



Newsletter

No. 29 – MARCH 2014

In the pipeline

A musical encounter with the Tansman Quartet
Between April 11th and 13th the Tansman Quartet will be staying in Halle. They will conduct master classes at the “Servaisacademie” for three successive days. Cello players of all levels and ages are welcome. People will be given an opportunity to listen to the “masters” during the 16th Servais Concert and to the participants during their final performance on Sunday afternoon. Those who want to explore Halle as the Servais town can join in with a Servais sightseeing tour and pay a visit to the Servais rooms of the “Zuidwestbrabants Museum”.



*Cello master classes with the Tansman Quartet
Friday April 11th till Sunday April 13th
Servaisacademie, Kardinaal Cardijnstraat 7, 1500 Halle*

*16th Servais Concert with the Tansman Quartet
Friday April 11th 2014, 8 pm
New Town Hall, Oudstrijdersplein 18, Halle.*

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Concert Calendar

Following Servais in his footsteps

Servais sightseeing tour and visit to the Servais rooms of the Museum.

Friday April 11th or Saturday April 12th 2014.

Departure venue at 2 pm Servaisacademie

€5 per person. Registration is obligatory: peter@servais-vzw.org

Final concert of the three-day cello event

Sunday April 13th, 2014 at 4 pm

Servaisacademie, Kardinaal Cardijnstraat 7, 1500 Halle

Further information: www.servais-vzw.org

Booking for the concerts: www.vondel.be

Looking back

Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Servais Society

For ten years now the Servais Society has been promoting the study and propagation of the life and work of François Servais and his offspring. This was celebrated by the Society on November 23th with a festive Servais Concert, the presentation of a score and the opening of the digital Servais collection.

15th Servais Concert

Cellists Viviane Spanoghe and Didier Poskin gave a highly appreciated concert to a full Council Chamber in the Halle Town Hall. Servais' 6 Etudes were performed again for the first time after years of oblivion, while there was also the Belgian première of Michel Lysight's 'Langton's Ants' performed by Didier Poskin in the presence of the composer himself. The programme also featured work by Vieuxtemps, Jongen, Huybrechts, Ysaye and Feldbusch. Music lovers from all over the country and even from Utrecht and Amsterdam

had come down to Halle specifically to attend this event; a number of relatives of Albert Huybrechts, Eric Feldbusch and François Servais were present as well.



Henry Vanderlinden, Didier Poskin, Viviane Spanoghe, Jean-Paul Feldbusch, Peter François, Edmond Baert

Etudes and the Servais collection

After the concert Peter François had the honour of handing over the first copies of the new edition of the 6 Etudes to Servais' great-great-grandson Henry Vanderlinden and mayor Mr. Dirk Pieters. And so the Etudes can now begin "conquering" the world. Also the virtual Servais collection was focused upon. Several hundreds of items from the collection of the Servais Society and the "Zuidwestbrabants Museum" are already available on:

www.erfgoedplus.be/collectie/23027A510.

New honorary members

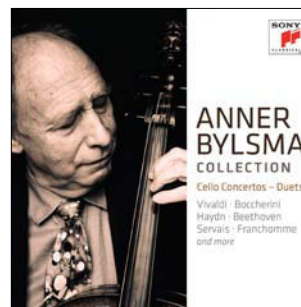
The Society has recently also adopted some new honorary members: Edmond Baert, Walter Grimmer and Didier Poskin. Seventy-nine-year old Edmond Baert was a cello teacher at the Brussels Conservatory for a long time, and so he was a remote successor to Servais. He was one of first to promote a renewed interest in Servais thanks to his numerous performances and a gramophone recording in the early 1980's. Walter Grimmer got acquainted with Servais' music in the 1950's as a student of Maurice Gendron in Paris and has been enthralled by it ever since. Didier Poskin got to know Servais through both these teachers and is now a docent at the Brussels Conservatory himself. He has already performed Servais' compositions on innumerable occasions and also recorded two CDs devoted to his oeuvre. These three new honorary members have been intensively involved in the activities of the Society for years now and also donated several scores to our collection. Cellists Viviane Spanoghe,

Seeli Toivio and Anner Bijlsma had already been granted the honorary membership before.

