



Frank Martin 1890-1974
2024 | 50th Anniversary of Frank Martin's death

08

Frank Martin UP-TO-DATE

APRIL 2024

Frank Martin **60** SECONDS

A series of short films in which musicians and other experts tell us what Frank Martin's music means to them personally. In this short video the percussionist Edith Habraken, specialized in Basler drumming, talks about the story-telling rhythms in Martin's Totentanz zu Basel. She is one of the initiators of the spectacular open-air performances of this stage work: after more than 80 years Martin's Totentanz zu Basel will be performed at the Münsterplatz, the Basler location for which the work was written in 1943!



Edith Habraken on Martin's Totentanz



Visit the special website and read more about the spectacular open-air performances of [Totentanz zu Basel](#), June 2024.

From April to June: Martin's Mass for double choir will be performed at least 25 times, worldwide!

One of Frank Martin's most personal compositions is his Mass for double choir a cappella. He wrote the work in 1922-26 without intending to publish it. The premiere took place in 1963 under Franz W. Brunnert, who had approached Martin personally with a request to see the score. It has since become one of Frank Martin's most frequently performed compositions, which is confirmed again by the number of performances in this commemoration year – see below for a selection in the coming months.

April 2024

- [10 April](#) Avignon (FR)
Ékhô chœur de chambre
- [12 April](#) Egg (CH)
Ensemble Cantissimo
- [13 April](#) Zürich (CH)
Ensemble Cantissimo
- [14 April](#) Helsinki (FI)
Ahjo Ensemble
& Näsi Chamber Choir
- [14 April](#) Konstanz (D)
Ensemble Cantissimo
- [19 April](#) Venlo (NL)
Studium Chorale
- [20 April](#) Toronto (CA)
Elmer Iseler Singers,
Viva Chamber Singers
& Chroma Vocal Ensemble
- [20 April](#) Maastricht (NL)
Studium Chorale
- [21 April](#) Amsterdam (NL)
Studium Chorale
- [26 April](#) Tampere (FI)
Ahjo Ensemble
& Näsi Chamber Choir

May 2024

- [4 May](#) Cambridge (MA/USA)
The Jameson Singers
- [4 May](#) Kreuzlingen (CH)
Ensemble Cantissimo
- [5 May](#) West Newton (MA/USA)
The Jameson Singers
- [5 May](#) Weinfelden (CH)
Ensemble Cantissimo
- [17 May](#) Utrecht (NL)
Musica Vocale
- [17 May](#) Leipzig (D)
MDR-Rundfunkchor
- [19 May](#) Boston (MA/USA)
Choir of the Church of the Advent
- [22 May](#) Amsterdam (NL)
Groot Omroepkoor
- [24 May](#) Doorn (NL)
Utrechts Vocaal Ensemble
& Enchore Berlin
- [24 May](#) Eindhoven (NL)
Groot Omroepkoor
- [25 May](#) Utrecht (NL)
Utrechts Vocaal Ensemble
& Enchore Berlin
- [25 May](#) Wageningen (NL)
Musica Vocale

June 2024

- [14 June](#) Berlin (D)
Utrechts Vocaal Ensemble
& Enchore Berlin
- [15 June](#) Berlin-Neukölln (D)
Utrechts Vocaal Ensemble
& Enchore Berlin
- [23 June](#) Haarlem (NL)
Mnemosyne
- [30 June](#) Regensburg (D)
Ensemble Cantissimo

Learn more about the Mass and visit our special web page about Martin's [Mass for double choir](#) with information which can be downloaded for free use in concert programmes, other printed matter (with QR-code) or on screen.

For more information and other concerts see our [Calendar](#).

'The most beautiful piece ever written...'

A blog by soprano Bobbie Blommesteijn



On 10 March 2020 I returned from a tour of Australia and New Zealand with the Netherlands Chamber Choir. Five days later, a partial lockdown was imposed in the Netherlands and the corona virus erased my diary. For the time being, we musicians had to survive without an audience and without each other... [\[read more\]](#)

New cd by Quatuor Terpsycordes, featuring Martin's Piano Quintet, String Quartet and Pavane couleur du temps

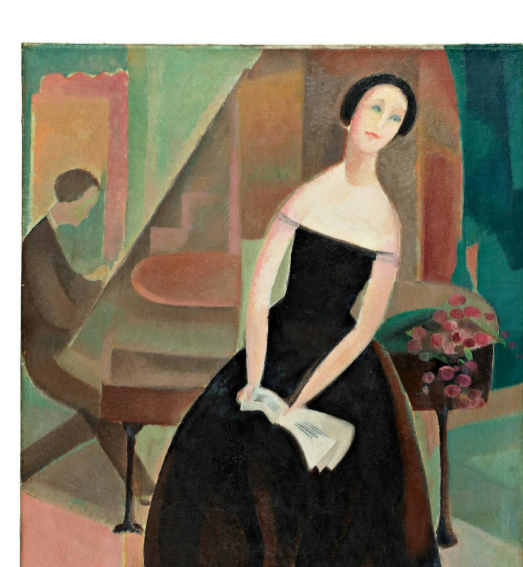


Chamber music meanders throughout Frank Martin's career in a multitude of different ensembles and titles, ranging from the classical to the more unexpected. [...] While he tended to avoid more traditional genres – his only **String Quartet** is a late work and indeed his last chamber piece – the **Quintet for piano and strings** and the **Pavane couleur du temps** are among his earliest contributions in this field.

Quatuor Terpsychordes with Fabrizio

Chiovetta piano | François Grin cello

[Claves Records CD 3081](#) (release: 12 April 2024) • Pavane on [YouTube](#)



The cover image of the above CD is a work by Alice Bailly (Geneva 1872 - Lausanne 1938). The painting is entitled **Le concert dans le jardin** (1920) and it is kept in the Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts de Lausanne.

Alice Bailly and Frank Martin were acquainted with one other. Around 1923 she painted **La cantatrice**: it features a female singer with a pianist in the background whose profile strongly resembles that of Frank Martin. Teresa Martin, his youngest daughter, is convinced that it does indeed portray her father.

If you know of concerts featuring music by Frank Martin which are not included in our [Calendar](#), we warmly invite you to send the missing information to pr@frankmartin.org.

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This newsletter is published by the Frank Martin Society and was edited by Ferry Jongbloed, Philip Leussink, Stephen Taylor, Jaap Verbeek and Jacinta Wetzler.

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