

Newsletter

NO. 14 – MAY 2008

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Upcoming events

Servais Concert on June 6

June 6 is a memorable date in the town of Halle : it is Servais' birthday, which as usual will be celebrated with a special concert, this time by Sarah Dupriez and the Kryptos Quartet. Who are they ?

Sarah Dupriez is a promising young talent with an impressive record of musical achievements, even at her age. As a student of Ms Marie Hallynck she graduated magna cum laude at the famous Brussels School of Music, and is now continuing her music education in Helsinki. She is a regular performer in concerts as a soloist and in various chamber music ensembles, in Belgium, France, Finland and the US. As recently as April 2007 Sarah Dupriez won the Servais Prize at the National Cello Competition Adrien François Servais in Gent.

More info : www.sarahdupriez.com.



The **Kryptos Quartet** was founded in 2002 and consists of Hanna Drzewiecka (1st violin), Elisabeth Wybou (2nd violin), Vincent Hepp (viola) and Anthony Gröger (cello). The quartet gives concerts in the most prestigious concert halls

of Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Poland and Russia.

More info : www.kryptosquartet.be

In Halle they will be playing romantic cello music by Servais himself and his contemporaries. This musical tribute to Servais, who is 201 years old precisely on 6 June, is a must for music lovers.

Practical information :

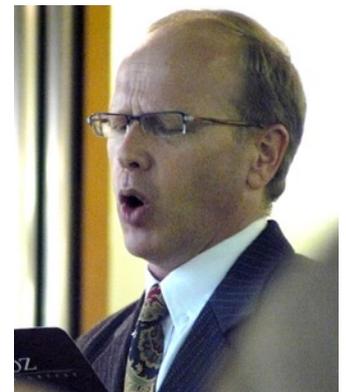
Friday June 6, 2008 - cc 't Vondel Halle - 8 p.m.

Tickets can be obtained from cc 't Vondel, Possozplein 40, Halle. Tel. (+32) (0)2 365.94.05, or cultuurcentrum@halle.be

Any further information can be provided by the Servais Society.

Charles-Emile Vanderlinden in Concert

Servais' great-great-grandchild, baritone Charles-Emile Vanderlinden, can be heard in the Basilica Church on May 24, as one of the guest singers in the T'Andernaken concert. The repertoire touches the very heart of Romanticism. A festive overture for organ introduces the evening, followed by a short homage to the Virgin Mary with an *Ave Maria* by Peter Benoit,



three *Marian Motets* for choir and organ, composed by the Mechlin Edgar Tinel after a pilgrimage to Lourdes, and an *Ave Maria* by Gaetano Donizetti for soprano, choir and organ. Then follows an intermezzo for harp.

Also the second part opens a capella with short religious compositions by Franz Servais, Leoš Janáček and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy. This second part is concluded with Gabriel Fauré's *Cantique de Jean Racine* (baritone, choir and organ) of the Polish composer (and a friend of A.F.Servais') Stanislaw Moniuszko.

The Gregorian *Media Vita* introduces the third part, followed by Fauré's *Requiem* in a version for soprano, baritone (Charles-Emile Vanderlinden), choir, harp and organ

Practical information :

Saturday May 24, 2008 - Halle Basilica – 8.30 p.m.

For tickets please apply to members, phone (+32) (0)2 356.15.65 or via www.tandernaken.be

Jean Dubé plays Servais



May 16 is specially marked in the diary of many a music lover : indeed, pianist Jean Dubé will be giving a concert in St.Martin's Basilica. In 2002 this musician won the prestigious Liszt Concours in Utrecht, and ever since he has been travelling round the world.

The concert is organized by the local Rotary Halle, the proceeds being earmarked for a charitable purpose. Rotary Halle will support

the Servais Society with a view to the organisation of the first round of the International Servais Cello Contest to be held in Halle in the spring of 2009. As a "preview" to this event Jean Dubé will play two arrangements of Servais' Souvenir de Spa : .

Practical information :

Friday 16 May 2008 - Halle Basilica - 8 p m.

Tickets (12 Euro in advance booking) can be booked via phone. (+32) (0)2 356 50 56 or (+32) (0)2 356 52 42.

