



VALENTINE MICHAUD

Saxophone

*Credit Suisse Young Artist Award Winner
2020*

Winner of the 2020 Credit Suisse Young Artist Award, Valentine Michaud is a saxophonist of extraordinary depth and versatility. With a technique that perfectly blends musical finesse and compelling artistry, Valentine is quickly building a reputation as a musician whose innovative and virtuosic performances make her an advocate for the saxophone and arts alike.

Through her adventurous approach to her art, Valentine's performances expand the expressive range of the saxophone. Her drive to push boundaries and explore new horizons has established Valentine her unique place in the ever-evolving world of classical music.

A recipient of numerous awards, including the Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes (2017), and Jurjans Andrejs VI Woodwind International Competition and, more recently, she received the prestigious Credit Suisse Young Artist Award 2020.

Recently highlights include debuts with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra under Vasily Petrenko, the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande with Maxim Pascale as well as Valentine's debut in the Lucerne Symphony's recital series. The 2022-23 season will see Valentine give her highly anticipated debut with the Vienna Philharmonic under Esa-Pekka Salonen at the Lucerne Festival, performing the saxophone premiere of Anders Hillborg's *Peacock Tales*.

Valentine has appeared as a soloist, recitalist and in chamber music groups on many of the world's leading stages, including KKL Luzern, London's Wigmore Hall, Grand Philharmonic Hall St Petersburg, Wiener Konzerthaus, Tonhalle Zurich, Geneva's Victoria Hall and the Great Guild Hall in Riga, amongst others.

Passionate about promoting the fusion of diverse art forms in her work, Valentine is one of the founding members of SIBJA; a collective of artists which, through its' collaborative approach to music-making, has seen performances merging painters, dancers, musicians and live electronic music in a variety of unique settings, such as the 'Waiting for Amon' trilogy and short film "Le Dialogue de l'Ombre Double".

With a drive to work with artists of her own generation, Valentine enjoys advocating new repertoire for the saxophone. She regularly performs with her duo partner, Akvilė Sileikaitė, as Akmi Duo. Avid champions of new music, Akmi Duo often work with composers, committed to expanding the saxophone repertoire. Valentine is currently a member of the Ever Present Orchestra, and currently works with the American composer Alvin Lucier.

Born in Paris in 1993, Valentine studied saxophone and piano in Nantes before moving to Switzerland at the age of 16 to study with Pierre-Stéphane Meugé at the Haute Ecole de Musique in Lausanne. She continued her studies at the Sorbonne University in Paris followed by the Zurich University of the Arts under Lars Mlekusch. Valentine currently teaches at the Conservatoire Populaire de Musique de Genève.

Valentine is a Henri Selmer artist.



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