

Thirty years of chamber music

This summer, the Orlando Festival will celebrate its thirtieth anniversary. From July 24th until August 7th, amateur and professional chamber musicians gather at the beautiful abbey of Rolduc in Kerkrade, the South of the Netherlands. They come with one goal: to enjoy and practice chamber music together. This edition also coincides with the departure of artistic leader and founder of the festival, Stefan Metz.

Thirty years Orlando Festival

The first chamber music festival of the Netherlands has, over the last thirty years, acquired a high listing within the international chamber music world. Many top ensembles, such as the Borodin Quartet and members of the Amadeus Quartet, were guests at the festival. This year will be no exception. Several famous string quartets will attend the festival, among which seven first prize winners of international string quartet competitions, including the Pavel Haas Quartet (Czech Republic) and the Casals Quartet (Spain).

Farewell Stefan Metz

The cellist Stefan Metz (1941) received international acclaim at the end of the seventies with the Orlando String Quartet. In 1982 he founded the Orlando Festival. Due to his personal contacts with many famous chamber musicians from around the world, he managed year after year to get the best musicians to Rolduc to teach and play. He also commissioned several compositions from composers such as Alfred Schnittke and Tristan Keuris, whose pieces were first performed at the festival. This year Leo Samama will be composing a string quartet especially for the thirtieth anniversary. Several festivities have been planned this year because of Stefan Metz' goodbye.

Enlist now!

The Orlando Festival is unique in its kind because every year hundreds of musicians of all ages and levels of capability come and visit Rolduc and enjoy music together. The level of proficiency is not important; all ensembles (with a minimum of three people) can join the festival. Non-instrumentalists can come and join the festival as a non-playing participant too. Aside from the inspirational lessons, there are other things to do. Every evening the professional musicians give concerts, there are lectures, and the participants can perform themselves.

Participants can enlist for this special thirtieth anniversary until the first of May via the website www.orlandofestival.nl.

For more information contact Leonie Curvers, production manager, at 0031 (0) 45 850 99 10 or leonie.curvers@orlandofestival.nl. Photo: Stefan Metz



Photo: Stefan Metz

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Photo: Stefan Metz teaches a youth ensemble
in the Rococo library.

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