

International Summer School Siracusa-Ortigia
14-28 July 2019
@Palazzo Francica Nava, via S. Landolina n.5 Siracusa (Piazza Duomo).

VERDI and LA TRAVIATA

MASTERCLASS ON THE INTERPRETATION AND PERFORMANCE OF ITALIAN OPERA



This Summer School offers students a full immersion into 19th-century Italian operatic repertoire, with a particular focus on Verdi, and an opportunity for collaboration between opera-singers, conductors and accompanists.

The course is designed for students of all ages;

- **OPERA-SINGERS,**
- **CONDUCTORS**
- **PIANIST-ACCOMPANISTS**

Students of conducting will concentrate on aspects of practical operatic conducting, which are very different from symphonic conducting; the course will provide the necessary tools and *know how* for putting together an opera. **Singers** will receive vocal coaching, lessons in Italian diction, acting, vocal and practical techniques. They will gain experience of singing as soloists and as chorus. **Accompanists** will gain valuable experience working with the singers and the tutors during the rehearsals, lessons and the recitals, thus gaining professional experience.

At the end of the Summer School, there will be a semi-staged performance of **La Traviata** in the local theatre, with the collaboration of the **Exedra Ensemble**.

Lessons will be held from Monday 15th - Saturday 27th July 2019 (10-13/ 16-19 every day except Sunday) - they will be single and group lessons.

The lessons will be held in Italian and English at Palazzo Francica Nava, home to the Exedra Associazione Culturale, via S. Landolina 5, Siracusa, at the heart of beautiful Ortigia. This gothic palazzo, rebuilt after the 1693 earthquake in baroque style, has large rooms for classes and workshops, a small library and wifi in all teaching areas..

During their free time, participants will have an opportunity to experience Italian culture as well as enjoying the local cuisine and lifestyle.



The Masterclasses focus on the study of Verdi's style in preparation for the performance of La Traviata. In particular, the lessons will be dedicated to:

Conductors: conducting technique finalised for accompanying opera, arias, recitatives and concertati;

Singers: Interpretation of Verdi's style, especially for La Traviata - music, style and performance traditions; Diction of the Italian language; Aspects of performing - character-study and interaction with a partner/s, as preparation for the final performance.

Accompanists: techniques for accompanying works by Verdi, in particular La Traviata; Playing under a conductor; Study of the many aspects relevant to a pianist-accompanist working in the theatre.

The course will give participants opportunities to perform to the local public: All pianists and singers will be showcased in one or more concerts during the week-end of the course.

PIANO AND VOICE : OPERA GALA EVENING

Concert for voices and piano at EXEDRA Associazione Culturale, Ortigia, Siracusa

The highlight of the course will be:

LA TRAVIATA di GIUSEPPE VERDI

Saturday 27th July - semi-staged performance of La Traviata with EXEDRA Ensemble at a local theatre, sponsored by the city council of Siracusa.

There may be two performances of the entire opera or roles may be shared to permit all to perform.

TO APPLY:

All Singers are required to provide a 10-minute video of their performance, together with the application form. also those seeking technical and artistic development, but not interested in performing lead roles. Those interested in performing solo parts must indicate which role they are applying for and must know the role by heart on arrival. Singers may audition for more than one part.

The parts will be awarded entirely at the discretion of the course tutors. If on arrival, the singer does not know that role off-book or for any other valid reason such as ill-health, the tutors may substitute the singer.

Soloists should also be prepared to sing the chorus parts and should therefore be familiar with the chorus parts of La Traviata too..

Pianists are required to provide a 10-minute video of their performance, together with the application form.

Conductors should provide a video if possible but is not mandatory.

COURSE TUTORS

M° **Francesco Attardi** Conductor, teaches at the 'Scuola Civica di Musica *Claudio Abbado*' in Milan. He will work closely with the conductors, mentoring them as they work on the opera.

Website www.francescoattardi.it



Prof.ssa **Elisa De Luigi** Pianist, teaches operatic repertoire and vocal coaching at the Conservatorio G. Verdi in Milan.

She will work with the singers and pianists on technical and interpretative aspects of Verdi

Prof.ssa **Sonia Grandis** Actor and director, teaches performing arts at the Conservatorio G. Verdi in Milan. She will put her experience of the theatre at the service of the singers, helping them to consider the theatrical and not purely musical aspects of performing an opera.



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COURSE FEES AND DEADLINES

The course fee (including tuition, accommodation, performance costs, etc.) is

SINGERS AND CONDUCTORS : \$2,300

PIANISTS : \$2,000

AUDITORS may participate at a cost of \$280 per week without accommodation

\$800 per week with accommodation

The non-refundable deposit of \$ 500 must be paid by **30th May 2019** and proof of payment should be sent on receiving written confirmation of your place on the course from EXEDRA Mediterranean Center. The remainder of the course fee must be paid by June 15th 2019.

The deadline for application is **30th May 2019**.

