

— | XXV EDIZIONE | —

Festival Villa Solomei

— SOLOMEO 2024 —



NOTES FROM OVERSEAS

To Father Alberto

— | XXV EDIZIONE | —

Festival Villa Solomei

— SOLOMEO 2024 —

NOTES FROM OVERSEAS

23 June

EUROPEAN FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

28 June - 2 July

CONCERTS AT THE CASTLE



FONDAZIONE BRUNELLO E FEDERICA CUGINELLI
SOLOMEO

Artistic direction Fabio Ciofini
Musical presentation of concerts by
Silvia Paparelli
Organisation and coordination
Isabella Luciani
isabella.luciani@fondazionebrunellocucinelli.it
Press Office Federica Cesarini
Teatro Stabile dell'Umbria Press Office
Audio and lighting Acoustic Light
Staging Ipso Facto
Piano hire Piano et Forte
Photos Sante Castignani
Coordinated image Iktome
Press Graphic Masters
June 2024

1974 - 2024
50th ANNIVERSARY



La Bottega Discantica
*Music publisher and record
company*

The Milan-based La Bottega
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Federica Cucinelli Foundation

La Bottega Discantica
Via Nirone, 5 - 20123 Milan
Tel. 02 862966 | info@discantica.it
www.discantica.it

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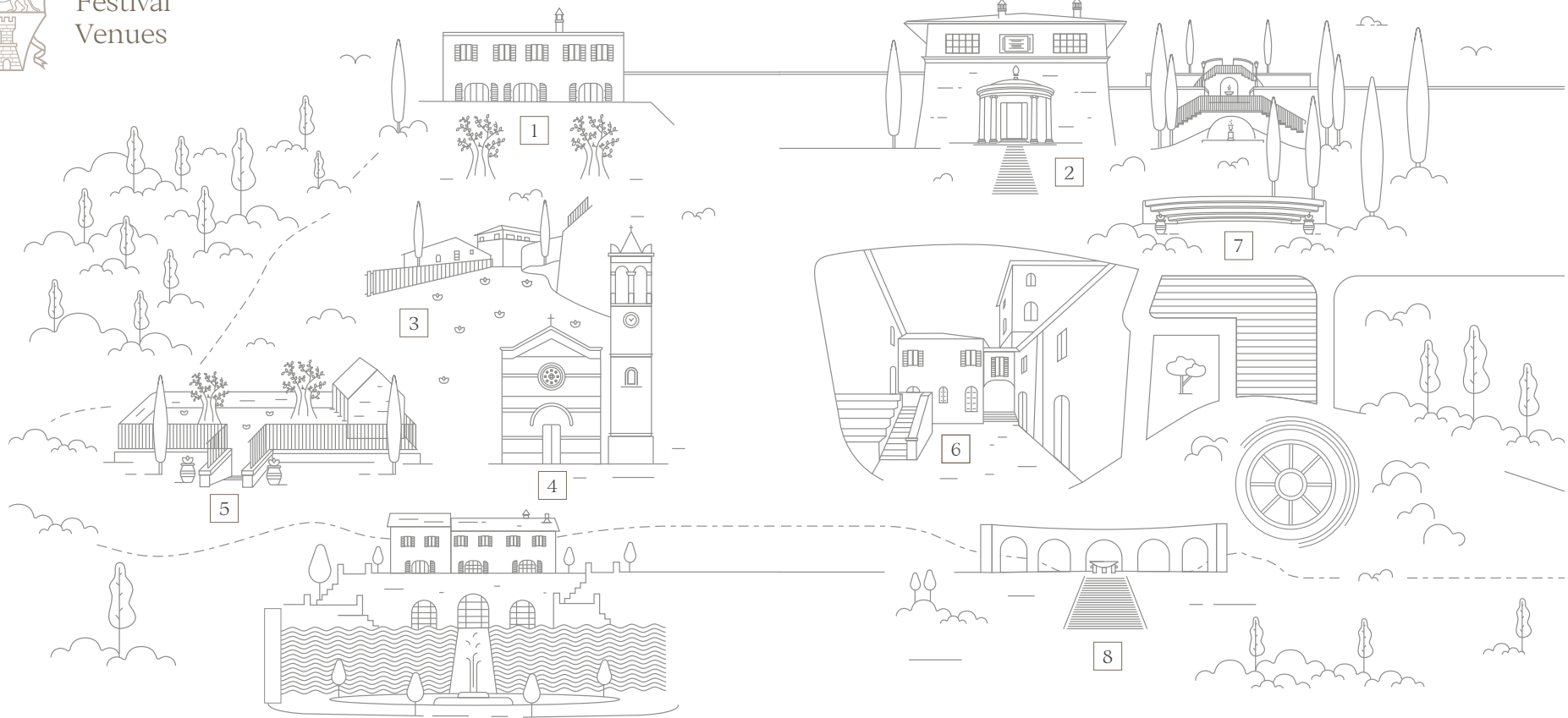
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CATERING POINTS

Botteghina Solomeo Via Curtatone, 1 - T. 346 0906352
Philharmonic Society Piazzetta dei sapienti, 1 - T. 347 9032095



Sunday 23 June

11.00 h | NEOHUMANISTIC ACADEMY

HISTORY, MUSIC AND WORDS IN CIRCULATION

The discovery of America

A small music anthology from and for the “new world”

Musicological conference curated by **Silvia Paparelli**

17.30 h | CUCINELLI THEATRE

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

C.P.E. Bach: Double concerto

Marco Scolastra piano

Fabio Ciofini harpsichord

Senzaspine Orchestra

Matteo Parmeggiani director

19.00 h | CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLEMEW

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

In tempore organi

Michele Santi natural trumpet, cornet

Gabriele Giacomelli organ

The discovery of America

A small music anthology from and for the “new world”

Musicological conference curated by **Silvia Paparelli**

A journey through American music, amid skyscrapers and pastures, realism and the vanguard. A sound landscape arising from a "polyglot culture, different from any other in that it is non-indigenous" (Mellers) and populated by highly diverse American and European composers, the latter often in search of a "new world".



Silvia Paparelli

Pianist and musicologist, she has been teaching History of Music since 2001 at the “G. Briccialdi” Conservatory, Terni. She is the author of dozens of publications, including a monograph on Stanislao Falchi, published by Lim, Lucca. She has participated in conventions, conferences, radio broadcasts (in Italy and France), held and prepared seminars for organisations, institutions, universities (University of Pavia, SDA Bocconi, Milan, Michigan State University) and conservatories in Italy and abroad.

She has played in major Italian institutions (*I Concerti del Quirinale* - broadcast live on European radio - *Amici della Musica di Firenze*, *Teatro Comunale* and *Amici della Musica di Modena*, *Scarlatti Association*, Naples, *Bologna Festival*, *Ravello Festival*, *Festival di Nuova Consonanza*, *Oberdan Musica Milan*, *Umbria Music Festival*, *Parma Festival*, *Accademia Filarmonica Romana*, *Società Barattelli L'Aquila*), in Europe (France, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Latvia, Hungary, Malta) and the Far East.

She is particularly focused on modern and contemporary repertoire, participating in numerous premiers by major Italian authors, recordings and RAI, as a soloist and with the *In Canto Ensemble*, as the foundation's pianist and harpsichordist.

She has performed under the direction of the maestri Weiser, Maestri, Bonucci, Boccadoro, Borgonovo, Martinotti, Lucci, as a soloist with Italian and foreign orchestras.

She also has extensive experience as maestro sostituto (*San Carlo Theatre*, Naples, *Verdi Theatre*, Salerno, *The international Worksite* of Montepulciano, *Teatro Regio*, Turin, *Pergolesi Festival*, Jesi, *OperaInCanto Festival*). After obtaining a Diploma in Piano with full marks and a first class honours degree in History of Music (University of Perugia), she attended postgraduate courses and masterclasses with maestri including De Rosa, Canino, Damerini, and continued her postgraduate studies at Hochschule für Musik “Franz Liszt” in Weimar.

C.P.E. Bach: Double concerto

Marco Scolastra pianoforte
Fabio Ciofini harpsichord
Senzaspine Orchestra
Matteo Parmeggiani director

CURTAIN: MAESTRO

J.S. BACH (1685-1750) Concerto in D minor BWV 1059a
 for harpsichord and strings
Allegro, Adagio, Presto

J.C. BACH (1735-1782) Concerto in F minor W C73
 for piano and strings
Allegro di molto, Andante, Prestissimo

C.P.E. BACH (1714-1788) Double concerto in E-flat major Wq 47 for
 harpsichord, piano and orchestra
Allegro di molto, Larghetto, Presto



Marco Scolastra

He completed his music education at the Conservatory of Perugia, graduating with honours under Maestro Franco Fabiani. He then studied with Aldo Ciccolini and Ennio Pastorino, and attended postgraduate courses with Lya De Barberis, Paul Badura-Skoda and - at the Chigiana Musical Academy - with Joaquin Achúcarro and Katia Labèque.

He has played for major musical institutions: Valli Theatre, Reggio Emilia, Umbria Music Festival, Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, Accademia Filarmonica Romana, IUC (University Concert Institution), Eliseo Theatre, Oratorio del Gonfalone, Auditorium Parco della Musica e Teatro dell'Opera, Rome, Teatro Regio, Parma, "G. Verdi" Orchestra Auditorium in Milan, Teatro Comunale, Bologna, Spoleto Festival, Ravello Festival, Teatro La Fenice, Venice, "I concerti del Quirinale" broadcast live on RAI Radio3, San Carlo Theatre and "A. Scarlatti" Association, Naples, "B. Barattelli" Association, L'Aquila, Vatican Museums, Teatro Massimo, Palermo, Musical Evenings Milan, "Rossini Museum", Pesaro, "P. I. Tchaikovsky" Conservatory, Moscow, Tonhalle, Zurich, Berne Konzerthaus, "F. Chopin" Institute, Warsaw, Orchestre National du Capitole, Toulouse, Van Vlaanderen Festival in Belgium, European Parliament, Brussels, Musikverein, Vienna. As a soloist he has performed with important directors: Yuri Bashmet, Andrew Constantine, Romano Gandolfi, Howard Griffiths, Richard Hickox, Claudio Scimone, Lior Shambadal, Luigi Piovano and Giedrė Šlekytė.

For many years he played in a piano duet with Sebastiano Brusco. He has worked with great artists, including Vadim Brodski, Renato Bruson, Alessandro Carbonare, Max René Cosotti, Roberto Fabbriciani, Cinzia Forte, Fejes Quartet, Corrado Giuffredi, Sumi Jo, Raina Kabaivanska, Daniela Mazzucato, San Carlo Theatre String Quartet, Kodály Quartet, Desirée Rancatore, and Charlie Siem. Intensa la collaborazione con il drammaturgo Sandro Cappelletto del quale ha partecipato più volte al programma *Inventare il tempo* on air on RAI5.

He has performed on stage with illustrious actors: Sonia Bergamasco, Arnaldo Foà, Elio Pandolfi (long partnership lasting more than fifteen years), Ugo Pagliai, Lucia Poli, Jerzy Radziwiłowicz, and Pamela Villosesi. Profoundly passionate about twentieth century and contemporary music, he has premièred many works, or been the first to execute them in Italy, some of which dedicated to him: *Concerto for two pianos and percussion* by Darius Milhaud (2004); *Concerto della demenza* by Vieri Tosatti (Spoleto Festival 2005); *Dance Variations for two pianos and orchestra* by Morton Gould (2005); *Verdi versus Wagner* by Matteo D'Amico (2013); *Tirol Concerto* by Philipp Glass (2017); *Concert aria* by Silvia Colasanti (2019); *Quattro canti popolari ciociari* by Marcello Panni (2020); *Il tempo non esiste* by Lucio Gregoretti (2023); *Rhapsody* by Giovanni Guaccero (2023).

He has recorded for Phoenix Classics, Stradivarius, Brilliant Classics, Decca, Urania Records, and Rai5.

The line up for 2024 - to name but a few events - includes his début at Carnegie Hall, New York and "I Concerti al Quirinale" broadcast live on RaiRadio3.