For further information about the pianist go to www.jeandube.com

"Ogen, blikken"

In the summer months Halle will be the setting for the art project 'Ogen, blikken' (more or less, 'Eyes, at a glance'). It concerns a series of paintings by painter Lieve Bollaert. Replicas of the works will be displayed on large billboards attached to buildings, scattered all over the Halle town centre. In this way 'Ogen, blikken' will stretch a net across Halle, a net of eyes and glances that are in contact with one another.

One of the sites of 'Ogen, blikken' is the Villa Servais. This is what the artist herself said about her choice of the villa : "To me the Villa Servais is a highly symbolic spot in Halle. It was the home of a great artist who still occupies a prominent place in this town. Servais used to live and work here, and would receive some of the greatest musicians of his time. As such, the Villa is a place where creativity can be 'sensed'. In my eyes plastic arts are not isolated ; on the contrary, all art forms are at the interface of one another. Consequently the Villa Servais as a site for 'Ogen, blikken' is a way to visualize this close connection : it is, so to say, a symbolic link between plastic art and music. The Villa Servais is a place from where one can have a 'glance' at Halle. The work which will be displayed on this site will literally look into the town".

Practical information :

from July 5 till September 14, Halle town centre

At the exhibition in the Old Post Office you can admire the original paintings, preparatory sketches as well as the conceptual drawings. VVV-Toerisme Halle will propose artistic and/or exploratory walks.

Further information can be obtained from : www.ogen-blikken.be.

Servais Society

Join the Society !

In the years to come the Servais Society will go on doing their very best to promote Servais' music by means of concerts, CD recordings and the (re)publication of scores, research into his life and work and the propagation of it through exhibitions, lectures and publications, the further development of a Halle Servais collection, the safeguarding of his heritage in our town, and a lot of other things. More generally, it is our aim to boost the musical and cultural life in Halle and far beyond, focusing on the importance of the cello and the cello repertoire, and to stimulate and support talented youngsters via a National Cello Contest.

You are cordially invited to become a sustaining member of our society. Your moral and financial support will enable us to realize our objectives.

More info on www.servais-vzw.org

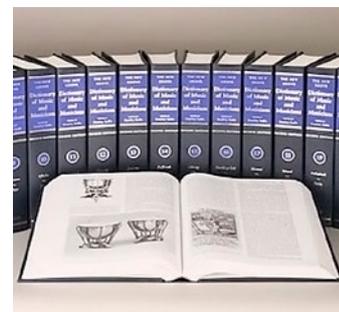
General meeting on April 23

On April 23, 2008 the Servais Society held their annual General Meeting.

The board now consists of the following people :

- › Chairman : Peter François
- › Vice chairman and treasurer : Renaat Uyttersprot
- › Secretary : Guido François
- › Members : Mark Demesmaeker, Zeger Desmet, Guy Lernout, Guy Nechelpuut, Jan Ophalvens, Dirk Ottoy, Edouard Thibaut and Roger Vanvolsem.

By way of conclusion Honorary Chairman Mr Edouard Thibaut made a short speech, in which he extended his thanks, on behalf of the board, to the chairman for his pioneering work. As a token of gratitude he could present a select present to the chairman, who was very surprised and delighted : the 29-volume New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians. This encyclopaedia contains a treasure trove of data for every musicologist, music historian and, in fact, all music lovers. In case you would like to consult this encyclopaedia, feel free to get in touch with us !



Policy document

The Servais Society drew up a 'Policy Document 2008-2012', which outlines the society's policy for the five years to come. The essential points are, among others, increasing the reputation of the town of Halle thanks to Servais, the continued development of a Halle Servais collection, stimulating and implementing research about Servais, making known Servais' life and promoting the general spread of his music.

Concert Calendar

Most recent info : www.servais-vzw.org

May 24, 2008 - Media Vita

Charles-Emile Vanderlinden (baritone, great-great-grandchild A. F. Servais) & T'Andernaken
Program : a.o works by Franz Servais ; Requiem - Gabriël Fauré
Halle, Sint-Martinusbasiliek, 8.30 p.m.
www.tandernaken.be

May 24, 2008

Alexander Hülshoff (cello) & Friedemann Eichhorn (violin)
Work by Servais & Ghys : Variations brillantes et concertantes sur God Save the King
Aachen, Haus Heyden

May 25, 2008

Luc Tooten (cello) & Stéphane de May (piano)
Work by Servais & Grégoir : Fra Diavolo. 2me duo brillant
Obernkirchen, Stift Obernkirchen
www.treff-im-stift-obernkirchen.de

May 30, 2008 - 15 Jaar Parkresidentie

Sevak Avanesyan (cello)
Work by Servais : Caprice opus 11 nr. 2
Parkresidentie Jette (only invitations)

May 30, 2008 – Klassik im Schloss “God Save the King”

Wen Sinn Yang (cello) & Rudens Turku (violin)
Work by Servais & Ghys : Variations brillantes et concertantes sur God Save the King
Pattensen (Germany), Schloss Marienburg, 8 p.m.
www.schloss-marienburg.de

June 5, 2008 - Kymijoen Lohisoitto Music Festival

Seeli Toivio (cello) & Lily-Marlene Puusepp (harp)
Work by Servais : Fantaisie pour le Violoncelle, opus 1
Kotka (Finland) www.lohisoitto.fi

June 6, 2008 – Servais Concert

Sarah Dupriez (cello) & Kryptos Quartet
Works by Servais : O Cara Memoria, opus 17 ; Souvenir de Spa, opus 2
Halle, cc 't Vondel, 8 p.m. www.servais-vzw.org

July 10, 2008 - Midis-Minimes

Ensemble Rosamunde (Jean-François Chamberlain, Pascal Crismer, Anne Pinggen, Bernard Delire) & Didier Poskin (cello)
Works by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2 ; Grande Fantaisie sur des airs du Barbier de Séville
Brussels, Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles, 12.15 a.m.
www.midis-minimes.be

July 13, 2008 – Juillet Musical d'Aulne

Viviane Spanoghe (cello)
Souvenir de l'île de Koch – Peter Swinnen (dedicated to A.F. Servais)
Abbaye d'Aulne, 3 en 4.30 p.m. www.j-m-a.be

July 13, 2008 – Festival de musique au Château de la Folie

Ensemble Rosamunde & Didier Poskin (cello)
Works by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2 ; Grande Fantaisie sur des airs du Barbier de Séville
Ecaussinnes, Château d'Ecaussinnes, 5 p.m.
www.musiquefolie.be

July 13, 2008 – Moselfestwochen

Jan Vogler (cello) & Mira Wang (violin)
Work by Servais & Ghys : Variations brillantes et concertantes sur God Save the King
Trier, Rokokosaal Kurfürstliches Palais, 5 p.m.
www.moselfestwochen.de

July 17, 2008 - concert de midi

Ensemble Rosamunde & Didier Poskin (cello)
Works by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2 ; Grande Fantaisie sur des airs du Barbier de Séville
Wavre 12.15 a.m.

July 20, 2008 - l'Été Mosan

Ensemble Rosamunde & Didier Poskin (cello)
Works by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2 ; Grande Fantaisie sur des airs du Barbier de Séville
Biesmes, Château de Biesmes, 5 p.m. www.etimesan.be

July 23, 2008

Viviane Spanoghe (cello)
Program : a.o. Souvenir de l'Île de Koch van Peter Swinnen (dedicated to A.F. Servais)
Aardenburg (NL), Weststraat, 8 p.m.

August 3, 2008 - Iisalmi Summer Concert Series

Seeli Toivio (cello) & Lily-Marlene Puusepp (harp)
Work by Servais : Fantaisie pour le Violoncelle, opus 1
Iisalmi Church (Finland)

August 16, 2008 – Festival Internacional de Música Pau Casals

Stefan Giglberger (cello) & Kammerorchester Berlin cond. Michael Erxleben
Work by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2
Sant Salvador (Spain), Auditori Pau Casals, 10.30 p.m.
www.elvendrell.net

August 24, 2008 – Schlosskonzerte Heerbrugg

Kian Soltani (cello) & Drazen Domjanic (piano)
Work by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2
Heerbrugg, 11 a.m.

