

Académie Ravel

August 18-31, 2025
Saint-Jean-de-Luz

ARTISTIC
DIRECTION
BERTRAND
CHAMAYOU



Edito



We are delighted to present the 2025 session of the Académie Ravel. With more than 50 years of history, the Académie Ravel is committed to keeping alive the legacy of Maurice Ravel and his contemporaries, and is part of a long line of teaching that has come to be known as the French school.

The 2025 session builds on the momentum of recent years. This year the teaching team is made from historical members and new musical figures, combining French excellence with an international outlook. Pairs of teachers with complementary approaches have been formed, sometimes illustrating a lineage between master and pupil, as for the cello and piano classes, where Sol Gabetta and I will be joined by our former mentors: Ivan Monighetti and Jean-François Heisser.

The Académie Ravel is also expanding with the opening of two new classes: flute and clarinet. Nicolas Baldeyrou and Sophie Cherrier, two great French soloists, will open up new opportunities in woodwinds. This year, the bonds with the Festival will be strengthened. In addition to lessons with their teachers, students will benefit from masterclasses with leading composers invited at the Festival. Students from the current and previous sessions will also be programmed as part of the Festival, in order for us to be a real stepping stone for young musicians.

This support for young artists also extends beyond the academy, throughout a concert booking and numerous partnerships established in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine area to provide students with professional performance opportunities.

In its own time, Maurice Ravel was extremely attentive to the younger generation of composers and new aesthetics. Contemporary music is therefore always at the heart of the academy's project, with the next chapter of the composition class inaugurated four years ago and directed for the third year by Swiss composer Michael Jarrell. The new works by Pedro González Álvarez and Imsu Choi, joint winners of the 2024 Académie Ravel Composition Prize, will be premiered this summer during a Festival special day dedicated to popular melodies. A 1st Composition Prize will also be awarded at the end of this session, leading to a new commission for the Festival 2026.

Since 2024, the Académie Ravel takes place in the new Peyuco Durhart Cultural Center in Saint-Jean-de-Luz, which offers a unique venue for classes, privileged work spaces, living spaces, and Salle Tanka a large concert room and a remarkable setting for public concerts and masterclasses.

We look forward to seeing you in Saint-Jean-de-Luz.
See you this summer!

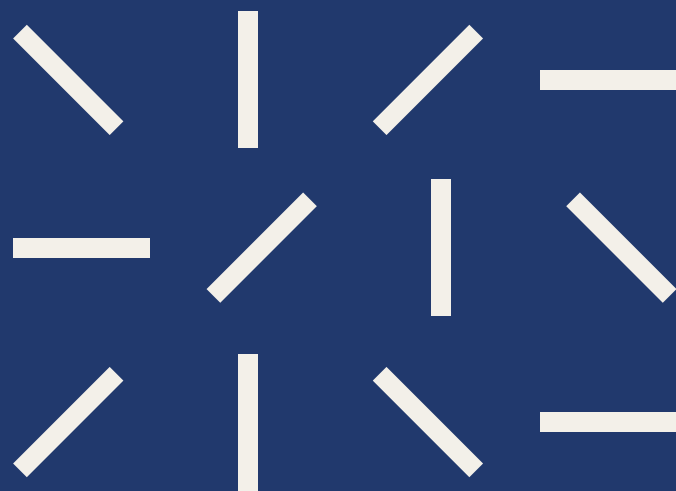
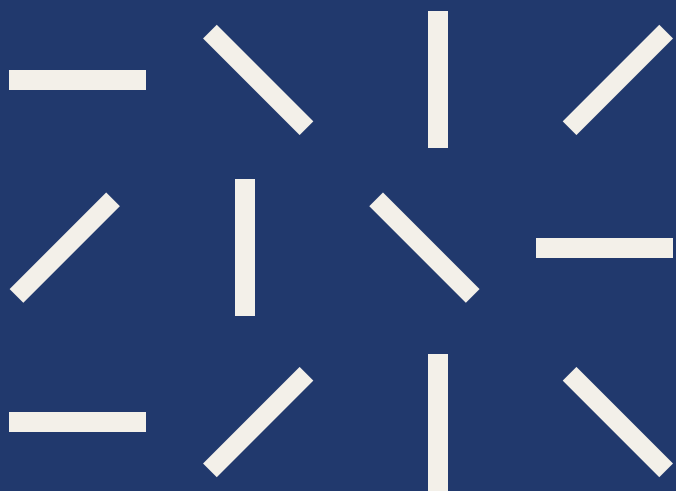


