

Academy of Music
Mountain Piano

Creating Musical Moments!

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**Detailed Information on Mountain Piano Master-Class in
February 2023**

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Section A: Introduction to the Event & Key Information

Brief overview

A two-Saturday long master-class event led by leading pianist and teacher Michel Rembold, which will feature two live teaching days and a final prize concert on the evening of the 18. February.

Dates & Times

9.00 – 17.00, Saturday, 11. February 2023 & 9.00 – 21.00, Saturday 18. February 2023. Prize concert starts at 19.30 on Saturday, 18. February.

Venue

St. Johns Church, Avenue de Chillon 92, 1820 Montreux, Vaud, Switzerland.

Format

Master-Class featuring performing participants, auditors and listeners for the concert

- Performing participants receive a 1h live teaching slot with Mr. Rembold on both Saturdays, alongside the opportunity to play at the final prize concert on the final evening. They will also receive recordings of their three performances alongside written feedback from 2-3 teaching consultants.
- Auditors will be able to attend one or both live teaching sessions, alongside to the evening prize concert, but they will not receive live teaching slots with Mr. Rembold. They can however upon demand receive online or face-to-face teaching slots from the teaching consultants at the event.
- Concert listeners will only join us for the final prize concert starting at 19.30 on Saturday, 18. February.

Prerequisites for performing participants

Performing participants must be a classical pianist at an advanced level. All ages and backgrounds (high-school/conservatory/adult amateur etc.) are permitted. 6-8 minutes of classical repertoire must be performance ready by master-class date and performed by every performing participant on both days of the event, alongside in the evening concert.

Two remarks on the above:

- 1) Repertoire selection must be **classical but is otherwise free**. It must also be between 6-8 minutes in length and if it is two pieces, it must be of the same composer and genre.
- 2) Our aim with this event **is not to alienate students from being performing participants**, thus inherently catering to non-professional/amateur classical pianists of all ages. Thus, if you are unsure whether to participate as a performer or not, please contact us and we will give you guidance. Out of these reasons, we do encourage you to strongly consider participating as a performing participant if you conform to the above prerequisites.

Fees

- Performing Participants: 495 CHF (everything included except meals)
- Auditors:
 - i. Participation on one of the two Saturdays: 100 CHF (excl. concert ticket)
 - ii. Participation on both Saturdays + entry for evening concert on 18. February (recommended): 160 CHF
 - iii. 7.5% discount on participatory fees for students who are able to provide evidence of respective enrollment and for members of the Mountain Piano Student/Teacher body.

- Prize Concert Entry Tickets:
 - i. Adults: 25 CHF per entry
 - ii. Under 25/65+: 20 CHF per entry
 - iii. Children, Mountain Piano student & teacher body or family/friends of participants: 15 CHF per entry.

Registration

- Must occur before the 15. December 2022 for performing participants and by the 15. January 2023 for auditors.
- Registration can occur by emailing the Mountain Piano office (piano.villars@gmail.com) directly.

Contact details for questions

- Sam Bidwell, Event Manager and Director of the Academy of Music Mountain Piano:
 - i. piano.villars@gmail.com, +41 79 105 86 47 (please message before calling) or see www.mountain-piano.ch/master-class
- Michel Rembold will be happy to speak to you too but please contact Sam in first instance for Sam to put you in touch with Michel.

Section B: Teaching Concept & Entry Requirements

The Academy of Music Mountain Piano is proud to announce a Master-Class offering in Montreux in February 2023, led by leading concert pianist and renowned pedagogue Michel Rembold. We have specifically designed this Master-Class following a unique concept to allow for the most student-tailored approach and learning experience. This design sets us apart significantly from traditional Master-Class events and enables a unique teaching and learning experience for everyone participating.

There are three main differentiating factors that set us apart over other master-class events:

1) Unique two-Saturday event schedule with two live teaching sessions for every participant

Our teaching team believes that far too many Master-Class sessions are rushed, with short teaching sessions in cramped time periods. This is counterintuitive to how one advances in classical piano repertoire. Instead, one needs practice time and multiple feedback and performance sessions – thus this Master-Class follows a unique schedule whereby there are two live teaching sessions given by Mr. Rembold to each student, and a week between it will allow for sufficient reflection and individual practice time by student.

2) Less strict entry requirements for performing participants

Our Master-Class has less strict entry requirements than other similar Master-Classes in the region. We only ask performing participants to be:

- 1) To be an advanced, classical pianist
- 2) To boast significant live performance experience
- 3) To have prepared 6-8 minutes of advanced classical repertoire at performance level by the time of the Master-Class (see more on repertoire requirements on page 2).

Whilst we do know that camps/events with similar less strict entry requisites exist (most frequently for amateur adult pianists), our event sets itself apart from such offerings by giving these students access to a world-class artist and pedagogue leading the event in the form of Michel Rembold.

