# 10th International Festival of Town Pipers

Info Bulletin

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Dear music friends,

It's time for an update and some actions. In this information bulletin, we have 5 questions. We hope you can respond quickly via the familiar email address: <a href="mailto:festival2024@stadspijpers.nl">festival2024@stadspijpers.nl</a>. Question are marked with



## **Program Update**

The program is mostly finalized, and it includes several new elements. We'll keep those a secret for now, but we're convinced they'll be interesting for both participants and the audience.

During registration, we indicated the financial contribution we expect, including accommodations. We've received various questions about this. Let us emphasize once again that the contribution covers everything: 2 nights in the hotel, all meals, and some of the drinks. Hotel room bookings have already been taken care of by us. See also question 4.

We're still awaiting responses from various funds that may financially support us. Most of the funds we've contacted have already replied, and a significant portion of those responses have been positive. This means the gap between expected expenses and income is gradually shrinking. Once we see a positive balance, we can reduce your contribution. We're not there yet, but we're definitely making progress. Expect another update in the next bulletin.

### **Participants**

We've received all registrations. Unfortunately, the groups from Germany and Italy won't be participating. That's a shame, of course. Currently, we have musicians and guests from the USA, the UK, and the Netherlands. In total, there are 11 represented groups, performing in 10 ensembles. This includes 53 musicians and 7 guests.

#### **Great Noise**

As tradition dictates, the musical finale will be the "Great Noise." We've shared the musical pieces with you, and we hope everyone can rehearse them. If you have any questions, feel free to ask. During the Great Noise, each group will have the



opportunity to perform a piece in between. While the exact program is forthcoming, please consider which piece your group will play and share the title with us (question 1).

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Before the Great Noise, there will be a short procession through the city with the groups. It will start at Saint John's Cathedral and lead to the Great Noise performance area. The procession will last no more than 15 to 20 minutes. We'd

appreciate it if each group could play 1 or 2 pieces along the way. Let us know if you need transportation for instruments from the hotel to the Great Noise performance area (question 2).

#### **Festival Schedule**

Currently, we assume that on Friday, September 6th, around 5:00 PM (local time), all groups will be present in 's-Hertogenbosch, and shortly after that, the program can begin.

Additionally, we hope that on Sunday, September 8th, you'll be our guests until approximately 2:30 PM (local time). Staying longer is absolutely fine. Hopefully, this aligns well with your travel plans to and from the Netherlands.

### **Question 3: Travel Details**

We'd like to receive the following travel details from each group as soon as possible via the mentioned email address. If the group isn't traveling as a whole, please provide details for the different groups of travellers:

- 1. How will you travel to the Netherlands? (car, plane, boat, combinations, etc.)
- 2. Where will you arrive in the Netherlands?
- 3. How do you plan to get to 's-Hertogenbosch?
- 4. Do you need assistance to arrive in 's-Hertogenbosch on time? If so, for how many people?
- 5. What time do you expect to be in the city?

Regarding the return journey (please provide the same details as questions 1 to 4):

- 6. What is the latest time you need to depart from 's-Hertogenbosch on Sunday?
- 7. How will the group depart (mode of transportation)?
- 8. Do you need assistance to return to England/USA from the departure location?

# Question 4: Extra Nights in the Hotel

Some participants have requested additional nights to stay in 's-Hertogenbosch. If you have such a request, please let us know. We'll try to negotiate a good price with the hotel for the nights before or after the festival. However, it's not mandatory to stay in the same hotel. You're free to find accommodations elsewhere in the city. If you prefer to stay at Hotel Central, you can arrange that through us.

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Just inform us of the nights (dates) and the type of room(s) you need. We'll provide you with the cost details, and you can decide whether to proceed or not.

## **Question 5: Group Profile**

We'd like to receive a brief text about your group. Feel free to share anything that can be used publicly. As an indication, a text of 100 to 150 words would be ideal. These texts will be used for advertising and publications (social media). Additionally, please send us a recent photo of the group (rights free), one that we can use without any privacy issues for these publications.

Thank you for your cooperation by replying as soon as possible.

On behalf of De Stadspijpers van 's-Hertogenbosch

The Festival Committee