Fabio Ciofini

Fabio Ciofini studied organ, piano and fortepiano at the Perugia Conservatory, with W. Van de Pol, M.F. Spaventi and C. Veneri respectively, and harpsichord at the Fiesole School of Music with A. Fedi. He continued to study the organ in Amsterdam with J. Van Oortmerssen, obtaining a "Post-Graduate" diploma in baroque music in 1999. In 1995 he was appointed Head Organist at the Collegiata di S. Maria Maggiore Church in Collescipoli on the W. Hermans baroque organ (1678). He regularly holds concerts and Masterclasses in Italy, Europe, the USA, Canada and Japan, and is often a guest at major ancient music festivals (Lufthansa Festival, Oude Muziek - Utrecht, Vantaa Baroque Festival, Javea, Spain - International Baroque Music Festival, California State University of Chico, Arizona State University of Phoenix and Washington State University of Seattle - organ master classes, Oundle International Festival, England - organ master classes, The Conservatories of Pamplona, Banska Bystrica etc.) He has recorded and performed on live radio for the most important national European stations (BBC, ZDF, YLE, RAI etc.). He has performed highly acclaimed interpretations of ancient and baroque music. Fabio Ciofini is also an active director and conductor. He has recorded for "Bottega Discantica" - Milan, Loft Recordings - Seattle, Brilliant classics (Amsterdam, NL) and Glossa (Madrid). As Director of the Hermans Academy he has worked with the greatest soloists: the violinist Enrico Gatti, the soprano Roberta Invernizzi, the fortepianist Bart Van Oort (with whom he recorded the concerts KV 466 and 467 by W.A. Mozart for piano and orchestra, rated "exceptional" by critics - 5 stars, Musica magazine), etc. His latest record of opera 4 by Corelli, recorded with the Aurora Ensemble (Glossa) won the "Diapason d'or" and "deutschen schallplattenkritik". He teaches at the "F.A. Bonporti" Conservatory in Trento. In 2010 he was appointed Artistic Director of the Brunello and Federica Cucinelli Foundation (Solomeo, Perugia).



Matteo Parmeggiani

From Bologna, born in 1988, he obtained his diploma in Composition and Orchestral Conducting at the “G.B. Martini” Conservatory, Bologna with Gianpaolo Luppi and Luciano Acocella, with whom he specialised at the Chigiana Musical Academy under Maestro Daniele Gatti, who appointed him to direct the final concert of the masterclass at the Rozzi Theatre, also winning him a recommendation for the Sanremo Symphonic Orchestra. Founder of Orchestra Senzaspine, he works with important national and international orchestras and theatres. He has worked with illustrious soloists, including Enrico Dindo, Laura Marzadori, Bruno Philippe, Sofya Gulyak, Jonathan Roozeman, and Cinzia Forte. He also works at prestigious international festivals: Bologna Festival, Stresa Festival, Anima Mundi Festival, Amiata Piano Festival, New Generation Festival, Micat in Vertice Festival, Siena, Paganini Guitar Festival.

His début at the prestigious Arena di Verona in 2019 is particularly worthy of mention. In 2019 as Orchestra Conductor he was called for the broadcast “Prodigi”, in prime time on RAI1. This occasion gave rise to a close partnership with Maestro Vessicchio. Since 2019 he has been a permanent summer course staff member of the Chigiana Academy in Orchestral Conducting, held by maestro Daniele Gatti and Luciano Acocella, who selected him as their assistant for the course.

In 2021 he became professor of orchestral conducting for the Applied Music course at the G.B. Martini Conservatory, Bologna. In summer 2022 he conducted the Toscanini Philharmonic in a prestigious concert in Piazza del Campo, Sienna. Since 2022 he has been working with the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation, with whom he made his début in Rigoletto, Trovatore and Traviata (the latter scheduled for 2024), in theatres including the Duse, Bologna, Teatro Comunale, Modena, to name but a few. Recently he directed two concerts of “Peter and the Wolf” by S. Prokofiev at Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, with the Maggio Musicale Orchestra, both a major success.



In tempore organi

Michele Santi natural trumpet, cornet
Gabriele Giacomelli organ

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

M.A. CHARPENTIER (1634-1704) Prelude (from Te Deum)

J. CLARKE (1674-1707) The prince of Denmark's March
 (from Suite for Trumpet)

G.B. PERGOLESI (1710-1736) Sonata in F-major

G.F. HÄNDEL (1685-1759) Suite in D-major HWV 341
Overture, Allegro, Minuet, Bourree, March

ANONYMOUS (Pistoia XVIII. CENTURY) Elevation in C-major

H. PURCELL (1659-1695) Trumpet Sonata Z 850
Pomposo, Adagio, Presto



Michele Santi

Winner of the Italian Youth Orchestra competition “OGI” and European Union Youth Orchestra “EUYO” finalist. Awarded at the International Competition “Rovere d’Oro”, La Spezia and one of the winners of the “Claudio Abbado Award” National Competition XI Arts Award 2015 for the “Ancient Music” soloist section.

He holds three postgraduate specialisations in Musical Disciplines in Modern, Renaissance and Baroque Trumpet, graduating with first class honours from the “G.B. Martini” Conservatory, Bologna, under Maestro Iginio Conforzi. He has continued to focus on natural trumpet and romantic instruments in his studies, and works with groups and orchestras specialised in baroque, classical and romantic repertoires, in Italy and abroad. He has made numerous CD, radio and television recordings for Deutsche Grammophon, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi, Decca, Ambrosie Naive, Ponderosa, Stradivarius, Opus 111, Tactus, Musiepoca, Radio France, Radio Catalunya, Radio Svizzera, ORF, Rai 1, Rai Radio 3, Polskie Radio, Radio Vaticana, and Bongiovanni. He is the founder of the Ottoni Romantici Ensemble, a brass quartet specialised in nineteenth century repertoire performed with original instruments (www.ottoniromantici.com). Recently for Tactus he published the CD *Trascrizioni d'opera* per trombe storiche e organo con Marco Arlotti [Transcription of works for historical trumpets and organ with Marco Arlotti]. He works with the publisher pian&forte (www.edizionipianeforte.it). He is artistic director of the international baroque trumpet masterclass in Terre del Reno (FE) (www.baroquetrumpetmaster.com). He is professor of baroque trumpet at the “Bruno Maderna” Conservatory, Cesena.



Gabriele Giacomelli

Gabriele Giacomelli graduated in Piano and Organ from the “L. Cherubini” Conservatory, Florence. He graduated in History of Music from the University of Florence. He has toured intensively, performing in many concerts in Europe (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland), USA and South America, for institutions including the Oudekerk organ festival, Amsterdam, the Festival d’Orgue en Flandres, the Grand Hall of the Saint Petersburg Philharmonic, Festival Internacional de Orgao e Musica Sacra, Porto, Sankt Johannes Internationale Orgelfestival, Copenhagen, concerts of the St. Jakobskyrkan and Storkyrkan (Cathedral) of Stockholm, the Organ Festival in Winchester Cathedral, Festival d’Orgue, Dijon Cathedral, the organ festival, Ljubljana Cathedral, Semana Internacional de Organo of Seville, the Concerts of the Central Syngogue, New York, Festival Internacional de Organo, Uruguay, Latin American Baroque Festival (Catedral de Cuzco, Peru)... He has recorded two CDs for Elegia Records dedicated to Domenico Zipoli (5 stars on “Amadeus”) and a CD for Tactus, dedicated to *L’organo a Firenze dai Medici all’Unità d’Italia [The organ in Florence, from the Medici to the Unification of Italy]* (5 stars on “Amadeus”, 4 stars by the British journal “Choir & Organ”). He is the author of dozens of musicological papers, which have been published in international scientific journals. He has written three books on organs and sacred music in Tuscany. With the famous violinist Salvatore Accardo he has co-authored the lower secondary school text books *Stradivari* (Bompiani, 2012), *Sulle note di uno Stradivari* (Fabbri, 2017) and *Effetto Stradivari* (Fabbri, 2021). He has been artistic director of the sacred music festival *O flos colende*, organised by the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence Cathedral since 1997, and of *Zipoli Festival* promoted by the Municipality of Prato since 1998. He is honorary inspector of antique organ restoration of the Florence, Pistoia and Prato Archaeological Heritage Department. He teaches History of Music at the “G.B. Martini” Conservatory of Bologna.



Friday 28 June

17.00 h | CUCINELLI THEATRE

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

Voices from Broadway

Elizabeth Stanley voice

Eric Davis guitar

Ryan Fielding Garrett piano

18.00 h | IN THE SHADOW OF THE BELL TOWER

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS

Third Avenue, I

Pedro Spallati tenor sax

Alessandro Bravo piano

Joe Rehmer double bass

18.30 h | CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLEMEW

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

Laudate dominum...

Alexander Meszler organ

19.30 h | OLIVE GARDEN

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

Third Avenue, II

Pedro Spallati tenor sax

Alessandro Bravo piano

Joe Rehmer double bass

20.00 h | CASTLE SQUARE

HISTORY, MUSIC AND WORDS IN CIRCULATION

American's native culture

Tony and Naiche Duncan artists and performers

21.15 h | AMPHITHEATRE

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

Solomeo Jazz Night

Arturo O'Farrill & The Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra

Voices from Broadway

Elizabeth Stanley voice

Eric Davis guitar

Ryan Fielding Garrett piano

CURTAIN. MAESTRO

R. RODGERS (1902-1979) *Oklahoma!* - Oh, What a Beautiful Morning

J. KERN (1885-1945) *Very Warm For May* - All the Things You Are

G. GERSHWIN (1898-1937) *Girl Crazy* - I Got Rhythm

L. BERNSTEIN (1918-1990) *West Side Story* - Tonight

J. BROWN (1970-) *The Bridges of Madison County* - It All Fades Away

R. RODGERS (1902-1979) *Pal Joey* - Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered

H. ARLEN (1905-1986) *The Wizard of Oz* - Somewhere Over the Rainbow

A. MORISSETTE (1974-) *Jagged Little Pill* - One Hand In My Pocket

A. GUETTEL (1964-) *Myths and Hymns* - Migratory V

J. STYNE (1905-1994) *Funny Girl* - Don't Rain On My Parade

S. SONDHEIM (1930-2021) *A Little Night Music* - Send In The Clowns



Elizabeth Stanley

Elizabeth Stanley is an actor, singer and musician who has received several awards and is probably best known for her work on Broadway, where she recently performed in the Alanis Morissette musical *Jagged Little Pill*, earning her nominations for several awards, including the Tony Award, Drama Desk Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award and the Grammy Award.

Elizabeth has been thrilling theatre audiences in New York since her Broadway debut, as April in a revival of the musical *Company*, directed by John Doyle, with music by Stephen Sondheim. She has since played numerous comical, dramatic, classic and contemporary parts, including Claire De Loone in the Broadway revival of *On the Town* (nominated for Drama Desk Award), Dyanne in *Million Dollar Quartet*, Allison in *Cry-Baby* and Gussie in *Merrily We Roll Along* (Encores) directed by James Lapine with music by Sondheim. She won the “Best Theatre of 2023” award of the New York Times in her performance as Vera in *Pal Joey*, in the City Center Production.

Other important performances include her front-line part, together with Vanessa Williams and Santino Fontana, in *Anyone Can Whistle* by Sondheim in the Carnegie Hall concert with the Master Voices choir, the Nurse in *Hello, Again* (Transport Group, Drama League Award) and her participation in *F**king A* (Signature Theatre). She has also performed in the first national tours of *The Bridges of Madison County* and *Xanadu*. She has participated in numerous television programs, including *Kin-dred*, *Gossip Girl*, *The Equalizer*, *New Amsterdam*, *Younger*, *Blue Bloods*, *NOS482*, *FBI*, *The Get Down*, *The Affair*, *Black Box*, *Made in Jersey*, *Fringe* and *Company* (PBS Great Performances).

She has performed in numerous symphonies under the direction of maestri including Keith Lockhart, Paul Gemignani, Ben Whitely, Rob Fisher and Ted Sperling. She graduated from the Jacobs School of Music of Indiana University.



