



Communiqué, 1 June, 2010

**8 JUNE, 2010
SPECIAL CONCERT
CATHEDRALE SAINT-LOUIS DES INVALIDES**

On 8 June, 2010, at 8-30pm, a special concert will be held in the cathedral of Saint-Louis des Invalides as part of the bicentenary commemorations of the marriage of **Napoléon I and the archduchess Marie-Louise**.

This concert is part of the Musée de l'Armée's Saison musicale.

A **symphony orchestra** conducted by Peter HICKS, a **choir of more than 100 voices** and **three soloists** will perform works by **Lesueur and Méhul** specially composed for the imperial wedding. **Some of the pieces performed were unearthed at the Opéra de Paris archives and have not been played since 1810.**

For this exceptional evening, professor Jean TULARD, Member of the Institut, has accepted to perform the role of narrator.

This concert has been organised by the Musée de l'Armée and the Fondation Napoléon and will be performed in the presence, and under the aegis, of HIH the Princesse NAPOLEON and Général de corps d'armée, Bruno DARY, military governor of Paris. **The retiring collection will be in aid of the Cellule d'Aide aux Blessés de l'Armée de Terre.**

PROGRAMME

Claude Joseph Rouget de l'Isle, *La Marseillaise*, arr. Berlioz, tenor, soprano and baritone soloists, choir and orchestra

Jean-François Le Sueur, *Cantate pour le mariage de Napoléon et Marie-Louise* « Tollite hostias » et « Veni sponsa mansueta », tenor, soprano and baritone soloists, choir and orchestra

Etienne Nicolas Méhul, *Le chant du départ*, tenor, soprano, baritone and treble soloists, choir and orchestra

Etienne Nicolas Méhul, *Cantate pour les célébrations du mariage de Napoléon et Marie-Louise*,

« *O doux printemps* » choir and orchestra. **First performance since 1810**

Etienne Nicolas Méhul, *Chant triomphale pour les célébrations du mariage de Napoléon et Marie-Louise*,

« *Comblé de bonheur* », choir and orchestra. **First performance since 1810**

PERFORMERS

Les chœurs Musicanti and the *Académie symphonique de Paris*, conducted by Peter HICKS

Soloists: Véronique CHEVALLIER (soprano) Richard BOUSQUET (tenor), Marc SOUCHET (baritone)

Treble soloists in the *Chant du départ*: Axelle DÉCHIN and Elsa ROSSIGNON

NB: This concert will be performed two further times

• **9 June at the church of Saint Philippe du Roule;**

• **10 June at the cathedral of Saint Louis des Invalides**

Hôtel des Invalides, 129 rue de Grenelle 75007 Paris / Details call +33 (0)1 44 42 35 07

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