

Piccolo Opera Festival

is pleased to inform that registration is now open for selections for admission to the new

ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE FOR OPERA SINGERS

**Borgo Live Academy
GO! Borderless Opera Lab**

Gorizia AY 2024/2025

Project “Mille anni di storia al centro dell’Europa: Borgo Castello crocevia di popoli e di culture” (One thousand years of history at the centre of Europe: Borgo Castello, crossroads of peoples and cultures) CUP F88F22000000007

PNRR funding -Next Generation EU, for PNRR pilot project M1C3 Measure 2 Investment 2.1 line A

approved by decree no. 70/GRFVG of 03.01.2024

Applications must be submitted by
15 June 2024

Enrolment and attendance of the Course is totally free of charge

Informations

Go! Borderless Opera Lab

Registered office: Castello di Spessa – Via Spessa 1

34070 Capriva del Friuli (GO) – Italy

Headquarters: PALAZZO STRASSOLDO Piazza Sant’Antonio, 2

34070 Gorizia

Tel. +39 389 029 5464

Email. info@piccolofestival.org

Website: piccolofestival.org



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CALL FOR SELECTION

1. THE ORGANISATION

Piccolo Opera Festival, established in 2007, is a member of Italiafestival and Opera Europa and is now recognised, also internationally, as an original and emerging organisation within European opera festivals.

With the project GO! Borderless Opera Lab included in Borgo Live Academy, Piccolo Opera Festival wants to address the need to create a next-generation European musical theatre, coordinating with similar national and international projects. Higher education for musical theatre is at the heart of this project and it aims to provide students with the necessary experience and skills to achieve job placement. Particularly important is the opportunity for visibility offered by Nova Gorica and Gorizia, European Capital of Culture 2025. In the first year, special attention is devoted to the production of the opera “Il viaggio a Reims” by Gioachino Rossini (1825–2025), as the official opera of Nova Gorica – Gorizia European Capital of Culture 2025.

2. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE AND TRAINED PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

The Course is addressed to opera singers endowed with special artistic skills and high theoretical-technical preparation.

The Course is aimed at advanced training of opera singers and their professional development in line with the evolution of this sector.

In addition to refining their skills, students have the opportunity to deepen various aspects of preparation and repertoire, in particular through the intense activity linked to the practice of artistic work.

The aim of this course is a comprehensive training of opera singers in their different aspects.

3. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications for selection are open to both Italian and foreign candidates, including non-EU citizens, who:

- have reached the age of 18;
- have completed compulsory education.

The following shall constitute preferential qualifications:

- Singing Diploma or Three-Year/Master Degree from a Music Conservatory or Recognised Music Institute, or equivalent qualification issued by a foreign institution;
- Certificates of Higher Education courses relevant to the professional profile covered by this course;
- Certificates of previous professional activity consistent with the outgoing professional profile.

In the event that the studies have been completed with a private teacher, the latter shall provide a declaration of the candidate's maturity and suitability.

Foreign candidates are required to have a basic knowledge of Italian, to be tested during the selection process.

Non-EU candidates must, at every stage of this course, comply with current immigration laws.



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4. DURATION AND VENUE OF THE COURSE

The course is held in Gorizia at the premises of Palazzo Strassoldo, Piazza Sant'Antonio 2.

The duration of the course is 600 hours of training, approximately 400 hours of teaching and 200 hours of project work. The duration of the course is 7 months with approximately 20 hours per week.

Lessons begin in October with a break for Christmas holidays. Then they resume at the beginning of February and conclude at the end of April. From May to July, project work and internship training are scheduled.

5. TRAINING PROGRAMME

Course attendance is full-time and compulsory. Therefore, the Course is incompatible with other study, professional and/or artistic commitments of an ongoing nature.

Any artistic leave for external productions, auditions and competitions shall be authorised in advance by the Academy Management.

A certificate of attendance shall not be issued if a student's absences exceed 30% of the scheduled course hours.

The training programme includes both classroom lessons and workshop activities, the purpose of which is to confront students with the complex production mechanism of the opera house.

Classroom lessons:

Vocal technique; Opera and chamber repertoire; History of musical theatre; Stage art; Diction; Orientation and skills assessment; Introduction to the work environment; Health and safety on stage; Individual project work.

Masterclasses:

Special emphasis is placed on masterclasses held by industry professionals such as singers (for specific repertoires), directors and conductors, which are scheduled throughout the year.