© Marco Bergrewe

Bertrand Chamayou
Chairman and Artistic director



Professors



Piano



BERTRAND CHAMAYOU

Key international soloist, Bertrand Chamayou is a multi-talented pianist. Bertrand embraces a very broad repertoire and shows great diversity in his artistic projects. A great defender of the music of our time, he had collaborations with Pierre Boulez, György Kurtág, Henri Dutilleul... He performs in the world's greatest concert halls, with the most prestigious conductors and orchestras (Vienna Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, etc.). The only French artist to have won five Victoires de la musique awards, he has been sole artistic director of the Festival Ravel since last year, after three years of fruitful collaboration with Jean-François Heisser.



JEAN-FRANÇOIS HEISSER

Jean-François Heisser, a great pedagogue, taught piano at the CNSMD de Paris from 1991 to 2016. As a soloist and as a chamber musician, he remains a much sought-after partner, having forged collaborations with several generations of artists, including some of the youngest. Music director of the Orchestre de Chambre de Nouvelle-Aquitaine, he directed the Académie Ravel from 2000 to 2023, and was co-artistic director of the Festival Ravel until 2023. He does artistic programming for the Soirées Musicales d'Arles and is artistic advisor for the Festival de l'Orangerie de Sceaux, near Paris.



Professors

Violin



PHILIPPE GRAFFIN

Noted through numerous recordings for his interpretations of French and English repertoire, as well as for his insatiable curiosity to rediscover forgotten works, French violinist Philippe Graffin has shared the stage with some of the most emblematic musicians of our time and played with many of the most prestigious orchestras. He is a professor of violin at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris and at the Koninklijke Conservatorium in Brussels.



NORA CHASTAIN

“One of the most elegant and refined violinists I know,” said Sir Yehudi Menuhin of American violinist Nora Chastain. Alongside her solo and chamber music career, Nora Chastain is a professor at the Universität der Künste in Berlin. She is one of Europe’s most sought-after pedagogues and has influenced a whole generation of violinists for more than 30 years of experience. She gives masterclasses in Europe, America and Asia, and is a regular jury member for major international competitions.



Professors

Viola & chamber music



PAULINE SACHSE

Pauline Sachse has been a part of the international music scene for many years. She has performed with ensembles such as the Armida and Modigliani Quartet, as well as with Sabine Meyer, Jörg Widmann, Isabelle Faust, Janine Jansen and Martin Helmchen. As a sought-after chamber musician, she is a regular guest at the most prestigious festivals and concert halls throughout Europe. She has taught at the Universities of Dresden and Lübeck, as well as at Berlin's Hanns Eisler University. Since 2023, she is professor at Leipzig's Hochschule für Musik und Theater.



JEAN SULEM

Jean Sulem teaches viola and chamber music at the CNSMD in Paris. In 1981, Pierre Boulez chose him to become soloist with the Ensemble intercontemporain, with whom he played for ten years. Very active in contemporary creation, he has performed masterpieces of the viola repertoire at major international festivals, and has given rise to numerous new works. He is a member of the Rosamonde Quartet. A renowned professor, he gives performance courses in Europe, North America and Asia. He is regularly invited to sit on juries at international competitions.



Professors

Cello



SOL GABETTA

Sol Gabetta is a major player on the international classical scene, renowned and sought-after for her interpretations of both the classical repertoire and contemporary works. Chamber music is at the heart of her work, taking her to prestigious concert halls and festivals around the world. A multi-awarded artist and winner of numerous competitions, Sol Gabetta continues to expand her vast discography. In 2005, she founded the Solsberg Festival in Switzerland, dedicated to chamber music, which flourishes under her committed artistic direction. She teaches at the Musik-Akademie Basel.



IVAN MONIGHETTI

As a sought-after performer, pedagogue and conductor, Ivan Monighetti is one of the most versatile personalities in the classical music world today. For more than four decades his career has taken him throughout Europe, to America, Japan and Korea. Besides outstanding interpretations of the classical masterpieces, he has become known for numerous premieres of modern compositions dedicated to him. He is Doctor Honoris Causa of the Music Academy in Krakow, professor at the Escuela Superior Reina Sofia. At the Musik-Akademie Basel he mentored generations of cellists, among whom Sol Gabetta.



