

The **Musikfest Bremen** invites you to apply to take part in its early music Atelier for talented young musicians!

Lionel Meunier, artistic director of the Belgian ensemble **Vox Luminis**, together with his team of experts in historically informed performance, will guide specially selected young musicians on a musical journey exploring the composers that shaped Johann Sebastian Bach's musical world, with ensemble workshops, masterclasses, lectures and rehearsals.

The first Atelier focuses on **Johann Kuhnau's Magnificat in C Major**, marking the 300th anniversary of the composer's death. Kuhnau was Bach's predecessor as Thomaskantor in Leipzig, and his Magnificat is his longest piece of church music, its structure and instrumentation inviting comparisons to Bach's 1723 setting. Another influential work in the repertoire is **Johann Pachelbel's Jauchzet dem Herrn, Aller Welt**, in which the oboe takes on a central role in the ensemble for the first time. Further repertoire includes works by Thomaskantoren before Bach.

The results will be presented on **Saturday 3 September 2022** in a concert at the **St. Cyprian-und Corneliuskirche** in Gandersksee with its Arp-Schnitger organ as part of the **33th Musikfest Bremen**.

We are looking for:

Exceptional students and young musicians at the start of their career. **Participants must have experience with period instruments**. The minimum age for participation is 18, there is no upper limit, but young musicians (up to ca. 30 years) will have priority.

The Atelier is fully funded, including a grant covering all tuition fees, hotel accommodation and breakfast. Each participant will receive an additional allowance of €250 to cover travel and living expenses.

Instruments:

Vocals (SATB), Violin, Viola, Violone, Bassoon/Dulcian, Oboe, Trumpet, Timpani, Organ.

Repertoire:

J. Kuhnau, *Magnificat in C Major*, J. Pachelbel, *Jauchzet dem Herrn, alle Welt*, e.a. Successful applicants will receive a full list of works as well as their individual parts before the start of the Atelier.

How to apply:

Please send an up-to-date CV and a recent video in which you play your instrument, either as a soloist or in your ensemble, to: amoens@musikfest-bremen.de. Singers are to send a solo video.

The artistic direction will decide about your participation.

Deadline for applications: 30 July 2022

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TUTORS

LIONEL MEUNIER – Vocals, artistic direction



Internationally renowned as the founder and artistic director of the award winning Belgian vocal ensemble Vox Luminis, French conductor and bass Lionel Meunier is widely regarded as one of the most dynamic and highly acclaimed artistic leaders in the fields of historical performance and choral music active today. His international breakthrough came in 2012 with Vox Luminis' Gramophone Recording of Year award for their recording of Heinrich Schütz' *Musicalische Exequien*. Under his leadership, Vox Luminis has since embarked on extensive concert tours throughout Europe, North America, and Asia; established multi-season artistic residencies at Wigmore Hall, Aldeburgh Festival, Utrecht Early Music Festival, and Concertgebouw Bruges; and recorded over a dozen critically acclaimed albums. Their recording of Buxtehude won them their second Gramophone Award, for 2019 Choral Recording of the Year.

As a guest conductor, Lionel has worked with Netherlands Bach Society, Danish National Vocal Ensemble, Netherlands Chamber Choir, and the Boston Early Music Festival Collegium and has led projects with Vox Luminis in collaboration with Juilliard 415, Orchestra B'Rock, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, and L'Achèron, among many others. Lionel maintains a close relationship with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra and Consort, returning regularly to lead collaborative projects with Vox Luminis that cover a wide repertoire. Their first recording together appeared in 2021. Future projects include his debut with the Shanghai Symphony and returns to the Boston Early Music Festival and Freiburg Baroque Orchestra and Consort.

FLORIAN SIEVERS – Vocals



Born in Hamburg, German tenor Florian Sievers gained his first singing experience as a soprano in Uetersen Boys' Choir. After studies in music education in Lübeck, he studied voice with Prof. Berthold Schmid in Leipzig and graduated with distinction. After singing his debut in the role of the Evangelist in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with Jordi Savall (2019) his career sees him performing concerts on the international stage. He regularly collaborates with artists like Frieder Bernius (Kammerchor Stuttgart), Shunske Sato (Nederlandse Bachvereniging), Wolfgang Katscher (Lautten Compagny) and Lionel Meunier (Vox Luminis). Recordings for labels like Sony Classical, Rondeau, cpo, Coviello and Carus bear witness to Florian Sievers' active artistic work and his broad repertoire from the early baroque era to contemporary works.

TUOMO SUNI – Baroque violin, Strings



Tuomo Suni studied baroque violin in his native Finland with Kreeta-Maria Kentala before attending the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, studying with Enrico Gatti and graduating with a master's degree in 2005. Tuomo's professional life has largely been centred around chamber music, performing and recording with several international ensembles including Opera Quarta, Ensemble Masques, Capriccio Stravagante and Ricercar Consort; winning several awards such as Diapason d'Or for Opera Quarta's cd of Leclair trio sonatas in 2007 and for Ensemble Masques's Romanus Weichlein cd in 2015. Tuomo is premier violon of Vox Luminis, principal second violin of The English Concert, leader of Reykjavik International Baroque Orchestra and plays and records regularly with many other orchestras including Helsinki Baroque Orchestra, Dunedin Consort, The Early Opera Company and Bach Collegium Japan.

BENNY AGHASSI – Bassoon, Wind



Born in Israel, Benny Aghassi, graduated from the bachelor's degree programme at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, where he studied with Sébastien Marq (recorder) and Donna Agrell (Baroque bassoon). He received his master's degree from the Utrecht Conservatory, where he studied with Heiko ter Schegget. Benny Aghassi regularly plays with various orchestras, such as the Freiburger Barock Orchester, the Netherlands Bach Society, the Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century, the Orchestre des Champs Elysées, Vox Luminis, B'Rock, the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra and the Orchestra Libera Classica. He received a grant from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and won several early music prizes in Israel. Benny Aghassi lives in The Hague and teaches Baroque bassoon at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam and the Hochschule für Künste Bremen.

RUDOLF LÖRINC – Trumpet, Brass



Rudolf Lörinc studied trumpet with Prof. Matthias Höfs at the HfMT Hamburg, graduating with distinction in 2012. He then took a Master's in baroque trumpet at the HfK Bremen with Susan Williams. In 2011 he won 2nd prize at the Elise Meyer Stiftung contest and in 2013 he was awarded 2nd prize at the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-contest in Berlin. In 2011 he won a stipend as finalist in the contest of the Deutsche Musikrat. His first international concert experiences were a.o. with the Gustav-Mahler-Jugendorchester and the orchestra of the Schleswig-Holstein Festival. In 2010/11 he was solo trumpeter for the Mecklenburgischen Staatskapelle Schwerin, and since 2013 he plays in the Bremer Philharmoniker. He plays the baroque trumpet the Bachcollegium Japan, Collegium Vocale Gent, Vox Luminis, Il Gardellino and the Balthasar-Neumann-Ensemble and has taken part in several CD and radio recordings. He has been teaching the trumpet at the Hochschule für Künste in Bremen since 2017.

TBC – Organ