EUROPEAN TOUR 2017 - WPG INFORMATION PACK

Maraca2 and the World Percussion Group Inspiration .......................................................... 2
World Percussion Group Tour Details .............................................................................. 3
WPG Timeline, Audition Dates, Requirements and Fee Structure .................................. 4
Frequently Asked Questions ............................................................................................. 5
Terms & Conditions ........................................................................................................ 6

APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.WORLDPERCUSSIONGROUP.COM
FACEBOOK PAGE: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WORLDPERCUSSIONGROUP

EUROPEAN TOUR 2017
Maraca2 and the World Percussion Group Inspiration

Maraca2 are currently respected as one of the World’s leading Percussion Ensembles.

Tim Palmer and Jason Huxtable met whilst studying at the Birmingham Conservatoire in England. Whilst there, they attained the highest degree classifications, achieved distinction in the postgraduate course specialising in percussion duo and now teach at the conservatoire as tutors of percussion. In 2014, they were both bestowed with the honour of becoming honorary members of the institution.

Maraca2 explain the World Percussion Group Project (WPG) and how its significance is vital to young professionals in the percussion industry.

“Having visited many universities, we regularly find students aspiring to become professional percussion soloists, ensemble players and educators. In an extremely competitive field, it is very difficult to realise such ambitions without any clear understanding of how one might go about building a successful CV / resume.

Following our PASIC 2013 evening showcase concert, we started to discuss how we could develop the impact and international scope of Maraca2’s educational projects, whilst helping young artists across the world fulfil their full potential and career aspirations.

In order to build a good reputation as an artist and educator, it is vital that those percussionists wishing to follow this route should demonstrate a great degree of experience (preferably at a young age).”

Thus the idea of WPG was created. Maraca2 have already helped such artists by providing them with the opportunity to work with like-minded world class percussionists in a real life setting. Selected WPG members will deliver their own presentations, clinics, lessons, performances, and masterclasses and put together a touring ensemble that will deliver an extremely high quality ‘mobile percussion festival’ to the European educational market.

“We are extremely excited about forming our 2nd ensemble selected from a pool of world class young professionals and bringing them to local percussion communities in the Europe.”

Are you interested in joining the WPG in 2017?
World Percussion Group 2017 European Tour Details

Following the stunning success of their two month USA WPG Tour 2016, Maraca2 will once again select a total of 12 members to form the World Percussion Group 2017. These 12 members will tour an estimated 7 universities in and around Europe and deliver clinics, masterclasses, lessons and performances. In total the tour will visit several Countries including; United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Norway, Finland, Estonia and Belgium.

The tour will happen in Summer 2017 and is between the months of May 27th - June 18th 2017.

The repertoire selected for the WPG will be prepared by Maraca2 and will comprise of new works, arrangements and existing large scale works. The group will convene prior to the tour for an estimated 3-day training course. The rehearsal venue will be located in the UK where participants will prepare the final showcase concert and work alongside Maraca2 to structure an effective clinic, which they will present on the tour.

The soloist selected for the tour will also have the option to deliver a solo recital and will perform as soloist with the World Percussion Group.

Maraca2 would like to thank the Percussive Arts Society for becoming Corporate Partners with the WPG as well as its sponsors: Innovative Percussion, REMO Drumheads, Marimba One, Sabian Cymbals, Tapspace Publications and Pearl Drums.
**WORLD PERCUSSION GROUP TIMELINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2016</td>
<td>Meetings commence with Europe university professors to secure hosts for WPG.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2016</td>
<td>Restructure of WPG Website ahead of registration date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2016</td>
<td>Website to be finalised and online audition applications commence, audition materials available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2016</td>
<td>WPG Registration closes. (Monday November 14th 2016).</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2016</td>
<td>Audition submission deadline (final audition videos submitted to join the WPG).</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>12 WPG Members Confirmed, Tour repertoire available for preparation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>WPG Tour concludes 18th June 2017.</td>
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**WPG Timeline, Audition Dates and Requirements**

When registering for the World Percussion Group you will have two options on our new site. The first, will be to apply as a soloist. This is a totally free choice audition and should last between 10-15 minutes. This can feature any percussion instruments from Marimba, Vibraphone, Snare Drum (Orchestral or Marching), Drum Set, Timpani, Ethnic Percussion or a mix of everything if you are a multi-percussionist. Solo auditions will run from August to December and you can upload your video whenever you are ready.

