

“The Swiss Group of Five” Myth or reality ?

Boris Oppliger, Stéphane Delley

Théo Schmitt (*1991) is a Swiss composer and conductor currently working in Los Angeles. After obtaining a Master's degree in conducting at the Haute École de Musique de Lausanne (HEMU), he studied composition at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and Screen Scoring at the University of Southern California (USC). On September 7, 2019, Théo won the 9th Swiss National Conducting Competition in Baden.

Théo's recent compositions include a *Passion of Christ* premiered at Lausanne Cathedral in 2022 by the Micro-Harmonie, *La Danse des Titans Masqués* commissioned by Stadtmusik Luzern and performed at the Carnegie Hall in New York, and *Kinetic Concerto* for alto saxophone solo and symphonic band commissioned by La Concordia de Fribourg. His other concert works include commissions by the Société Cantonale des Musiques Vaudoises, the Association Suisse des Musiques and the World Association for Symphonic Band and Ensemble (WASBE).

In 2021, Théo was nominated for the Marvin Hamlisch International Music Awards. In 2023, he is nominated for the Jerry Goldsmith Awards and the Shanghai International Digital Music Festival, and in 2024 he was a finalist at the Zurich Film Festival Scoring Competition. The same year, he co-founded the Unprecedented Music Association (UMA) and serves as its Artistic Director.



www.theoschmitt.com

Music for Wind Ensemble | Wind Band | Symphonic Band

Grade 4

La Kialo de Espero | 12 min | 2024 | WoodBrass Music Edition

Reflections of Dreams | 12 min | 2019 | Musikverlag Frank

Echoes of my Mind | 13 min | 2019 | Musikverlag Frank

Résurrection | 12 min | 2017 | self-published

Grade 5

Where Soot Becomes Soil | 8.5 min | 2026 | Musikverlag Frank

Echoes of the Cathedral | 25 min | 2025 | with choir & soprano solo | Musikverlag Frank

Echo-System | 13 min | 2022 | Self-published

An Eternal Journey | 13 min | 2021 | Musikverlag Frank

Grade 6

Kinetic Concerto | 30 min | 2025 | for alto saxophone solo | Self-published

Sacred Dance for an Ungodly World | 7 min | 2025 | Musikverlag Frank

La Danse des Titans Masqués | 25 min | 2024 | Musikverlag Frank

NETWORKS | 20 min | 2023 | Self-published

La Passion | 90 min | 2022 | Self-published

Aurélien Darbellay (*1992)

born in Liddes (Switzerland) he grew up in a musical family through which he joined the village brass band. After a bachelor degree in philosophy and musicology at the University of Fribourg he continues his studies with a master degree in Wind Ensemble conducting in the class of Prof. Jean-Claude Kolly and later a second master degree in « Composition Creative Practice » at the Bern University of the Arts with Prof. Xavier Dayer and Simon Steen-Andersen. Aurélien is currently conductor of the Chamber Orchestra of Belp and the 1st section Brass Band Fribourg B. He was formerly conducting the Wind Band of Massongex and worked a lot with youth bands such as the



Brass Band Junior Valaisan and la jeune garde de la Landwehr de Fribourg. As guest conductor he collaborated with orchestras such as the Wind Orchestra “Harmonie Shostakovich” and the Championship section Brass Band Ensemble de cuivres Jurassien. In 2019 he won the 2nd prize and audience prize at the international composer competition of Haute-Savoie for his piece « *Exils* » for Wind Orchestra, choir and childrens choir. In 2021 he wins the audience prize and the prize for the best swiss composer at the composer competition of the Orchestra di Fiati della Svizzera Italiana with his work « *Dark is the Horizon* ».

www.aureliendarbellay.com

Music for Wind Ensemble | Concert Band | Brass Band

Grade 3 **Insinuations 2** | 5 min | 2018 / rev. 2023 | Concert Band & Brass Band | self-published

Reste Mes Amours | 11 min | 2022 | Concert Band & Brass Band | self-published

Chimeric Variations | 7 min | 2019 | Concert Band & Brass Band | self-published

Grade 4 **Exils** | 8.5 min | 2018 | Concert Band & Choir | self-published

Fire In Our Eyes | 10.5 min | 2024 | Brass Band | WoodBrass Music Edition

Li Muesative de l’Efzeyeu | 8.5 min | 2025 | Brass Band & choir | self-published

Many Moons Ago... | 8 min | 2026 | Concert Band | self-published

Archive Project | 55 min | 2025 | Music Theater for Concert Band and Electronics | self-published

Grade 5 **When She Smiles** | 14.5 min | 2019 / rev. 2023 | self-published

Grade 6 **Dark is the Horizon** | 16 min | 2021 | Concert Band | self-published

Gauthier Dupertuis (*1997) is a young Swiss composer and conductor. He holds Master's degrees in Musicology and Philosophy from the University of Fribourg, and in Wind Orchestra Conducting from the Lausanne University of music where he studied with Prof. Jean-Claude Kolly. He has also had the opportunity to study with Douglas Bostock, Mark Heron, and José Rafael Pascual-Vilaplana. As principal conductor of several ensembles, he is regularly engaged as a guest conductor, consultant, or jury member. He is also an increasingly sought-after composer who has won the international La Bacchetta d'Oro composition competition and the 9th European Brass Band Composition Competition. In his short but very successful career he has been commissioned works by the Swiss Armed Forces Brass Band, the National Youth Brass Band of Switzerland, the Harmonie de Lausanne and the aVENTura 2023 Swiss Festival for Wind Music in Lucerne.



