

Specialization course for harpsichordist / repetiteur / ensemble conductor

This course is open to harpsichordists and organists of Bachelor or Master-level proficiency in the chosen field of study. No age limit. The course requires broad musical and literary knowledge (repetiteurs) as well as solid figured-bass skills - to be further honed during study.

Rules for admission

Preliminary selection of applicants based on applications* and covering letters.

Then entrance test, subject to available places:

- a harpsichord piece to be chosen from a list (e.g. Couperin or Bach, excerpt from a suite or partita) and an excerpt from a sonata or cantata (if possible, applicants should bring their chamber music partners). Total duration: 15 to 20 minutes;
- a sight-reading test with figured bass;
- an interview with the jury.

The applicant may audition with a partner or partners of their own choice.

**Applications must include a list of diplomas obtained in both musical studies and general or higher education, as well as copies of certificates.*

Duration of studies

Between 2 and 4 semesters to obtain the diploma (18 hours of lessons on average per semester*)

It is possible to attend only for 1 semester: a certificate will be delivered.

Exceptionally, leave of absence may be granted for 1 semester.

**Semester 1: October to February; Semester 2: March to June*

Goals and content

Work on interpretation of 17th and 18th century vocal and instrumental repertoire;

Introduction to conducting singers and instrumental ensembles;

Exploration of repertoire;

Introduction to building a concert programme,

Classes on specific topics chosen by the student.

Optional extras (subject to available spaces):

ensemble classes (chamber music, orchestra) with Martin Gester;

participation in orchestra projects, group workshops, the opera workshop if appropriate;

harpsichord/organ tuition, depending on the chosen option (we recommend that organist-

harpsichordists brush up their harpsichord skills, and that harpsichordists be initiated to the organ);

access to other options, to be determined.

Diploma

The diploma will be awarded following an examination.

The exam will consist of a concert performance not exceeding 30 minutes - set-up and tuning not included - of at least 2 works in different styles, and if possible, with different ensembles, in order to showcase different aspects and approaches. The student will write programme notes for the concert, explaining how the chosen repertoire relates to the goals outlined at the beginning of the course.

The jury will be composed of the Director of the Conservatoire or his deputy, as well as two invited members (conductors, choral directors, composers, opera house directors, etc.) of whom at least one is a specialist of Baroque music.

Diploma title: Specialization diploma, Strasbourg Conservatoire (harpsichordist / repetiteur / ensemble conductor).

Fees

Information on fees can be found on the Conservatoire website.

Fees are updated every year in July.

Non-payment of enrolment fees can lead to exclusion from the Conservatoire. If you have any problem, please contact us.