

INSPIRING PERFORMANCE GREGORY PAGE
Singer/songwriter gives master class
(author Marlies Verhelst, translation Elisa Roelofs)

Tuesday the 27th of September was a day full of music for high school students graduating in music of Angelus Merula and Blaise Pascal.

They participated in a very special master class. Gregory Page gave a master class in songwriting to the students of these two campuses of the PENTA College. Gregory Page is a singer-songwriter, born in England, but living in The United States.

They were nervous, the students of Angelus Merula and Blaise Pascal, but not for the performance, because performing is what graduate candidates do more often in their music classes. They were nervous for their meeting with Gregory Page. Over the past month, the students worked hard on writing their own lyrics and music. This afternoon they practiced with the master himself. "What a nice and enthusiastic man", said Matthijs de Graaf, guitarist and student of Angelus Merula. "Gregory Page was surprised by our performance during the master class. Wow: a professional artist who is surprised by high school students. How often does that happen?"

Also Picard Nguyen, drummer and student of Blaise Pascal, praised Gregory Page. "At first he was just enthusiastic. Our performance was 'great' and 'wonderful'. However, I asked for advice how to improve myself. Then he proposed to hit the crash fewer times. That was nice: I could work on that."

During his tour in The Netherlands and Germany, Gregory Page managed to make time for this special project. For the first time students of Blaise Pascal and Angelus Merula cooperated towards a shared goal: a great performance in front of a large audience.

The concert took place during the evening. The students showed the best of themselves. Special was, for example, the performance of Emmy Marijnsen: she created a magical atmosphere with her song. The supporting music fit the song perfectly.

After the interval it was time for Gregory to perform. With his performance the room transformed into an old jazz bar. The interplay with the two supporting musicians was very good.

Floris Yperlaan and Bas van Houte, music teachers at Angelus Merula and Blaise Pascal, look back upon an exceptionally successful day. "I enjoyed it", said Bas van Houte. "And even more than that."

Principal Gert-Jan Alberts of Blaise Pascal also reacted very enthusiastically. "A good cooperation between Blaise Pascal and Angelus Merula, a cooperation that will be the case from 2012 onwards. Then, the two schools will merge and one of the key points will be the ambitious SCALA-project. In addition to the regular music classes, students will focus on their talent. A master class by a top musician belongs to such a project. Today we saw a glimpse of how the SCALA-project will look like in the future."

Masterclass door Gregory Page

De singer/songwriter Gregory Page bezocht Angelus Merula in Spijkenisse tijdens de Europese promotietoernee van zijn nieuwe cd 'My true love'. Hij gaf dinsdag 27 september een masterclass Songwriting aan 44 examenleerlingen havo en vwo van de vestigingen Angelus Merula en Blaise Pascal die eindexamen doen in muziek.

De leerlingen schreven zelf de tekst en muziek voor hun song, in de stijl van de luisterliedjes van Page. Gregory Page en zijn twee bandleden gaven tips en adviezen. 's Avonds traden ze ook nog op voor een besloten gezelschap van leerlingen, ouders en docenten.

Floris Yperlaan, muziekdocent op Angelus Merula, en Bas van Houte, zijn collega op Blaise Pascal, begeleidten de leerlingen op weg naar de masterclass.

Meer informatie op www.penta.nl > Blaise Pascal



Advies van Gregory Page krijg je niet elke dag.

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