



THE GONZERVATORY

presented by Chilly Gonzales

CALL TO ENTRY

#gonzervatory2019

THE SECONDEDITION OF THE GONZERVATORY IS OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

In 2018, Grammy Award-winning composer and entertainer Chilly Gonzales called all performing musicians to join him in a journey into the unknown: **The Gonzervatory**, a music school where freedom and fun coexist with discipline and reverence. The selected students were musicians from all over the world. They were trained, they were self-taught. They were acoustic, electronic. They were singers and rappers and instrumentalists.

This year, Chilly Gonzales is proud to present the second Gonzervatory, an all-expenses-paid 10-day music performance workshop taking place in his hometown of Cologne, Germany this Fall. Five selected students will win a trip to hone their musical skills in preparation for a final concert led by Chilly Gonzales himself.

The Gonzervatory is open to every musician 18 or older, from all parts of the globe, who write and perform their own material: composing instrumentalists, singer-songwriters, rappers, producers. Together with their professors, students will explore Musical Humanism, audience psychology and what it means to be a performing musician in 2019. So hear The Call once again:

Applications are now open for The Gonzervatory!



Photo © Philipp Jedicke

At the Gonzervatory, students arrive to a Convocation Concert on Monday 28 October 2019. Their first meeting with Chilly Gonzales will be... on stage! During the workshop, students will live and work together in a musical home created at Cologne's own 25hours Hotel, The Circle. Each day starts with one-on-one coaching sessions with Gonzo, followed by afternoon masterclasses from special guests selected from his friends and collaborators. Each evening the students rehearse together, learning and practicing each other's songs for the Graduation Concert on Friday 8 November 2019.

The experience, with all its inevitable struggles and triumphs, will be documented and shared with viewers all over the world. Livestreams and daily video debriefs will allow audiences to witness personal exchanges in real time and develop an emotional investment in the participants' musical progress.

APPLY HERE NOW

APPLICATIONS CLOSE WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 2019 at 23:59 LONDON TIME (GMT)

<http://www.chillygonzales.com/gonzervatory>

THE GONZERVATORY – WHY?

*"Growing up, I had a complex relationship with studying music; I wanted to be inspired and challenged, not 'taught'. Technical knowledge came quickly, but I struggled to express my feelings in a direct but playful way. I've seen so many trained musicians miss out on instinctive musical joy, while those who are self-taught don't know how to systematically improve their skills. **Musicians shouldn't have to choose between fun and knowledge, it's a false choice.** The Gonzervatory is a place for young musicians to find and strengthen their musical voice, to journey deeper into the emotions and science of their art."*

Chilly Gonzales, 2017

Over the course of his career, Chilly Gonzales has pulled back the curtain on how music works.

On stage, his now classic 'Major-Minor' routine, where he plays *Happy Birthday* or *Chariots of Fire* in a minor key to demonstrate the emotional impact of each key, has the audience laughing and learning all at once. Another routine sees Gonzales select a member of the audience to join him on stage and, in less than 3 minutes, they write a spontaneous piece built on the simple repetition of 3 notes plus 1 tiny variation. His most recent tour saw him breakdown the Beatles' *Eleanor Rigby* in to its component parts, before using a string quartet as a real-life sampler to show how hip-hop, pop and classical music are not so distant relatives. The success of these concert routines led to production of the *From Major to Minor* live DVD, an hour-long masterclass concert where Chilly Gonzales deals with the principle elements of music theory, including rhythm (featuring special guests Daft Punk) and melody (featuring special guest Feist).

Chilly Gonzales' teaching also takes the form of best-selling book *Re-Introduction Etudes*: 24 easy-to-master, fun-to-play piano pieces specifically designed to unlock musical mysteries for those who gave it up. The book is an antidote to the stale, cheesy, 'rinky-dink' repertoire most student pianists are forced to play, and aims to restore some fun into the learning process.

Gonzales' most recent forays into education are through his *Pop Music Masterclasses*, in which he breaks down the musical elements of current and classic pop hits (*Under Pressure* by Queen & David Bowie, *Shake It Off* by Taylor Swift, or Drake's *Hold On...*) in 3-4 minute videos which have to date been viewed several hundred thousand times on YouTube, and the Apple Music Beats1 radio show *Music's Cool with Chilly Gonzales* where his unique analysis introduces listeners the theory and the fun of entire musical genres through the work of one exemplary artist (Daft Punk for electronic music, Weezer for Indie Rock...) in a 2-hour monthly broadcast.

Through all of these endeavours, Chilly Gonzales gained a reputation as a "musical scientist" in addition to his renown as a composer and performer, penning several newspaper and magazine opinion pieces and being called upon by the likes of Apple Music's Beats 1, BBC Radio 1 in the UK, 1Live in Germany, and the CBC in Canada to comment upon our ever-expanding musical universe.

The Gonzervatory workshop is a result of all of the foregoing for the man whose mission it is to spread Musical Humanism: an ongoing and constant search for the techniques and aesthetics that connect musical eras and genres.



www.chillygonzales.com

CONTACT

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<http://www.chillygonzales.com/gonzervatory-press/>