This project examines French composers that embody sounds from nature in their music. Claude Debussy (1862-1918) wrote that these sounds created complex impressions within him that emerged in the language of music. Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) maintained that human music emerged from birdsong, and he incorporated numerous birdsongs in his compositions by transcribing them for piano and other instruments. François-Bernard Mâche (1935-) uses recorded sounds from nature that are imitated simultaneously by human performers. He investigates motivic similarities between birdsongs and the music of Debussy, Stravinsky, and other composers, resulting in an intriguing exploration of the fluid boundaries between human and animal music.