Eric Davis

Heralded as “one of the best guitarists of his generation” following his classical début in Europe, Eric B. Davis is a versatile musician from New York who is active in different musical genres, from classical to commercial. His most recent projects include *The Gardens of Anuncia* at the Lincoln Center, *New York, New York* and his role as lead guitarist in *Jagged Little Pill*. Eric has performed in over 20 Broadway shows, including *Next to Normal*, Pulitzer prize winner, *Matilda the Musical* and the 2011 revival of *Anything Goes*. For over a decade as a guitarist he participated in the tours of Kristin Chenoweth in numerous locations and cities, including The Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Carnegie Hall and The Metropolitan Opera House. He participated in the feature television program “The Wonderful World of Disney: Magical Holiday Celebration”, broadcast on ABC and Disney+.

Additional performances include the concerts with the New York Philharmonic, St. Luke's Orchestra, the Tony Awards and TV appearances in various programs, including The View, The Today Show, Good Morning America, Steven Colbert, Morning Joe and David Letterman. He participated in the recording of the album *Jagged Little Pill*, which won a Grammy, in addition to numerous other Grammy nominated studio recordings, including *Next to Normal* and *Some Lovers* by Burt Bacharach and Steven Sater, as well as other recordings. Eric's guitar style can be appreciated on the Shutterstock platform, and includes motifs, sound tracks and various recordings. He has published original compositions for Carl Fischer, Wingert-Jones, Tempo Press, Kendor and Grand Mesa Publications.

Eric was Distinguished Scholar of Guitar and Music Industry at the Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music, Georgia Southern University. Since 2016 he has been associate professor at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, CUNY, where he has developed programs and taught guitar technique and the pedagogy of modern music groups.



Ryan Fielding Garrett

Ryan Fielding Garrett has worked around the world as a composer, orchestra conductor, arranger and orchestrator. Recently he was the orchestrator for Renée Fleming, the San Francisco Symphony, and the musicals *Darling* and *A Night Like This*. He has composed tracks for numerous films and TV series, symphonic orchestras, as well as for cruises and theme parks. More recently his choral composition entitled “Snow” was performed for the first time by the San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus. He also composed *Return to the City Overture*, performed for the first time by the San Antonio Symphony orchestra.

He has conducted orchestras in Broadway productions of *Kinky Boots*, *Back to the Future*, *Mean Girls* as well as the New York productions of *Jasper in Deadland* and *The Man in the Ceiling*; he has also performed on the piano in *Hamilton*, *Wicked*, *Mary Poppins*, *Finding Neverland*, *Sweeney Todd* (NY Philharmonic) and *Matilda*. He has also conducted orchestras in musicals including *Becoming Nancy* (Alliance Theatre), *The Three Little Pigs* (NAMT), *Kinky Boots* (Muny), *Next to Normal* (Weston Playhouse), *Little Miss Scrooge* (Rubicon Theatre), *Passing Strange*, *Chess* (Playhouse Square) and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival).

Third Avenue, I

Pedro Spallati tenor sax
Alessandro Bravo piano
Joe Rehmer double bass

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS

S. ROLLINS (1930) Doxy

C. PARKER (1920-1955) Confirmation

W. HERMAN (1913-1987) Early Autumn

B. POWELL (1924-1966) Celia



Pedro Spallati

Pedro Spallati was born in Perugia on 14 August 1980. He graduated in Saxophone from the Perugia Conservatory in 2003, under the mentorship of Maestro Mario Raja.

He went on to specialise in jazz, in seminars including *Barkley at Umbria jazz*, *Siena jazz*, *Tuscia in jazz*, under the mentorship of maestri Ramberto Ciapparughi, Pietro Tonolo and Lee Koniz.

He has participated in numerous national and international festivals, including: *Jazzfest Berlin*, *Limerick Lunch Time Concert*, *Cartagena music festival*, *Yong Jazz In Town*, *Umbria Jazz*, *Tuscia in Jazz*, *Orvieto jazz up*, *Palermo Jazz Festival*, *Soveria Jazz Festival*, *Barga Jazz*, *Matera Jazz Festival*, *Taormina Jazz Festival*.

He has worked with musicians the calibre of: Quincy Jones, Ethan Iverson, Gil Goldstein, Gabriele Mirabassi, Mario Raja, Joe Chambers, David Sanborn, Gene Lake, Mike Pope, Niky Moroch, Pietro Tonolo, Lewis Nash, Marco Tamburini, Enrico Rava, Dr. John and Kurt Elling. In 2009 he curated the Italian edition of *Jazz Saxophone Etudes* by Greg Fishman for the publisher *Volontè*. In 2011 he became a permanent member of the *Italian Jazz Orchestra* and of the *Umbria jazz festival* orchestra, with which he has performed in concerts and recorded. He is also active in the field of contemporary music and recently performed in a series of concerts with the saxophone quartet, executing unpublished transcriptions of compositions by Maestro Aldo Clementi, published for Amirani records. He also teaches and has held seminars on musical improvisation and listening.



Alessandro Bravo

He was awarded full marks for his diploma in piano and graduated with first class honours in Jazz before embarking on his artistic career, winning the scholarship for winter courses of *Siena jazz* in 1998.

He has performed at prestigious festivals: *Umbria jazz*, *Villa Celimontana* (Rome), *Jazz in allen* (Munich), *Casa del jazz* (Rome), *Tokyo jazz festival* (Japan), and in important jazz clubs: *Alexander Platz* (Rome), *La palma* (Rome), *Music Inn* (Rome), *La Fontaine* (Paris), *Jazzhaus* (Heidelberg) and *Auditorium Parco della Musica* (Rome).

His repertoire includes 11 records, one of which recorded live at the *European jazz contest*, Brussels, where he obtained the jury's special prize with his eponymous trio.

He has performed with: Aldo Bassi, Fabrizio Bosso, Ettore Fioravanti, Paolo Fresu, Maurizio Giammarco, Andy Gravish, Joy Garrison, Mario Raja, Gabriele Mirabassi, Antonello Salis, Miroslav Vitous, Francesco Bearzatti, Ares Tavolazzi, Sivan Arbel, Fabio Concato, Elisabetta Antonini, Rainer Push, Peter Lehel, and many other internationally acclaimed artists.

Some of his recordings have been published in prestigious compilations, including *Jazz magazine*, *Jazz lounge* (USA), and broadcast on national (Radio Rai 1, Radio Rai 2, Radio Tre Suite) and international radio (France, Belgium, Germany, Japan).

He is currently Professor of Jazz Piano at the “F. Morlacchi” Conservatory, Perugia.



Joe Rehmer

Born in Woodstock, Chicago, in 1984. He began playing the guitar at the age of 12, followed by the electric bass and double bass. In 2002 he moved to Miami (Florida), where he graduated in 2006, before obtaining a Master's Degree in Studio Music and Jazz in 2008. Joe has lived in Italy since 2011.

In the last few years he has performed in numerous concerts in Europe and the United States, with groups and artists including *Hobby Horse* (Italy), *Ghost Horse* (Italy), *Drive!* (Italy) *Giovanni Guidi's Inferno* (Italy), *El Portal* (Miami), *Tensil Test* (Berlin), *Espada* (Italy), *Il Bidone di Gianluca Petrella* (Italy), *Enrico Zanisi Trio* (Italy) and *ARCH* (Italy).

Joe Rehmer has shared stages/studios with artists the likes of Jim Black, Uri Cane, Michael Blake, Enrico Rava, Gianluca Petrella, Joe Lovano, Maria Schneider, Dave Leibman, Avishai Cohen, Stefano Battaglia, Troy Roberts, Paul Bender...

Laudate dominum...

Alexander Meszler organ

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

M. ROSSI (C. 1601-1656) Toccata No. 6

W. GRANT STILL (1895-1978) Rêverie

A. ANTICO (C. 1480-1538) from "Frottole intabulate da sonare organi" (1517)

Animoso mio desire

Me lasserà tu mo

Che farala che dirala

H. KI CHEUNG (1990) An Old Friend's Revisit (2018)

A. CORELLI (1653-1713) from concert no.10 op. 6

Allemanda, Adagio, Corrente, Minuett



Alexander Meszler

Alexander Meszler is an organist who is passionate about research and interdisciplinary performances. His performances and research focus on inspiring new perspectives on the use of the organ and on its qualities. In 2022 he was appointed professor at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he is also the college Organist. Together with Kimberly Marshall, he is co-curating the imminent on-line publication of the Encyclopaedia of the organ, with 4000 articles on the instrument. In January 2023 he performed the piece *Organ²/ASLSP (As Slow as Possible)* by John Cage non stop for 24 hours, setting the record for the longest ever performance to be executed by an individual organist. After receiving the prestigious Fulbright Award, Alexander spent one year in Versailles, France, researching laicism and the organ, studying with Jean-Baptiste Robin. He is the co-creator of *Walls of Sound: The Ecology of the Borderlands*, bringing together experts in different fields, including music, science, theatre, art and activism. This project was partially funded by the Foundation for Contemporary Arts of New York. Alexander is currently vice-president of *Epsilon Spires*, a non-profit organisation that operates in the sector of arts and sustainability, based in Brattleboro, Vermont. He is an active researcher who presents his works on laicism and the organ throughout Europe and the United States.

Third Avenue, II

Pedro Spallati tenor sax
Alessandro Bravo piano
Joe Rehmer double bass

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

G. MILLER (1904-1944) Moonlight Serenade
D. ELLINGTON (1899-1967) In a mellow tone
H. SILVER (1928-2014) Strollin
T. MONK (1917-1982) Nutty



American's native culture

Tony and Naiche Duncan artists and performers

HISTORY, MUSIC AND WORDS IN CIRCULATION

Honouring song

Dance of the Painted Warrior

Flute song- Plant People (double flute)

Flute song- Mountain Spirit

Hoop Dance



Tony Duncan

Tony Duncan (Apache, Arikara e Hidatsa) has performed for audiences worldwide. He has performed at the *Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*, the *Smithsonian Museum*, the White House, and on occasion of special events like *The Billboard Music Awards* and *The Tonight Show*. Duncan has achieved significant results in both music and dance.

He is currently working as a flautist with Canyon Records, the main record label for Native American music. Duncan has toured with renowned Native American artists including R. Carlos Nakai and Joanne Shenandoah, as well as the international popstar Nelly Furtado. Duncan starred as a dancer in the music video *Big Hoops* by Nelly Furtado, with whom he toured Europe and Asia in summer 2012. Duncan has thrilled audiences with his hoop dance performances and as a flautist, in front of over 100,000 spectators in Paris, London, Tokyo, Manila, Switzerland and Malta. He was awarded the prestigious “Artist of the year” award at the *Native American Music Awards (NAMA)*. To date he has published over ten albums, including his most recent one, entitled *Purify*, winner of the *Indian Summer Music Award (ISMA)* as best album with flute. Tony Duncan is considered to be one of the best hoop dancers in the world and has earned the title of *Hoop Dance World Champion* no less than five times.

Solomeo Jazz Night

Arturo O'Farrill & The Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

A. O'FARRILL, Z. O'FARRILL Compay Doug

A. O'FARRILL Trumpet Fantasy

A. O'FARRILL Afro Cuban Jazz Suite

A. O'FARRILL Afro Latin Jazz Suite

C. P. DE LA LUZ, A. O'FARRILL Delirio

A. O'FARRILL El Maquech *Yucatan Folk Song*

A. O'FARRILL Vaca Frita



Arturo O'Farrill

Pianist, composer and trainer, Arturo O'Farrill was born in Mexico and raised in New York. Arturo's professional career began with the Carla Bley Band, before he developed as a solo artist who has worked with numerous artists, including Dizzy Gillespie, Lester Bowie, Wynton Marsalis and Harry Belafonte.

In 2007 he founded the Afro Latin Jazz Alliance, a non-profit organisation focused on the performance, formation and conservation of afro-latin music. For further information on the ALJA go to <http://www.afrolatinjazz.org>.

In December 2010 Arturo travelled to Cuba with the Chico O'Farrill Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra in its original formation, accompanying the musicians who had performed with his father back to their homeland. He regularly travels to Cuba as a cultural ambassador, while also working with Cuban musicians, dancers and students and helping Cuban musicians to acquire experience in the United States and vice versa.