In the showcase

CD 'François Servais' – Smithsonian Chamber Players

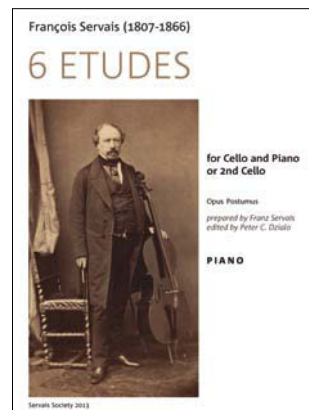
In 2014 the Dutch cellist Anner Bijlsma celebrates his 80th birthday. Not only was Bijlsma touring all over the world giving concerts, he also managed to produce an impressive discography. Sony Musical Classical has now re-edited 36 recordings containing cello concertos, suites, sonatas and chamber music. For a number of these recordings Bijlsma played on the Servais Stradivarius in the collection of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. So he did for a record completely dedicated to Servais' music, which was recorded in 1986 and then released as a record and CD in 1988. Together with the Smithsonian Chamber players he performed the Souvenir de Spa and Souvenir de Bade, with Kenneth Slowik the Caprice on Rossini's Le Comte Ory and two of the Six Caprices, and together with Vera Beths the Duo sur deux airs anglais. The CD had been sold out for a long time but is now available again after a quarter of a century.



Anner Bylsma Collection. Cello Concertos – Duets. Vivaldi – Boccherini – Haydn – Beethoven – Servais – Franchomme and more. Sony Music Classical, 88843010662 (6 cd's) (2014), <http://klassik.sonymusic.de>.

Servais' 6 Etudes

After a hundred years the Servais Society publishes a new edition of Servais' Etudes, which have remained virtually unknown but are absolutely worthwhile. They can be played with piano as well as cello accompaniment. Not only do these Etudes prove very suitable as exercises, they are also highly enjoyable pieces of music for concert performances.



François Servais, 6 Etudes for Cello and Piano or 2nd Cello, edited by Peter C. Dzialo. Servais Society, 2013. Introduction by Peter François.

44 + 24 + 12 p.

18 euros + shipping, to be ordered via peter@servais-vzw.org.

Liszt and his students Franz Servais, Jules Zaremski and Johanna Wenzel

In May 1881 Franz Liszt sat for a portrait with three of his students, Jules Zaremski, Johanna Wenzel and Franz Servais, François Servais' eldest son. Christo Lelie uses this iconic picture as a starting point for a long article in the periodical of the Franz Liszt Circle 2013. He sets the four artists

and their mutual relationships in the appropriate context and also extensively focuses on their Halle connection; indeed, the four of them had been in Halle as well. The article is well documented and lavishly illustrated. Five of the pictures come from the Halle Servais Collection.

Christo Lelie, 'Liszt en zijn leerlingen Franz Servais, Jules Zarembski en Johanna Wenzel'. In Tijdschrift van de Franz Liszt Kring 2013, p. 22-45.

www.lisztkring.nl.

Missia (I) Ophélie

'Missia (I) Ophélie' is the first part of a five-volume biographical novel dealing with Servais' granddaughter Misia. The author David Lamaze has been investigating Misia's life for nine years now, which has resulted in as many publications. The first part of this biographical novel is devoted to Misia's youth till her marriage with Thadée Natanson in 1893. Her grandmother Sophie Servais is one of the leading figures.

David Lamaze, 'Missia (I) Ophélie'. Lille, thebookedition, 2013 (236p.)

www.thebookedition.com – www.misiagodebska.eu

Concert Calendar

April 11-13, 2014 – Three days with Servais

Halle, Servais Academy and New Town Hall

www.servais-vzw.org

May 16, 2014

Maeterlinck Trio: Benjamin Glorieux (cello), Paulina Sokolowska (violin) & Anthony Romaniuk (piano)

Work by Servais: Grand duo de concert sur deux airs nationaux anglais; Fantaisie Caractéristique sur deux célèbres Romances de Lafont, opus 8

Ghent, De Bijloke, 8 p.m.

www.debijloke.be

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

