

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

International choral conducting masterclass

The 'Cité de la Voix', the National Centre of Vocal Art, based in Burgundy and Franche-Comté, has initiated training programs for young singers and choral directors. In 2025, for the fourth edition, the International choral conducting masterclass will be organised in collaboration with Les Métaboles ensemble and will be directed by Léo Warynski and Simon Carrington.



Léo Warynski



Simon Carrington

FOCUS

- The preparation and conducting of repertoire for the professional choir,
- The analysis of elements related to the conductor's role: the creation and promotion of a choral ensemble, career management and an evaluation of international choral styles and traditions,
- The 2025 Academy intends to add to the professional network of young conductors by engaging one of the participants to be the paid assistant to Léo Warynski in the 2026 season of the Métaboles Ensemble.

REPertoire

Germaine TAILLEFERRE, *Aube* (4')

Caroline SHAW, *And the swallow* (4')

Élise BERTRAND, *Ce qui dure* (5')

Steven STUCKY, *Cradle songs* (9')

Francis POULENC, *Huit Chansons françaises* (18')

Leonard BERNSTEIN, *West side story* (12'), transcription de Brice Legée (inédit)

APPLICATIONS

The Academy offers six conducting internships, and a maximum of 2 positions for auditors (attending the whole course).

- Candidates should be either professional or students training to be conductors at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- The age limit is 35

Candidates are asked to prepare an online folder consisting of the following elements:

- CV
- a video
- a cover letter explaining your professional aspirations and your strategy
- a completed application form (see below)
- a reference letter

For videos and/or sound extracts, please include in the file the links to download or details of the streaming platforms.

Jury: candidates are selected by Léo Warynski and pedagogical manager Elsa Goujon-Gregori, in agreement with guest conductor Simon Carrington and François Delagoutte, General Manager of the Cité de la Voix.

- **Your application should be submitted before the deadline of February 10th 2025** to elsa.goujon-gregori@lacitydelavoix.net (subject line: Application Cité de la Voix 2025). Candidates will be selected by early March.

La Cité de la Voix may offer some unsuccessful candidates the opportunity to participate as listeners. In this case, meals and accommodation are not covered by La Cité de la Voix.

- **If you would also like to apply for the Travelling Academy, please indicate this on the information form and send your application to** academie-itinerante@gmail.com.

DETAILS

The choral directing academy runs between June 24th and June 27th 2025.

It will take place at the Cité de la Voix in Vézelay, Burgundy-Franche-Comté, where the conductors will also be housed. The final concert will take place at the Autun theater. Travel will be facilitated by the Cité de la Voix.

Conductor tuition fees: €445 per person. (€160 tuition and €260 accommodation and meals €45 for scores by Stucky, Tailleferre, Bertrand and Legée).

Auditors' tuition fees (accommodation and meals not included): €40.

Payment to be made after the academy.

CANCELLATION

If the conducting applicant or auditor cancels their registration less than fifteen days before the start of the Academy, only half of the fees will be refunded. After this date, the full fee will be charged by the organizer.

The organisers reserve the right to cancel the Academy if the funding is insufficient or the required number of participants is not reached.

If so, a full refund will be granted.

CONTACTS

For general information: Elsa Goujon-Gregori
elsa.goujon-gregori@lacitedelavoix.net | 03 80 68 23 56



La Cité de la Voix National Centre of Vocal Art

Created in 2015 and based in the centre of the historic town of Vézelay, 'la Cité de la Voix' is a public institution dedicated to the development of the vocal art. Its regional organization (between Vézelay, Dijon, and Besançon), as well as its mission to support creative musical activities (35 professional artistic teams in residence are hosted every year) and to develop resources and vocal activities for children, teenagers, amateurs, and professionals, make 'la Cité de la Voix' unique in France. Every year, 'la Cité de la Voix' hosts the 'Rencontres musicales de Vézelay', a major event for vocal art enthusiasts. Managed since 2018 by François Delagoutte, the institution joined the network of National Centres for the Vocal Art initiated by the Ministry of Culture in 2020.

Léo Warynski | www.leowarynski.fr

'Precise, sensitive and audacious', are words used to describe Léo Warynski's conducting. Open-minded and versatile, he directs a wide range of repertoire with the same enthusiasm, operatic, symphonic and contemporary.

Léo Warynski trained as an orchestra conductor with François-Xavier Roth (CNSMD of Paris). He was rapidly sought out to work with different ensembles such as the Orchestre des Lauréats du CNSMDP, the Modern and Remix ensembles, the orchestra of the WDR of Cologne.

In 2016, he successfully directed the opera *Mirida* by Ahmed Essyad at the Opéra national du Rhin, made his debut leading the Ensemble Intercontemporain, and the following year headed the Orchestre de l'opéra de Rouen and the National symphonic orchestra of Colombia.

During the 2018 season, he is directing, among others, the orchestre de Normandie, the orchestre de l'opéra de Rouen, the creation of the opera *Papillon Noir* by Yann Robin at La Criée de Marseille and of the opera *Seven Stones* by Ondrej Adamek at the festival d'Aix en Provence, and the French premiere of *200 Motels* by Franck Zappa with the orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg at the festival Musica and at the Philharmonie de Paris.

