guggenheim Prize, she was hailed by critics and recognized on the music scene from the quartet's premiere in New York in November 1933. The Andante aroused the most interest and was republished separately in a version for chamber orchestra.

Composition #3

Beethoven: Quartet in A minor, opus 132 arranged for string orchestra
string orchestra, 50'

Sketched out as early as 1823, the Quartet Opus 132 was completed and presented to an enthusiastic public in 1825, the year Lafayette, defeated in the assembly elections, accepted President John Quincy Adams' invitation to tour the United States, a veritable apotheosis that restored all its prestige.

Although dark and dramatic, the quartet dedicated to Prince Galitsine was a great success when it was premiered by the Schuppanzig Quartet at the Vienna Prater. Beethoven, though stingy in his comments and rarely satisfied, declared on this occasion: "This is one of the works most worthy of my name".

5. The Immersive Experience



A unique concept and vision...

Music & Technology meet in one common space, providing a new way to discover the beauty and depth of a classical orchestra performance.

At the start of the concert, a 10 minutes film on the life of Lafayette and importance of this pivotal character in Franco-American History will be projected within the concert venue's walls.



* Content for demonstration purposes

This combination of music, sound & light will enhance the experience and provide spectators with an unforgettable immersive journey. The narration and content of the video will be assembled by a professional French visual content creation studio working exclusively on cultural projects, with the help of organizations both in the Unites-States & France who will provide the iconography materials surrounding the life of Lafayette. This project will give spectators a unique view on who Lafayette was.

6. Meet the Team



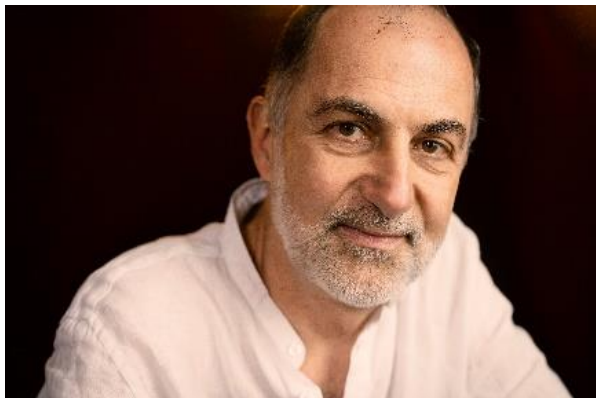
Lila Forcade
Orchestra Director



Marie Manson-Rique
Head of Communications & fundraising



Emmanuelle Delerue
Head of Accounting & Admin



Olivier Hébrard
General Manager



Candide Labbe
Production Administrator



Lola Vaure
*Communications & development
Manager*



Marc Lukacz
Orchestra Manager



Céline Barrier
Accountant



Emma Bécamel
*Communications & Ticketing
Assistant*



Valérie Audebert
Executive Assistant



Isabelle Cabello
Secretary



Violins

Guillaume Chilemme
Concertmaster

Ryo Kojima
First Associate concertmaster

Yoh Shimogoryo
Associate Concertmaster

Harumi Ventalon
Principal

Juliette Diaz
Co-Principal

Raphaël Bernardeau
Lina Octeau
Marta Petrlikova

Violas

Cyrille Mercier
Principal

Baptiste Vay
Associate Principal

Isabelle Hernaiz
Cédric Holweg

Cellos

Jean-Marie Trotereau
Principal

Takashi Kondo
Associate Principal

Eric Moschetta
Octave Diaz

Basses

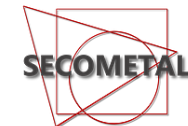
Ricardo Delgado
Principal

Laurent Bécamel
Associate Principal

*Music provides an emotional connection and strengthens the cohesion of human societies.
Our mission is to enable everyone to feel better, thanks to music, and to live better with others.*



7. Support for the Tour & the Orchestra



7. 1 : Financial Proposal

Immersive experience/show: narrator, video projector, Orchestra concert

Format: 1h30 to 2h00 show

Possibility to have the show paired (in its adapted format) with a Gala evening with diner & ball.

