

The Music between the Beats

Sigmund Thorp Conducting Masterclass

Dates: June 23 – 27, 2025 (5 days – see detailed schedule below)

Venues:

Taipei Chamber Singers Chaozhou Studio

(1F, No. 2, Aly. 3, Ln. 26, Chaozhou St., Da' an Dist., Taipei City)

UNI SPACE

(B1, No. 13, Ln. 135, Sec. 1, Anhe Rd., Da' an Dist., Taipei City)

1980 Chamber Music Ensemble

(2F, No. 30-1, Beiping E. Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., Taipei City)

Maestro: Sigmund Thorp



Sigmund Thorp has been a professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music for nearly 30 years, dedicated to training future conductors. In addition to teaching classical and romantic repertoire, he served as Artistic Director of the Norwegian Academy Sinfonietta Orchestra for over 24 years, conducting more than 350 contemporary works, including numerous premieres. Thorp is currently a Visiting Professor at National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), a leading institution in Taiwan, where he directs NTNU's orchestras in regular rehearsals and performances.

Artistic Leadership Experience

1997 – 2000: Founder and Artistic Director, Oslo New Ensemble

1992 – 2016: Artistic Director, Norwegian Academy Chamber Ensemble

2016 – present: Jury President, Jeunesses Musicales International Conducting Competition, Bucharest

International Masterclass

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London (2001)

Trieste Conservatory, Italy (2011, 2016)

Academy of Performing Arts, Prague (HAMU) (2013)

University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz, Austria (2014)

Jeunesses Musicales International Conducting Masterclass, Bucharest (2017, 2018, 2019, 2021)

UPH Conservatory of Music, Jakarta (2018)

Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin (2018)

Seoul National University (2018)

European Conducting Academy, Vicenza, Italy (2019)

Shanghai Conservatory of Music (2019)

Sigmund Thorp International Conducting Masterclass, Taiwan (2019)

Korea National University of Arts (2019)

More information: <https://www.sigmundthorp.com/>

Sigmund Thorp International Conducting Masterclass, Taiwan (Jan. 2025)

Taipei International Masterclass for Conductors (Feb. 2025)

Course Content

1. Orchestral Conducting Practicum (4 Days / 8 Sessions)

Participants will rehearse designated repertoire with two pianos and chamber orchestra. Each session will include 15 – 20 minutes of podium time per participant, with direct feedback from Maestro Thorp.

2. Conducting Technique Workshop: “The Anatomy of Conducting”

“Stop the beat in order to release your music” Thorp’s exclusive instruction on conducting techniques. Participants may ask questions and engage in open discussion with the Maestro.

3. Final Concert

Each full participant will perform one assigned piece (or movement) from the repertoire with the chamber orchestra in the final public concert and receive a certificate of completion.

Total Podium Time per Participant: Approx. 85 – 100 minutes

Repertoire

- J. Strauss – Die Fledermaus Overture
- Beethoven – Symphony No. 6
- Mozart – Symphony No. 39
- Brahms – Symphony No. 3

Note: In order to obtain repertoire flexibility during the masterclass, all participants are expected to prepare all pieces in their entirety.

Masterclass Schedule

Date	Time	Activity	Venue
6/23(Mon)	12:30~13:00	Registration & Opening	UNI SPACE
	13:00~14:10	Conducting Practice Session 1 (two pianos)	
	14:10~14:20	break	
	14:20~15:30	Conducting Practice Session 2 (two pianos)	
6/24(Tue)	18:00~19:20	Conducting Practice Session 3 (two pianos)	Taipei Chamber Singers Chaozhou Studio
	19:20~19:30	break	
	19:30~21:00	Conducting Practice Session 4 (two pianos)	
6/25(Wed)	13:00~16:00	Conducting Technique Workshop: The Anatomy of Conducting	Taipei Chamber Singers Chaozhou Studio
	18:00~19:20	Conducting Practice Session 5 (chamber orchestra)	
	19:20~19:30	break	
	19:30~21:00	Conducting Practice Session 6 (chamber orchestra)	
6/26(Thu)	18:00~19:20	Conducting Practice Session 7 (chamber orchestra)	UNI SPACE
	19:20~19:30	break	
	19:30~21:00	Conducting Practice Session 8 (chamber orchestra)	

6/27(Fri)	13:30~17:00	Dress rehearsal	1980 Chamber Music Ensemble
	18:30~19:00	Preparation	
	19:00~21:00	Final Concert	
	21:00~21:30	Closing & Certificate Ceremony	

Requirements

Active Participants: Open to experienced conductors; 8-10 selected by video audition.

Observers: Up to 20 participants interested in learning about conducting, with access to sessions and Q&A.

Tuition Fees

Audition Application Fee: NTD 1,000

Active Participant Fee: NTD 16,500 (audition fee applies toward tuition upon acceptance)

Observer Fee: NTD 800 per day or NTD 3,000 for the full 5 days program (audition applicants not selected may apply audition fee toward observer tuition).

Participants will receive a video of their performance for personal use only.

Application Timeline & Instructions

1. Deadlines

- Active Participants: Apply by May 18, 2025 (11:59 PM)
- Observers: Apply by June 20, 2025 (11:59 PM)

2. How to Apply

Online only – Fill out the form here:

<https://forms.gle/GKpRtmM8eJWdcf7>

Notification of Acceptance:

Full participants will be notified individually via email by May 21, 2025.

Tuition fee must be paid by May 24, 2025.

Contact

Phone: +886 929-928-979 (Ms. Tsai)

Email: falabibo519@gmail.com

Payment Details

Bank transfer details will be provided upon registration.

Application Requirements for Active Participants

Conducting Resume (PDF)

Conducting Video: 12 minutes, front-facing view, repertoire and timing clearly stated. Each piece must be at least 3 minutes.

Consent Form (found in the application form)

Late or incomplete applications, or inaccurate or falsified information, may result in disqualification.

Notes

Participants should bring their own scores and are encouraged to conduct by memory.

Instruction will be in English; a strong understanding of English is recommended.

Disclaimer

The organizer reserves the right to modify the program, schedule, or location as needed. Overseas participants are responsible for their own visas, accommodation, and transportation, though assistance can be provided for accommodation arrangements upon request.