

DANTE 700

"LA DOLCE SINFONIA DI PARADISO"
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
OF SYMPHONIC COMPOSITION

A PROJECT BY

CAMERATA STRUMENTALE CITTÀ DI PRATO
LA FILHARMONIE - ORCHESTRA FILARMONICA DI FIRENZE



IN THE 700° ANNIVERSARY
OF DANTE ALIGHIERI



DANTE 700 CONCEPT

The word «sinfonia» - symphony – entered the Italian language thanks to Dante’s *Commedia*. It appears in the third *Cantica* with the verse «the dulcet symphony of Paradise». Coming from the whirling linguistic forge of him who «was of the mother tongue a better smith», the word undertook a glorious path in the history of music until today. It is this which in the first place moved two orchestras from Tuscany, *Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato* and *La Filharmonie*, to connect in an act of gratitude towards Dante, on the 700th anniversary of his death. Guiding musicians to draw inspiration from the *Divina Commedia* with an International Competition of Symphonic Composition seemed an appropriate idea to the two institutions. This competition is an invitation to dialogue with Dante and to listen to the sound of his *Commedia*. A spur to hoist a new sail «To run o'er better waters» and to find new «symphonies». - **Alberto Batisti**

JURY

Anders Hillborg (President) Composer

Silvia Colasanti- Composer

Mauro Montalbetti - Composer, Artistic Director *Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte* in Montepulciano

Giovanni Sollima - Composer, Cellist and Conductor

Jonathan Webb - Music Director *Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato*

Alberto Batisti - Artistic Director *Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato*

Paolo Cognetti - Composer, Special Projects responsible for *La Filharmonie*

ORCHESTRAS

- *Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato*
- *Orchestra Filarmonica di Firenze*

CONDUCTOR **Nima Keshavarzi**

PRIZES

- First prize: 5000 euros
- Publication of the score within the series *Stilnovo* by Edizioni Musicali Curci in Milan and promoted by CIDIM: Italian National Music Committee.
- Live performance, audio-video recording and International broadcast of finalist's compositions



DANTE 700 COMPETITION

The Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato and the Florence Philharmonic Orchestra - la Filharmonie are announcing an **international competition of symphonic composition**. Focusing on **the figure and poetry of Dante Alighieri**, the score will have to be **inspired by the Divina Commedia**, drawing inspiration from a figure, an image, a character, or a selection of verses. The competition is open to composers of any nationality and is without age limit, who should compose **a symphonic piece of maximum 15 minutes duration**. A prestigious international jury will oversee the entire process. Three scores will be selected for the final stage and will be evaluated by the jury at a public performance, after which the winner will be declared. **The three finalists' compositions will subsequently be performed and recorded during the future symphonic seasons** of Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato and la Filharmonie, and **broadcast by Rete Toscana Classica**. The **CIDIM** will manage the **production and international distribution of the final concert** among the network of Italian Cultural Institutions of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SUPPORTERS AND PATRONAGE

- Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo - Direzione Spettacolo dal vivo
- CIDIM - Comitato Nazionale Italiano Musica
- Regione Toscana
- Comune di Firenze
- Comune di Prato
- Comune di Campi Bisenzio
- Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze
- Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Prato

PARTNERS

- Teatro Politeama Pratese
- Fondazione Teatro Metastasio - Prato
- Teatrodante Carlo Monni
- Edizioni Musicali Curci - Milano
- RAI Radio 3
- Rete Toscana Classica
- Società Dante Alighieri
- Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci - Prato
- Studio Sonoria Recording Plant



CAMERATA STRUMENTALE CITTÀ DI PRATO



Twenty two years after its formation, the Camerata Strumentale is today a hub of musical activities dedicated to spreading a culture of listening, and establishing the spirit of community. The collaboration with the Scuola Comunale di Musica «G. Verdi» has underlined a vocation that the Camerata has followed from its conception, that is to make the orchestra become an available tool for everyone and to let people approach music with awareness. This works perfectly well for all generations thanks to the establishment of a joint residence of the Orchestra and the Scuola Comunale in the Palazzo della Musica in Prato.

