

AERCO Academy

ACCADEMIA CORALE



AERCO ACADEMY

Academic Year 2022-2023

Helping the choral world develop!

www.aerco.academy
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Introduction and objective

The idea of a **Choral Academy** arose in 2019 from the need to have a quality centre in the region that could develop the issues related to the training of those approaching the choral world in all its aspects: **singing, conducting, composing, management, schooling**.

In the past, AERCO had initiated training courses at both local and central level, focusing above all on choral literacy, in the individual provinces, on some master courses and on some courses for training school personnel who would then be responsible for starting up choirs in schools. In addition, mention should be made of a number of courses, in cooperation with associated choirs, aimed both at youth choirs and at places of distress. Finally, it is also worth mentioning the presence of a strong interest in Gregorian Chant, thanks to the collaboration with operators specialised in this field; this has led to the attendance of dozens of students at the in-person and online courses organised by AERCO. Finally, it is worth mentioning the birth, thanks to this mature experience, of the Schola Gregoriana Ecce. So much so that a **Permanent School of Gregorian Chant should be** included within the framework of the **Choral Training Academy**.

The 2022/2023 academic year is one of consolidation of the experience gained during the previous year, which saw, finally after the pandemic, the holding of all face-to-face classes in this mode. However, the **Academy** also provides online courses for those subjects for which we deemed it appropriate to use the distance mode. The lesson derived from the lockdown is that one can opt for the mixed mode with educational satisfaction and ease of attendance.

Directing a choir today touches on many aspects that go beyond the mere knowledge of technical rudiments. It is necessary to familiarise oneself with the repertoire and performance practice of the various styles, to have vocal skills, to obviously know music theory (what was once called solfeggio is now called 'ear-training'), to be able to arrange a melody for one's choir, to compose perhaps even a small piece, to know how to accompany a choir on the piano or organ, to have skills in the regulations governing the third sector, and the opportunities that social media give us.

With these premises and expectations of results, investing one's time in one of the one-year or three-year courses offered by the **AERCO Academy** is undoubtedly an investment that will pay off for the young director, but it is also an excellent choice for the more 'mature' director who, perhaps, has never had the opportunity to train fully.

Life (especially that of the artist) is a continuous discovery of knowledge!

Operational Structure

Artistic Direction:

Andrea Angelini and **Silvia Biasini**

Operations Management and General Secretariat:

Mirco Tugnolo and **Gian Marco Grimandi**

Artistic Directors of the Choral Academy:

Andrea Angelini and **Silvia Biasini**

Artistic Director School and Summer Course of Gregorian Chant:

Luca Buzzavi

Teachers Characterising and Complementary Activities

Conducting Technique: **Manolo Da Rold** and **Petra Grassi**

Vocality, Diction, Body Awareness: **Catharina Scharp**

Reading of the Score and Sung Reading: **Daniele Sconosciuto**

Composition and Arrangement: **Giorgio Susana**

Ear-Training: **Fabio Ferrucci**

Introduction to Gregorian Chant: **Luca Buzzavi**

History of Choral Music: **Francesco di Fortunato**

Sound Engineering, Recording, Acoustics: **Eddy Cavazza**

Masterclass lecturers:

Guest lecturers of national and international renown.

Youth and School Choir: **Basilio Astulez**

Renaissance polyphony: **Walter Testolin**

Opera Singing, Opera: **Martino Faggiani**

Overtone Singing: **Anna-Maria Hefe**

Non-Idiomatic Reticular (Conducting) Method: **Enzo Marino**

Vocal Pop a Cappella: **Paul Phoenix**

Laboratory Choirs

Laboratory choirs will be identified for 'Masterclass' lessons. The choirs will provide their available repertoire and will be available to learn other pieces provided by guest lecturers.

Collaboration:

Collaborations at different levels will be developed with:

FENIARCO - <https://www.feniarco.it>

Ministry of Culture - <https://www.beniculturali.it>

Emilia-Romagna Region - <https://www.regione.emilia-romagna.it>

National Association of Choral Directors - <https://andci.org>

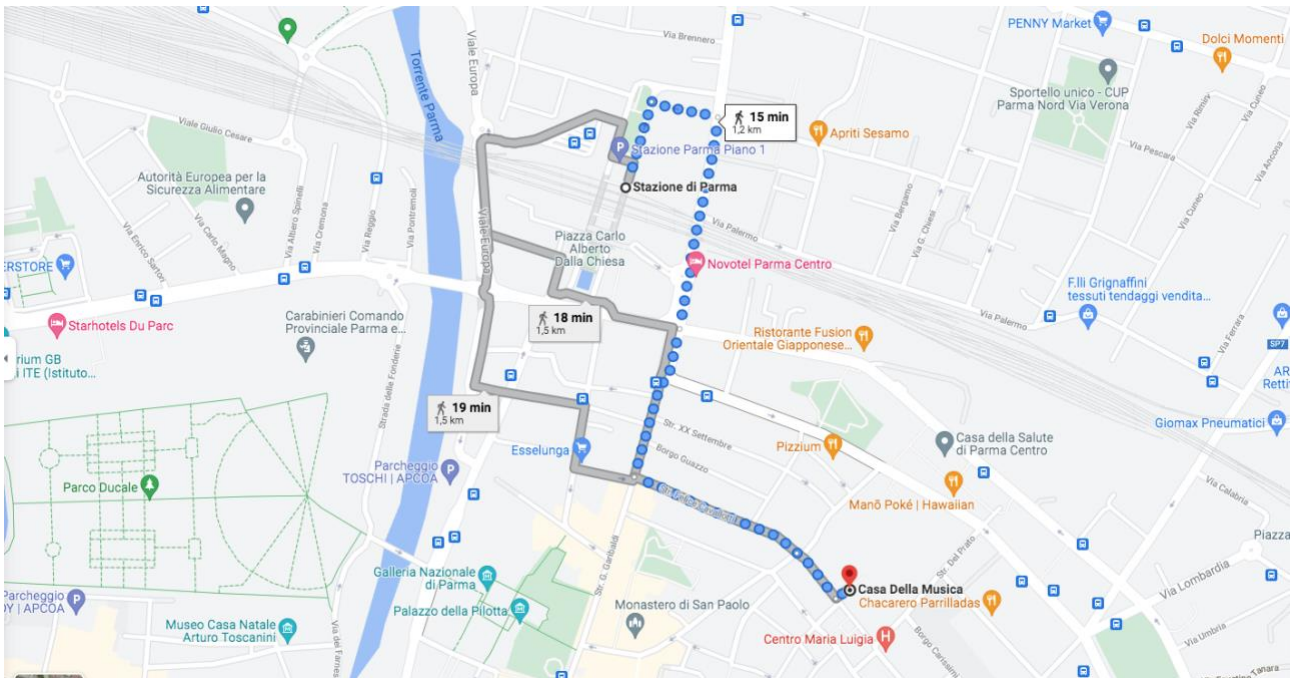
AISCGre - <https://www.aiscgre.it>

Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music - <http://www.musicasacra.va/content/musicasacra/it.html>

Municipality of Parma/Casa della Musica - <https://www.lacasadellamusica.it>

Course venue:

The lessons will take place in Parma, at the Casa della Musica venue, Piazzale San Francesco, 1



Didactic structure

Target students:

Choir Directors:

Directors who want to improve their skills. Various levels.