Arturo has performed with orchestras and groups, including his very own Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra and the Arturo O'Farrill Sextet, as well as with other orchestras and ensembles in the United States, Europe, Russia, Australia and South America.

Arturo is a passionate supporter of all the arts. He has performed with Ballet Hispanico and with the Malpaso Dance Company, for whom he has composed three ballets. The repertoire of the Alvin Ailey Dance Company includes a ballet entitled "Open Door", with choreographies by Ron Brown for numerous compositions and recordings of Arturo. Ron Brown's Evidence Dance Company entrusted Arturo with the composition of *New Conversations*, which was performed for the first time in 2018 at the Jacob's Pillow centre, Becket, Massachusetts.

Arturo has written tracks for various organisations and institutions, including *Meet the Composer*, *Jazz at Lincoln Center*, *The Philadelphia Music Project*, *The Apollo Theater*, *Symphony Space*, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the Young Peoples Chorus of New York, Columbia University and the New York State Council on the Arts.



The Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra

A particularly appreciated and well-reviewed suite by Arturo, from the album *CUBA: The Conversation Continues* (Motéma), won a Grammy in 2016 for best instrumental composition, in addition to the Latin Grammy Award 2016 for best latin jazz album. His exceptional track *Three Revolutions* from the album *Familia-Tribute to Chico and Bebo* won a Grammy in 2018 (his sixth) for best instrumental composition. The album *Four Questions* (ZOHO) is the first ever to only include original compositions, including the album's title track with the participation of the brilliant orator Cornel West. The album won a Grammy in 2021. His album with the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra *Fandango at the Wall in New York* won another Grammy in 2023.

Arturo was resident artist for The Greene Space in New York, performing in a series of four concerts entitled *Radical Acts and Musical Deviancy*, for which he created a new composition.

In 2020 Arturo's weekly concerts with the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, entitled *Virtual Birdland* topped the *10 Best Quarantine Concerts* chart published in the New York Times.

Arturo is professor of Global Jazz Studies and assistant dean for equality, diversity and inclusion at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He has been nominated a Steinway Artist several times and is currently the Recording Artist for Blue Note Records.

Saturday 29 June

17.00 h | CUCINELLI THEATRE

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

Meetings d'auteur

Roberto Giordano piano

18.00 h | IN THE SHADOW OF THE BELL TOWER

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS

Gershwin & Co

The birth of the American musical, starting from the person defined as its inventor. Broadway in the 1920s and 30s, described in voices alone

Cherries on a swing set

18.30 h | CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLEMEW

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

...in chordis...

Nicolò Antonio Sari organ

19.30 h | OLIVE GARDEN

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

American Pie

The all-American dream wins the world over: from the immediate aftermath of the war to present day, between black music and pop

Cherries on a swing set

20.00 h | CASTLE SQUARE

MUSIC IN THE SQUARE

American Dream

An idea of America, by those who have dreamt it, recounted and loved it

Nahars Piano Trio

21.15 h | AMPHITHEATRE

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

A War

A story inspired by the Decameron by Michele Santeramo

Anna Foglietta narrating voice

Francesco Mariozzi cello

Meetings d'auteur

Roberto Giordano piano

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

- F. CHOPIN (1810-1849) Ballade Op. 38
- S. BARBER (1910 1981) Ballade Op. 46
- F. CHOPIN (1810-1849) Ballade Op. 47
- S. BARBER (1910 1981) Nocturne Op. 33
- F. CHOPIN (1810-1849) Ballade Op. 52



Roberto Giordano

He first drew the attention of international critics and top concert institutions worldwide in 2003 aged 22, with his prize at the *Concours Musical International Reine Elisabeth de Belgique*, Brussels. “An excellent pianist, with great class and elegance”, “A virtuoso without equal”, “A refined and sensual musician”, “A poet of the piano”, are just some of the words used by critics to express their unanimous praise for Roberto Giordano.

Born in 1981, Roberto Giordano graduated from the Ecole Normale de Musique “A. Cortot”, Paris with the board's unanimity and the jury's complements, and from the “G. Rossini” Conservatory, Pesaro, with full marks, honours and distinction. In 2007 he graduated from the Piano Academy of Imola, with the honorary title of Master. Here he was a pupil of Leonid Margarius (pupil of Regina Horowitz), who Roberto Giordano considers to be the most influential person in his musical education. In Imola he also attended courses held by Piero Rattalino and met Vladimir Ashkenazy, who was “impressed by his virtuoso talent”. In 2015 he was appointed professor at the Academy, becoming vice-president in 2017, a position he held until 2022. He has performed at halls and concert venues, including: La Scala, Milan, Palais Des Beaux Arts, Brussels, Hermitage Theatre in St Petersburg, Berlin Konzerthaus, Mozarteum Salzburg, Great National Theatre (NCPA) and the Forbidden City Concerthall, Beijing, Xi'an Concerthall - China, Teatro dal Verme and Teatro Manzoni, Milan, Minato Mirai Hall in Yokohama, Seoul Arts Center in South Korea, Theater an der Wien, Vienna, Palau de la Musica Catalàna, Barcelona, Wrocław Philharmonia - Poland, Teatro Olimpico di Vicenza, Teatro Politeama Garibaldi, Palermo, Filarmonica Romana, Istanbul Music Festival, Festival MiTo, Ravellofestival, Asia Performing Arts Festival in South Korea, Stresa, Pomeriggi Musicali di Milan, Brooklyn Friends of Chamber Music, New York, and many more.

Gershwin & Co

The birth of the American musical, starting with the person defined as its inventor. Broadway in the 1920s and 30s, described in voices alone

Cherries on a swing set

Sara Paragiani
Veronica Troscia
Chiara Dragoni
Davide Simoncini
Daniele Batella
Stefano Benini

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS

- G. GERSHWIN (1898-1937) The Man I Love
- G. GERSHWIN (1898-1937) Embraceable you
- G. GERSHWIN (1898-1937) I got rhythm
- H. ARLEN (1905-1986) Over the rainbow
- R. RODGER (1902-1979) My funny valentine
- J. MERCER (1909-1976), H. MANCINI (1924-1994) Moonriver



Cherries on a swing set

Cherries on a swing set are an acappella vocal group that formed in Orvieto in May 2009. On 15 May 2010 they made their debut at the Santa Cristina di Porano Theatre (TR) with the show *Cherry Pie*, which soon after was performed up and down the country. Their performances of *Controtempo* and *Phoenix, A Cappella Visual Show* captured the attention of a broader public. They have performed at numerous shows and festivals, including: *Venti Ascensionali* (Orvieto 2010), *Incontri Musicali* (Tivoli 2011), *European Music Festival* (Rome, Palazzo Antici Mattei 2011), *Vocal Night* (Colleferro 2011, 2012), *Vokalfest* (Rome, Stazione Birra 2012, 2013), *Music... Antium* (Anzio, 2012, 2015), *Umbria Folk Festival* (Orvieto 2013 - 2014, 2015), *San Valentino Jazz* (Terni 2014), *Musica Riva festival* (Riva del Garda 2015, 2022), *Disanima Piano* (Mantua, 2015, 2016, 2018), *Sole Voci* (Varese 2015), *Vocalmente* (Fossano 2016), *Winter Vocal Festival* (Pinerolo 2017), *Italian Festival Thailand* (Bangkok 2017), *Moskow acappella festival* (Moscow 2018), *Villa Solomei Festival* (Perugia 2018, 2020). In 2022 they participated in *Opera 40*, a composition by important contemporary composers, which they performed together with the Città di Ferentino Wind Orchestra, before taking it on tour to Innsbruck (Austria) and Kerkrade (Netherlands). They have been the artistic directors and creators of the *Tuscia Vocal Fest* since 2023, which aims to promote and develop the culture of vocal music, in all its forms. In 2011 they participated in a workshop held by the Swingle Singers in Florence, and in Fossano in 2016. In 2011 they won the national music competition “*Saremo al Centro*”, in Perugia, in the live cover category, and in 2012 they participated in the international competition *Solevoci*, in Varese, where they won the special prize for scenic effects. In 2014 they were among the winners of the “*Voceania, the continent of vocality*” prize (Rome) and in December the same year they received second place at the *Winter Vocal Festival Contest - International Competition*, in Pinerolo (TO). Cherries on a swing set have produced a CD album: *Across the sky*, November 2017, available on all major online platforms.

...in chordis...

Nicolò Antonio Sari organ

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

G. F. HÄNDEL (1685-1759) Chacone in G-major HWV 435

Three pieces for a musical clock

B. PASQUINI (1637-1710) Variazioni per il Paggio Tedesco

M. CORRETTE (1707-1795) Concerto I in G-major

Allegro, Gavotta I, Gavotta II, Allegro



Nicolò Antonio Sari

Nicolò Antonio Sari was born in Venice in 1987 and graduated with full marks in organ and composition from the “B. Marcello” Conservatory, Venice, where he studied with Elsa Bolzonello Zoya and Roberto Padoin. He has received extensive acclaim at international organ competitions: second prize, with first prize not awarded, at the J.P. Sweelinck competition, Amsterdam, first prize at the international competitions of St. Julien du Sault (France), Pistoia, Fano Adriano, Muzzana del Turgnano and Varzi. He has also received recognition in Graz, Borca di Cadore... He performs in concerts in Italy and abroad, hosted by important festivals. As a soloist he has performed with the Orchestra of Teatro La Fenice, Venice, the Ravenna Chamber Orchestra and the Orchestra of Padua and Veneto. In 2012 he completed a two-year specialisation in Organ (with Honours) at the “A. Pedrollo”, Vicenza, with Roberto Antonello. In 2014 he completed the two-year specialisation in harpsichord (with Honours), with Patrizia Marisaldi. He is the artistic director of the *Gaetano Callido* International Organ Festival, Venice.

American Pie

*The all-American dream wins the world over:
from the immediate aftermath of the war to present day,
between black music and pop*

Cherries on a swing set

Sara Paragiani
Veronica Troscia
Chiara Dragoni
Davide Simoncini
Daniele Batella
Stefano Benini

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

B. RAM (1907-1991) Only you

B. MERRILL (1921-1998) Mambo italiano

H. STOTHART (1885-1949), H. RUBY (1895-1974) I wanna be loved by you

M. CICCONE (1958), P. LEONARD (1955) La isla bonita

TOTO (1976) Africa

IMAGINE DRAGONS (2008), A. FROM KID (1982) Demons

LADY GAGA (1986), B. RICE (1972) Shallow



American Dream

An idea of America, by those who have dreamt it, recounted and loved it

Nahars Piano Trio

Biancamaria Rapaccini violin

Alessandra Montani cello

Irene Franceschini piano

MUSIC IN THE SQUARE

A. DVORAK (1841-1904) From Piano Trio op. 90 Dumky
Lento maestoso, Allegro quasi doppio movimento

A. BEACH (1867-1944) Trio op. 150
Allegro, Lento espressivo, Presto, Allegro con brio

G. GERSWIN (1898-1937) / M. PONTINI (1964) Porgy's Best
Concert Fantasy from "Porgy and Bess"

P. GRAINGER (1882-1961) Händel in the Strand



Nahars Piano Trio

Nahars is the original name of all three musician's city of origin: Terni. They also have much more in common. They first got together in 1995 and right from the outset have always been inspired by a strong affinity of artistic-musical intent. Over the years the trio has received acclaim in international competitions, furthering its abilities at the Imola Academy. It has played for top concert associations, also presenting first-ever performances by contemporary composers including Silvia Colasanti, Enrico Marocchini, Guido Baggiani, and Antonio D'Antò. After taking a break for a few years they have since reunited, playing together with an ever greater love for chamber music, reinforced by their deep friendship, successful individual artistic experiences (Biancamaria and Alessandra played in the Rome Quartet for 15 years), performing in Germany, Spain, Netherlands, Russia, the United States and Japan, with a commitment to educational activities and last but not least, a shared conviction of the inestimable richness of music.

