



LENA & LOUISE KOLLMEIER
pianists

Léna & Louise Kollmeier share the same passion running through their veins: the piano. Soon, they have started playing together sharing the same tabouret discovering unique **complicity, energy and understanding**. In 2019, they won the second prize at the international competition Grand Prize Virtuoso, that led to a performance at the **Concertgebouw in Amsterdam** for the occasion.

The remarkable mastery of their instrument led them to be admitted as **young talents** to the Conservatoires supérieurs at the age of 15. Léna started at the Conservatory of Liège, continuing her studies at the Conservatory of Brussels where she graduated. She finished her Master of Arts with Daniel Blumenthal with honours. Louise, in turn, has finished her Bachelor's degree at the Institut Supérieur de Musique et de Pédagogie (IMEP) in Namur, Belgium, with the renowned pianist Roberto Giordano. This year, she is studying with Prof. Dr. Florence Millet at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Köln, Germany. The sisters have had the privilege of working and perfecting themselves with renowned pianists, among whom Pierre Thomas, Boyan Vodenitcharov, Natacha Zdobnova, Jacqueline Lecarte, Dominique Cornil, Dana Protopopescu and Etienne Rappe.

At the age of 17, Léna won **First Prize** at the Dexia Classics Competition and performed a recital in the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, which marked the beginning of her career. Soon, she had the pleasure to perform with various orchestras and has appeared as a **soloist and chamber music** specialist on the international stage – namely in Europe, the US, and the Caribbean, and this in prestigious venues like the Carnegie Hall in New York, the Philharmonie in Luxembourg, El Ateneo in Madrid and the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Santo Domingo.

As for Louise, she won the third Prize and the **Public Prize** at the « Jeunes Talents Classissimo » piano competition in Brussels in 2016 and two years later, she received a second Prize at the « Andrée Charlier » piano competition. During the early years of her studies, she obtained several prizes from the Rotary Club and from the Junior Chamber International in Bastogne. As a soloist, Louise performed with various orchestras and performed **recitals** in Bastogne, at the « Pont d'Oye » Castle in Habay-la-Neuve, at the Mai'li Mai'lo Festival, at the young festival from the Royal Juillet Musical in Saint-Hubert and at the Music Festival in Houyet.

In addition to the duo with her sister, Léna is a co-founder of two chamber music ensembles: the DUO ROSA, together with soprano Stephany Ortega since 2014, and the Trio O3, specialized in the contemporary repertoire, formed with cellist Eugénie Defraigne and flutist Lydie Thonnard. In 2018, the trio won the « Supernova » competition, offering them the opportunity to go on tour to several Belgian festivals and concert halls, especially Flagey in Brussels and the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Charleroi. The DUO ROSA launched their first album « Return » in 2016 in the Philharmonie Luxembourg, under the label Etcetera Records. The release was followed by a promotional tour - Return World Tour - across 18 cities around the world. In 2019, the duo released their second album « American Soul : from Broadway to Paris » (Hänssler Classic) which has been nominated by the International Classical Music Awards (ICMA) 2020.

Léna and Louise Kollmeier have made their appearance at many festivals and venues in Belgium, Germany and Thailand, playing both fourhanded repertoire as well as works for two pianos. The sisters are fond of **contemporary sounds and desire to pass this spark on to their audiences by an accessible, yet high-standard approach**. In their concerts, they usually bring programs including contemporary music blended with classical and even popular music, inviting the audience to expand their comfort zone and to dive into new sonorities. In addition, they have had the pleasure to **collaborate with many composers** such as Virginie Tasset, Camille Kerger and Tatsiana Zelianko, creating compositions specially written for the duo.