

## **Apollo's Cabinet - Murder Mystery Project - Report**

Dear Trustees of Angel Early Music,

Thank you so much for your support on our musical murder mystery: „Who killed Jean-Marie Leclair“.

With your support we were able to produce a new musical play completely by ourselves, from writing the script, staging, choosing costumes and selecting the music, to researching original sources on the main character and composer Jean-Marie Leclair, rehearsing and finally performing it multiple times. The positive feedback from our audience secured our feelings of success. They participated with gusto and voted for the different character endings on multiple occasions.

### **Examples of feedback from the players and audience:**

**Audience feedback:** fun and entertaining, exciting, surprising, bringing Baroque music to life in a way that is easily accessible to a varied audience.

‘It is so important that the we get help along the way with the storytelling, I valued that’  
‘I thoroughly enjoyed tonight’s show - but still think it’s a miscarriage of justice! Cherchez la femme!’

We noticed how involved the audience was in every show and even people who never met before got chatting to one another over who to vote for. We were intrigued by how different the outcome was every time and were excited about which ending we going to be asked to perform at each performance.

**Musicians feedback:** This was the most experimental project we have produced and we are so pleased that it has been received so positively. This is our aim - to bring life and emotion to Baroque music and use characters and storylines already embedded in Baroque history to connect the audience with Early music. We feel this was successfully delivered in this project. We also found the time and space we had to rehearse and develop this project together extremely helpful and it has certainly improved our group sound and overall ensemble vision. We are excited to be recording an album of this programme in summer 2024 and already have a return to Hastings, at the stables theatre, booked for June 2023.

The grant enabled us to develop the project in detail and spend ample time on rehearsal, script writing and staging and have multiple performances. We were able to have performances in London as well as travel to the South-East of England and reach new audiences there. Through our online presence we have also had a lot of buzz around the project, such that we had been able to secure two more dates to perform this project in the months after.

**Trailer & project page:**

<https://www.apolloscabinet.com/whokilledjeanmarieclair>

Recording from Sands Films studios:

<https://www.sandsfilms.co.uk/music-room-past-streams-watch-now.html>







Thank you so much again for your generosity, without you this wouldn't have been possible and your support means so much!

Apollo's Cabinet