

International Masterclass for Choral Conductors 2018

11-14 October 2018

Fifth edition

Information updated 5. March 2018

International Masterclass for Choral Conductors

Teachers: Daniel Reuss and Hans Leenders

Choir: Studium Chorale

The aim of the Studium Chorale Masterclass is to train choral conductors who wish to improve their skills and knowledge at the highest level with two outstanding teachers Daniel Reuss and Hans Leenders and to work with professional ensemble singers of Studium Chorale. The participants undergo development and improvement under critical and expert supervision by experienced teachers. Each of the two teachers deals with a different type of repertoire, and employs his own personal approach and skills to increase the understanding of the art of conducting among the participants.

The Studium Chorale Masterclass is open to both actively participating conductors and to observing conductors. It will be conducted in Dutch, English or German. There is room for a maximum of 10 active conductors.

Method

The masterclass itself consists of various elements:

One day - Thursday 11 October 2018 - of intensive preparation and assessment of the initial situation. The session is meant for the active conductors only. They will explore the repertoire for the Masterclass. The master conductors will become acquainted with the strengths and weaknesses of their students and will begin the process of working with them.

From Friday 12 October onwards the Masterclass sessions with the professional choir Studium Chorale take place. These are also open to observers.

On Sunday 14 October the final presentation takes place: a concert during which it is the intention that every active participant will conduct a piece or part of a piece.

Selection

Active conductors should be no older than about 40 years of age. Candidates should include with their application (see application form) a recording with either an amateur choir or with professional singers demonstrating their work as a conductor. The two teachers will select the candidates for active participation. The decision on active participation will be taken before 1 July 2018. Those candidates not selected are most welcome to attend as observing conductors.

Repertoire 2018

Good preparation is essential! We expect conductors to prepare all the works named on the list of repertoire. And to be able to work on them as a conductor during the Masterclass.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied BWV 225
(Bärenreiter BA 5193 or other Urtext edition)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Fünf Gesänge op. 104 (Peters or other good edition)

Rudolf Escher (1912-1980)
Sonnet *from*: Ciel, air et vents... (Donemus)

Hans Leenders (1965)
Hoc est praeceptum meum (Ascolta Music Publishing)

Terms and conditions

- The master conductors will determine the active conductors' schedule.
- Studium Chorale reserves the right to make audio and video recordings intended for media or educational purposes. Participants are not entitled to any remuneration for these recordings.

Travel and accommodation

All participants will organize and pay their own travel. They will also pay their own accommodation expenses.

Studium Chorale can organize bed & breakfast during the Studium Chorale Masterclass at a reasonable price in (the neighbourhood of) Maastricht. Detailed information will follow a.s.a.p.

Location for all workshops and presentation

Maastricht or neighbourhood. Information will follow a.s.a.p.

Costs

The cost of taking part as an active conductor is € 350,- payable by 1 August 2018 at the latest.

The cost of taking part as an observer is € 10,- per session.

Participation in the Masterclass as active conductor cannot be confirmed until payment has been made.

Please pay into bank account:

IBAN NL61 RABO 0131 3461 72

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Studium Chorale, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Teaching staff

Daniel Reuss

Daniel Reuss (born 1961) studied with Barend Schuurman at the Rotterdam Conservatory. In 1990, he became director of Cappella Amsterdam, which he turned into a full-time professional ensemble that is now one of the most sought after in the Netherlands.

From 2008 till 2013 he was also the artistic director/chief conductor of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. In 2010, he was nominated for a Grammy "best choral performance" for the cd he made with the two choirs together (Frank Martins Golgotha).

From 2003 until 2006 he was chief conductor of the RIAS Kammerchor in Berlin, with whom he recorded a number of successful CDs. Their CD with works by Martin and Messiaen (released by Harmonia Mundi) won both the "Diapason d'or de l'année 2004" and the "Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik". The CD's Les Noces, Le vin Herbé and Händels Solomon have also been critically acclaimed.

In summer 2006, at the invitation of Pierre Boulez, Daniel Reuss taught and conducted at the summer 2006 Lucerne Festival Academy. In February 2007, Reuss made his debut at the English National Opera, with Händel's Agrippina. In 2008 he directed at De Munt/La Monnaie in Bruxelles, with the Dido & Aeneas-production of stage director Sasha Waltz.

From 2008 till 2013 he was the artistic director/chief conductor of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. In 2010, he was nominated with the Estonian Philharmonic Orchestra together with Cappella Amsterdam for a Grammy for best choral performance for the recording of Martin's Golgotha (harmonia mundi). The two choirs also worked together in a recording of Stabat Mater and Sept Répons de Ténèbres (Francis Poulenc), released in 2014 by Harmonia Mundi. In September 2014 the cd Warum, choral works of Brahms, sang by Cappella Amsterdam was released. It won the Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik beginning 2015.

Daniel Reuss has been invited to conduct chamber ensembles and orchestras throughout Europe. Among these may be mentioned the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, MusikFabrik, Scharoun Ensemble and the Radio Chamber Philharmonic. From 2015 Daniel Reuss is chief conductor of Ensemble Vocal Lausanne. In november 2016 he received the Ribbon of Honour (Ridder in de Orde van de Nederlandse Leeuw).

www.danielreuss.com

Hans Leenders

Hans Leenders studied organ, music-theory and gregorian chant at the conservatories at Maastricht, Utrecht and Brussels with a.o. Jean Wolfs, Jan Raas, Jean Ferrard and Jean Boyer. He is professor for organ at the Maastricht conservatory. He is artistic advisor to the organ festival L'Europe et l'Orgue in Maastricht.

Hans Leenders is conductor and artistic director of the professional chamber choir Studium Chorale, the choir Cantatrix and cantor-organist at the O.L.V. basilica in Maastricht.

He performs in many European countries and has held guest directorships and workshops at several conservatories and international festivals, a.o. Europa Cantat. His compositions are published by some renowned Dutch publishers.

www.hansleenders-organist.nl

Rehearsal choir

Studium Chorale (18 singers)

www.studiumchorale.nl

Schedule 2018

June 1	Closing date for applications
July 1	Decision of admission as active conductor
October 11	Arrival by 14.30h at location Welcome and session (15-18h) with teachers
October 12	Sessions with the choir (10-12.30h, 13.30-17h) Session without choir (19-21h)
October 13	Sessions with the choir (10-12.30h, 13.30-17h)
October 14	Session with the choir (10-12.30h) Presentation 14.30h

Schedule subject to small changes

Organisation and information

Studium Chorale
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Kapittellaan 83
NL – 6229 TT Maastricht
The Netherlands
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email: info@studiumchorale.nl
www.studiumchorale.nl

Application form

The application form for active conductors and observing conductors is on our website as a separate form. Please fill in this form.

Please include with the application form in a separate mail to info@studiumchorale.nl :

1. A recent CV in English including your musical activities, recent experience as a professional conductor, musical education, qualifications, list of repertoire, teachers, courses taken, awards etc.
2. A recording of your conducting (file - link).
3. Short biography – suitable for publication.
4. Brief description of why you wish to take part.

Observers are not required to selection. The age limit does not apply to them.

NB: the preparatory session on 11 October 2018 can only be attended by active conductors.