

Clair Obscur

Day

- 1 我的太陽。拿坡里民謠
Neapolitan Song: O Sole Mio
 - 2 彩虹的彼端。選自電影《綠野仙蹤》
Harold Arlen: Over the Rainbow from <Wizard of Oz>
 - 3 維若妮卡：散在春天的香氣 (piano solo)
Veronica Yen: Scent in Spring
 - 4 皮雅芙：愛的讚歌
Edith Piaf: Hymne à l'amour
 - 5 葛路克：曲調，選自歌劇《奧菲斯》 (piano solo)
Gluck: Melody from <Orfeo>
 - 6 比才：鬥牛士之歌，選自歌劇《卡門》
Bizet: Toreador Song from <Carmen>
 - 7 葛路克：曲調，選自歌劇《奧菲斯》 (piano solo)
Neapolitan Song: O Sole Mio
-

Night

- 8 夜晚之樂。選自韋薄音樂劇《劇場魅影》
A.L.Webber: Music of the Night
 - 9 德布西：月光 (piano solo)
Debussy: Claire de Lune
 - 10 華格納：向夜星歌，選自歌劇《唐懷瑟》
Wagner: Song to the Evening Star, from <Tannhäuser>
 - 11 維若妮卡：倫敦的冬夜 (piano solo)
Veronica Yen: Nocturne London's Winter Night
 - 12 維若妮卡：安娜的圓舞曲 (piano solo)
Veronica Yen: Anna's Waltz
 - 13 羅傑斯：多麼美好的夜晚。選自音樂劇《南太平洋》
Richard Rogers: Some Enchanted Evening, from <South Pacific>
 - 14 荀伯格：星辰。選自音樂劇《悲慘世界》
Claude-Michel Schönberg: Stars from <Les Misérables>
-

Bonus Tracks

- 15 蕭泰然：來自福爾摩沙的天使 (piano solo)
Hsiao Tyzen: An Angel from Formosa
- 16 蕭邦：革命練習曲 (piano solo)
Chopin: Etude op.10, no.12 Revolutionary
- 17 威爾第：盧納伯爵的詠嘆調，選自《遊唱詩人》
Verdi: "Conte di Luna's aria" from <Il Trovatore>
- 18 普契尼：公主徹夜未眠。選自歌劇《杜蘭朵》
Puccini: Nessun Dorma from <Turandot>



About Clair Obsur


In my 25 year-long career, my rich experience on stage has allowed me to express a broad and eclectic repertory of music from Baroque to Contemporary Music and Musical-Comedy. My academic training and my ability to speak 5 languages fluently have provided me with the cultural background needed to assimilate the stylistic form of each period of operas and songs. As a result, I've had the honor of being called a "Quantic Baritone" by a journalist. In fact I think of myself more of an artist than a singer - more of a researcher than a performer.

I've been inspired by Pavarotti, Alagna and Bocelli, with whom I've had the great privilege of sharing the stage. These giants of the operatic world were the most open-minded singers who were not afraid to use their voices to help make classical music more popular worldwide. I have decided to follow their example by launching my first solo album with my loyal pianist Veronica Yen with whom I've established an ideal musical partnership. She is a very poetic and sensitive musician: pianist and composer, and she responds to my music intuitively. I enjoyed creating imaginative programmes with Veronica.

The album will reflect highlights of my life and my cultural heritage that have profoundly changed who I am as an artist. The thematic concept of this recording is "time" - daytime on one side and nighttime on the other. It represents not only the theatrical time of 24 hours but also a cycle of life where the ephemeral is sublimated by beauty. The title "Clair Obscur" refers to my favourite painter Caravaggio, because singing is like painting. Both are full of colours and contrasts. Like painting, singing can also extrapolate a philosophical look at the duality of our world: the distinction between good and bad or yin and yang where shadow cannot exist without light. The conception of this recording encompasses a positive unity between the cultural ideas of the Eastern and Western worlds.