A War

A story inspired by the Decameron by Michele Santeramo

Anna Foglietta narrating voice

Francesco Mariozzi cello

text by **Michele Santeramo**

original music by **Francesco Mariozzi**

True to my nature I remain faithful to my emotions and if something is making my heart beat fast, I tend to listen to it. "Una Guerra" [A War] is a text I remain faithful to and as the years pass it still shakes my wrists. It focuses on an important and timeless topic: the migrant's journey, in search of a life worthy of the name, and their encounters with unknown and ruthless adversities. In this case the main character is a mother, like me, with two children, who decides to take the unknown path of fortune, on a frightening journey, which is still better than staying put. A boat, the sea and the voice of unheard and unseen people are also all main characters. Life demanding attention and respect is also a main character, which always triumphs over death, no matter what.

I hope you stay and listen to this story and to all the stories it contains, over the next few days too, and that you feel a desire to transform this feeling into substance, giving it a shape, any shape whatsoever, that strives for the good of all the unheard and unseen.

I often ask myself what being "human" means to me. My answer is to consider my own journey as everyone's and everyone's journey as my own. I would like to end by thanking the Cucinelli Family for listening to "Una Guerra" right from the start, and for the profound and mutual outlook on living in the world.

Anna Foglietta



Anna Foglietta

Aнна Foglietta was born in Rome in 1978. The turning point in her career came in 2011, when she played Eva in *Nessuno mi può giudicare* by Massimiliano Bruno, for which she was nominated for the David di Donatello and Nastro d'Argento awards.

In 2016 she performed in *Perfetti sconosciuti* by Paolo Genovese and in *La mafia uccide solo d'estate*, a Rai tv series, for which she received a Flaiano International Award.

In 2019 she won a Nastro d'Argento for best lead actress for *Un giorno all'improvviso* by Ciro d'Emilio. In the last few years, Anna has participated in different cinema and television projects, including *DNA-Decisione non adatta*, *Il talento del calabrone*, *Alfredino, una storia italiana*, *Blackout love*, *Trafficante di virus*.

In addition to her career as an actress, in 2020 she was the godmother of the 77th edition of the Venice Cinema Festival.

In 2023 we saw her in the film *Elf me* and the series *Everybody loves diamonds* on Prime Video and in the films *I migliori giorni* and *I peggiori giorni* directed by Edoardo Leo and Massimiliano Bruno. We will see her again soon in the upcoming film of Paolo Costella, starring as the main character.

She is also the founder and president of the socially useful NPO *Every Child is my Child*, socially committed to protecting the most vulnerable families.



Francesco Mariozzi

Born into the profession, he graduated in cello on 28/10/1996 from the N. Piccinni Conservatory, Bari with honours, under the mentorship of Maestro N. Sarpe.

He continued his studies at the Hochschule für Musik, Würzburg, obtaining Meisterklassendiplom with Maestro J. Metzger; he developed under prestigious artists, including Maisky, Gutman, Gerin-gas, Perényi, Meunier and Palm, and at important academies including “Stauffer”, Cremona, University of Mainz, Accademia Chigiana, Siena, Hochschule, Vienna.

From 2007 to 2012 he was first cello at the Massimo Bellini Theatre, Catania; as guest first cello he performed on numerous occasions at the S. Carlo Theatre, Naples, for the Sicilian Symphonic Orchestra, Teatro Regio di Parma and the Rome and Lazio Symphonic Orchestra.

He works with the actors Claudio Santamaria, Anna Foglietta and Marco D'Amore, performing at important theatre festivals. Previously he has also worked with other important institutions, including the Santa Cecilia Orchestra of Rome and the prestigious “Arturo Toscanini” Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Lorin Maazel, as first cello.

He has performed both as a soloist and chamber musician at prestigious musical and foreign institutions, including the Società del Quartetto of Florence, Spoleto Festival, l'Institut Culturel Italien de Montreal, the Fiesole musical meetings, Portogruaro festival of the Nations, Pomposa Festival, Umbrian Philharmonic Association, in March 2019 he performed as a soloist in Carnegie Hall, NY; he has frequently played duets with the pianist Bruno Canino. He is artistic director of Festival delle Città Medievali (Rome and Lazio).

He has also recorded for Radio Vaticana on several occasions.

In addition to concerts and teaching, Maestro Mariozzi also composes. He graduated in Cello and Composition from Hochschule für Musik di würzburg Frankfurt am Main (Germany).



Sunday 30 June

11.00 h | CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLEMEW

Mass of the artists

The New York City Gospel Choir

17.00 h | CUCINELLI THEATRE

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

Il sogno americano

Quartetto delle Marche

18.00 h | IN THE SHADOW OF THE BELL TOWER

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS

West Side Story

Billi Brass Quintet

18.30 h | CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLEMEW

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

...et organo...

Donato Cuzzato organ

19.30 h | OLIVE GARDEN

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

Fly me to the moon

Billi Brass Quintet

20.00 h | CASTLE SQUARE

MUSIC IN THE SQUARE

Dancers in Love

The compositions of Duke Ellington for lyric voice

Arundo Donax

Federica Raja soprano

21.15 h | AMPHITHEATRE

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

W.A. Mozart:

Coronation mass KV 317

Canticum Novum Choir

Hermans Academy

Lucia Casagrande Raffi soprano

Chiara Giudice mezzo-soprano

Alessandro Fiocchetti tenor

Ferruccio Finetti bass

Fabio Ciofini conductor

Mass of the artists

The New York City Gospel Choir

MASS OF THE ARTISTS



The great Burt Bacharach wrote a musical masterpiece that proclaims:
What the world needs now, is love sweet love!



The New York City Gospel Choir

The New York City Gospel Choir is New York's main contemporary choir, made up of the city's best singers, all professionals who have performed and recorded with the biggest names of the music industry, including Stevie Wonder, Whitney Houston, Roberta Flack, Freddie Jackson, Michael Jackson, Donnie McClurkin, Hezekiah Walker, Aretha Franklin and countless others. The NYC Gospel Choir has been hosted on MTV, by the Spirit of New York cruise, and has been acclaimed by the magazine *Vogue Italia* as the most beautiful and fashionable choir of all time!

An important moment for the NYC Gospel Choir was when it backed Sir Paul McCartney and Bon Jovi in New York. They have shared the stage with Wyclef Jean, Kool and the Gang, Billy Eilish and Andy Cohen. They were also the choir selected for the event *TiQany & Co. Holiday Window Event* with Golden Globe and Oscar winner, Reese Witherspoon.

The group has recently been a guest of Pharell Williams, Shawn Mendes, Jim O'Heir, Melissa Joan Hart and many others.

The NYC Gospel Choir presents the best of classical gospel, contemporary and other choral music, performing at festivals, on international tours, at concerts, performances, special and private events and weddings.

Il sogno americano

Quartetto delle Marche

David Taglioni I violin
Giuditta Longo II violin
Aurelio Venanzi viola
Andrea Agostinelli cello

CURTAIN, MAESTRO

A. DVORAK (1841-1904) Quartet n. 12 in F-Major.
 Op 96 "American"

Allegro ma non troppo, Lento, Molto vivace, Finale

S. BARBER (1910-1981) Quartet Op 11

Molto Allegro e Appassionato, Adagio, Molto Allegro



Quartetto delle Marche

Quartetto delle Marche was formed in 2009, inspired by the passion its members have always had for Strong Quartets, a formation considered to be the queen of chamber music. Its members have extensive concert experience in various formations, from duets to sextets; they have always pursued chamber music by also teaming up with orchestras, including the Orchestra of Accademia Nazionale di S. Cecilia, Orchestra del Petruzzelli, Bari, the Mantua Chamber Orchestra, I Solisti di Pavia, I Solisti Aquilani, the Marche Philharmonic Orchestra, Italian International Orchestra, Rossini Symphonic Orchestra, Pesaro, Verdi Orchestra, Milan, Bologna Chamber Orchestra, often as first musicians.

Quartetto delle Marche embraces a vast repertoire with humility and dedication, often enriching its performances with new ideas, arising from constant and passionate musical research. The aim is to contribute towards the more extensive spread of quartet music, in the spirit of sharing and emotional involvement.

The Quartet's repertoire also includes pages by forgotten authors of the Marche region, who operated throughout Europe, including Venanzio Rauzzini, Luigi Tomasini and Lino Liviabella.

Quartetto delle Marche performs in the concert seasons of the most important musical associations, always receiving public and critical acclaim.

West Side Story

Billi Brass Quintet

TRADITIONAL Just a closer walk

L. BERNSTEIN (1918-1990) *West Side Story*
Prologue, Something's coming, Maria, Tonight, America,
One hand one heart, I feel pretty

MUSIC ALONG THE HAMLET STREETS



Billi Brass Quintet

The Billi Brass Quintet, founded in 2012, won first prize at the 8th *Young Musicians International Competition of the City of Treviso* (2016) and in 2019 it was selected for the final phase of *PJIBEC* at the *Royal Northern College of Music of Manchester* (UK). From the outset the group has always proposed original sounds for silent short films of the first half of the twentieth century, commissioned to important composers including *David Short* and *Mark Hamlyn*. The group has participated in numerous festivals and competitions in Italy and abroad, including: Festival dei 2 Mondi di Spoleto, Stresa Festival, Festival delle Nazioni, Prix Italia 2018 (Capri, concert broadcast live by Rai Radio Classica), Chigiana Festival (Siena), Atlante Sonoro Festival (Rome), Giardini La Mortella (Ischia, NA) Eolie in Classico (Messina), XVI Puppet Festival (Varna, Bulgaria) and the Maurice André Festival (Saint - André - Capcèze, France).

...et organo...

Donato Cuzzato organ

REDISCOVERING THE ORGAN

G. PICCHI (1572-1643) Three dances:

Ballo ditto il Stefanin

Todesca

Ballo ditto il Picchi

G. PES CETTI (1704-1766) Sonata in c minor

Allegro, Moderato, Presto

B. GALUPPI (1706-1785) Second Sonata

Andantino, Allegro



Donato Cuzzato

Donato Cuzzato was born in Treviso and is an international concert organist who has performed over a thousand concerts in Europe and the USA. He studied at the “G. Frescobaldi”, Ferrara Organo, and Organ Composition with Liliana Medici Turrini, Majoring in Composition under Bruno Coltro and Organ Improvisation under Günther Kaunzinger at the Postgraduate School of Organ of Würzburg University (Germany).

He has toured in the USA in the following cities: Atlanta, Atlantic City, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Charlotte, Detroit, Hartford, New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Richmond, Salt Lake City, Louisville, Washington DC, to name but a few, and performed recitals in the world's largest gothic cathedrals in Bourges, Chartres, Cologne and Seville, as well as in Hamburg, Budapest, Bratislava, Brussels, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Lausanne, Malta, Nuremberg (Frau Kirke), Oslo, Stockholm, Warsaw, etc. Concerts in the most prestigious international organ festivals in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Ireland, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Czech Republic, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Hungary and USA.

Fly me to the moon

Billi Brass Quintet

APERITIF WITH MUSIC

- D. SHORT (1951) Tango
- G. GERSHWIN (1898-1937) Four hits for five, by George!
- D. ELLINGTON (1899-1974) Mood Indigo
- D. ELLINGTON (1899-1974) It don't mean
- B. HOWARD (1915-2004) Fly me to the Moon
- L. BERNSTEIN (1918-1990) Somewhere



Dancers in love

The compositions of Duke Ellington for lyric voice

Arundo Donax

Pasquale Laino sax

Pietro Tonolo sax

Mario Raja sax

Rossano Emili sax

Federica Raja soprano

MUSIC IN THE SQUARE

D. ELLINGTON (1899-1974) Dancers In Love

D. ELLINGTON Meditation

D. ELLINGTON, B. STRAYHORN (1915-1967) Sonnet For Caesar

D. ELLINGTON, B. STRAYHORN The Star-Crossed Lovers

D. ELLINGTON It Don't Mean a Thing



Arundo Donax

Arundo Donax is the scientific name of the common reed, the vibrating element that gives the Saxophone its voice. The quartet first formed in the early nineties and immediately strived to cultivate both improvisation and writing, ranging from jazz to contemporary literature and the production of original music for specific projects.

