

FROM ORIGINAL ANALOG MASTER

2<sup>x</sup>HD  
FUSION

MEGA  
BASS  
FRÉDÉRIC ALARIE

DSD

Direct Stream Digital

DXD

Digital eXtreme Definition

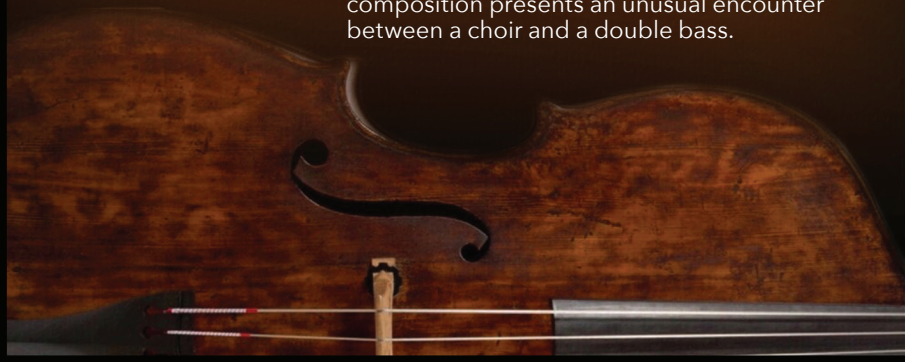


## FRÉDÉRIC ALARIE

Frédéric Alarie amazes by the colour, depth and audacity he puts forward in his work: as a musician, composer or soloist, he constantly pushes the limits of both his own expression and of jazz itself.

In 2016 The International Society of Bassists (ISB), owner of Scott LaFaro's famous restored bass, exceptionally lent the precious instrument to Frédéric, to use for his tribute concert at the Montreal International Jazz Festival.

Frédéric composed *Miséricorde*, a requiem filled with emotions wavering from darkness to illumination, as a tribute to his late father. The composition presents an unusual encounter between a choir and a double bass.





## ABOUT THE ALBUM

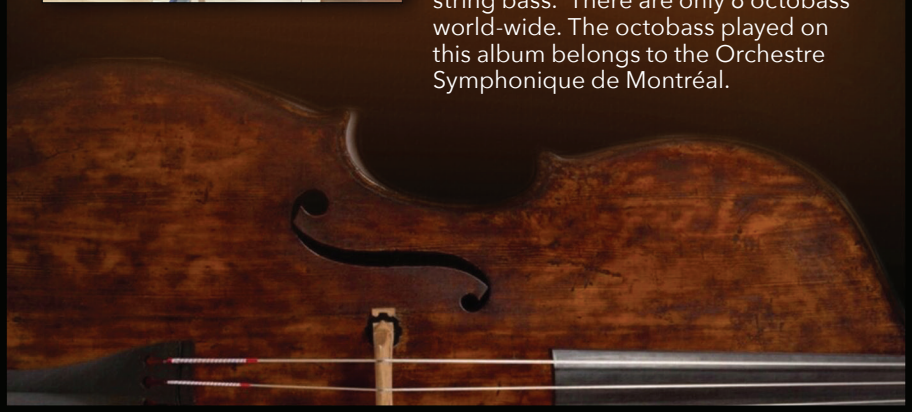
This recording is challenging to your sound system in the low register and the warmth of the second harmonics is very present here.

An album that emphasises the bass instrument is rare. This album fully demonstrates the versatility of the instrument.



## OCTOBASS

The Octobass can be heard on track 1. At a height of almost 11.5 ft., the octobass is the lowest-pitched and largest-sized instrument of the entire string family. This instrument produces extreme low bass extension harmonics: down to 20 Hz with a peak at 28 Hz. The performer must climb up on a small stool to access the neck of the instrument, and it is only by means of levers and pedals - not with the hands - that the strings can be reached and sounded. The bow is longer and heavier than the bow of an ordinary string bass. There are only 6 octobass world-wide. The octobass played on this album belongs to the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal.





Recorded off-the-floor at  
St-Jean Baptiste Chapel, Montréal,  
March 2020.

The recording was made on a ¼" Nagra IV-S analog recorder in master eq curve, with no overdubs and no editing. A single Fidelio stereo Tube microphone RL-1 was used in the Pure Blumlein microphone technique.

Track 1, recorded using the same technique at la Maison Symphonique de Montréal.





## PERSONNEL

Frédéric Alarie (bass) - all tracks

Eric Chapel (octobass) - track 1

Michel Donato (bass) - tracks 3 & 9

Normand Guilbault (bass) - tracks 3 & 9

Norman Lachapelle (bass) - tracks 3 & 9

Sylvain Provost (guitar) - track 1

Cegep Marie-Victorin Choir; directed by Yves-G. Préfontaine - track 2

Mohammad Abdul Al-Khbyr (trombone) - track 5

Andrew Homzy (tuba) - track 5

Louis-Daniel Joly (percussion) - track 5

Michel Lambert (percussion) - track 8

RECORDED BY RENÉ LAFLAMME

2XHD MASTERING: RENÉ LAFLAMME

2XHD EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ANDRÉ PERRY

Album photo: Charles Désy

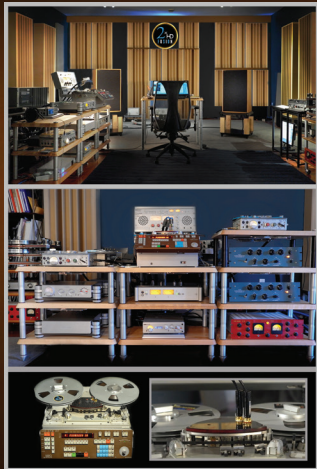
Artwork: André Perry

Graphics: Sylvie Labelle





## THE 2xHD MASTERING PROCESS



The 2xHD Fusion Mastering System: In the constant evolution of its proprietary mastering process, 2xHD has progressed to a new phase called 2xHD FUSION, integrating the finest analog, with state-of-the-art digital technology.

The mastering chain consists of a selection of high-end vacuum tube equipment. For the recordings on this album, the original 1/4" 15 ips NagraMaster curve, NAB or CCIR master tapes were played on a Nagra-T tape recorder, modified with high-end tube playback electronics, wired with OCC silver cable from the playback head direct to a Nick Doshi tube head preamplifier. The Nagra T, with its four direct drive motors, two pinch rollers and a tape tension head, has one of the best transports ever made. A custom-built carbon fiber head block and a head damping electronic system permit 2xHD FUSION to obtain a better resolution and 3D imaging.

The resulting signal is then transferred into high resolution formats by recording it in DXD using a custom 2xHD Technologies A to D converter. All analog and digital cables that are used are state-of-the-art Siltech. The 2xHD FUSION mastering system is powered by a super capacitor power supply, using a new technology that lowers the digital noise found in the lowest level of the spectrum. A vacuum tube NAGRA HD DAC X is used as a reference digital playback converter to A and B with the original analog master tape, permitting the fusion of the warmth of analog with the refinement of digital.

**2xHD.com**  
**Pure Emotion**

# MEGA BASS

FRÉDÉRIC ALARIE

- 1 Exchange 5:56
- 2 Miséricorde 6:58
- 3 Mother Earth (Mère terre) 4:27
- 4 George 5:11
- 5 The Gift (Le don) 2:33
- 6 Final Exit part 1 1:31
- 7 Not Too Much (Sans Trop) 5:31
- 8 Final Exit part 2 2:58
- 9 F4 0:55

All tracks composed by Frédéric Alarie except track 2, composed by Yves G. Préfontaine and track 3, composed by Normand Guilbeault