Clair Obscur by Veronica

Clair Obscur by Veronica

It's always a great pleasure to make music with Richard, because we seem to respond to music intuitively and always perform spontaneously. I enjoy enormously creating new surprises on stage with Richard. We have been known each other since 10 years and it feels like brother and sister!

When Richard came to the idea of making a CD together, I thought of this theme: 'Day and Night', a collection of songs and pieces to illustrate these two contrasting moments in life. But after more discussions and performances, the idea gets deeper and more philosophical, hence, Clair Obscur.

It means, in a broader sense, a contrast. A contrast of all aspects in life: east and west, male and female, dark and bright, Yin and Yang, and it could also mean joy and sorrow.

In this album, I also have included some solo pieces. As my new compositions <Scent in Spring> is about brightness, <Anna's Waltz> is about darkness. <Scent in Spring> is to portray the joy created by the fragrance of English garden, while Anna's Waltz is a musical presentation of Anna Karenina, the Heroin in Tolstoy's immortal novel. And I also composed <Ode to Joy Variations> during the outbreak of coronavirus. It's Beethoven's 250 anniversary and I wish this piece will bring joy and peace during this international crisis.

In this album, I also have included contrasting classical works: Debussy's Clair de Lune, and Chopin's Revolutionary Etude. While the Moonlight shines with delicate colours, the Revolutionary Etude is stormly virtuosic. And <Melody> from Gluck's opera <Orfeo>, sets the mood of going into underworld (Hades' sphere), as a transition to the second part of the album. And I would also love to introduce my beautiful country through music, a Taiwanese composer Hsiao Tyzen's work <An Angel from Formosa>.

I thoroughly enjoy working with Richard, I like creating with him a variety of themes throughout our concerts.

I hope that this new album brings you some inspiration and some moments for inner reflection.

Richard Rittelmann : Lyric Baritone



With a degree in voice and piano from the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique of Geneva and a Bachelor's Degree in Musicology and German literature, Richard Rittelmann began his career at the age of 22 at the National Opera of Lyon in the new production of Doktor Faust under the baton of Kent Nagano. He has also been a prizewinner at various international competitions which brought opportunities to sing in major opera houses and concert halls in Europe, United States and China.

His eclectic discography covers an impressive range of repertoire, stretching from baroque : Monteverdi's Ulysses and Vivaldi's Kyrie (CD Mondomusica), to classic and romantic: Massenet's Le Jongleur de Notre Dame with the Orchestre de Montpellier conducted by Enrique Diemecke (CD Deutsche Grammophon), and also to 20th century and contemporary repertoire: 'Kagel Dirige Kagel' with soloists from Lyon Bernard Tétu (CD Auvidis), Doktor Faust conducted by Kent Nagano (CD Erato), 'Un Portrait de Raoul Lay' with the Ensemble Télémaque (CD Harmonia Mundi). Other recordings include: the world premiere of F. Testi's Saül with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio-France conducted by M. Zanetti (CD Naïve), the world premiere of 'Dernier Jour d'un Condamné' with the Orchestre d'Ile de France conducted by Michel Plasson (CD Deutsche Grammophon), world premiere of Heera Kim's Ex Abrupto with the Bayerische Rundfunk in Munich conducted by Arturo Tamayo (CD Musica Viva), recording of the G. de Olavide's oeuvre under the baton of Arturo Tamayo with the Orchestre de la RTVE de Madrid (CD Verso), and lastly Les Troyens (Berlioz) conducted by John Nelson (CD WARNER) acclaimed as the best classical recording of the 10 last years.

His most memorable interpretations of roles include in Idomeneo (Ivan Fischer) at the Opéra Garnier de Paris, in Ariadne auf Naxos at the Opéra de Nice (Schnitzler/Riber), in Werther (Alain Guingal) at the Regio Torino, in Cyrano de Bergerac from Alfano in Montpellier / Garnier Monte Carlo and la Maestranza (Guidarini/Alagna), in Manon at Hong Kong Opera (Nicola Colabianchi – Nadine Duffault), in les Dialogues des Carmélites at the Opéra de Nice (Michel Plasson – Carsen)... He substituted Erwin Schrott at the last minute in Le Dernier Jour d'un Condamné in February 2008, singing 4 parts at the Palau de les Arts de Valencia (Villard – Alagna). He has sung in Faust at the teatro Massimo alongside Bocelli, Voulgaridou, Scandiuzzi under the baton of Michel Plasson, in La Bohème in Sydney - Cyprus - Bucarest - Thessaloniki (Dimopoulou / Fidetzis),

Richard Rittelmann is also a founder of Music festival in South France.

