

May 26 2017 - June 18 2017

# WPG 2017

## European Tour Review:

Assembling the  
World's elite -  
Hitting your  
local Percussion  
Community.

Astonishing,  
extraordinary and  
absolutely World  
Class!

Prof. Gert Mortensen

## WPG 2017 EUROPEAN TOUR REVIEW:

**The World Percussion Group comprises of some of the globes' top, young up-and-coming, percussion starlets. Coached by Maraca2 and guest coach Lynn Vartan, the group toured Europe extensively this Spring.**

The World Percussion Group (WPG) represents the next chapter in the evolution of the Maraca2 Percussion Duo. Following the success of the WPG's 2016 US tour, over 100 applicants from around the World competed for a position in this years' ensemble.

The mission of WPG is to inspire audiences and students, provide an international platform to the best percussionists of the next generation, offering an unbeatable opportunity for cultural sharing.

The 2017 tour involved residencies at seven leading Conservatories around Europe including: Leeds College of Music, Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, Birmingham Conservatoire, Sibelius Academy of Music, Estonian Academy of Music, Royal Academy of Music in Denmark and the Norwegian Academy of Music. This years' artists involved musicians from Taiwan, USA,

UK, Hong Kong, Germany, Slovenia, Japan and Mexico.

Following an intense three days of rehearsals in Birmingham, allowing members to get to know each other musically and personally, WPG artists delivered their own presentations, clinics, lessons, performances, and masterclasses across Europe. The WPG 2017 delivered an extremely high quality 'mobile percussion festival' to the European educational market; to critical acclaim!

Maraca2 and the World Percussion group would like to thank Sabian cymbals, Marimba One marimbas, Innovative Percussion sticks and mallets, Remo drum heads, Tapspace Publications and the Pearl Drum Corporation for their support. We also thank P&O Cruises, Black Swamp Percussion and the Percussive Arts Society for their partnership in making this ambitious dream a vivid reality.



### Caption:

The World Percussion Group 2017 line-up against a stunning P&O Britannia backdrop after a long day of masterclasses and concerts at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo. Thursday 15th June 2017.

# WPG 2017 TOUR



WPG 2017 take to the streets of Stockholm.

## GLORIA YEHILEVSKY

*"WPG was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. We took 12 individuals from different backgrounds and created an ensemble overnight!"*

## LINDSEY EASTHAM

*"P&O Britannia provided us with great accommodation and gave us the perfect opportunity to rest, ready for arrival in the next country."*

## CAMERON LEACH

*"The biggest benefit was being able to meet musicians from all over the world, develop those connections and plan collaborations moving forward."*

# SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE



## WPG Facebook Action

WPG have had numerous performance videos released on Facebook. These have resulted in an overwhelmingly positive response and, thanks to Classic FM, have received an estimated 1 million video views on social media.



## WPG take the internet by Storm..

Providing a platform for artists to showcase their talents is at the heart of the WPG mission. What better way is there to display this talent than online! The WPG Facebook page hosts various performances from all over the World.

The WPG 2017 showcased some new arrangements, compositions and performances as they toured Europe. The signature WPG piece Balkan Red by Gavin Marwick and Brian McAlpine arr. J Huxtable has become a firm favourite amongst WPG fans. With it's unique blend of folk and balkan style, the arrangement sits well on percussion instruments of all varieties (Marimba, Vibes, Drums, Cymbals, World Percussion).

Sam Chan became a huge hit amongst the WPG with his spell-binding arrangements. His arrangement of 'Le tombeau de couperin'

for solo marimba was both arranged and performed with exquisite taste. Sam also arranged a real challenge for WPG artists Cameron

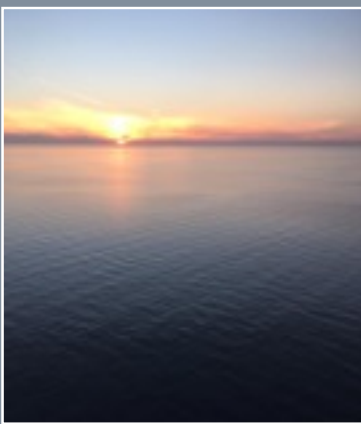
Leach and Vanessa Porter. Toccata by Prokofiev provided an exhilarating finale to the main concert. Sam's arrangement of English Suite No.2 was a huge success online having received over 200k views online in the last 6 weeks! The pure musicality and blend of musicians (Sam Chan / Hsin-Hsuan Wu) was astonishing.

