

# Singing from the book in the Renaissance

Improvised counterpoint  
from the 15th and 16th c.

Course  
Level  
2

10-13  
July  
2025

Rosario  
**Bever**  
Belgium

## ❖ Skills required

To take part in this Level 2 course, you need to have mastered most of the techniques [listed here](#).

## ❖ Programme

### Simple counterpoint

- faux-bourdon
- gymel + contratenor bassus
- gymel + «mixed» contratenor

### Diminished counterpoint

- 1 voice upon a CF, with melodic / rhythmic constraints
- 2 voices upon a CF

### Canons

- canons at the 5<sup>th</sup>
- canons for 3 voices

### Singing upon the book, singing upon the hand

These techniques are usually based on a basic melody, the cantus firmus. Depending on the case, the cantus firmus will be read on a staff or shown on the hand (known as 'guidonian hand'), the two modes of visualisation being complementary.

## ❖ Activities

The work takes place in different sequences: presentation of improvisation techniques and associated instructions (in a large group); putting the instructions into practice (in small groups of 2 to 5, with coaching from the teachers); shared feedback (in a large group).

**Maximum number of trainees: 20**

## ◆ Rates

### Educational costs

- 600 €** - Employer rate (paid by the employer)
- 270 €** - Standard rate
- 200 €** - Student rate (proof of status required)

### Meals and accomodation

- 255 €** - Meals and use of the site
- 355 €** - Meals and use of the site + room with 2, 3 or 4 beds
- 425 €** - Meals and use of the site + room with 1 bed

## ◆ Registration

To register for this course, please fill in [the online registration form](#).

For any information of an educational or administrative nature, please contact us at [superlibrumcantare.courses@gmail.com](mailto:superlibrumcantare.courses@gmail.com)

# The teachers

## Barnabé JANIN

Professor at the CNSMD in Lyon (Department of Early Music), medieval fiddle player and singer, member of the ensemble Obsidienne and artistic director of the ensemble *Coclico*.

he is the author of a practical guide to Renaissance polyphonic improvisation, *Chanter sur le livre* (Symétrie, 2014), and the co-manager of the website *Super librum cantare*.



## Jean-Yves HAYMOZ

A former teacher at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Lyon and the Haute École de Musique de Genève, he is now retired. He has worked to create a course in writing and musical culture based on historical sources, in order to train historically informed performers of early music. He has also taken an interest in improvisation, the performance of plainsong in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, rhetoric and pedagogy.

He is founder and director of the vocal ensemble *Alternatim*, specialising in the performance of Renaissance and Baroque



# Infos pratiques



## The course venue

Rosario, in Bever (Belgium)

[Visit the website here](#)

## Timetable

Starts: Thursday 10/07 at 2.30pm

Ends: Sunday 13/07 at 2pm, after lunch.

## Hosting

Choice of :

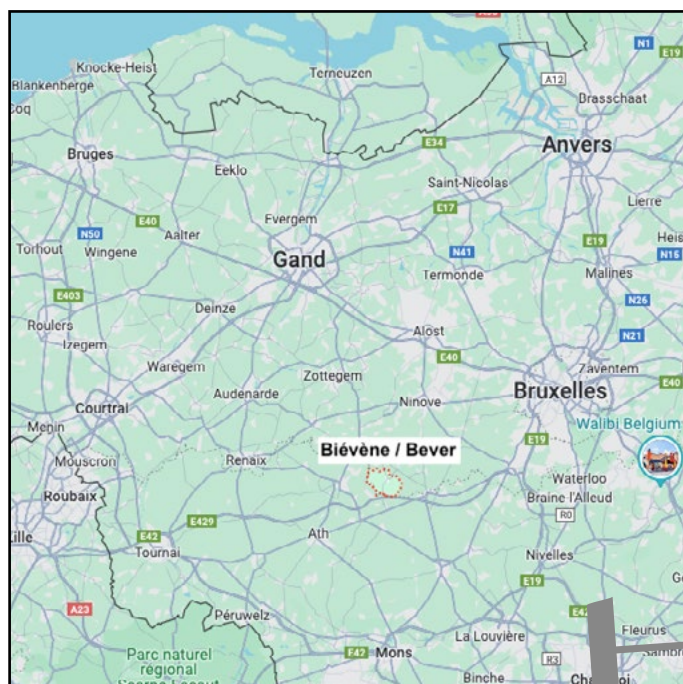
- room with 2, 3 or 4 beds
- room with 1 bed

Sheets are provided, but not towels.

## Meals

Meals are prepared by the monastery's kitchen, which can cater for special dietary requirements within its means.

Cliquez sur la carte pour l'agrandir



## Access

- By [Lijn bus 161](#), Bever Gemeentehuis stop
- By car: map above

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