Singers:

Choir singers who wish to undertake training in choral singing. Courses for singers will be spread across the territory, on a provincial basis.

Presidents, Secretaries, Managers:

Who is responsible for the administration and development of activities related to amateur choirs.

Conservatory graduates in non-choral subjects:

Graduates who want to resume and expand their career possibilities through the development of choral skills.

Course type:

FULL COURSE FOR DIRECTORS (Three-year course)

First academic year: 10 face-to-face weekends, totalling 95 hours, plus online and self-guided training activities, totalling a further 60 hours. In addition to these subjects, there will be 65 hours of Choral Repertoire and Choir Conducting with guest lecturers, in the form of masterclasses also open to outsiders. The second and third academic years will be very similar to the first.

BASIC COURSE FOR DIRECTORS (Annual):

10 weekends for those who have never followed anything specific about conducting, on the same weekends as the Three-Year School for Conductors. Those enrolled in the Basic Course will be able to follow the masterclasses in their own right.

EDUCATIONAL PATH FOR SINGERS:

Every academic year: at least 10 face-to-face evening meetings of 2.5 hours each on choral literacy subjects (choral reading, vocalisation, listening education, monographic seminars). Courses held in all provinces of the Region. Meetings can be held in presence, online and in mixed mode (presence and online).

CHORAL ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNICATION AND MANAGEMENT (ACM) PATHWAY:

5 online training sessions (2 hours each) to manage and grow a choral association

Costs:

One year of the Three-Year Course: (400 € - 270 €*)

Annual course: (500 € - 350 €*)

Individual Masterclasses: (50 € - 30 €*)

NB: The cost of the three-year course and the cost of the annual course includes attendance at all 10 Saturday in-person lessons, the 10 Sunday masterclasses and the online and self-administered lessons as per the 'Structure' on page 7.

() Reduced fee for AERCO, ANDCI, AISCGRE, PIMS members.*

Registration:

To register for one-year courses, three-year courses and individual masterclasses, an online form is available at: <https://form.jotform.com/aercobologna/iscrizioneaccademiakorale>

Payments are possible by bank transfer, credit card and PayPal.

General Course Structure:		Annual Course	Three-year course		
			1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Characterising activities	Mode				
Choral Technique (Petra Grassi & Manolo da Rold)	P	25	25	20	20
Vocality, diction, body awareness (Catharina Scharp)	P	30	30	25	25
Score Reading (Daniele Sconosciuto)	P	//	//	30	30
Sung reading (Daniele Sconosciuto)	P	20	20	//	//
Choral Composition and Arrangement (Giorgio Susana)	O	20	20	20	//
Complementary training activities					
Ear-Training (Fabio Ferrucci)	O	20	20	//	//
Semiography (Luca Buzzavi)	A	//	//	//	20
History of Choral Music (Francesco di Fortunato)	O	//	//	20	20
Introduction to Gregorian Chant (Luca Buzzavi)	A	20	20	//	//
Sound Engineering, Recording, Acoustics (Eddy Cavazza)	O	//	//	20	
Management, Organisation, Social Media	O	20	20	//	//
		155	155	135	115
Choral Repertoire and Master with Guest Lecturers and AERCO Lecturers					
1 - Masterclass: 'Sundays with Petra Grassi'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
2 - Masterclass: 'Sundays with Manolo da Rold'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
8 - Masterclass with Martino Faggiani: 'Tutti all'Opera!'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
4 - Masterclass with Basilio Astulez: 'Youth Choirs, our Future'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
5 - Masterclass: 'Sundays with Petra Grassi'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
6 - Masterclass with Walter Testolin: 'The Sounds of the Renaissance'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
7 - Masterclass: 'Sundays with Manolo da Rold'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
8 - Masterclass with Enzo Marino: 'Non-idiomatic reticular method'.	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
9 - Masterclass with Anna-Maria Hefe: 'The magical world of the overtone singing'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
9 - Masterclass with Paul Phoenix: 'Vocal Pop a Cappella'	P	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5
	TOTAL	65	65	65	65
TOTAL HOURS		220	220	200	200

Legend

P	Lecture in presence
O	Online lesson
A	Self-administered lecture

Saturday timetable:

Saturday 29/10/2022		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 5/11/2022		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 19/11/2022		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 28/1/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 11/2/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 25/2/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 11/3/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 25/3/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 15/4/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality, Body Awareness	Reading the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique	Vocality, Body Awareness
17:00 - 19:00	Sung Reading	Conducting Technique

Saturday 29/4/2023		
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students of the three-year course Annual course students	2nd and 3rd year students
10:00 - 13:00	Vocality Exams	Exams of Reading of the Score
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval	
14:30 - 17:00	Conducting Technique Exams	Vocality Exams
17:00 - 19:00	Exams of Sung Reading	Conducting Technique Exams

Manolo Da Rold	
Petra Grassi	
Catharina Scharp	
Daniele Sconosciuto	

Sunday timetable:

Sunday 30/10/2022	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 10:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (brain-storming)
10:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (teaching parts)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (concertation) (*)

Sunday 6/11/2022	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 10:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (brain-storming)
10:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (teaching parts)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (concertation) (*)

Sunday 20/11/2022	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Martino Faggiani (Tutti all'Opera!)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Martino Faggiani (Tutti all'Opera!) (*)

Sunday 29/1/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Basilio Astulez (Youth Choirs, our future)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Basilio Astulez (Youth Choirs, our future) (*)

Sunday 12/2/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 10:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (brain-storming)
10:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (teaching parts)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Petra Grassi (concertation) (*)

