

BREATHES OF GERMANIA

German music for 2 organs and wind instruments

Braga's Cathedral

May 2 | 9:30 p.m

applause only happens at the end of the concert,
to better hear the musical pieces

Dominik Giesen (Germany, n.1994)

Battle for Braga

work specially offered for the

11th International Organ Festival and Braga Capital of Culture

Johann Christian Bach (Germany, 1735 – England, 1782)

Quintett D-Dur (original version for two organs)

Josef Gabriel Rheinberger (Liechtenstein, 1839 – Germany, 1901)

Suite for Clarinet and Organ in C Minor, opus 166 | **ORGAN AND CLARINET**

II. Canzone

Johann Ludwig Krebs (Germany, 1713 – 1780)

Konzert a-moll

Georg Friedrich Händel (Germany, 1685 – England, 1759)

Concerto in F minor | **ORGAN AND TROMBONE**

I. Grave

II. Allegro

Georg Friedrich Händel (Germany, 1685 – England, 1759)

Sonate G-DUR

Georg Friedrich Händel (Germany, 1685 – England, 1759)

Suite in D major | **ORGAN AND TRUMPET**

I. Ouverture

II. Gigue

Francesco Manfredini (Italy, 1684 – 1762)

Concerto for two trumpets | **ORGAN AND TWO TRUMPETS**

I. Allegro

Giuseppe Busi (Italy, 1808 – 1871)

Sonata II/III a-moll

Biographies



Winfried Bönig is since 2001 Titular Organist of the Cathedral of Cologne, one of the most prestigious places for an organist in the world.

The Cathedral is the most famous building in Germany, visited by 20000 people every day. It is known for its special architecture, for its paintings and sculptures but also for the music department. Thousands of people are joining the musical performances all over the year.

Winfried Bönig works at the "Hochschule für Musik" in Cologne as a professor for organ and improvisation, additionally as dean of the department of Catholic church music.

Bönig was born in Bamberg and has studied organ, conducting and church music with Franz Lehrndorfer, Cathedral organist in Munich, at the Munich College of Music. His Exams Bönig passed „with distinction“, additionally he received a prestigious master class diploma. This diploma is a prize for the best performers in the final tests of studies. After these studies, Bönig earned a doctorate degree in musicology (University of Augsburg), result of an intensive work with the performance practice of baroque music, same as romantic and contemporary French organ music.

In these early years he was already asked as a lecturer at various Universities as well as music courses and seminars both at home and abroad. So he worked as a teacher at the Universities of Bamberg, Augsburg and Feldkirch (Austria).

In 1984-1998 he was organist at the catholic St. Josef church in Memmingen, Bavaria. International concert appearances as organist, harpsichordist and conductor led him all over the world, he is asked frequently to perform in organ inaugurations. He played concerts in China, USA, Russia, Japan, South America, South Africa and almost all European countries.

Bönig has performed numerous premieres of works dedicated to him, including those by Jean Guillou, Enjott Schneider, Naji Hakim, Stephen Tharp, Christopher Tambling, Daniel Roth and Colin Mawby.

The integral performance of Johann Sebastian Bach's and Olivier Messiaen works for organ are milestones in his career.

Numerous recordings and radio broadcasts. His CD's recorded on the large organs at Cologne Cathedral belong to the most successful products among organ recordings in Europe.

Apart from the recordings in Cologne Cathedral most successful were CD-Recordings of "Toccatas" and of "Goldberg-Variations" in an own transcription for organ.



