

4TH CONDUCTING COURSE

FROM 1 TO 5 JULY 2024

THE BARCELONA SYMPHONY BAND

JOSÉ R. PASCUAL-VILAPLANA, CONDUCTOR



L'AUDITORI 2023
2024 

DOSSIER



WITH THE SUPPORT OF

FEDERACIÓ CATALANA DE SOCIETATS MUSICALS

AUDITORI.CAT

MORE INFORMATION

cursdirecciobandes@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

The Catalan Federation of Music Associations and the Barcelona Symphony Band present the fourth edition of the Band Conducting Course, a project that aims to become a space for work and research on band conducting. This space is open to band conductors, band conducting students and musicians interested in this specialization. Moreover, students will have the chance to practice with a professional music band such as the Barcelona Symphony Band, and they will also be able to communicate and exchange experiences with other fellow students coming from different places. In addition to having the chief conductor of the Barcelona Symphony Band as an instructor, we are welcoming the prestigious composer Christiaan Janssen as a guest instructor.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Knowing the figure of the band conductor and their role in musical interpretation.

Delving into conductor training at a technical and pedagogical level for a better development of their task in charge of amateur music groups.

Studying the technical resources of different orchestra conducting schools.

Studying the history of music originally written for music bands and the sociocultural usage of such repertoire in our towns.

Knowing the role of music bands in contemporary musical culture: from pedagogy to the artistic world.

Sharing experiences between students who are conductors of different music bands.

Studying different orchestration techniques applied to the world of music bands from an educational and practical point of view.

COURSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A maximum number of 10 active students will be accepted, and any number of guest students will be admitted. Among these students, two seats will be reserved for band conductors of any music band belonging to the Catalan Federation of Music Associations.

A certificate of attendance will be given to all students who attend 80% of class time.

COURSE SCHEDULE

A. THEORETICAL LESSONS

The figure of the orchestra conductor.

Study of basic body language techniques. Practice of chironomic exercises.

Score analysis. Analysis as the origin of interpretation.

Score study technique.

Rehearsal planning.

Fine-tuning and organology.

Programming in an amateur music band. Motivation and evolution of an instrumental group.

B. REPERTOIRE OF PRACTICAL LESSONS

Clifton Williams: Symphonic Dance nr.3 "Fiesta" (1964) 8'
Published by Belwin Band

Josep Vicent Egea: Encierro (2014) 6'
Published by Piles

Azael Tormo: Elantris: la Ciudad de los Dioses (2021) 18'
Premi del VIII concurs de composició Josep Maria Lleixà de la FCSM
BMB Archives

Dmitri Xostakóvitx: Overture on Russian and Kirghiz Folk Themes (1963) 9'
Arranjament Christiaan Janssen / Published by Baton Music

Christiaan Janssen: Der Arme Poet (2021) 9'
Published by Janssen Music

NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS: The first day of the course, each active student will choose the fragment that they wish to conduct. From that day on, the different fragments to be conducted will be assigned to the students by drawing lots on the previous day.

SCHEDULE

MONDAY 1ST JULY 2024

9:15 am – 9:45 am	Student reception
10 am – 1 pm	Practical lesson
3 pm – 4:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: Band conducting techniques; history, resources and working tools
5 pm – 6:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: Analysis of the practical lesson and preparation of the following lesson

TUESDAY 2ND JULY 2024

10 am – 1 pm	Practical lesson
3 pm – 4:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: Band conducting techniques II
5 pm – 6:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: Analysis of the practical lesson and preparation of the following lesson

WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY 2024

10 am – 1 pm	Practical lesson
3 pm – 4:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: Analysis of the practical lesson
5 pm – 6:30 pm	Conference: “Historical approach to orchestral conducting”

THURSDAY 4TH JULY 2024

10 am – 1 pm	Practical lesson
3 pm – 4:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: “Arrangements for band” Guest teacher: Christiaan Janssen
5 pm – 6:30 pm	Theoretical lesson: “The compositions of Christiaans Janssen” by Christiaan Janssen

FRIDAY 5TH JULY 2024

10 am – 11:30 am	General rehearsal with the Barcelona Symphony Band
12 am – 1:30 pm	Roundtable and course conclusion
7 pm	Closing concert at Oriol Martorell Room in L’Auditori

REGISTRATION

DOCUMENTATION

The following documents will be provided in PDF format and in three separated files:

A) Application form with full contact details and CV attached.

