



## **CIMA**

### *Concerti in Monte Argentario*

C.I.M.A., Concerti in Monte Argentario, is an organisation founded in 2002 on the peninsula of Monte Argentario, Tuscany, Italy. The creation of this musical organisation has a double goal: to attract and help young musicians from all over the world, as well as to enhance musical and cultural life in this part of Tuscany.

CIMA was recognised in 2006 by Italian law as an "ONLUS," non profit organisation.

From the start, CIMA's main objective has been to help young musicians in the development of their artistic careers. To that end it has been able to give out many scholarships and create a *Summer Festival* as a platform for their musicians to perform. Their students have also taken part in numerous other events in Italy and beyond.

Since its inception, CIMA has been able to give 46 scholarships and has organised more than 300 concerts.

#### **Activities since 2001**

Since 2001 we have organised festivals every summer, as well as at Christmas and Easter. Public attendance at our concerts has grown by 50% annually.

CIMA has earned several prizes awarded by the Italian and European press, such as: "The Best European Mozart Festival" in 2006, the best Tuscan Festival in 2007 and the best Italian festival in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

#### **Music Academy 'AMMA'**

*'Accademia Musicale di Monte Argentario'*

Since 2001 musicians from all over the world come several times a year to work in Monte Argentario at Villa La Fuente in Porto Ercole.

CIMA has organised concerts among other places in Siena, Milan, Rome, Paris, Amsterdam, Bergen (Netherlands), Helsinki, Dublin, London, Bougival, Montreal, Marlboro, Tokyo and Nagoya.

In the last 4 years, we have expanded our programs to include other types of music such as jazz, folk and world music, as well as Flamenco.

Our concert for the inauguration of the Queen Juliana Piazza in Porto Ercole was televised by RAI in 2005.

Since 2012 CIMA has entered into collaboration with the 'Princess Christina Concours,' a Dutch music competition for youngsters from the age of 12 to 19. [www.christinaconcours.nl](http://www.christinaconcours.nl) and with the International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation and its program "Voices for tomorrow" [www.voicesfortomorrow.eu](http://www.voicesfortomorrow.eu).

## **MUSICIANS helped by CIMA:**

**Omo Bello**, soprano (Nigeria) – won the newly established Luciano Pavarotti International Competition in 2010, as well as the Anselmo Colzani International Competition in 2011 in Bologna. Thanks to several scholarships awarded by CIMA, she could continue to live in Europe and study with Jorge Chaminé. Just released her first CD consecrated to Gustav Mahler with the sustain of CIMA.

**Léa Sarfati**, soprano (France-Israel) – winner of several prizes, has important international career. Among other performances she sang with the Berliner Philharmoniker.

**Helen Kearns**, soprano (Ireland) – winner of Belvedere competition, finalist at Montecarlo Masters.

**Marianne Chandelier**, soprano (France)

**Laia Falcón**, soprano (Spain)

**Izabella Wnorowska**, soprano (Poland).

**Lambroula Maria Pappas**, mezzo-soprano (Greece/Canada)

**Ahmet Baykara**, tenor (Turkey)

**Pascal Charbonnaud**, tenor (Canada)

**Marco Jordão**, tenor (Brazil)

**Jamie Rock**, baritone (Ireland)

**Heng Shi**, baritone (China) Winner of several competitions

**Michel Welsch**, baritone (France)

**Nicholas Angelich**, pianist (USA), huge international career - one of the most important pianists in the world, today.

**Arnaud Arbet**, pianist and conductor (France) – Assistant conductor at the Royal Opera House in Madrid.

**Aline Bartissol**, pianist (France) Accompanist for Teresa Berganza's master classes.

**Alfonso Calderon de Castro**, pianist (Spain)

**Gabriele Carcano**, pianist (Italy) international career. Several participations at the Marlboro Music Festival.

**Geoffroy Couteau**, pianist (France) winner of the Brahms Competition.

**Shani Diluka**, pianist (Sri Lanka) has an important international career with several recordings that obtained important prizes: Grieg, Mendelssohn, and Beethoven 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> concertos.

**Alexander Drozdov**, pianist (Russia, Netherlands) 1st CD released November 2010 with the sustain of CIMA.

**François Dumont**, pianist (France) Winner of several prizes.

**Etsuko Hirose**, pianist (Japan): won the Martha Argerich Competition. Has an acclaimed international career and several rewarded recordings; among her latest: Schumann and Liszt concertos, Chopin Ballads and Nocturnes and Balakirev piano works.