Alexander Niehues (*1983 in Mainz) studierte in Mainz, Wien und Freiburg Kirchenmusik, Gesangspädagogik sowie Chor- und Orchesterdirigieren. Er wirkte bisher als stellvertretender Domorganist in Mainz, Vertretungsorganist am Freiburger Münster und als Bezirkskantor in Mannheim. Im Rahmen eines Lehrauftrags übernahm er die Leitung des Chorseminars und des Hochschulchors der Musikhochschule Mannheim. Seit 2020 ist er Kantor an der päpstlichen Basilika St. Lambertus in der Düsseldorfer Altstadt. Er ist dort als Organist tätig, dirigiert den Stiftschor und verantwortet die vielbeachtete Konzertreihe „Internationale Orgelkonzerte“. Im Sommer 2021 wurde er zum künstlerischen Leiter des Düsseldorfer Bachvereins gewählt und ist aktuell Seelsorgebereichsmusiker und leitender Kirchenmusiker in der Düsseldorfer City. Er arbeitet als Orgelsachverständiger für das Erzbistum Köln und hat einen Lehrauftrag für Orgelkunde an der Musikhochschule in Köln inne. Ab September 2025 wird Alexander Niehues als Domkapellmeister die Leitung der Kölner Dommusik übernehmen. Er war Preisträger beim „Ersten Hochschulwettbewerb und Förderpreis der Musikhochschule des Landes Rheinland-Pfalz“ und durch den 2. Preis beim „Interdisziplinären Wettbewerb für Nachwuchsdirigenten“ der Frankfurter Singakademie errang er den „Mendelssohn-Preis der Stadt Frankfurt am Main“. Er war Stipendiat der Villa Musica in Mainz und der Zukunftsinitiative des Landes Rheinland-Pfalz. CD-Aufnahmen und die Teilnahme an Fortbildungen und Meisterkursen ergänzen sein musikalisches Profil.



Vítor Matos was born in 1977 and studied at the Braga and Porto Music Conservatory, in the classes of professors José Matos and Moreira Jorge, with whom he completed the clarinet course. In 2001, he graduated from the Escola Superior de Música e Artes do Espetáculo (ESMAE), and continued his studies with clarinetist Alessandro Carbonare until 2007. He has given several recitals in Rome, at the invitation of the Instituto Santo António dos Portugueses, performing several works at first hearing, among which stands out the Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra that the composer Joaquim dos Santos dedicated to him. As an instrumentalist, he has collaborated with the Orquestra do Norte, Sinfonietta do Porto, Orquestra de Câmara Musicare,

Filarmonia das Beiras and Orquestra Gulbenkian. He has performed solo and in chamber music at the Encontros de Primavera-Guimarães, Póvoa de Varzim, Gaia, Cascais, Mateus, Toulouse and Música Viva.

He studied orchestra conducting with maestro Cesário Costa, and has already conducted several orchestras, including the Orquestra do Norte, the Orquestra Estúdio, the Orquestra de Câmara do Minho, the Orquestra Académica da Universidade do Minho, the Orchestra of the Conservatory and Theatre of Kaiserslautern and the South German Radio, performing works ranging from the Baroque to the contemporary period.

He has won several awards for conducting orchestras, including the awards he received in Barcelona and Rome (the “Bachetta d’oro” award for best conductor and the “Bachetta de argento” award for best performance).

Vítor Matos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Music at the School of Arts and Humanities of the University of Minho and the principal conductor of the Guimarães Orchestra. He holds a Master’s degree in Orchestra Conducting and a PhD in Musicology – Performance from the University of Évora.



David Silva was born in 1972 in Melres, and has distinguished himself as a trombonist, conductor and teacher in the Portuguese music scene. His academic career is marked by a solid commitment to excellence in music and teaching.

He completed a PhD in Music and Musicology from the University of Évora, a Masters in Music Education from the Catholic University of Porto and another in Trombone Performance from the Escola Superior de Música e das Artes do Espetáculo, also in Porto. His musical training began at the age of 12 at the Porto Conservatory of Music, where he had the opportunity to study with Fernando Baptista.

Throughout his career, he has participated in masterclasses with renowned musicians, including Chris Houlding, Andy Berryman, James Markey, Benny Schlulin and Stephan Guilhaux, thus consolidating his knowledge.

In the professional field, he has held a variety of roles since 2015: he has taken on the position of conductor of the Banda de Fornos, in Castelo de Paiva and, since 2017, of the Orquestra de Sopros ARTAVE.

He has collaborated with the Gulbenkian Orchestra, the Valladolid Symphony Orchestra, the Porto National Orchestra, the Madeira Classical Orchestra, the Beiras Philharmonic Orchestra, the Guimarães Orchestra, the Matosinhos Jazz Orchestra and the Northern Orchestra.

