

## Simon Laks



*Simon Laks Photo © André Laks*

## OPERAS

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### **L' Hirondelle inattendue**

(Bezdomna jaskolka / The Unexpected Swallow / Die unerwartete Schwalbe)

**1965**

40 min

Opéra-bouffe in one act

Text: Libretto by Henri Lemarchand, based on the radio play "Le Bestiaire inattendu:

L'Hirondelle du faubourg" by Claude Aveline (F)

colS, S, M, A, T, 2Bar, buffoB, B; mixed chorus;

3(III=picc), 3(III=corA), 3(III=bcl), 3(III=dbn)

-4.3.3.1-timp.perc(3):BD/SD/cym/glsp/tgl/xyl/vib/tam-t-harp-cel-strings

*"L'Hirondelle inattendue comes along like a piece of 'absurd musical theatre' whose verbal wit finds its counterpart in music that is composed with charm and technical mastery ... This gem of twentieth-century operatic literature must not be allowed to be forgotten." Opernwelt*

**World Premiere: 26 Dec 1975**

Warsaw, Poland

Jerzy Sztwiertnia, director; Polish Radio & TV Orchestra Warsaw

Conductor: Włodzimierz Kamirski

**FULL ORCHESTRA**

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**Petite suite légère**

**1. Marche - 2. Valse lente - 3. Polka**

**1960**

8 min 40 sec

for orchestra

2.picc.2.2.2-4.3.3.1-timp(3),perc-strings

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**World Premiere: 14 May 2005**

Polish Radio Concert Hall, Warsaw, Poland

Polska Orkiestra Radiowa

Conductor: Christoph Slowinski

## CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

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### Sinfonietta for strings

1. Ouverture - 2. Sérénade - 3. Rondino - 4. Final fugué

1936

14 min 25 sec

**World Premiere: 10 May 1953**

Paris, France

Orchestre Radio-Symphonique de Paris

Conductor: Eugène Bigot

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### Symphony for strings

1964

23 min

**World Premiere: 15 May 1966**

Dzialynski Palace, Sala Malinowa, Poznan, Poland

Poznanska Orkiestra Kameralna

Conductor: Robert Satanowski

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## SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ORCHESTRA

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### Poème pour violon et orchestre

**1954** 14 min

for violin and orchestra

2.picc.2.corA.2.bcl.2.dbn-4.3.3.1-timp(3).perc-harp-strings

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**World Premiere: 12 Mar 2006**

Konzerthalle "Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach", Frankfurt/Oder, Germany

Klaudyna Schulze-Broniewska, violin; Brandenburgisches Staatsorchester Frankfurt (Oder)

Conductor: Jürgen Bruns

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### Suite polonaise

(Suita polska)

**1936** 16 min

Version for solo violin and symphony orchestra of the Suite polonaise for violin and piano

## ENSEMBLE AND CHAMBER WITHOUT VOICE(S)

### Concertino for reed trio

**1965** 13 min 45 sec

ob-cl-bn

9790202523056 **Woodwind Trio**

**World Premiere: 10 May 1967**  
Société nationale de musique, Salle Cortot, Paris, France  
Le trio d'anches de Paris

### Concerto da Camera

**1963** 12 min

for piano, nine wind instruments and percussion  
1(=picc).1(corA).2(II=bcl).2-2.1.0.0-perc(1)-pft

**World Premiere: 28 Oct 1963**  
Sala Gaveau, Paris, France  
Annie d'Arco  
Conductor: René-Pierre Chouteau

### Dialogue

**1964** 12 min

for two cellos  
9790202523001 **2 Cellos**

**World Premiere: 25 Mar 1966**  
Château, Saint Ouen, France  
Jean & Mireille Réculard, cello;

### Divertimento

**1966** 13 min

for flute, violin, cello and piano (or violin, clarinet, bassoon and piano)

