Founded in 1999, Café Zimmermann is one of the leading Baroque ensembles in France and in the rest of Europe. Led by violinist Pablo Valetti and harpsichordist Céline Frisch, the ensemble brings together soloists who are eager to bring back to life the artistic atmosphere conveyed by Gottfried Zimmermann’s establishment in 18th century Leipzig. Café Zimmermann collaborated with artists such as Emöke Barath, Rupert Charlesworth, Maarten Engeltjes, Damien Guillon, Kristina Hammarström, Christian Immler, Roberta Invernizzi, Sophie Karthäuser, Gustav Leonhardt, Lenneke Ruiten, Carolyn Sampson, Dominique Visse, as well as the choirs Aedes, Les Elements and Accentus.

In residence at the Grand Theatre de Provence since 2011, Café Zimmermann performs in some of the most renowned concert venues and international festivals while striving to promote 18th century music to a larger public through creative awareness campaigns. Café Zimmermann regularly performs during international tours, in the United States, Japan, China, as well as South America and Mexico.

The album recordings of Café Zimmermann are acclaimed by the audience and the press, especially its spirited and contrasting renditions of J.S. Bach’s concertante music, which were awarded the Diapason d’Or in 2011. A new album dedicated to C.P.E. Bach’s works, recorded with tenor Rupert Charlesworth, has been published in 2016 under Alpha Classics.

The ensemble Café Zimmermann, in artistic residence at the Grand Théâtre de Provence since 2011, is supported by the French Ministère de la Culture - Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles de Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur, the Métropole Aix-Marseille Provence - Pays d’Aix and the Région Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur.
Born in Marseille, Céline Frisch studied harpsichord at the Aix-en-Provence conservatory, which then allowed her to enter the prestigious Schola Cantorum in Bâle. She became a Juventus laureate in 1996, the first harpsichordist to be selected for the Victoires de la musique classique awards in 2002, and was named Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres in 2009.

Her renditions of J.S. Bach’s music earned her the warmest comments from the international music press. Apart from Bach, she is also keen on playing French music from the Louis XIV period, works by English virginalists and 17th century German music. She also explored with great pleasure 20th century music and contemporary creations. Her recordings have been honoured by many high distinctions, such as the Diapason d’Or, the Choc de Classica, as well as the Charles Cros Académie’s Grand Prix. In 2015-2016, she received the Diapason d’Or, the Choc de Classica and the ffff Télérama for her recording of The Well Tempered Clavier - Book 1.
Trained at the Schola Cantorum in Basel, Pablo Valetti regularly performs as a soloist or first violin with prestigious baroque ensembles and orchestras of the international scene – Les Arts Florissants, Le Concert des Nations, Concerto Köln, Hesperion XXI, etc.

Besides his activities as a soloist, he has also frequently been invited to conduct the Orquesta Barroca of Sevilla and has also taught at the Escola Superior de Musica de Catalunya of Barcelona and the Conservatoire of Nice.

Since the creation of Café Zimmermann in 1999, he has been devoting himself wholeheartedly to the artistic project and the development of the ensemble.

He plays a 1758 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin.