

Amsterdam, 9 January 2021

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Announcing the launch of the  
Theo Verbey Foundation  
and the redesign of the website  
[www.theoverbey.com](http://www.theoverbey.com)**



Tuesday 12 January 2021 15:00h CET marks the launch of the newly established Theo Verbey Foundation. During that event, which will be broadcast on the recently revamped website [www.theoverbey.com](http://www.theoverbey.com) and on Facebook, a few board members and a colleague of Theo Verbey will talk about the Foundation's aims and the significance of Verbey's work. Cellist Martín Alvarez, a Master's student at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, will perform two movements from Verbey's *Five Pieces for Violoncello Solo* (2006).

The Foundation was established after the untimely death of Theo Verbey on 13 October 2019. Verbey (Delft, 1959) was a prolific and frequently performed composer, an enthusiastic teacher, and a dedicated music theorist. The Foundation intends to do everything in its power to help preserve his legacy.

First and foremost, the Foundation will promote **performances of Theo Verbey's music**. The Foundation plans to reach out to musicians, ensembles, and orchestras both nationally and internationally to ensure Verbey's works are heard on the concert stage, on video and audio recordings, and on streaming. To achieve that goal, it's crucial that scores, published primarily by [Deuss Music](http://DeussMusic.com), are readily available, and that unpublished materials are catalogued.

Secondly, the Foundation will encourage **scholarly research** into Verbey's oeuvre. To that end, his scores, journals, didactic works, and music-theoretical writings will be properly catalogued, archived, digitalized, and managed. That will give musicologists and musicians throughout the world ready access to Theo Verbey's musical legacy.

And finally, the Foundation is looking into establishing a Theo Verbey Prize for students at Dutch conservatories. This may take the form of an award for exceptional compositional or music-theoretical achievements, or for a performance of a solo or chamber music work written by Verbey. The prize would consist of an appropriate cash award as well as a streamed master-class with one of Verbey's associates.

The Foundation's first policy program runs from October 2020 to December 2021. In that period, the governing board hopes to achieve the following aims:

- relocating Theo Verbey's musical oeuvre to a specialized archive to preserve it, manage it, and make it available to the public.
- creating a complete list of all of Verbey's compositions and an inventory of Verbey's journals and music-theoretical and didactic writings.
- managing Theo Verbey's updated website ( [www.theoverbey.com](http://www.theoverbey.com) ), which will serve as a portal to his various works.
- sending out a newsletter with information about performances, publications, research, and other activities.
- compiling a collection of essays, if funds allow, about Theo Verbey, the composer, the person, and his contribution. In time, the Foundation hopes a fitting biography will be written.

The Foundation doesn't have a substantial budget of its own but will join hands with various partners in search of resources to achieve its aims. The Theo Verbey Foundation has been granted cultural [ANBI](#) status, making it fiscally attractive for Dutch residents to make a donation. Please visit the website for more information about how you can contribute to keeping Theo Verbey's legacy alive.

As of 8 September 2020, the governing board consists of: Mark van Dongen, Casper Donker, Sebastiaan Kemner, Jan-Willem Mantel (chairman), Hanna Matthijsse, Eileen Stevens (secretary), Ivo Schipper (treasurer).

Although current health restrictions render pronouncements about future concerts virtually meaningless, the Foundation was recently awarded a grant from the Buma Investment Fund. With this, the Matangi Quartet will soon record Theo Verbey's *Sestetto*. In addition, Amsterdam Sinfonietta kindly delved into their archives and have given the Foundation permission to include a few exceptionally rare live recordings on the renewed website. For more news, please sign up for the Foundation's newsletter.

Visit the renewed [website](#) to find an extended biography of Theo Verbey as well as information about Verbey's upcoming concerts, compositions, recordings, image material, articles & reviews. The site also includes news about the Foundation and its activities.

For more information, please get in touch with the foundation's board.  
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