

MasterClass Proposal: "Verdi today, singing and interpretation"

with Maestros Federico Folloni and Francesco Izzo

**Duration:** 7 days

## **Premise and Objectives**

This masterclass is born from the desire to link two complementary perspectives on the music of Giuseppe Verdi: the interpretative and conducting perspective, represented by Maestro Federico Folloni, and the musicological and editorial perspective, represented by Maestro Francesco Izzo (one of the leading Verdi' scholars internationally and editor of several critical editions of the composer's works).

The main goal of this project is to offer the young singers a concrete opportunity to explore the relationship between text and music, word and sound and gesture, which lies at the very heart of Verdi's art.

The program aims to discover the theatrical and communicative power of Verdi's operas through the study also of the critical editions, which allow participants to understand the evolution of the composer's expressive intentions and to render them informed philologically and artistically.

## **Structure and Content**

The masterclass will be in 5 to 7 consecutive days and will be structured around complementary sessions:

**Introductory Seminars** focusing on working methods for critical editions, autograph variants, differences between versions of the operas, and the evolution of Verdi's musical language in relation to words and drama.

**Vocal and Interpretative Workshops** singers will work on selected arias and scenes from main operas (or it could be focused on one opera such as La Traviata, Rigoletto, Otello etc. or Un giorno di regno, edited By M° Izzo in the critical edition, or something else we can build together).

Particular attention will be devoted to declamation and diction, expressive breathing, orchestral balance, and the dramatic phrasing that characterizes Verdi's style.

**Collective Sessions** will focus on the dialogue between voice and orchestra, including ensemble rehearsals and practical simulations, in order to understand how the sung word becomes a "musical gesture."

The masterclass will culminate in a **final concert with orchestra**, conducted by Maestro Folloni, in which singers will perform the arias (or scenes studied during the course).

This project aims to offer the young artists an immersive experience in the world of Verdi, founded on a vision that links musicological research and performance practice. Its goal is to enable participants to understand how the word becomes sound and how sound becomes theatre, in order to understand how Verdi's singing may be experienced not as mere vocal display, but as a deeply dramatic and human act.

The program proposed has the aim to build a bridge between tradition and critical awareness and contribute to the training of modern, cultured interpreters who are deeply involved in the Verdian language.



Federico Folloni is represented by LM Opera Agency

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