



10 YEARS OF VOCAL EXCELLENCE

GEORG **10**
SOLTI
ACCADEMIA

AN IMMERSION IN THE ART OF ITALIAN OPERA

BE PART OF
THE FUTURE
OF THE GSA

If a singer is interested in having a long career they should impose on themselves the task of mastering the bel canto style like a religious duty!

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI

The Georg Solti Accademia di Bel Canto offers a unique training opportunity for young opera singers at the start of their careers. Created in 2004 in memory of the great Hungarian conductor Sir Georg Solti, the annual three-week summer course takes place in the Tuscan seaside town of Castiglione della Pescaia where the Solti family still have their summer home. Places are offered to twelve outstanding international students, who are invited to immerse themselves in the language and culture of Italy while devoting focused time to mastering the art of bel canto, and benefiting from master classes given by leading opera singers and vocal coaches. The Italian vocal tradition, if properly learnt, gives singers an invaluable and sustainable technique and full access to the great repertoire works. Not all students have specialist and idiomatic training in this tradition at colleges and conservatoires.

THE SOLTI LEGACY

Over the past decade, the GSA has built a reputation for professionalism, rigorous discipline and attention to detail. These are the values that Sir Georg Solti practised in his own lifetime, and it is in his memory that distinguished singers with whom he worked – including **MIRELLA FRENI**, **KIRI TE KANAWA**, **JOSÉ CARRERAS**, **LEO NUCCI**, **LUCIANA SERRA**, **DANIELA DESSI**, **FREDERICA VON STADE**, **MARIELLA DEVIA**, **THOMAS ALLEN** and **ANGELA GHEORGHIU** – have returned to pass on to the next generation the lessons they learnt as young artists. Having established itself as one of the leading courses for Italian opera, the GSA has also created a course for repetiteurs, as well as holding master classes at the Juilliard School in New York. The latest project for the GSA is a partnership with the Verbier Festival Academy. The aim of the GSA is to attract the best young talent from anywhere in the world regardless of circumstance, and to offer them training at the very highest level.



A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

It is vital to the GSA that we build on our success, and extend our unique formula to new territories and institutions, always with the aim of maintaining our core values and standards. In 2013 Jonathan Papp and Richard Bonyngue took a GSA project to the Juilliard School in New York with great success. Such visits help to build relationships with prestigious institutions, which recognise the excellence of our work and will recommend students who could benefit from the GSA Bel Canto and Repetiteurs courses.

KEY EXTENSION PROJECTS >

SOLTI PERETTI REPETITEURS COURSE

The Solti Peretti Repetiteurs' masterclasses offer six outstanding pianists an intense period of study with some of the finest repetiteurs of our day. The skill of a fine repetiteur can never be underestimated, nor can their importance in a singer's life and development. They are the ultimate multi-taskers of the music world, the singer's key ally in achieving their performance. This is why so many of them have gone on to become the finest conductors in the world - Solti, Pappano, Gergiev and Muti, to name but a few. Over the past five years the Repetiteurs Course has been held in Castiglione della Pescaia, Florence, Rome, Barcelona and Venice.



THE SOLTI-VERBIER OPERA PROJECT

In summer 2014 the GSA and the Verbier Festival Academy are joining forces for a production of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'amore*, to be directed by Sir Thomas Allen. This exciting partnership will provide GSA singers with an international platform at the Verbier Festival and valuable networking opportunities, and conductors and casting directors with a window on exciting new operatic talent.



The Solti Verbier Project has been made possible through a generous donation from the Rolex Institute

Where some of our singers are today:

VIKTOR RUD 2004
Ukrainian **baritone**
many roles at Hamburg State Opera; Mr Astley *The Gambler* and Silvano *Un ballo un maschera*, Berlin State Opera Studio; Don Fernando *Fidelio*, La Scala, Salzburg Festival, and BBC Proms with East-West Diwan Orchestra under Daniel Barenboim; Schaunard *La Bohème*, Oper Leipzig

CLARA MOURIZ 2005
Spanish **mezzo**
Independent Opera/Wigmore Hall Fellowship and BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist; Myrta *Thais*, Edinburgh Festival; Cherubino *Le nozze di Figaro*, Malmö Opera; solo CD (Sonimage); Mozart *Requiem* with Daniel Harding, Tokyo.

