

COURSE LAS HUELGAS CODEx MUSIC IN A GOTHIC ROYAL MONASTERY

UIMP
Universidad Internacional
Menéndez Pelayo



August 10-15, 2024

UIMP Cuenca / Cuenca Cathedral

Contact and Secretary: mirabilia@catedralcuenca.es

The course offers a unique opportunity to delve into the depths of the polyphonic and monodic works that make up the Las Huelgas Codex, an invaluable treasure within the Gothic panorama of the Iberian Peninsula.

The Las Huelgas Codex itself is a historical treasure reflecting the transmission of the 13th-century Parisian Ars Antiqua to the Iberian Peninsula. Within its pages, a variety of musical genres can be found, from organum to motet, sequence, and polyphonic tropes, which will be the subject of study and exploration during the course.

Located in the majestic Cistercian monastery of Las Huelgas in Burgos, this manuscript stands out as a witness to an exceptional artistic and cultural past. In its time, the monastery hosted women from influential aristocratic families, providing an environment conducive to the flourishing of the arts. Founded by Alfonso VIII and Eleanor of Plantagenet, whose cultural legacy still resonates in emblematic places like Cuenca Cathedral, home of the Mirabilia Festival and Course, Las Huelgas was a center of great prestige, enriched by its close relationship with royalty.

Immerse yourself in this fascinating journey through medieval music, discovering the hidden gems and cultural richness that the Las Huelgas Codex has to offer.

FACULTY MEMBERS

Erwan Picquet *_singing*

Christian Ploix *_singing and organum improvisation*

Manuel Vilas *_harp*

Susanne Ansorg *_vielle*

Jankees Braaksma *_recorder*

Pere Olivé *_percussion*

María de Mingo *_citole, gittern, plectrum lute*

Cristina Alís Raurich *_portative organ and direction*

David Catalunya *_talk*

Rob C. Wegman *_lecture*

the MANUSCRIPT



THE COURSE

Participants will enjoy singing and instrument classes, small ensemble coaching, and talks about the Ars Antiqua and Las Huelgas Codex.

SINGING AND INSTRUMENT CLASSES

Advanced-level singers may opt for the organum improvisation course with Christian Ploix, an expert in improvising on plainchant in the Ars Antiqua style.

Works will be performed in small groups created according to the different levels of the participants.

ENSEMBLE

The ensembles will be guided by the course faculty members.

The course will open on the morning of Saturday, August 10, with a welcome and three communications from international musicologists specializing in the Ars Antiqua and the Las Huelgas Codex. These are two excellent communicators who passionately convey their knowledge. Translation from English to Spanish will be provided.

Rob C. Wegman (Princeton University, USA)

"The Life of Music in the Thirteenth Century" (en dos partes)

"Part One: The Notre Dame Explosion"

"Part Two: The New World of the Motet"

David Catalunya (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

"The reception of the Ars Antiqua at Las Huelgas Monastery"

TALKS

Those wishing to delve into the notation of the Ars Antiqua of the Las Huelgas Codex may opt for additional sessions prior to the in-person course, which will take place online. These sessions will explore examples of polyphonic and monodic works from the Las Huelgas Codex to begin preparing for the course works.

NOTATION IN LAS HUELGAS

The online course is independent of the in-person course and has an additional cost of €40. No knowledge of medieval notation is required. Contact us for more information.

Additionally, on the evening of August 10, there will be a brief basic introduction to the notation of the Las Huelgas Codex by Christian Ploix, especially aimed at those with no knowledge of medieval notation.

Participants in the courses may opt for reduced-price tickets to the Mirabilia Medieval Week concerts.

CONCERTS AND INSTRUMENT EXHIBITION

On Saturday, August 10, there will be an exhibition of medieval instrument makers to which participants are invited.

During the course, there will be a number of rehearsal rooms for participants at the UIMP and at Cuenca Cathedral.

REHEARSAL ROOMS

AIMED TO

Directed at singers, instrumentalists, choir directors, choir singers, music teachers, conservatory teachers, and music enthusiasts in general. Open to all levels.

There are possibilities for renting/loaning some instruments for those who do not have their own medieval instrument.

DATES AND PLACE

Classes will take place at the facilities of the Menéndez Pelayo University (UIMP) in Cuenca (Palafox, 1) and at Cuenca Cathedral (Plaza Mayor s/n).

The course will begin on Saturday, August 10, at 9:00 a.m. at Cuenca Cathedral and will end on August 15 in the evening with the final student concert at Cuenca Cathedral. Instrument and singing classes will take place at the UIMP.

REGISTRATION AND TUITION

In-person Course (active/listener): 287,50€

Online notation course: 40€

Places are limited to a maximum of 7 students per teacher. Places given on a first-come, first-served basis.

Course languages: Spanish and English, also French for singers and flutists, German for vielle players.

Contact and Information:

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SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a number of scholarships available.

[registration form]

