

L'Association Musique Cordiale
Seillans, Var, France

Musique Cordiale Gala Dinner with Champagne & Music
Our musical & gastronomic fund-raising event for 2013

Wednesday, 26 June 2013 in Seillans - Salle Polyvalente at 19.00

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Another year goes by and 2013 is the 9th year of **Musique Cordiale**. It is nine whole years since I banged on the door of the Mairie and 'announced' to René Ugo, our energetic, forward-looking, risk-taking Mayor of Seillans, that he would love to hear Bach's B minor Mass in his church but we would need a few chairs and tables in our garden and wondered if we might be allowed to 'live' in the church and rehearse in the Salle Polyvalente for a whole week. There would also be about 100 musicians wandering about the village for that period. He said yes, introduced us to Jacques and Serge... and a few months on (and many many ink cartridges and verres de rosé later), the show began!

This is more or less what happened. If you would like to know the whole story, I will be glad to tell you. But you must know that, in the beginning, there was not so much of a business plan, only a fantasy - which turned into something that developed into an educational, professional, inclusive and structured festival, bringing with it lots of opportunities for up-and-coming musicians and plenty of challenges and rewards for singers from all over Europe as well pleasure to those in the Var who were able to listen to the music - quite unique in this part of France.

Thanks to the magnanimity of René and a few other generous believers in our cause (plus huge doses of energy and enthusiasm from local supporters), we have just about managed to stay afloat - quite a feat for a small cultural enterprise in this precarious financial climate. However, I dare say that few of you know that hardly anyone is paid for their services, either in the administration or among the performers themselves. Indeed, there are just a couple of exceptions: we need to pay for accommodation, food, transport, printing etc. plus expenses for conductors; but the work of the artistic director, treasurer, secretary and members of the 'conseil d'administration' of the Association that runs the festival costs nothing - and we do not pay musicians or singers.

Musique Cordiale will be able to continue only if we have your support. We are doing all we can to develop various aspects of the festival, such as the Academy, partnerships with Conservatoires and Music Colleges from around the world, contributions from Members and Friends and Sponsors and by becoming more integrated into the local and surrounding communities. Already we have spread the concerts to Mons, Bargemon, Callian, Bagnols-en-Forêt, Saint-Raphaël and Correns; there are more than 12 days of concerts as well as free lunchtime ones in the wonderful Chapelle de St Ormeau at the entrance to the village.

The **Musique Cordiale Trust** is now in the process of gaining charitable status in the UK and, this summer, we hope this will allow us to gain the extra income that Gift Aid allows from people paying tax in the UK and elsewhere. Please contact jonathan@musique-cordiale.com for details. We are also planning a musical launch event for the Trust in London later in the year - to raise further funds and support.

The **2013 Gala Dinner with Music** will be held on **June 26** in Seillans, in the Salle Polyvalente. The '*Institut Gastronomie Riviera*' will be cooking a delicious meal for us, with lots of the wonderful local wine from local vineyards.

The **Price is 65€ pp**, which includes champagne, the famous MC canapés in the garden of the Magnanerie and a three-course meal, with wine and entertainment, in the Salle Polyvalente next door. **You may reserve tables of 6, 8 or 10 or just take a chance and maybe you will meet someone new on this very convivial occasion!**

Please support **Musique Cordiale** and, if you have any other queries, do not hesitate to contact us. Now is also the time of year when membership fees (20€) become due and we are hoping to recruit more Friends (an extra 100€ brings you ticket and other benefits) and more people who can contribute in other ways: we are always on the lookout for (free) accommodation, car drivers and help with meals and publicity, for example.

Do take a look at the web-site for full details of this year’s programme - www.musique-cordiale.com - in French & English.

I look forward to seeing many old friends and new faces at the gala this year!

Best wishes,

Pippa Pawlik (pippapawlik@musique-cordiale.com)
Artistic Director, **Musique Cordiale International Festival & Academy**

RSVP to: Nigel Cox, Treasurer, Musique-Cordiale
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enclosing a cheque or making a transfer to the Musique-Cordiale account:

<input type="text"/>	No of tickets for 26 June 65€€
<input type="text"/>	Tick to become/renew as a member: 20€€
<input type="text"/>	Tick to become a Friend of Musique Cordiale: 100€€
I enclose a cheque, payable to Musique-Cordiale in the sum of	€
I wish to transfer the following sum direct to Musique-Cordiale;		
Please ask the treasurer to contact me with account details	€

Name

Address

Telephone:

email:

Any extra requests (e.g. please seat me with..., Food/special access/assistance needs)

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(Please contact us if you are unable to come to the Gala Dinner but might wish to become a friend or donor to Musique-Cordiale or to offer accommodation or other help during the festival).