



STREAMING THE FIRST CENTURY

SESSION 2: Parlez-vous français?

FEATURED CAST AND LIBRETTO EXCERPTS: *Saint François d'Assise*, 2002

United States premiere

SAINT FRANÇOIS D'ASSISE

Music and libretto by Olivier Messiaen

War Memorial Opera House

October 2002 (House Recording)

CAST

The Angel	Laura Aikin
Saint François	Willard White
The Leper	Chris Merritt

Conductor	Donald Runnicles
Production	Nicolas Brieger
Chorus Director	Ian Robertson

Clip 1: Act I, Scene 2: Francis and three Brothers kneel in prayer. Francis prays that he may meet a leper and be capable of loving him.

CHORUS Loué soit Dieu!	CHORUS God be praised!
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Clip 2: Act I, Scene 3: In a hospital room, Francis is sitting with a leper when an Angel begins to speak. Francis encourages the leper to listen to the voice which has been sent from heaven to comfort him.

L'ANGE Lépreux, ton Coeur t'accuse	ANGEL Leper, your heart accuses you
LE LÉPREUX D'où vient cette voix?	THE LEPER From where comes that voice?
SAINT FRANÇOIS	SAINT FRANCIS

<p>Ecoute!</p> <p>L'ANGE</p> <p>Mais Dieu est plus grand que ton coeur</p>	<p>Listen!</p> <p>THE ANGEL</p> <p>But God is greater than your heart</p>
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Clip 3: Act I, Scene 3: Francis embraces the leper, who shows remorse for his sins, and a miracle occurs: the leper is cured.

<p>LE LÉPREUX</p> <p>Miracle! Regarde, Père, regarde: Les taches ont disparu de ma peau! Je suis guéri!</p>	<p>THE LEPER</p> <p>Miracle! Look, Father, look: The spots have disappeared from my skin! I am healed!</p>
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Clip 4: Act I, Scene 6: It is Spring in Assisi and birds are singing. Francis preaches a sermon to them and the birds answer him.

<p>SAINT FRANÇOIS</p> <p>Frères oiseaux, en tous temps et lieux, Louez votre Créatur. Il vous a donné Liberté de voler, présageant par là le don d'agilité. Il vous a fait Cadeau de l'air, des nuages, du ciel, de frère Soleil et frère Vent pour guider vos voyages.</p>	<p>SAINT FRANCIS</p> <p>Brother birds, always and everywhere, Praise your Creator. He gave you The freedom of flying, which portends the gift of agility. He gave you the gifts of air, clouds, and sky of Brother Sun and Brother Wind, to guide you on your journeys.</p>
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Clip 5: Act III, Scene 8: Francis dies and the choir hymns the resurrection.

<p>CHOEUR</p> <p>Alleluia! Alleluia! De la douleur, de la faiblesse, et de l'ignominie Il ressuscite de la force, de la gloire, de la joie!</p>	<p>CHORUS</p> <p>Alleluia! Alleluia! From sorrow, from weakness, and from shame He brings forth Power, Glory, and Joy!</p>
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