



virtuosi school of music

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Newsletter – Autumn 2013

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Christmas Concert – Saturday, December 14th, 2013

Our Christmas Student Concert will be held on Saturday, December 14th at the Church Hall of Anglican Church of St John & St Philips - Ary van der Spuyweg 1, 2585 JA, Den Haag.

There will be 4 sessions: 9:00, 10:45, 12:30 and 14:15

Please sign up using the online links sent via email.

Deadline for registration is December 9th at 12:00 noon.

We are very happy if people can bring a plate to share on the day. As always drinks are provided.

Please note:

- Please confer with your teacher who will help you decide what to perform **before** signing up. Parents are responsible for signing up (thus not teachers).
- Full details of the pieces should be included along with registration. Entering a student's name as a 'placeholder' without pieces (T.B.C. etc) will not be regarded as valid registration.
- Each pupil two pieces maximum.



TRINITY
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Graded Examinations

Since the start of 2013, we have been co-hosting Trinity College Grade Exams with JSD. The first two rounds in February and November (2013) have yielded high results with a 100% pass rate. Rock & Pop, Instrumental & Vocal exams have been offered alongside Classical & Jazz. To register for a grade exam, please visit the 'practice & examinations' page of our website www.virtuosi.nl. The Trinity syllabus allows pupils to follow their speciality, whether on contemporary instruments such as 'Plectrum Guitar', rock classical or jazz. **Self-entries for the following round in February 2014 can be made online via our website before January 1.**

Music Theory Class

The Music Theory classes take place on **Saturdays at 10:30 am**. Please contact us by email should you wish to attend in the coming academic year. Theory classes are offered **free of charge** to all continuing *Virtuosi* students. Non-*Virtuosi* students or new students pay a contribution of 240 euro for the year.

It is still possible to register this class **until 1st December**. Afterwards, enrollment is not possible for the current school year.

The course contents include the set elements required to take Trinity College & ABRSM grade exams, as well as extended Music Language Studies. The class is essential for students sitting grade exams, and we encourage all students who are able to attend to do so.

Specialised ear training, In particular, is something that must be continuously cultivated from a young age...



Virtuosi at the Feel at Home Fair

The annual Feel at Home fair is a place for expats to find their way in the Hague. It has been *Virtuosi*'s 4th year presenting at the fair. We are happy to be part of the vibrate Expats community in the Hague!



July 6th Concert – Director's Report

I had many thoughts from July 6 about the running of the concert, which have fed through to planning the next on December 14. I think we have finally honed the format, and in doing so allow pupils a positive performance experience in a manageable time frame. Here is brief summary of the main points & action taken:

Sessions were still too long, with little or no time for the reset between. Maximum *two pieces* for future concerts, and 5th session added at 16:00 if needed.

Last round the performers sat 'in the wings', with the instruments ready which worked well. We will adopt this for future performances.

The first session was messy, with pupils fiddling with packing up instruments, etc, disrupting for the next pupil. Perhaps a legacy of previous concerts being too long to sit through. Following an '*etiquette announcement*' from Kendra Borgen (our Sound Engineer / Sax & Clarinet teacher) for the following sessions, it was much better.

If we can promise to limit the sessions to 1 hr max, we kindly ask that people sign up for a session that they can stay for in its entirety – and not to chat, pack up instruments, fiddle with cases / music or worse cross the stage to leave immediately after their own spot – wait till the end!

Performing on stage is stressful, we are asking the children to perform a highly complex task under extreme pressure – which is why we try to make as light as possible of this very formal situation. However this should not be seen as a cue to act in a way that is disrespectful to the other players once your piece is done. It is not helpful to have additional unnecessary and completely *avoidable* distractions such as chatting, crossing the stage to leave or rattling cases.

Nerves... we all get nervous as performers! We run to a tight schedule, but do take your time once on stage to compose yourself. Take a deep breath and imagine a precise, secure tempo before you begin... It really works - try it!

Meetings at the British School

In beginning of the school year, we had meetings at JSL, JSV and JSD - to ensure smooth running of the after school music program on campus, as well as improving cooperation between teachers. It is a unique chance for all the teachers to meet with each other and the BSN management. Thanks to Mr. Porrit for the initiative to make it happen!



Tullia Melandri's giving a solo recital at the beautiful **Het Dordts Patriciershuis**

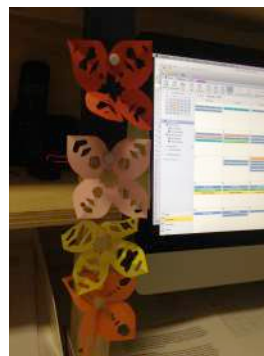


We keep a small school library where music textbooks and method books are offered for sale. Parents & students are welcome to order or buy books from us...



Certificate SEPA Creditor ID for use of the SEPA Direct Debit

We are required to disclose our Incassant ID & information for the use of SEPA Direct Debit to our clients & partners. Rabobank (BIC RABONL2U) certifies the issuance of a SEPA creditor to *Virtuosi School of Music*, Trade Register number 27324431, under the Creditor ID: NL14ZZZ273244310000.



We have lots of talented young musicians as well as artists at Virtuosi... these 'snow flowers' were made from post it notes by Samantha Ling!

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The newsletter is an important means of communication with our current parents & students. If you are no longer taking lessons would no longer like to receive Virtuosi's newsletters, please send an email to admin@virtuosi.nl with the subject "unsubscribe".