

Playing  
Time:  
**73:55**

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8.579135



# THE SYNTHETISTS REVISITED

- 1-6** Jules Strens (1893–1971)  
Gil Blas, Op. 2 (1921) **16:08**
- 7-10** Marcel Poot (1901–1988)  
Tartarin de Tarascon (1924) **13:47**
- 11** Francis de Bourguignon (1890–1961)  
Récitatif et Ronde, Op. 94 (1951) **8:29**  
Trumpet solo: Michaël Tambour
- 12** Gaston Brenta (1902–1969)  
Zo'har (1928) **14:50**
- 13** Théo Dejoncker (1894–1964)  
Guitenstreken (Gaminerie) (date unknown) **3:01**
- 14-18** Maurice Schoemaker (1890–1964)  
Brueghel Suite (1928) **17:37**

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Royal Band of the Belgian Air Force

Matty Cilissen



www.mil.be

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded: 4 **7-10**, 5 **12**, 6 **1-6** **11** and 7 **13-18**, July 2022  
at Perwex, Perwez, Belgium • Producer: Luc Vertommen  
Engineer and editor: Jelle Tassyns (Arco Music)

Booklet notes: Luc Vertommen • Publisher: Band Press VOF  
Sponsored by VUB, Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel,  
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Cover image: original, hand-drawn photograph of  
The Synthetists (10 February 1930). From left to right:  
Francis de Bourguignon, Marcel Poot, Maurice Schoemaker,  
René Bernier, Gaston Brenta, Jules Strens and Théo Dejoncker.



In September 1925, seven students gathered in Brussels to form the first composers' collective in Belgian music history – Les Synthétistes – who sought to distinguish themselves from late-Romantic style by connecting with contemporary music. A lack of symphony orchestras in Belgium at the time saw them composing and transcribing original works for wind band, and through their collaboration with Arthur Prevost and the Band of the Belgian Guides, a unique canon of original, modern music could be heard on the Brussels concert stages during the interwar period. This recording provides a resounding response to the injustice of this repertoire's complete neglect today. Works by the collective's 'master' Paul Gilson and the seventh member, René Bernier, can be heard on the digital single 9.70351.



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