

Application form

The application form is to be complete and returned before the 1st of July 2024 with payment of the course fees (these cannot be reimbursed in case of cancellation after the 1st of July):

■ By post, with a cheque in euros made out to *Orgues à Poitiers* and sent to the following address:

Académie Internationale d'Orgue de Poitiers
8 rue Théophraste Renaudot – 86000 Poitiers - FRANCE

■ By e-mail, with payment by bank transfer to the following account:

IBAN - FR76 1940 6000 0567 1786 2994 577 - BIC : AGRIFRPP894

First name:

Surname:

Date of birth:

Postal address:

Postal/ZIP code:

City:

Country:

Telephone:

Mobile/Cell:

E-mail:

Name of current teacher:

Level:

I would like to register as a

Player 300€

Non-player 200€

18th Poitiers International Organ Academy



29th July to 2th August 2024

Olivier Houette

Jean-Baptiste Robin

Johann Vexo

Poitiers International Organ Academy

Poitiers International Organ Academy is designed for student or professional organists who wish to hone their interpretations of organ repertoire.

The three tutors leading this course are highly experienced organists and well-known recitalists: Olivier Houette, Jean-Baptiste Robin and Erwan le Prado, visiting tutor for 2023.

Tuition is offered on three magnificent organs, characterized by very different musical styles:

- The Classical French organ of the Cathedral (François-Henri Clicquot, 1791, IV/44,
- The German Baroque style organ of Notre Dame la Grande (Yves Sévère, 1996, III/33),
- The Neoclassical French organ of Sainte Radegonde (Boisseau-Cattiaux, 1997, IV/57).

Thanks to this diversity, all the organ repertoire can be tackled, depending on the pieces prepared in advance. Students can therefore choose repertoire suitable for these organs and take advantage of the variety of instruments available.



Tutors



Olivier Houette

Olivier Houette was appointed organist of the historical François-Henri Clicquot organ of Saint Pierre cathedral in Poitiers, at the age of 20. He was previously organist of Saint François-Xavier and Notre Dame des Blancs-Manteaux in Paris.

He trained at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse in Paris (CNSMDP), where he was taught by leading musicians such as Olivier Latry, Michel Bouvard, Eric Lebrun, Olivier Trachier and Olivier Baumont. At age 19 he was awarded the organ diploma with distinction by unanimous decision of the jury, and in addition gained diplomas in harpsichord, continuo, Renaissance polyphony, harmony, counterpoint and fugue. He also holds a degree in musicology from the Sorbonne University.

Passionate about teaching, he considers it essential to share his art in the interpretation of music. He holds the *Certificat d'Aptitude*, teaches organ, continuo and chamber music at the *Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional* (CRR) in Poitiers and teaches students training at the *Pôle Aliénor*. He is a tutor for several courses and masterclasses and organizes Poitiers International Organ Academy. In 2011 he was entrusted with the training of future organ teachers in the pedagogy department at the CNSMDP.

Recognized for his mastery of the most varied repertoire, he enjoys playing different styles of organ. He has been invited to perform in many festivals both in France and abroad. In particular, he has played at Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, San Luigi dei Francesi in Rome, Lanvellec Early Music festival, La Roque d'Anthéron international piano festival, Warsaw Philharmonic, in the United States, Germany, Switzerland and Spain.

He has made several arrangements, making every effort to turn the works into fully-fledged organ music. He has thus transcribed works by Henry Purcell, Louis Couperin, Jean-Baptiste Lully and Béla Bartók. He has also adapted music for ensembles combining the organ with other instruments (Robert Schumann, César Franck, Jehan Alain).

As a highly regarded continuo player on both organ and harpsichord, he works regularly with vocal and instrumental ensembles such as *Accentus* chamber choir, *Insula Orchestra*, *La Symphonie du Marais* and the *Orchestre de chambre de Paris* and has participated in many recordings for these.

His recording of Nicolas de Grigny's *Livre d'Orgue* on the organ of Poitiers Cathedral (Triton) was released in May 2019 and has been hailed by the press.

Jean-Baptiste Robin

Jean-Baptiste Robin is Organist of the Royal Chapel at the Palace of Versailles and he also serves as Professor of Organ and composition at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional in Versailles. He is regarded as one of the most prominent French concert organist, master teacher, and composers of today.



His concert performance schedule spans most continents with frequent recitals in Europe, United States, Russia, Israel, Japan, South Korea, China, and Canada. He has been a featured recitalist at well-known international concert halls : the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, Madrid National Auditorium, Berliner Philharmoniker, Philharmonie and Auditorium de Radio France in Paris, the Zaryadye Concert Hall in St. Moscow, Russia, the National Centre for the Performing Arts and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, China, the Sejong Cultural Center in Seoul, Korea, and Musashino Concert Hall in Tokyo, Japan.

