



# LA PETITE BANDE

SIGISWALD KUIJKEN

## SUMMER ACADEMY

7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>th</sup> July 2018

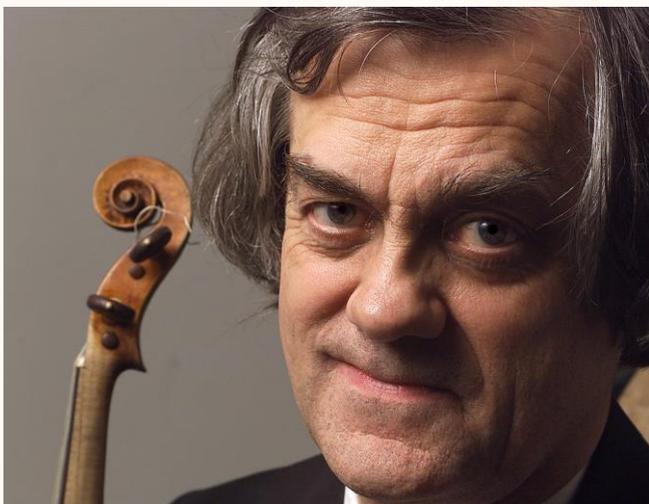


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It's with joy that La Petite Bande, the world-renowned baroque orchestra, born back in 1972 and still nowadays particularly appreciated for its integer yet innovative attitude in the world of "period instruments", announces that **applications are now open for its annual Summer Academy!**

The intention of the orchestra and its leaders while organising the Academy is to share their year-long expertise in performing practise on authentic instruments with students and young professional musicians, as well as to train a generation of young singers in historically aware acting style and techniques.

La Petite Bande was founded in 1972 by Gustav Leonhardt and Sigiswald Kuijken. Since then, the ensemble has been appreciated throughout the world for its applied and inspiring research in historically informed performances, covering a period from 1600 to 1800, with a strong emphasis on the music of J.S. Bach and Mozart. Innumerable recordings and concerts during the years confirm the high quality and the innovativeness of the orchestra till nowadays.



Its permanent leader, the charismatic baroque violin pioneer Sigiswald Kuijken has reinvented the chin-off technique essential to all serious baroque violin playing, and has been teaching generations of baroque violinists since the 70ties, becoming nearly a living legend. It is important for him and La Petite Bande to hand over this chin-off violin technique to the next generations of baroque violinists, thus preserving an integer and thorough view on baroque and classical period instruments' praxis for the future.

Marie Kuijken offers a view on the scenic art of the 18th century opera which is in this same direction of respect for the global historical frame. This historically informed acting style can be studied from contemporary sources, and can be practised as a specific way of using the singer/actors' body, as the art of the rhythmical declamation, and as the observation of theatrical rules aiming at beauty and elegance, that were just obvious for composers, singers and audience in Mozart's time. Marie Kuijken is making herself known as stage director of sparkling and joyous opera-performances, and as a skilled coach for singers who want to discover this 18th century acting style. She's also a pianist specialized in the Steinfortepiano.

As La Petite Bande has a long tradition of employing young talents, several instrumental and vocal participants of former Summer Academies have indeed already been engaged in recent activities and for future projects of the orchestra, among which the performance of 18th century opera using historic acting styles has an important place.

# THE ACADEMY

The La Petite Bande Summer Academy for historical musical and scenic performing practice will take place in Italy from July 7th till July 21st 2018, in the beautiful old monastery "Il Convento S. Andrea", near the village of Collevocchio, 70 kilometers to the north of Rome.

The Academy is structured around two pillars: the individual masterclasses on repertoire participants bring along (baroque and classical period), and the collective work on important pieces of the classical era, involving all participants.

**For the collective work, the 2018 Academy will concentrate entirely on Mozart:**

- Concerto for Fortepiano and orchestra KV 595
- Ouverture and large excerpts of Don Giovanni

The Academy will be led by Sigiswald Kuijken and Marie Kuijken: the orchestra will be directed by Sigiswald and the mise-en-espace of the opera will be directed by Marie, while musical direction is shared by both.

The participants have the opportunity to be coached individually by Sigiswald and Marie on personal repertoire, as well as to receive coaching on instrumental or vocal chamber music of the baroque and classical period, together with other participants. Participants are free to bring their own repertoire and questions to their individual masterclasses. All masterclasses are open for the other participants to attend.



At the end of the Academy there will be two public performances of the collective program in the chapel of the monastery, with possible video-recording. There will also be the possibility for an extra purely instrumental concert with chamber music and/or orchestral work.

Two harpsichords and one Stein fortepiano (tuned at a=415 and a=430) will be at disposal of the participants during the whole period of the Academy, for personal study and playing chamber music. The Concerto will be performed on the Stein fortepiano, copy by Claude Kelekom, Belgium 1978.

In the evenings, some lectures may be held by Sigiswald and Marie Kuijken on specific subjects.

# WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Young professionals, advanced students as well as semi-professional amateurs are all welcome at this Summer Academy. The Academy is open for soloists as well as for orchestral members. There is no specific age limit. The selection is based on cv and recordings (see: How to enroll).