**World Premiere: 13 Dec 1966**  
Salle Debussy-Pleyel, Paris, France  
Quatuor Instrumental de Paris

### Passacaille (Vocalise)

**1946** 3 min

for violin, cello, flute and oboe

### Piano Quintet

**1967** 20 min

(based on String Quartet No.3, 1945)  
pft-2vln.vla.vlc

**World Premiere: 06 Dec 2003**  
Ontario, Canada  
Artists of The Royal Conservatory

### String Quartet No.3

**sur des motifs populaires polonais**  
**1945** 20 min

9790202523018 **(Score & parts)**

**World Premiere: 25 Nov 1945**  
Sorbonne, Amphithéâtre Richelieu, Paris, France  
Quatuor Lespine

### String Quartet No.4

**1962** 13 min

9790202523025 **(Score & parts)**

### String Quartet No.5

**1962** 20 min

9790202523032 **(Score & parts)**

**World Premiere: 02 Jul 1998**  
Sendesaal des HR, Frankfurt, Germany  
Pellegriini-Quartett

**PIANO(S)**

**Ballade (Hommage à Chopin)**

1949

8 min

for piano

**Prelude**

3 min

for piano

**World Premiere: 29 Sep 2005**

Berlin, Germany

Jacqueline Cole, piano;

**Sonatine**

1927

10 min

for piano

## INSTRUMENTAL

### Cello Sonata

**1932** 16 min

for cello and piano

*"...a highly distinctive and memorable work from 1932 which reveals influences of jazz, Ravel and Honneger's intense contrapuntalism, but is actually unlike anything else in the repertoire. After a robust Allegro and a bluesy Andante comes a brilliant attractive, modal finale, almost minimalist in its hypnotic ostinatos."*

*BBC Music Magazine*

9790202522998 Cello, Piano

### Dialogue

**1964** 12 min

for two cellos

9790202523001 2 Cellos

**World Premiere: 25 Mar 1966**

Château, Saint Ouen, France

Jean & Mireille Réculard, cello;

### Passacaille (Vocalise)

**1946** 3 min

for violin (or cello) and piano

### Sonate brève

**1946** 5 min

for harpsichord

**World Premiere: 30 May 1949**

Ambassade de Pologne, Paris, France

Marcelle de Lacour, harpsichord;

### Suite polonaise

(Suita polska)

**1935** 16 min

for violin and piano

### Trois pièces de concert

**1935** 15 min 30 sec

for cello (or violin) and piano

## VOCAL

### Bezdomna

(La Vagabonde)

1949

for voice and piano

Text: Julian Tuwim (P)

### C'est d'un' maladie d' cœur

1952

for voice and piano

Text: (text author unknown; F)

### Ewangelia szczeniowych

(L'Evangile des bienheureux)

for voice and piano

Text: Stanislaw Balinski (P)

**World Premiere: 19 Oct 1948**

Salle Chopin-Pleyel, Paris, France

Tola Korian (soprano), Arnold-Rachmanoff (piano);

### Four songs

**1. Le Violoniste vert (d'après Chagall) - 2. Epouvantail - 3. Composition - 4. Adoration**  
1974

for voice and piano

Text: Tadeusz Sliwiak (P)

### Gdybys

(Si seulement...)

1974

for voice and piano

Text: Ludwik Zuk-Skarszewski (P)

### Le Général

1938

for voice and piano

Text: Jacques Audiberti (F)

**World Premiere: 04 Mar 1938**

Salle Chopin-Pleyel, Paris, France

Tola Korian, soprano;

### Huit chants populaires juifs

(Eight popular jewish songs)

1947

11 min

for soprano or tenor and piano

Text: French version by Jean-Michel Dumarais (Yid,F)

9790202522906 **High Voice, Piano**

### O grzesiu klamczuchu

(Le Péché du menteur)

for voice and piano

Text: Julian Tuwim (P)

### Passacaille (Vocalise)

1946

3 min

for voice (without text) and piano

### Pogrzeb

(Les Funérailles)

for voice and piano

Text: Mieczyslaw Jastrun (P)

**World Premiere: 23 Mar 1987**

University of Texas, College of Fine Arts, Austin, United States

Molly McCoy, soprano / Victoria Fischer, piano

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**Portrait de l'oiseau-qui-n'existe-pas**

**1952**

3 min 20 sec

for voice and piano

Text: Claude Aveline (F)

9790202522912 **High Voice, Piano**

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**Pozegnanie**

(Adieu)

**1974**

for voice and piano

Text: Ludwik Zuk-Skarszewski (P)

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**Trois poèmes chantés**

**1. En vain je cherche - 2. Ma poupée - 3. Le Petit prisonnier**

**1960**

5 min

for high voice and piano

Text: Wanda Maya Berezowska; French adaptation by Henri Lemarchand (P,F)

9790202522929 **High Voice, Piano**

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