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The most Reverend

**Fr. Joseph Palackal**

India

Geneva, 10 February 2020

**Invitation to participate in the Musicological Conference of October 22-24, 2020 on the Syriac Musical Traditions**

Reverend Fr. Palackal,

The Haute Ecole de Musique of Geneva (CH) (HEM) and the Laus Plena Foundation, Lugano (CH) (LPF) are organizing a Musicological Conference in Geneva on October 22, 23 and 24, 2020, on the following themes:

**THE SYRIAC MUSICAL TRADITIONS – AN EASTERN HERITAGE  
EXCHANGES & INFLUENCES**

نَقْطًا مَهْوًوسًا مَبْرُحًا

**SOURCES & DEVELOPPEMENTS, CHARACTERISTICS  
LINKS BETWEEN TRADITIONS IN THE EAST AND IN THE WEST  
CONSERVATION OF THE DIFFERENT TRADITIONS**

We hereby invite you to participate to this Musicological Conference as a speaker. Due to your high expertise in the field, we would be very honoured of your participation.

The Conference will be complemented by musical interludes, and one or two concerts. A publication of the contributions is planned. The official languages of the Conference will be French and English.

We were able to ensure the participation of many specialists of the Syriac, Maronite, Chaldean, Syro-Malabar and Syro-Malankar traditions, as well as traditions that were influenced or exchanged with them, such as the Coptic, Gregorian tradition, etc..

The Conference contextualizes what is among the objectives of the Department of Ancient Music and of the Ethnomusicological educational stream of the HEM and of the Laus Plena Foundation (study and transmission of Eastern Christian musical traditions, collaboration with academic musical institutions). It aims in particular at bringing together experts in Syriac music and culture in order to encourage the creation of a scientific community for work and collaboration in this context. Thus, the recipients of the Conference are firstly all the invited experts, then the local and international Syriac communities and their representatives, as well as, of course, students from the HEM and Swiss universities, musicians and all interested audiences.

The themes that we propose to your attention are the following:

- Sources and developments of Syriac music;
- Characteristics: Syriac Octoechos, modes, tetrachords;
- Exchanges between Syriac traditions and influences on other traditions (Gregorian, Ambrosian, Byzantine, Coptic, Jewish, Arabic music; other);
- Conservation of Syriac traditions.

The Organizing Committee will cover your travel and living expenses.

We would be grateful if you could confirm your participation by email by filling in the attached Information Form, send us an updated cv, a copy of your passport, as well as the theme of your presentation. By the end of February 2020, we will need a 10-15 line abstract of it. By the end of August 2020, we kindly ask you to send us the full text of your presentation.

We will give you more information as we progress with the organisation of this event. You are also most welcome to write or to call us.

Your contact for organizational and travel matters will be Ms Giulia Valentini (giulia.valentini@hesge.ch). She will contact you to organise your travel and stay in Geneva.

For questions concerning the scientific content, please write simultaneously to Ms Véronique Nebel (nebelv@hotmail.com or info@lausplenafoundation.ch) and Mr Xavier Bouvier

(xavier.bouvier@hesge.ch). You can reach us at the following numbers: Véronique Nebel +41 79 2361226 ; Xavier Bouvier +41 22 327 31 00.

We are looking forward to your participation, which we hope you will confirm, and wish you all the best.

With our best regards,

For the Organising Committee :

Véronique Nebel, FLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Véronique Nebel', with a stylized, cursive script.

Xavier Bouvier, HEM

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Xavier Bouvier', with a stylized, cursive script.

Enclosure: mentionned.