As a master teacher, in 2023 he is *Visting Artist in Residence* at the Oberlin Conservatory and visiting professor at Eastman University (USA). He was previously Distinguished Artist in Residence at Yale University (USA) and Visiting Professor at the Central Conservatory in Beijing. He is regularly invited to teach at the International Academy of Haarlem in the Netherlands.

He is also a member of the jury of prestigious competitions such as the International Organ Competition of Canada, the Buxtehude competition in Lübeck and in 2023 the International Competition of Saint-Albans in England and the Gottfried Silbermann competition in Dresden.

Jean-Baptiste Robin has composed over forty works ranging from those for solo instruments to symphony orchestra and his works have been performed by various ensembles such as the Orchestre National de France, the Philharmonia Orchestra, under the batons of conductors Marin Alsop, Pierre Boulez, Roberto Fores Veres performers including François Salque and Xavier Phillips (cello), David Guerrier and Romain Leleu (trumpet), and many organists around the world.

His discography includes fifteen titles, including the organ work of Jehan Alain, Félix Mendelssohn, Louis Marchand and François Couperin and has been praised by the press and has received several "Diapason d'Or".

Jean-Baptiste Robin studied at the National Superior Conservatory of Music in Paris, winning seven Premier Prix. For the organ, he notably received teaching from Marie-Claire Alain at the Paris CRR, Olivier Latry and Michel Bouvard at the CNSM.



Johann Vexo

Johann Vexo was born in 1978 in the northeastern French city of Nancy. At the age of 25, he was appointed Choir Organist of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. Soon thereafter he was also appointed Organist of the Cavaillé-Coll organ of the Cathedral in Nancy. After teaching at the Angers Conservatory for 10 years, he is now Professor of Organ at the Conservatory and at the Superior Music Academy in Strasbourg.

Johann Vexo first studied organ with Christophe Mantoux, as well as early music and harpsichord at the Strasbourg Conservatory, where he was awarded *Premier Prix* in organ.

He continued his studies at the Paris Conservatory where his teachers included Michel Bouvard and Olivier Latry for organ, Thierry Escaich and Philippe Lefebvre for improvisation. He earned *Premier Prix* in both organ and basso continuo and additional prizes in harmony and counterpoint.

Johann Vexo has performed extensively throughout Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Russia. He has appeared as a featured artist in numerous international music festivals and organ series in cities such as Atlanta, Auckland, Chicago, Geneva, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Montreal, Munich, New York, Porto, Saint Petersburg, San Francisco and Vienna. His performances have also included notable venues such as the Wanamaker Grand Court in Philadelphia, the Westminster Abbey in London, the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington DC, the KKL in Lucerne, the St. Mary's Cathedral in Sydney, the Moscow Conservatory and the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City.

Johann Vexo has also performed with various orchestras and musical ensembles. He has been invited to teach organ master classes for the American Guild of Organists and at prestigious institutions (Rice University in Houston, the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, the University of Michigan, the *Folkwang Universität* in Essen, the Aveiro University in Portugal...).

He has recorded several CDs on historical French organs, especially one on the JAV Recordings label on the great organ of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris.

Johann Vexo is represented by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC (www.concertartists.com).

