



# Newsletter

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## Forthcoming

### 11<sup>th</sup> Servais Concert on June 3, 2011

Romain Dhainaut was a student at the Conservatories in Brussels and The Hague and is now completing his studies at the London Academy of Music. In 2009 he won the third prize at the International Servais Cello Concours, held in 2009. Together with pianist Pierre Brunello he will pay tribute to Servais, exactly three days before his 204<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Halle audience will be treated to two works that have never been performed in our town since Servais' life. On the occasion of the 'Liszt Year 2011' the programme also features work by Franz Liszt, the famous virtuoso, with whom he gave numerous performances. No doubt, this is going to be an excellent musical evening with enjoyable romantic music by Servais and his contemporaries.

#### **Practical information :**

*Friday June 3,*

*Council Chamber of the Halle, New Town Hall, at 8 p.m.*

*Tickets are available at the cc 't Vondel, Possozplein 40, 1500 Halle, (+32)(0)2 365 94 05 or online : [www.vondel.be](http://www.vondel.be).*

*Members of the Servais Society can buy two tickets at the special subscribers' rate via the Servais Society.*

*Any questions and queries should be addressed to the Servais Society.*



## Looking back

### Cello Master Classes

Between April 11 and 15, 2011 the Servais Society organized cello master classes at the Halle Servais Academy. Ms Viviane Spanoghe of the Royal Brussels Conservatory was the cello tutor with Paul Hermesen as the piano accompanist. The classes were attended by three Belgian, two Spanish participants, and one from France, one from America and one from the Czech Republic. At the moment all of them are studying in Belgium or the Netherlands.



From early morning till late in the evening the cello sound could be heard during the individual classes and the joint and separate rehearsals. The participants were very enthusiastic about the historic venue as well as the pleasant town centre, which they discovered during the breaks and during the Servais walk. Zeger Desmet and Peter François guided them through Servais' Halle, with special attention for the Basilica Church and the central Market Square.



## Miscellaneous News

Also a visit to the Servais rooms of the Museum was a must. And so these young cello players got to know their famous predecessor Servais, who was extremely popular all over Europe in the 19th century.

On Friday evening the eight cellists gave a closing concert. Their performance opened jointly with three rounds by Mozart. Then Manon Vanbellinthen went on to play Servais' "Lac de Côme" and, together with Zuzana Jirglova, Julia Garcia Lavandero executed Luigi Boccherini's Sonata in La major. Subsequently Zuzana and Manon performed Servais' "Caprice" opus 11 nr. 2 and it was Sara Lopez Presa who rounded off the first half with the "Adagio con variazioni" of Ottorini Respighi.

The second part of the programme was opened by Charlotte Barbier with the sonata for cello and piano by Claude Debussy. The American participant, Benjamin Swartz, treated us to a fine performance of Servais' adaptation of Chopin's "Nocturne" opus 9 nr.2. He also played the Fuga from Benjamin Britten's "Second Suite". After this Katrien Dupont played the "Méditation Hébraïque" by Ernest Bloch and Virginie Procureur concluded the evening with Robert Schumann's "Cello Concerto" in La minor, which she played entirely from memory. Throughout the concert Paul Hermesen saw to the piano accompaniment, and for the grand finale the eight young cello players performed the "Tango passionato" by Eduard Putz.

And then there were drinks, so both the participants and their family could look back on a week full of music, cello and Servais.

» During the General Meeting of the Servais Society on April 27, 2011 the **Annual Report** was presented, with a survey of last year's activities and the progress made to extend the Servais collection. The Society was involved in 26 activities, while 95 researchers, musicians and other persons interested were helped by supplying them with scores and other pieces of information. This report can be sent via e-mail to anybody who would care to get it.

» The "**Zuidwestbrabants Museum**" will open its doors for a new season. You can look at the fixed set of items about the Servais family. The yearly temporary exhibition offers a selection of the objects and documents the museum was able to acquire over the past few months : a.o. the 19th century restoration plans for the Basilica, believed to be lost, a statue of Our Lady of Halle, paintings by Jozef Colruyt and Louis Thevenet, local porcelain.... And in addition some of Servais' unique letters, photos and scores are on display.

*The Museum can be visited between 14 and 17 p.m. on Sundays from April till October ; in the months of July and August it is also open on Saturday between 14 and 17 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 p.m. till noon. Groups can visit the Museum at any time if arrangements have been made.*

» The Museum now also has a **Website** of its own, giving all kinds of practical information and news. Every now and then some new acquisitions can be viewed as well.

*[www.streekmuseum-halle.be](http://www.streekmuseum-halle.be)*



Two pictures of the opening of the museum on April 30

» The **Seeli Toivio – Lily-Marlene Puusepp** duo, who were our guests at the 10th Servais Concert last November, now have a Website of their own. Their second duo cd has very recently been released.  
*www.duotoiviopuusepp.com*

» And also cello player **Romain Dhainaut**, who is coming to Halle on June 3, together with pianist Pierre Brunello, has his Website.  
*www.romaindhainaut.com*

» The Festival '**Weg van Klassiek !**' will take place between August 26 and 28 : nine concerts on special venues in the "Pajottenland", the green region near Brussels. The Servais Society is one of the co-organizers. Enjoying classical music in the rural countryside!  
*www.wegvanklassiek.be*

» In Rutesheim (Germany) an **international Cello Festival with masterclasses** takes place every year. Some 70 cellists from all over the world are given classes by renowned music tutors, among them the famous master Wen-Sinn Yang. At the closing concert this year on April 26, he performed Servais' 'Souvenir de Spa', accompanied by the "Württembergische Philharmonie" Reutigen , conducted by Christoph Adt. The Servais Society has managed to engage Wen-Sinn Yang for the Servais Concert, which will take place in Halle on June 9, 2012.  
*www.cello-akademie-rutesheim.de*  
*www.wensinnyang.de*



Wen-Sinn Yang plays Servais  
© Cello Akademie Rutesheim

## In the Showcase

### Catalogue 'De schatten van 2010'

The temporary exhibition 'De schatten van 2010', which is now on display at the "Zuidwestbrabants Museum" between May and October, is also supplemented with a comprehensive catalogue. The acquisitions of the Servais Collection are given a prominent place, and so Servais is covered in detail in the catalogue. Peter François is the author.

The publication counts 44 pages, in color, and can be obtained at € 10 in the Museum and through the Servais Society.

Photos : Guido François, Peter François, Zeger Desmet  
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## Concert Calendar

### Servais Society

#### June 3, 2011 - 11<sup>th</sup> Servais Concert

Romain Dhainaut (cello) & Pierre Brunello (piano)  
Work by Servais : Andante cantabile et Rondo à la Mazurka sur un Air de Balfe, opus 7 ; Tannhäuser de R. Wagner. Duo brillant

Halle, New Town Hall, at 8 p.m.

Organized by : Servais Society and cc 't Vondel

*www.servais-vzw.org*

#### November 25, 2011 – 12<sup>th</sup> Servais Concert

Alexander Hülshoff (cello) & Friedemann Eichhorn (violin)

Work by Servais : to be determined

Halle, New Town Hall, at 8 p.m.

Organized by : Servais Society and cc 't Vondel

*www.servais-vzw.org – www.alexander-huelshoff.de*

*www.friedemanneichhorn.com*

#### 9 juni 2012 – 13<sup>th</sup> Servais Concert

Wen-Sinn Yang (cello) & Adrian Oetiker (piano)

Work by Servais : to be determined

Halle, New Town Hall, at 8 p.m.

Organized by : Servais Society and cc 't Vondel

*www.servais-vzw.org – www.wensinnyang.de*

*www.adrianoetiker.com*

### Other initiatives

#### May 17, 2011 – 11. Starnberger Musiktage

Wen-Sinn Yang (cello) & Rudens Turku (violin)

Work by Servais & Ghys : Variations brillantes et concertantes sur l'air "God Save the King"

Niederpöcking (D), La Villa, 8 p.m.

*www.starnbergermusikstage.de/konzerte\_17\_05\_11.php*

#### May 17 to 20, 2011

Sol Gabetta (cello) & Bertrand Chamayou (piano)

Work by Servais : Fantaisie sur deux Airs russes, opus 13

*May 17 : Schwetzingen (Germany)*

*May 18 : Goepfingen (Germany)*

*May 19 : Guetersloh (Germany)*

*May 20 : Hohenems (Austria)*

*www.solgabetta.com*

#### June 8, 2011

Alexandra Roedder (cello) & quartet

Work by Servais : Souvenir de Spa, opus 2

Los Angeles (USA), University of California,

Popper Hall, 8 p.m.

#### January 24, 2012

Sol Gabetta (cello) & Bertrand Chamayou (piano)

Work by Servais : Fantaisie sur deux Airs russes, opus 13

Eindhoven (NL), Muziekgebouw, 8.15 p.m

*www.muziekgebouw eindhoven.nl – www.solgabetta.com*

#### January 25, 2012

Sol Gabetta (cello) & Bertrand Chamayou (piano)

Work by Servais : Fantaisie sur deux Airs russes, opus 13

Gent, Handelsbeurs, 8.15 p.m.

*www.handelsbeurs.be – www.solgabetta.com*

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

*Please let us know !*

*Most recent info : www.servais-vzw.org*