3) Various additional forms of student support

This event will also, and unlike many conventional Master-Classes, offer various additional forms of student support, such as:

- i. Additional written and verbal feedback from the 2-3 teaching consultants present throughout the event
- ii. Final concert performance opportunity & prize-winning opportunities
- iii. Professional recording (audio and video) of the participants' two teaching sessions and of the final concert performance
- iv. Certification-specific feedback: If you are preparing for a particular certification (e.g. IB Music Performance, Swiss Conservatory performance exams) please let us know and we will adapt our feedback accordingly. Our faculty have extensive experience in guiding students to successful completion of many of these accreditations.

Section C: Teaching Faculty & Consultants

Michel Rembold – Lead Teacher & Pedagogical Director

Michel Rembold is a highly-regarded pianistic personality around the world, not only as an internationally renowned concert pianist, but also as a pedagogue and composer. At the same time, his founding and artistic management of leading piano institutes in five Swiss cities since 2007 has attracted a large amount of attention and accreditation.



Even at a young age, Rembold was compared to pianistic greats such as Michelangeli and Richter. While still being a student, he successfully won three prestigious international piano competitions and became a Steinway Artist in 1995. Since then, he has played with several internationally-acclaimed conductors and orchestras. His performances also received excellent press reviews, with examples of superlatives including ‘Outstanding soloist’, ‘artistically and technically perfect’, ‘piano art par excellence’ and ‘interpretations of the best caliber’.

Since then, he has also recorded multiple CDs with the International Artists AIA including all of the Beethoven Piano Concertos and most of Chopin’s repertoire. His 2011 recording of the Liszt’s Sonata continues to be considered one of the top recordings, with the renowned *Schweizer Musikzeitung* labelling it as unveiling a ‘Pianistic universe’ backed by ‘highest virtuosity and mastery’.

Rembold continues to teach piano students of the highest level in Switzerland and was a member of the advisory council and exam board of the renowned *Swiss Academy of Music Pedagogy* between 1997 and 2019. His teaching methods however differ significantly from many other pedagogues. One particular method - namely that derived from the teachings of Frédéric Chopin, was always particularly close to his heart and following this methodology Rembold founded the *Piano Institute Frédéric Chopin* first in Basel (2007), before later opening locations in Zürich, Lucerne, Affoltern and Uster. In 2018 he also opened the ‘Klang Konservatorium Basel’ (Sound Conservatory Basel), offering similar methodologies but adapted for string and woodwind instruments.

Important to all these institutes is the method that Rembold developed and calls the natural showcasing methodology. This very praxis-orientated teaching distinguished itself quickly and successfully. The schools methodology has gained international praise (even from a music university in China!) and some former students of the methodology have even achieved international recognition as either successful concert pianists or piano teachers themselves!

Rembold continues to discover and develop groundbreaking teaching concepts to master exceptional pianistic difficulties. One example is his continued work on Chopin’s 24 Études. He sees them as containing some of the most key ingredients to success for the aspiring concert

pianists Not only is he currently recording them all at original tempo for CD and film, but he plans to give master-classes on them around the world in the upcoming years.

All this makes Rembold one of the few outstanding pianists worldwide who offers concrete teaching solutions – and all his solutions and teaching is of course totally catered to the individual student. Such central focal point allows for an ideal technical development combined with exceptional artistic expressions. All students, no matter at which level they are currently playing, are thus optimally supported.

Next to this Master-Class, several other international Master-Classes are planned for 2023-2024 as part of an ongoing collaboration between his institute, the Academy of Music Mountain Piano and several other renowned foundations, institutes and teachers.

For more information on him, consult his website which includes artistic references, his faculty, his pedagogy and more: www.klavierinstitut.ch

2-3 Teaching Consultants – There will be a further 2-3 teaching consultants at the event, and who this will be confirmed in due course. All these teaching consultants are sophisticated and renowned concert pianists in their own right and will add great value for the participants. They will be present throughout both days and will provide both verbal and written feedback and perspectives for all participants, alongside being around to provide additional sessions if participants and auditors would be interested in taking such.

Section D: Facilities & Venue

Venue & Facilities

The Master-Class will be held in the St. Johns Church in Montreux, Switzerland, which is a wonderful large church on the shores of Lake Geneva just outside Montreux, and within easy access of all public transport and motorway connections.

The Academy uses the facility frequently for student recitals and really likes the venues voluminous acoustics, alongside the WEINBACH 190cm grand piano that is already there. To complement this, a brand-new YAMAHA C6X concert grand piano will be rented for the event. Both pianos will be prepared by a concert technician just before the event. The performers will be encouraged to experiment and pick which one they prefer in advance of their first live teaching session.

Lunch and nearby accommodation recommendations can be provided by the Mountain Piano office.