Sunday 26/2/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Walter Testolin (The Sounds of the Renaissance)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Walter Testolin (The Sounds of the Renaissance) (*)

Sunday 12/3/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 10:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (brain-storming)
10:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (teaching parts)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Manolo da Rold (concertation) (*)

Sunday 26/3/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Vincenzo Marino (non-idiomatic reticular method)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Vincenzo Marino (non-idiomatic reticular method) (*)

Sunday 16/4/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Anna-Maria Hefe (Overtone Singing)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Anna-Maria Hefe (Overtone Singing)

Sunday 30/4/2023	
Timetable	Ist, 2nd and 3rd year students Three-year course students
9:00 - 13:00	Masterclass with Paul Phoenix (The Vocal Pop a Cappella)
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch interval
14:30 - 17:00	Masterclass with Paul Phoenix (The Vocal Pop a Cappella)

Manolo Da Rold	
Petra Grassi	

Exams

Following regular attendance of each academic year (for both the one-year and the three-year course), it is necessary to sit the final examination with the award of a Diploma of Merit. In addition, there will be the possibility of attending a master's degree course for one or more years at the end of the three-year course. Within the master's course, participants will attend the same courses as in the three-year school, in addition to the opportunity to undertake research courses aimed at achieving the master's degree. The minimum attendance required to sit the final examination is 70% of the hours in attendance.

The Artistic Direction of the School

Andrea Angelini



Artistic Director

Born in Bologna, [Andrea Angelini](#) moved to Rimini as a child where he began studying piano at the ['G. Lettimi' Institute of High Artistic and Musical Education, Lettimi'](#). At the same time, he began his experience as a singer and later as director of the [Carla Amori Polyphonic Choir](#). He obtained an Academic Diploma in Piano at the Ferrara Conservatory. In the meantime, he also studied Organ at the Conservatory of Pesaro, Composition and Choir Conducting with Fulvio Angius, Peter Phillips, Michele Peguri and Leonardo Lollini at the Academy of Arts in Rome, the Oakham School (UK) and the Conservatories of Adria and Cesena. At the latter Conservatory he obtained a second level Academic Diploma in Choral Music and Choir Direction. Andrea is the founder and artistic director of the Associazione Musicale Musica Ficta, which has been operating since 2000 in Italy and abroad. Within this Association he founded and conducts [the Vocal Ensemble MusicaFicta](#) with which he performs concerts in Italy, Israel and the United States of America. With the Carla Amori Polyphonic Choir, he has conducted over 200 concerts in Italy, England, Germany, Sweden, Poland, Hungary and France. Winner of the IFCM competition in 2009, he became [Editor-in-Chief](#) of the International [Choral Bulletin \(ICB\)](#), a position he will hold until 2020. During his experience within [the International Federation of Choral Music](#) he has the opportunity to participate in Choral Symposia and Meetings around the world, conducting courses and workshops at major international choral conferences. He was previously Editor-in-Chief of [FarCoro](#), [AERCO's](#) choral magazine, and is still Editor-in-Chief of [DIRIGO](#), the magazine of [the National Association of Italian Choral Conductors](#), of which he is also a member of the Scientific Committee. Andrea Angelini is the Director of several Festivals and Choral Competitions including the Rimini [International Choral Competition](#) (Rimini, Italy), the [Claudio Monteverdi International Choral Festival](#) (Venice, Italy), the [Queen of the Adriatic Sea Choral Festival and Competition](#) (Cattolica, Italy), the [Liviù Borlan Choral Festival](#) (Baia Mare, Romania), the [Romano Gandolfi International Competition for Choral Conductors](#) (Parma, Italy), the [Giuseppe Savani National Choral Competition](#) (Carpi, Italy). He is continuously called upon as a jury member at choral performance and choral conductor competitions in Italy and worldwide (Europe, Russia, Japan, China, Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, USA). He has conducted choral masterclasses at public (Conservatories of Moscow, Minsk, Budapest, Seoul, Timisoara, Prague) and private institutions. He has written numerous transcriptions and arrangements for choir. His transcription of Faure's Requiem is published by [Gelber Hund Verlag](#) in Berlin. For the American publication [CanticaNOVA](#), he prepared transcriptions of important Renaissance motets. He has published his compositions with [Eurarte](#) and [Ferrimontana](#). In the educational field, he is very active both as a teacher (he teaches Choir Direction for Music Didactics at the [Cesare Pollini Conservatory in Padua](#)) and as artistic director of [the AERCO Academy](#) and the International Courses in Rimini. Since 2015 he has been President of [AERCO, the Associazione Emiliano-Romagnola Cori](#). He has been Italy's representative at the World Choral Council, while for his merits in the choral field he is an honorary member of [ACDA](#) (American Choral Directors Association) and of the Choir Directors Association of Croatia.

Silvia Biasini



Artistic Director

Silvia Biasini obtained the 2nd Level Academic Diploma in Choir Direction and Choral Composition (cum laude and honourable mention), the 1st Level Academic Diploma in Choir Direction (cum laude) at the *G. B. Martini* Conservatory in Bologna under the guidance of maestros Lollini and Scattolin, the 1st Level Masters Degrees, both cum laude, in *Didactics and Psychopedagogy for Dsa and Bes* and in *Didactic Strategies and Good Practices in Multicultural Classrooms*. He has deepened his study of choir conducting, especially at the *Scuola Superiore della Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo* with maestros Corti, Graden, Busto, Marzilli, Donati, Marzola and Broadbent. He studied with Bressan and Kaljuste. He studied Piano, Composition with maestros Cappelli, Scannavini, Landuzzi and Benati and Gregorian Chant with Albarosa, Rampi, Corno, Spremulli. For teaching and inclusion he has attended courses held by Leo, Nemes, Pastormerlo, Oetterlia, Strobino, Castellucci, Visioli, Valvanne, Vila, Boito, Pangia, Astulez, Piccardi, Scarpa, Facci. He is a piano teacher, ear training, a member of the *music and disability* team, an expert in musical propaedeutics and school choir in kindergartens and primary schools for the C. G. Andreoli, Mirandola (MO) and for the province of Forlì-Cesena. Since 2009, she has been the artistic director of the *MusiCaesena Academy* (FC), where she oversees the *Ecce Novum Choir* and the *MusiCaesena Vocal Group*. She has an intense concert activity as choir and orchestra conductor, including participation in two *Ravenna Festival* events in June 2019 with the *Ecce Novum Choir* and the *Faventia Ensemble*. In addition to her intense concert activity, she carries out an important work of in-depth musical research and transcriptions of repertoires from the Romagna region. She is the artistic director together with Luca Buzzavi of the *Suoni e Colori* Choral Festival, now in its 11th edition, and together with Andrea Angelini of the *Aerco-Academy Choral Academy*. She is called on as a jury member in important national and international competitions. In the two-year period 2017-18 she was director of the Youth Choir of Emilia-Romagna and since 2016 she has been a member of the Artistic Commission of AERCO.

