

*Call for applications to the*  
**TEATRO ALLA SCALA**  
**ACADEMY OF LYRIC OPERA**  
*2018 - 2020*

Fondazione Accademia d'Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala (hereinafter also "Academy") hereby opens the admission process to the *Teatro alla Scala Academy of Lyric Opera for the two-year program 2018-2020*.

The Examining Committee will have the final decision as to the ranking. All candidates will be classified in a single ranking.

### **1. Program Goals and Professional Profile**

The selection process is oriented to young operatic singers having sufficient artistic and vocal qualities to merit higher specialization for a professional career in opera based on solid, high level training in voice, music, theatre and culture.

### **2. Program Structure**

The two-year program is currently scheduled from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2020, with a summer break in 2019. The Academy Director – in agreement with the Artistic Director of Teatro alla Scala – may invite eligible candidates to begin the program as much as six months earlier than the above opening date. Selected candidates will only be admitted after accepting and signing the Academy Regulations when the course begins. The course begins with a trial period ending on January 31, 2019. At the end of the trial period, the Office of the Director will make the final determination as to which candidates will effectively be admitted to the Academy.

An examination will be held at the end of the first year of the course. Based on their performance on this examination, students may be excluded from further study at the Academy.

At the end of the two-year course, the Office of the Director will assess each single student to determine whether he or she may be offered an optional third year of specialization, integrated into the production program of the Theatre and the Academy.

The curriculum includes the following subjects:

- Interpretation of opera and chamber repertory;
- Vocal score coaching;
- Vocal technique;
- Stage Presence and Body Language Techniques for the Stage;
- Physical expression on stage;
- Italian for foreigners.

If authorized by the Artistic Director of Teatro alla Scala, students may observe rehearsals, on stage or in the rehearsal room, of operas on the Teatro alla Scala program, and take part in encounters with the Theatre's guest orchestra conductors, stage directors, and singers.

The Teatro alla Scala Artistic Director will also assess the option of offering performer or stand-in contracts to students for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 seasons.

Concerts with orchestra or piano accompaniment, music festivals in the Ridotto dei Palchi, and tours in Italy and abroad are planned during the period of the course. Additionally, students will be engaged in an opera production staged as part of the regular 2019 and 2020 La Scala season programs.

The principal instructors will be: Luciana D'Intino (Director of Studies), Renato Bruson, Luciana Serra, Eva Mei, Gregory Kunde, Umberto Finazzi, Vincenzo Scalera, James Vaughan, Marina Bianchi, and Marco Gandini.

### 3. Program Locations

The program primarily takes place in the following locations:

- Fondazione Accademia d'Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala, Via S. Marta 18 - 20123 Milan
- Fondazione Teatro alla Scala, Via Filodrammatici 2 - 20121 Milan
- Laboratori Ansaldo, Via Bergognone 34 - 20144 Milan
- Abanella Rehearsal Room, Via Bottelli 11 - 20125 Milan.

### 4. Requisites

In order to be eligible, candidates must:

- have been born on or after ***January 1, 1988***. Minors are not eligible to take part in the program.
- have earned a diploma in voice from a state musical conservatory or musical institute having equal status. If the candidate has rather studied at a private school of music or with a private teacher, the director of the school or the private teacher must issue a statement, under their own responsibility, attesting to the pupil's abilities.

### 5. Application Procedure and Deadline

Applications must be completed online and delivered along with all accessory documentation no later than ***Tuesday, March 6, 2018***.

The application may only be submitted by means of the special online form on [www.yaptracker.com](http://www.yaptracker.com) (<http://www.yaptracker.com/applications/teatro-alla-scala-academy-2018>). The website requires registration, which is free (visit <https://www.yaptracker.com/register-applicant>). The following documentation must be submitted along with your application:

- Scanned image of candidate's identity document (identity card or passport);
- Scanned copy of certification of musical and voice studies, as specified above in Point 4;
- Two videos, each one showing the candidate singing a different opera aria (not from operetta) by a different composer. At least one of them must be sung in Italian.

The videos must not be professionally shot: amateur, unedited videos are explicitly requested. The videos should have good sound quality and provide a clear view of the candidate. After examining the materials received, the Examining Committee will promptly notify the chosen candidates and invite them formally to the auditions in Milan;

- A detailed, signed CV with the following statements (in Italian) appended at the end:
  1. Il/la sottoscritto/a consapevole delle sanzioni penali previste dall'art. 76 D.P.R. 28/12/2000 n. 445 per il caso di dichiarazioni mendaci e falsità in atti, dichiara ai sensi degli art. 46 e 47 D.P.R. 445/2000 che quanto contenuto nel presente curriculum corrisponde a verità [The undersigned, aware of the criminal penalties pursuant to Article 76 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000 (D.P.R. 445/2000) for false statements, declares, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of said D.P.R. 445/2000, that the information contained in this CV is true];
  2. Autorizzo il trattamento dei miei dati personali, ai fini dell'utilizzo del mio curriculum, in base al D.Lgs. 30/06/2003 n. 196 [I consent to processing of my personal information for purposes associated with the use of my Curriculum Vitae pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003];
- Two recent digital photographs: one medium shot and one full figure;

The following optional documents may also be submitted with the application:

- Scanned copies of certifications of placement in the top three positions of national or international solo voice competitions;
- Letters of reference from persons of note or authorities in the field of music.

