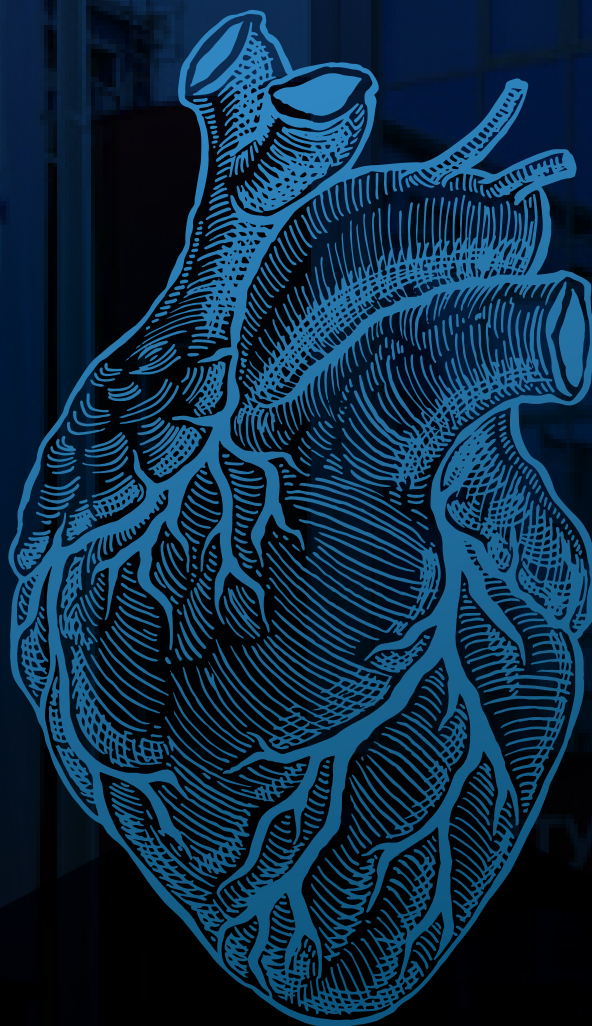




DEDINJE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
HEART AND BLOOD VESSELS



DEDINJE
AORTIC MASTERCLASS



DEDINJE MASTERCLASS ***AORTIC VALVE SURGERY***

BELGRADE 04TH - 05TH SEPTEMBER 2026.
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEART AND BLOOD VESSELS





**DEDINJE
AORTIC MASTERCLASS**

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is our great pleasure to inform you that the National Institute for Heart and Blood Vessels "Dedinje" will organize a two-day Aortic Masterclass, to be held on September 4th-5th, 2026, at the premises of our Institute. This educational program is focused on contemporary approaches to the treatment of aortic valve disease.

The program is designed as a comprehensive clinical pathway, encompassing preoperative diagnostics and imaging, procedural planning, live surgical interventions and intraoperative assessment, as well as postoperative care, follow-up examinations, and long-term patient management. It is a great honor for us to host renowned experts in the field of cardiovascular medicine from around the world.

We look forward to your participation and hope to make your stay both pleasant and memorable.

Organizing Committee

Prof. Slobodan Mićović,
MD, PhD

Acad. Prof. Milovan Bojić,
MD, PhD

Prof. Milan Milojević,
MD, PhD, MSCE, FESC



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Organizing Committee

- Acad. prof. dr Milovan Bojić
- Prof. dr Slobodan Mićović
- Prof. dr Ivan Stojanović
- Prof. dr Milan Milojević
- Prof. dr Petar Otašević
- Prof. dr Aleksandra Nikolić
- Doc. dr Petar Vuković
- Doc. dr Dragana Unić Stojanović
- Asst. dr Miroslav Miličić
- Dr Siniša Jagodić
- Dr Ivan Miljković
- Dr Milica Ivanović
- Dr Zoran Tabaković

Faculty

- Prof. dr Ruggero De Paulis, ITA
- Prof. dr Jan Vojáček, CZE
- Prof. dr Bo Yang, USA
- Prof. dr George Stavridis, GRE
- Dr Giulio Folino, ITA
- Dr Jan Gofus, CZE
- Prof. dr Alain Berrebi, FRA
- Prof. dr Igor Rudež
- Prof. dr Lazar Velicki
- Prof. dr Mate Petričević
- Prof. dr Svetozar Putnik
- Dr Aleksandar Radović
- Prof. dr Svetlana Apostolović
- Prof. dr Anastazija Stojišić
- Prof. dr Miha Antonić
- Prof. dr Hrvoje Gašparović
- Prof. dr Nermir Granov
- Prof. dr Ivan Knežević
- Dr Branko Mimić
- Doc dr Marko Banović
- Doc dr Ilija Bilbija
- Asst. dr Miloš Matković
- Prof. dr Ivana Nedeljković
- Prof. dr Danijela Trifunović Zamlakar
- Doc. dr Milan Dobrić
- Doc. dr Dragana Unić Stojanović
- Prof. dr Slobodan Mićović
- Doc. dr Petar Vuković