From the spirit embedded in the Camerata, many projects and workshops have come to fruition, including the Youth Orchestra «Prato Sinfonietta» and the Chorus «Città di Prato», two bodies that involve hundreds of participants who enjoy making music together. These initiatives have in Jonathan Webb, Music Director of Camerata Strumentale since 2014, an inspired and enthusiastic promoter. The focus of this musical workshop is the artistic programming of its Orchestra, which follows an organic and ideal path through its content, making music an ethical model of sharing and social harmony, transforming the public into a community.

Founded in 1998 from an idea of Riccardo Muti and thanks to the participation of public and private forces, the Camerata is sustained by the Municipality of Prato and Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Prato. Alessandro Pinzauti was Music Director from the beginning to 2014. A significant artistic contribution to the growth of the orchestra has come from artists such as Piero Bellugi, Franco Rossi and Bruno Bartoletti. Throughout the years, the Orchestra has constantly collaborated with many artists, among whom Filippo Maria Bressan, Gary Graden and St. Jacob's Chamber Choir from Stockholm, Lorenzo Fratini and the Chorus of Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, pianists Pietro De Maria, Alessio Bax, Louis Lortie, violinist Boris Belkin and Mezzosoprano Monica Bacelli. Active in Opera, Oratorio and symphonic-choral music, the Camerata has been guest ensemble for the Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Amici della Musica di Firenze and Palermo, Sagra Musicale Umbra. It has toured to South America, performing many concerts in Argentina, Brasil, Chile and Uruguay, in Europe and Italy with music projects promoted by CIDIM. Riccardo Muti has directed the Camerata in Prato and Ravenna Festival. Recordings by the Camerata are published by CPO and Brilliant.



filharmonie

ORCHESTRA FILARMONICA DI FIRENZE

Established in 2016, the Florence Philharmonic Orchestra - La Filharmonie represents a meeting point for all those who, in different ways, work in the sectors of music, art and live performance. The Orchestra, with its more than 40 elements is the beating heart, the main reason of the Association with the same name.

Enthusiasm and youth of the musicians, all under 35 years of age, is united to an already prestigious professional profile, including experiences with the most important national and international orchestras (Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Orchestra della Toscana, Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano G. Verdi, Camerata Strumentale di Prato, Orchestra Giovanile Luigi Cherubini, Orchestra Giovanile Italiana). La Filharmonie flexibly faces symphonic music, chamber music, music theatre, ballet and new forms of artistic expression. The offer is multi-dimensional since within the many elements of the orchestra, there are already established chamber music ensembles. It is also open to multimedia and interdisciplinary experiences and it is finally transversal: it moves between various genres of the contemporary scene, not always recognizable as part of a classic-romantic repertoire.

Its Season of Opera, Ballet and Symphonic Concerts held in Teatrodante Carlo Monni-Campi Bisenzio (Florence) is the result of a constant search for elements of innovation, new sonorities, and settings, in dialogue with the vast lyric-symphonic repertoire. Each performance is then enriched by a series of didactic workshops in collaboration with schools of the territory, which encourage new generations to approach this world, creating tomorrow's audience. Renowned names and guest artists support the young orchestra professors throughout the concert seasons, among which Roberto Abbado, Alessandro Pinzauti, Sandro Laffranchini, Andrea Bruno Savelli, Robin Eubanks, Yehezkel Yerushalmi, Trio Vox, Davide Bombana, Nuovo Balletto di Toscana. Particular attention is posed on contemporary music with many premieres and new commissions to famous composers or emerging talents. Nima Keshavarzi is the artistic and music director, supported by the prestigious collaboration of M° Roberto Abbado as guest conductor and honorary artistic consultant.

CONTACTS



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