He works regularly with Sylvia Sass and Nicola Martinucci on vocal technique and Elda Laro e Paolo Grosa for musical coaching.

Since 2010, Veronica Yen and Richard Rittelmann created a duet and performed many thematic concerts with creative repertoire, ranging from Baroque to Modern, from Opera to Musical. Their special concert concept and unique programming have brought them enormous popularity.

Veronica Yen – International Concert Pianist



A Multi-Talented pianist, Veronica is highly appreciated by her sensitive, creative and emotionally engaging performances, and has emerged as one of Asia's most popular award winning international artists of her generation.

Veronica performs extensively in continental Europe, Asia and North America. She has given recitals at various prestigious venues such as: Chopin's Residence, the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh, Vredenburg in Holland; National Concert Hall in Taipei, Jinwan Grand Theatre in Tianjin, Poly Grand Theatre in Henan to name a few.

Originally from Taiwan, where she still resides, Veronica was graduated at the Royal Academy of Music with Distinction in her recitals. Veronica studied art and architectural history at Edinburgh University before specialising in piano. Veronica studied with Professor Patsy Toh and Joanna Macgregor at RAM, with Peter Evans in Edinburgh, and with Professor Irina Zaritskaya and Janusz Piotrowicz privately. As a result of her musical achievements, the Taiwanese Government named Veronica 'Outstanding Youth Overseas'. She was awarded First Prize at the 3rd International Students' Piano Competition in Utrecht Holland, and more recently First Prize in Composition at GOCAA International Music Competition, in which her works were reviewed as, 'effective, imaginative and touching!'

Veronica has released two acclaimed CDs and also published two books. Her artistic imagination has let her started 'Piano Theatre' and created special concert forms. Her poetic musical expression, heart-felt compositions, as well as emotional engagements are deeply appreciated by her audience worldwide.

Official Website: www.veronicayen.com

Videos: www.youtube.com/veronicayen

Facebook: www.facebook.com/veronicafans



演奏 Baritone : Richard Rittelmann, Pianist:Veronica Yen

獨奏作曲 Piano Solo Composer:Veronica Yen 維若妮卡

製作人 Producers:Richard Rittelmann, Veronica Yen

錄音 Recording Studio:Unity Arts 禾立藝術

MV拍攝 Video Director:Ting-Yi Wu 吳庭誼

攝影 Photographer:木村 Kimura

專輯設計 Album Designer:美綺 Mei-Chi

專輯文案 Programme Notes: Richard Rittelmann, Veronica Yen

From Richard and Veronica,
We' d like to give special thanks to Z&W from Switzerland, David Mayer, Marinella Alagna, Hsu Chiung,
Monika, Ting-Yi, Ming-Yen, Mei-Chi, our family and closest friends, for your warm and kind supports.

明暗之間

理查李特曼

Richard Rittelmann

抒情男中音



2010年贏得瑞士華格納大賽首獎的歌劇男中音理查·李特曼，是現今國際公認最傑出的新生代男中音，曾任法國里昂歌劇院、尼斯歌劇院、巴黎歌劇院、日內瓦、倫敦、羅馬等歐洲重要歌劇院簽約抒情男中音。精湛的演出奠定了他一流的國際聲譽。

理查·李特曼已極為優異成績畢業於日內瓦高等音樂院，主修鋼琴與聲樂，並獲得德國文學與音樂學的榮譽學士。期間贏得許多國際大獎，22時獲指揮Kent Nagano(長野健)之邀請，在里昂歌劇院演出歌劇「浮士德」，受到熱烈迴響，展開他的國際演唱生涯。

