



Opéra  
National de Bordeaux



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# Les Enfants Terribles

ADAPTED FROM THE WORK OF JEAN COCTEAU

OPERA 2011

HDTV

Music Philip Glass

Lyrics Philipp Glass and Susan Marshall

Musical Direction Emmanuel Olivier

FILMED AT Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux

IN November 2011

TV DIRECTOR Fabrice Levillain

RUNNING TIME 1 x 90'

Oxymore  
PRODUCTIONS

A TEATRO  
ARRIAGA  
ANTZOKIA

mezzo

francetélévisions

CNC

telmond's  
DISTRIBUTION

# Les Enfants Terribles

## ARTISTIC INFORMATION

### DESCRIPTION

*Les Enfants Terribles*, Jean Cocteau's novel (written in 1929 and was later made into both a play and a film) forms the basis of the third instalment of the trilogy of music/theatre works began with *Orphée* and continued with *La Belle et la Bête*. In the previous two works (*Orphée* and *La Belle et la Bête*), film and opera were combined to create a hybrid form.

### SYNOPSIS

*Les Enfants Terribles* is a brilliant novel written in 90 days in 1929 by a convalescing Jean Cocteau, in need of recognition. The feverish story of Paul and Elisabeth, of a brother and sister bound to each other until death. Their life is a game of confrontation, desire and provocation which leads them to destruction. Their room is transformed into an unsinkable fortress, carried by the never-ending wave of their loves and jealousies. The composer Philip Glass has transformed the storyline into an operatic form, accompanied by three pianos and sung by a soprano, a baritone bass, a tenor and a mezzo-soprano. The pianos' harmonic combinations give great intimacy to the brother/sister tête-à-têtes, whilst preserving the great power of the drama. A complex system of twelve cameras, seven focused exclusively on the pianos, shows how much Glass's work is a sensitive, and not merely a complex work. The opera *Les Enfants Terribles* was co-written with Susan Marshall and created on May 18<sup>th</sup> 1996 at the Théâtre Casino de Zug in Switzerland.

### PERFORMERS

Chloé Briot, Soprano ..... *Elisabeth*  
Amalia Dominguez, Mezzo-soprano ..... *Dargelos, Agathe*  
Olivier Dumait, Ténor ..... *Gérard*  
Guillaume Andrieux, Baryton ..... *Paul*  
Emmanuel Olivier ..... *Piano*  
Jean-Marc Fontana ..... *Piano*  
Françoise Larrat ..... *Piano*  
National Orchestre of Bordeaux

### ARTISTIC STAFF

**Musical Direction** Emmanuel Olivier

**Staging, Sets, and Lighting** Stéphane Verité |

**LANGUAGE VO** French | **LANGUAGES / ST** English, French |

## PRODUCTION

**PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Oxymore, The Teatro Arriaga de Bilbao, Opéra National de Bordeaux, Mezzo, Jim & Jules, with the support of France Télévisions, Philip Glass and Comité Cocteau |

## DISTRIBUTION

**DISTRIBUTION COMPANY** Telmondis Distribution

24 – 26, Quai Alphonse Le Gallo | F – 92100 Boulogne Billancourt  
Tel/Fax : + 33 1 40 74 76 20 / 09 | [www.telmondis.fr](http://www.telmondis.fr)

**VIDEO FORMAT** HDCAM, Digibeta, stereo sound and dolby 5.1 |

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