Name and surname(s)	E-mail address	CV
Address	Telephone number	Comments

B) Video sample or samples of conducting (they can be links to websites where the work of the conductor can be seen). Occasionally, download links can be accepted, provided that the student's ownership of such content is appropriately stated.

C) Scanned invoice of registration fee.

Registration fee: €30. This fee will be deducted from the enrolment fee as an active or guest student, but will not be refunded under any circumstance.

Deposit bank account: **FCSM - CaixaBank - ES11 2100 0086 1302 0036 3492**

When making the deposit in the aforementioned bank account, it is necessary to state:

Name and surname(s) of student
Reference: BAND CONDUCTING COURSE
Detail: Registration fee

All required documents must be sent by e-mail to cursdirecciobandes@gmail.com, from 12 February 2024, with "(Name of prospective student) – Band Conducting Course" as subject of the e-mail.

Registrations (with personal details, CV, videos and invoice of registration fee) will be accepted until **6 April 2024**. The final selection of active students will be notified from 10 May 2024 on.

ENROLMENT

Registration fee: **€30** (this amount will be deducted from the enrolment option chosen by the student. In the event that the student resigns from enrolling in any of the options, the registration fee will not be refunded in any case).

Active student: **€250**

Guest student: **€120**

The selected students must complete their enrolment by making a deposit to the following bank account:
FCSM - CaixaBank - ES11 2100 0086 1302 0036 3492

When making the deposit in the aforementioned bank account, it is necessary to state:

Name of student
Reference: "BAND CONDUCTING COURSE"
Detail: "ENROLMENT"

If possible, an arrangement with the restaurant "La Llanterna" in L'Auditori will be made so that students can have lunch there at a reduced price.

BARCELONA SYMPHONIC BAND



© May Zircus

The Barcelona Symphonic Band (1886) is an indispensable institution for understanding the musical history of Catalonia. Its role has evolved far beyond programming concerts and participating in official events: it is a staunch promoter of the dissemination of music, performing in front of the podium the finest works in history. The primary architect of the Band's success was Joan Lamote de Grignon, who gave it an artistic personality and transformed it into an internationally-renowned ensemble. Even Richard Strauss directed it almost a century ago.

In 2007, the Band's project took a big step forward, going from being the resident band at L'Auditori de Barcelona to programming a regular season of concerts that included performances by leading artists and groups in the local and international scene. Ten years later, in 2017, the Barcelona Symphonic Band (BMB) was invited to the Wasbe Conference in Utrecht and the World Music Concert (WMC) in Kerkrade, the Netherlands, consolidating it as an international reference.

The Band's guest conductors have included: Jan Cober, Eugene Corporon, Johan de Meij, Björn Bus, Henrie Adams, Frank de Vuyst, Douglas Bostock, Manel Valdivieso, Josep Caballé Domenech and Baldur Brönnimann. In recent years, two big names in conducting –Salvador Brotons and José Rafael Pascual-Vilaplana– have helped the BMB to increase its offering, through their commitment to recover the band repertoire and to commission new works.

Numerous renowned musicians and groups have played with the Band, including Spanish Brass, Stefan Schilli, Shoichiro Hokazono, Jörgen van Rijen, Albert Guinovart, Josep Colom, Jess Gillam, Pacho Flores, Marta Mathéu, Elena Copons, María Hinojosa Montengero, Joan Martín-Royo and Esperanza Fernández, and acclaimed artists Cesc Gelabert, Sol Picó, Àlex Casanovas, Lluís Soler, Lloïl Bertran, the Obeses and La Cubana.

The Band is also committed to the dissemination task of making music accessible to vulnerable groups through the concerts and activities organised with Apropa Cultura. Today, the Barcelona Symphonic Band is an ensemble committed to the society around it, to giving its time and actively investing in the Barcelona music scene.

CONDUCTOR

COURSE TEACHER

JOSÉ RAFAEL PASCUAL-VILAPLANA, CONDUCTOR

(Muro, Alacant 1971)



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He studied piano and euphonium with the Muro band and at the Alcoy and Valencia conservatories. He studied band conducting in Holland with Jan Cober and Eugene Corporon, orchestral conducting in Vienna with Karl Österreicher, Yuji Yuasa and Hans Graf, and harmony and composition with R. Alcaraz and J. Darias.

