

## **“Maria Grazia Forghieri” International Competition 2024**

1. The “Maria Grazia Forghieri” International Competition sponsored by the Finzi Academy Association is open to singers of all nationalities WITHOUT AGE LIMITS.

2. The competition will be held in three rounds:

### **(A) ELIMINATORY round:**

Candidates will perform two pieces of their own choice for a total duration of 15', in two different languages:

- an aria from the opera repertoire;
- a piece from the sacred, chamber or traditional repertoire (the latter preferably from their country of origin).

Candidates, for pieces in a NON- ITALIAN language, must provide the jury with a written translation of the text in English.

The test will take place with piano accompaniment in the cities and dates indicated in article 7 of this announcement.

The results of the ELIMINATORY round will be announced on the dates indicated in article 8 by email to each candidate and also posted on the website: [www.forghieri.finziacademy.com](http://www.forghieri.finziacademy.com)

### **(B) SEMIFINAL round:**

Candidates will perform two free-choice pieces with a total duration of 15':

- an aria from the opera repertoire;
- one piece from the sacred repertoire.

Candidates, for pieces in NON- ITALIAN language, must provide the jury with a written translation of the text in English.

The two arias presented must be different from those presented in the Eliminary round.

**ELIMINATORY and SEMIFINAL rounds will take place in different cities and on different dates (see Article 7 of these regulations).**

The rehearsal will be held with piano accompaniment in the cities and dates indicated in Article 7 of this announcement.

The results of the SEMIFINAL round will be announced on the dates indicated in article 8 by email to each candidate and also posted on the website: [www.forghieri.finziacademy.com](http://www.forghieri.finziacademy.com)

**c) FINAL round:**

Performance with Orchestra of a program of a maximum duration of 20' including:

– two arias chosen by the Jury from the list proposed by the candidate and also including arias already presented in the previous rehearsals.

**The Finale round, preceded by a rehearsal with orchestra, will take place in Budapest on Thursday June 27th 2024 in the form of a concert open to the public.**

**3.** The program chosen by the candidates for the competition rounds (with the exception of the first piece of the preliminary round) will preferably consist of arias belonging to the Italian, German, French, Spanish, English, Latin, and Russian Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or 20th century repertoire.

Arias from the opera repertoire may include concert, operetta or zarzuela arias in addition to opera arias. Sacred arias may be taken from Oratorios, Cantatas, Masses, Motets, Passions. Both operatic and sacred repertoire arias should not include choral interventions.

**4.** The pieces must be sung in the original language and tonality, without the use of amplification or the accompaniment of apparatus and/or electronic instruments, and preferably memorized. Songs contemplating episodes of improvisation, with the exception of cadences and ornaments, are not permitted. The order in which the pieces are performed will be at the candidate's discretion.

The Jury may decide, at its own discretion, to limit or reduce the orchestral ensemble of the pieces proposed by the candidates for the final round with orchestra, subject to the organizational needs.

**5.** Applicants must send the application form no later than May 14, 2024 at 24:00h via email.

Contestants should send the application form in PDF format (see attachment to this announcement), fully completed and signed – via email only – to the following address: [forghieri@finziacademy.com](mailto:forghieri@finziacademy.com) including:

- (A) a complete scanned copy of their ID or passport in PDF format;
- (B) a written summary of the studies carried out, awards obtained and artistic activity performed in PDF format;
- (C) a scanned copy of the registration fee payment receipt (see article 6) in PDF format;
- (D) a scanned copy of one of their own artistic photos.

In particular, applicants should specify:

- Vocality (soprano, mezzo-soprano, alto, countertenor, tenor, baritone, bass-baritone, bass);
- the city in which they intend to participate in the preliminary and semifinal round;
- the program of the pieces they will present for the elimination and semifinal rounds.
- whether they intend to use the official piano accompanist, provided by the organization. This request must be made at the time of registration, the cost of the organization pianist is € 30 (€35 by PayPal), In absence of this explicit indication, it will be implied that the contestant will be accompanied on piano by his/her own pianist.
- For the preliminary and semifinal rounds, no preparatory rehearsals are scheduled by the competition organization.

The entry will not be considered valid, if the program of songs for the preliminary and semifinal rounds is not submitted. Changes to the program of pieces will not be allowed if they are submitted after the deadline to entry the competition.

Registration for the competition implies full and unconditional acceptance, by the candidates, of the regulations included in this announcement.

6. The registration fee for the competition is €100 (€105 by PayPal).

Payment must be made by bank transfer (any fees in charge of the candidate) to the following bank account:

BANK: CREDIT AGRICOLE

ACCOUNT HEADER: FINZI ACADEMY ASSOCIATION

IBAN: IT30Y 06230 09494 00003 07255 47

BIC/SWIFT: CRPPIT2P032

Reason for payment: Forghieri Competition

or **PayPal** by this link (application €105 – pianist €35):

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/5L5E86E8EKF5W>

The bank transfer of the registration fee confirmation payment receipt for the preliminary round must be sent at the same time as the required documentation (see article 5). In the absence of the bank transfer receipt made, the competition entry will not be considered valid. No other method of payment is allowed and the entry fee for the elimination round will not be returned for any reason.

