

LMP Policy for Tours - Timps and Double basses

We have to bear in mind that many other orchestras don't take Basses and Timps on tour. We are in a very competitive market and even a few hundred pounds can mean the difference between us getting a contract or the tour going to another orchestra. We also have to remember that many other orchestras have government funding that they can use to subsidise tours.

Nonetheless, it is the London Mozart Players policy for all tours to include in our quote the costs of all Bass players being able to bring their own instruments. We understand that this is also the preference of the players.

Basses

We will include in our quote the costs of hiring and transporting cases suitable for air transport. In addition to flight costs, our quote will specify the size of Bass cases to be transported from the airport to the hotel/concert venue/internal airports etc. However, the LMP will only take one member of staff on tour, and though we will request help from the promoter, it is possible that the Bass player would need to help carry the Bass and case/s onto and off of transport, and into concert halls etc.

If the promoter responds saying it is not possible for them to meet these additional logistical costs, we will always try to negotiate. Ultimately in this situation, the only feasible solution may in this case be to hire instruments.

Timps

LMP has consulted with Ben Hoffnung (Principal Timps) who has indicated that he has no objection to using hired Timps as long as they are of a good standard.

If the outcome of our negotiations is that instruments need to be hired by the promoter rather than transported, we will make it clear that to maintain our high standards of performance the Basses and Timps need to be:

- Of high quality
- Well maintained
- In the condition that a professional bass player in the foremost chamber orchestra of the country would expect to play on.
- Regularly and recently played by professional orchestral players
- For multiple venues to try to use the same bass rather than a different one for each venue