

Tutti: The Life of Music – The Music of Life

The Tutti Music Camp will celebrate its twelfth anniversary this year. Its initial motto was: “Life without music is a big mistake”. Time has flown by, experience has been gained over the years, Tutti has well matured, has grown up in number and has appropriated other geographical locations.

From its ten students at the very beginning, the camp now welcomes around eighty. From the severe scenery of a monastery buried in the Laurentian forest and possessing but a few electronic keyboards for musical equipment, it has now evolved into the great comfort of a superior studies establishment with one of the richest musical instruments collections in Quebec. Hence, for already two years Tutti found itself a comfortable niche at Bishop’s University in Lennoxville in the Estrie region. During the first week of summer vacations, the strict academic life leaves place for ardent creativity, finally to express itself in a moment of ultimate artistic communication for the gala concert of Sunday, July 1st.

Its vocation has also been modified: new disciplines have been added to the curriculum: choir, theater, art, swimming, tennis, yoga, and even... massage. Starting from this year, the musical palette will be enhanced by many non-occidental traditional instruments such as the balalaika, domre and others.

One could say that Tutti has followed in its development the path of antique Greece culture syncretism to universality, Renaissance’s ideal. Our motto has consequently been transformed into: “life *exclusively* filled with music is also a mistake”. In fact, it’s not only a motto, but also a philosophy that animates the camp’s preparation in an open spirit towards everything and everyone! Throughout the year, we prepare ourselves towards eight days of intense pleasure and of musical, artistic and sportive plenitude (from June 24th until July 1st, for the year 2007).

Our camp is thus beginning to bloom: the participation of renowned musicians at our benefit concert being undeniable proof. Moreover, students from New York, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles have already found the way to Tutti. This year, thanks to a generous donator, we will even welcome a group of students from Siberia.

According to its director, Esfir Dyachkov, the main distinguishing feature of Tutti is its openness towards all: “I have changed, too. I am now against the idea that everyone should become a musician. The essential for me, is that everyone can understand the musical language and be able to experience all the pleasure of listening to those who have become musicians. It is in effect an extraordinary communication between an artist who shares his music with an attentive audience.”

Tutti is growing in number of years, but will always remain young: old age will never reach it, because its group of friends and collaborators renews itself. It keeps welcoming new people whose creativity and enthusiasm will bring continual enrichment.

Translation by Jean-Pierre Vu