

"Consistency, accuracy, expression and lightness" are the words that come to mind when talking about the five musicians of the Quintette Aquilon. The press have even described "a perfect interplay" and an "extraordinary range of tonal colours and nuances."

After winning the most important international competitions for wind quintet (Henri Tomasi in 2003 and the ARD Munich 2006), the quintet was nominated "Best Ensemble 2007" by the Mecklenburg Vorpommern Festival and "Rising Stars" for the 2008-2009 season. Among their various recordings, their second disc, "Bohemian Wind Quintets" (Crystal Classics), devoted to Czech composers, won the "Echo Klassik" in 2011, in the category best chamber music recording of works from the twentieth century.

The journey of this quintet (now composed of five young women) begun at the CNSM, Paris where, in 2004 in the class of David Walter and Michel Moraguès they obtained the "Prix de Musique de Chambre". This was awarded with the mention "très bien à l'unanimité". They completed their studies with various musical personalities such as Stefan Schilli (Avalon Bläserquintett), Laurent Lefèvre (Quintette Debussy), Jens MacManama (Nielsen Quintet), Jacques Tys and Maurice Bourgue (on the ProQuartet-CEMC training programme).

Curious and committed, these five musicians aim to vary and adapt their programmes to respond to the audiences they meet whilst also showing great commitment to championing lesser known works from the wind quintet repertoire. They are also expanding their repertoire by playing in other formations (from trio to nonet) and have collaborated with pianists Christian Ivaldi, Abdel Rahman El Bacha, Adam Laloum, Anne Queffélec, David Kadouch and Romain Descharmes, and with the Ebène and Fauré quartets.

They can now be heard in many venues across Europe (Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Vienna Konzerthaus, Philharmonie Cologne, Cité de la Musique in Paris, Philharmonie Luxembourg, Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels, Salzburg Mozarteum, Town Hall, Birmingham) and at festivals (Folles Journées de Nantes, Rheingau, Mecklenburg Vorpommern, Radio France Montpellier), and also in the Middle East (Syria tour, Israel, Palestinian Territories) and Algeria.