

FONDAZIONE PRADA RENEWS THE COLLABORATION WITH RICCARDO MUTI. FROM 18 TO 29 NOVEMBER 2023, THE PUBLIC WILL EXPERIENCE REHEARSALS OF THE OPERA "NORMA" AND THE CONCERT CONDUCTED BY THE MAESTRO

Milan, 8 May 2023 – The collaboration between "Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy" and Fondazione Prada is renewed. They will present the 2023 and 2025 editions of the project at the Fondazione's Milan venue: the first one dedicated to *Norma* by Vincenzo Bellini, while the second one to *Don Giovanni* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

From 18 to 29 November 2023, the public will be able to experience the entire series of lessons and rehearsals focused on *Norma* and held by Maestro Riccardo Muti up to his concert. Tickets are available from today on Fondazione Prada's website.

A new set-up conceived for the Deposito's premises will host Riccardo Muti who, at the helm of the Orchestra Giovanile Luigi Cherubini, will undertake an educational project addressed to young orchestra conductors and répétiteurs. Selected through an international call by a committee chaired by the Maestro, participants will be between 18 and 35 years old and graduated in Italy or abroad, in Conducting or Piano.

On Saturday, 18 November, the 2023 edition of the Academy will be inaugurated by a lesson concert by Riccardo Muti dedicated to the opera *Norma*. From 19 to 25 November, it will continue with a series of open rehearsals held by the Maestro at the piano, with the orchestra, the singers and the choir addressed to the young musicians. The project will conclude with two events: on Sunday, 26 November, the final rehearsal of the young conductors presented by Riccardo Muti and on Wednesday, 29 November a concert conducted by the Maestro.

Riccardo Muti's focus on music education has always been a constant element of his artistic activity. With "Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy" he intends to share with young musicians what he learnt from his great masters and to accompany them in the process of interpreting and performing an opera. Moreover, the series of lessons and rehearsals open to the public will give all the occasion to take part in an intense experience of learning in the field of classical music.

As stated by Miuccia Prada, President of Fondazione Prada, "the collaboration with Riccardo Muti and his Academy affirms the centrality of teaching and transferring knowledge between different generations. We are convinced that study is one of the most effective tools for artistic and personal growth. This project is an important educational opportunity, both for the young students who will have the opportunity to work closely with Riccardo Muti and for the public who will be engaged by the Maestro's generosity and passion and his commitment to spreading and strengthening musical culture."

As underlined by Riccardo Muti, "I chose *Norma* by Vincenzo Bellini because I want to highlight

this composer's bel canto which *Norma* embodies in the most absolute way. This is an extremely complicated opera: it requires peculiar attention to phrasing and the orchestral texture, which are apparently simple but extraordinarily effective in supporting and interweaving with the vocal line. *Norma's* sublime and endless melody, which also fascinated Wagner, demands purity and nobility of execution. The conductor's task is to sublimate the singing without neglecting the orchestral texture. It should not be reduced to mere accompaniment but must intertwine with the voices, which should be given colour and warmth".

Norma is the eighth of the ten operas by composer Vincenzo Bellini (Catania, 1801 – Puteaux, 1835). It was staged for the first time on 26 December 1831 at Teatro alla Scala in Milan. Despite its unsuccessful debut, from the following performance the opera won over the audience and established itself as the composer's greatest masterpiece, synthesizing lyricism and drama in perfect balance. The story told by the libretto by Felice Romani (Genoa, 1788 - Moneglia, 1865) has three thematic lines: the motif of the priestess who breaks her vows for love, the theme of infanticide, taken directly from Greek tragedy and the character of Medea, and the Celtic-Barbaric motif that strikes the collective imagination of the 1830s. Composed in the historical period that Lorenzo Arruga defines as one of "cross fading" between Neoclassicism and Romanticism, *Norma* is an opera whose language is mainly related to songs to which Bellini entrusts the representation of "the nature of man at the mercy of the passions" communicated "by means of harmony."

Riccardo Muti Music (RMMUSIC) conceived and created "Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy" in 2015. Since then, it has managed its organization in Italy and Japan, where the project has been presented since 2019 in collaboration with the Spring Festival in Tokyo.

Press contacts

Fondazione Prada
T +39 02 56 66 26 34
press@fondazioneprada.org
fondazioneprada.org

Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy
info@riccardomutioperacademy.com
riccardomutioperacademy.com
riccardomutimusic.com

INFORMATION

Lessons, rehearsals and concerts will take place at Fondazione Prada's Deposito. Tickets can be purchased online or at the Fondazione Prada ticketing desk. Entrance to the events is ticketed and does not include admission to exhibitions. Seats are numbered. Access is not permitted once the concert or rehearsal has started.

The organization reserves the right to make changes in seat assignment due to technical requirements and/or to modify the program.

The public consents to and authorizes any audio, video, internet and photographic recordings (as well as in any other way made and/or distributed), granting full release for any use.

It is absolutely forbidden to take photographs and to make audio and video recordings during all events.

Audience in need of wheelchair access, with limited mobility or requiring special assistance can contact +39 02 56662612 prior to their visit in order to check seat availability and receive dedicated support from our staff.

FARES**Carnet**

valid to access all events

Full	500 €
Under 30	200 €

Lesson and concert by Riccardo Muti

Stalls	100 €
Parterre	70 €
Under 30	40 €

Rehearsals (morning or afternoon)

Stalls	35 €
Parterre	25 €
Under 30	10 €

Rehearsals (daily ticket)

Stalls	50 €
Parterre	40 €
Under 30	15 €

Young directors' final rehearsal

Stalls 40 €

Parterre 30 €

Under 30 20 €

Riccardo Muti conducts *Norma*

Stalls 200 €

Parterre 160 €

Under 30 75 €

SPECIAL FARES

School groups

School classes can take advantage of the promotional rate of 5 € per student for each rehearsal session taking place from 19 to 25 November 2023.

Booking can be made by contacting Fondazione Prada's Visitor Service at +39 02 56662612 or visit.milano@fondazioneprada.org

Spectators with disabilities

All events are free for spectators with disabilities. Their companion can benefit from the reduced Under 30 rate.

Booking can be made by contacting Fondazione Prada's Visitor Service at +39 02 56662612 or visit.milano@fondazioneprada.org

Music school students

Students of Conservatory, Istituto Musicale Pareggiato or equivalent foreign music academies can purchase a dedicated subscription (150 €), including the lesson concert and the concert conducted by the Maestro, by contacting the "Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy" at +39 0544 217036 or info@riccardomutioperacademy.com