To date the formation has produced three records: *C'era una volta*, dedicated to the world of childhood, *Arundo Donax*, with tracks by authors including Carlo Boccadoro and Carla Bley, *Dancers in Love*, with music arrangements by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn.

The concert program draws inspiration from tracks in the record *Dancers in Love*, based on the music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, specifically arranged by the members of Arundo Donax for the formation of the saxophone quartet. Additional tracks, also in original arrangement, include those which Ellington composed for a non-jazz voice, more operatic in nature. True to Arundo Donax, the concert is completed by original music written by the group's members.

Pasquale Laino is a multi-instrumentalist and soprano sax specialist who has worked in very different fields, from the symphonic orchestra to pop music, jazz big bands and contemporary music. For years he performed with Mango, Matia Bazar and Carmen Consoli. He is solo sax in numerous sound tracks, including *Il Commissario Montalbano*, *Mio fratello è figlio unico*, *Habemus Papam*. Since '96 he has been working with the group "Klezroyim", with whom he has performed worldwide. He has participated in theatre, tv and radio shows as an instrumentalist and composer (including with Carlo Cecchi, Paolo Rossi, Vincenzo Cerami, Ascanio Celestini, Marco Presta and Antonello Dose). He has taught in the Conservatory and since 2004 he has been working as a composer for cinema, RAI and Mediaset.

Pietro Tonolo is one of Europe's most renowned jazz saxophonists. His career began at a tender age, with performances in Europe and America with the bands of Gil Evans and Chet Baker. He has recorded a hundred or so CDs as a sideman and in his own name, achieving extensive success acclaim.

He has worked with many major jazz artists from Italy (Franco D'Andrea, Massimo Urbani, Enrico Rava, Rita Marcotulli, Danilo Rea, Roberto Gatto) and Europe (Aldo Romano, Tony Oxley, Henri Texier, with whom he has toured in the Orient, Africa and Latin America). He has regularly performed with musicians including Lee Konitz, Steve Lacy, Joe Lovano, Joe Chambers, Gil Goldstein, Steve Swallow, Paul Motian (as member of his "Electric Bebop Band") and is one of the most esteemed Italian musicians by colleagues overseas.

He has also worked with numerous contemporary music groups, including Claudio Ambrosini's Ex Novo Ensemble, Giovanni Mancuso's Laboratorio Novamusica, Danilo Grassi's Next Time Ensemble, and the Milanese group Sentieri Selvaggi, as well as with the Orchestra of Padua and Veneto and Virtuosi italiani.

Mario Raja saxophonist, composer and arranger. He has been active for years in different musical fields, from jazz quartets to symphonic orchestras. He has worked with musicians including Mel Lewis, Bob Brookmeyer, Joe Chambers, Luciano Berio, Jerry Lewis, George Pretre, Stewie Wonder, Massimo Urbani, Sal Nistico and Giuseppe Sinopoli. He was first tenor sax of the RAI orchestra of Rome. Since 1988 he has been conducting the "Mario Raja Big Bang" whose members include some of the best Italian jazz musicians, from Paolo Fresu to Danilo Rea. In '97 and '98 he conducted the AMJ national jazz orchestra. Since 2007 he has been conductor of the "Napoletan Jazz Orchestra" working with musicians including Joe Lovano, Archie Shepp, Randy Weston and Enzo Avitabile. He conducts the Jazz Youth Orchestra of Scuola di Testaccio, Rome, with whom he prepared the sound for the film "Inferno" of 1911, on occasion of the 700th anniversary of the death of Dante. He teaches at the Perugia Conservatory.

Rossano Emili is a saxophonist, arranger and composer who has been active since the nineties, both in the "high-brow" world of music- with the RAI Symphonic Orchestra, Accademia Filarmonica Romana, Louis Andriessen and other ensembles Sentieri Selvaggi, Artisanant Furiex and Parco Della Musica Contemporanea - and on the jazz scene - working with, to name but a few, Kenny Wheeler, Paul Motian, Willem Breuker, Lee Konitz, Bob Brookmeyer, Uri Caine, Joe Chambers, John Taylor, Ethan Iverson, the Lydian Sound Orchestra, Barga Jazz Big Band, Umbria Jazz Orchestra and many Italian formations. His repertoire also includes over forty records and he has performed at the most important Italian and European jazz festivals, including Umbria Jazz, Manchester Jazz Festival, Banlieus Blues, Grenoble Jazz Festival, Time in Jazz, Roccella Jonica Jazz Festival, Nis Jazz Festival, and Bath International Music Festival. He holds the chair of classical Saxophone at the "A. Pedrollo" Conservatory, Vicenza.



Federica Raja

She graduated with honours from the “F. Morlacchi” Music Conservatory of Perugia with Michela Sburlati. She has attended post-diploma courses with Mietta Sighele, Barbara Frittoli, Ian Bostridge and Mariangela Sicilia. She has played parts including Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* (Wexford Opera Festival), Liu in *Turandot* (San Carlo Theatre, Naples, Musikalische Komödie, Leipzig and others), Adina in *The Elixir of Love*, Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Ännchen in *Der Freischütz*, Gretel and Sandmann in *Hänsel und Gretel*, Belinda in *Dido and Aeneas*. She is also very active in the field of chamber and sacred music (solo soprano in Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with Antonio Greco's “Cremona Antiqua Ensemble” *Stabat Mater* by Pergolesi, *Membra Jesu Nostri Buxtehude*, *Laudes evangelii* by Bucchi). With the saxophone quartet Arundo Donax she has performed in concerts at the Quirinale, broadcast live on Radio Tre. In 2021 she was among the winners of the “Riccardo Zandonai International Competition for opera singers” and in 2023 she received the Donizetti Prize at the “Claudio Desderi International Competition”. As a chorister she has participated in numerous concerts conducted by Riccardo Muti (*Verdi's Macbeth*, Beethoven's *Ninth symphony*, Verdi's *Nabucco*, and Verdi's *Requiem*).



W.A. Mozart: Coronation mass KV 317

Canticum Novum Choir

Hermans Academy

Lucia Casagrande Raffi soprano

Chiara Giudice mezzo-soprano

Alessandro Fiocchetti tenor

Ferruccio Finetti bass

Fabio Ciofini conductor

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

REGINA COELI KV 108 for soprano, choir and orchestra

Regina coeli - *Allegro*

Quia quem meruisti - *Moderate tempo*

Ora pro nobis - *Adagio un poco Andante*

Alleluia- *Allegro*

EXULTATE, JUBILATE KV 165 for soprano and orchestra

Allegro, Recitativo, Andante, Molto Allegro

CORONATION MASS KV 317 for solos, choir and orchestra

Kyrie

Gloria

Church sonata KV 329

Credo

Sanctus

Benedictus

Agnus Dei



Hermans Academy

The Willelm Hermans Baroque Academy was established as an association in October 2000. Its members are instrumentalists and singers specialised in the execution of ancient music, with different opportunities for variation according to repertoire.

The Academy's musicians have extensive experience both in Italy and abroad and have distinguished themselves at prestigious Festivals and Competitions, proving their exceptional musical and interpretative talent. The language developed by the group arises from the right balance of knowledge of performance practices for ancient music and the interpretative experience of individual instrumentalists. The Hermans Academy has recorded numerous CDs for different record labels, including Bongiovanni, Tactus, La Bottega Discantica, Brilliant Class (Netherlands), Glossa (Spain), teaming up with illustrious soloists, including Roberta Invernizzi, Bart Van Oort, Mauro Borgioni, Enrico Gatti, and Gloria Banditelli. It is highly active in Umbria, recording CDs in historic locations (courts and churches), organising festivals and concerts, and curating the artistic direction of the Hermans Festival - organ and ancient music concerts-; since Season 2010/11 has been the resident Orchestra of the Cucinelli Theatre in Solomeo di Corciano (PG).

It has performed in top national music Seasons and has been invited to perform at international festivals in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Finland, Estonia, Poland, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany, Serbia and Russia.



Canticum Novum

Coro Canticum Novum of Solomeo first formed in late 1986 on occasion of the Christmas festivities, upon the initiative of Father Alberto Seri and thanks to the enthusiasm of a small group of youths with a passion for music. Father Alberto's idea, combined with his capacity to involve, were so inspiring that in a short space of time, the group attracted numerous people, the majority from neighbouring towns.

Fabio Cofini has been its conductor since the early months of 1994. Before its extensive participation in concerts, the Choir dedicated around a year of its time to in-depth study and meticulous research into its repertoire, highlighting its natural preference for renaissance and classical polyphony, without neglecting elaborations of popular song, negro spirituals, gospels and music by modern and contemporary authors. Attentive to timbre research and the accurate interpretation of musical text, the Choir, consisting of approximately 25 members, has participated in different choir festivals, with the following particularly worthy of mention: *Natale in Coro*, at the national festival *Appuntamenti Polifonici Natalizi*, at *Agosto Corcianese* and *The International Peace Festival*, Assisi. Its repertoire includes several works for Choir and Orchestra (Bach, Buxtehude, Telemann, Händel, Mozart, Faurè, Rheinberger and Dvorak), performed on occasion of important Festivals and concert Seasons. It has toured in Germany, France, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. In 1996 it won the "profane music" section of the *In Coro* Festival-Competition. Since 1999 the eponymous association has been organising the *Villa Solomei* Festival.





Lucia Casagrande Raffi

Born in Gubbio (PG), she graduated in singing and then in Music Education with honours from the “F. Morlacchi” Conservatory, Perugia. She then obtained a second-level postgraduate degree with honours in Singing, majoring in interpretation and composition.

At twenty-one she made her début at the *XXIV Montepulciano Art Workshop* and has been performing for years in Italy and abroad in the fields of opera, sacred, oratory and symphonic music. In 2010 she attended the *Beniamino Gigli Awards* in Helsinki at the Sibelius Academy.

She then went on to specialise in baroque repertoire, studying under Claudine Ansermet, Gloria Banditelli and Roberta Invernizzi, working with influential musicians of the sector and important chamber formations, including: Hermans Academy, Solisti Aquilani, Perugia Chamber Orchestra, Accademia degli Unisoni, Roma Barocca Ensemble, Instrumental Ensemble of the St Petronius Music Chapel. An increasingly refined performer of eighteenth century repertoire, she has been the guest at prestigious festivals including: *Hermans Festival, Antigua Festival, Euro Mediterraneo, Antichi Organi, Corti Chiese e Cortili, Camerino Festival, Villa Solomei Festival, Barattelli Concerti, Sagra Musicale Umbra, Arti in Movimento festival, Todi Festival, Perdonanza Celestiniana, Artem Festival, Anghiari Festival, Terra D’Organi Antichi, Filarmonica Umbra*. She has recorded for *Bottega Discantica, Bongiovanni, Da Vinci, Sheva, Brilliant Classic*.



Chiara Giudice

After graduating in Piano and Singing from the “F. Morlacchi” Conservatory, Perugia, she went on to study with important exponents of the international opera singing scene: Claudio Desderi, Renato Bruson, Luciana D’Intino, Daniela Dessì and Fabio Armiliato.

She made her début at Teatro Lirico di Spoleto as Barbarina and since 2003 she has increasingly performed in concerts, both in sacred and opera singing. She has played numerous parts, ranging from Mozart to Puccini (Berta in *The Barber of Seville*, The Countess in the Marriage of *Figaro*, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Dorabella and Despina in *Così fan Tutte*; Serpina in *Serva Padrona*; Musette and Mimi in *Bohème* directed by the masters C. Desderi, Daniele Agiman, Stefano Seghedoni, Marco Moresco and Dian Tchobanov, Nedda in *I pagliacci*; Alice nel *Falstaff* by G. Verdi alongside the great baritone Renato Bruson and directed by Marco Boemi at the F. Cilea Theatre, Suor Angelica, Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana*). In 2010 she performed Mozart’s *Requiem* as a soloist, in the presence of His Holiness in Castelgandolfo.

She made her début in *Tosca* by G. Puccini, directed by Antonello Ma-dau Diaz. She has worked with the Italian Culture Institute in Tunis and has performed in major cities in the USA and Netherlands. She has continued to develop with famous sopranos Daniela Dessì and Luisa Maragliano, and the tenor Fabio Armiliato.

