

Nectaire raised his flute to his lips, a simple wooden pipe that he could have made himself. He began to play; strange phrases at first, then rich melodies over which trills shone like diamonds and pearls on velvet. The music was full of grace and audacity, one could hear all at once the sound of nightingales and muses; all of nature and all of mankind.

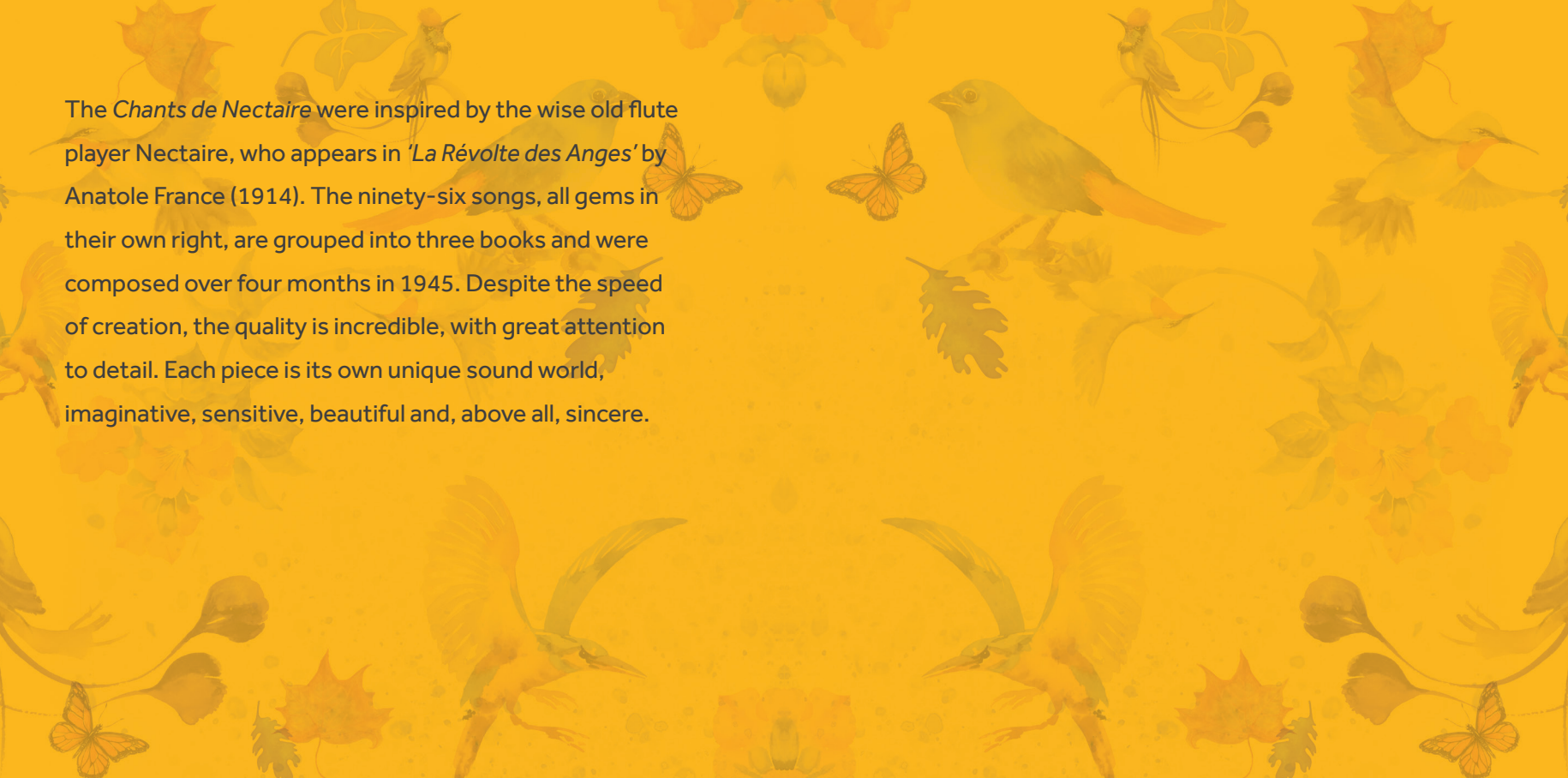
Translated from 'La Révolte des Anges' by Anatole France



Charles Koechlin
Dans la forêt antique
Les Chants de Nectaire

Nicola Woodward – flute

hoxa



The *Chants de Nectaire* were inspired by the wise old flute player Nectaire, who appears in '*La Révolte des Anges*' by Anatole France (1914). The ninety-six songs, all gems in their own right, are grouped into three books and were composed over four months in 1945. Despite the speed of creation, the quality is incredible, with great attention to detail. Each piece is its own unique sound world, imaginative, sensitive, beautiful and, above all, sincere.



