

ORCHESTRAS AND SOLOISTS AMONG THE TUSCAN VINEYARDS: THE AMIATA PIANO FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS 15TH EDITION

The music festival founded and managed by Maurizio Baglini celebrates the anniversary with 15 concerts at the Bertarelli Forum in Poggi del Sasso (Cinigiano, Grosseto, Tuscany, Italy), a magnificent auditorium built on top of a hill surrounded by rows of vineyards and olive trees.

From the 1st of June to the 7th of December 2019 the programme will range from Mozart to Schumann, from Nino Rota to Sting, with soloists, orchestras, string quartets, ancient and baroque music ensembles.

The Amiata Piano Festival celebrates its 15th edition. The Tuscan music festival founded and managed by the pianist **Maurizio Baglini** will celebrate its anniversary with **15 concerts at the Bertarelli Forum**: a magnificent a 300-seats auditorium built on top of a hill in **Poggi del Sasso (Cinigiano, Grosseto, in Tuscany, Italy)** and surrounded by rows of vineyards and olive trees as far as the eyes can see.

Supported by the **Bertarelli Foundation**, the Amiata Piano Festival starts on **Saturday 1st of June 2019** and continues until **7th of December** and the programme ranges from **Mozart to Schumann, from Ravel to Messiaen, from Nino Rota to Sting**. On stage many famous soloists, four orchestras, three string quartets, two ancient and baroque music ensembles and some young performers.

Since its beginning in 2005, the Amiata Piano Festival has grown over the years, it has become more consolidated, received the approval of the specialised critics and today it's one of the most appreciated European festivals, with almost two hundred concerts and thousands of spectators from all over the world. «I started from scratch and at the beginning everyone considered me a fool because it didn't seem possible to attract an audience for "classical" music in a territory that is wonderful from a naturalistic point of view, but outside the traditional tourist circuits and musically virgin», comments **Maurizio Baglini**. «I'm proud – continues the founder and artistic director – that instead the festival had grown to the point of making necessary the construction of an auditorium with three hundred seats. **This allowed me to host also the orchestras, this year even four, one for each series of the festival. I thank the cellist Silvia Chiesa, extraordinary life and music companion, who, as resident artist, shares with me the responsibility of this thrilling artistic challenge**».

The originality of the programmes and the excellence of the performers are the characteristic traits of the festival, but the audience also appreciates the pleasantly informal atmosphere of the evenings and the traditional tasting of ColleMassari wines, offered to the public during the interval of the concerts.

Performers. This year will be on the Concert Hall stage: the pianists **Maurizio Baglini, Finghin Collins, Sandro De Palma, Thierry Huillet, Simone Soldati**; the violinists **Clara Cernat, Gabriele Pieranunzi, Guido Rimonda, David Simonacci, Sonig Tchakerian**; the cellist **Silvia Chiesa**; the flautists **Andrea Griminelli, Massimo Mercelli**; the clarinetist **Gabriele Mirabassi**; the guitarist **Giampaolo Bandini**; **Cesare Chiacchiaretta**, bandoneon; the sopranos **Nika Gorič, Eleonora Contucci**; the composers **Azio Corghi, Salvatore Sciarrino**; the music critics **Sandro Cappelletto, Guido Barbieri**; the young soloists **Damiano Barreto**, violin, **Alessandro Acqui**, viola, **Ludovica Rana**, cello; **Guadagnini String Quartet, Henschel String Quartet, La Scala String Quartet**; the ensembles **Lautten Compagny**, conducted by **Wolfgang Katschner**, and **Theatrum Instrumentorum**, conducted by **Aleksandar Sasha Karlić**; **Camerata Ducale, The Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto** conducted by **Marco Angius**, **The Orchestra della Toscana** conducted by **Manlio Benzi**, **Roma Tre Orchestra** conducted by **Massimiliano Caldi**.

Dates: June 1 (Preview Concert); June 27/28/29/30 (Baccus series); July 25/26/27/28 (Euterpe series); August 29/30/31, September 1 (Dionisus series); December 6/7 (Christmas Concerts).

Concerts venue: Bertarelli Forum, Poggi del Sasso, Cinigiano, Grosseto, Tuscany, Italy.

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/z4ANxELuLK62>

The Bertarelli Foundation. Created by the siblings **Maria Iris Tipa Bertarelli** and **Claudio Tipa**, the foundation has been active since 2009. It handles with the promotion of the Tuscan territory through contributions to the arts, the environmental recovery, the archaeological treasures and the contemporary architecture. The non-profit foundation only pursues public utility purposes, and this year it is supporting various projects with the Teatro Stabile of Grosseto, the Confraternita della Misericordia, the towns of Cinigiano, Montalcino and Arcidosso, the Archdiocese of Siena and the universities of Siena and Pisa. It has opened two archeological sites in the Cinigiano area. Among its most demanding projects there are: the Amiata Piano Festival, the restoration of the church of Saint Augustine in Montalcino and the architecture summer school at the Scuola Permanente dell’Abitare.

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