

*This newsletter will provide you regularly with news about the activities of the Servais Society and the Festival Servais 2007.*

*Deze nieuwsbrief bestaat ook in het Nederlands.*

## Newsletter

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### Festival news

#### Summer Exhibition Servais

During the summer months a lightly reduced version of the Servais exhibition can be visited in the historical City Hall. The complete Servais exhibition in the Old Post Office had welcomed more than 1700 visitors from May 4 until June 6.

#### New pieces

The summer exhibition shows some new pieces, such as a crystal table garniture that seemed to have been offered to Servais by the Russian Tsar, a pair of bellows from the villa Servais and a large engraving showing Servais and two hundred of his colleagues, friends and predecessors. A good reason to revisit it ! These three unique pieces came to the surface thanks to the appeal we launched with respect to objects and documents concerning Servais.

#### Practical information

The exhibition is opened from July 7 until September 2 on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 to 12 AM and 2 to 4 PM for individual visitors. For groups : everyday by appointment (Tourist Office Halle : tel : (+32)(0)2 356 49 52) The other part of the

exhibition in the Zuidwestbrabants Museum can still be visited in July and August on Saturdays from 2 to 5 PM and on Sundays from 10 to 12 AM and 2 to 5 PM.



July 6 : vernissage of the exhibition

### Calendar August-October

*August 11-12* Summer exposition Art group Aureool, City Park Halle (showing the drawings of the Servais drawing competition)

*September 21* Recital Luc Tooten & Stéphane De May, CC 't Vondel Halle, 8 PM (tickets : CC 't Vondel : (+32)(0)2 365 94 05)

*September 28 - October 31* Culture Month 'Servais'

*Outside Halle* Le Bourget du Lac (8/2), Rauma (8/10), Annweiler (8/11), Bacharach (8/12), Veytaux (9/14) and Steenwijk (10/7)



## Looking back to the bicentenary – June 6, 2007

### Servais honorary citizen

At 5 PM a solemn ceremony took place in the council chamber of the New City Hall, that was very well filled. The City of Halle conferred posthumously the freedom of the city on Adrien François Servais. The Mayor of Halle, Dirk Pieters, presented the certificate to Ernest Vanderlinden, honorary minister plenipotentiary and last great-grandson of Servais. The city council motivated its decision by referring to Servais' extraordinary contribution to the cultural life of Halle and to the international aura of



his home town. Ernest Vanderlinden expressed his gratitude in a short speech. After that Anner Bijlsma, the famous cellist from Amsterdam, revealed his experiences with Servais' music and his famous Strad. Minister Geert Bourgeois, Flemish Minister of Media, Tourism and Foreign Affairs, explained why the Flemish Government offered its support to the Servais Festival 2007. Finally, Peter François, President of the Servais Society, presented the new Servais CD.

A group of eight cellists from the Conservatory of Maastricht, conducted by Mirel Iancovici, provided a very well appreciated musical touch.

### Last chance to visit the exhibition

A lot of people, amongst whom Anner Bijlsma and the cellists from Maastricht, took the last chance to visit the exhibition in the Old Post Office.

### Jubilee Concert in the Basilica of Saint-Martin

The same evening two cellists and their accompanists paid homage to Servais by a musical birthday present, attended by Anner Bijlsma. The Finnish cellist Seeli Toivio performed charming romantic music by Servais, Schubert and Liszt, accompanied on the piano by her brother Kalle Toivio. The German cellist Alexander Hülshoff played the second part of the concert together with the violinist Friedemann Eichhorn from Weimar.



At the end of this magnificent concert both cellists performed together a duo for two cellos and piano by Servais. More than 500 people from all over the country and also from Holland enjoyed this beautiful concert that was recorded by the Flemish radio and broadcasted on June 8, 2007.

### Popular feast

After the concert everybody was invited to a reception at the grand place. It became a real popular feast. People could taste Servais wine and beer and all the time there was music played by Zonkofare, a young band from Halle and by Radio Victoria. A sparkling end of a memorable birthday party. And from his statue, Servais saw that it was very good...



## Update Servais web site

In the discography six recordings were added.

The documentation page was completed with recent publications and was provided with online order forms.

[www.servais-vzw.org](http://www.servais-vzw.org)

## Publications

During the last months three publications and a CD appeared :

Zeger Desmet and Peter François. *Servaiswandeling. In de voetsporen van de beroemde Halse cellist. (Servais walk. In the footsteps of the famous cellist from Halle)*. Halle, Tourism Halle, 2007 (36 p.).

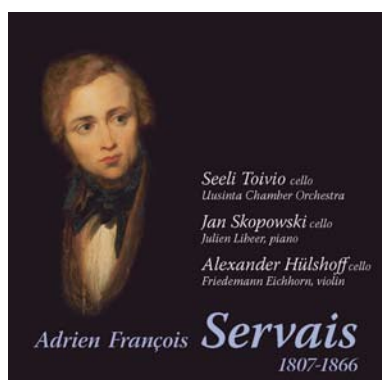
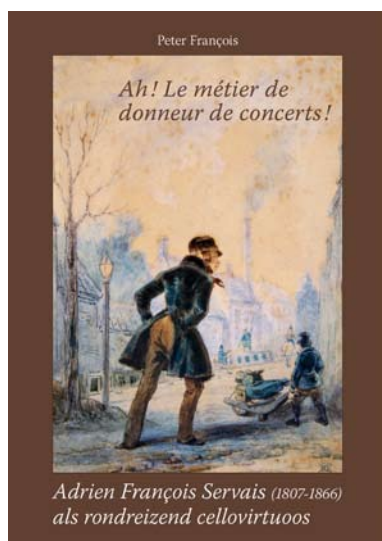
Peter François. *Ah ! Le métier de donneur de concerts ! Adrien François Servais (1807-1866) als rondreizend cellovirtuoos*. Halle, Servais Society, 2007 (192 p.).

Peter François. *Adrien François Servais 1807-2007. Halse cellist met wereldfaam*. Catalogue of the exhibition in Halle, 5 May-6 June 2007. Halle, Servais Society, 2007 (122 p.).

*All three publications contain a summary in English and many full color illustrations which are self-explaining.*

CD 'Adrien François Servais 1807-1866', Halle, Servais Society, 2007 (music by Servais performed by Seeli Toivio & the Uusinta Chamber Orchestra, Alexander Hülshoff & Friedemann Eichhorn and Jan Skopowski & Julien Libeer).

The publications and the CD are for sale at the summer exhibition. People can always order them on line via [www.servais2007.be](http://www.servais2007.be) or [www.servais-vzw.org](http://www.servais-vzw.org) or by e-mail.



## Contact

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