

# ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE 2023 PUCCINI FESTIVAL ACADEMY APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE ADVANCED TRAINING AND REFINEMENT COURSES FOR OPERA SINGERS AND CORÉPÉTITEURS

The Puccini Festival Foundation of Torre del Lago Puccini (accredited as a training body with regional decree no. 32 of January 3, 2019, accreditation code OF0099) establishes, for the year 2023, through its Puccini Festival Academy, **TRAINING AND ADVANCED PERFECTIONING COURSES** for **opera singers** and **corépétiteurs** with the aim of promoting the training of interpreters of the Puccini repertoire to whom to transmit a solid vocal, musical, dramaturgical preparation, aimed at the advanced training and the finding of interpreters and corépétiteurs to be included in the Puccini Festival programme and in the concert activities that the Puccini Festival Foundation organizes all year round in Italy and abroad.

The number of admitted actual students will be up to a maximum of 15 opera singers and 4 corépétiteurs.

The courses will be held by Vocal Coach Maestro Massimo Iannone and Maestro Silvia Gasperini for score study and masterclasses held by Maestro Giuseppe Sabbatini.

Guest teachers of the Academy will include the Puccini Festival Artistic Director Maestro Giorgio Battistelli as well as directors and performers of the 69th Puccini Festival.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility for admission to the Academy is open to candidates of different nationalities that are **over 18 and under 35 years of age** (by 31 December 2022) who have obtained a Diploma in singing (for opera singers) or piano (for corépétiteurs) from a State Conservatory or equivalent qualification if obtained abroad. If candidates are not yet in possession of a diploma or have studied with a private teacher, the teacher, under his/her own responsibility, must issue a declaration of suitability for the student to attend the Academy course. Documented experience of participation in operas or concerts of an adequate artistic level, recognised as such by the unquestionable judgement of the examining committee appointed for the selection of the students, constitutes an advantage for admission.

## EXAMINING COMMISSION

The Examination Commission will be composed of Maestro Giorgio Battistelli (President of the Commission and Artistic Director of the Puccini Festival), General Director of the Puccini Festival Foundation Franco Moretti, and teachers Maestro Silvia Gasperini, Maestro Massimo Iannone, and Maestro Giuseppe Sabbatini.

## APPLICATION FORM AND ADMISSION FEE

The Admission Application, which can be downloaded from the Puccini Festival Foundation website [www.puccinifestival.it](http://www.puccinifestival.it), must be properly filled out and sent by email no later than 11:59 PM on May 2, 2023, to the following address: [pucciniacademy@puccinifestival.it](mailto:pucciniacademy@puccinifestival.it)

It must be accompanied by a receipt of a bank transfer of 80.00 euros (to be made no later than 11:59 PM on May 2, 2023) as enrolment fee to:

Banco Popolare di Milano,  
Torre del Lago Puccini branch  
bank account, (IBAN) IT 33 S 05034 24869 000000 132937  
(swift/bic BAPPIT21S65)  
payable to the Puccini Festival Foundation.

The admission application must be accompanied by a detailed resume including the applicant's artistic experiences and concerts participated in. Only for opera singers, it must be accompanied by two video recording links, one of which must be an aria from the Puccini repertoire, and the other one of the applicant's

choice. The video files do not need to be of professional quality but simple amateur recordings, with clean sound and good visibility of the candidate.

Non-EU applicants must also be in possession of the documentation required by law (residence permit for study and work purposes which has not expired). Applications received after the above deadlines will not be accepted.

### **Examination and Programme**

A preliminary selection of candidates will be made based on the evaluation of the videos submitted. Candidates who pass the first selection will have an audition on either **May 11 and/or 12, 2023** at the Enrico Caruso Auditorium, Gran Teatro Giacomo Puccini, via delle Torbiere snc, Torre del Lago Puccini (LU), after being summoned by the Artistic Secretariat exclusively by email, which will be sent to the candidates by 11:59 PM on May 8, 2023.

#### Examination Programme for the Audition on May 11 or 12, 2023:

- Opera singers (**soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, bass**) will present one aria from the Puccini repertoire and one aria of their choice.
- corépétiteurs will prepare one aria of their choice from Puccini's operas, such as Tosca, Madama Butterfly, Turandot, or La Bohème. They will also be asked by the Commission to perform an aria at first sight.

The Commission may interrupt the audition at any time at its own discretion.

The Puccini Festival Foundation will provide a corépétiteur for the candidate singers and a singer for the corépétiteurs. It is the responsibility of each candidate to present the sheet music of the chosen and indicated arias in the admission application. Each candidate must present a valid photo ID; foreign candidates must present a valid passport.

Participants in the selection do not receive any compensation for travel or accommodation expenses. Participation in the selection implies acceptance of the examination board's binding judgment. The examination methods will also be determined in accordance with any health restrictions that will be communicated in advance to the candidates.

### **DURATION and COST OF PARTICIPATION**

The 2023 course duration will be from **15/05/2023** to **17/06/2023** with lesson days divided into 6 hours a day for 6 days a week for the entire duration of the course in addition to participation included in the enrolment fee for masterclasses, and from **18/06/2023** to **26/08/2023** with the possibility for students to attend rehearsals and performances of the 69th Puccini Festival of Torre del Lago on the programme.

The Academy envisages a frequency fee of **800euro** for opera singing students and **400euro** for corépétiteurs, of which 50% will be covered by Scholarships established by the Puccini Festival Foundation for all admitted students. The fee charged to students can be paid in two instalments to:

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In case of partial or complete cancellation of the course, the Puccini Festival Foundation will fully reimburse the amount paid by the students, excluding the enrolment fee, and undertakes to reschedule the course.

The Foundation will not contribute to the payment of living and accommodation expenses for the candidates but will aid with finding accommodation upon request.

Students undertake to comply with the procedures, Regulations of the Puccini Festival Foundation, its Ethical Code, and the protocols set by the Theatre. Failure to comply with the protocols prescribed by the Theatre from time to time will constitute a serious breach and will result in the immediate removal of the student from the course of study.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, at the unappealable discretion of the Artistic Direction, the Foundation will select and hire, remunerating them:

a) singing students for possible supporting or lead roles in collateral concerts and productions of the 2023 Puccini Festival, specifically:

**TURANDOT** by Giacomo Puccini: Altoum, un Mandarin, Prima Ancella, Seconda Ancella, Il Principe di Persia;

**MADAMA BUTTERFLY** by Giacomo Puccini: la Zia, la Madre, La Cugina, Yakusidè, Il Commissario Imperiale, l'Ufficiale del Registro;

**LA BOHEME** by Giacomo Puccini: Parpignol, Benoit, Alcindoro, Il Sergente dei Doganieri, Un Doganiere;

**IL TABARRO** by Giacomo Puccini: Il Talpa, Le Midinettes, A amante, Il venditore canzonette.

b) Corépétiteurs students for possible roles designated for corépétiteurs (for example, corépétiteurs for rehearsals, lighting maestro, accompanist pianist for collateral concerts, etc.).

**The assignment of roles will in any case be subject to the judgment of the Puccini Festival Artistic Director, who will express his own evaluation based on the participant's artistic suitability for the proposed role, didactic-artistic performance, regularity of attendance during the courses, the actual motivation demonstrated, and the behaviour of the participant during training activities.**

The courses will be held in Torre del Lago Puccini. At the end of the course, a Participation Certificate will be issued.

**For further information: Puccini Festival Foundation**

**Artistic Secretariat: tel. +39 0584 350567 ext. 3; segreteria.artistica@puccinifestival.it**

The General Manager  
Franco Moretti