

Biography

Mathieu Daniel Polak attended the Dutch Carillon School in Amersfoort. He obtained his Master in 2000 with a specialization in carillon education. Since the graduation in 2000, he is a teacher at the Netherlands Carillon Center in Amersfoort.

Mathieu won prizes for carillon playing at international carillon competitions in Hamburg (Germany) and Enkhuizen (the Netherlands).

He gave carillon recitals in Japan, Denmark, Portugal, France, Belgium, Germany, Lithuania and the USA.

Since 2008, he is the carillonneur of the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Moreover, since 2003 Mathieu Polak is carillonneur of Spakenburg.

Mathieu Daniel Polak holds two Master Degrees in composition namely from the Lemmens Institute Leuven (2013) and from the Utrecht School of the Arts (2010).

Every year at the Tsunami Memorial Day in Japan, his carillon composition Mer de Larmes (Sea of Tears) is played at the carillon of Itami.

For the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague (Netherlands) Polak composed a carillon piece called Bells change the World which is based on the melody Gaudeamus Igitur. He plays this piece every year at the Dies Natalis of the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Polak's composition Fleurs de Cerisier (Cherry Blossom) for wind quintet was awarded the third prize at the Coma Maastricht composition competition in 2011 and Puppy Love for horn was awarded the third prize at the composition competition IVME Antwerp 2011. His carillon piece Dandelion Field was awarded the second prize at the Johan Franco composition competition 2017. The score of Dandelion Field is published by the GCNA.

Polak studied piano with Alwin Bar and Ton Hartsuiker at the Conservatory of Utrecht. Since graduating in 1997, he is a pianist at various ballet schools and is a private teacher piano.