

Symposium

Tuesday April 1

5.30pm

IRCAD

1, place de l'Hôpital Strasbourg







Symposium program

Introduction

Barbara SEELIGER

Excellence on every level – the IRCAD contribution to global health & music

Jacques MARESCAUX

Music in Medicine – Experience, Evidence and Perspectives

Stefan WILLICH

Oboe performance: the instrument, the reeds & the medical problems they cause

Allen T. BISHOP

The influence of classical music on the relaxation of patients with different dental problems

Andreea SIMON

From Rhenish humanism to the arts and sciences today

Michel DENEKEN

Keynote lectures and live interventions:

Music heart theranostics: How music can be a valuable tool in precision cardiovascular therapeutics and diagnostics

Elaine CHEW

Connecting people through music

Philippe GEISS

Convivial musical finale with a saxophone, trombone and percussion ensemble of HEAR students and members of the audience and World Doctors Orchestra

P. GEISS 'Kawala' (conductor: S. WILLICH)
P. GEISS 'Dos cantos' (conductor: P. GEISS)

Verre d'amitié - Musical reception

Trombone quartet of the HEAR



Symposium speakers



BARBARA SEELIGER, MD, PhD, FACS

Barbara Seeliger is a distinguished surgeon scientist and amateur clarinettist. In 2015, she specialized in Visceral Surgery and focuses on minimally invasive and robotic digestive and endocrine Surgery. She holds German and French doctorate degrees and was awarded the Habilitation to Direct Research (HDR, the highest Diploma in the French Academic System) by the University of Strasbourg. Following a Research Fellowship 2017–2019, she since then serves as a senior researcher and associate specialist surgeon at the Institute of Image-Guided Surgery at IHU Strasbourg, a university hospital institute in the form of a scientific cooperation foundation based on a partnership between the University and University Hospitals of Strasbourg, the Research Institute Against Digestive Cancer (IRCAD), the Association for Cancer Research (ARC), the French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation (Inria), as well as French and German industrial partners, and is an associate Professor at the University of Strasbourg. Beyond her strong interest in precision surgery, Barbara Seeliger is a clarinettist in the World Doctors Orchestra, which operates with discipline and creativity at the interface between music and medicine. She is particularly honoured to welcome the WDO here in France for chamber music, symposium and charity concerts, using the connection between the two fields to promote the best possible medical care.



JACQUES MARESCAUX, MD, FACS, Hon FRCS, Hon FASA, Hon APSA, Hon FJSES, Hon FJSS

Jacques Marescaux is Founding President of the Research Institute against Digestive Cancer (IRCAD) in Strasbourg, an institute with a unique structure that has helped propel surgery into the information age. He enrolled at Strasbourg's Faculty of Medicine, where he discovered his vocation by specialising in surgery in 1971. He was appointed clinical director in 1975, University Professor in the Digestive Surgery Section in 1980 and, finally, department head in 1989.

Surgical advances in the early 1990s prompted the creation of a teaching structure dedicated to minimally invasive surgery. This led to the creation of IRCAD in 1994. In this unique institute, researchers, computer engineers, roboticists and international surgical experts have now been collaborating for over 30 years. Since its creation, IRCAD has been involved in numerous projects aimed at optimizing the use of robots. The most spectacular example was the Lindbergh operation performed from New York in 2001 on a patient in Strasbourg, demonstrating for the first time geographical barriers were no longer an impediment to performing surgery. In 2004, a new concept of transluminal surgery through natural orifices was launched (ANUBIS project), with the objective of avoiding any skin or muscle scarring. On 2 April 2007, the IRCAD team performed the first surgery of this kind.

The IRCAD designed a totally free online Virtual University called WebSurg in 2000. This site, specialized in minimally invasive surgery, facilitates the sharing of expertise among international professionals in their field of excellence, and boasts over 500,000 surgeons. Given the success of the IRCAD concept, Jacques Marescaux decided to create the IRCAD Taiwan in 2008, followed by other centres and mirror institutes in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Beirut (Lebanon), Kigali (Rwanda), Wuxi (China) and Indore (India) between 2011 and 2024, with the IRCAD North America scheduled to open in 2025. With the exception of the Institut Pasteur, IRCAD stands out as the only French research institute with a strong presence on every continent.

During his career, Jacques Marescaux and his teams have made over 4,000 publications and communications, and he has given nearly 700 invited lectures at numerous universities worldwide. Jacques Marescaux is a member of 29 academies and learned societies, including the French National Academies of Surgery, of Medicine and of Technologies. He was made Commander of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour in 2019. Jacques Marescaux proudly welcomes the WDO for its Symposium "Scientifically Sound" at IRCAD.



Symposium speakers



STEFAN WILLICH, MD, MPH, MBA

Dr. Willich studied medicine in Berlin, Munich and New York and received his Master of Public Health from Harvard University, USA in 1990, and Master of Business Administration in INSEAD, France in 1995. He is board certified in internal medicine. Since 1995 he has served as Professor and Director of the Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin. In addition, from 2005 to 2012 he was Chairman of the Charité Center 1 for Health and Human Sciences. From 2012 to 2014 he served as President of the Conservatory of Music Hanns Eisler Berlin.

