

11th edition of the

LA PETITE BANDE Academy



Italy, 24th of July - 6th of August 2023

BACH & GLUCK

Baroque and Pre-Classical Music with Choir, Soloists & Orchestra

Featuring Scenes from *Orfeo ed Euridice*
by Chr.W. Gluck and Masterworks of J.S. Bach,
including the **1st Brandenburg Concerto**
and **Cantata Excerpts**

Deepen your practice of historically informed
performance with **Sigiswald Kuijken & Marie Kuijken**



Take your chance to experience working live with Sigiswald and Marie Kuijken in the friendly and stimulating atmosphere of an ancient monastery in the beautiful Italian countryside.

Applications for 2023 are open

Since 2012, La Petite Bande organises a yearly Academy in Italy. With the years, it has become a beloved and well known international appointment for many musicians desiring to deepen their knowledge and practice of historically informed practice for the classical and baroque repertoire. Led by the renowned Sigiswald Kuijken and by Marie Kuijken, this immersive two weeks' experience will greatly deepen your musical skills and understandings.

The 2023 Academy focuses on several masterworks by Bach, including the 1st Brandenburg Concerto and (excerpts of) several Cantatas, as well as on selected scenes from the opera *Orfeo ed Euridice* by Chr. W. Gluck.

This year, for the first time, we look forward to include singers as **soloists** as well as **choir** members, alongside the instrumentalists forming the orchestra.

The particular musical program of this year gives us also the possibility to welcome less common instruments, like a **harp**, **trombones** and **cornetto**, next to the main instruments like **all string instruments**, **oboes**, **horns**, **bassoon** and **cembalo**.

Chamber music will be organised according to the possibilities and interests of the participants.

The Academy is structured like a professional project, with rehearsals working towards public **Final Concerts** in the chapel of the monastery. There will be at least 2 different concert programs, including chamber music. At the end of the Academy, participants receive a certificate of their attendance.



Instrumentalists

The orchestra works with Sigiswald on Bach's first Brandenburg Concerto, Sinfonia's and aria's from the Bach Cantatas, as well as on the Overture, choir scenes and aria's from Gluck's Orfeo. In this opera, special attention will be directed on the art of recitativo accompagnato, where the orchestra accompanies and dialogues with the singers.

Chamber music will be added according to the interests and possibilities of participants. Feel free to suggest and bring any scores you would like to work on!

Several instruments will be at the disposal of the participants during the Academy: a cembalo, a viola, a violino piccolo for the Brandenburg Concerto, as well as a violoncello da spalla for violinists that like to try out this marvellous instrument.

Singers

We will work on an interesting selection of scenes from Gluck's opera *Orfeo ed Euridice*. This is an important opera for the use of Choir: we plan to work on the expressive and dramatic choir pieces, as well as on solo scenes. Equally, in the Bach Cantata (excerpts), we will have both vocal ensemble and soloistic work.

Under the guidance of Marie Kuijken, both soloists and choir singers will receive an initiation in baroque gesture and 18th century theatrical body language. A lively historically inspired staging of the operatic scenes will be created using this acting style.

Moreover, a thorough practical study of the pronunciation and rhythmic structure of the libretto will be made, to enhance the expressive declamation of the sung texts, including the Bach cantatas.

Possibly the program could include additional tenor solo pieces from Monteverdi's *Orfeo*.



Our musical menu

J.S. BACH

Brandenburg Concerto N°1 in F Major, for 2 Horns, 3 Oboes, Bassoon, Strings including violino piccolo, Basso Continuo

Excerpts from following cantatas, and/or other cantatas:

Cantata BWV 21 “Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis” for soli STB, choir SATB, Oboe, Bassoon, 3 Trombones, Strings, Basso Continuo

Cantata BWV 118 “O Jesu Christ, meins Lebens Licht” for choir SATB, 1 Cornetto & 3 Trombones OR 3 Oboes and Bassoon, Strings, Basso Continuo

Cantata BWV 4 “Christ lag in Todesbanden” for soli SATB, choir SATB, 3 Trombones, 1 Cornetto, Strings, Basso Continuo

Cantata BWV 82 “Ich habe genug” for solo Bass, Oboe, Strings and Basso Continuo

The final choice regarding excerpts of cantatas will be decided by the end of June 2023, according to the instrumentalists and singers participating at the Academy, so as to give interesting chances to each participant.

CHR.W. GLUCK **ORFEO ED EURIDICE**

Roles: Orfeo (Countertenor) – Amore (Soprano) – Euridice (Soprano)

Choir: S-A-T-B

Orchestra: Harp, Trombones, Cornetto, Oboes, Horns, Bassoon, all Strings, Cembalo

The scenes will be selected according to the possibilities: we aim to work on solo-scenes as well as on the marvellous choir-scenes of this special opera.

Possibly included in our musical program, for tenor solo from **Monteverdi's Orfeo**: the aria's *Vi ricorda o boschi ombrosi* and *Possente Spirito*, with the accompaniment of harp and orchestra.

Pitch: a = 415 Hz

La Petite Bande has a long tradition of employing young talents: quite some instrumental and vocal participants of former Academies have already been engaged in past concert tours and for future projects of the ensemble.



“Working with Marie Kuijken and taking part of La Petite Bande Academy has done nothing short of transforming my approach and abilities when it comes to opera performance. Marie is always working with the singer to support them and elevate their craft, giving the singer tools that lift them and their performance up, and essentially frees them to express to the finest details.”