Course Teachers

Petra Grassi



Conducting Technique

Petra Grassi is one of Europe's brightest young conductors, awarded prizes at the most prestigious international competitions. She graduated in piano and music education at the Trieste Conservatory, where she also studied composition. She also specialised at the Ljubljana Academy of Music in conducting and composition. She graduated with honours from the two-year choral conducting course at the Conservatory of Trento. He has won numerous national and international choir conducting competitions (Choir Prize as the best conductor at the *World Choral Conducting Competition 2019 Hong Kong- China*, 1st prize choir conducting competition *Zvok moji rok*, 2016- Ljubljana, 3rd prize international choir conducting competition organised by European Choral Association, 2016- Turin, 1st prize choir conducting competition *Le mani in suono*, 2015 - Arezzo). He is guest conductor of the professional *Slovenian Philharmonic Choir* in Ljubljana. With the *Vikra*- vocal choir from Glasbena matica and the women's choir *Kraški slavček* - Krasje, she has won only first prizes at national and international choir competitions (Vittorio Veneto, Arezzo national, Malcesine, Corovivo, Sozvočenja- Slo, Bad Ischl- Austria, Olomouc- Czech Republic). From 2016 to 2020 she was chosen as the first director of the *Friuli Venezia Giulia Youth Choir*. Since 2017 she has been artistic director of the semi-professional chamber choir *DEKOR* with which she won the 1st absolute prize at the Slovenian national choral competition *Naša pesem* in Maribor, also winning the prize for best conductor. As a young conductor, she was invited to join TENSO, the European network of professional choirs and conductors. In this network, she conducted the *Estonian Chamber* choir in Belgium and the choir of Radio Television Zagreb - Croatia (2017) as part of the invitation-only masterclasses. He collaborates as a choir director with the International Operetta Association. He is a jury member in international competitions for choir conductors, teaches choir

conducting in Ljubljana and Nova Gorica for JSKD- Slovenia and collaborates with the Ljubljana Academy of Music. In addition, she received the prestigious award *Zlati znak-golden emblem* of the JSKD (National Ministerial Body for Choral Culture) for national and international artistic merits in the field of vocal music. She was invited to hold an atelier for the *Europa Cantat junior* 2020. Since 2020, she has been co-director of the *Italian Youth Choir*.

Manolo Da Rold



Conducting Technique

A native of Belluno, he obtained his diplomas in Organ and Organ Composition at the Conservatorio 'A. Steffani' in Castelfranco Veneto, and in Sacred Music at the Conservatorio 'Santa Cecilia' in Rome with top marks and honours. He has subsequently attended numerous specialisation courses for organ, choral conducting and composition under the guidance of various teachers. He has performed both as a soloist and in duos and trios with singers and instrumentalists, taking part in national and international organ concerts and festivals. He has directed numerous vocal and instrumental groups and since 1998 he has been the director of the *Corale Zumellese di Mel*, a mixed polyphonic choir with over 800 concerts throughout Europe and overseas to its credit, at the helm of which he has won first prizes and special jury prizes at national and international choral competitions. Since 1999, he has been the director and founder of the small children's choir 'Roberto Goitre' in Mel, made up of children aged between seven and eleven. He is the director of the "Roberto Goitre" Youth Treble Voices Choir of Mel, made up of children aged twelve to sixteen, with whom he performs intense concert activities. He was the founder and conductor of the "Melos" Valbelluna boys' choir, the "E. R. Duni" Chamber Choir of the Matera Conservatory and other vocal groups. He conducted world premieres of works by Javier Busto, Ivo Antognini, Piero Caraba, Sandro Filippi, Giorgio Susana, Battista Pradal, Andrea Basevi, Manolo Da Rold and national premieres of music by Z. Randall Stroope, Ivo Antognini, Erlend Fagertun, Trondt Kverno, Don McDonald. Winner of national and international composition competitions he publishes with "Alliance music publication" (USA), Edition ICOT (Japan) Ut Orpheus Edizioni, Sonitus, Edizioni Musicali Europee, ASAC, Feniarco, many of his works have been included in music collections and specialised magazines. He collaborated for many years as a composer with the historic choral and educational music magazine 'La Cartellina'. He has published numerous musical analyses, interviews and articles in specialised magazines. He teaches vocal ensemble music and choral repertoire at the 'Girolamo Frescobaldi' Conservatory in Ferrara. He teaches at the "Righele" ASAC Veneto academy and Contemporary repertoire at the "G. Rossini" choir conducting academy in Sassari. For many years he was a lecturer at the Mel Residential Course. He is the artistic director of the "Rassegna Internazionale di Canto Corale" in Mel, the music festival "I concerti del Borgo" and other choral and instrumental music events. He is a founding member and member of the Board of Directors of ANDCI Associazione Nazionale Direttori di Coro Italiani, he has been Artistic Commissioner of ASAC Veneto for three consecutive terms, and is a member of the Artistic Committee of the Concorso Nazionale Corale di Vittorio Veneto and of the Concorso Musicale Città di Belluno. He has been invited several times as a jury member to national and international choral singing and composition competitions. He has deepened his study of theological and liturgical disciplines by studying at the Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose delle Venezie. He is Organist in the Archpriest's Church in Mel (BL).

