An exceptional programme of Italian repertoire coaching and performances in Arte Lirica Festival including staged scenes from Così fan tutte, Cavalleria Rusticana and Falstaff.

Applications are invited from singers, pianists and instrumentalists to join Veneto Opera Summer School and Arte Lirica Festival 2020.

The programme provides high quality coaching to improve sung Italian diction, expression and performance skills and a range of exciting performances including gala concerts, pop-up events and staged scenes at Asolo’s royal opera house, Teatro Eleonora Duse.

“A fantastic experience, the coaching for any repertoire was excellent and I absolutely loved being able to perform in those stunning venues.”

VERONIKA, SOPRANO
For singers

Principal and cover roles

We invite applications from advanced and professional singers for the following roles, both principal and cover:

**Cosi fan tutte**, Mozart – full Act 1 Finale
Fiordiligi, Dorabella, Despina, Ferrando, Guglielmo, Alfonso

**Cavalleria Rusticana**, Mascagni – excerpts including the Easter Hymn
Alfio, Mamma Lucia, Santuzza

**Falstaff**, Verdi – excerpts from Act 3
Alice, Nannetta, Meg, Mistress Quickly, Bardolfo, Cajus, Fenton, Falstaff, Ford, Pistola

Chorus work
All singers will learn the chorus parts in the scenes and join the chorus when not performing a main role. There will also be the opportunity to sing in ensembles for our concerts.

Arias and songs
Singers are also invited to bring any Italian aria or song for coaching and performance during the first week.

All singers will benefit from:

- Inspiring masterclasses in sung Italian using the highly effective Melofonetica Method® to improve your diction, musicality and expression in Italian repertoire
- Tailored one-to-one music coaching
- Vocalising exercises with Italian text
- Dedicated ensemble coaching and sessions with our orchestra
- Performances in a range of exciting Festival events – see page 4
- Optional workshops on CV writing, sung phonetics and working with a pianist
- Practical tools, guidance and experience that you can take away and apply to all your Italian repertoire

“I loved every aspect of this course... Cannot recommend it enough!”

APRIL, SOPRANO

“I thoroughly enjoyed my two weeks on the course. It’s an incredibly encouraging and nurturing environment. I’ve already started looking at new repertoire and am now approaching the text completely differently. Thank you so much for everything.”

HANNAH, MEZZO
For pianists
We welcome applications from pianists who would like to develop their operatic accompaniment experience and/or skills as a répétiteur.

Pianists will:
• Accompany singers in a wide range of Italian repertoire during coaching sessions, rehearsals and performances
• Benefit from one-to-one coaching in how to use the Melofonetica Method to better prepare Italian repertoire and collaborate more effectively with singers
• Work closely alongside singers to explore how language informs phrasing and articulation
• Improve skills in orchestral playing and working with a conductor
• Perform in a range of exciting Festival events

“The Melofonetica Method showed me the beauty and sophistication of the Italian language... an amazing and fruitful experience!”
CADIS, PIANIST

For instrumentalists
We invite applications from instrumentalists who would like to develop experience in playing for opera. Specifically, we are seeking string players as well as one of each of flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet and trombone to join our ensemble.

Instrumentalists will:
• Learn how the Melofonetica Method helps orchestras and conductors to better prepare Italian repertoire
• Work closely alongside singers to explore how language informs phrasing and articulation
• Experience how clear and correct diction enhances dialogue between stage and orchestra
• Rehearse with and without singers, with time to explore new approaches with our conductor
• Perform in a range of exciting Festival events including staged scenes at Teatro Eleonora Duse, Asolo

“A great opportunity for any instrumentalist to gain experience playing in operas, with fantastic coaches and musicians.”
REBECCA, FLAUTIST
Arte Lirica Festival 2020
INCONTRI CON L’OPERA ITALIANA
Con gli artisti internazionali della Veneto Opera Summer School

ASOLO, 14–22 AUGUST 2020
A WEEK OF INSPIRING ENCOUNTERS WITH ITALIAN OPERA
With the international artists of Veneto Opera Summer School

Fabulous performance opportunities
• Gala concerts of arias, songs and ensembles
• Theatre shows at Asolo’s beautiful royal opera house, Teatro Eleonora Duse. Principal singers will perform their main roles at two theatre shows while cover singers will perform in a complete cover run for an Italian audience prior to the theatre shows.
• Other exciting Festival events including pop-up events in Asolo’s main square and a lecture recital.