If you are applying as an ensemble member, you will be able to register in August 2016 and download the audition pack. This will consist of some Maraca2 repertoire excerpts and also involve performing alongside backing tracks. Each ensemble member must display on their audition video a high level of virtuosity, a strong internalisation of pulse and subdivision. They only need select **one excerpt** from any of the available choices. They must also include a short outline of the clinic that they wish to present on the tour. The deadline for uploading videos is December 2016.

**Course Fee Structure**

If you are accepted as a soloist on the WPG Tour your week long training course, food per diem, accommodation and internal travel will all be paid for via way of a full scholarship supported by Maraca2.

In addition if you are accepted into the ensemble and are asked to become the principal, you will also have full scholarship support including internal travel, accommodation and a food per diem. WPG principals will also be entrusted with further performance and logistical opportunities and responsibilities.

All other WPG members will be required to cover a portion of expenses totaling a fee of $2500 US dollars. This will include all your accommodation, food per diem and tour travel.

All ensemble members, principals and soloists will be solely responsible for funding their trip to and from the training camp location. We advise booking long term return flights as a cheaper option than two single one-way fares.
How many members of the World Percussion Group will be selected?

12 in total. A Soloist, Principal and 10 Ensemble players.

I am from outside the USA and Europe. Does this mean I can still apply for WPG?

YES, however, all artists are responsible for researching their eligibility to travel within the European Union.

I am from China. How will this affect my application?

Maraca2 recognise that social media and internet is somewhat restricted in some countries. For this reason, we have an agent in China (Bahui International) who will collect DVD auditions and send them to Maraca2. Bahui will handle all mainland China applications. http://www.bahuichina.com/

If I am selected for the WPG, when do I have to pay my course and tour fee?

All ensemble training course and tour fees will be due in full by Monday 6th February 2017.

If I am on a scholarship, will I still be financially responsible for getting myself to and from the UK training camp?

Yes. You will need to pay for your flights to the training camp and flights back to your place of residence from the last destination on the tour.

When will I be able to apply and download the audition pack to join the WPG?

You will be able to apply around August 2016, when you can log on to our website, apply online and fill in your details. You will then be able to download the audition materials and submit your final video by December 2016.

How long will the European Tour last?

In total the tour will last for three weeks. Estimated 27 May 2017 to 18 June 2017.

Are there any benefits to those unsuccessful in the application process?

Absolutely! We are keen to make this a valuable experience for all applicants and will record all clinics, solo recitals and the final concert. All applicants will have access to this on our website. In addition all applicants will receive a written report and feedback from your audition video given by Maraca2. You will also be able to access all exclusive videos from WPG 2016 Tour!!!

Am I able to apply as both a soloist and ensemble player?

Yes. It is possible to apply online for both positions. There will be a discount on the total fee payable for multiple applications.

How many Scholarships will be offered?

There will be a total of 2 scholarships offered by Maraca2. A principal ensemble player and soloist. Maraca2 reserve the right to change this arrangement at any time.

As a WPG member I will be expected to deliver a clinic. What is the target audience of these clinics?

Yes, this is also correct. Your clinic proposal will be directed towards university level. The topic is totally free choice and open to the unique specialisms of the artists themselves.

Where will our accommodation be for WPG 2017.