7. The preliminary and semi-final rounds of the “Maria Grazia Forghieri” Opera Competition will be held in the following cities, at the following times:

- **NEW YORK from May 18 to 21 2024**

- **FLORENCE from June 1 to 4 2024**

- **BARCELONA from June 11 to 14 2024**

- **BUDAPEST from June 22 and June 25 2024**

8. According to this schedule, the results of the preliminary and semi-final rounds will be published on the WEB page of the competition ([www.forghieri.finziacademy.com](http://www.forghieri.finziacademy.com)):

**IN NEW YORK** on the evening of May 24, 2024 the results of the ELIMINATORY round

on the evening of May 25, 2024 the results of the SEMIFINAL round

**FLORENCE** on the evening of June 3, 2024 the results of the ELIMINATORY round

on the evening of June 4, 2024 the results of the SEMIFINAL round

**BARCELONA** on the evening of June 13, 2024 the results of the ELIMINATORY trial

on the evening of June 14, 2024 the results of the SEMIFINAL round

**BUDAPEST** on the evening of June 24, 2024 the results of the ELIMINATORY round

on the evening of June 25, 2024 the results of the SEMIFINAL round

All competitors will be notified of the results of the trials by email.

**9.** Should candidates wish to use their own musical material for the final round, they must send scores and orchestral parts to the organization by June 25, 2024. In case they fail to send the above by the specified deadline, they will accept, without reservation, the materials made available by the competition organization.

**10.** Candidates admitted to the FINALE rounds must report to Budapest by the evening of June 25, 2024.

**11.** The Organization will support accommodation expenses from June 25 to June 28, 2024 for only the candidates admitted to the final round residing outside Budapest. To take advantage of this contribution, candidates will have to stay at the Hotel provided by the Organization, in which rooms will be booked from June 25. The hospitality offered by the Organization includes accommodation in double rooms. Should candidates prefer to take advantage of a single room, they will have to personally pay the difference.

**12.** An award ceremony will take place at the end of the final round. Participation in the ceremony is mandatory for the awarded, under penalty of withdrawal of the award earned.

**13.** prizes/awards:

**- FIRST prize**

€ 3000

2 concerts in Italy

1 concert in Hungary

Contract with WECHUNGARY agency for 1 year

**- SECOND prize**

€ 2000

1 concert in Italy

1 concert in Hungary

Contract with WECHUNGARY agency for 1 year

**- THIRD prize**

€ 1000

1 concert in Italy

Contract with WECHUNGARY agency for 1 year

Participants in the semi-finals and/or final round will also compete for the Jury's special prizes:

- Finzi Prize; €500

- Jury Prize for the best performance of a Baroque aria; €500

- Jury Prize for the best performance of a sacred aria. €500

All prizes in concerts are produced by WECHUNGARY

**14.** The Jury for the FINAL round will be composed of:

**Luciana Serra** (Italy) internationally renowned soprano

**Andrea Rost** (Hungary) internationally renowned soprano

**Bruno De Simone** (Italy) internationally renowned baritone

**Gergely Kesselyák** (Hungary) principal conductor of the Pannon Philharmonic

**Stefano Miceli** (Italy/USA) pianist and conductor, Music Director New York State Symphony

Orchestra

**Concetta Anastasi** (Italy) conductor and artistic director of AMAT – Florence

**Ognian Draganoff** (Bulgaria) Superintendent of the Stara Zagora Opera House

**Elena Casella** (Italy) conductor

**Daniele Ferrari** (Italy) conductor

**Andrea Del Giudice** (USA) opera singer

The jury for the ELIMINATORY and SEMIFINAL rounds will consist of some of the jury members from the finals and may change from the city of the rounds

The Jury's decisions are final and unappealable. The Jury reserves the right to interrupt at any time – at its own discretion – the performance of the pieces by the candidates during the preliminary and semi-final rounds. The Jury also reserves the right not to award prizes if no candidate is deemed worthy.

The jury also reserves the right to refer any candidate for possible professional assignments.

## **15. GENERAL CONDITIONS AND PRIVACY POLICY**

Pursuant to article 13 of the GDPR 2016/679 (EU General Data Protection Regulation), we inform you that personal data provided by participants will be used exclusively for the purposes of the competition.

**16.** Candidates entered in the competition implicitly consent the recording of their performances and their possible publication, including on websites, at no additional cost or compensation for the Finzi Academy Association.

**17.** The Competition Organization has worldwide copyright present or future on the recording and radio, television or through any present or future means of broadcasting (including the web), reproduction and/or audio/video transmission of the performances of the participants in the competition who, in exchange for their participation in the competition itself, also formally waive all rights that might accrue to them from the uses described above.

**18.** The organization of the Competition reserves the right to change or supplement, due to circumstances of force majeure, deadlines, dates and places of the tests at any time, giving timely notice to the registered candidates and simultaneously on the website [www.finziacademy.com](http://www.finziacademy.com).

For any reliefs or disputes, only this notice drafted in English, consisting of 18 (eighteen) points and the attached "Application Form" shall be authentic. Jurisdiction shall lie solely with the Court of MILAN