The Organs

The François-Henri Clicquot organ of Saint Pierre Cathedral

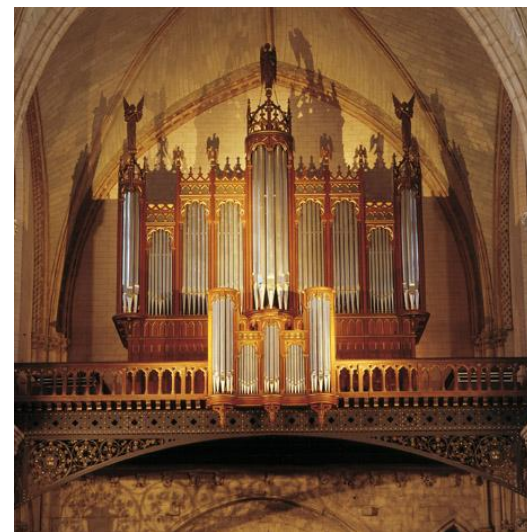


Positif (I, do1-mi5) Montre 8 Bourdon 8 Dessus de flûte 8 (la2) Prestant 4 Nazard 2 2/3 Doublette 2 Tierce 1 3/5 Dessus de Cornet V Plein Jeu VII Trompette 8 Clairon 4 Cromorne 8 Deux Tremblants forts Accouplement à tiroir Diapason la3 = 394Hz Tempérament inégal	Grand Orgue (II, do1-mi5) Montre 16 Montre 8 Bourdon 16 Bourdon 8 Second Huit Pds (fa1) Prestant 4 Grande Tierce 3 1/5 Nazard 2 2/3 Doublette 2 Quarte de Nazard 2 Tierce 1 3/5 Dessus de Cornet V Fourniture V Cymbale IV 1re Trompette 2e Trompette 1er Clairon 2e Clairon Voix Humaine 8	Récit (III, sol2-mi5) Flûte 8 Cornet V Trompette 8 Hautbois 8 Echo (IV, sol2-mi5) Bourdon 8 Flûte 8 Trompette 8 Pédale Anches : la0 à do3, Fonds : do1 à do3 Flûte 16 (bouchée) Flûte 8 Flûte 4 Bombarde 16 Trompette 8 Clairon 4
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It is a grand *seize pieds* [16-foot principal base] organ, admirably suited to the generous acoustics of the cathedral (about 7 seconds reverberation). Built in the purest French Classical style and famous for the beauty of its *plein-jeux*, the rich tone of its *jeu de tierce* and blazing reeds, the Clicquot organ is a listed historical instrument.

A jewel in the crown of Classical French organ building, the 1791 François-Henri Clicquot organ of Poitiers cathedral is one of the most beautiful historical instruments in France. A culmination of the Clicquot dynasty's craftsmanship as *Facteurs d'orgues du Roy* (royal warrant holders), it is also one of the very rare instruments to be so well preserved, being in a condition very close to its original state.

The Organ of Sainte-Radegonde



In 1997, Sainte Radegonde church was given a new organ worthy of this magnificent setting. Built as a Neoclassical instrument, in the best sense of the term, it has 57 speaking stops over 4 manuals and a 32 note pedal-board. It is the largest organ in Poitiers and its comprehensive technical and musical resources mean that a truly vast repertoire can be played.

Positif de dos	Grand orgue	Récit Expressif	Résonnance	Pédale
Bourdon 8 Salicional 8 Montre 8 Prestant 4 Flûte à cheminée 4 Doublette 2 Nazard 2' 2/3 Tierce 1' 3/5 Larigot 1' 1/3 Fourniture Cymbale Trompette 8 Cromorne 8 Clairon 4 <i>Tremblant</i>	Montre 16 Montre 8 Bourdon 8 Flûte harmonique 8 Gambe 8 Prestant 4 Doublette 2 Fourniture III-VII rgs Cymbale IV-VI rgs Cornet V Trompette 8 Voix Humaine 8	Quintaton 16 Cor de nuit 8 Flûte Traversière 8 Viole de gambe 8 Voix céleste 8 Flûte octaviane 4 Octavin 2 Plein jeu III-V rgs Cornet V Basson 16 Trompette 8 Clairon 4 Basson- Hautbois 8 Voix Humaine 8 <i>Trémolo</i>	Bourdon 16 Bourdon 8 Flûte 8 Octave 4 Flûte 4 Quarte 2 Grande Tierce 3' 1/5 Nazard 2' 2/3 Tierce 1' 3/5 Flageolet 1 Bombarde 16 Trompette 8 Clairon 4 <i>Tremblant</i>	Flûte 16 Flûte 8 Quinte 10' 2/3 Basson 16 Pos/GO Réc/GO Rés/GO Réc/Pos Tirasses Pos, GO, Rec, Rés Tutti Machine Barker GO Combinateur

The Organ of Notre-Dame-La-Grande



The organ of Notre Dame la Grande is the last new organ built by Yves Sévère and inaugurated in 1996. It is the culmination of this organ-builder's research. A polyphonic organ with 4 distinct plenum ensembles, the rich tonal palette provided by the principals, flutes, tierces, sesquialtera or by the 5 reed stops allow multiple blends. The resolutely modern organ-case design reveals a spatial relationship to the building while taking into account technical and acoustic imperatives of the room. The whole organ has a completely re-designed wind supply and a remarkably gentle and precise double-pallet system.

Positif dorsal	Grand orgue	Récit	Pédale
Bourdon 8	Bourdon 16	Flûte 8	Soubasse 16
Montre 4	Montre 8	Principal 4	Princial 8
Flûte 4	Bourdon 8	Flûte 4	Principal 4
Nazard	Prestant 4	Flûte 2	Nachthorn 2
Doublette 2	Flûte 4	Sesquialtera	Mixture
Tierce	Quinte	Mixture	Posaune 16
Sifflet	Doublette 2	Voix humaine	3 tirasses
Mixture	Fourniture		2 accouplements
Cromorne	Cymbale		2 tremblants
	Trompette		
	Clairon		

Organs available for student practice (depending on availability)

The Organ of Saint-Hilaire



Built by the Bordeaux organ-builder Georges Wenner between 1881 and 1883, the organ at Saint Hilaire has 30 speaking stops over 3 manuals and pedals. It was listed in 1987, being a splendid example of Romantic organ-building. Restored in the early 2000s, its broad foundations and admirable reeds make it one of the fine instruments in France's musical heritage.