Maraca2 take pride in making this an unforgettable experience. WPG 2016 saw the group stay in multiple award winning houses. Traveling around Europe will be a 100% unique experience. This year, the WPG will travel by 5* P&O Cruise Ship Britannia! Once again award winning accommodation, food, travel, black tie events and World class evening entertainment for you to sit back, relax and unwind.
World Percussion Group
Terms & Conditions

General Conditions:

1.1 The World Percussion group European Tour will take place between May to June 2017. All applicants must be available between these times. If you are still in education, please be sure to check with your school or employer as to whether this will be possible.

1.2 The official language of the WPG is English. All participants must be able to speak a relatively high level of English to enable the successful delivery of clinic presentations.

1.3 The WPG application process is open to percussionists of all nationalities who are between the ages of 18-32 at the time of application. * Please check if you are eligible to travel within the European Union prior to application.

Applications:

2.1 A non-refundable application fee of $80 will be due online when auditions open. Should members apply for both a solo and ensemble position, a non-refundable fee including discount is available.

2.2 All applicants must provide the following:

(a) a brief resume describing education, performing experience and achievements.
(b) high resolution photo (copyright free).
(c) upload video audition (Solo Audition 10-15 Minutes Maximum on Marimba / Vibraphone / Snare Drum / Drum Kit / Timpani / Ethnic). Soloists may choose as many or as little instruments as they like. (Ensemble Audition - Set Material + 1 Free Choice Piece).

2.3 32 finalists will be selected for online interview.

2.4 Ensemble applicants who are successful must pay a non-refundable course fee and portion of expenses totaling $2500 by Monday 6th February 2017. This can be done on the website www.worldpercussiongroup.com. Please note that those on scholarships (principals or soloists) will not need to pay this fee.

2.5 Maraca2 reserves the right to withdraw its invitation to join the WPG and alter any elements of the above terms and conditions.

2.6 Maraca2 reserves the right to replace artists for any reason (for example, illness, unprofessional behaviour).

WPG Conditions:

2.7 All tour materials will be available for download by February 2017 allowing selected artists around 3 months to learn repertoire for the tour.

2.8 All selected artists give permission for WPG to use their promotional material, recorded footage of clinics and concerts for the promotion and benefit of WPG, PAS (Percussive Arts Society), WPG unsuccessful applicants and tour sponsors.

2.9 All WPG members, soloists and principals will receive a daily food per diem and will be accommodated in a hotel or guest house booked by Maraca2. Hotel and guest house accommodation is non-negotiable and is at the full discretion of Maraca2.

3.0 All WPG members, soloists and principals are responsible for their own travel expenses to and from the UK. If you are a resident of the UK you will need to cover any expenses incurred to attend the training camp.

3.1 All WPG members, soloists and principals are responsible for arranging their own travel insurance and travel eligibility documentation valid for travel around the EU for the relevant dates. Refunds cannot be given if entry into the UK is refused.

3.2 Maraca2 reserve the right to assign WPG members for any role.

3.3 Modes of transport around the UK will be arranged by Maraca2. These forms of transport are non-negotiable.

3.4 WPG members will be selected by Maraca2. Our decision is final.

3.5 Successful applicants will be expected to demonstrate a high level of professionalism when touring as part of the WPG. A ‘World Percussion Group’ code of practice will be published on our website. Non-adherence to these standards can result in termination of a member’s activity. Any fees paid by this member will not be refunded.

3.6 Precise dates and schedules are subject to change.

3.7 All applicants must have a valid passport for the duration of the tour (We strongly advise at least 6 months left on your passport).

3.8 WPG members will be working with heavy instruments and equipment. Touring may expose all members to risk of physical and / or emotional injury. Maraca2 and WPG may not be found responsible for claims arising to personal injury, property damage, distress or physical injury.

3.9 If members apply for both solo and ensemble positions and are successful in both, the artist can choose which position that they wish to take. It is not possible to accept multiple roles within the ensemble.

4.0 Should the selected artists be endorsed by any companies, it is not a guarantee that those instruments will be available on the tour. Instrumentation is provided by each university and all WPG members and soloists will be required to use this equipment.

4.0 Maraca2 will not be held liable for any damages to equipment or facilities during the tour.