

Call for applications

International academy of the « Rencontres Musicales de Vézelay » choir conductors (choral conductors, choralmasters)

The « Cité de la Voix », vocal art centre in Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, has been offering for several years a professionalization for young singers and choir conductors. In 2019, two academies will be created – one for choir conductor, one for singers – in collaboration with the Aedes ensemble, directed by Mathieu Romano.

The twentieth anniversary of the « Rencontres Musicales de Vézelay » opens a new chapter in the history of this great musical event that has welcomed the biggest ensembles of the French and the International scenes.

The choirmasters academy intends to consolidate the « Cité de la Voix » of Vézelay (which is the « Rencontres Musicales » organiser) as a transmission and improvement venue for new generations of directors wanting to enhance their directing practice with a high-level experience.

For the first academy, Mathieu Romano will use his years of experience and unanimously recognised musical calibre to work rigorously with the participants and provide them with refined skills.

The many qualities of the choir (precision, homogeneity, expressiveness) and the immoderate passion that the singers – dedicated and loyal to the choir— have for the choral art, make of this ensemble a remarkable tool for young French and International choral directors, looking for a memorable and fulfilling musical experience.



Application

- The Academy offers six internships, and a maximum of ten positions for auditors (attending the whole course). For auditors : meals and accommodations are not included, registration until July 1st, within the limits of available positions.
- Professional or in-training candidate / undergraduate or graduate student
- Provide a CV + a video + a cover letter explaining your professional project and your approach + a duly filled out application form (see below)
- Submit your application before the February 28th deadline
- Candidates will be selected in late March/early April

Material conditions

- The choir directing academy runs between August 20th and August 23th 2019.
- It will take place at the Reigny abbey, in Bourgogne, where the participants must stay (breakfast, lunch and dinner included).
- Intern tuition fees : 400€ per person. Possibility of sponsorship for interns only (to be defined on a case-by-case basis).
- Auditor tuition fees : 40€

Repertoire

- Claude Debussy, *3 Chansons* (1898 version)
- Maurice Ravel, *3 Chansons*
- Francis Poulenc, *Salve Regina*
- Philippe Hersant, *Poèmes d'Eichendorff*
- Philippe Fénelon, *Madrigaux* (excerpt #1)
- Benjamin Britten, *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam* (excerpt #1/2/5)



The abbey of Reigny

Located in the municipality of Vermenton, the Reigny abbey was built in 1128 by Abbot Etienne de Toucy, monk of Clairvaux and under the rule of Saint Bernard. In a splendid setting along the Cure river, land of the Auxerre and Nevers Counts, the abbey, under the protection of pope Eugene III in 1147, was very powerful and prosperous during the Middle Ages. It housed as many as 300 monks.

In 1370, the French king Charles V took the abbey under his protection. A century later, in 1493, Charles VIII made it a Royal Foundation. Unfortunately, the Abbey suffered the ravages of The Hundred Years'

War, the Wars of Religion and the French Revolution, but some remains of its glorious past have survived: the exceptional 14th century Cistercian Refectory (only three are left in France), the hall and the monks dormitory, the 18th century portal, a surprising 17th century dovecote...

Ensemble Aedes

The Ensemble Aedes was founded in 2005 by Mathieu Romano and is committed to performing the major works as well as the less known pieces of the choral repertoire of the five last centuries, including contemporary creation.

The Ensemble brings of seventeen to forty professional singers together. Its repertoire already includes lots of *a cappella* cycles, oratorios and staged operas, and several programs for choir and piano, organ or instrumental ensemble.

The Ensemble collaborates on a regular basis with well-known ensembles such as Le Cercle de l'Harmonie (conductor Jérémie Rhorer), Les Musiciens du Louvre Grenoble (conductor Marc Minkowski), the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, the Latvian Radio Choir and the Maîtrise de Paris.

