



## Musique Cordiale International Festival 2025

29 July - 9 August 2025

Seillans and Le Pays de Fayence, Provence, France



We are pleased to announce that the **21<sup>st</sup> annual Musique-Cordiale International Festival** will take place in the **Pays de Fayence in the Var in Southeast France** – with most concerts taking place again in the lovely medieval villages (les villages perchés) in the

hills an hour or so north of the Mediterranean behind St Tropez. The Pays de Fayence in summer is an unrivalled holiday destination in summer with its inviting markets, old villages and squares, medieval chapels and churches and its charming slow-moving Provençal atmosphere... and its multitude of characteristic restaurants, bars and holiday homes with essential pools and woodland to protect against the day-time heat. The ancient stones maintain the relative cool of the old chapels which invite audiences to lunch-time chamber concerts and recitals in July and August. The Amphitheatre in Fayence allows for a larger concert as the sun goes down over the hills and valleys. The Lac St Cassien provides daytime respite and pleasure while the evening performances in the larger old churches or in vineyards of town squares provide perfect settings for orchestral and choral works (and free glasses of vin rose in the interval). This is the context for the delightful appeal of the Festival, now moving into its third decade in the warm attractions of the \var in its annual summer holiday “season” when visitors flock to the beaches but other rather enjoy the pace and charm of the hill towns in the hills.

To get a sense of how it feels to come to Musique Cordiale, you can still find the programmes, photos and some recordings from past years of festival concerts and events on our web-site as we put the final touches to **the musical programme** to delights audiences from all over Europe for this summer’s festival. As last year, it will begin with an opening evening event in a vineyard on Wednesday 29 July 2025 - with wine, of course - and food too - to accompany the opening strains of the music. The following days will see hour-long lunch-time concerts (“*Concerts de midi-trente*” to be precise) across the communes of the Canton. Evening concerts focus on Music of the Baroque in the first few days before the choir arrives at the weekend to begin rehearsals for the final two concerts at the end of the second week of the festival. This year the big and rousing work will be **Haydn’s “The Creation”** to be sung in English this time (we sang it in German, *Die Schöpfung*, in 2015), with some fabulous young soloists. The Musique-Cordiale Festival Choir and Orchestra will be conducted again by **Graham Ross, music director of Clare College Cambridge**. In a separate charming concert, the choir will sing some sweet and melodic *a cappella* works that will soothe away any stresses that audiences bring the Provence from their busy work lives. The same could be said of some of the other musical pieces on offer this year which will also include the **Brahms Double Concerto for Violin & Cello** and a pleasing evening of **Opera Arias through the ages**, all with some familiar and some new faces drawn from our cast of exciting young solo and ensemble players and singers. As usual there will be much else to whet the varied musical palates of our audiences with a range of sounds that will also include a little jazz and lively modern music and something special for the local population who

enjoy a good sing, as they did last year as they sat among the trees with their picnics in front of the new outdoor stage at the Old Station in Seillans.

The **full programme, with venues and timings (and the range of ticket prices and discounts) will be published in early March in time for the BOX OFFICE opening just before Easter.** But a **provisional outline programme will be available in February** on our website and will also be sent to our Friends, members and people who have joined our mailing list (which includes past ticket-buyers) as well as to local tourist offices and the regional and international media. Tickets, depending on venue and seats selected, range from FREE to 45 euros – with most in a range of 15-25€ - or less for children and the over 80s.

**We invite you to KEEP THE DATES and to join our musicians and singers as we MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER in a wide range of venues across all the communes in the Pays de Fayence this summer!**

[www.musique-cordiale.com](http://www.musique-cordiale.com)

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