Catharina Scharp



Vocality, Diction, Body Awareness

She was born in Stockholm, Sweden, where she began her vocal and musical studies at the age of 9, at the prestigious music school 'Adolf-Fredriks Musikskola', specialising in Choral Singing. At the age of 15, she joined the Oscars Motettkör Choir, under the leadership of the charismatic conductor and composer Torsten Nilson, with whom she participated in numerous national and international events and also won the 'Guido d'Arezzo' International Polyphonic Competition in 1980. After a period of study with Prof. Berit Hallqvist, at the Kungliga Musikhögskolan in Stockholm, she moved, thanks to a scholarship from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to Italy where she graduated in Singing, with top marks, at the Conservatory of Music in Perugia. She attended specialisation courses in "Interpretation of the German Lied", with Prof. Hildegund Lohmann-Becker (Germany), in "Interpretation of Lyric Opera", with Elisabeth Söderström (Sweden), Håkan Hagegård (Sweden), Carmen Gonzalez (Italy) and in "Interpretation of the Modern Contemporary Repertoire" with Rosemary Hardy (England). In March 2007, she obtained her 2nd Level Academic Diploma in Singing, maxima cum laude, at the Conservatory of Music in Perugia. Over the years, she has performed many concerts in Italy, Belgium, Austria, Holland and Sweden, specialising in chamber music repertoire and collaborating with festivals and cultural associations such as the Goethe Institut - Institute of German Culture in Bologna, the Institute of Italian Culture in Brussels, Belgium, the Institute of Culture in Amsterdam, Holland, the Conservatory of Zwolle, Holland, the Tagliacozzo Festival, the Symphony Orchestra of Perugia, The Museum of Dance, Stockholm, Sweden, 'Music at the Karlberg Castle', Stockholm, Sweden, Friends of Music, Perugia, 'Norrbrärke Dalarna Festival', Sweden, the 'Millesgården' Art Museum, Stockholm, Sweden, 'Villach Kultur' Villach, Austria, AGIMUS, Perugia and 'Festival of Nations', Città di Castello. In addition, he has participated many times in programmes on Italian television, on RAI UNO, RAISAT and on CANALE 5. He was the voice of the theme song for the television programme 'La Domenica Sportiva', which aired on RAI UNO from 1992 to 1996, and he has recorded concerts for the Italian radio network RAI and Swedish radio SVT. In 2001, he sang at the concert for Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Square, Rome, with an audience of over 100,000 people, and at the related TV programme broadcast live on RAI UNO and RAI SAT. He also recorded for Sony Classical and Vatican Radio the album "ABBA' PATER" with the participation of the Holy Father John Paul II (platinum in several countries). Since 1999, he has been teaching opera and chamber music singing at the Municipal School "G.Puccini" in Città di Castello (PG). He has held numerous courses and masterclasses in vocal technique and interpretation, both for soloists and for vocal groups and choirs. She looks after the vocal preparation of the Children's Choir and the Youth Choir of the "Octava Aurea" Association (of which she is also a founding member), which carries out its activities in collaboration with the "Brunello and Federica Cucinelli" Foundation. She has been a member of juries for national and international singing and choral singing competitions several times.

Daniele Sconosciuto

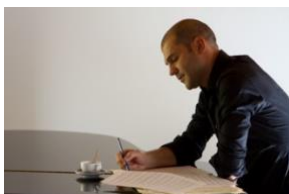


Reading of the Score and Sung Reading

Born in Mesagne (BR) in 1983, he has lived in Bologna since 2002. Graduated in piano at the Istituto Musicale Pareggiato "G. Verdi" in Ravenna (2007), graduated in DAMS-Music at the University of Bologna (2009) with a thesis in Music Pedagogy (*The music laboratory as a teaching strategy for deuterio-learning*), qualified to teach piano at the Conservatory "G. Frescobaldi" of Ferrara (2010), graduated in Music Disciplines at the University of Bologna (2012) with a thesis in Musical Palaeography (*The Antiphonary-Gradual of the "Alfredo Calabrese" Private Library - Campi Salentina - LE*), graduated in Orchestra Conducting (2020) at the Conservatory of Music "G. Verdi" in Milan, where he studied with Maestros Vittorio Parisi (Conducting) and Marco Munari (Reading of the Score, Maestro Collaboratore at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan). He attended Masterclasses and Conducting Workshops in Italy and Europe to deepen his knowledge of the symphonic and operatic repertoire. He was didactic coordinator and member of the Board of Directors of the Association "Le Muse e il Tempo - Centro di formazione ricerca e didattica della musica" (2006-2012, Bologna) and was consultant as assistant archivist for the reorganisation and cataloguing of the Orchestra Mozart's

musical materials (2013-2014, Bologna) under the artistic direction of Claudio Abbado. He performs an intense concert activity as pianist in chamber music ensembles, as collaborating maestro in opera choirs and as choir and orchestra conductor. He is a piano teacher at I.C. Granarolo dell'Emilia, organist in the parish of Saints Bartolomeo and Gaetano in Bologna and choir director of the Cultural Centre 'L'Arengo' in Bologna. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Provincial Delegate of AERCO for the province of Bologna (Associazione Emiliano Romagnola COri).

Giorgio Susana



Choral Composition and Arrangement

A graduate in Pianoforte, Conducting, Choral Composition and Teaching, he has an intense concert activity in Italy, France, Slovenia, Croatia, Austria, Germany, Argentina, Taiwan and Japan, in prestigious concert halls and festivals. He is pianist in several chamber ensembles and accompanist pianist for opera and pop/jazz singers. He has always supported teaching activities and the growth of young people through singing and music. He is the founder and current conductor of the youth orchestra *OrcheStraForte*, the youth choir *SingOverSound* and other youth choirs and orchestras. He is also conductor of the male choir *Corocastel* with which he performs an intense and fruitful concert activity and with which he has won numerous competitions and awards. He has composed choral music, chamber music, sacred oratorios, musicals and songs. His compositions and arrangements are not only performed in Italy but also regularly in various countries around the world by prestigious choirs conducted by renowned masters. He has received awards in numerous national and international competitions as composer and conductor and prestigious career prizes. He is published by *Alliance Music Publications* (Houston, U.S.A.), *PanaMusica* (Tokyo, Japan), *Sonitus Music Editions*, *Feniarco*, *Asac Veneto* and *Usci F.V.G.* G. Susana is Regional Artistic Commissioner of A.S.A.C. Veneto, of the *Concorso Nazionale Corale Città di Vittorio Veneto*, of the *Assoc. Nazionale Direttori di Coro* (A.N.D.C.I.).

