

LES APACHES !

The genealogy of Les Apaches can be traced back to Maurice Ravel and the circle of artists, friends, and music lovers gathered around him on the eve of the First World War. A restless circle whose members, one day outside a café, were called "apaches" (street thugs, troublemakers). This group, composed of musicians, poets, and conductors, met weekly at one another's homes to share their works. An artistic celebration of intertwined visions, where the layering of genres acted as a form of structure. Delage, Viñes, Fargue, Klingsor, Inghelbrecht... all different, yet all Apaches, united and later dispersed in the darkness of war. A century later, humankind has walked on the Moon, sound amplification technologies exist, and the spirit of the Apaches has been revived. Not in Paris's Belleville district where they once gathered, but across France. Under the leadership of conductor Julien Masmondet, this renewed movement; both homage and continuation, aims to present multidisciplinary performances with an ad hoc ensemble. Depending on the format, up to thirty musicians, whether orchestral, chamber players, or soloists, perform either in the pit or on stage, combining youthful flexibility with mature experience. Behind the scores, the Apaches of the twenty-first century collaborate with established composers as well as emerging talents representing a wide-ranging aesthetic landscape.

Their performances explore, between the staves, what makes our society resonate. This is the concept behind *Ça vous dérange ?*, where the ensemble, inspired by the 2021 French law protecting the sensory heritage of rural areas, gives composers carte blanche for an immersive walking experience enriched by a sonic debate. It is also the ambitious *Street Art*, where contemporary music enters into dialogue with the performances of a free-runner and an acrobatic dancer, set to works by Steve Reich and three associate composers. It is the *Rave-L Party*, an immersive evening conceived for the anniversary of Maurice Ravel, gradually transforming the concert hall into an industrial landscape and then into an electronic club. It is also *Rideau !* (premiering in 2026), a work exploring Erik Satie and John Cage, guiding audiences from a sonic and visual bazaar toward the silence of 4'33; and *Indefinito* (2026), a site-specific creation for the Louvre Museum exploring desire and sensuality in dialogue with the exhibition Michelangelo & Rodin.

For each project, the ensemble collaborates with artists from complementary disciplines - video artists, choreographers, set designers, directors, writers, poets, dancers, and free-runners - in order to create hybrid and singular stage forms. What unites them and binds their energies is a profound desire to challenge cultural conventions and to reshape the way audiences perceive classical and contemporary music. Les Apaches, then: a commitment to bringing all forms of art together within a shared stage territory.

Explore Les Apaches' world in video

Rideau ! - Théâtre du Châtelet



Indefinito - Musée du Louvre



Rave-L Party - Théâtre du Châtelet



Street Art - Musée d'Orsay



Les Origines du Monde - Musée d'Orsay



Ça vous dérange ? - VR immersive experience