Professors

Flute



© Franck Ferrière

SOPHIE CHERRIER

A soloist with the Ensemble intercontemporain since 1979, Sophie Cherrier has performed in the premieres of numerous works, including *Mémoriale* by Pierre Boulez, *Esprit rude/Esprit doux* by Elliott Carter and *Chu Ky V* by Ton-Thât Tiêt. She has recorded several works by Boulez, Berio, Manoury and Pinscher, and has performed with leading orchestras (Hallé Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles and Berlin Philharmonics, London Sinfonietta). Passionate about teaching, Sophie Cherrier is a professor at the CNSMD in Paris and gives numerous masterclasses in France and abroad.

Clarinet



© Sylvaine Pierre

NICOLAS BALDEYROU

Nicolas Baldeyrou is one of the most remarkable soloists of his generation. Reflected in his vast discography, his mastery and versatility transcend eras and styles, on both historical and modern instruments. Winner of prestigious competitions, guest soloist in the world's greatest concert halls and festivals with renowned orchestras and conductors, he is also one of the most sought-after chamber music partners. Principal clarinet of the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Nicolas Baldeyrou teaches at the CNSMD in Lyon and is visiting professor at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



Professors

Vocal studies



PATRICIA PETIBON

Patricia Petibon is one of the most versatile performers of her generation. Since her debut, she has explored a wide range of repertoires, from baroque to contemporary music, performing on the world's greatest stages and collaborating with renowned conductors and stage directors. In addition to the operatic repertoire, recital is a cornerstone of her career. Her many and varied recordings have received unanimous critical acclaim. For the past ten years or so, she has given regular masterclasses in France and throughout Europe.



VÉRONIQUE GENS

A French soprano considered to be one of the finest interpreters of Mozart, Véronique Gens has performed on the world's greatest opera stages and sung under prestigious conductors. In addition to a wide repertoire of classical works, Véronique Gens gives numerous concerts and recitals of French melodies throughout the world. Her extensive discography has won several international awards. She regularly gives public masterclasses, teaches the French melodies repertoire at the Orsay-Royaumont Academy and is one of the professors on the ÉLITE programme at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris.



Professors

Composition



© Maurice Weiss - Oskkreuz

MICHAEL JARRELL

The most acclaimed Swiss composer of his generation, Michael Jarrell is played all over the world by the greatest soloists and orchestras. A multiple award-winner (Acanthes Prize, Beethovenpreis of the City of Bonn, Marescotti Prize, Siemens-Förderungspreis, Musikpreis der Stadt Wien, Prince Pierre of Monaco Foundation Music Composition Prize 2021), he has held residencies at the Lucerne Festival, the Musica nova Helsinki Festival and the Salzburg Festival. His last opera *Bérénice* premiered at the Opéra National de Paris in 2018. Michael Jarrell teaches at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna and at the Haute Ecole de Musique in Geneva.

Ensembles conductor



© Othman Louati

OTHMAN LOUATI

Othman Louati is a French composer, conductor and percussionist. After winning four prizes at the CNSMD in Paris, he worked extensively with the ensembles Miroirs Étendus and Le Balcon, and collaborated regularly with the Ensemble intercontemporain. As a conductor, he specializes in 20th and 21st century repertoires. His recent works include a string quartet for Radio France's Festival Présences 2024. His first opera, *Les Ailes du Désir*, after Wim Wenders, was performed during the 2023/2024 season.



Professors

Piano accompanists



PAISIT BON-DANSAC

A graduate of the Paris and Lyon CNSMDs and winner of several international competitions, Paisit Bon-Dansac performs at numerous festivals in France and Europe, as well as in South Korea and Colombia, where he has completed two concert and masterclass tours. He is piano accompanist at the CNSMD in Lyon and the CRR in Grenoble.



JULIEN LE PAPE

A concert pianist and chamber musician, Julien Le Pape performs regularly in France and abroad, notably with the TM+ contemporary music ensemble and Ensemble Sésame, with whom he recently recorded the complete chamber music of Ravel. He has also recorded a disc devoted to Debussy and Poulenc, as well as two discs with trumpeter Romain Leleu. He teaches accompaniment and sightreading at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional in Boulogne-Billancourt.