Luca Buzzavi



Introduction to Gregorian Chant and Semiography

Luca Buzzavi obtained a Second Level Degree in Prepolyphony at the *G. Verdi Conservatory* in Turin under the guidance of Maestro Fulvio Rampi, a First Level Degree in Choir Direction and Choral Composition (with honours and honourable mention) at the *L. Campiani Conservatory* in Mantua, a Degree in Physics (with honours) at the *University of Bologna*, a First Level Master's Degree in Teaching and Psychopedagogy for DSA and BES and a First Level Master's Degree in Teaching and Psychopedagogy for DSA and BES. *Campiani Conservatoire* in Mantua, a degree in Physics (with honours) from the *University of Bologna*, a first-level university master's degree in Didactics and Psychopedagogy for DSA and BES and in Strategies and Good Practices in Multicultural Classrooms (both with honours). He has studied Classical Guitar and attended numerous masterclasses on choral conducting (in particular the *Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo* with maestros Donati, Marzola, Marzilli, Pavese, Berrini, Graden, Corti, Busto, Rasmussen, Lah, Broadbent, and in other intensive courses with Phillips, Krawczynski, Leech), Conducting (Nicotra, De Palma) and on Music Didactics and Pedagogy (Leo, Astulez, Visioli, Piccardi, Oetterli, Paduano). He teaches classical guitar, ear training and choral singing at the *Fondazione Andreoli* dei comuni dell'Area Nord di Modena, where he prepares the choral singing class consisting of the *Aurora Children's and Youth Choir*. For the same Foundation, he is an external expert in primary schools for projects concerning Propedeutica Musicale and the school choir and a member of the Disability Project team. He is the artistic director of *Accademia Corale Teleion* (Poggio Rusco - MN) where he supervises the chamber choir *Gamma Chorus* and the *Schola Gregoriana Matilde di Canossa*, and organises and holds seminars and summer courses with illustrious teachers on Gregorian Chant and Polyphony. In particular, he is the artistic director and teacher at the School and Summer Course of Gregorian Chant in collaboration between *Accademia Corale Teleion* and the professional ensemble *Cantori Gregoriani*. He teaches the 1st Online Course in Gregorian Chant and the 2nd Online Course: Actuality and Rhetoric in Gregorian Chant, promoted by AERCO. He

is a member of the editorial board of the magazines *FarCoro* and *Dirigo*. He has obtained important results and awards in national choral competitions as conductor, composer and commissioner.

Fabio Ferrucci



Theory and Perception (Ear-Training)

Fabio Ferrucci was born in Faenza in 1969. He began his musical studies at the age of 10, first at the 'G. Sarti' School of Music in Faenza, where in 1987 he was awarded the 'E. Placci' scholarship as the best student pianist, and later at the 'F. Venezze' Conservatory in Rovigo, where he graduated in Pianoforte in 1989 under the guidance of Paolo Bidoli and Luca Paganini. At the same Conservatory, he also obtained diplomas in Choral Music and Choir Direction with Marina Malavasi, Music Didactics with Ida Maria Tosto and the final certificate in Musical Acoustics and Tuning with Agostino Montalbano. At the Conservatorio 'G. B. Martini' in Bologna he attended the Electronic Music course held by Lelio Camilleri, graduating in 2001. From 1989 to 1993 he attended the courses of the Piano Academy 'Incontri col Maestro' in Imola. In 1991 he came 2nd (4th in the overall ranking) in the Competition for the teaching of Music Ed in Secondary Schools in the province of Ravenna and in 1993 he came 1st (2nd in the overall ranking) in the Competition for the teaching of Music Ed in Secondary Schools in the same province. Parallel to his musical studies, he cultivated his humanistic ones: after obtaining his Scientific Maturity with top marks, he graduated in Philosophy with top marks and honours at the University of Bologna with a thesis on Renaissance memory systems. He began his teaching career as a piano teacher at the 'G. Sarti' Municipal School of Music in Faenza, a position he has held continuously since 1989. From 1994 to 1999 he taught Music Education at the Scuola Media 'S. Umiltà' in Faenza. He has held training and refresher courses for teachers of Music Education. He has performed in concerts both as a pianist (soloist, in various chamber ensembles and with orchestra) and as director of the polyphonic choir 'Kairòs' of Imola (Bo) with which he performed from 1995 to 2002. Winner of the National Competition for examinations and qualifications, since 1999 he has been teaching Theory, Rhythmics and Musical Perception at the Conservatory "Arrigo Boito" in Parma, where he also holds the position of Discipline Referent and Coordinator of the Department of Historical and Musicological Theoretical Disciplines. He has been a Tutor at the Conservatory since 2012 and a Teaching Coordinator since 2016. He constantly carries out periods and training courses both in Italy and abroad, as well as an intense mobility activity for training and teaching at European Academies and Conservatories. A jury member for two editions of the International Solfège Competition in Ljubljana (2015 and 2017), in October 2017 he was invited by the prestigious Gnesins Academy in Moscow to hold an Eartraining masterclass. A *curriculum designer* within the strategic partnerships [VoxEarlyMus](#) and European Opera Academy, he is also responsible for the Conservatoire for the [National Coordination on Refugee Qualification Assessment](#). Since 2018, he has been on [ANVUR](#)'s register of AFAM Disciplinary Experts. In 2020 he is called to join the INDIRE National Agency's consultation group as AFAM expert for the implementation of the Erasmus+ 2021-2027 programme. He conceived and organises "[Let's hear it in Parma - connecting ears!](#)", an international workshop and forum dedicated to eartraining research that brings together European teachers representing different methodologies every year in January. Since 2015, Sentiamoci a Parma has enabled the creation of a network of over 100 lecturers in the field from 25 countries. In 2019 he is among the winners of the first edition of the "Leonardo da Vinci" prize, established by MIUR to enhance at international level the skills and capabilities of the human capital of Italian higher education and research, being awarded one of the two scholarships made available to AFAM institutions, thanks to which he has the opportunity to collaborate as a *visiting academic* with UiT in Tromsø (Norway), an institution where the only European two-year specialisation course in Eartraining is active. In 2020, he won the 'Leonardo da Vinci' prize for the second time, thanks to a cooperation project with the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague (Holland) and the Latvian Academy of Music in Riga (Latvia). He collaborated on the creation of the Italian version of the eartraining software EarMaster. His passion for the role of memory in learning mechanisms led him to become interested in ancient memory arts and modern mnemonics. At Anima Edizioni in Milan, he published 'L'arte della memoria di Giordano Bruno' (3rd reprint 2010) in 2006, producing the first functional Italian translation of

De Umbris Idearum and the practical and concrete treatment of the memory techniques devised by the philosopher from Nola.

