



Newsletter Servais Society n° 74 - March 2024


COMING UP: 31st SERVAIS CONCERT AND 5th 'EDITION OF 'FOUR DAYS WITH SERVAIS' (11-14 APRIL)


From 11 to 14 April 2024, the Servais Society is organising a four-day cello course for the fifth time at the Halle Art Academy, Servais campus. In doing so, she can once again count on the four teachers who together form the Tansman Quartet, supplemented by Ann Van Hecke, cello teacher in Halle. On the first evening, Thursday 11 April 2024, they will perform at the 31st Servais Concert in the Council Chamber of the New Town Hall. They perform works by Servais, Tchaikovsky, Boccherini, Debussy and Fauré, among others. If you have not yet reserved your tickets, it is best to do so as soon

as possible via www.vondel.be. After all, the number of places is limited. The price is €16 (€13 for members).

No fewer than 32 cellists of various ages (between 10 and 75 years) and educational levels

have been registered for the Four Days of Cello. They come from Belgium, France, Switzerland, Albania and even China. In addition to 19 Dutch speakers, we count 11 French speakers and two participants who use English as their language of communication. On Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 5 p.m., this very diverse group will treat us to a closing concert at cultural center 't Vondel. There they will show what they have done together in those four days. You can also order tickets for the closing concert: € 6 (€ 3 for members), via [cc 't Vondel](#).





Slotconcert

5e cellovierdaagse met Servais
Quatre jours auprès de Servais - Four days with Servais

14.04.2024
17 uur

CC 't Vondel Halle
Tickets: € 6 (leden vzw Servais: € 3)
www.vondel.be – 02 365 98 27

COMING UP: EXPO 'FRANCOIS SERVAIS, THE PAGANINI OF THE CELLO' (18 MAY-9 JUNE)

As part of the twentieth anniversary of the Servais Society, the exhibition 'François Servais, the Paganini of the cello' is running in Halle. Those who were unable to visit this exhibition at Flagey two years ago during the Queen Elisabeth Cello Competition will now be given a second chance in Halle. And those who did, can admire a number of extra archive documents this

time. The location is the Oude Post, diagonally opposite the Art Academy Halle, campus Servais and at the back of St. Martin's Basilica.



Opening hours:

Every weekend between May 18 and June 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Admission free

RECITALS YURIY LEONOVICH AND THE SERVAIS URTEXT SERIES

On December 12, 2023, American cellist Yuriy Leonovich and his wife Kristin Leonovich (pianist) played a recital 'Servais and friends' in Greensboro, South Carolina. He played a number of works that had never been recorded before, such as Servais' arrangements of Doubt (Glinka), Moment Musical (Schubert) and Les Regrets (Gregoir), Fantaisie La Romantique and the first and fourth 'Morceau de Salon'.

Listen again [through this link](#).



Servais' Fantaisie La Romantique was also on the program of a concert that both musicians gave on March 9, 2024 in Greenville, South Carolina ([listen to it again](#)). The composition was only preserved as a manuscript and, like the above-mentioned compositions, appeared in the Servais Urtext Series, which can be ordered through the [Servais Society website](#). Other new publications in the Urtext Series include:

- Servais' transcription for cello and quintet (or piano) of La Romanesca.
- Servais' Fantaisie Caractéristique sur deux célèbres Romances de Lafont.
- Servais' arrangement for cello and quintet of Franz Schubert's Moment Musical No. 3 (also only preserved in manuscript).
- Servais' adaptation of 'Doubt' by Mikhail Glinka (also preserved only in manuscript but now included in the Urtext Series).

More info and ordering



DEATH OF EDMOND BAERT (1934-2024)

On 17 February 2024, the prominent Belgian cellist and teacher Edmond Baert passed away.

40 years ago, Baert made one of the first recordings of Servais' music. He was regularly present at activities of the non-profit organisation Servais in Halle and Brussels and we saw him every year at the Concours Edmond Baert in Woluwe-Saint-Pierre. In 2013, he became an honorary member of the non-profit organisation Servais because of his enormous services to the Belgian cello world and Servais. We will miss his smiling presence.

