

Newsletter Servais Society n° 62-63 - October-November 2020



SERVAIS 26-11-1866 - 26-11-2020

154 years ago, on 26 November 1866, François Servais died in his native town Halle. Normally we would remember that by music, but Covid-19 decided otherwise.

26 November is also the starting date of the Servais Society. For 17 years already the organization has dedicated itself to disclose the life and work of Servais and his descendants, to promote the cello and the Belgian cello school and to raise the emanation of Halle.



ROSSINI ACTION: 55%!



It gets exciting for the action 'Rossini bust'! We are very grateful to Rotary Club Halle, the Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft and all other societies, members and sympathizers for their contribution. But we haven't reached our goal yet: in order to get Godebski's bust of Gioachino Rossini to Halle we still need 45% of the amount.

Your support: bring Rossini's bust back to Halle!

The bust of Rossini is a beautiful piece by Godebski and belongs nowhere better than in the former home of Rossini's Paganini of the cello, Servais. That way many art lovers will be able to enjoy it. In order to make that possible, the Servais Society is looking for 35,000 euro.

Check the web site to discover the various possibilities to support the cause.

As a return, you could become one of the first guests in the newly restaured Villa Servais!

With the support of the Villa Servais and the Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft.





BRUSSELS CELLO FESTIVAL



From 8 to 11 October 2020 the Brussels Cello Festival took place. The Servais Society was one of the partners. At the closing concert on 11 October Servais' Souvenir de Spa was played by Didier Poskin (solo), Marie Hallynck, Francis Mourey, Olsi Leka and Karel Steylaerts. The concert was also a tribute to the United Nations and to Pablo Casals, whose 'Hymn to the United Nations' was played in a beautiful transcription for cello ensemble. That ensemble also played a part from Beethoven's 5th symphony and the Adagietto by Mahler.

Left: Didier Poskin plays Servais' Souvenir de Spa

(photo: Frank Emmers)

VISITING ROEL DIELTIENS



Nestled in the fields of Bierbeek, about 10 kilometers from Leuven, is the home of Roel Dieltiens. This is where the cellist can relax when he is not on the world stages or in conservatories. Maestro Dieltiens welcomes me with open arms to talk about the cello and his connection to Servais.

Click here to read the interview

CHAMPAGNE VILLA SERVAIS

For the fifth time you can buy a special 'Villa Servais' champagne to support the restauration of the Villa Servais in Halle.

CHAMPAGNE ACTIE

Voor de 5^e maal wordt de champagne actie gelanceerd. Iedereen kan een fles of een doos champagne reserveren en steunt hiermee genietend de restauratie van de Villa Servais. Men kan de flessen komen afhalen aan de Villa Servais op zaterdag **5 december 2020** en meteen zien hoe het zit met de werken. Nadien kan ook levering aan huis. Doos met 6 flessen is 135 €. Een fles 24 €. Inschrijving via de website en zie kader hieronder.

De nieuwe capsule toont één van de Japanse geisha's van de muurschilderingen die zich bevinden in het grote salon van de Villa Servais. De eerste fase van de muurschilderingen werd afgerond. De tweede fase is voorzien voor begin 2021.

François Servais liet deze muurschilderingen aanbrengen rond 1860 op het moment dat Japan de grenzen voor het eerst had opengesteld voor het Westen.

De achterzijde van de capsule is dit jaar bedrukt met een QR-code. Na het openen van de fles, kan je de **QR-code scannen** om te genieten van een filmpje van de restauratie met muziek van François Servais.

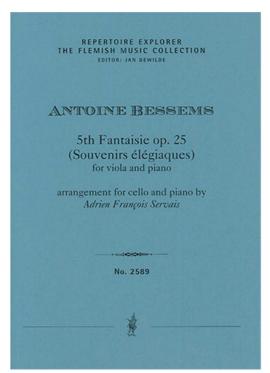
De opbrengst van de nieuwe actie gaat voor de helft naar verdere restauratie van de 5 sculpturen aan het bovenste deel van de gevel. Zie andere pagina.



Inschrijven kan via www.villaservais.be of via Geert De Poorter: 0475.75.44.74

Voor het afhalen op zaterdag **5 december** moet men een specifiek uur kiezen tussen 9 uur en 17 uur voor de veiligheid en uitgewerkt in overleg met Stad Halle. Men kan de champagne ook thuis laten brengen.

NEW EDITION: SOUVENIRS ELEGIAQUES



Musikproduktion Höflich (München) published the Souvenirs élégiaques, opus 25 by Antoine Bessems, for viola and piano. Servais, a good friend of Bessems', made a transcription for cello and piano. The cello part by Servais is available too.

More info

AGENDA

05.12.2020 - Collection champagne Villa Servais More info.

30.01.2021 - Cello for Charity

Charity concert in the Basilica of Halle with Roel Dieltiens, Paul Heyman and Amy Norrington.

More info.

14-17.04.2021 - Four days with Servais

The Tansman Cello Quartet and Ann Van Hecke will give a four days training in Halle during the fourth edition of 'Four days with Servais'. More info.

27-28.05.2022 - Cello Competition Sint-Pieters-Woluwe More info.