**Raffaele Moretti**, pianist (Italy)

**Juan Ignacio Machi**, pianist (Spain)

**Stephanos Thomopoulos**, pianist (Greece) Xenakis recording.

**Wonny Song**, pianist (Korea/Canada) Winner of the World Young Artists Competition (New York) – has an important international career.

**Gabriel Le Magadure**, violinist (France) member of the Ebene Quartet.

**Thierry Koehl**, violinist, concertino of the National Orchestra of Lille.

**Eric Maria Couturier**, cellist (Vietnam/France) Member of the Ensemble Intercontemporain of Pierre Boulez. Several prizes and recordings.

**Giorgi Kharadzé**, cellist (Georgia) – winner of the Casals Competition, Rostropovitch Competition, Feuermann Competition. Has an important international career.

**Matthieu Lejeune**, cellist, winner of several competitions

**Benoît Maurel**, guitarist (France) †

**Illya Amar**, percussionist (France/Israel)

**Angéline Le Ray**, soprano (France)

**Emiko Kinoshita**, mezzo-soprano (Japan)

**Guillaume François**, tenor (France)

**Gheorghe Palcu**, baritone (Romania/Italy)

**Alba Isus**, mezzo-soprano (Spain)

**Eric Beillevaire**, basse (France)

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## **Jorge Chaminé President and Artistic Director**

The best title for Jorge Chaminé would be, in my opinion, the one of Knight, Knight of Music.

Recognized, by his critics, audience and peers as a first rank artist, Jorge Chaminé could have been contented with his career of baritone, which has led him to the most prestigious concert halls, accompanied by major orchestras in the world, as well as a partner on opera stage of prestigious names like Teresa Berganza, Mirella Freni, Plácido Domingo, José Carreras o Montserrat Caballé.

Yet his satisfaction would not have been complete, had he not been able to give a deeper meaning to his action, with an ideal to aspire to. He dared to be himself in a conformist world, has taken the risk of freedom, and has avoided the slavery of a professional activity that needs to be economically viable: for more than 25 years he has been able to appreciate the way he chose to live, and in total nobility. When CIMA asked me to write a few lines about Jorge Chaminé for its site, I realised how difficult the task would be, considering the so rich and complex path of this artist. A book would have been more appropriate, and I hope one day I will be able to do so.

'Knight' has therefore seemed to me the right word to describe Jorge Chaminé, since, while serving Music and his Fellowmen, this musician has carried out Festivals such as the prestigious CIMA, raised funds to support young musicians, has generously dedicated numerous concerts to children in need all over the world, has become Ambassador of Music in Middle East and his numerous journeys to this part of the world were a full success. He has gathered multi-diversified families of musicians, who come from the four corners in the world to work with him in his « Sons Croisés » workshops. Nor has he stopped multiplying his actions on behalf of Music, introducing it with the autistic children. He has also brought Music into the *favelas*, prisons, hospitals and he has organized concerts holding universal messages as the one celebrating the 60 years of UNESCO...

Few musicians with the quality of Jorge Chaminé have dedicated themselves with the same commitment

in this 'chivalry' action, which, nowadays, might seem "ancient" or even "strange."

Seeing him at work, while working with a singer, a pianist, a cellist or a percussionist, leaves us speechless, as if in a state of enchantment, not only for his deep knowledge of the repertoire but also for the acuity of his vision and hearing, in such a way that, before our eyes and to our ears, the musician transforms himself and feels the music in a different way. It's precisely in this constant search of his that we find the strength of his action, always humble, "of one of a glass cleaner to better see the landscape", as he would put it.

Jorge Chaminé nourishes the aspiration that each of his acts, even the simplest, fits into a larger project that makes sense to others as it does for him. Even putting his life at risk, armed but with "music", his immense courage brings him into political and humanly dramatic situations (such as those in the Middle East) where, against all odds, he succeeds in transforming what is the unacceptable.

This wisdom, solidly linked to his everyday life, without complicated theologies, explains why a Parisian critic has called him "The Voice of the Heart." This wisdom of the heart of Jorge Chaminé is also the living space of his courage, protecting the innocent, enabling his students to express excellence, giving himself entirely to music either in concerts, recitals or in opera performances.

Before the richness of a musician like Jorge Chaminé, we can say that Greatness is still possible.

*Marina Mendelssohn*

Translation M.E.L.