The Ensemble Aedes is artist-in-residence at the Théâtre d'Auxerre, the Théâtre Impérial de Compiègne and at the Cité de la Voix de Vézelay. It performed at the Philharmonie de Paris, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, at the Festivals of Saint Denis, La Chaise-Dieu, Ambronay...

Contemporary creation and 20th century's music are essential to the ensemble's repertoire.

The Ensemble Aedes' first recording « Via Crucis » released in 2007 is dedicated to Franz Liszt. Its first *a cappella* recording « Ludus Verbalis » dedicated to secular music of the 20th century was released for the label Eloquentia (Harmonia Mundi distribution) in June 2011 and was awarded a Diapason découverte and an award from the deutsche Schallplattenkritik. The second volume was released in November 2012 and was awarded a Diapason d'Or. In September 2013 « Instants Limites » was released (Aeon/Harmonia Mundi), this record was dedicated to the composer Philippe Hersant and awarded a Diapason d'Or.

Mathieu Romano

Mathieu Romano belongs to this new generation of versatile conductors working with *a cappella* choir as well as with orchestras. He tackles all types of music, from baroque music up to contemporary creation, in concert as well as in operas.

After his musical studies in Burgundy, he was admitted to the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris. He unanimously obtained his Prize for flute and chamber music in 2009. Then he became a student of Zsolt Nagy for orchestra's direction and graduated in 2013.

He improves his direction attending master classes with François-Xavier Roth, Pierre Boulez, Susanna Mälkki, Stephen Cleobury, Hans-Christoph Rademann, Catherine Simonpietri and Didier Louis. He worked as an assistant conductor for conductors such as Paul Agnew at the Amphithéâtre Bastille in 2012, or Marc Minkowski at the Festival d'Art Lyrique d'Aix-en-Provence in 2014. He also was Denniss Russell Davies' and David Zinman's assistant conductor for the Orchestre Français des Jeunes in 2013, 2014, 2015.

He founded and took the helm of the Ensemble Aedes with whom he is invited to take part to the musical seasons of the Philharmonie de Paris, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, the Théâtre Impérial de Compiègne, the Auditorium de Dijon, and to festivals such as the Festivals of Aix-en-Provence, La Chaise-Dieu, Besançon and the Rencontres Musicales de Vézelay. Thus he regularly has the opportunity to collaborate with conductors such as Daniel Harding, François-Xavier Roth, Pablo Heras-Casado, Jérémie Rhorer, Marc Minkowski. He also recorded many *a cappella* programs, which were critically acclaimed.

Deeply involved in actions for education and community, as orchestra's conductor as well as with his Ensemble Aedes, he took the helm of a new DEVOS orchestra in Nouvelle-Aquitaine.

He also is associated artist of the Théâtre Impérial de Compiègne.

« Cité de la Voix »

Located in the heart of the medieval village of Vézelay, the « Cité de la Voix » is housed in a renovated hospice, right next to the basilica Sainte-Marie-Madeleine. In 2011, this historical building becomes a cultural institution dedicated to vocal arts.

Today, it welcomes more than two hundred artists all year long and offers a unique place to work and be inspired by its beautiful and calm environment.

The « Cité de la Voix » opens its doors to the public for ends of residencies, concerts, great events such as the « Rencontres Musicales de Vézelay », ELLES... It is also involved in cultural action throughout the region.

Cancellation :

If the intern (or the auditor) cancels their registration less than two months before the start of the academy, only half of the fees will be refunded. If the intern (or the auditor) cancels their registration less than a month before the start of the academy, no refund will be given.

The organiser reserves the right to cancel the Academy if the funding is insufficient or the required number of participants is not reached. If so, a full refund will be issued to the participants.

Contact

For information and applications :

Samuel Saint-Martin

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+33 (0)3.86.94.84.30

Application form to complete

Participation as (*surround*) :

Intern

Auditor

Name :

Date of birth :

Adress :

City :

Country :

Phone :

Mail :

Participation's possibilities :

Registered as :	Individual	Sponsorship
Intern	400€	case-by-case basis
Auditor	40€	/