Professors

Piano accompanists



**THUY-ANH
VUONG**

Thuy-Anh Vuong is regularly invited to perform as a soloist, in recital and with orchestra, throughout France, Europe and especially the United States, and takes part in recordings for France Musique and France Télévisions. Passionate about the chamber music repertoire, she plays in several ensembles, including a duo with the baritone Ludovic Tézier, with whom she gives recitals in major concert halls. She is currently piano teacher at the Conservatoire du Grand Avignon and pianist in Olivier Charlier's class at the CNSMD in Paris.

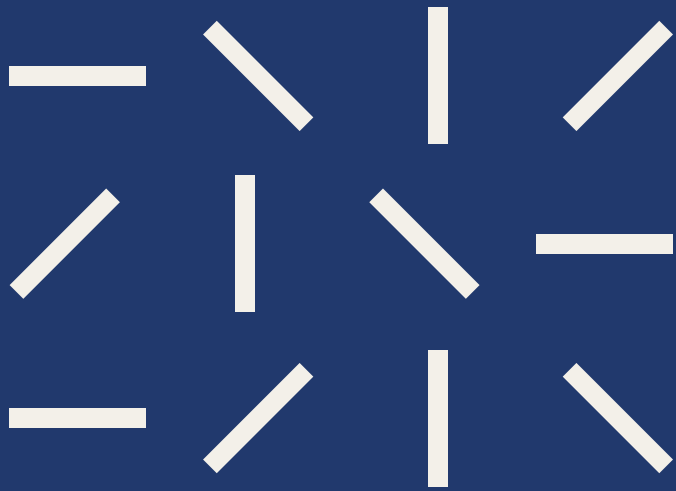


**MORGANE
FAUCHOIS** Vocal coach

Morgane Fauchois pursues a varied career that takes her from opera houses to concert stages, from recitals with singers to chamber music projects. She works with singers such as Roberto Alagna, Véronique Gens, Joseph Calleja, Natalie Dessay, Karine Deshayes... In a rich repertoire that extends to contemporary works, she is a vocal coach for numerous theatres and festivals: Paris and Amsterdam Operas, Champs-Élysées theater, Salzburg and Aix-en-Provence festivals... Very keen to pass on her knowledge, she is a vocal coach at the CNSMD in Paris.



Professors



Presentation

2025 SESSION

AUGUST 18-31



Presentation

2025 SESSION



AUGUST 18-31



Over the course of its 50 years of existence marked by the arrival of the greatest masters, the Académie Ravel has accompanied several generations of young musicians who are now at the top. It is now an integral part of the Festival Ravel project, a major event in the French and international musical calendar.

Under Bertrand Chamayou's artistic leadership, the 55th session of the Académie Ravel will take place from August 18 to 31 2025 in Saint-Jean-de-Luz, in the Basque country, the composer's native land.

Based in Saint-Jean-de-Luz Peyuco Duhart Cultural center, the academy offers classes in piano, violin, viola, cello, chamber music, flute, clarinet, vocal studies and composition - all directed by prestigious masters (see p.4 to 12).



Presentation



INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

The instrument and voice classes have a maximum of six students, for optimum teaching time. Each student receives a minimum of six hours of individual tuition over the whole session (excluding public masterclasses).

CHAMBER MUSIC

The academy welcomes ensembles: quintets, quartets, trios or duos (strings, piano, winds). The scholarships for these groups will be taken under our scrutiny before other scholarships (see p.19). Students enrolled in instrumental classes will also have the opportunity to join an ensemble formed by the academy. Chamber music courses and masterclasses will be given primarily by Pauline Sachse and Jean Sulem, with the possibility of other teachers participating.

PUBLIC MASTERCLASSES

Each student participates at least once in the masterclasses and can freely attend nearly 30 hours of masterclasses during the fortnight.

NEW WORKS, CONTEMPORARY REPERTOIRE

The 4th composition class will be held in 2025 by Michael Jarrell. Trainee instrumentalists will have the opportunity to join this class in addition to the others, in order to work on a new work by a young composer under the guidance of a top-flight teaching team (see p.17).

YOUNG TALENTS CONCERTS

Throughout the Académie, "Young Talents" concerts will be organised in Saint-Jean-de-Luz and throughout the Basque Country, as part of various partnerships.

