BEHIND THE INSTRUMENTS



Sara Pini Ugolini
A violinist from Bologna, Italy (b. 2001), graduated with top honors from Ferrara Conservatory (2024) under A. Perpich. She studied 14 years at "Alfredo Impullitti" Music School with S. Salvi and G. Scarponi, and is currently pursuing advanced courses with R. Ranfaldi (Perosi Academy, Biella) and a Master's in Chamber Music in Parma with P. Maurizzi. She performs with major opera and festival productions, including Teatro Comunale di Bologna (La Cenerentola) and Macerata Opera Festival.



Wilma Monachello
A violinist from Belvedere Marittimo (born 2001), earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees with top honors from the Conservatory "S. Giacomantonio" in Cosenza under Alberto Maria Ruta. A winner of multiple competitions, she has performed with the Italian National Conservatories Orchestra at Teatro Massimo and collaborated on the album Leon in Jazz.



Camilla Meledina
A violist from Sassari (born 1999), earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees with top honors from the Conservatory "A. Peri" in Reggio Emilia under M° Pietro Scalvini. She has performed with major Italian orchestras including the Filarmonica Umbra and I Musici di Parma, and attended masterclasses with renowned violists such as R. Mallozzi and M. Zemtsov.



Alessandro Greco
A cellist from Cosenza (born 2000), earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees with top honors from the Conservatory "S. Giacomantonio" and studies Chamber Music at the "A. Boito" Conservatory in Parma. A member of the Toscanini Academy and winner of several competitions, he has performed with leading Italian orchestras, including ONCI and the Toscanini Philharmonic, often as principal cellist.

THE MUSICAL ARRANGERS



Mario Renier Zen
Graduated cum laude from the "A. Boito" Conservatory in Parma under Prof. Alberto Miodini and is completing a Master's in chamber music with Prof. Pierpaolo Maurizzi. Winner of the 2024 Italian National Arts Prize, Lodovico Agostini, and Gabriel Fauré competitions. He has performed across Italy, Germany, Austria, and Spain, also studying at the Mozarteum Salzburg.



Giuseppe Caffi
Born in Soresina, Italy, earned diplomas in Piano, Choral Music, and Conducting from the Lucio Campiani Conservatory (Mantua) and later in Band Instrumentation and Composition from the Dall'Abaco Conservatory (Verona) under Maestro Antonio Zanon. A composer, transcriber, and arranger for publishers such as Eridania, Armellin, Carrara, and Berbèn, he has won several national composition awards, including "Città di Savona" and "Antonio Manoni." He currently serves as Director of the Claudio Monteverdi Conservatory of Music in Cremona and has generously contributed to Tasting Opera quartet arrangement of Giuseppe Verdi's "Libiamo ne' lieti calici."

TASTING OPERA



Curated by: ITALIA HOSPITALITY

In collaboration with: MAMA DUBAI | FHS WORLD

MENU

STARTER

Insalata di Radicchio

Walnuts | 24-month aged Parmigiano Reggiano cream | balsamic dressing

Paired with: Soave Classico DOC – Pieropan, Veneto

In honor of: Giuseppe Verdi
Aria: Vieni t'affretta, Macbeth
Performed by: Clarissa Costanzo, Soprano

MIDDLE COURSE

Arancini

Girolles mushrooms | truffle emulsion | aged cheese

Paired with: Langhe Nebbiolo DOC – Vietti "Perbacco", Piemonte

In honor of: Vincenzo Bellini
Aria: Vi Ravviso o Luoghi Ameni, La Sonnambula
Performed by: Federico De Antoni, Bass

PASTA

Doppio Raviolo

Filling of caponata and chicken cacciatore | light rosé cream

Paired with: Chianti Classico DOCG – Castello di Ama, Toscana

In honor of: Gaetano Donizetti
Aria: Una Furtiva Lagrima, L'elisir d'amore
Performed by: Davide Micheletti, Tenor

MAIN COURSE

Vitello Saltimbocca

Veal tenderloin | sage | natural veal jus | broccolini

Paired with: Barbera d'Alba DOC – Prunotto, Piemonte

In honor of: Gioachino Rossini
Aria: Di Tanti Palpiti, Tancredi
Performed by: Marta Maria Vittoria Miccoli , Mezzo Soprano

DESSERT

Tiramisù

Ladyfinger biscuits | cocoa powder | espresso

Paired with: Moscato Passito – Araldica, Paralzzina, Piemonte

In honor of: Giuseppe Verdi
Aria: Libiamo Ne' Lieti Calici, La Traviata

THE ARTISTS



Clarissa Costanzo
An Italian soprano from Capua (born 1991), studied piano and opera, graduating with honors from Naples' Conservatory San Pietro a Majella and the Accademia Teatro alla Scala in Milan under Renata Scotto. A winner of major international competitions like Voci Verdiane and Riccardo Zandonai, she debuted at 21 as Aida and has performed roles in Norma, Tosca, Madama Butterfly, and Don Carlo. Highlights include appearances at Teatro alla Scala for the Bulgari Gala and EXPO Dubai 2020. In 2025, she stars in Smareglia's I Pittori Fiamminghi at the Illica Festival and the Verdi Gala Fuoco di Gioia in Parma.



Federico De Antoni
A bass from Varese, Italy (born 1991), graduated with top honors from Milan's Conservatory "G. Verdi" and trained with tenor Vito Martino. A chorus artist at Teatro alla Scala Academy, he has performed roles such as Bartolo, Sparafucile, and Sarastro at major festivals and venues. A finalist at the New Voices Opera Competition, he has trained with Leone Magiera and Alessandro Micheli. Federico also serves as Head of Operations for Tasting Opera.



Davide Micheletti
A tenor from Brescia (born 2004), studies at the Conservatory "A. Boito" in Parma. A soloist and chorister with wide repertoire, he won 2nd prize at Scuole in Musica (2023) and was a finalist at Voce d'Angelo (2024). He has performed as Rinuccio in Gianni Schicchi, sung in Mozart's Coronation Mass and Requiem, and appeared at Bologna Festival and Teatro Regio di Parma. He has trained with Stefan Pop and Renato Renzetti and is an active member of several choirs in Parma and Brescia.



Marta Maria Vittoria Miccoli
A mezzo-soprano from Syracuse (born 2001), graduated with top honors in Opera Singing from the "A. Boito" Conservatory in Parma. Trained by Enrico Iori and Katia Ricciarelli, she has won major competitions including Rubini, Zinetti, and the 2024 Italian National Arts Prize. She debuted as Cherubino at the Stresa Festival and has since performed in La Traviata, Manon Lescaut, and Suor Angelica. In 2025, she debuted at Teatro alla Scala and in Donizetti's Caterina Cornaro. Since 2024, she has performed with Tasting Opera in Italy and Dubai.