



## Newsletter Servais Society n° 39-40 - May-June 2017

### A SUCCESSFUL EXPO ON THE BELGIAN SCHOOL OF CELLO PLAYING

During the first round and the semi finals of the Queen Elisabeth Competition for cello the Servais Society organized an exposition in Flagey. It showed the Belgian cello history by means of particular letters, programs, scores, pictures and recordings from the Halle Servais collection. The eye catcher was a big panel portraying all teachers of the Belgian conservatories from 1827 till now, out of which the crucial role emerged played by François Servais, Joseph Servais and Edouard Jacobs.

Thanks to 2552 visitors the exposition was a big success. Servais and the exposition also obtained much attention from the media.



Pianist Pierre Brunello and cellist Edmond Baert, former teacher of the Brussels Conservatory



Precious old instruments exhibited by Jan Strick. On the left: a copy of the Servais Strad by Paul Darche, 1880

### BOOK 'THE BELGIAN SCHOOL OF CELLO PLAYING'

Since the nineteenth century, Belgium has produced many cellists that have made themselves heard worldwide. The most famous one is François Servais, the 'Paganini of the Cello'. But there are many other cellists who have also helped shape what came to be known as the 'Belgian School of Cello Playing'. The new book offers the first comprehensive study of the subject. The book is richly illustrated with unknown items from the Halle Servais Collection.

More info: [website](#)



The Belgian School of Cello Playing  
De Belgische Celloschool  
L'Ecole belge du Violoncelle

Peter François

## CHINA JOURNEY WAS A SUCCESS

The Servais Society was present at the SuperCello Festival in Beijing (28 April - 1 May 2017). The initiator was Yibing Chu, cello teacher at the Beijing Conservatory.

Numerous great names from the cello world were present, such as Gavriel Lipkind, Raphael Pidoux, Alban Gerhardt and Martti Rousi.

Peter François gave two lectures about Servais' life and work in front of an auditorium full of interested Chinese melomaniacs. The stand of the Servais Society in the central hall also attracted many people. For this occasion the Servais Society had published a brochure on Servais in Chinese, which was widely approved. At the evening concert of 29 April Wen-Sinn Yang and the Brussels Chamber Orchestra performed Servais' most famous composition: Souvenir de Spa.



## MATHILDE REUZE WINS SERVAIS PRIZE

At the sixteenth Cello Competition of Sint-Pieters-Woluwe Joke Flecijn won the Edmond Baert prize. The French Mathilde Reuzé received the first prize in Category C - conservatory students from 14 to 18 years. She also won the special 'Servais prize', by which the Servais Society rewards the best performance of a work by François Servais. Mathilde played Servais' *La Romanesca* and the *Etude n°6*. The 16 years old cellist studied with Frédéric Borsarello in the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Paris.

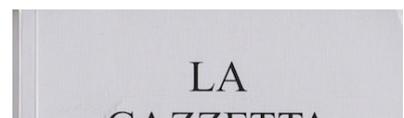


Mathilde Reuzé

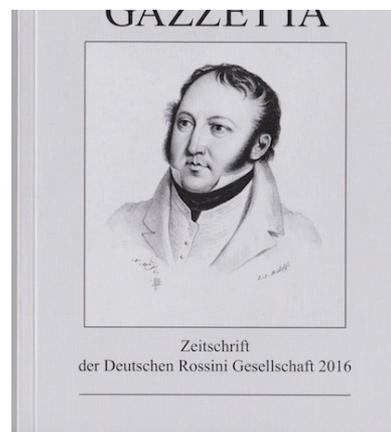


**NEW: LA GAZZETTA WITH ARTICLE ON SERVAIS AND ROSSINI**

In La Gazzetta of 2016, the annuary of the Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft, the article 'François Servais: Rossinis



“Paganini des cellos” appeared. In this article Peter François describes the mutual appreciation between both musicians. He also traced two letters by Rossini never published before and an unpublished composition by Rossini ‘Un mot pour basse et piano’ dedicated to Servais. More information and opportunity to order via the [Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft](#).



## AGENDA

### 25-27.08.2017 - Festival Weg van Klassiek

Central guest: cellist Benjamin Glorieux.

Galmaarden and Herne

[More info](#)

### 28.08.2017 - Festival des Minimes

Didier Poskin and Pierre Brunello play Servais' Fantaisie sur Le Désir, opus 4.

Brussels, Miniemenkerk, 12 AM

[More info](#)

### 01.10.2017 - Servais walk and concert

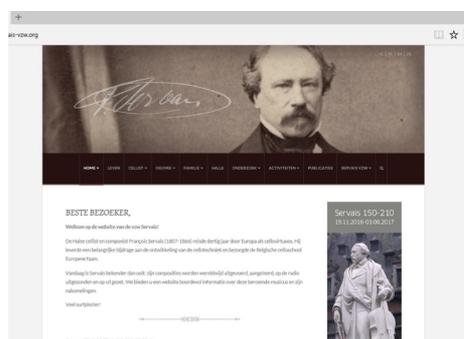
Performances by students of the Servais Academy and Benjamin Glorieux in the Servais Academy and the Villa Servais.

[More info](#)

### 12-15.04.2018 - Third 'Four days with Servais'

Cello masterclasses with the Tansman Cello Quartet in Halle.

### 11-12.05.2018 - Cello Competition Sint-Pieters-Woluwe



## NEW SERVAIS WEBSITE!

Since 2005 Servais has got his own spot on the internet. In the end of 2016 the website was totally renewed, with even more pictures, sound fragments and information. Pay a visit quickly and let us know your opinion!

[Visit the web site](#)



---

© vzw Servais, 2017

**Contact:**

[e-mail](#)

[voorkeuren aanpassen](#) of [uitschrijven](#)

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
Servais Society · Beertsestraat 45 · Halle 1500 · Belgium