Since 2023, he has been Professor of Trombone at the University of Minho, Professor of Trombone at ARTAVE since 2008 and his commitment to education extends to ESMAE, where he has taught Trombone and Chamber Music since 2004, contributing to the musical development of future generations, with some of his students receiving world-class awards.

Representative Artist Bach, Stradivarius



Vasco Silva de Faria was born in 1978 in the city of Guimarães. He is a trumpeter, teacher, conductor and artistic director. He holds a PhD in Music and Musicology – Interpretation from the University of Évora, a Master's in Children's Studies – Music Education from the University of Minho (Distinction) and a Master's in Music Teaching from the Catholic University, having completed with high marks the Diploma de Especialización en Dirección de Banda, at Florida Universitaria, in Valencia. His previous studies include a Degree in Instrument – Trumpet, at ESMAE, as a disciple of Kevin Wauldron, Stephen Mason (Lisbon), Pierre Dutot (Bordeaux), and advanced trumpet training with Maurice André (Zurich), Eric Aubier and Philip Smith, Hakan Hardenberger and John Hurn. He began his musical studies with his father, Sidónio de Faria and Manuel Silva, joining the Sociedade Musical de Pevidém and the Orfeão Coelima. He has worked as a trumpeter in the Artave Symphony Orchestra, the Artave Wind Orchestra, the ESMAE Sinfonietta Orchestra, the National Templars Wind Orchestra, the Beiras Philharmonic Orchestra, the Porto National Orchestra, the Baroque Orchestra and the Portuguese Symphony Orchestra, with conductors such as Andris Nelsons, António Saiote, Cesário Costa, Christopher König, Christophe Millet, Emilio Pommarico, Joana Carneiro, José Luís Borges Coelho, Marc Tardue, Martin André, Omri Hadari and Vítor Matos.

Since 2007, he has been the principal trumpet player in the University of Minho Orchestra.

He has won national and international awards as a soloist, in chamber music and as a conductor of a band. He was awarded a merit scholarship by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, in addition to several other awards. He regularly performs as a soloist in Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Germany and Poland and in 2015, he gave the world premiere of the work, "Concerto for Trumpet and Strings" by the Portuguese composer Sérgio Azevedo. He is a Guest Professor Equivalent to Assistant Professor at the Music Department of ELACH at the University of Minho and a lecturer at the Guimarães Conservatory, as well as Pedagogical Director of the Academia de Música Comendador Albano Abreu Coelho Lima. Vasco Silva de Faria is a Vincent Bach artist and plays Bach Artisan and Centennial trumpets. In 2022, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Artistic Merit of the City of Guimarães, by the Guimarães City Council.



Bruno Pinheiro was born in 2002, in Aboim da Nóbrega, and began his music studies at the age of six in the Aboim da Nóbrega Musical Band, influenced by his grandfather, who was a musician in that band.

At the age of 10, he joined the trumpet class at the Vila Verde Music Academy, under the guidance of professors Hélder Fernandes and Pedro Faria.

He later joined the Calouste Gulbenkian Music Conservatory, in the trumpet class of professor Fernando Ribeiro. During that time, he worked with conductor Dimitris Spouras and professor Kevin Wauldron, in orchestra internships. He was selected for the 2020 edition of the OJ.Com orchestra, and also to perform a solo concert with the CMCGB symphony orchestra, a selection made through an internal competition of the same conservatory.

In 2020, he joined the trumpet class at the University of Minho, with Professor Vasco Silva de Faria, where he is currently completing his degree in instrument and his master's degree in music education, in the instrument variant.

He has already won several awards, including 2nd and 3rd place in the solo category at the Póvoa de Varzim Trumpet Competition and in the ensemble category with the Bracara Trumpet Ensemble.

He has worked with Urban Agnas and Tom Poulson at FITA, the Algarve International Trumpet Festival, with Manfred Bockschweiger, Immanuel Richter and with conductors César Viana, José Eduardo Gomes and Vítor Matos on symphony orchestra projects.

In the 2024/25 season, he joined the JOP (Young Portuguese Orchestra), under the direction of principal conductor Pedro Carneiro.