

Noël Minet Fund Scholarship report



From the 17th to 24th July, 2022, I participated in the European Seminar for Choral Composers in Aosta, Italy, organised by Feniarco.

From two groups of participants, led by two different tutors, I chose a class run by Ēriks Ešēvalds. He provided a few lectures telling about his music and his opinions about composing in general, of being a composer and a composer's life. He was willing to listen to our questions, views and to discuss composing issues.

I also had individual lessons with Ēriks Ešēvalds, aimed to work on the piece which was to be rehearsed and performed by Arcova Vocal Ensemble, the group at our disposal. During those individual lessons I could learn more about the composing process and improve my technique of composing.

The other part of activities during the Seminar were the rehearsals of the choir, performing our newly composed sketches. We could hear how our ideas sound. Right after we could correct the score and make changes for the next rehearsal.

Additionally, we were invited to sing along with the choir the pieces of our colleagues. This was also a very good experience to analyse other composers' pieces and look at them from the point of view of a performer.

From among the pieces composed during the Seminar, some were chosen to be performed at the final concert. I was thrilled that my piece was among them and that I could listen to its premiere.

Thanks to the Seminar I had a chance to get to know other young composers, the conductor Luca Scaccabarozzi, a team of Feniarco, composers-tutors (Ivo Antognini and Ēriks Ešēvalds) as well as the choir. Those contacts will bring fruits of mutual projects in the future and chances for prospective performances of my pieces.

In my opinion the Seminar's level was very professional. I am really grateful to the Noël Minet Fund Scholarship for this extraordinary experience. I learned a lot, I met interesting people and spent a wonderful time.

Zuzanna Koziej