

## **Intensive Online Course: “Percussion for Composers – Writing and Orchestration” + 6 Professional Commissions (€3000 per work)**

We are thrilled to announce a unique educational opportunity for composers interested in deeply exploring percussion writing: the **Intensive Online Course “Percussion for Composers: Writing and Orchestration”**, led by acclaimed international soloist and composer **David Moliner**.

This course is designed for both advanced composition students and professional composers who seek to enhance their technical and creative tools when writing for contemporary percussion.

The program will take place in **July 2025**, through four **live collective sessions via Zoom**. As a major incentive, **up to 6 composers** may be selected to receive **professional commissions (€3000 per piece)**, with world premieres scheduled during the **2026–2027 concert season at Stadtcasino Basel (Switzerland)**.

### **Course Objective**

To provide composers with practical and conceptual tools to write effectively for percussion in solo, chamber, and orchestral contexts.

### **Commissions & Premiere (2026–27 Season)**

After the course, participants will have **4 weeks** to submit a short sketch (max. 1 minute) for a **solo percussion piece** (free instrumentation).

**Up to 6 proposals** may be selected for **professional commissions valued at €3000** each.

Commissioned works (12–14 minutes) will be premiered by **David Moliner** during the **2026–27 season at Stadtcasino Basel**, one of Europe’s iconic venues.

#### **Commission package includes:**

- **€3000 commission fee** (paid in two phases: upon score delivery and post-concert)
- **Up to €600 in travel assistance**
- **2 nights accommodation** in a **4-star hotel** (Aparthotel Adagio Basel City, incl. breakfast)

### **Key Dates**

- **Online Course Sessions:** July 4, 11, 18, 25 (16:00–17:00 CET / Berlin Time)  
*All sessions will be recorded for those unable to attend live*

- **Submission of sketches:** within **4 weeks after final session**
- **Commission selection:** September 2025
- **World premieres:** 2026–2027 season, Stadtcasino Basel



## **Application Requirements**

To apply for the course, please submit the following materials:

- **2 solo works** composed in the last 2 years (any instrument)
- **1 ensemble work** (for 2 to 20 instruments)
- **Curriculum Vitae**
- *Recordings are optional*

Send materials to: **mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com**

*Selected participants will be notified and must confirm participation with a €60 deposit within 24h.*



## **Course Fee & Payment Structure**

- **Total Cost:** €240 (€60 per session)
- **Enrollment Fee:** €60 (due within 24h of acceptance)
- **Remaining Fee:** Paid in 3 instalments (€60/session), after each session

**Partial Scholarships (50%) available** for composers residing in selected countries in **South America and Africa**.

**Course language:** English

**Written materials:** English



## **Course Structure & Content**



**Session 1: SOLO BLOCK – Core Writing for Percussion**

**Topics:**

- Technique, color, expressive silence
- Gesture, attack, resonance, articulation
- Common orchestration mistakes
- Idiomatic vs. conceptual writing

**Repertoire Study:**

- Iannis Xenakis – *Rebonds A/B*
- Georges Aperghis – *Retrouvailles*
- Vinko Globokar – *Corporel*
- David Moliner – *Solos for Percussion*

**◆ Session 2: ENSEMBLE BLOCK – Instrument Maps & Mixed Timbres****Topics:**

- Instrumentation: orchestral drums, multi-set-ups
- Instrument choice for desired blend
- Performer typologies: what to ask and when

**Repertoire Study:**

- Edgard Varèse – *Ionisation*
- David Moliner – *Un Mangetar*
- Steve Reich – *Music for 18 Musicians*
- Helmut Lachenmann – *Intérieur*

### ◆ Session 3: ORCHESTRA BLOCK – Creative Integration of Percussion

#### Topics:

- How to orchestrate *with* percussion, not just *for* it
- Structural roles in large ensembles
- Dynamics, timbres, textures in orchestral writing

#### Repertoire Study:

- Beethoven – *Symphony No. 9*
- Xenakis – *Lichens, Jonchaies*
- Georg Friedrich Haas – *Natures Mortes*
- David Moliner – *Figuratio I Mein Logos, Estructura IV*

### ◆ Session 4: COLLECTIVE BLOCK – Workshop & Idea Lab

#### Topics:

- Advice for new pieces, competitions, and commissions
- Open Q&A and group feedback  
*Following this session, composers will have 4 weeks to submit a 1-minute sketch for a solo percussion piece (instrumentation of choice).*  
*Sketches must be sent to: [mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com](mailto:mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com)*  
*Selections will be made by **David Moliner**.*

### Professional Opportunity: Paid Commission + International Premiere

**Up to 6 composers** will be offered commissions (€3000 each) to create new works for solo percussion (instrumentation to be decided collaboratively with David Moliner).

- **Duration:** 12–14 minutes

- **Decision:** Made by David Moliner, (*eventually may include fewer than six commissions or none at all*)
- **Payment:**
  - 50% within 24h of final score delivery
  - 50% within 24h after the concert
- **Premiere:** 2026–2027 season, **Stadtcasino Basel**
- **Travel & Accommodation:** Up to €600 travel support + 2 nights in 4-star hotel



## Selection Criteria

- **For course admission:**
  - 2 solo works + 1 ensemble work + CV
- **For commissions:**
  - Originality, artistic quality, creative integration of course content, precision in writing
  - New, personal, and innovative ideas are strongly encouraged



## Practical Info

- **Course language:** English
- **Partial scholarships (50%)** for eligible composers from South America and Africa
- **Free application**
- **Send materials to:** [mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com](mailto:mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com)

## **Summary**

- Open to all levels: students, emerging and established composers
- Direct mentorship from **David Moliner**
- Possibility of a **€3000 commission + international premiere**
- Study writing for **solo, chamber, and orchestral percussion**
- Recorded sessions available
- Small group, high-level training

An exceptional opportunity to refine your percussion language, receive personal guidance from one of Europe's leading soloist-composers, and potentially join an international concert tour with a professionally commissioned new work.

 **Apply now:** [mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com](mailto:mentoringprogram.moliner@gmail.com)