Nicola Woodward was awarded exhibition scholarships on both flute and piano at the Royal College of Music. She also won the Eve Kisch flute prize and several prizes for all-round musicianship. She has performed at the Wigmore Hall, the Purcell Rooms, given live broadcasts on Classic FM and BBC Radio 3, worked with the LPO and Bournemouth Orchestras and toured Latin America for the British Council. As part of a flute and marimba duo, she toured extensively with 'Live Music Now!' and is now involved with the scheme as a mentor. She frequently performed at Highgrove and Buckingham Palace for HRH the Prince of Wales and has made several recordings of rare and folk-influenced works. Nicola has a deep love of folk music from many cultures, which she regularly performs. She is co-founder of the Rockhampton Festival.

www.nicolawoodward.uk



*Charles Koechlin, 1948 -
Photo R. Paul, St-Étienne
- Famille KOECHLIN*

Charles Koechlin (1867 – 1950) studied at the prestigious Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, but tuberculosis prevented him from following the military career that was expected of him. Fortunately he turned to music, studying composition with Fauré and Massenet at the Paris Conservatoire. He worked incredibly quickly when inspired, and his output of 219 opus numbers covers all genres: from the vast orchestral work, '*Le Livre de la Jungle*', inspired by Kipling; to choral, chamber and solo works. He loved the flute and seemed to understand the subtleties as if he played himself.

According to Koechlin, his personality was dominated by characteristics from his Alsatian roots; there is an energy, naivety and an absolute sincerity at the heart of all his music. I see him as a fascinating and eccentric genius with a twinkle in his eye: inquisitive, fiercely intelligent and obsessive. He was passionate about the sciences, astronomy, literature, film and film stars, in particular Lilian Harvey and Ginger Rogers, all of which inspired his musical creativity. Recognition of his genius has grown since his death and as an orchestral 'magician', he is now seen as on a par with Debussy and Ravel.

Nicola Woodward

Charles Koechlin **Les Chants de Nectaire Second Series (Op. 199)**

32 pieces, Dans la Forêt Antique

I	A l'ombre, par une fraîche matinée de printemps <i>In the shade, on a cool spring morning</i>	1:46	XVII	Caprice du Faune <i>Caprice of the Faun</i>	0:49
II	La claire forêt <i>The light forest</i>	2:42	XVIII	Sur la mort d'un chat <i>On the death of a cat</i>	2:39
III	Jeux dans la clairière <i>Games in the clearing</i>	1:12	XIX	Pureté du matin sur la grève <i>Purity of morning on the shore</i>	2:11
IV	Le Bois Sacré <i>The Sacred Wood</i>	3:38	XX	L' "Heureux petit Berger" <i>The happy shepherd boy</i>	1:27
V	Le bruissement des feuilles <i>The fluttering of leaves</i>	1:05	XXI	Calme du soir <i>Calm of evening</i>	2:10
VI	Boire à l'ombre, en été <i>Drinking in the shade, in summer</i>	1:42	XXII	Brise fraîche du matin sur la mer <i>Cool morning breeze on the sea</i>	1:21
VII	Danse de nymphes, au soleil <i>Dance of the nymphs, in the sun</i>	0:44	XXIII	"O fortunatos nimium...agricolas" <i>Fortunate farmers</i>	2:06
VIII	Jeux de Naiades <i>Naiades at play</i>	2:08	XXIV	Soir lumineux <i>Light Evening</i>	3:03
IX	Fraîcheur des beaux matins de la montagne <i>Beautiful fresh mornings in the mountains</i>	2:09	XXV	Gaîté du printemps dans le forêt <i>Gaiety of spring in the forest</i>	1:13
X	Le chevrier (piccolo) <i>The goatherd</i>	1:27	XXVI	"Tityre, Tu patulae recubans sub tegmine fagi" <i>Tityre, reclining beneath the beech tree</i>	2:59
XI	Danse de Faunes <i>Dance of the Fauns</i>	0:48	XXVII	Danses dans la forêt <i>Dances in the forest</i>	1:16
XII	"Mollesque sub arbore somni...." <i>Softly slumbering under a tree</i>	2:39	XXVIII	"At securae quies..." <i>Repose without a care</i>	2:42
XIII	La mer aux bruits innombrables <i>The sea with its innumerable sounds</i>	2:30	XXIX	"Formosi pecoris custos, formosior ipse" <i>Handsome flock, more handsome shepherd</i>	2:09
XIV	Endymion, berger <i>Endymion the shepherd</i>	2:41	XXX	Les oiseaux sont ivres... <i>The birds are drunk</i>	1:29
XV	Le Satyre <i>Satyr</i>	0:42	XXXI	Silène <i>Silenus</i>	1:20
XVI	"Majoresque cadunt altis de montibus umbrae" <i>Shadows fall from lofty mountains</i>	2:39	XXXII	Pour le cortège de Dionysos <i>For the procession of Dionysos</i>	1:20
				Total time	60:52