10th International Festival of Town Pipers

Info Bulletin

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Dear music friends,

Time flies, and here in 's-Hertogenbosch, we are busy every week with preparations for the tenth International Festival of Town Pipers. But now it's time to get more specific. Below, I'll provide details on various topics. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or comments.

Participants and Registration

The number of pre-registered participants who are interested is already quite high (71 musicians). We need to finalize this promptly for hotel reservations. Therefore, the registration form is attached. Please submit your final registration by June 1st . You can use the email address festival2024@stadspijpers.nl

Accommodation in 's-Hertogenbosch

Organizing such a festival wouldn't be possible without sponsors and contributions from the musicians themselves. Travel expenses will be covered individually. It is impossible to cover this by the organisation.

Given the large number of pre-registered participants, moving everyone from one side of the city to the other would pose significant logistical challenges (and costs). Hence, we've made arrangements with a centrally located hotel in the city. This way, all movements during the weekend can be done on foot without covering long distances. We've negotiated a substantial discount with the hotel, although it remains a 4-star establishment. We're still in negotiations regarding the price and the standard luxury breakfast buffet they offer. Additionally, we're addressing the possibility of cancellations, which we can never completely rule out.

Single Rooms: Single rooms are not cheap—they essentially have the same price as double rooms. If you'd like to reserve a single room, please be aware that the cost per person per night will be double compared to a double room. If sharing a room is an option, you can indicate that on the registration form.

Sponsorship

We currently have about ten sponsorship and grant applications pending with various cultural funds. Fortunately, some commitments have already been made. However, there's still uncertainty about parts of the program, especially regarding food and beverages that we can offer from the organization. What does this mean practically? It might involve asking you to enjoy lunch in the city at your own expense or limiting the number of (free) drinks during the evenings.

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Rest assured, we're doing everything we can to avoid surprises and keep costs manageable while providing an enjoyable stay, similar to previous editions in our city. If sponsorship turns out favourably, we'll certainly reduce your contribution where possible.

Program

For musicians who have attended multiple festivals before, there will be familiar elements, but also some new ones. We're preparing a workshop where we'll collectively work on a musical piece from the local choir books from the 16th century of the Illustrious Dear Lady Brotherhood.

On Sunday, we'll attend a Holy Mass in the St. John's Cathedral, graced by the Schola Cantorum, the cathedral's choir. From there, we'll start a procession to the Great Noise.

Great Noise.

The pieces for the Great Noise have been selected. We hope everyone can rehearse these pieces to perform them together during the festival. If successful, we'll likely form the largest Renaissance orchestra of all time. Of course, there's a rehearsal included in the festival weekend program. The selected pieces are: "Pastime with Good Company" (Henry VIII), "La Bataille" (Susato), "Intrada 1" (Hassler), and "Allemande & Tripla" (Schein).

For additional support (including the tempi to practice), MP3 files are included.

We hope to have convinced everyone of a great festival that we are organizing and that everyone will convert their intention to come into an official registration.

On behalf of De Stadspijpers van 's-Hertogenbosch

The Festival Committee