Financial Propositions :

OPTION 1 : Show (cession)

- Performance flat fee : 10 000 € (10, 800\$)
- 2 nights on location (4 star-hotel single occupancy) with breakfast included for 30 people

OPTION 2 : Gala evening

- For a Gala evening: an option to collaborate on the event that will be adapted accordingly as well as the proposed performance fee

OPTION 3 : Co-Organisation

- 90% of the ticket sales paid back to the Orchestra
- 2 nights on location (4 star-hotel single occupancy) with breakfast included for 30 people

Technical needs:

- Access to the concert venue for a minimum of 3-hours for a rehearsal of the show (day of or the day prior to the event).
- Technical equipment for the immersive video experience: video projector & screen
- Technical staff to handle video, sound & light during the rehearsal and show

Project Counsel



NANCEL INTERACTIONS, led by its founder Nicolas Nancel, is a French company specializing in consulting services for event management, business development, content creation, as well as providing communication and marketing tools for companies in both the public and private sectors, supporting local and international clients across all industries.

Nicolas Nancel is accompanying the French National Orchestra of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes in the development of its activities abroad and more specifically assisting in the coordination of the Lafayette musical & immersive bicentennial tour (1825-2025).

8. International Press & Media

PRESS ARTICLES

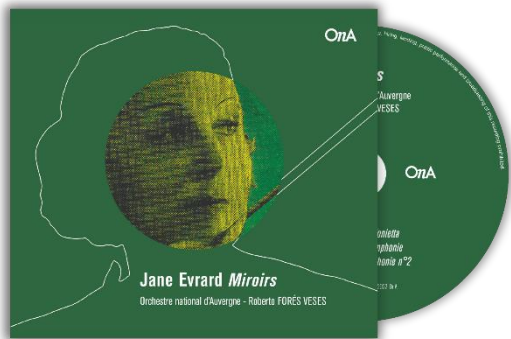
- [Auvergne National Orchestra in Seoul, South Korea](#)
- [Auvergne National Orchestra in Fukuoka, Japan](#)

MEDIA

- Website : onauvergne.com
- Music : <https://onauvergne.com/label-digital-ona-live/>
- Facebook : facebook.com/OrchAuvergne
- Instagram : instagram.com/orchestredauvergne
- Twitter : twitter.com/OrchAuvergne
- Youtube : youtube.com/channel/UChAxKsnclD_h2CAVYS37keA

9. Discography

OnA
Record label



OnA LIVE

Digital label

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

J. BRAHMS
Quintette à cordes n° 2 en sol majeur Opus 111
 Thomas ZEHETMAIR

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

Aroua
I. XENAKIS
 Thomas ZEHETMAIR

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

R. STRAUSS / arr. E. Stein
A. BRUCKNER / arr. T. Zehetmair
F.J. HAYDN
 Thomas ZEHETMAIR

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

Ombres et lumières
W. A. MOZART
Quatuor en ré mineur KV 173 (version pour orchestre)
Symphonie n° 35 "Haffner" en ré majeur KV 385
 Enrico ONOFRI

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

J.S. BACH
Variations Goldberg BWV 988
 (tranche. D. Sitkovetsky)
 Guillaume Chilleme, violon solo

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

C.P.E. BACH
Concerto pour piano, cordes et basse continue en ré mineur
 Christian ZACHARIAS, piano et direction

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

P.I. TCHAIKOVSKY
Souvenir de Florence
 Roberto FORÉS VESES

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

B. JOLAS
Side roads for cello and string orchestra
T. ESAICHA
Prélude symphonique pour orchestre à cordes
 Anssi KARTTUNEN, violoncelle
 Roberto FORÉS VESES, direction

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

BEETHOVEN
Concerto pour violon et orchestre en ré majeur Op. 61
 Alena BAEVA, violon
 Roberto FORÉS VESES, direction

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

SIBELIUS
Quatuor Voces intimae
 Roberto FORÉS VESES

21 Music

Orchestre National Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **OnA LIVE**

BEETHOVEN
Symphonie n°7
 Roberto FORÉS VESES

21 Music

10. Contact & Inquiry

For inquiry or to help us with this exciting project, please contact us by email:

Lila Forcade,
thelafayettetour@orchestre-auvergne.fr
or by phone: (+33) 6 03 57 42 50.

Please find all updates & news on the Lafayette Musical & Immersive Bicentennial Tour (1824-1825) on the following website :

www.onauvergne.com/en/



Lila Forcade
Orchestra Director



THANK YOU
- MERCI -