If the candidate is unable to procure certification of his/her musical and voice studies, a self declaration may be submitted. Candidates making false statements will be excluded or expelled from the Academy and be liable to prosecution by law.

Candidates residing outside of Italy must submit all required documentation both in original form and translated into Italian or English.

The online payment of **€85.00** will be required to complete the application process. The application fee is non-refundable.

## 6. Admission

During the pre-selection process, the Examining Committee will judge candidates based on the videos submitted with their application (see Point 5). The selected candidates will then be invited to Milan to take part in the auditions.

Upon arriving for the auditions, candidates must present a total of 8 pieces:

- **6 opera arias**, four in Italian and two in another language. These must include the two arias recorded in the videos at Point 5. Arias from operettas will not be accepted;
- **2 pieces from the chamber music and/or sacred music repertoire.**

All pieces must be sung in their original language.

Before being admitted to the program, candidates must pass the three-part audition process, which is structured as follows:

- **Elimination round:** the candidate must perform two opera pieces by heart, one of which will be chosen by the Examining Committee on the basis of the program presented by the candidate while the other may be freely chosen by the candidate. The Committee reserves the right to limit the audition to a single piece.
- **Semifinal round:** the candidate must perform by heart a piece of chamber music or sacred music and an opera piece, both of which shall be chosen by the Examining Committee.

The candidate who will successfully pass such round will also be asked to sight-read a score of medium difficulty, to demonstrate his/her stage abilities and to take part in a motivational interview.

- **Final round:** the candidate shall perform two opera pieces selected by the Examining Committee.

The Examining Committee may opt to hear the required pieces in their entirety or only partially and may limit the audition to only a part of the envisaged program.

At the time of the audition, the candidate shall submit the scores for the chosen pieces, which shall be played on the piano as accompaniment by a musician associated with the Teatro alla Scala Academy. Candidates are forbidden from bringing their own accompanists.

The auditions will take place in Milan between April 5 and 15, 2018; the exact dates will be communicated in an official convocation from the Academy.

Candidates will not be admitted to the auditions unless they have accepted all conditions and provisions contained in this call for applications.

## 7. Final Certification

Upon completing the course with a positive assessment by the Office of the Director in terms of overall performance and achievement of specific objectives set forth, each student will receive a diploma from the Accademia Teatro alla Scala.

## 8. Incentives for Candidates Admitted to the Academy

A monthly scholarship of €900 (nine hundred/00 euros) gross is provided to each applicant admitted to the Academy. The scholarship will be provided based on actual attendance and for the effective months of the course. The scholarship is made possible thanks to grants from Fondazione Milano per la Scala, Liliana Gallo Montarsolo in memory of Paolo Montarsolo, and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. As part of its initiatives aimed at favoring cultural exchange, internationalization, and the promotion of Italian culture and advanced training, the Ministry specifically offers eleven scholarships for foreign students.

**The course is full time, tuition is free and attendance is mandatory:** it is thus incompatible with other academic or professional commitments. Any student missing 25% or more of lessons shall be removed from the course.

### 9. Admission of Non-Europeans

If chosen during the selection process, candidates not residing in one of the European Union member states must submit, on or before the date that lessons begin, the documentation required by European law and by the Italian Public Security Authorities (application for permit of stay [*permesso di soggiorno*] for purposes of study) for people from their country of citizenship.

### 10. Artistic Leave

The Office of the Director of the Academy may grant artistic leave to students, depending on the artistic quality of the program in question and on the course schedule of the Academy. Such leave may be granted for a maximum of 30 days per year and may be divided into a maximum of 3 periods. Artistic leave is not to be construed as a right of any student, but a privilege that may be granted as an exception and on a case-by-case basis at the sole and uncontested discretion of the Office of the Director.

### 11. Preemption Rights of Teatro alla Scala and of the Academy

At the conclusion of the two-year period (or three-year period for those admitted to a third year), Teatro alla Scala and Accademia Teatro alla Scala may exercise the right of preemption regarding the participation of (former) students in operas on the following year's La Scala opera program.

### 12. Reliance

In the event of any discrepancy of interpretation between the English text of this call for applications and the original text in Italian, reliance shall be placed exclusively on the original Italian text.

For further information please contact our office:

tel. (+39) 02-85451138/60/22 — fax (+39) 02-86460020

Hours of the Via Santa Marta 18, Milan office:

Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM and 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**e-mail:** [musica@accademiascala.it](mailto:musica@accademiascala.it)

**website:** [www.accademiascala.it](http://www.accademiascala.it)

*Milan, November 2017*

The Director

Luisa Vinci