DEDINJE AORTIC VALVE MASTERCLASS REPAIR, ROSS, ANNULAR ENLARGEMENT AND HAART RING



**DEDINJE
AORTIC MASTERCLASS**

DAY 1

SESSION 1

09:00 - 12:00

Aortic Valve Repair: A Step-by-Step approach (TAV/BAV)

**MODERATORS: PROF. DR SLOBODAN MICOVIĆ, PROF. DR JAN VOJACEK CZE,
PROF. DR HRVOJE GAŠPAROVIĆ, PROF. DR ALEKSANDRA NIKOLIĆ,
PROF. DR SVETLANA APOSTOLOVIĆ**

08:45

LIVE SURGERY 1: Aortic valve repair (AR, TAV/BAV)

PROF. DR RUGGERO DE PAULIS, ITA; ASST. DR MARKO KAITOVIĆ

08:45

Welcome, symposium goals, rationale for “repair-first” concept and patient selection

**ACADEMIC PROF. DR MILOVAN BOJIĆ, PROF. DR IVANA NEDELJKOVIĆ,
PROF. DR SLOBODAN MICOVIĆ**

Presentations and discussion in conjunction with the live surgery:

1. Echo/CT/CMR roadmap: lesion classification, effective height, repair planning - TBA

PROF. DR ALAIN BERREBI, FRA

2. Techniques I: cusp plication/resuspension, raphe management, commissural orientation

DR GIULIO FOLINO, ITA

3. Techniques II: Annular stabilisation options and “how to decide” intraoperatively

DOC. DR ILIJA BILBIJA

4. Live debrief: key decision points, intra-op TEE success criteria, when to re-clamp

5. Case-based discussion: „What would you do?” key decisions and take-home messages

12:00

Lunch

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DAY 1

SESSION 2

[13:00-16:00]

The Ross Procedure: Indications, Technique, and Autograft Stabilisation

Moderators: DR BRANKO MIMIĆ, DOC. DR DRAGANA UNIĆ, DR ALEKSANDAR RADOVIĆ,
PROF. DR DANIJELA TRIFUNOVIĆ ZAMAKLAR, DOC. DR MILAN DOBRIĆ, DR IVAN KNEŽEVIĆ

13:00

LIVE SURGERY 2: Ross procedure

PROF. DR JAN VOJÁČEK, CZE; DR BRANISLAV STOJKOVIĆ

Presentations and discussion in conjunction with the live surgery:

1. Indications/contraindications and patient selection (durability, phenotype, BAV/AR/AS)

DR JAN GOFUS, CZE

2. Step-by-step technique: autograft harvest, implantation, and coronary button; RVOT reconstruction: homograft/conduit choices and technical tips; autograft stabilisation strategies: preventing dilatation and late AR

ASST. DR MARKO KAITOVIĆ

3. Peri-op pathway: BP strategy, antithrombotics, imaging followup, complications reintervention

DR IVAN MILJKOVIĆ

4. Live debrief – Key decision points

5. Case-based discussion: “What would you do?” – key decisions and take-home messages

16:00 Close of Day 1

PROF. DR SLOBODAN MICOVIĆ

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DAY 2

SESSION 3

[09:00-12:00]

Annular/Root Enlargement: Avoiding PPM and Expanding SAVR

Moderators: PROF. DR SVETOZAR PUTNIK, PROF. DR IVAN STOJANOVIĆ,
DR MARKO BANOVIĆ, PROF. DR LAZAR VELICKI, PROF. DR MIHA ANTONIĆ

09:00

LIVE SURGERY 3: SAVR + annular enlargement

PROF. DR BO YANG, USA; DR BOGDAN OKILJEVIĆ

Presentations and discussion in conjunction with the live surgery:

1. Why enlarge? PPM risk, haemodynamics, valve choice, pre-op planning (echo/CT)

ASST. DR MILOŠ MATKOVIĆ

2. Techniques overview: Yang, Nicks, Manouguian, Konno, Y-incision/roof-indications and boundaries

PROF. DR NERMIR GRANOV

3. Decision-making algorithm: selection of technique and strategies for determining size. Alternatives for aortic root enlargement.

