

Creative Roots

An enriching musical experience for beginning string players, blending nature and creativity.

Nature and music - it takes a village...

An African proverb says, "it takes a village to raise a child." This wisdom resonates deeply in the realm of music education, where a musician's growth stems from a rich tapestry of experiences, encounters, and environments. Embracing this philosophy, Olivia Gay involves young musicians in creating and performing live music to raise awareness for forest conservation.



[Click here to watch](#) an excerpt from **Pièce pour la forêt** performed by the string class of the Community Conservatory of Béthune-Bruay Artoise Lys Romane, France - June 2024.

Olivia Gay the well-known French cellist, is also Ambassador of the **Agir pour la forêt** endowment fund of the National Forestry Office (ONF) in France. Since 2022, she has been performing throughout France's natural areas to raise public awareness about forest protection.

A unique, collaborative project

Creative Roots is an innovative educational project and key component of Olivia Gay's concert series, « **Le Silence de la Forêt** ». Over a period of four to eight months, young musicians prepare a piece of music they will perform in concert along-side Olivia. This initiative which harmoniously combines Olivia's passion for music with her environmental commitment, provides a unique experience to young artists.

Pièce pour la forêt, composed by [Laurent Grynszpan](#), embodies the very essence of this educational project. Its remarkable originality lies in bringing a seasoned artist and novice musicians together, unleashing their creativity while mobilizing for a crucial cause: the preservation of forests.

The on-stage interaction with Olivia creates a magical alchemy, offering the audience a meaningful and memorable performance.

ENCOUNTERS



Artists & students



Professors & artists



Composer and students!

[Visit Olivia's Web Site](#)



An exciting program designed for all beginning string players!

Creative Roots was born out of the initiative **Le Silence de la forêt** - as much a celebration of nature's beauty as a call to action to preserve the green lungs of the planet.

Both musical and educational, **Creative Roots** raises awareness among all about the extreme necessity of preserving forests and respecting nature.

Creative Roots is a 4 to 8 month program, depending on the number of participating students and school schedules. Each program is uniquely adapted to the specific needs of teachers and their students.

The production team arranges meetings between the artistic team and educational staff from participating schools. These sessions allow all parties to share ideas, address concerns, and discuss needs.

Throughout the preparation period, the production staff remains accessible to educators, ensuring ongoing support.

Prior to the final concert, Olivia and the production team lead a combined master class and dress rehearsal. The students' collaborative performance with Olivia forms the centerpiece of the concert repertoire.

Olivia Gay, cellist, is an Ambassador for the « Agir pour la forêt » Endowment Fund of the National Forestry Office (ONF) in France.



Olivia and I wanted to include small children in this project. We were able to ask Laurent for a few more details, more accessible parts for the beginners... This program is part of a vital project for Nature and we do feel very strongly about it... It was so good to be able to meet the whole team... it was just superb!

Mélanie Komenek - Orchestra director and violist at the Conservatoire de Béthune-Bruay.

The fairy tale will become reality, and, as Jacques Prévert wrote, their violins, violas, cellos and double basses will "become trees again" for a few moments of shared happiness. - Laurent Grynszpan -

1. Musical content :

- An original composition for string orchestra, piano and solo cello
- Arrangements adapted to each age group and level
- Conductor's score and parts provided for all sections

2. Pedagogical support :

- Communication between teachers, artists, composer and producer (by e-mail and telephone)
- At least two workshops with the composer
- Two rehearsals with pianists (as needed)

3. Masterclass with Olivia Gay (1.5 hours):

- Presentation of « *The Tale of the Tiny Sprucelette* »
- Introduction to the composers in the concert repertoire
- Discussion about the work of the ONF (National Office of Forestry)

4. Final project:

- Coordination and logistics of a forest concert
- Creation of a work in the forest by the students, in concert with Olivia Gay.

[Click here to see the score](#)

