

2011 Alba International Composition Workshop and Masterclass

hosted by

St. Mary's College of Maryland

as part of the

**2011 Alba International
Music Festival**

**May 16 - 30, 2011
Alba, Italy**



The Alba International Composition Workshop and Masterclass is part of the Alba International Music Festival, a two-week long music festival of concerts in Alba, Italy. Alba is a small and picturesque city located in Italy's wonderfully rich Piedmont region. The music festival features world-renowned artists and ensembles working side-by-side with talented students. Participants accepted to the Alba composition program will work with distinguished resident and guest composers, and will receive a performance of a work selected by the resident composers.*

Eligibility

The program is open to composers of any nationality. Typically, participants have been undergraduate and graduate students. There is no age restriction, although most participants usually are younger than 26. The class size will be limited to a maximum of six participants in order to preserve the quality of the program.

Program Features

Participants will attend daily masterclasses with resident and guest composers, and will receive three or four private meetings with resident and guest composers. During the festival, a work of each participant will be performed, assuming the participant has a work appropriate to the forces available to the festival. Each participant will be informed, upon acceptance to the festival, which of their works will be performed. *If no appropriate work can be found, the participant will have the option of writing something for the festival that will receive a performance or reading.

College Credit through St. Mary's College of Maryland

Participants may earn college credit by registering for MUSA 473 (2 credits) through the Office of Lifelong Learning at St. Mary's College of Maryland. There is an extra cost for earning credit in the summer course. Participants are not required to register for credit to participate in the Masterclass.

Resident Composers

David Froom



David Froom's music has been performed extensively throughout the United States by major orchestras, ensembles, and soloists, including, among many others, the Louisville, Seattle, Utah, and Chesapeake Symphony Orchestras, The United States Marine and Navy Bands, the Chamber

Music Society of Lincoln Center, the 21st Century Consort, and the New York New Music Ensemble. He has had performances in England, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Holland, Cyprus, China, and Australia. His music is available on CD on the Bridge, Navona, New Dimensions, Delos, Arabesque, Capriccio, Centaur, Sonora, Crystal, Opus 3, and West Point Academy labels, and is published by American Composers Edition. Among the many organizations that have bestowed honors on him are the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Guggenheim, Fromm, Koussevitzky, and Barlow Foundations, the Kennedy Center (first prize in the Friedheim Awards), and the National Endowment for the Arts. His biography is included in Groves. He is professor and chair of the music department at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Robert Gibson



Robert Gibson studied and worked professionally as a double bass player in both the symphonic and jazz worlds. From the mid 1970s, he began to turn his focus towards composition. He is now Professor of Composition and Director of the School of Music at the University of Maryland, College Park. Mr. Gibson's orchestral, chamber, and computer music compositions have been performed widely in major venues throughout the United States, in Europe, South American, and China, on National Public Radio, championed by numerous noted artists and ensembles, and featured at international conferences and festivals. His music for film and television includes a documentary score for the National Geographic Explorer series. Mr. Gibson's many composition awards and fellowships include those from the American Composers Forum, the State of Maryland, and the University of Maryland. Commercial recordings include a CD on Capstone, "Chamber Music," named one of Fanfare magazine's five most notable recordings of 1996.

