

Master Classes 2007

This summer the Piccola Accademia will offer a pilot program of five courses **free of tuition fees** to eligible students. To qualify, students must be presently enrolled in a university level music study or be recently graduated.

- Courses will be limited to fifteen students
- Free of tuition fees
- Application deadline: May 1

Knut Johannessen with Steven Player
The Dance in Harpsichord Music
July 1 - 7



Menno van Delft
The Sounds of Harpsichord Music
July 8 - 14



Jesper B. Christensen
The Keyboard Music of Domenico Scarlatti
July 15 - 21



Skip Sempé
Ensemble Playing
July 22 - 28



Zvi Meniker
Bach's "English" Suites and Haydn's Harpsichord Sonatas
August 19 - 24



While getting to Montisi takes a little effort, once there student life in Montisi is easy and comfortable. Student accommodation at reasonable cost is available and should be booked directly once class acceptance is confirmed with the respective teacher. Travel to Montisi should be booked early to ensure availability and reasonable prices.

Montisi

At the very top of Montisi, Piccola Accademia's home in the 13th C. Castello di Montisi (currently under restoration), will provide the primary location for teaching and study. But Piccola Accademia students, teachers and audiences also benefit from the total Montisi environment, which in a very small geographic area possesses four beautiful performance locations that can accommodate audiences from 50 to 300+.



Accommodation and Dining: For those attending master classes at Piccola Accademia, Montisi offers an easy-to-manage student life, with two restaurants, a café and a bar, post office, food stores and an all-important cash machine all within a short walk of the Piccola Accademia castello. Student accommodations at modest prices have been pre-arranged. Rooms prices from 30 to 45 Euro's per night.

Travel to Montisi: Montisi is located 35 km. south-east of Siena. It can be reached from the airports, Florence (120 km), Pisa (Galileo Galilei Airport, 190 km), Rome (Fiumicino and Ciampino Airports, 210 km). Students travelling by train should consider Sinalunga or Buonconvento as a final destination. For train times and ticket booking visit www.trenitalia.it.

For further information visit:

www.PiccolaAccademia.org

Or write to: Piccola Accademia di Montisi,
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Piccola Accademia di Montisi

The Art of the Harpsichord
in the 21st Century



MASTER CLASSES SUMMER 2007

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- Menno van Delft
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FONDAZIONE
PICCOLA
ACCADEMIA
DI MONTISI
ONLUS



Vision

Located in a hilltop medieval village in southern Tuscany, the Piccola Accademia di Montisi has been founded to provide a center of inspiration for musicians worldwide who have an interest in the harpsichord, its repertoire and its history.

In the past 50 years, interest in 16th-18th century music has flourished and the number of musicians exploring performance practices on original instruments has



grown dramatically. Unfortunately, while interest in the harpsichord and its role in the musical life of Europe has greatly expanded, access to the original instruments for which the composers of that time wrote is rapidly diminishing. Most institutions have withdrawn access to their instrument collections, treating them as historic 'documents', to be seen but not heard. The consequence of this approach to preservation is that the authentic sound of these instruments and the musical insights that they provide are being lost to future generations.

In response, the Piccola Accademia is creating a world-class collection of harpsichords, including both original

antiques and historic copies from leading modern makers to serve the musical community at large. The Accademia's instrument collection will include examples of each national school that allow the entire harpsichord repertoire to be played on the historic style of instrument for which each composer wrote.

However a collection that is not played would simply be a museum, so instruments will be brought to life through master classes given by many 'internationally' renowned teachers, professors and performers of the harpsichord. Beginning with a pilot programme of five one-week classes in 2007, we will expand across a broader range of subjects and teachers in 2008. The collection will also feature an annual music festival that will include both important established artists and emerging new talents, incorporating both solo and ensemble performances that will be held in the historic chapels, churches and monasteries within Montisi and its environs.

The Accademia will continuously build a music library spanning the full range of the harpsichord repertoire with a focus on original manuscripts and authentic editions, all to be available in digitized formats for on-site and remote use.

The creation of state-of-the-art recording facilities are also under development, making good use the Accademia's instrument collection, the local church venues and the special quiet of the Tuscan countryside.



The Harpsichord Collection

The collection of instruments we intend to build at Piccola Accademia will bring together under one roof a spectrum of historic and national styles of instrument that will allow any aspect of the harpsichord repertoire



to be played on the type of instrument for which the composer wrote. The instruments below are representative of the models and quality to which we aspire in the collection. As our collection grows, it will evolve by incorporating other instruments, including antique instruments if appropriate acquisition opportunities arise. For our festival and master classes in 2007, we will have up to six instruments, representing the Italian, German, Flemish and French national schools.