除了歌劇演出邀約不斷，形跡遍及全歐與北美各著名歌劇院。他的曲目很廣，從巴洛克到現代樂，並且與歐洲許多著名唱片公司錄製歌劇CD與DV：與德國DG發行瑪斯奈的〈巴黎聖母院〉，與Erato出版〈浮士德先生〉，與Harmonia Mundi出版〈Un Portrait de Raoul Lay〉，並與知名男高音阿藍尼亞共同錄製四部由德國DG發行的專輯，包括「大鼻子情聖」等等。

歌劇之外，2020年六月，理查將在尼斯為期一季的擔任音樂劇：法文版的「歌劇魅影」之主角「魅影」。

理查與維若妮卡從2010年開始合作演出，他們高度的舞台默契、還有充滿想像力的節目設計，深受聽眾們喜愛。

他溫暖又充滿力量的唱腔，自然精湛的演技與舞台感染力，讓他的演唱在世界各地大受歡迎，可說是近年樂壇閃耀的一顆星！

<http://richard-rittelmann.com/biography/>

維若妮卡 Veronica Yen

旅歐鋼琴家



旅歐鋼琴家Veronica,是難得一見深具藝術巧思與豐富情感的人文音樂家。寫作、出書、作曲、演奏、演講....Veronica多才多藝的豐富展現力,從鋼琴劇場到玩具鋼琴,每每讓觀眾留下耳目一新的驚豔。

以獨奏「特優」成績畢業於倫敦皇家音樂院鋼琴演奏碩士,師從鋼琴詩人傅聰其夫人Patsy Toh教授與皇家音樂院鋼琴系主任Joanna MacGregor,並成為波蘭鋼琴名家、指揮家Janusz Piotrowicz的唯一私人學生。大學時期於愛丁堡大學攻讀藝術史、建築史,期間除了獲得建築史學特優獎,更獲許多鋼琴比賽首獎,包括荷蘭國際鋼琴大賽第一名與指定曲演奏獎。皇家音樂院資深教授Christopher Elton評為「詩意且細膩的演出,她是一位充滿自信又全心溶入的音樂家,她的音樂很自然的與聽眾對話。」優異表現獲頒海外優秀青年,並受歐洲各國大使與市長接見。

Veronica擅長將人文背景融入其音樂創作與演奏,演奏足跡遍及英國、西班牙、德國、荷蘭、義大利、奧地利、美國、加拿大與台灣等地,參與愛丁堡藝術節、薩爾茲堡音樂節與羅馬音樂節、地中海與波羅的海郵輪等地巡演,獲加拿大大報The Times專訪、英國先驅報愛丁堡藝術節獨奏會好評為「充滿大將之風、成熟的音樂素養」、希臘音樂雜誌Jazz & Tzaz為其專輯評論為:「無可挑惕的豐富音色,充滿鋼琴家氣勢又完美無瑕的優雅。」浪漫又詩意的演奏與作曲風格,在國內外大型演出都多次獲得全場起立鼓掌的殊榮!Veronica不斷地嘗試創新自我,同時保有她如詩的唯美風格,受到國際各地樂迷的熱烈喜愛。



理查自述：關於明暗之間專輯


25年的演唱生涯讓我經歷了各式各樣的舞台，也演唱了各種風格的歌曲：從巴洛克到當代樂風、有歌劇、藝術歌曲、音樂劇。因為能流暢在五種語言之間，還有大學的人文背景，幫助我理解、詮釋不同風格的歌劇與歌曲。雖然曾被記者稱為是「男中音」，我更覺得自己像是藝術家而不是歌唱家，是一位學者而不是一位表演者。曾有幸與帕華洛帝、阿蘭尼亞、波切利同台演出，非常受到他們的啟發。因為他們不只是最棒的歌唱家，還是非常心胸寬大的人，散播古典樂的美好給所有人們。

我也期許能與她們一樣推動古典音樂，所以決定要製作自己的專輯，並邀請鋼琴家維若妮卡合作，我們有很好的舞台默契，她非常細膩、詩意地彈奏也創作，並且總在舞台上直覺得回應我臨場的音樂表情。與維若妮卡一起演出充滿想像力的創意，於是我邀請她一起錄製一張富有獨特想法的專輯。

