



# Corso d'Opera

## **“CORSO D’OPERA A PALAZZO CONTUCCI” MONTEPULCIANO, ITALY**

**JULY 25 – AUGUST 10, 2014**

June 17, 2014, The third edition of the Corso d’Opera takes place July 25 – August 10, 2014 in the splendid surroundings of the Renaissance Palazzo Contucci in Montepulciano, Italy. Inspired and supported by the late Maestro Bruno Bartoletti, Corso d’Opera has as its core mission the advancement of Italian opera through an intensive training program for young professional singers. During the three-week period, the students, who come from around the world, will participate in a variety of learning opportunities, from masterclasses in vocal technique with Raphaël Sikorski, to movement classes with Anna Pasculli, stagecraft with Fabio Sparvoli and vocal interpretation with Bruno Campanella, and pianist Beatrice Benzi, to biofeed back classes with Dr. Alessandro Temperani, managing stress with Dr. Paolo Cardoso and the unique opportunity to prepare a concert with Michele Pertusi and Andrea Severi. Complete program details can be found at [www.corsodopera.com](http://www.corsodopera.com).

Following on their success of the first two years, Corso d’Opera will again offer two weekends of ‘open days’ (August 2,3 and 9,10) when the public is able to watch the young singers in vocal masterclasses, staging sessions and seminars. Two major round-table discussions will also be presented.

On August 2, “Fundraising – it works! how private financing can support culture” will feature special guests: Maurizio Roi, Presidente A.T.E.R. – (Associazione Teatrale Emilia Romagna); Stefano Merlini, Professor of Constitutional Law, ex intendent of Maggio Musicale Fiorentino; Valerio Melandri, Visiting Professor of Columbia University (New York); Gianni Tangucci, Artistic Director, Opera di Firenze; and Lorenzo Ferrero, Composer and President of the International Council of Creators of Music.

The second round-table “L’Italia all’Opera”, on August 10, will focus on the role of Italy and ‘bel canto’ in the world of international opera. Participants include celebrated Conductor Bruno Campanella, Dominique Meyer, General Director of the Vienna State Opera, and world-renowned bass-baritone Michele Pertusi.

The Corso d’Opera will culminate on August 10 in a final concert at the Teatro Poliziano featuring students in works by Mozart, Rossini, Donizetti and Verdi. They will be joined by bass-baritone Michele Pertusi and pianist Beatrice Benzi.

### **Program Details:**

The Corso d’Opera is divided into two sections. The first, from July 25 to August 2, features masterclasses in vocal technique with Maestro Raphaël Sikorski and movement classes with Anna Pasculli, dancer, choreographer, member of Münster’s Tanz-Theater, and former student of the legendary Pina Bausch. As well, from July 26-28, Dr. Alessandro Temperani, Psychologist and Psychotherapist and Certified Bionenergetic Therapist will offer group and individual sessions.

The second, from August 2 to 10 inclusive, will include vocal interpretation with M° Bruno Campanella (piano Beatrice Benzi) and M° Andrea Severi, dramatic interpretation, movement, and the use of masks in opera with Stage Director Fabio Sparvoli. They will be joined by renowned bass-baritone Michele Pertusi to prepare students for the closing concert on August 10.

Throughout the two weeks, the Opera Course will present a series of lectures and discussions to help participants expand and deepen their knowledge of the many diverse aspects of a career in opera. These discussions will range from the connection of the body and the mind, and how to strengthen the immune system to sword-fighting, preparing for auditions and career management. Selected discussions include:

- Communication and How to Manage Conflict, Stress and Mental Fatigue: Dr. Paolo Cardoso, Psychotherapist and Psychologist, will help students understand the importance of acquiring the necessary skills to communicate their ideas and opinions clearly



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and effectively and develop the tools to manage conflicts and strategies to handle stress and mental fatigue.

- o Managing Your Career: Giuseppe Oldani, A.R.I.A.C.S, President of the Italian Association of Concerts and Productions and Michele Lai, Lawyer, (Founding member of the Corso d'Opera) will discuss the professional and contractual relationships between artists, theatres and artists representatives.
- o Performance and Physical Fitness: Mario Marella, Professor of Science and Sport Technology at the University of Florence, and Director of the Studio for applied biomechanics for the Italian Federation of Soccer, along with Bass-Baritone Michele Pertusi will discuss the link between physical fitness and performance.
- o "Verdi & Puccini: Between text and music – how to read a score" with M° Lorenzo Ferrero, Composer and President of the International Council of Creators of Music, Honorary member of the Corso d'Opera.
- o Professional Image: Alessandra Torella Romagnano, Founding member of the Corso d'Opera, theatre, opera and film designer will talk about how to create a professional image through clothes and the way you dress.

#### Fees, Accommodation and Travel:

For information about fees, accommodation and travel, please go to <http://www.corsodopera.com>.

Corso d'Opera at the Palazzo Contucci gratefully acknowledges the support of the Banca Credito Cooperativo, the Fondazione Conservatorio San Girolamo, the Palazzo Contucci and the City of Montepulciano.

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#### Information about Opera Course:

Raffaella Coletti  
Direzione Generale - Direzione Artistica  
Email: [info@corsodopera.com](mailto:info@corsodopera.com)  
Tel: +39 (0)55 214705

#### Media Contact;

Moira Johnson Consulting  
Email: [moira@moirajohnson.com](mailto:moira@moirajohnson.com)  
Tel: +1 (613) 565 0666  
[www.moirajohnson.com](http://www.moirajohnson.com)