She also teaches alongside great artists and in prestigious operatic Academies.



Alessandro Fiocchetti

Alessandro Fiocchetti, Tenor, studied singing at the Giulio Briccialdi Institute, Terni, with Ambra Vespasiani, and then at the Santa Cecilia Conservatory, Rome, where in 2021 he graduated with honours, under the mentorship of Amelia Felle. In 2014 he won the ex aequo prize at the Fausto Ricci International Opera Signing Competition in Viterbo; in 2022 he was a finalist at the RAI competition “Voci in Varaccia”.

He made his début in 2009 as Paolino in *The Secret Marriage* by Cimaraosa at the Bonci Theatre, Cesena. In 2018 he attended the début training course of the Teatro Lirico Sperimentale A. Belli, Spoleto, singing Ramiro in Rossini's *Cenerentola* and Ke-ki-ka-ko in *Ba-ta-clan* by Offenbach. A year later he played Alfredo in *Traviata* at Teatro dell'Unione, Viterbo, Ernesto in *Don Pasquale* at Teatro Gentile, Fabriano and at Teatro Ventidio Basso, Ascoli, Nemorino in *Elisir d'amore* for the “Europaincanto” project, and Mercury in *The Judgement of Paris* by Marcello Panni, directed by the author at the Palladium Theatre, Rome. In 2020 he sang Fe-ni-Han in *Ba-ta-clan* by Offenbach at Luglio Musicale Trapanese and Rodolfo in *La Bohème* in the film made for “*Magia dell'Opera*” by the Tito Gobbi Association. A year later he played Gerardo in *Gianni Schicchi* at Teatro delle Muse, Ancona. He featured as a soloist in the *Liebesliederwalzer* by Brahms, with Michele Campanella and Monica Leone in Osimo, Asolo, Monfalcone; he sang with the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Marche and at the Muse, Ancona and Arena Gigli in Porto Recanati. He participated in the concert Elio in Beethoven's Vienna, with Elio e le Storie Tese, in Enna. In 2023 he sung Arlecchino in *Pagliacci* by R. Leoncavallo at the Traiano Theatre, Civitavecchia, Priest and Armoured Man in the production of the *Magical Flute* and at Teatro delle Muse, Ancona. He is currently furthering his education at l'Accademia d'Arte Lirica, Osimo.



Ferruccio Finetti

Born in Fabriano, his music studies first began at the “Pergolesi” school of music, Jesi. Immediately he began working for the opera season of the Pergolesi Theatre, Jesi (Italy), making his début in *Gianni Schicchi*, *Rigoletto*, *La Bohème* and *La Traviata*, and singing dozens of titles with important national choir institutions and with the prestigious London Symphony Chorus, London, in *Fidelio*, directed by Colin Davis. He participated in the making of the DVD *Conventions and Inconveniences of the Stage*, G. Donizetti, for Bongiovanni and recorded *Mozart's Requiem K626* at *La Gran Guardi* auditorium, Verona, which he also performed at the Santissima Annunziata, Florence, and the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Altar in Heaven, Rome.

He recorded the DVD of *Mass in F-major* by J. Poniatowsky, followed by a highly acclaimed performance at Westminster Cathedral Hall, London. In 2017 he began working with Teatro Lirico Sperimentale, Spoleto and was acclaimed for his role as Escamillo in Bizet's *Carmen*, Don Magnifico in Rossini's *Cenerentola*, Dulcamara in Donizetti's *Elisir d'amore*, Sparafucile in Verdi's *Rigoletto*. In 2018/19 he played Ramfis and Dulcamara on the Italian tours of *AIDA* and *L'Elisir d'amore* by the association Europaincanto, Rome. He sang Rossini's *Stabat Mater* at Bagnoregio Cathedral (VT). He has worked as a choral artist with *Fondazione del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino*, *L'Opera di Roma*, *Teatro Regio*, *Turin*, and *Academy of St. Cecilia* in Rome.

Currently he is a supplementary singer of the Sistine Chapel Choir. He assists the conductor Riccardo Serenelli in musical preparation. He has participated in different masterclasses with the maestri Riccardo Serenelli, Renato Bruson, Edda Moser, Claudio Desderi, Enza Ferrari, Marina Comparato, Amelia Felle, Laura Brioli, Barbara Frittoli, Roberto de Candia, and Marco Boemi.



Monday 1 July

21.15 h | TRIBUTE TO HUMAN DIGNITY

MUSIC EN PLEIN AIR

Love & Inspiration

The New York City Gospel Choir

Tuesday 2 July

21.15 h | AMPHITHEATRE

MUSIC EN PLEIN AIR

Whisper Sounds

Mario Biondi voice

Solomeo Philharmonic Company

Francesco Verzieri conductor

Love & Inspiration

The New York City Gospel Choir

MUSIC EN PLEIN AIR

The New York City Gospel Choir performs in a show of love and inspiration, consisting of musical selections that promote and spread the message. A moving, melodic and emotional concert, with feel-good vibes for all listeners. With songs like *Seasons of Love* (from the Broadway show RENT), *Love Train* (O'Jays), *How Deep Is Your Love* (BeeGees), *I Want To Dance With Somebody* (Whitney Houston), and inspiring songs like *Total Praise* (Richard Smallwood), *Oh Happy Day* (Edwing Hawkins) and other feel-good tracks, the audience will applaud and sing with us.

H. WALKER (1962) I Will Bless The Lord

J. WILSON (1934-1984) You're Love Keeps Lifting Me Higher

J. LARSON (1960-1996) Seasons of Love

W. HAWKINS (1949-2010) Thank You

P.J. MORTON (1981) How Deep Is Your Love

THE CLARK SISTERS (1973) I'm Looking For A Miracle

W. HOUSTON (1963-2012) I Look To You

D. WALKER If Any Man Be In Christ

A. FRANKLIN (1942-2018) You're All I Need To Get By

E. HAWKINS (1943-2018) Oh Happy Day



Whisper Sounds

Mario Biondi voice

Massimo Greco pianist

Massimilano Laganà bass/ double bass

Enrico Santangelo drums

Marco Parlante sound technician

Solomeo Philharmonic Company

Francesco Verzieri artistic director

Andrea Angeloni director

MUSIC EN PLEIN AIR

ALFIE Music: B. Bacharach, H. David, Text: H. David

BE LONELY Music: M. Biondi, Text: M. Biondi, K. Sandra Hagen

FOOL FOR YOUR LOVE Music: S.E. Sater, Text: M. Biondi

LOVE IS A TEMPLE Music: M. Biondi, Text: A. Bertorelli

REBIRTH Music: N. Poggi, F. Foggia, Text: M. Biondi, E.B. Barbosa

RIO DE JANEIRO BLUE Music: J. Haeny, R. Torrance,

Text: J. Haeny, R. Torrance

SHINE ON Music: M. Greco, Text: M. Biondi, J. Kincaid

THIS IS WHAT YOU ARE Music: A. Magnanini, Text: M. Biondi

Tracks are listed alphabetically and will not necessarily be executed in the same order.



Mario Biondi

When you first heard the hit *This is what you are* in 2006, you probably imagined a stocky, middle-aged Afro-American singer. Yet Mario Biondi was born in Catania (a city that has always had a special relationship with Italian music), thirty-five at the time and white to boot. His extraordinary, warm and mellow voice, refined in many years of live performances, had us all fooled and we couldn't help but compare him to the likes of Teddy Pendergrass, Isaac Hayes and Barry White, three of the most beautiful *black* voices of all time. The track was launched back in 2004, not in the name of Mario Biondi, but under the nom de plume Was-A-Bee. *This is what you are* became a part of countless dance compilations, but its entry in the top ten most played tracks by Norman Jay in his cult BBC Radio program took it to the next level.

The song is a prelude to a *Handful of soul*, produced with The High Five Quintet, a successful cocktail of rhythm & blues, soul, swing and jazz, in which original tracks and covers of underrated American soul alternate. In 2007 *I love you more* was released, a double live CD with the songs *Handful of soul* and others like *Just the way you are* in the Barry White version and *Close to you* by Burt Bacharach. A professional harmony developed with the latter, so much so that the legendary American composer wrote *Something that was beautiful* for Biondi, a marvellous ballad that became a major track of *If*, his second album, released at the end of 2009. Published by Tattica Records, over 200,000 copies were sold, a remarkable result considering the music genre. Sales aside, the album confirms Biondi as one of the most interesting artists on the national scene and this is not hard to believe: the single *Be lonely*, is a triumph of rhythm and strings in pure Seventies style, not to mention the sensual ballad *Ecstasy*. Even Claudio Baglioni in *Juke box* and Renato Zero in *Non smetterei più* showcase the Sicilian crooner's unmistakable baritone in their own works: there is no stopping his success. *Due* is an innovative "talent album" published in 2011, in which Biondi's warm voice meets with that of young artists, more or less well-known, whose talent he nur-

tures. Twenty tracks, thirteen of which unreleased, composed by the same artists involved in the project, and seven covers, including the wonderful *My girl* by the Temptations, used in the ad for a famous Italian beer. *Sun*, released in 2013, is the album that marked his definitive consecration, the first to be published by a major label, launching the singer onto the international market. He achieved all this by brining together an all-star line-up, including Al Jarreau, James Taylor Quartet, Omar, Leon Ware and Chaka Khan. Bluey of the Incognito gave the album its unmistakable touch, which translates into a fresh, pulsating, modern, yet pleasantly vintage sound. In the same year, after a triumphant concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London, he released *Mario Christmas*, an original Christmas record with two unreleased tracks and surprising reinterpretations of *Last Christmas*, *Driving home for Christmas* and *Let it snow*. *Beyond*, 2015, is a declaration of intent already palpable from the title: Mario Biondi's desire to shake things up and present himself with a whole new sound. *All I want is you*, written with Dee Dee Bridgewater, is all that remains of the soft jazz ballads of the past; *Beyond* is an album to be danced to, with numerous funky and a couple of pop-dance tracks: *Love is a temple* and *I chose you*, and even a reggae tune, *Where does the money go*. In 2016 the Catania-born crooner published his very own greatest hits, entitled *Best of Soul*, with the best of 10 years of his career in two cds, with 7 additional unreleased tracks. Lanui Brazilian sounds are the main theme in *Brasil*, recorded and produced in 2018, in one year of work in Rio de Janeiro, by Mario Caldato and Kassin. *Brasil* is a veritable journey through the multifaceted nature of Brazilian music, with unreleased tracks and reinterpretations of classics which Biondi performs without ever shunning his soul and funk essence, effortlessly singing in four languages: Portuguese, English, French and Italian. The elegant ballad *Rivederti* stands out in particular in the album, and was presented at the 2018 Sanremo Festival, where once more Mario Biondi showcased his excellent vocal control and technique, always at the service of emotions. The recent *I wanna be free* with Quintorigo and *Sunny Days* with Cleve-

land Jones are two singles that indicate Biondi's tireless sound research. In 2020, a dark time for the world of music and entertainment, Mario had to cancel many performances in Italy and abroad, rescheduling them for 2021. The emergency didn't stop him from working on different projects. First and foremost, he finished recording his new album, released in 2021.

In June he released the digital EP *Paradise Alternative Productions*, containing 3 different versions of *Paradise*, a track from the new album; on occasion of Record Store Day / Black Friday, it was released in a special vinyl edition, with additional remixes, not available in the digital version. On 8 December Mario published the Christmas single *This Is Christmas Time*, a holiday version of his classic *This Is What You Are*, with text adapted together with *Nick The Nightfly* and the re-recording of music in a studio with his band.

Cantaloupe Island (DJ Meme Remix), was released on 15 January 2021, a single anticipating the imminent publication of the new album. A reinterpretation of the Herbie Hancock classic published in 1964, in the album *Empyrean Isles*, in addition to the influence of the Brazilian producer DJ Meme, who Mario met in Rio De Janeiro while recording his album *Brasil*. On 29 January 2021 *Dare* was published, celebrating 50 years of Mario, amid early influences and new sounds, characterised by the artist's unflinching quality.