THE PUBLIC HONORS COLLEGE



St. Mary's College of Maryland
at Historic St. Mary's City

Guest Composers

Willy Merz



Willy Merz (born in Switzerland, living in Italy) graduated in Composition and Conducting from the Conservatorio Verdi of Milan, with further studies at IRCAM (Paris), and the Accademia Chigiana (Siena, composition with F. Donatoni, conducting with F. Leitner). Winner of the *Internationale Kompositionswettbewerb* Freiberg, 2003), his works are performed regularly in Europe, Asia, and America and broadcast on French, Italian, and German television. Performers of his music include, among many, the Orchestra of Teatro alla Scala (Milano), and the Ensemble Europeo Antidogma (Torino). His “Ulysses” was performed in 2003 at the Teatro Colón (Buenos Aires). His CD “Dépaysements” was released in 2004 by Stradivarius, winning “four stars” from “Le Monde de la Musique.” In 2005 his “Sonette an Orpheus” was heard at the Peking Conservatory. In 2006 his chamber opera “Aqua” was performed at the Teatro Regio (Turin). In 2009 the Orchestra Sinfonica de Tenerife performed his bassoon concerto “Boudoir d’Aphrodite.” He has been composer-in-residence at Paris’s “Cité Internationale des Arts”(2006), the Iceland’s Gustavsson Foundation (2007), Switzerland’s Altes Spital Solothurn (2008) and Armenia’s ATCSL (2009). His works are published by 433 Verlag in München, Germany.

Giacomo Platini



An Italian composer of chamber works that have been performed throughout Europe, Giacomo Platini graduated in composition in 1997 from the Conservatorio G. Verdi in Como, where he studied with Ivan Fedele. He undertook further studies at the Conservatoire National de Région de Strasbourg, graduating in 2000. He also has degrees in piano (1989) from the Conservatorio G. Verdi in Turin, and (1994) from the Accademia Internazionale de Musica in Novara -- at this time he studied conducting with Gustav Kuhn in Milan and attended courses with Niccolò Castiglioni (1994), György Ligeti (1996) and Betsy Jolas (2002). He participated in IRCAM’s Académie d’été (1997) and the annual Cursus de Composition et Informatique Musicale (2000). Among his honors are the Lucus Prize in the Gesualdo da Venosa Competition (1997). His music has been played by ensembles such as l’Ensemble Accroche Note, In Extremis and Octandre. In 2001, with Jacopo Baboni Schilingi, he co-founded the group PRISMA, in residence at the Tempo Reale in Florence. A book of articles by its composers is available from Edizioni Euresis. He has lectured at the Scuola Superiore di Musica in Aosta and, since 2001, has taught at the electronic music studio AGON in Milan.

Program fees and other costs

2010 Program fee: \$1850

This fee is for all concerts, all tuition, housing and board (two meals daily), but does not include transportation.

Transportation

Transportation to Italy is the responsibility of the participant. If your flight to Torino lands (and, after the festival, departs) at a time close to the time of the Washington, DC group flight, we will provide transportation to and from Torino and Alba. We can, if you like, arrange for you to be on the group flight from Washington, DC at the group flight cost. More information about this and other transportation possibilities can be obtained from David Froom (see contact information under “Application Procedure”).

College Credit

2 upper-division college credits may be earned through registration in MUSA 473 (2 credits). Registration will take place through the Office of Lifelong Learning at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. The cost of this is \$185 per credit, in addition to the costs above. Registration in MUSA 473 is not required of festival participants.

Scholarship and Financial Aid

There is no aid available from the Festival for US students who are not matriculated at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. Many colleges and universities do offer support for students traveling overseas for study, and we urge you to contact your local Office of Financial Aid. Students who are residents of the European Union will receive the Alba Festival Scholarship which reduces the program fee (tuition, room, board) to €1000.

Application Procedure

To apply, please send the following materials by email or by postal mail:

1. A letter of application expressing your desire to participate in the program, and including your contact information.
2. One or two sample compositions (score and, if available, recording). If email, send pdf scores and mp3 recordings.
3. A complete list of completed compositions.
4. A brief bio or C.V. or Résumé that describes your compositional and educational experience and background.
5. The name of a reference who is willing to communicate with us on your behalf.

Deadline: February 14, 2011 (postmark or receipt of email).

Send email applications to:

dfroom@smcm.edu

Send post to:

David Froom

Professor and Chair, Music Department
St. Mary’s College of Maryland
18952 E. Fisher Road
St. Mary’s City, MD 20686

Announcement of the class participants will be made no later than March 1, 2011.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact us with questions.

Send your questions to David Froom:

dfroom@smcm.edu.