I. Grand Choeur	II. Grand Orgue	III. Récit expressif	Pédale
Flûte harmonique 8	Bourdon 16	Quintaton 16	Flûte 16
Dulciana 8	Bourdon 8	Bourdon 8	Flûte 8
Flûte octaviane 4	Montre 8	Flûte à pavillon 8	Flûte 4
Plein jeu progressif III-VI	Kéraulophone 8	Flûte octaviane 4	Bombarde 16
Bombarde 16	Salicional 8	Violoncelle 8	Trompette 8
Trompette 8	Prestant 4	Voix celeste 8	Clairon 4
Clairon 4	Cornet V (ut 3)	Voix humaine 8	
		Hautbois 8	
		Trompette harmonique 8	
		Clairon 4	

The Organ of Saint-Jean de Montierneuf



Built by Joseph Merklin in 1866, the organ of Saint-Jean de Montierneuf is a witness to the activity of the Lyon factor in the region. The instrument is in its original integrity. The composition perfectly serves the romantic repertoire. Despite its small size, this instrument, listed as a historic monument, is an instrument of a charm and distinction that will delight its listeners.

I. Grand Orgue	II. Récit expressif	Pédale
Bourdon 16	Bourdon harmonique 8	Flûte 16
Bourdon 8	Dulciane 8	Flûte 8
Montre 8	Voix celeste 8	
Salicional 8	Flûte octaviane 4	Tirasses
Prestant 4	Voix humaine 8	Accouplement
Fourniture	Basson-Hautbois 8	Expression
Trompette 8		Appel d'anches GO
Clairon 4		

- Saint-Porchaire organ** - 2 manuals and pedals, 16 stops.
- Chapel of the Soeurs de l'Union chrétienne organ** - 2 manuals and pedals, 10 stops.
- Reformed Church organ** - 2 manuals and pedals, 12 stops.
- Conseatoire practice organ** - 2 manuals and pedals, 5 stops.

General Information

Course Programme and Information

Monday 29th July

9.00 a.m. - Introductory meeting for all in the Cathedral choir song school (access by the staircase in the ambulatory on the North side of the choir). General information, sorting of students into groups and lesson timetable.

10.00 a.m. - Tuition begins.

8.30 p.m. - Tutors' concert.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Tuition and practice.

Friday 2th August

5.00 p.m. - Student's recital.
(Sainte-Radegonde and Cathedral).

Lesson organisation: The lesson timetable will be given to all participants at the introductory meeting.

Programmes and repertoire: active participants are requested to send their programmes at least 3 weeks in advance of the course. The choice of repertoire is free but must include at least one work (or set of works) for each of the 3 organs used for teaching (European Baroque, French Baroque, 19th/20th century repertoire).

The music played during the course must be perfectly mastered in terms of technique as the course focus is on interpretation only. The programme for the course participants' concert is decided by the course directors.

Practice on the organs: There are 9 organs available for practice outside of lesson times: Cathedral, Notre-Dame-la-Grande, Sainte-Radegonde, Saint-Hilaire, Saint-Porchaire, Reformed church, Saint-Jean-de-Montierneuf, Conservatoire, Chapel of the Soeurs de l'Union chrétienne.

Important information: The organisers reserve the right to modify this information without notice, depending on the availability of the organs. If one of three main teaching instruments should be unavailable, students will be informed in advance.

Course fees and registration: Player: 300 euros. Non-Player: 200 euros.

Application deadline is the 1st of July. Charges may apply for payments made in a currency other than Euro and for bank transfers from abroad. Course fees include a 2024 subscription to *Orgues à Poitiers*.

Accommodation and meals: These are not included. Students must find their own accommodation (many options are available locally: hotels, bed and breakfast, Airbnb...).

Website and course information download: www.orguesapoitiers.org

To request further information about the Academy: stage.poitiers@yahoo.fr

Your journey to Poitiers:

- **By train:** direct by TGV Atlantique line (Paris-Poitiers: 1 hour 18 minutes)
- **By road:** A10 motorway, exit at junction 29 (Poitiers Nord).
- **Information about Poitiers:** Office du tourisme de Poitiers - + 33 (0)5 49 41 21 24 - www.ot-poitiers.fr

Poitiers International Organ Academy is organized by Orgues à Poitiers, with support from the Ville de Poitiers and the Conseil Départemental de la Vienne.

