



ANNE-JULIE CARON

Oct 2009

THE CRITICS SAY...

Armed with two mallets in each hand and positioned between two big instruments at a right angle, Caron played with complete technical authority, and more. We expect a fair sense of rhythm from percussionists, but the bonus in Caron's case was an ear for harmonics and finely-controlled crescendos that made simple contrary-motion figures sound like revelations.

Montreal Gazette

Anne-Julie Caron (...) displayed a dizzying address and obtained nuances and effects of a grand space and even great distance, revealing the artist just as much as the technician.

La Presse

"Anne-Julie Caron is an extremely talented percussionist. Her flawless, musical and professional performances were a joy to hear ... I predict a successful career for her and think she will set standards for others to follow." —**John Beck**, (*Timpanist of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra*)

Anne-Julie Caron, winner of the Prix d'Europe 2004, demonstrated a skill out of the ordinary, her sticks of wool rolling with address and swiftness on the keys of the keyboard. But the clearness of phrases, the variety of the nuances and, in general, the intelligence and sensitivity of the interpreter captivated the audience attention still more (...) Anne-Julie Caron demonstrated that the expressive possibilities of the marimba can easily equal those of the violin (...) The final part, completely dazing, left the audience in a state of shock (...) As an encore, the soloist offered her arrangement of *Romantico d' Astor Piazzolla* (...) An evocative moment, profound and dream-like.

Le Soleil

"The Cantata Singers under conductor Eric Hannan rose magnificently to its demands, as did its subtle percussionist, Anne-Julie Caron. She was the special guest on the program and performed with a talent reminiscent of Evelyn Glennie." **Vancouver Sun**

“Caron played with complete technical authority and more...” **Montreal Gazette** (Kaptainis)

Canadian marimbist Anne-Julie Caron has made her mark on the world musical scene with her sensitivity, depth, and wide spectrum of tonal colors. Recognized as a soloist and chamber musician, she has been noticed by the Argentinean composer Guillo Espel as “one of his favorite marimbists in all the world.” The Vancouver Sun wrote: “Anne-Julie Caron performed with a talent reminiscent of Evelyn Glennie”.

She has won the 2007 Opus Prize “Discovery of the year”, the 2nd Prize at the 2006 International Marimba Competition in Linz, Austria, and first prize at two of the most prestigious Canadian competitions: the 2005 Montreal Symphony Standard Life Competition and the 2004 Prix d'Europe.

Activities this season will include solo appearances throughout Canada including a concert at the Palais Montcalm (QC), a solo marimba commission from the Canadian composer Kevin Lau, a tour of the Maritimes and a performance with Emmanuel Séjourné.

Highlights of her career include the release of her first CD « La Rencontre » on the ATMA label, her New York debut and appearances at PASIC (one of the world's most important percussion conventions), at the Festival Internacional de Marimbistas (Mexico), at the Zeltsman Marimba Festival (USA), and at numerous Canadian festivals including Ottawa, Cool Drumming, Lanaudière, Vancouver, and Ideacity. She has also performed as a soloist with the Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, the Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal, Thirteen Strings and the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal. Finally, she toured in BC and performed 18 concerts for Prairie Debut in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Ms. Caron is active as a teacher and will be giving several masterclasses in the coming season. She has given clinics and masterclasses at PASIC, in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico, and in several universities including the University of Toronto, the University of British Columbia, l'Université de Montréal and the University of Indiana.

Ms. Caron has been the recipient of other prizes and awards including 1st Prize in percussion at the Orchestre Symphonique de Trois-Rivières Competition in 2003, the Conservatoire de Québec Concerto Competition in 2002 and the Radio-Canada Concours Jeunes Artistes in 2001. She was also chosen as “Lauréate de Québec” by *Le Soleil* and Radio-Canada. In addition, she has received several grants and scholarships from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, and the Fondation Wilfrid-Pelletier.

Anne-Julie Caron began studying piano at the age of four and continued for seven years. In 1994 she enrolled in Carol Lemieux's percussion class at the Conservatoire de musique de Québec and in 2003, graduated with “Grande Distinction” having been awarded the highest mark given to a percussionist in the history of Québec conservatories. The following year she attended the Boston Conservatory where she studied marimba performance with renowned soloist Nancy Zeltsman. She has also studied with Bogdan Bacanu and has had the unique opportunity to work with Keiko Abe.

Anne-Julie's instrument is the Adams Artist Classic 5 octaves.

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