After a summer once again filled with live performances in Italy and abroad, Mario returned to the studio to record a new project. On 14 February 2022, Valentine's Day, he announced his new album *Romantic*, released on 18 March, with excerpts of *You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine* and *Romantic Song*, with a videoclip directed by Luca Tommassini. On the occasion Mario also announced his new calendar of dates, with a theatre tour covering the entire month of May, including major Italian cities, and a series of concerts abroad from the end of March to autumn 2022, including in the UK, Switzerland, Spain, Germany, Austria and Hungary. In 2023 Biondi announced new inter-

national performances, including at the Java Jazz Festival, Jakarta, his return to Blue Note, Tokyo, 11 years on, concerts in Ankara, Jurmala, Tangers, and two highly prestigious double bills with Manhattan Transfer (Madrid, Noches del Botanico Festival) and Kurt Elling (Leverkusen, Leverkusener Jazztage).

On 18 April 2023 the first summer dates in Italy were announced, as part of the tour *Crooning Soon* including live previews of brands from the new project which was then released in the autumn.

On 26 May 2023 Biondi published the track *My Favourite Things*, a reinterpretation of the classic by Julie Andrews and preview of the new album *Crooning Undercover*, released on 29 September 2023.

After numerous summer concerts in Italy and abroad, Mario Biondi brought to life a new theatre tour in Italy entitled *Crooning - The Italian Tour*, in which he performs in the best opera theatres up and down the country, with an orchestra of 19 musicians unplugged... A highly ambitious live project, which sold out in many cities.

In 2024 he has reconfirmed a program of back-to-back dates in various countries: Spain, Germany, Portugal, Hungary, Uzbekistan, Morocco, Australia, Ethiopia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Croatia, Latvia, Azerbaijan and the Principality of Monaco. 10 summer dates in high artistic and cultural value locations were also announced, along with 10 dates in theatres in Italy's main cities, indeed the *Crooning Undercover* crossed the impressive milestone of 100 dates in Italy and 22 other countries in 2023-2024.

A special event scheduled for 14 September at Teatro Antica, Taormina, will be the grand final for summer 2024, with a show celebrating the world of jazz and soul, and the participation of special guests from the Italian and international jazz scene.

E tu come stai was released on 18 April 2024, a cover of the timeless track by Claudio Baglioni, anticipating an EP in which Mario reinterprets four great classics of Italian song and singer-song-writers.





Solomeo Philharmonic

The Solomeo music band was created thanks to Father Ruggero Margaritoni, who taught the first notions of music to his students in 1925. After its first maestro Ducci, from Romagna, Aroldo Pedini was appointed, who raised the group's level thanks to his talent for arranging tracks suited to the potential of various elements. The maestri Piero Vincenti, Eleno Orazi, Roberto Castellani and Enrica Picciafuoco are also particularly worthy of mention, as they led the band over time. For two decades and until 2015, the band was conducted by Mauro Basiglio, who worked on the quality of performances and implemented the musical repertoire. Today the band is conducted by maestro Verzieri, who also coordinates the school of music and arts “Musikè”, of the eponymous association. Under his direction the Band has developed both in technical and interpretative terms and has continued to expand its musical repertoire. Maestro Andrea Angeloni was appointed to support Maestro Verzieri in his work and conduct the band at its various performances away from home. The most significant events in which the band has performed include the Christmas Concert at the Cucinelli Theatre, the End of Year Concert at the Sala dei Notari, Perugia, religious celebrations and processions in neighbouring towns and musical exchanges with bands from other regions in Italy and European countries. In the last few years the Solomeo Philharmonic Band has also participated in concert festivals such as the *Band Festival* of Città della Pieve (PG), *La bacchetta d'Oro*, Fiuggi (FR), and in 2024, at the Flicorno d'oro, Riva del Garda (TN). At the Cucinelli Theatre on 18 December 2022, the maestro and composer Lorenzo Pusceddu presented and conducted the new track written for Solomeo and its band for the first time, entitled *Solomeo dreams*. In summer 2023 the band performed on the prestigious stage of the *Villa Solomei Festival* in “Sounds of China”, with Maestro Guo Gan. For a long time the Solomeo Philharmonic organised the “Aroldo Pedini” band festival: an event dedicated to the spread and promotion of band music, with the participation of bands from Italy's variegated scene. Today the Solomeo Philharmonic band is made up of around 40 members and its repertoire ranges from classical music to jazz and blues.



Francesco Verzieri

Born in 1975, he graduated in clarinet in 1997 from the Perugia Conservatory, under the mentorship of the maestri Zampognini and Scarponi. His mentorship continued under Maestro Garbarino and once more with Master Scarponi. In 2002 and 2003 he participated in numerous educational initiatives organised by the Umbria Region and by ANBIMA, directed by illustrious maestri including A.M. Freschi (music education), A. Carnevali, M. Livi, F. Creux (training course for orchestral conductor). In 2003 he attended the course taught by Maestro C. Pirola (gesture and communication). In 2008 he participated in the conduction course held by Maestro S. Acquaviva. Francesco Verzieri has executed numerous intense and acclaimed concert performances as a soloist, in piano duets, various chamber formations and important symphonic orchestras, recording numerous CDs as a clarinetist. From 2004 to 2006 he was the director of the “V. Puletti” Philharmonic of Ponte Felcino (PG), with whom he recorded the CD *Armonie di Capodanno*, and conducted for the Municipality of Perugia in 2004 and 2005 at Sala dei Notari, on occasion of the prestigious New Year's Eve Concert. He works with numerous educational associations as an expert in education, sound and music. In 1998 he was appointed director of the “Michele Taddei” School of Music in Cannara and in 2002 maestro of the “F. Morlacchi” Musical Concert of Cannara, in a highly acclaimed performance. In May 2006 he moved to Augsburg (Germany), on occasion of the festival of Italian emigrants in Germany, and in April 2010 to Genk, Belgium, for 25 April formal celebrations. Under his leadership, the Concerto Musicale “F. Morlacchi” qualified for the national final in Florence among the top 10 bands in Italy at the Concorso *Energia in Banda* organised by Enel and ANBIMA and, in April 2009, sixth place in the third category in the eleventh edition of the *Flicorno d'oro* competition, Riva del Garda (TN). From 2009 to 2014 he was vice director of the *Corciano Festival* wind orchestra, from 2010 to 2018 he directed the “Caduti per la Patria” Philharmonic of Mugnano (PG), from 2015 he is director of the Solomeo Philharmonic Company, with whom he participated in the *La bacchetta d'oro* Competition in 2017, in Fiuggi (FR).



The Organ

VILLA SOLOMEI FESTIVAL

by Fabio Ciofini

*The Adamo Rossi organ
in the church of St Bartholomew*

The Adamo Rossi organ conserved in the parish church of St. Bartholomew in Solomeo was made by the Perugian organ builder Adamo Rossi in 1791. The instrument was originally commissioned by the Olivetan monks of Monte Morcino for their church of the Annunciation, located in today's University Square. Following Napoleonic confiscations, the church of the Annunciation was closed for worship and assigned to the University of Perugia. In the late nineteenth century (1898?), some furnishings, including five altars, the choir, organ and the tabernacle decorated by Carlo Murena (1717-1764), were purchased by Mr. Raffaele Bucarini for 8,500 Lire and donated to the new parish church of Solomeo. The instrument was moved from Perugia to Solomeo and recommissioned for 400 Lire, by another famous Perugian organ builder: Francesco Morettini.

Brief technical information on the instrument

Key and pedalboard Split sharp keyboard with 47 keys (Do1/Re5). Diatonic boxwood keys and chromatic painted walnut keys with ebony plates, spiral decorations, own-design modillions. Divided B/S between Si2 and Do3. Equal temperament (modified Vallotti). Slanting walnut wood pedalboard. 12 pedals (Do1/Re#2) constantly united with manual. 8' bass registration constantly inserted (wood).

PHONIC COMPOSITION FOLLOWING RESTORATION

	ALL RANKS (Octave)
Bass trumpet (8' bass)	
Trumpet (8' soprano)	Unison (8' basses)
Human voice	Unison (8' sopranos)
Flute (8' soprano)	Octave (4')
Flute in VIII	XII
Cornet I (in VIII)	XV
Cornet II (in XII)	XIX
Cornet III (in XVII)	XXII
	XXVI
	XXIX

Restoration by Riccardo Lorenzini (Montemurlo, Prato) 2013

Adamo Rossi, the organ builder

Little is known about the life of Adamo Rossi, who was an important figure in the development of the art of organ building in Perugia during the 18th and 19th centuries. Research carried out by Renzo Giorgetti and published in the Umbrian journal of Musicology "Studi e Documentazioni"¹, still give us an idea of his activity as a musician and builder, and of how his art influenced future generations of organ builders and Perugia's most important organ building family in particular: the Morettini.

Adamo Rossi (often referred to as Adamino in documents, perhaps due to his short stature) was born in around 1753 and aged 24 (1777 records state he resided in Perugia, in the parish of Santa Maria di Colle) he was appointed head organist of San Pietro in Perugia, a position he held until 1842, when at the venerable age of 90, he stepped down and was succeeded by his son Francesco.

During the first few years in this position he met Francesco Fedeli, an exponent of one of the most important organ-building dynasties of Umbria and Marche, who during those years was salaried for the ordinary maintenance of the organs of Saint Peter, drawing on his experience to repair and build organs.

Married to Margherita Buonaccorsi (1785 circa), they had five children: Teresa (1787), Giuseppe (1788), Francesco (1790, organist), Colomba (1792) and Romualdo (1794, remembered for having followed in his father's footsteps, in organ restoration and building).

In 1791 he built one of his first instruments for the Olivetan monks of Monte Morcino, which was then acquired for the parish of Solomeo. The Veneto-Marche essence of the organ conserved in Solomeo is immediately palpable (from its phonic and technical characteristics), confirming "Adamino" as a major organ builder in Perugia during the late eighteenth century and first half of the nineteenth century.

He was active at a time in which Perugia's music scene was rich in important figures the likes of Francesco Zanetti (chapel master in Saint Peters during Adamo Rossi's tenure as organist), Luigi Caruso (chapel master of Perugia Cathedral from 1788) and Francesco Morlacchi. As an organ builder he worked mainly in Umbertide, Gubbio and Perugia, where from 1800 he was also appointed tuner and repairer of the organs of Saint Peter (succeeding Fedeli).

Adamo Rossi: documented interventions

1791	Montemorcinò - Perugia	Moved to Solomeo
1794	Gubbio - San Pietro	Maintenance
1795	Paciano - San Giuseppe	
1803	Perugia - San Costanzo	Moved to Fratta Todina
1806	Castiglione della Valle - Marsciano	
1808	Umbertide - Santa Croce	Restoration and modifications (Cf. "St. e doc." 13)
1812	Perugia - Sant'Agnese	Moved to Torgiano (?)
1820-1821	Città di Castello - Sant'Agostino	Together with son and an assistant (Cf. "St. e doc." 18)
1822 (?)/37 (?) or 1832 (?)	Perugia - Beata Colomba	Moved to Migiana di Corciano in 1859. Attribution to someone unknown improbable Giovanni Rossi
1824 - 1835	Perugia - San Pietro	Choir Barrel Organ General maintenance
1827/43	Villa Pitignano di Perugia	Together with son
1830	Perugia - San Domenico	Restoration
1831	Villanova - Marsciano	
1836	Perugia - Sant'Onofrio in Cattedrale	
Early XIX (?)	Santa Maria Rossa - Perugia (?)	Perhaps moved to Doglio di Montecastello di Vibio - Immacolata Concezione

¹ *Solomeo Parish Archive book, file E no. 95, p. 35. List of expenses incurred by parish for the construction of the new church: "this count does not include the five marble altars with tabernacle purchased by the University of Perugia for £. 7000, nor the organ and choir of the same church for £ 1500, its disassembly and reassembly, transport, organ repair and choir repositioning and repair, amounting to £. 10.000 entirely donated to the church in virtue of to the exemplary generosity of Mr. Raffaele Bucarini, landowner of Solomeo".*

² Cf. Renzo Giorgetti: *Studies and Documentations, Perugia 1988.*



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