August 28, 2008

Seeli Toivio (cello) & Linda Hedlund (violin)
Work by Servais & Léonard : 4e Duo de Concert sur des thèmes de l'opéra L'Africaine
Nurmes (Finland), Hannikainen Concert Hall

August 29, 2008

Seeli Toivio (cello) & Risto-Matti Marin (piano)
Work by Servais : Grande Fantaisie sur des airs du Barbier de Séville, opus 6
Lieksa Church (Finland)

October 18, 2008

Marie Hallynck (cello) & Symfonieorkest van Vlaanderen
Program : a.o.. First concerto for cello by Henri Vieuxtemps, dedicated to Joseph Servais
Amsterdam, Muziekgebouw aan het IJ, 8.30 p.m.
<http://amsterdamsecellobiennale.nl>

October 25, 2008

Pieter Wispelwey (cello) & Amsterdam Sinfonietta
Program : a.o. Allegro de Concert, opus 14 by Karl Davidov,
dedicated to A. F. Servais
Amsterdam, Muziekgebouw aan het IJ, 8.30 p.m.
<http://amsterdamsecellobiennale.nl>

November 21, 2008 – Servais Concert

Rastrelli Cello Quartet
Halle, cc 't Vondel, 8 p.m. www.servais-vzw.org

*Are you going to perform a composition by Servais in
the near future or do you know about a performance ?
Please let us know !*

Rastrelli Cello Quartet in Halle



On November 21, our town will host the worldfamous Rastrelli Cello Quartet. These four Russian cellists succeed in conjuring up the sound riches of a complete ensemble. In this way they convincingly demonstrate the cello has a lot to offer. Their transcriptions of known works from the classical and jazzy repertory have already been recorded on four cd's. In Halle they will perform a selection of them, as well as a few pieces by Servais.

In the showcase

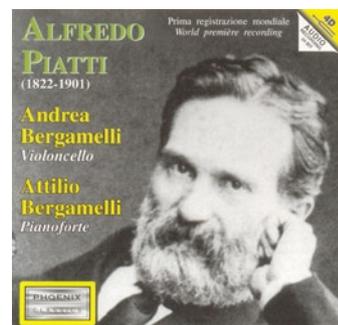
Lexicon of Flemish Composers

At the end of 2007 appeared a comprehensive lexicon with data covering the lives and works of more than two thousand Flemish composers born after 1800. It is a very useful reference work which may well mean an incentive for further research about numerous so-called 'famous unknown' composers. For every musician a short biography has been taken up, followed by a selective list of works and a summary bibliography. Some 10 musicians from Halle also feature in this lexicon, among whom, as a matter of course, Adrien François Servais and his sons Franz and Joseph. The author mainly drew on the publications of Peter François for this entry.

Flavie Roquet, Lexicon Vlaamse Componisten geboren na 1800, Roularta Books, 2007, 960 p.

Cd Alfredo Piatti

A cd devoted to the Italian cellist Alfredo Piatti was released a little longer ago, but it is still available. Cellist Andrea Bergamelli and pianist Attilio Bergamelli perform nine of Piatti's compositions, each of them world premières. Among them there is also Introduction et Variations sur un Thème de Lucia



Di Lammermoor, opus 2. This work was played for the first time in Vienna in 1838. Seven years later the cellist was to meet Servais in Moscow. Out of admiration he dedicated his opus 2 to Servais when it first appeared around 1845, which Servais reciprocated somewhat later with his Andante cantabile et Rondo à la Mazurka sur un Air de Balfe, opus 7 ; its front page mentions 'à Monsieur Piatti'. Piatti also possessed a number of Servais' compositions.

On 4 November 2007 Piatti's opus 2 was on the programme of the 'Festival Violoncellistico Internazionale Alfredo Piatti' in Bergamo, this time performed by David Geringas and Ian Fountain.

'Alfredo Piatti (1822-1901)', Phoenix Classics, 2002, PH 02801, www.phoenixaudiosystem.com

Website Associazione Alfredo Piatti : www.alfredopiatti.it