He has conducted bands and orchestras in Argentina, Belgium, Colombia, Cuba, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Uruguay and the United States. They include the national youth orchestras of Holland and Colombia; the national band of Cuba; the Slovenian SAF Army Band; the municipal bands of Buenos Aires and Montevideo; the Orchestra Accademia of La Fenice Opera House, in Venice; the WASBE Youth Wind Orchestra in San José (California); the Swiss AULOS Blasorchester; the Bilbao, Albacete and Murcia symphony orchestras; the Las Palmas de Gran Canaria Philharmonic Orchestra; the Castile and León Symphony Orchestra; municipal bands of A Coruña, Alicante, Barcelona, Bilbao, Madrid, Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Santander, Santiago de Compostela and Vitoria; Oviedo, Granada, Jaén, the Canaries and MUSIKENE (Basque country) conservatory bands; the Gran Canaria Wind Orchestra, and the La Rioja Symphonic Band, among others.

He has worked with soloists such as singers Elisabete Matos, Carmen Solís, María Hinojosa, Andeka Gorrotxategi and Mikeldi Atxalandabaso; flautists Juana Guillem and Claudi Arimany; clarinetists José Franch-Ballester, Vicent Alberola and Nuno Pinto; French horn player Juan Manuel Gómez; trumpeters Sergei Nakariakov, Pacho Flores, Luis González, Rubén Simeó, Mario Martos and Manuel Blanco; trombonists Ben van Dijk, Jörgen van Rijen and Ximo Vicedo; tuba player Sérgio Carolino; percussionists Conrado Moya and Xabier Alonso; cellists Asier Polo and Josep Trescolí, and pianists Albert Guinovart and Juan Pérez Floristán. He has conducted groups including Orfeón Donostiarra, the Bilbao Choral Society and the quintet Spanish Brass, and has composed a number of works for band, choir and dulzaina, scenic music and chamber music. He has also been commissioned to write pieces

for many festivals (SBALZ Alzira, Certamen d'Altea, Tafalla Brass Week, Castile-La Mancha Music Festival, Cocentaina Choral Competition, etc.) and prestigious soloists, including Spanish Brass, Steven Mead, Luis González, Ximo Vicedo, Carlos Gil and 2i2quartet.

Since 2015 he has been chief conductor with Bilbao Municipal Band and since 2018 he has also been chief conductor of the Barcelona Symphonic Band. He is also chief guest conductor of the Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa in Porto.

In 1997 he won the Golden Baton at the WMC Kerkrade International Conductors Contest in Holland, and in 2000 he was awarded the Baton of Honour at the EBBA Conductors Competition in Birmingham, England. In 2004, he won the Euterpe Award for festive music composition and the Euterpe Award for band conducting by the Valencia Federation of Music Associations. In 2010, he received the 'Ignacio Morales Nieva' National Music Award at the Castilla-La Mancha Music Festival.

www.pascualvilaplana.com

GUEST TEACHER

CHRISTIAAN JANSSEN, COMPOSER



© Same Linssen

The composer Christiaan Janssen (1974) has been involved with music since the age of five. He studied band conducting and orchestra conducting at the Maastricht Conservatory. He has been conducting since 1994 and is currently director of a symphony orchestra and two marching bands.

Since 1985 he has been experimenting with sound and has developed as a self-taught composer. He has a large number of works to his name, among them more than 100 pieces for symphony band. His works have a romantic character and, often, consist of a few motifs from which the whole work develops. Counterpoint and transparent instrumentation play a very important role in this. His work is influenced by masters of the past. The biggest influences on his work have been Johann Sebastian Bach, Anton Bruckner and Richard Strauss.

More and more, his compositions are being performed by renowned orchestras and symphony bands all over the world.

In 2021, Christiaan Janssen won the Valley Winds International Composition Competition with his work *Der arme Poet*. More than 380 compositions from 50 countries were presented in the competition.

Der arme Poet is a work for symphonic band based on the painting of the same name by the German painter.

In 2023 he was declared the winner of the III Composition Contest for the Symphony Orchestra of Estepona. The winning work “*Impressions of Estepona*” will be released on April 27, 2024.

FEDERACIÓ CATALANA DE SOCIETATS MUSICALS



The Catalan Federation of Music Associations, with more than 40 years of service to musical societies, is a federation that has more than fifty musical entities within the framework of Catalan popular culture and whose main objective is to promote, convey, strengthen and unite the movement cultural association of Music Bands. To meet these objectives, the federation works in different fields and formats, some purely musical, others for projection, as well as dedicating time and energy to training and information; without losing sight of risky projects of new music, research or the entry of new technologies.

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