Francesco Di
Fortunato



History of Choral Music

He began his singing career at the age of nine when he joined the 'Pueri Cantores' of the Sistine Chapel, where he received his first rudiments of music. He continued to study singing and piano privately, and to sing in choirs. He is currently studying Renaissance and Baroque singing with Furio Zanasi at the L. Refice Conservatory in Frosinone and opera singing with Marika Spadafino. He perfected his skills through solo singing masterclasses with Emma Kirkby, and ensemble music masterclasses such as the 'Italia mia' workshop on the madrigal of the 16th century held by W. Testolin; as well as an annual Saint Louis piano jazz workshop, or E. Baiano's harpsichord masterclass. As a boy, he sang in the youth choir of the academy of Santa Cecilia, with which he took part in some interesting productions including Mozart's opera *Così fan tutte*. Later, he worked as a cantor in the Giulia Chapel Choir and in the Choir of the Musical Chapel of the Oratory of San Filippo Neri, with which he recorded some polyphonic and Gregorian pieces for Vatican radio. He recently worked for three years in the Sistine Chapel Choir with which he performed in many contexts around the world, from the Auditorium Parco della Musica to Buckingham Palace and the MET gala 2018. He sang in the Sistine Chapel together with Cecilia Bartoli during the presentation of the CD *Veni Domine*, (a historic occasion since a woman had never performed in the Sistine Chapel). In addition, she participated in two recordings of the Sistine Chapel Choir for Deutsche Grammophon: the CD *Crux Benedicta* and Palestrina's *Canticle of Canticles*. He has also been part of the Sistine's 'masterclass group', engaged in a series of concerts and lectures in conservatories throughout Italy, focusing on special aspects of the ancient and sacred repertoire. He is currently part of the madrigal ensemble of the L. Refice Conservatory. He has alternated solo activity with his activity in the choir. He sang in the performance of 'Anima et corpo' by E. De Cavalieri (1600), in the 'Vespri dello stellario' by B. Rubino (1655) in the concert 'Vivaldi's Venice in the works of Canaletto', and in many other contexts related to ancient and modern music. He has organised a number of popular recitals, as a singer, harpsichordist and speaker, giving lectures on various musicological topics: 'From monody to Mozart' - on the birth and development of opera; 'Schubertiade' - Schubert's life and art, with readings and historiographical and musicological evidence; 'Of ancient and modern music' - on Baroque monody and its relationship to tradition. He wrote and staged the pastoral fable 'il lauro', with music by Monteverdi, Cavalli, Caccini and Frescobaldi. He runs the youtube channel for popularising ancient and classical music: *Musica Antica* (for dummies).

Basilio Astulez



Masterclass: Youth Choirs, Our Future

Basilio Astulez graduated in Fine Arts from the University of the Basque Country, studied music in Vitoria-Gasteiz and conducting at the Basque Choral Federation and in international courses. In 1999, he founded the women's choir *Vocalia Taldea*, with which he won many international awards. He teaches choir singing at the Municipal Conservatory of Leioa, where he founded the youth choir *Leioa Kantika Korala* in 2000 and the mixed choir *SJB* in 2007, with which he has already won numerous awards in Spain and Europe. He has recorded 12 records, travelled in Europe, America and Asia and worked with leading soloists, orchestras and conductors. He won the special prize for the best conductor at the 49th International Seghizzi Competition in Gorizia (2008) and the 38th *Florilège Vocal de Tours* (2009). In 2014, he was invited with *Leioa Kantika Korala* to the 10th International Symposium of Choral Music in Seoul. He currently teaches choral conducting at Spanish choral institutions and universities, is a jury member in competitions and holds choral singing courses in Spain and abroad. Since 2018, he has been a professor of choral conducting at the Superior Conservatory of Music of the Basque Country, *Musikene*.

Vincenzo Marino



Masterclass: Non-Idiomatic Reticular Method

Vincenzo Marino graduated in horn in 1989 under the guidance of Pietro Anfuso, and in 2009 he obtained a degree in Choral Music and Choir Direction with top marks, honours, mention and publication of the thesis. In 2012, he obtained a Master's Degree in Choir Direction in the field of Ancient Music, with top marks, praise and mention, again under the guidance of Maestro Nunzio Scibilia. He attended Masters in Artistic Phoniatics with Franco Fussi, Conducting with Aldo Ceccato and Baroque Vocality with Sonia Prina. He founded and conducted several choral ensembles with which he won several absolute prizes in regional and national competitions. With the Gruppo Vocale Euphoné, he recorded two CDs of vocal music: 'La cattedrale' produced by Wicky Music Milano; and 'Le Frottole di Isnello' financed by the Assessorato al Turismo e spettacolo of the Regione Sicilia. He took part as Arranger and Choir Director on set in the making of the film 'Seven Days' by Swiss director Rolando Colla, a film that won the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival. He prepared and conducted on set the choir for the film 'L'Ora Legale' by Ficarra and Picone produced by Medusa Film. Since 2007, he has been holding Masterclasses for choir conductors and choristers in Italy and Lebanon. From 2017 to 2019, he collaborated with the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan, preparing the Choir Laboratory for the exams taken by the Choral Conducting class. For the Faculty of Basic Theology S. Luca Evangelista in Palermo he teaches two three-year courses: 'Sacred Music and Gregorian Chant' and 'Liturgical Choir Direction'. Since 2018, he has been teaching Choir Direction and Choral Composition at the Accademia Direttori di Coro di Altavilla Milicia; he is the artistic director of InChorus Federation; of the Choral Music Competition, the Choral Composition Competition and the 'Vincenzo Amato' Festival; and of the Vocal and Instrumental Music Week of Altavilla Milicia. His concert activity continues to be intense and he has performed in Italy and abroad with concerts in Kranj, Postumia, Ljubljana, and Paris in Saint-Louis-en-l'Île.