WORK STUDIOS

Rehearsal and personal work rooms, with pianos, are available every day, right next to the classrooms.

THE ACADEMIE RAVEL ALSO MEANS...

- Social events: welcome party, boat trip, city tour, academy dinner...
- Meetings artists and personalities invited to the Festival
- An on-site lutherie and bow making workshop
- Well-being workshops given by healthcare professionals

AFTER THE ACADEMIE RAVEL...

The Académie Ravel aims to provide long-term support for young artists.

- It works in partnership with nearly 30 cultural operators in Nouvelle-Aquitaine land and elsewhere in France (festivals, venues, local communities, etc.) to offer professional concerts throughout the year to the most promising students.
- Artists from the Académie are regularly featured alongside renowned soloists at the Festival Ravel.
- The academy is also developing its collaborations with various institutions and leads innovative cultural outreach activities, in order to offer new opportunities to the students who follow the academy.

To ensure this high-quality support, trainees are encouraged to participate in several sessions.

NEW

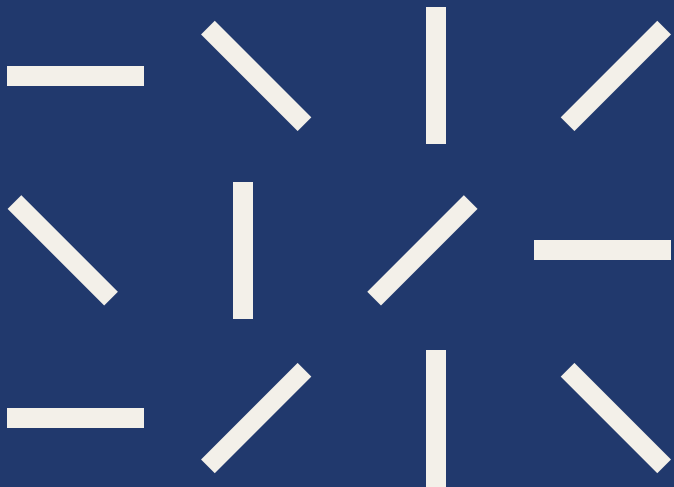


In 2025, the Académie Ravel inaugurates two new classes: **flute and clarinet**. Selected students will have the opportunity to join ensembles formed by the academy to work on chamber music and/or premiere a new work by an emerging composer.





Composition
class



Composition class



The Académie Ravel has launched the Maurice Ravel Composition class in 2022 with a first edition directed by Philippe Manoury. The composer class is marked by French composers heritage and focus on today's music. Subsequent editions have featured renowned composers: Helmut Lachenmann (2023), George Benjamin (2024), Michael Jarrell (2023, 2024).

In 2025, Michael Jarrell will preside over the 4th edition. Students will have the opportunity to be mentored by a top-notch teaching team, to enrich themselves by meeting the top-level young performers from around the world, and to have their works in front of a prestigious jury at the closing concert.

A composition prize is awarded at the end of the academy. This prize will allow a commission for the Festival Ravel 2026 and a publication by Editions Durand-Salabert-Eschig.