Project Work:

Active experimentation project aimed at testing the applications studied in an artistic production context. Students may be involved as covers, individually or in groups, in projects and productions by Piccolo Opera Festival in 2025, including:

- the production of the main opera "Il viaggio a Reims" by Gioachino Rossini in collaboration with Gorizia – Nova Gorica European Capital of Culture, Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Slovenian National Theatre in Ljubljana;
- the production of the Festival's main opera "Così fan tutte" by W.A. Mozart to be staged at Teatro di Verzura in Castello di Spessa;
- any chamber opera productions to be staged throughout the year;
- projects dedicated to audience education.

Activity and internship opportunities at opera houses:

Fondazione Teatro Lirico Giuseppe Verdi in Trieste and Slovenian National Theatre in Ljubljana have offered to host particularly deserving Academy students with internships within their respective artistic programmes.



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6. TEACHING STAFF

The teaching staff is composed of highly qualified artists and industry professionals. Their names shall be published on the official website.

7. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

This course is limited to a maximum number of 10 students.

8. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registration and attendance of the Course is free of charge.

9. APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION AND SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Application for admission to the selection process must be submitted by 15 June 2024. Admission to selection is subject to acceptance of all the provisions contained in this call.

The following documents must be attached to the application under penalty of exclusion:

- registration form (downloadable online) containing all personal data;
- programme proposed by the candidate;
- web link or video of two opera arias of the candidate's choice performed from memory, complete with recitative and cabaletta possibly in two different languages;
- copy of a valid identity document (identity card or passport);
- copy of the candidate's Italian health insurance card;
- one half-length and one full-length digital photographs.

Letters of reference from authoritative representatives of the music world shall be rewarded for the assessment of qualifications.

Should they be proven false, the candidate shall be immediately excluded from selection (and, in the case of successful admission, from the Course).

10. EVALUATION OF CURRICULUM AND SELECTION TESTS

Admission to selection tests is subject to the submission of all the documents requested above.

11. PRE-SELECTION

Pre-selection is based on the positive evaluation of the candidate's curriculum vitae and audio-visual track, at the sole discretion of the Examination Committee specifically appointed by Piccolo Opera Festival.



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12. SELECTION

Selection is scheduled in Gorizia in the premises of Go! Borderless Opera Lab for the first week of July; notice for selection, with details of place and time, shall be sent to each candidate via email.

The selection process is divided into 2 stages:

- INTRODUCTORY MEETING to assess the candidates' motivations, as well as their verbal skills in Italian, interest in the course contents, CV, knowledge of the professional profile and outgoing role, any previous work experience;
- PRACTICAL APTITUDE TEST, with the performance of the programme presented by each candidate in order to test vocal and technical/interpretative skills.

Candidates are requested to prepare:

- Performance of one opera aria of the candidate's choice;
- Performance of one or more opera arias selected by the Committee from among the candidate's proposals.

The assessment shall be based on the following criteria: voice quality – technical and musical preparation – interpretation – style – stage presence – diction.

Piccolo Opera Festival will set up a special Committee to carry out the selection process.

Candidates shall provide all the scores of the chosen pieces.

Candidates shall receive by email notice for selection, which is scheduled around the beginning of July.

13. CANDIDATES ADMITTED TO THE COURSE

Admitted candidates shall be sent a written invitation to the start date and time of the Course together with a schedule of their first lessons.

The course is scheduled to begin on 7 October 2024.

By the start of the course, non-EU citizens admitted to the Course must prove that they comply with current Italian immigration legislation.


In particular, they must have, if required by law, an entry visa to study or work, or a residence permit to study or work valid for the entire duration of the Course. They shall also send a copy of the aforementioned documents to the Academy.

14. CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

The Management and teachers hold regular meetings to evaluate students, their improvements and any obstacles along the way. Students' progress towards professional completeness is monitored in workshops and field learning activities. A certificate of attendance is issued to candidates who complete the course by attending no less than 70% of the total number of training hours.

15. PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

In compliance with the obligations provided for by European Privacy Regulation EU/2016/679 (GDPR) and by Italian Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003 (Personal Data Protection Code) we hereby inform candidates that ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE PICCOLO FESTIVAL DEL FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA – with registered office in Via Spessa n. 1 – 34070 CAPRIVA DEL FRIULI (GO) – VAT number 02524820301 and tax code 94105880309 – as Data Controller processes the personal data that concern candidates and that have been or may



be provided to us - by the same candidates or third parties – during their relations with our organisation.

The processing of data, freely provided by candidates or otherwise collected, is carried out in compliance with the privacy regulations in force. It is based on the principles of correctness, lawfulness and transparency and carried out in compliance with the principles of relevance, comprehensiveness and non-excess.

Capriva del Friuli, lunedì 15 aprile 2024

Artistic director
Gabriele Ribis

Coordinator
Vanessa Codutti



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