MATILDA PAULSSON 2006
Swedish **mezzo**
Octavian *Der Rosenkavalier*. Cherubino *Le nozze di Figaro*, Carmen *Carmen*, Royal Swedish Opera; Composer *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Fenena *Nabucco*, Royal Danish Theatre; and roles at Finnish National Opera and Hanover Staatsoper. Solo CD (Caprice)



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A BRIDGE - AND A SPRINGBOARD - TO A CAREER

Many of our students have already gone on to impressive professional careers with appearances at venues such as the Metropolitan Opera, Glyndebourne, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Berlin Staatsoper, Royal Swedish Opera, Hamburg State Opera, La Monnaie, Opéra de Paris, Vlaamse Opera, Aix-en-Provence Festival, Salzburg Festival and English National Opera. As part of the GSA 'family', our alumni have been offered opportunities to perform in venues as large as the Royal Albert Hall (with José Carreras), in both Carnegie Hall and Symphony Hall in Chicago (with the World Orchestra for Peace under the baton of Valery Gergiev), to venues as intimate as the Wigmore Hall in London, the Roman theatre in Fiesole, the Teatre Akademia in Barcelona and the Teatro della Reggia in Caserta.

JURGITA ADAMONYTÈ 2007
Lithuanian mezzo

Ursula *Béatrice et Bénédicte*, Chicago Opera Theatre; Cherubino *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Salzburg Festival; Cherubino, Dorabella *Così fan tutte*, Royal Opera House; Fox *The Cunning Little Vixen* and Idamante *Idomeneo*, Klagenfurt.

IIURI SAMOILOV 2008
Ukrainian baritone

Pelléas *Pelléas et Mélisande*, Operadagen Festival, Rotterdam; Don Giovanni *Don Giovanni*, Muziektheater Amsterdam; Young Artist Program, Frankfurt Opera: Figaro *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Cesare *Giulio Cesare*, Scarpia *Tosca*, Jack Rance *La Fanciulla del West*.

JUNG SOO YUN 2010
Korean baritone

Winner of Montserrat Caballé International Singing Competition 2011, Richard Tauber Prize 2010. *Les Vêpres Siciliennes*, Royal Opera House; Macduff *Macbeth*, Valentin *Faust*, Opera North; Rinuccio *Gianni Schicchi*, Opera Holland Park; Albert *Werther*, Scottish Opera.

WALLIS GIUNTA 2011
Canadian mezzo

Countess Ceprano *Rigoletto*, Dorabella *Così fan tutte*, Metropolitan Opera; Annio *La Clemenza di Tito*, Canadian Opera Company; John Adams *I was Looking at the Ceiling and then I saw the Sky*, Théâtre du Châtelet.

The GSA gave me a better understanding of what I need to succeed in this world, what good *bel canto* is, and why I chose to be a singer.

SONIA GRANE, PORTUGAL (2013)

It was at the GSA that I really learnt what dedication and study are required to reach the highest levels in opera today.

NICO DARMANIN, MALTA (2011)

One of the most memorable and life-changing moments of my career was participating in the GSA. Whatever I am singing now is based on that incredible experience.

LAURYN BENDZIUNAITE, LITHUANIA (2009)

This has truly been one of the most wonderful experiences of my life, and I thank the many people who worked tirelessly to create this exceptional programme.

KAWITI WAETFORD,
NEW ZEALAND (2011)

WHAT OUR SINGERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE GSA

BE PART OF THE FUTURE OF THE GSA

www.georgsoltiaccademia.org



Since 2004 over 180 singers and répétiteurs have benefited from attending the GSA. We want the next generation to have the same opportunity. Please do join us in this exciting project of supporting young singers, some of whom will become the stars of tomorrow. The GSA would like to thank all those who support the programme, without whose help

we would not be able to offer such a variety of projects throughout the year. The GSA welcomes sponsorship of individual singers, and support in building our endowment. Should you wish to know more about opportunities to support the GSA, please contact: Candice Wood, Executive Director of the Accademia cwood@gsaccademia.org

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Both the Georg Solti Accademia and the Solti Peretti répétiteurs masterclasses are managed by the Swiss-based foundation, the Fondation Georg Solti Accademia:

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