YKJUR provided the audience with a tour de force executed by Gloria Yehlevsky, Simon Klavzar, Alex Howley and Gonzalo Mier. YKJUR 'Extreme measures' was intense in every meaning of the word! Finally, EASTHAMA duo wowed audiences with their incredibly challenging arrangement of Dukas' 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'. Multiple mind-blowing performances were witnessed!

Classic FM features WPG 2017

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS:	BACH - ENGLISH SUITE	SORCERER'S APPRENTICE	PROKOFIEV - TOCCATA	YKJUR
	Sam Chan, Hsin Hsuan-Wu	EASTHAMA Duo	Cameron Leach, Vanessa Porter	WPG Quartet
	200k Views on Facebook	80k Views on Facebook	60k Views on Facebook	10k Views on Facebook
	4k Shares on Classic FM	1k Shares on Classic FM		

# CRUISE LIFE...



## P&O Britannia

Traveling on board P&O Britannia provided an excellent opportunity to network at leisure with other like-minded musicians, structure and discuss residencies in a professional manner and relax between ports. Evening times created the perfect atmosphere with quality dining and entertainment.

## WPG Artists to date:

Since WPG formed in 2016, 30 young up-and-coming International Percussionists have toured with Maraca2 extensively around the World. Representatives from 16 different Countries have been selected:

- Soloist: Hsin-Hsuan Wu (Taiwan)
- Soloist: Anders Kann Elten (Denmark)
- Soloist: Le-Yu (China)
- Principal: Samuel Chan (Hong Kong)
- Principal: Cameron Leach (USA)
- Principal: Heigo Rosin (Estonia)
- Principal: Konstantyn Napolov (Ukraine)
- WPG Artist: Vanessa Porter (Germany)
- WPG Artist: Simon Klavzar (Slovenia)
- WPG Artist: Hiromu Nagahama (Japan)
- WPG Artist: Lindsey Eastham (USA)
- WPG Artist: Mark D'Ambrosio (USA)
- WPG Artist: Jon Rodriguez (Mexico/USA)
- WPG Artist: Gloria Yehilevsky (USA)
- WPG Artist: Alex Howley (USA)
- WPG Artist: Gonzalo Mier (Mexico)
- WPG Artist: Yves Popow (Luxembourg)
- WPG Artist: Gabriele Petracco (Italy)
- WPG Artist: Antoine Fatout (France)
- WPG Artist: Joe Porter (Canada)
- WPG Artist: Shelby Blezinger-McCay

- WPG Artist: Jaime Esposito (USA)
- WPG Artist: Darin Hunsinger (USA)
- WPG Artist: Jen-Ting Chien (Taiwan)
- WPG Artist: Jen-Yu Chien (Taiwan)
- WPG Artist: Manuel Estop (Spain)
- WPG Artist: Borja Sarrion (Spain)
- WPG Artist: Paul Chambers (USA)
- WPG Artist: Zujing Zhang (China)
- WPG Artist: Ryan Cullen (USA)

Thank you to all of our WPG 2017 sponsors for making the WPG tour a reality.

Express thank you to **P&O Cruises** for supporting our travels and providing an incredible experience for our young artists.

Maraca2 will be back with a 2019 edition of WPG. Stay tuned on our Facebook page to find out more details about audition dates and destination information. We look forward to seeing you in 2019!



**WPG  
in action at  
the Norwegian  
Academy of  
Music**