TEACHING TEAM

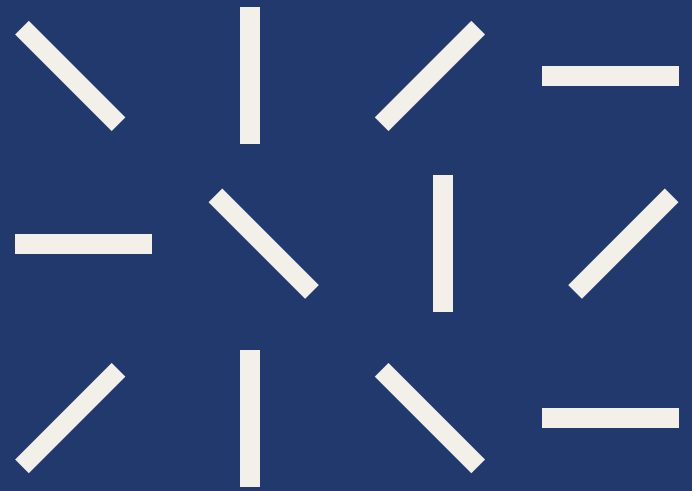
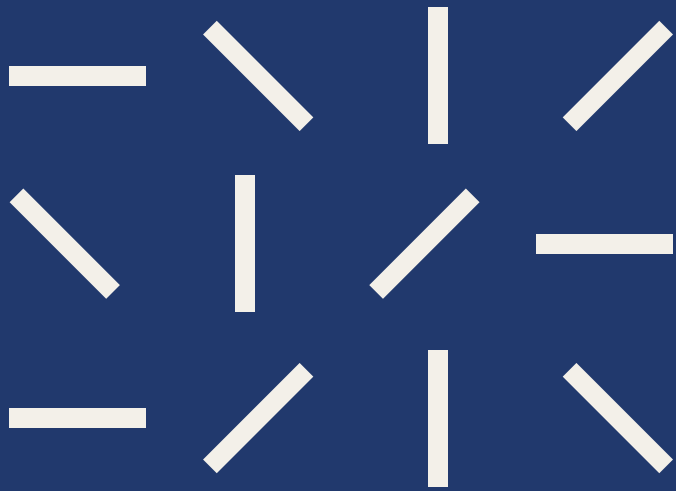
- Michael Jarrell, head of composition class
- Othman Louati, ensembles conductor

Composers invited by the Festival such as Ramon Lazkano will intervene during the session. Other teachers (Bertrand Chamyrou, Jean Sulem, Nicolas Baldeyrou...) will also be involved in working with the instrumentalists.

CALENDAR

- Writing work: March to August (finalised during the academy)
- Ensemble performance work: from August 18 to 31 during the academy
- Closing concert and award ceremony: August 31st at the Salle Tanka in Saint-Jean-de-Luz





How to apply
& Practical
information



How to apply



SELECTION CALENDAR

The academy is aimed at instrumentalists, singers and chamber music ensembles at the end of their studies or at the beginning of their career (age limit: 30 years). Candidates apply for the full two weeks.

The selection is based on the submitted work file and a sound recording. To apply, please fill in the application form available on our website: www.festivalravel.fr/academie

Application deadline: **May 11, 2025**

Candidates will be notified of their selection by June 2nd.

FEES

Application fees: €35 per course participant to be paid at the time of application (€20 for all early birds applications submitted before April 20th).

Tuition fees :

- Instrument or vocal class: €690
- Chamber music classes:
 - Free for students enrolled in instrumental classes
 - Members of duos / trios: €470 per member
 - Members of quartets / quintets: €325 per member

GRANTS

The Académie Ravel offers partial or full scholarships to selected students and ensembles. These grants will be awarded on the basis of resources and level. An application form, which can be downloaded from www.festivalravel.fr, should be completed and returned before May 11th to the following address: academie@festivalravel.fr

Practical information



ACCOMMODATION

Rates for two weeks (15 nights)

- Shared room for two (Maurice Ravel city school dormitory): €290
- Room in a local's home: €490
- Shared flat (T2 to T5) with other trainees in a city-centre flat: €490 (shared room for two)
- Shared flat (T2 to T5) with other trainees in a city-centre flat: €690 (single room)

MEALS

- Breakfasts: included for students staying at the city school.
- Lunches: a catering service is available on the academy's premises, with preferential-rate formulas.
- Dinners: half-board is available at a moderate rate (€6.90 for a full meal, i.e. €83 for two weeks).

Some common meals are offered by the academy.

HOW TO GET THERE

- Train: Saint-Jean-de-Luz station
- Plane: Biarritz or San Sebastian airports (+ TER, bus or taxi)

CONTACT US

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For further information: p.cabantous@festivalravel.fr





Académie
Ravel



RÉGION
Nouvelle-
Aquitaine



PYRÉNÉES
ATLANTIQUES
LE DÉPARTEMENT



PAYS
Basque
euskal
HERRIA

COMMUNAUTE
D'AGGLOMERATION
HIRIGUNE
ELKARGOA

SAINT-JEAN-DE-LUZ
Donibane Lohizune ...

ZIBURU
CIBOURE

MAIRIE - HERRIKO ETXEA

Bayonne*
BAIONA-PAYS BASQUE



Caisse
des Dépôts
GROUPE

Mécénat



FONDATION
PYRÉNÉES
GASCOGNE



Maison
de la Musique
Contemporaine