這張專輯呈現了我的文化背景，也是我生命的一部份。專輯的主題是「時間」，關於白天與夜晚。它不僅僅代表了一天循環的24小時，同時也代表了生命的循環，短暫的時光讓美而昇華。

「明暗之間」也意指我最喜愛的義大利畫家卡拉瓦喬，因為歌唱就像是繪畫一樣，充滿各種色彩與對比。它也蘊含著哲學的「二元論」：關於黑與白、好與壞、陰與陽、喜樂與憂傷... 沒有陽光，陰影也不會存在。

這個概念讓東方與西方的思想相遇、和諧的融合一起。



曾發行古典獨奏專輯『來自地中海的琴詩』,入圍2010年金曲獎與Muzik雜誌年度最佳專輯。古典創作專輯『歐洲幻想曲』獲誠品古典排行第一名。2014年發行自傳『因為蕭邦~夢在羅馬許願池』與寫真書『Veronica歐洲奇幻音樂之旅』,並為新書在台灣各地巡迴演講五十餘場,2015年更受邀在國際TED演講,啟發許多人踏向夢想之路。2016年發起「台灣夢想101」公益講座音樂會,將走訪台灣各地校園,激勵青年學子,面對夢想找到生命的天職。

近年的邀約包括Silversea頂級郵輪獨奏會巡演、河南國際鋼琴藝術節評審、講座與壓軸音樂會、Fred Olsen郵輪巡演、天津津灣大劇院獨奏會首演、以及愛丁堡藝穗節鋼琴獨奏會,並創立愛丁堡夏季音樂營。2019年七月,Veronica參加GOCAA國際鋼琴大賽的作曲專業組獲得第一名,並獲美國Berkeley音樂院作曲教授Utar Artun好評為:『Effective, imaginative, and touching』!

音樂以外,Veronica熱愛藝術與旅行,遊歷世界五十餘國並設計了許多場旅行美學講座。她曾任藝術評論翻譯、平面模特兒、參與雕塑創作,是難得一見的多方位發展的鋼琴家。

維若妮卡自述：關於明暗之間

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與理查合作每一次都是非常愉快的經驗，我們似乎對音樂有類似的直覺，常常在舞台上創造一些沒有事先彩排過的驚喜。我們彼此認識了十年，總是互稱兄妹，如同家人般的情感。

當理查邀請我一同合作時，我想到這個關於白天與夜晚的主題。但在更多的演出與討論後，這個主題變得更為深刻與哲學性，於是<明暗之間>誕生了！

在廣義而言，它代表著：對比。關於世上所有面向的對比：東方與西方、男與女、黑暗與光亮、陰與陽，它也可以代表著喜悅與哀傷的對照。

在這張專輯裡，我也加入裡幾曲新的創作：<散在春天的香氣>描繪的事英國花園的芬芳，象徵著光明，而<安娜的圓舞曲>是以音樂來呈現俄羅斯大文豪托爾斯特新說<安娜卡列妮娜>的女主人翁，對命運擺弄無奈的心境。而選字葛路克歌劇「奧菲斯」的<旋律>，則製造了一種進入「黑暗世界」的氣氛。2020是貝多芬的250歲誕辰，同時全球爆發了新冠肺炎。我在春天創作了<快樂頌變奏曲>，但願此曲的光明能為此黑暗時期帶來平靜。

此外，我也加入了幾首著名的古典樂曲：德布西的<月光>表現夜晚，印象氛圍的朦朧美色調，而蕭邦的<革命練習曲>，以火烈之姿與之對比。我也希望能藉此機會介紹我美麗的國家：台灣，給西方的愛樂朋友們，所以加入了「台灣的拉赫曼尼諾夫」— 蕭泰然老師的作品：<來自福爾摩沙的天使>。

我非常開心與理查，以音樂呈現了這個主題。希望這張新專輯能帶給你們一些靈感，與一些與內在對話的時光。