www.gauthierdupertuis.com

Music for Wind Ensemble | Concert Band | Brass Band

- Grade 4**
- Plasma** | 5 min | 2024 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Radiant Horizons** | 4.5 min | 2023 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Terminal** | 5 min | 2025 | Brass Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Time Factories** | 11 min | 2026 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Waterfall** | 10 min | 2020 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
- Grade 5**
- Anemoia** | 15 min | 2024 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Helvetica** | 26 min | 2025 | Brass Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Magdalena Bay** | 13 min | 2024 | Brass Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Rhodania** | 12 min | 2025 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
 - Stratoscape** | 13.5 min | 2020 | Concert Band | FC Music Publishing
- Grade 6**
- Dystopia** | 9min | 2023 | double wind quintet | FC Music Publishing

Théo Rossier (*2002) is a young swiss composer from the canton Vaud. Already at the young age of 14 he begins to compose first works for winds until he joins the Conservatoire de Lausanne in 2019 following a course in Wind Band Conducting and Orchestration. In 2021, his work for chamber orchestra « Celui qui chuchotait dans les ténèbres » was chosen by the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra to be part of an album of swiss composers. This album was produced during the covid-pandemic and wanted to promote Swiss Music. One year later in 2022 he wins the 1st prize at the Composer Competition of the European Brass Band Association with his piece “Stendhal’s Syndrome”. His work was premiered at the Townhall of Birmingham (UK) by the world famous Grimethorpe Colliery Band and was used as a set test piece for the 2023 Regional Music Competition of the canton Vaud for the 1st section Brass Bands. In 2025 he finished his Bachelors degree in composition with honours at the University of the Arts of Bern with Prof. Xavier Dayer, Irene Galindo and Oliver Waespi. Meanwhile he pursued studying conducting with Jean-Claude Kolly at Conservatoire de Fribourg. In 2026 he will begin to study Wind Band Conducting with Sandro Blank at Bern University of the Arts.



www.theorossier.ch

Music for Wind Ensemble | Concert Band | Brass Band

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <u>Grade 3</u> | The Rain in Summer 4 min 2020 Brass Band Music-Centre Sion |
| | Dragon Flight 4 min 2021 Brass Band Music-Centre Sion |
| <u>Grade 4</u> | Castle 4.5 min 2020 Concert Band WoodBrass Music Edition |
| | A Requiem for Eurydice 9 min 2025 Brass Band Lucerne Music Edition |
| | Maelström of Stars 12min 2023 Brass Band Lucerne Music Edition |
| | IV. The Emperor 5 min 2026 Brass Band Lucerne Music Edition |
| | Spaceship to Paradise 10 min 2023 Brass Band Editions Marc Reift |
| <u>Grade 5</u> | Stendhal’s Syndrome 12min 2022 Brass Band WoodBrass Music Edition |
| | Love, Destroy, Replace 11min 2023 Concert Band self-published |
| | Parade 8 min 2026 Concert Band self-published |
| <u>Grade 6</u> | Adjuration 19min 2025 Brass Band Lucerne Music Edition |

Maurice Donnet-Monay (*1989) swiss

conductor and composer studied music at the Conservatoire cantonal de Sion before beginning his professional studies at Bern University of the Arts. He holds a bachelor in Wind Band conducting and euphonium with Ludwig Wicki, Dominique Roggen, Corsin Tuor and Florian Ziemer, a second bachelor in composition with Xavier Dayer and a master degree in Wind Band conducting.

His conducting activities cover Wind Bands, Chamber Orchestras, contemporary ensembles and mainly Brass Bands. During his tenure as principal conductor of Brass Band Fribourg (2017-2025) he composed several major works for the ensemble. He was guest conductor the norwegian Jaren Hornmusikkforening, the Swiss Armed Forces Brass Band, the german Ensemble Interface. He teaches music at college level and is regularly jury at music competitions.



Music for Wind Ensemble | Brass Band

Grade 3 **Métamorphose** | 5.5 min | 2011 | Brass Band | Difem Music Publishers

Legend of Arctica | 9.5 min | 2010 | Brass Band | Music-Centre Sion

Stele | 4.5 min | 2023 | Brass Band | self-published

Grade 4 **4 Emotions** | 15 min | 2017 | Brass Band | Music-Centre Sion

Grade 6 **Midnight's Butterflies** | 22 min | 2018 | Brass Band | self-published

Absalon | 20 min | 2019 | Brass Band | self-published

Eclipse | 19 min | 2023 | Brass Band | self-published

List of swiss music editions (alphabetical order)

- Editions BIM www.reift.ch
- Difem Music Publishers www.difem.ch
- Editions Marc Reift www.reift.ch
- FC Music Publishing www.fcmusicpublishing.ch
- Hug Musikverlage www.hug-musikverlage.ch
- Lucerne Music Edition www.lucerne-music-edition.ch
- Music-Centre Sion www.music-centre.ch
- Obrasso-Verlag AG www.obrasso.ch
- Musikverlag Frank www.musikverlag-frank.ch
- Ruh Musik AG www.ruh.ch
- Wind Music Edition www.windmusic.ch
- WoodBrass Music Edition www.topscorediffusion.ch

Additional Resources and Links

- Wind Music of Switzerland <https://wasbe.ch/wind-music-of-switzerland/>
- Swiss Wind Repertoire <https://www.windband.ch/swisswindrep/home>
- Swiss Music Encyclopedia <https://mls-dms.ch/>