

# Villars Music Academy

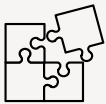
14-21 August 2022



**Masterclasses**  
by members of  
**the Berliner Philharmoniker**



**Special guests**  
such as **Kolja Blacher** and  
**Tabea Zimmermann**



**Chamber music**  
with professors



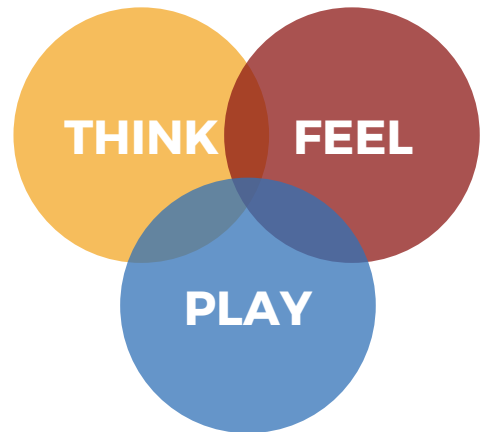
**Mental training**  
for musicians



**Physical and emotional**  
awareness



**Concert**  
at the Palace Theater



## A holistic approach to musicianship

The Villars Music Academy provides talented young musicians with a unique and personalized learning experience based on interdisciplinary courses, including week-long masterclasses taught by musicians from the **Berliner Philharmoniker**, masterclasses given over the course of four days by special guests, such as **Tabea Zimmermann** and **Kolja Blacher**, as well as the opportunity to practice and perform chamber music with the professors.

The one-week academy in the Swiss Alps will feature conferences and workshops designed through a holistic approach to promote personal development as well as shared values for tomorrow's world. Technical capabilities, physical awareness, intellectual and emotional introspection are key facets of the program.

## "The Path to Excellence" Forum

We see excellence every day in the arts, business, education, science, and sports. There are multiple paths to excellence.

Is there an inner compass you can rely upon to guide to go in the right direction? The Villars Music Academy Forum will explore fundamental questions about achieving excellence through a concert and conversation. The Forum will focus on excellence from the perspective of music, sports and business.

## Special Guests

### Kolja Blacher, violin

Kolja Blacher studied at the Juilliard School in New York with Dorothy DeLay and with Sandor Vegh in Salzburg. He joined the Berlin Philharmonic in 1993 as first concertmaster, and later became concertmaster at the Lucerne Festival Orchestra. He has performed as a soloist with orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Gewandhaus Leipzig, NDR Symphony, Orchestra di Santa Cecilia with conductors as C. Abbado, D. Barenboim, V. Jurowski and others. He has been a professor at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler since 2009.

### Jean-Pierre Egger, coach

Jean-Pierre Egger is an athlete, coach, and author. He competed in the Men's Shot Put in the 1976 and 1980 Summer Olympics, and has since coached many well-known athletes including Werner Günthör and Valerie Adams and Alinghi Yacht Team. In 2019 he published „The Way To Excellence“ and in 2020 he received the Award for Best Coach of the Last 70 years.

### Tabea Zimmermann, viola

Tabea Zimmermann studied with Dietmar Mantel, and attended the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg with Ulrich Koch and the Mozarteum University with Sandor Végh. She received first prizes at the Geneva International Competition, the Maurice Vieux Competition in Paris and the Budapest International Competition. As a soloist, she regularly performs with renowned orchestras and was artist in residence of the Berliner Philharmoniker in 2020/2021. She has been a professor at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler since 2002.

### Peter Rebeiz, Swiss entrepreneur

CEO and President of Caviar House & Prunier, Peter Rebeiz is not a businessman like the others. This successful entrepreneur is a lover of good things and knows how to follow his intuition. Intuitive, he does not hesitate to invest where others do not venture. This was the case when he decided to take over the production of 100% French caviar launched one hundred years ago by the founder of the famous Prunier company.

## Artistic Director



### Aline Champion, violin

Aline Champion made her solo debut at the Victoria Hall in Geneva, aged 12. She studied with Tibor Varga, Philipp Hirschhorn and Viktor Libermann, and was concertmaster of the Cologne Radio Symphony Orchestra before joining the Berlin Philharmonic in 2000. She regularly gives international masterclasses and seminars about musician's psychology. She has taught at the HEM in Geneva since 2018.

## Professors

### Simone Bernardini, violin

Simone Bernardini has been concertmaster of the Orchestre National de Lyon and the Juilliard Orchestra, and joined the Berlin Philharmonic in 2002. He is regularly invited to perform as concertmaster and soloist by many different ensembles, and has been a professor in many different universities and festivals, including the Universität der Künste in Berlin and the Eastern Music Festival.

### Luiz Filipe Coelho, violin

Luiz Filipe Coelho has been a member of the Berlin Philharmonic since 2012. As a soloist he has performed with several international orchestras, such as the Norwegian Radio Orchestra and the Symphonic Orchestra of the State of Sao Paulo, among others. He is a laureate of several international competitions, including Tibor Varga and Henri Marteau. He is a prolific chamber musician, playing in diverse groups such as the Berlin Philharmonic String Quintet and many others. He has been a professor at the Konstknekt Academy in Norway since 2016.

### Walter Kuessner, viola

Walter Kuessner studied with Kim Kashkashian and Wilfried Strehle among others. After winning many international competitions, Walter Kuessner became a member of the Berlin Philharmonic in 1988. He has performed as a soloist all over the world and is a member of several chamber ensembles. He has been a guest professor at the HfM Hanns Eisler since 2002 and is an honorary professor at several international universities.

### Martin Menking, cello

As a student of Heinrich Schiff and David Geringas, Martin Menking won numerous national and international competitions. In 1994, he became principal cellist of the North German Radio Symphony Orchestra in Hamburg and joined the Berlin Philharmonic in 1996.

### Sandra Menking

#### Osteopath & personal trainer

Sandra Menking originally completed classical ballet training at the former Ballet School of the Deutsche Oper Berlin. During her law studies she worked as a dance teacher, fitness instructor and personal trainer. This was followed by 15 years of work as a spinal therapist. Since 2014 she has been self-employed as an osteopath.