[Listen to Servais' Souvenir de Spa by Edmond Baert](#)

[Re-read the interview with Edmond Baert in Newsletter 30 of the Servais Society](#)

[In Memoriam in The Strad](#)



Pierre Brunello and Edmond Baert at the Servaisexpo of vzw Servais in Flagey, 2017

LOOKING BACK:30TH SERVAIS CONCERT (26 NOVEMBER 2023)

Four years after their first performance at a Servais concert, everyone was once again looking forward to the arrival of the University Symphony Orchestra of the KU Leuven. This shone in the first movement with Ludwig Van Beethoven's Fidelio and the performance of François Servais' Fantasy on themes by Schubert, with Benjamin Glorieux as soloist.

In the second movement, the more than 70 young musicians performed Dimitri Shostakovich's beautiful fifth symphony. The Halle audience reacted very enthusiastically. The Leuven students and their conductor Edmond Saveniers had clearly conquered the hearts of many music lovers.



Before the encore, a special ceremony took place on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Servais Society, which started on 26 November 2003. Because of their dedication over twenty years, chairman Peter François and secretary Guido François received the bronze medal of merit from the Province of Flemish Brabant from the hands of mayor Marc Snoeck.

Other members of the board, through Dorothee Pawlutschenko, added a short laudation and gift for the president, who has worked tirelessly for the work of the association and for the image of the figure and compositions of François Servais for those two decades.



AGENDA

11.04.2024 - 31th Servais Concert

With the Tansman Quartet and Ann Van Hecke, at 7.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the New Town Hall, Oudstrijdersplein 18, 1500 Halle.

14.04.2024 - Closing concert 'Four Days with Servais'

More than thirty participants of the Servais Masterclasses will appear on stage and perform a number of beautiful arrangements for cello ensemble and cello orchestra, at 5 p.m. in cc 't Vondel, Joseph Possozplein 40, 1500 Halle.

[More info](#)

18.05-09.06.2024 - Expo 'François Servais, the Paganini of the Cello'

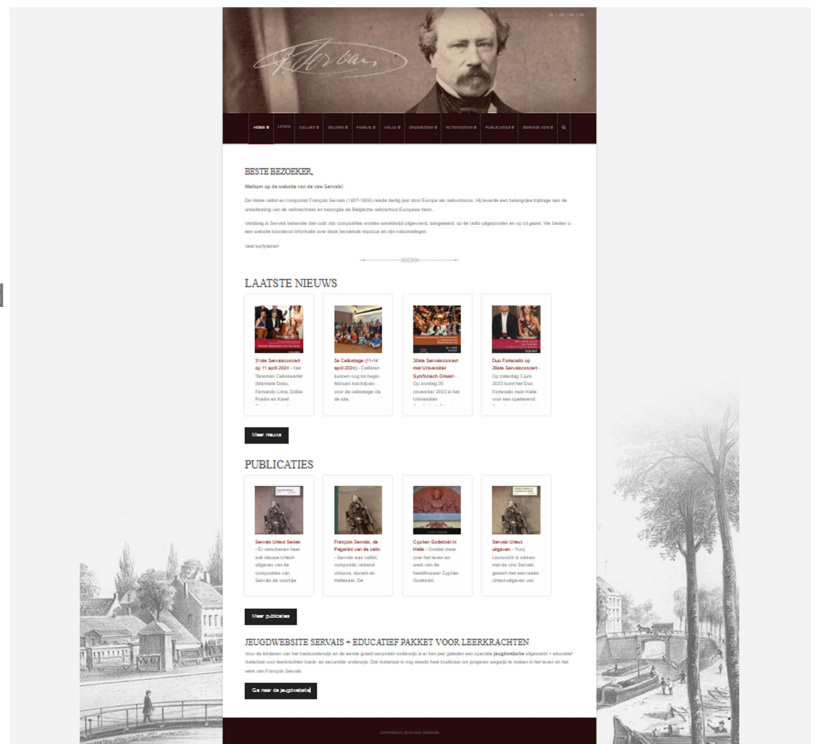
At the Old Post Office in Halle.

[More info](#)

VISIT THE SERVAIS WEBSITE!

Many listening fragments and information about François Servais, the Belgian School of Cello Playing and the Servais family.

[Through the web site](#)



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Contact:
[e-mail](#)