## VOICES

The 2018 Summer Academy offers the opportunity to young singers to perform as soloists in the following roles:

- Don Giovanni (baritone/bass)
- Leporello (baritone/bass)
- Donna Elvira (soprano or mezzosoprano)
- Zerlina (Soprano)
- Masetto/Commendatore (bass)
- Don Ottavio (tenor)
- Donna Anna (Soprano)

Aim of the Summer Academy, for the singers, is to create a historically inspired mise-en-espace, using acting style and techniques as they were common in the 18th century, including thorough study of the text (rhythm of the language, structure of the text, light and shadow in the words and syllables; personality of the characters and their relationships) as well as of the use of the body, according to contemporary sources and literature. Thus a performance will be created in which musical aspects and style of acting will form a harmonic unity. Singers will act in front of the orchestra, using a minimum of support such as clothing and accessories.

We plan to stage large excerpts of the opera, which will be chosen depending on the participants' voices. Clearly Don Giovanni is way too long to be covered entirely during an academy; a meaningful selection will be made for the given roles, in order to provide each singer with interesting material for an exciting experience!

Da Ponte's libretto of the opera, and specifically the poetic structure of the selected scenes will be explored.

## INSTRUMENTS

(on pitch a = 430 for Mozart; a = 415 for baroque repertoire)

Following instrumental participants can be invited to take part in the project, as soloists or orchestra members:

- 4 first violins (also concertmaster; possibly also mandoline!)
- 4 second violins
- 3 violas
- 3 cellos
- 2 contrabasses
- 2 flutes
- 2 oboes
- 2 clarinets
- 2 bassoons
- 2 horns
- 3 fortepiano/harpsichord players, sharing different roles during the Academy: soloists in the Concerto, basso continuo playing during masterclasses, accompanist experience during scenic rehearsals, and participating in chamber music on harpsichord and fortepiano. (For modern pianists: some experience on fortepiano and cembalo is required.)

To offer the opportunity to more fortepianists/harpsichordists to have the experience of playing solo under Sigiswalds mentorship, possibly the solo part in the concerto will be divided among more players.

# ACCOMODATION

The participants will stay in “Il Convento S. Andrea”, where all activities are held (except scenic sessions for the singers at the little theatre in the village).

This stay is on a full board basis including the room of your choice and three meals in the authentic Italian style, as well as drinks during the meals (local wine or water). Other drinks can be bought at the bar.

## THE ROOMS

There are 8 smaller private rooms for 65 euro/night (meals included). These are the old cells from the monks and they share a common bathroom in the corridor.

The other rooms are bigger with a private bathroom, shared with 1 other participant. The price for such a shared room is 60 euro per person per night (meals included).

There also is the limited possibility to have a private bigger room, with its own bathroom, for 78 euro per person per night (meals included).

There is a limited possibility to share a room with or without private bathroom amongst 3 participants, with a price reduction (40/50 euro per person per night) : please ask us if interested.

It is possible to spend the night outside the Convento; however for meals plus entrance price please contact us before organizing your stay elsewhere.

Please let us know your preferences and we will try to give everyone his choice! The first 8 applications will get the smaller private rooms, if preferred. Accomodation price for 14 nights full board starts from 560 euro.



# SUMMER ACADEMY FEE

The Summer Academy fee is 350 euro for all participants.

Next to the collective sessions, every participant can choose to have one or more individual masterclass session(s) with Sigiswald and/or Marie Kuijken. The price per individual session is 60 euro. Every individual masterclass session is open to all other participants to listen.

Sigiswald and Marie Kuijken will also lead chamber music masterclass sessions if requested by participants (60 euro per session per group).

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|----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Summer Academy fee</b>        | 350 euro |
| <b>Individual Masterclass</b>    | 60 euro  |
| <b>Chamber Music Masterclass</b> | 60 euro  |

# ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Participants organise their journey; if flying to Rome please prefer Roma Fiumicino Airport (FCO), as from that airport there is a direct train to and from the station of Collevocchio-Sommaville (local train in direction of ORTE; we will provide timetable to participants). From the train station you will be collected by car and brought to the Convento.

**Arrival** in the Convento Sant Andrea in Collevocchio is on July 7th, by preference between 16h00 and 21h00. The Academy starts in the morning on July 8th at 9h30. The last final concert is on Friday July 20th which is the end of the Academy.

**Departure** from the Convento is on July 21th, before 12h00. Participants leaving by train for the Airport will be brought back to the station by car.

# HOW TO ENROLL

Applications are open from now on. To apply for the Academy, please send your curriculum vitae and a recording by email to:

Marie Kuijken ([marie@lapetitebande.be](mailto:marie@lapetitebande.be)) and Herman Siebens ([herman@lapetitebande.be](mailto:herman@lapetitebande.be))

We ask the following recording (audio or video) :

For the instrumentalists: two pieces with a different character, on period instruments, from baroque or classical period.

Candidates for the solopart in Mozart Fortepiano Concerto send us representative solo-fragments of the piece (or any other solo-work of Mozart), preferably played on a fortepiano, but we listen also to recordings on cembalo and modern piano.

For the singers: one recitative and one air from the baroque or classical period.

If your application is accepted, you will receive a welcome mail from us. We will then ask you to pay a deposit of 450 euro: by this advance payment you confirm your participation. The remaining amount (fee + accommodation) has to be paid before the 1st of June 2018.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: [LaPetiteBandeSummerAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/LaPetiteBandeSummerAcademy)

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