LE DÉSIR

LES GOUTTES DE ROSÉE

LE COUCOU

POUR

Harpe

PAR

FÉLIX GODEFROID

THE CLIVE MORLEY COLLECTION

CLIVE MORLEY HARPS LTD

GOODFELLOWS ,

FILKINS , Nr LECHLADE , GLOS. GL7 3JG .ENGLAND

Morleyharps.com

FELIX GODEFROID 1818-1897

Harpists have long been aware of Berlioz's admiration for the virtuoso harpist Elias Parish Alvars. However, it comes as a surprise to know that Berlioz was even more lavish in his praise for Felix Godefroid.

"Maitre de I'instrument et de force à ne redouter ancun parallèle". "A Master of the instrument and of such power that he does not have to fear any competion".

Felix Godefroid was born in Namur, Belgium in 1818. As his family moved to Paris, Felix studied the harp with Naderman at the Conservatoire and afterwards with Parish Alvars.

He was considered the finest player in Europe and people counted themselves lucky if they were able to procure seats for one of his concerts.

His "Danse des Sylphes" caused a sensation, and the other compositions published in this collection were favourites on his many tours.

The music of Godefroid is deservedly popular again, especially due to performances and recordings of harpists of the calibre of Marielle Nordmann, Susann McDonald and Isabelle Moretti.

Some of his music is essential study material for the young harpist.

Not long before his death at Villers sur Mer, in 1897, he conducted one of his Masses for the harp and orchestra in the church of St Eustache in Paris.

THE MUSIC

Although Godefroid worked with a restricted harmonic palette, his compositions are remarkable for their simple poetry and easy sounding virtuosity. His attention to beauty of sound and sensitive phrasing was well known and he was the first harpist to recommend the fourfinger trill (to the exclusion of all others) in his "Mes Exercise en forme de Methode".

Most of his brilliant compositions would seem incomplete without one of his famous tremolo sections and he must have thrilled his nineteenth century audience with this unique and brilliant innovation.

For recitals, performers may chose to omit the Introductions to some of Godefroid's compositions. He often did so himself.

David Watkins

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LE DÉSIR.

FANTAISIE.

POUR HARPE.

FÉLIX GODEFROID.

Op. 201.

Moderato e grazioso.

HARPE.

pp

sf

sf

sf

sf

sf

sf

dolce

sf

sf

sf

largamente

ff

morleyharps.com

legg

p

marcato.

sf

sf

rinf

cresc endo.

f

dim e rit.

p legg.

sf

sf

dim.

monteverdi

p molto legg.

sf *sf* *sf*

pp legg.

ff marcato.

morevna.ars.com

pp

f

8

8

a tempo.

ritard.

p

noteflight.com

dim.

pp legg

f

fff

norleyrare.com