DOC. DR PETAR VUKOVIĆ

4. *Live debrief: sizing, haemostasis, conduction risk, bail-out strategies

5. *Bo Yang Technique

PROF. DR BO YANG

12:00 Lunch

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DAY 2

SESSION 4

[13:00-16:00]

Aortic Annuloplasty Ring in Contemporary Valve Repair

Moderators: PROF. DR IGOR RUDEŽ, DOC. DR ILIJA BILBIJA,
PROF. DR MATE PETRIČEVIĆ, PROF. DR ANASTAZIJA STOJŠIĆ,
ASST. DR MIROSLAV MILIČIĆ

13:00 LIVE SURGERY 4

Aortic valve repair using HAART ring

PROF. DR GEORGE STAVRIDIS GRE, ASST. DR MARKO KAITOVIĆ

Presentations and discussion in conjunction with the live surgery:

1. Imaging of the aortic annulus: form geometry to repair strategy- when does annular stabilization matter?

PROF. DR DANIJELA TRIFUNOVIĆ ZAMAKLAR

2. Sizing and implantation: positioning, suturing strategy, avoiding LVOT/coronary issues; Minimally invasive remodeling Techniques

PROF. DR IGOR RUDEŽ

3. PEARS TECHNIQUE FOR ASCENDING AORTIC ANEURYSM

DR IVAN KNEŽEVIĆ

4. Programme building: team requirements (surgeon + echo), QA, database, learning curve

PROF. DR RUGGERO DE PAULIS,ITA; PROF. DR BO YANG, USA; PROF. DR JAN VOJACEK,CZE

5. Live debrief

6. Integrating HAART with cusp repair and root procedures: workflow + TEE endpoints-

PROF. DR GEORGE STAVRIDIS, GRE

16:00

Closing remarks and presentation of certificates

PROF. DR SLOBODAN MICOVIĆ



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SPECIAL GUESTS



Ruggero De Paulis is the director of the Cardiac Surgery Department of the European Hospital in Rome, a position he has held since 2006. After graduating from the University of L'Aquila and completing his residency at the University of Torino, he spent two years in an artificial heart programme at the University of Utah, and then two years as staff surgeon at the VI and XII University of Paris. Since then he has been working in Rome, at the University of Tor Vergata, where he was appointed Associate Professor in 2002. His main interest is in aortic and mitral repair surgery and he is the designer of the "Valsalva" graft, currently used in most aortic root surgeries.



Bo Yang, M.D., Ph.D., the Frankel Research Professor of Cardiac Surgery, treats aortic conditions like familial thoracic aortic aneurysms, complications of Marfan and Loeys-Dietz syndromes, and more. He has expertise in valve-sparing aortic root replacement using the David and Bentall procedures, aortic dissection and thoracic and thoracoabdominal aneurysm repair, aortic valve repair. He invented new procedures to enlarge the aortic annulus by 3-4 valve sizes.



Prof. Jan Vojacek graduated from Medical Faculty of Charles University in 1993. Gradually he finished the training in vascular surgery and cardiac surgery. Currently, he is the head of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at University Hospital Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic. He is also the president of the Czech Society for Cardiovascular Surgery. Among the others, he is a member of EACTS and HVS. Major interest is aortic root surgery including aortic valve repair and the Ross procedure and also cardiac robotic surgery.



George Stavridis is a distinguished Greek cardiac surgeon with many years of experience in the field of cardiothoracic surgery. He currently serves as the Head of Cardiac Surgery at the Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center in Athens, one of the leading cardiovascular centers in Greece. He graduated in Medicine from the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1984, where he later also obtained his PhD. He completed his specialist training in cardiothoracic surgery in the United Kingdom and continued his professional career at the Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center, where he has held several leadership positions in the fields of cardiac surgery and heart transplantation.



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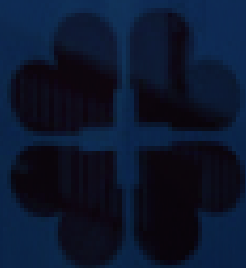
Alain Berrebi is the Head of Echo-Lab of Department of Cardio Vascular Surgery at the Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou and Institut Mutualiste Montsouris in Paris, France. He is an interventional echocardiographer with specific expertise in the field of valvular disease and intra-operative 3D TEE in the operating room and cath-lab. Alain is a member of the European Society of Cardiology and American Society of Echocardiography and is the past President of the Valve Group of French Society of Cardiology.



Giulio Folino is an Italian cardiac surgeon specializing in heart valve surgery, diseases of the aorta, and modern reconstructive procedures in cardiac surgery. He works as a cardiac surgeon in the Department of Cardiac Surgery at the European Hospital in Rome, where he is a member of the team led by Professor Ruggero De Paulis. He graduated in Medicine from the Sapienza University of Rome and completed his specialization in cardiac surgery at the University of Padua. During his training, he also pursued further professional development in international centers in Germany and Sweden.



Jan Gofus is a Czech cardiac surgeon and scientific researcher specializing in heart valve surgery, diseases of the aorta, and minimally invasive cardiac surgery procedures. He works at the Department of Cardiac Surgery of the Faculty of Medicine at the Charles University and University Hospital Hradec Králové in the Czech Republic. In his clinical and scientific work, he focuses particularly on reconstructive aortic valve surgery, the Ross procedure, and minimally invasive heart operations. He is the author and co-author of numerous scientific papers published in international journals in the field of cardiothoracic surgery.



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