

12th edition of the

# LA PETITE BANDE *Academy*



Italy, 16th of July - 28th of July 2024

## **Die Schöpfung - Nozze di Figaro** a journey traversing **HAYDN, MOZART** and their literary sources

Featuring  
Scenes from *Le Nozze di Figaro* by W.A. Mozart  
Excerpts from *Die Schöpfung (The Creation)* by J. Haydn  
Classical & Baroque **Chamber Music**

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 2024 are open*

Since 2012, La Petite Bande Academy is a beloved and renowned summer appointment for musicians, coming from over the world to deepen their knowledge and practice of historically informed performance. It features classical and baroque, orchestral and operatic repertoire as well as chamber music. Led by the renowned Sigiswald Kuijken and by Marie Kuijken, this immersive experience will greatly deepen your musical skills and understandings.

**Join us for an unforgettable experience that can impact your musical path!**

**Baroque violinist and conductor Sigiswald Kuijken** is a true luminary in the world of early music performance. As a pioneering figure in the historical performance practice movement, his insights and expertise are invaluable for all young instrumentalists and singers alike, that seek to delve deeper into baroque and classical repertoire.

**Stage director and former singer Marie Kuijken** offers singers a unique comprehensive approach to historically informed scenic realisation of 18th-century opera. The study of historical theatre and *musical declamation* helps today's singers to discover and express the inner truth of their operatic role.

**La Petite Bande Academy** is structured as a professional project, culminating in public final concerts. It is also a joyous musical time spend together with likeminded people in a beautiful surrounding and friendly atmosphere.





## Instrumentalists

We warmly welcome all string instruments, flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, horns, and harpsichord players to join us. The **orchestral parts**, notably in the Representation of Chaos from Haydn's Creation, demand expressiveness and skill. Instrumentalists will be guided by Sigiswald and be involved in the literary content of the pieces.

Participants will also have the chance to explore **chamber music** from both classical and baroque composers, tailored to their interests and abilities, with public performances scheduled.

Various instruments will be available for participants' use during the Academy, including a Viennese fortepiano, harpsichord, viola, and a violoncello da spalla - an intriguing option for violinists eager to explore this marvellous instrument.



## Singers

Singers will work on a relevant selection of scenes from Mozart's opera **Le Nozze di Figaro**, encompassing both solo and ensemble pieces. They will delve into a comprehensive practical analysis of pronunciation and rhythmic structure of the libretto, to enrich the singer's expressive delivery, and will be initiated into baroque gesture and 18th-century theatrical body language, creating a lively and historically inspired staging of the operatic scenes. The libretto's connections with Beaumarchais' trilogy will be closely explored.

Selected pieces from Haydn's oratorio **Die Schöpfung** will be performed, both arias and recitatives as well as choir pieces. Adopting an 18th-century perspective, participants will delve into the deep literary connections of the content, including influential 18th-century gesture for a more intense performance experience.





*“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

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.

## 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 curriculum and recording. There is no age limit.**

**The 2024 edition welcomes the following instrumentalists and singers:**

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets

2 Bassoons

2 Horns

Violinists

Violists (an extra viola will be available)

Violoncello or Basse de violon

Double Bass or Violone

Harpsichord

Pitch: a = 430 Hz

### **Sopranos**

Susanna, Contessa,  
Barbarina,  
Marcellina, Cherubino;  
Gabriel in the Creation

### **Tenors**

Basilio, Don Curzio; Uriel in  
the Creation

### **Bass-baritones**

Figaro, Conte, Bartolo;  
Raphael in the Creation

## Final concerts

The Academy is structured like a professional project, working towards final public concerts in the chapel of the monastery with possible videorecording.





## 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 is on tour in '24 and '25.

## Accommodation & Prices

For the 12th 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](http://www.ilconvento.it)).

The stay in the Convento is on **full board** basis: it includes 12 nights in the room of your choice, breakfast, quality hot meals for lunch and dinner 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 12 nights with full board depend on your room choice and the room disponibilities.** Please let us know your first and second preferences, choosing from the following possibilities.

**Room with bathroom on the corridor, shared by 3 participants: 720€**

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: **1215€**

(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: 780€**

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: **1275€**

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

**Room with its own bathroom, shared by 2 participants: 960€**

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: **1455€**

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

**Small private room with bathroom on the corridor: 1080€** (*Limited possibility!*)

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

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: **1575€**

**Private room with its own bathroom: 1440€** (*Limited possibility!*)

Overall total price, including Academy Fee: **1.935€**

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 of 495€** 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 75€.





## *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](mailto:lapetitebandeacademy@gmail.com) or Whatsapp +39 3280681241  
[facebook.com/LaPetiteBandeSummerAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/LaPetiteBandeSummerAcademy)

We ask a recording (audio or video-link) of your playing or singing.

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

For the singers: 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 495€: by this advance payment you confirm your participation. The remaining amount has to be paid before the 30th of June 2024.

## *Arrival & Departure*

Please prefer Roma Fiumicino Airport (FCO): from there you can take a **direct train** to Colvecchio-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 Colvecchio is on Tuesday 16th of July from 17:00 (5 PM) onwards. The musical activities start the next morning. The last concert will take place on Saturday 27th of July.

**Departure** from the Convento is in the morning of Sunday 28th of July, 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!*