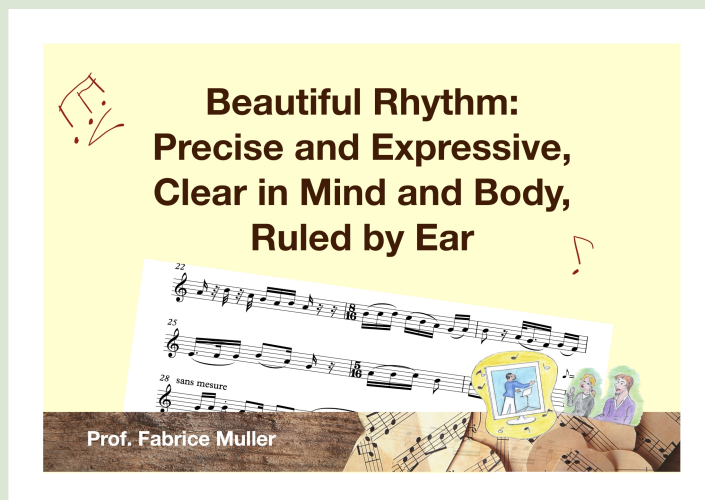


Beautiful Rhythm: Precise and Expressive, Clear in Mind and Body, Ruled by Ear

Prof. Fabrice Muller



Class description

Are you a pre-college, college, or even a graduate student who knows your rhythm is not as precise or as expressive as it should be? Are you having difficulty with rhythm in a challenging piece? Do you need help with certain types of rhythm (e.g., syncopation, lots of thirty-second notes, asymmetrical meters, ametricality, added values, you name it)?

This course is specifically designed to raise your rhythm skills to the next level, step by step—with steps that I am accustomed to resizing as needed, so that they will always be fitted to *your own* learning journey. I use a holistic French-style “say it to play it” approach that is brain-friendly (as much as we can know). It has proven hyper-effective over decades and I have successfully taught it for 15+ years. As long as you are ready to practice very regularly, you will make good progress.

I will make sure that you own the theory and practice of rhythm, both in the mind and in the body, even when it becomes difficult. For rhythm to be beautiful, I will teach you so that rhythm is in the end ruled by your trained musical ear. And since rhythm needs to be clear in *your* mind and *your* body, the lesson will be tailored around you and the score.

In short, you will learn to always approach and practice rhythm successfully from *all* angles. You will understand and feel it with both body and brain, say it to play it, express it with precision, and let your very trained ear be the master.

As a bonus, you will see how French-style rhythm reading is a most powerful tool for playing with virtuosity!

Class Goals (depending on your objectives)

1. Master the pulse and its subdivisions in your mind and in your body.
2. With precision, master rhythm reading and rhythm making.
3. Feel and make feel the various time signatures (or their absence), phrases, etc.
4. Understand and explore the links between rhythm and musical expression.
5. Understand and explore the subdivision of the beat as a tool to master *tempo rubato*.
6. Explore the “say it to play it” approach as a tool for playing with virtuosity and precision.
7. Learn to effectively practice rhythm to reach your own goals.