Walter Testolin



Masterclass: Sounds of the Renaissance

Singer and conductor, he dedicates much of his musical commitment to the knowledge and dissemination of the polyphonic vocal repertoire of the Renaissance, of which he is considered one of the most attentive and significant performers, recording for major record labels including Sony Music, Archiv - Deutsche Grammophon, Alpha, Arcana, Pan Classics, Harmonia Mundi, EMI, Stradivarius. In 2001 he founded De labyrintho, which under his direction has established itself as one of the leading vocal ensembles in the performance of 15th and 16th century repertoire, performing at major European festivals and whose recordings have received acclaim such as the *Gramophone Critic's Choice* and the *Amadeus Prize for the best disc of the year*. Since 2011, he has been conducting the young vocal and instrumental ensemble RossoPorpora with whom he is developing a profound study of the Italian madrigal repertoire, which has led the group to perform, among others, at prestigious festivals such as Laus Polyphoniae in Antwerp and Oude Muziek in Utrecht. RossoPorpora's recent disc dedicated to Luca Marenzio's madrigals has been highly praised in the international press, winning, among others, the prestigious *Preis der deutschen schallplattenkritik*, the German-speaking music critic's disc award. He has sung with many of the leading conductors of the European renaissance and baroque music scene and has collaborated in concerts and recordings with the Belgian orchestra La Petite Bande conducted by Sigiswald Kuijken and for over twenty-five years with the Coro della Radio Svizzera Italiana. At the Salzburg Festspiele in 2015, he sang in Gluck's *Iphigenie en Tauride*, conducted by Diego Fasolis, directed by Moshe Leiser and Patrice Caurier and with Cecilia Bartoli in the title role. Also active in the contemporary repertoire, he has sung and conducted works by some of the leading composers of today's music scene and recently participated in the staging of the operas *Cuore di cane* by A. Raskatov and *Die Soldaten* by B. A. Zimmermann at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan. He holds courses, lectures and masterclasses at prestigious Italian and foreign institutions. He is the author of a study, which was made public during the Symposium *Josquin & the Sublime* organised by the

University of Utrecht (NL) and whose final version was published by the Rivista Italiana di Musicologia, which proposes the great Renaissance composer Josquin Desprez as the subject of Leonardo da Vinci's *Ritratto di Musico*, preserved in the Pinacoteca Ambrosiana in Milan. His articles have been published by the Italian publishers Olschki, De Agostini, Paragon and the Belgian Brepols. A convinced musical divulgator, he was the protagonist with De labyrinth of the RAI 5 programme *Come un'alma rapita* dedicated to the figure of Carlo Gesualdo da Venosa, as part of Sandro Cappelletto's *Raccontare il tempo* cycle. He also supervised the reconstruction and recording of the music contained in Caravaggio's paintings for the monograph *Dentro Caravaggio* by Tomaso Montanari, directed by Luca Criscenti, for RAI 5. He wrote for the Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana Treccani the part dedicated to the Madrigale for the volume *Musica* within the major publishing project *Il contributo italiano alla storia del Pensiero* published in 2018. Since June 2019, he has founded and directed the Bach Collegium Roma and is co-founder and artistic director of Ghimel, an association active in the field of knowledge and dissemination of musical culture and practice, which brings together different Italian artistic and cultural realities. Since 2021, he has also been teaching Renaissance and Baroque singing at the G. Tartini Conservatory in Trieste.

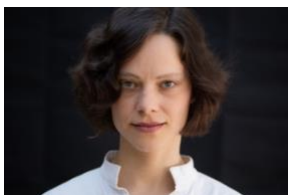
Martino Faggiani



Masterclass: Everyone to the Opera!

Martino Faggiani, born in Rome in 1962, graduated with honours in piano and harpsichord. He also holds a classical high school diploma and studied composition. He became assistant to Norbert Balatsch and assisted him in Rome in all productions, working with conductors such as Bernstein, Sinopoli, Abbado, Gatti, Thielemann, Sawallisch and Giulini. Since 1996, he has conducted the youth choir of Santa Cecilia, signing productions with Chung, Sinopoli, Gelmetti, Alessandrini, De Marchi. From 2000 to the present day, he has been Maestro of the Choir of the Teatro Regio di Parma, a group that received an Oscar for opera in 2010. At the same time, from 2008 to the present, he is *Chef des Choeurs* at the Theatre La Monnaie in Brussels where, in 2018, he prepared the choir for Wagner's *Lohengrin*. He has recorded Pizzetti's *Assassinio nella Cattedrale*, Vivaldi's *Iuditha Triumphans*, Donizetti's *Marin Faliero* and all of Verdi's operas.

Anna-Maria Hefe



Masterclass: Overtone Singing

Anna-Maria Hefe (1989) is a singer (specialising in harmony singing), musician and teacher. In 2018 she graduated in Elementary Music and Dance Pedagogy with classical singing as her main subject at the Carl Orff Institute, Mozarteum Salzburg. In 2014 she released her YouTube video Polyphonic Harmonic Singing which went viral and resulted in more than 20 million views, followed by Anna-Maria's regular appearances on various international TV shows and radio broadcasts. 'A voice like from another world', 'the lady with two voices', 'the polyphonic vocalist does the impossible': these and other titles have spread all over the world. As a music pedagogue, she travels the world to give master classes, lectures and workshops on the technique of harmony singing, its acoustics and artistic application; she is also involved in yodelling and vocal improvisation. Anna-Maria Hefe approached harmonic singing in 2005 and has been writing compositions and arrangements for polyphonic solo voice since 2006. Since 2010, Anna-Maria has worked as a soloist with various ensembles, choirs and orchestras and collaborates with contemporary composers. As a musician she is often involved in contemporary ballet, circus and dance theatre productions with harp, nyckelharpa, voice and composition.

Paul Phoenix



Masterclass: Vocal Pop a Cappella

Paul Phoenix's long career in the world of music spans five decades, from Ivor Novello Award-winning solo chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral in London, through seventeen years and two Grammy Awards as tenor in the world-renowned a cappella group *The King's Singers*, with whom he has performed in more than 2000 concerts, to the founder of *PurpleVocals*, a consultancy agency that draws on his vast experience as a singer and performer. His work not only as a speaker, coach and mentor, but also as a soloist continues to take him around the world to share his passion for singing and choral music. His teaching specialises in encouraging audience engagement and building trust with soloists, conductors, choirs and ensembles. 2019 was a pivotal year for Paul as *PurpleVocals* evolved and he became the Executive Director of the 'Paul Phoenix Academy' (PPA) in Hong Kong. The PPA is a centre of learning and excellence that offers young musicians engaging and inspiring music lessons in the heart of one of the world's most vibrant cities. In 2022, he collaborated with 'Vocasia', an award-winning ensemble from Tianjin, China, working closely with their artistic team to develop a world-class long-term learning programme for the ensemble's development. In addition to his work in Asia, Paul is the artistic director of *Nomad Vocals*, a semi-professional ensemble collective in Finland, pioneering a new model of online and autonomous learning for young singers. He lives in Cambridge, England, with his wife Helena and has two grown-up sons, Will and Ed. When not working, he enjoys cycling long distances and cheering on Manchester City!

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