Léo Warynski is the artistic director of the vocal ensemble Les Métaboles that he founded in 2010. Furthermore, in 2014, he was named music director of the ensemble Multilatérale, an instrumental ensemble dedicated to innovation.

Simon Carrington | <https://simoncarrington.com/>

Yale University professor emeritus, has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in music, performing as singer, double bass player and conductor, first in the UK where he was born, and latterly in the USA. From 2003 to 2009 he was professor of choral conducting at Yale University and director of the Yale Schola Cantorum, a 24-voice chamber choir which he brought to national and now international prominence. He led the introduction of a new graduate voice degree for singers specializing in oratorio, early music and chamber ensemble, and guided two Yale graduate students to their first prize wins in consecutive conducting competitions at American Choral Directors Association National Conventions. In 2023 he was awarded the Sanford Medal by the Yale School of Music for notable service to music. From 2001 until 2003, he was director of choral activities at the New England Conservatory, Boston, where he was selected by the students for the Krasner Teaching Excellence Award and from where he received an Honorary Doctorate in 2014, and from 1994 to 2001 he held a similar position at the University of Kansas.

Prior to coming to the United States, he was a creative force for twenty-five years with the internationally acclaimed British vocal ensemble The King's Singers, which he co-founded at Cambridge University and which celebrated its 55th anniversary in 2023.

In the early days of The King's Singers he also maintained a lively career as a double bass player, playing with major symphony and chamber orchestras under such diverse maestri as Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Benjamin Britten, Pierre Boulez, Sir Colin Davis, John Eliot Gardiner Carlo Maria Guilini, Otto Klemperer, Ricardo Muti and Georg Solti.

He keeps up an active schedule as a freelance conductor and choral clinician, leading workshops and master classes round the world. He has taught young conductors at the Royal Academy of Music, London, the Liszt Conservatorium, Budapest, Hungary, the University of the Andes, Bogota, Colombia, the World Symposium on Choral Music in Argentina, Schulich School of Music, McGill University, Montreal, and the Schools of Music

at Eastman, Indiana, Temple, USC among many others in the US. He has recorded master classes on two commercial DVDs - at Westminster Choir College in the US (GIA) and at the Three Choirs Festival in the UK (Masterclass Media Foundation). His recent conducting engagements include the Cor de Cambra at the Palau de la Musica, Barcelona, Berlin Rundfunk Chor, Collegium Musicale, Tallinn (Estonia), Coro Casa da Musica, Oporto (Portugal), Tokyo Cantat, Gondwana Choral School, Australia, Houston Chamber Choir, Canto Armonico, Boston, and Yale Schola Cantorum. He leads an annual conducting course at the Chamber Choir Festival in Sarteano (Italy), and for 15 years he directed his own Chamber Choir and Conducting Courses at the Yale Summer Festival in Norfolk, Connecticut.

Les Métaboles | <http://lesmetaboles.fr>

Created in 2010 by Léo Warynski, Les Métaboles brings together young professional singers specializing in the repertoire for a cappella choirs of the 20th and 21st centuries.

A versatile ensemble, Les Métaboles have originated many commissions and first performances since their beginnings. Baroque music is also part of their repertoire and they excel in Haendel's Dixit Dominus or Bach's Motets.

Les Métaboles are regularly invited to take part in prestigious festivals in France and in Europe (festival Musica in Strasbourg, festival de Musique ancienne in Ribeauvillé, Musicales de Normandie in Rouen, Saison Musicale de Royaumont, In Sacris in Sofia).

Les Métaboles boast original productions, such as olfactory concerts, combining music with the work of the perfumer Quentin Bisch. Furthermore, the choir has already collaborated with the orchestra Les Siècles under the direction of François-Xavier Roth, the Philharmonia Orchestra of London, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg and the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France.

The first record by the ensemble, "Mysterious Nativity", released in 2014 under the Brilliant Classic label, was unanimously acclaimed by critics. The second record "Une Nuit Américaine" released in November 2016, under the NoMad Music label, received equally unanimous recognition and established Les Métaboles among the best French choirs.

The Métaboles receive support from Drac Grand Est, Région Grand Est, Département du Haut Rhin and Caisse des Dépôts.

Fondation Société Générale C'est vous l'avenir is the main sponsor.

The vocal ensemble les Métaboles is in residence at the Cité Musicale - Metz

Les Métaboles, winner of the 2018 Liliane Bettencourt Prize for choral singing, benefits from support from the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation.

The ensemble is a member of the Fédération des Ensembles Vocaux et Instrumentaux Spécialisés (FEVIS).

APPLICATION FORM TO COMPLETE

*All application materials must be received by email before February 10th 2025
to elsa.goujon-gregori@lacitedelavoix.net*

Circle Conductor or Auditor

Name:

Date of birth:

Address:

City:

Country:

Phone:

E-mail:

Are you also applying for the Académie Itinérante?

YES

NO