“I came away feeling very proud of what we’d produced in the two weeks together and very impressed with the quality of everything that was performed.”

CATE, SOPRANO

About Arte Lirica Festival
We’re delighted to be running the second edition of Arte Lirica Festival in Asolo and surrounding towns in 2020. Supported by the Comune di Asolo, the Festival aims to inspire and engage both local residents and tourists, showcasing the excellence of Italian opera repertoire and the talent of our international summer school artists.

In 2019, the Festival gained significant press attention and was featured in numerous local and regional newspapers and TV channels including RAI news.

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Faculty

Dr. Matteo Dalle Fratte, Lead Coach and Artistic Director
Matteo is Melofonetica’s Founder and a renowned Italian Coach, working at the Royal Opera House, National Opera Studio, Guildhall School in London and other leading conservatoires. He coaches on a wide range of productions and recordings and works with international conductors including Sir Mark Elder and Sir John Eliot Gardiner. He is also a musicologist and tenor, having trained in Italy with Paolo Badoer, a pupil of Gilda Dalla Rizza, Puccini’s favourite soprano. Matteo will be leading the programme and providing masterclasses and one-to-one coaching in sung Italian.

Peter Ford, Conductor
Peter is a music director, coach, and educator, working throughout the UK and Europe. He made his international conducting debut at the opening night of the 2016 Birgitta Festival, conducting Così fan tutte with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra. Peter is Co-Founder and Artistic Director of The Black Cat Opera Company, with recent Italian-language productions including Don Giovanni, Falstaff, Così fan tutte, and La bohème. Peter conducts our Festival performances and, as an arranger and orchestrator, provides reductions for our orchestra.

Julie Aherne, Pianist
A UK-based pianist, music director and coach, Julie is a Co-Founder of The Black Cat Opera Company, and has worked as répétiteur and producer on productions of Don Giovanni, Carmen, Falstaff, La bohème and Così fan tutte – for which she played harpsichord continuo alongside the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra at the Birgitta Festival. As a freelance pianist, she works regularly with many operatic and choral groups including the Association of British Choral Directors. Julie provides music coaching for our singers and pianists and accompanies our Festival performances.

Bernard Tan, Pianist
Bernard is an award-winning collaborative pianist, vocal coach and répétiteur. He is currently completing his doctoral studies at University of Michigan, advised by the world-renowned Martin Katz. He holds a Master of Music degree from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and has won numerous accompanist awards in the UK. Bernard’s work on operas has seen him appointed as a répétiteur on productions in the USA, Canada and Italy including Tosca, Suor Angelica and Alcina. Bernard provides music coaching for our singers and pianists and accompanies our Festival performances.

Alessandra Fasolo, Italian Coach
Alessandra is an Italian mezzo soprano who studied Classical Singing and Melodramatics at the Benedetto Marcello Conservatory of Music in Venice and the Francesco Venezze Conservatory of Music in Rovigo. As a singer, she has performed a range of principal roles including Meg Page in Falstaff, Tisbe in La cenerentola and Mamma Lucia in Cavalleria Rusticana. She is a Professor of Italian at the Guildhall School in London and has coached on a wide range of operas including, recently, Le nozze di Figaro with The Icelandic Opera. Alessandra will be providing sung Italian coaching for our singers.
Asolo is the main location of our Festival performances and is 30 minutes from Bassano. Known as ‘The pearl of the province of Treviso’, and ‘The city of a hundred horizons’ for its iconic hilltop setting, Asolo is renowned for its artistic, literary and royal connections. Queen Caterina Cornaro reigned in the 15th Century from the castle that now houses the Teatro Eleonora Duse. From that era onwards, Asolo gained an international reputation as a centre of cultural distinction.

Bassano del Grappa

Our venue, the peaceful Scalabrini Institute, is located beside the river in central Bassano del Grappa. Bassano is a beautiful, historic town at the foothills of the Alps in the Veneto region and takes its name from nearby Monte Grappa.