(Mayan Goldenfeld, soprano)

Who can participate

The Academy is open for young professionals, advanced students, as well as semi-professional amateurs. Participants are selected on the basis of cv and recording. Singers can apply as a soloist or as a choir singer, and all soloists will also sing some of the ensemble pieces. There is no age limit.

The 2023 edition welcomes the following instrumentalists and singers:

Sopranos	1 Harp	Violinists (also violino piccolo)
Countertenors or Contralto's	1 Cornetto	Violists (an extra viola will be available)
Tenors	3 Oboes	Violoncello or Basse de violon
Bass-baritones	2 Horns	Double Bass or Violone from G
	1 Bassoon	Harpsichord
	3 Trombones	

Pitch: a = 415 Hz

Final concerts

Final concerts are public. There will be at least 2 concert programs. According to the possibilities and results during the Academy, we imagine to perform following programs:

Bach-Gluck Program

featuring Bach's BWV 118, and the scenes from Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* with soloists, choir, and orchestra; possibly also Monteverdi

Bach Program

featuring Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.1, Bach Cantatas (more excerpts); possibly also Monteverdi

Chamber music Program to be defined



About us

Baroque violinist **Sigiswald Kuijken** founded La Petite Bande in 1972. Since then, the ensemble has been appreciated throughout the world for its applied and inspiring research in historically informed performance practice, covering a period from 1600 to 1800 with a strong emphasis on the music of J.S.Bach and W.A.Mozart. Innumerable recordings, world-wide concert tours, awards and reviews during half a century confirm the high quality and the innovativeness of the ensemble till nowadays.

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. It is particularly 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.

Performances of 18th century opera, using historical acting style, have an important place in La Petite Bande's activities, as since 2014 the orchestra is regularly producing opera productions with Marie Kuijken as the singers' coach and stage director.

Marie Kuijken offers a vision on the scenic art of 18th century opera, in the same philosophy of respect for the global historical frame. This vision consists in the art of musical declamation combined with a historically informed acting style that observes 18th century theatrical rules aiming at beauty, credibility and intense expression, that were all just obvious for the contemporary composers, singers and audience.

Marie Kuijken, who as singer-actress studied and practised this acting style, is making herself known as a stage director of sparkling and joyous opera-performances, and as a skilled coach for singers who want to discover this 18th century acting style and declamation art. She's also a pianist specialized in the Viennese Stein fortepiano.

In 2022 in occasion of the celebration of 50 years La Petite Bande, Marie has staged Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte* with the orchestra, production that will go on tour in '24 and '25.

Accommodation & Prices

For the 11th year, the Academy takes place in a beautiful old monastery near the village of Collecchio, 70 km to the north of Rome: **Convento Sant Andrea** (see www.ilconvento.it).

The stay in the Convento is on full board basis: it includes 13 nights in the room of your choice, breakfast, quality hot meals for lunch and diner in authentic Italian style, with mostly biological and km zero vegetables. Vegetarian food is possible at request. One glass of wine is included in the evening; it's paid extra if desired at noon. Use of the bar is extra.

Accommodation prices for 13 nights with full board depends on your roomchoice and the room disponibilities. Please let us know your first and second preferences, choosing from the following possibilities.

To make the Academy accessible for everyone, this year for the first time we're offering *partially sponsored prices* for the shared rooms, as a kind of scholarship. **Limited possibilities are available, so be sure to book your spot early!**

Room with bathroom on the corridor, shared by 3 participants (*Partially sponsored*)

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: 899€

(only one room available!! either for 3 men or 3 women, or otherwise according to demands)

Room with its own bathroom, shared by 3 participants (*Partially sponsored*)

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: 997€

(organised for 3 men or 3 women, or otherwise according to demands)

Room with its own bathroom, shared by 2 participants (*Partially sponsored*)

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: 1195€

(organised for 2 men or 2 women, unless requested otherwise)

Small private room with bathroom on the corridor (*Limited possibility!*)

These are the ancient individual monk cells; they share a common bathroom in the corridor.

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: 1.349€

Private room with its own bathroom (*Limited possibility!*)

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: 1.599€

Spending the night outside the Convento is possible, however for the use of the facilities an entrance price will be asked, on top of meal costs.

The included **Academy Fee** covers all musical activities on the planned program.

During the Academy, if time is available, extra individual masterclasses with Sigiswald Kuijken or Marie Kuijken can be asked for, on any chosen repertoire. The price for such a session of 50 minutes is 60€.



How to enroll

To apply for the Academy, please send your name, contact information, curriculum vitae and a recording by email or directly via WhatsApp to:

Marie Kuijken lapetitebandeacademy@gmail.com or Whatsapp +39 3280681241
<https://m.facebook.com/LaPetiteBandeSummerAcademy>

We ask the following recording (audio or video-link) of your playing or singing:

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

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

If you don't have any such recordings ready, please send us your available recording of any repertory: possibly, it might be enough for us to consider your participation.

When your application is accepted, you will receive a welcome mail from us. We will then ask you to pay a deposit of 400€: by this advance payment you confirm your participation. The remaining amount has to be paid before the 30th of June 2023.

Arrival & Departure

Please prefer Roma Fiumicino Airport (FCO): from there you can take a **direct train** to Collecchio-Sommaville station, where you will be collected by car and brought to the Convento. Timetable will be provided.

Arrival in the Convento Sant Andrea in Collecchio is on Monday 24th of July from 17:00 (5 PM) onwards. The musical activities start the next morning. The last concert will take place on Saturday August the 5th.

Departure from the Convento is in the morning of Sunday 6th of August, at the latest at 9:00 (9 AM). Participants leaving by train for the Airport will be brought back to the station by car.

You are warmly welcome!