

Boum! Je chante Trenet **by Mario Cei, 2003 - 2005**

Mario Cei plays and sings with light cheerfulness and melancholy the life and art of the famous French chansonnier, who died in 2001 at the age of 88. In his 75 minute recital - which was released also as a book and a album- Cei, in perfect French, revives with different tones the spirit of the age, chanting wonderful pieces we're all involved in and attached to: from: "Y' a d'la joie", "Boum", "Vous qui passez sans me voir", "La polka du roi", down to "La mer", "Douce France", "Revoir Paris" to "Que reste-t-il de nos amours...". Cei emotionally and passionately performs these songs, plunging them into a past of nostalgia, exploring the author's personality, sketching a educating profile, with the help of young and talented Libero Mureddu, who follows and pursues Cei on the piano in perfect, harmonious sync.

Maurizio Porro, Corriere della sera

One day Sophoclean-style actor Mario Cei listens to a album by Trenet. Bewitched, he starts singing "La mer", "Douce France", "L'âme de poètes". His puppy Wally approves cheerfully. Then Cei gives it a ride: a recital on the "fou chantant (singing fool)" (1913-2001), who "introduced poetry in music halls". The same electric mimicry, the vieux Paris (old time Paris), the souvenirs France, Trenet toujours (always). A treasure. Good luck Cei-Trenet!

Ugo Ronfani, Il giorno

An interesting and highbrow production... Poetry in music or upper level lyrical songs and very refined, melancholy lifted to the level of art, light heartedness and passion, longing and cleverness... And the director Filippo Crivelli makes the performance even more sophisticated, a veteran of the Italian theatre, here a guarantee of a show definitely not to miss.

Antonio Calbi, City

Cei revives the life and the successes of the French artist, enhancing his poetic world. And it's a joyful world, never sticky sweet, full of funny light heartedness, wordplays, and surrealistic images, clouded by a light and true melancholy. Trenet's songs say that and Cei tells them...and then, of course, he sings them: in their original language, but with a broad and eloquent gesture, emphasized by the director Filippo Crivelli...

Simona Spaventa, La Repubblica

With aerial grace, to which the seduction for the music contributes, Mario Cei, designer and sculptor, and actor as well, dedicated a recital to Charle Trenet, edited by Filippo Crivelli. Also, a book with the same title was published: "Boum! je chante Trenet".

Elisabetta Dente, Il sole 24 Ore

Not only does Cei easily master the stage, nor fill-alone-the whole scene: he has also the right tune, a great talent combined with remarkable intelligence to the elegance and suppleness of telling, to the verve and the clearly derived French spirit in his humorous lines. a performance which can be labelled without exaggeration as "cultural" in the deepest meaning of the word, as it's a upper level show, full of messages and of highly educational implications.

Angelo Bellisario, Il Cittadino