The historic centre of Bassano is just a 5-10 minute scenic riverside walk from our venue. It is pretty and compact with many bars, restaurants and boutiques. The architecture is a blend of typical Venetian arcaded streets and piazzas, and Austrian alpine wooden balconies.

The town is well known for its covered ‘Ponte Vecchio’ wooden bridge over the Brenta river, locally-produced ceramics and the local grappa liqueur.

Bassano is within easy reach of Venice Marco Polo, Treviso and Verona airports. There are also direct trains from Venice, Vicenza and Padova. Parking is available at our venue if required.

Accommodation

The Scalabrini Institute provides comfortable, high quality accommodation and spacious teaching rooms with views towards the mountains, the town and the famous Ponte Vecchio. The venue provides:

- Air-conditioned ensuite bedrooms
- Continental breakfast and three-course Italian lunches
- Wifi
- Use of a small kitchen and washing machine
- Access to beautiful riverside walks

“Venue (and the food!) was amazing and the course was superbly organised. Generally fantastic!”

TOM, BARITONE
Fees

Prices for the two-week programme include:

• All masterclasses, coaching, workshops and rehearsals
• All festival performances and transport to concert venues
• High quality, ensuite accommodation with air conditioning and wifi
• Breakfast every day and three-course Italian lunches on most days
• Welcome aperitivo
• Celebratory dinner

**Principal singers**: £1,495  
**Cover singers**: £1,295  
**Pianists**: £1,195  
**Instrumentalists**: £1,195

**Early bird discount**: save £100 if you apply by 31 January 2020.

**Please note**: 1. Fees are based on sharing a twin room. There are a limited number of single rooms available for a supplement of £10 per person per night. There are also a limited number of triple rooms available for a £5 reduction per person per night and quadruple rooms available for a £10 reduction per person per night. 2. Guests who are not participating in the programme may be able to stay onsite, depending on capacity. Please contact us for more information and pricing.

Optional extras

**Airport transfers**: £50 return or £30 one way (if arriving/departing from Venice Marco Polo or Treviso airports within specified times).  
**Grappa tasting** and talk at Poli Grappa Museum: £5 per person.

Deposit and instalment payments

Following your acceptance onto the programme, we will require a £250 non-refundable deposit to secure your place. The remainder of the fees must then be paid no later than 29 February 2020, or within one calendar month if booking after this date. If you prefer to spread the cost of the course, we can accept payment in up to three equal instalments as follows: instalment one by 29 February 2020, instalment two by 15 April 2020 and instalment three by 31 May 2020.

Scholarships and bursaries

We are currently seeking funding for our 2020 Badoer Dalla Rizza scholarship and bursary fund to support early-career artists. This is aimed at those who are currently studying in full-time higher education, or who have graduated within the last five years. In 2019, the fund provided a number of 50% scholarships and smaller bursaries.

We would also recommend consulting with your conservatoire/college if you are a student and/or exploring the Help Musicians Funding Wizard to see if there may be any additional funding available to you for fees and/or travel costs:  
[https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/creative-programme/funding-wizard](https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/creative-programme/funding-wizard)
How to apply
We welcome applications from singers, pianists and instrumentalists aged 18 or over.

Singers
To be considered for a principal or cover role, you’ll need to be an advanced or professional singer with experience of performing solo Italian repertoire. Please apply by 31 January 2020 to be considered in the first phase of role allocations and to qualify for the £100 early bird discount. After this date, any remaining roles will be allocated on a rolling basis to suitably experienced applicants.

Please either complete the [online application form here](#) or apply via email with the following:
- A brief CV
- A short video or audio clip of you performing any Italian repertoire
- Your voice type and which role(s) you are applying for

Applications via email should be sent to: info@melofonetica.com

Pianists and instrumentalists
To apply as a pianist or instrumentalist, you will need to have, or be studying for, a conservatoire or university music degree with a strong performance element, or have equivalent experience. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis to suitably experienced applicants. Please apply by 31 January 2020 to qualify for the £100 early bird discount.

Please either complete the [online application form here](#) or apply via email with the following:
- A brief CV
- A short video or audio clip of you performing any classical repertoire

Applications via email should be sent to: info@melofonetica.com

More information
If you have any queries about the programme or application process, or you’d like an informal chat about any aspect, don’t hesitate to contact us at info@melofonetica.com.

We look forward to receiving your application!