In 2021, he received the Alumni Award of Merit from the Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the highest award for former graduates of the institution. He is Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology and American College of Cardiology, and President of the International Society for Arts and Medicine. His main research areas are in cardiovascular disease, prevention, health economics, integrative medicine, and arts and medicine with over 600 publications. Dr. Willich studied violin, chamber music, and conducting in Stuttgart and Berlin and is the founder and conductor of the World Doctors Orchestra (WDO).



ALLEN T. BISHOP, MD

Dr. Bishop is a Consultant Orthopedic hand Surgeon at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA and Professor of both Orthopedic and Neurologic Surgery. He earned his MD at Mayo Medical School. Residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Mayo Clinic included a M.S. in surgical research from the University of Minnesota, followed by hand surgery fellowship at Indiana Center for Surgery of the Hand (1987). As a member of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Mayo Clinic for 37 years, his practice includes both hand surgery and reconstructive microsurgery, including microvascular autogenous bone grafting, as well as treatment of peripheral nerve injuries.

Dr. Bishop has contributed to clinical and basic research with 291 peer-reviewed journal publications and 54 book chapters. As director of Microsurgical Research Laboratory at Mayo Clinic, he maintained extramural funding from the National Institutes of Health, Orthopedic Research and Education Foundation, and Musculoskeletal Transplant Society, training more than 30 international research fellows. He continues to enjoy surgery and teaching residents and hand surgery fellows on his clinical team. When not at work, Dr. Bishop serves as the Principal Oboist of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra (Since 1975) and a Principal Oboist of the World Doctors Orchestra.



ANDREEA E. SIMON

Dr. Andreea Simon studied both music pedagogy and dentistry, at the Music Academy "G. Dima" (2013) and the University of Medicine "I. Hatieganu" (2016) in Cluj Napoca, Romania. After graduating in dentistry, she moved to Barcelona, Spain, where she worked as a general dentist. Andreea lived in Barcelona for 6 years where she took several specialized courses, such as Implantology (2018) and Endodontics (2023). Since August 2023 she has moved to Blois, France, where she works as a general dentist. Dr. Simon has been playing violin since 1998, and she is an active member of World Doctors Orchestra since 2021.

Andreea played in the London (2021), Romania (2023) and Australia (2024) sessions.



Symposium speakers



MICHEL DENEKEN

Michel Deneken has taught at the University of Strasbourg since 1989, where he became a professor in 2003. He was Dean of the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Strasbourg from 2001 to 2009. From January 2009 to December 2016, he was Senior Vice-President, and in September 2016, he became interim president of the University of Strasbourg when President Alain Beretz was appointed as director general of research and innovation at the Ministry of Education and Research. Michel Deneken directed the joint research unit Law, Religion, Business and Society (Dres - UMR 7354) from 2013 to 2017 and became president of the university in December 2016, until the end of his second mandate in March 2025.

He also chairs the Epicur alliance of European universities since its creation in November 2019. Michel Deneken was awarded the rank of Chevalier of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour in 2022.



ELAINE CHEW, PhD, FTCL

Elaine Chew is a pianist and Professor of Engineering at King's College London, and Founder/Director of its Music Theranostics Laboratory. Born in Buffalo, NY, and raised in Singapore, she received her PhD and SM degrees in Operations Research at MIT, a BAS in Mathematical & Computational Sciences (honours) and Music (distinction) at Stanford, and FTCL and LTCL diplomas in Piano Performance from Trinity College, London. She has been faculty at USC in Los Angeles, QMUL in London, researcher at CNRS/STMS Lab at IRCAM in Paris, and visitor at Harvard/Lehigh. A pioneering researcher in music information research, she is forging new paths at the intersection of music and cardiovascular science.

She is PI of the ERC projects COSMOS (Computational Shaping and Modeling of Musical Structures) and HEART.FM (Maximizing the Therapeutic Potential of Music through Tailored Therapy with Physiological Feedback in Cardiovascular Disease). Her work has been recognised by the PECASE—the highest honour accorded young scientist/engineers awarded at the White House—and NSF CAREER awards in 2004, Harvard Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship (2007-2008) and Falling Walls Breakthrough of the Year Award (Art & Science, 2023).



PHILIPPE GEISS

Philippe Geiss is professor of saxophone, chamber music and pedagogy at the Académie Supérieure de Musique de Strasbourg - Haute Ecole des Arts du Rhin, member of the Collège Doctoral Européen d'Interprétation et de Création Musicales GLAREAN, and lecturer in educational sciences at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris, specialising in hybrid teaching, digital tools and artificial intelligence. He is a visiting professor at Senzoku Gakuen College in Tokyo, Japan, and at the Jāzeps Vītols Academy of Music in Latvia.

An internationally renowned musician, Philippe Geiss gives concerts and masterclasses all over the world. He excels in a wide range of disciplines, mastering a repertoire that extends from classical to improvised music. He has won prizes for best theatre music at the *Festival d'Avignon* and the *Académie du disque français*, as well as the *Prix de la Musique de l'Académie Rhénane*. In addition to his talents as a performer, he is also much in demand as a composer, with a catalogue ranging from solo to symphonic repertoire, published by Billaudot, Lemoine and Leduc. He was artistic director of the Saxopen – XVII. World Saxophone Congress and Festival in Strasbourg in 2015. He has been a member of the International Saxophone Committee since 2013. He is passionate about innovations in space, musical instruments and digital science.



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