



**1st MICHELANGELO
INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
18th - 20th April 2017
FLORENCE, ITALY**

CONCEPT

The **MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL** is one of the new projects of the co-founder of the Florence International Choir Festival, Leonardo Sagliocca.

The Festival concept is focused on the person of Michelangelo Buonarroti, the mythical author of the David and many other masterpieces that is possible to admire in Florence. The venues of the Festival are all historically and artistically prestigious and are all related to Michelangelo's life and work.

Florence – cradle of the Renaissance, renowned throughout the world as a UNESCO World Heritage city, with its immeasurable heritage of history, architecture and art – forms the stunning backdrop to this remarkable festival.

The Festival Artistic Committee is proud of its prestigious members:

•Chairman and Artistic Director, Dr. Leonardo Sagliocca:

Florentine bass-baritone who has sung around the world, co-founder of the Florence International Choir Festival, with vast experience in the organization of choral events, has brought more than 3000 people to Florence to perform.

•Principal Guest Conductor, Dr. Tim Sharp:

Executive Director of the American Choral Directors Association, acclaimed choral conductor, lecturer and writer of numerous books and articles on choral excellence.

•Associate Artistic Director, Dr. Andrea Angelini:

Artistic Director of Rimini International Choral Competition, choral conductor, composer and editor of ICB (International Choral Bulletin of IFCM – International Federation of Choral Music).

and many other eminent musicians continue to join the project.

GOALS

The main aim of the **MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL** is to create a great opportunity for cultural exchange between the different geographical and artistic traditions of the participating countries - music is an excellent vehicle for sharing knowledge and friendship among peoples.

This event represents not only an important moment of methodological challenge and interpretative discipline in choral music, but also an opportunity to share and exchange our human experience.

The **MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL**, Florence, with its architectural scenarios of incomparable beauty, is set to join of the circuit of the best international festivals on the 5 continents.

FESTIVAL STRUCTURE AND PROGRAM

All groups participating in the festival will perform in two stages:

1.The Competition

2.The Evening Concerts

Day 1 April 18, 2017

•**Opening Ceremony:** 4 pm

•**Evening Concert:** 9 pm

Day 2 April 19, 2017

•**Competition:** 10 am to 6 pm

•**Evening Concert:** 9 pm

Day 3 April 20, 2017

•**Competition:** 10 am to 2 pm

•**Award Ceremony:** 4 pm

•**Final Concert:** 7 pm

•**Festival Dinner for conductors, Jury & Staff:** 9 pm

PARTICIPANTS

MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL is open to choirs and orchestras of all ages and typology, according to the rules and categories expressed in the following section.

All participants will stay in hotels in the historic center of Florence to give opportunities to instrumentalists and singers of to enjoy the beauty of the city and its opportunities for them as tourists.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

Each choral group and orchestra may subscribe to one or more categories, following a request for participation by completing an application form.

CATEGORIES

CHOIRS

- A** Mixed Choirs Adults
- B** Equal Voices Choirs Adults
- C** Youth & University Choirs
- D** Children Choirs
- E** Chamber Choirs, Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles
- F** Sacred Music
- G** Popular, Folk, Gospel, Barbershop, Jazz and Modern Ensembles
- H** Early Music
- M** Modern and Contemporary Music
- Z** Non-competitive Choirs (only concerts)

ORCHESTRAS

- A** Adult Orchestras
- B** Youth & University Orchestras
- C** Children Orchestras
- D** Symphonic Orchestras
- E** String Orchestras
- F** Wind and/or Brass Ensembles
- G** Folk & Popular Ensembles
- H** Big Band Orchestras
- I** Baroque Ensembles
- Z** Non-competitive Orchestras and Ensembles

Each group will perform 3 pieces. The total performance time must be between 9 and 15 minutes

The programme of the Competition must be minimum of 3 pieces with a maximum duration of 15 minutes.

RULES FOR EACH CATEGORY

CHOIRS

Categories A, B, C, D, E

1. one work of “classical” repertoire (1700-1900)
2. one work from the choir's country of origin
3. one work of the choir's own choice

Category F

1. one work of Renaissance polyphony a cappella
2. one work of Italian composer
3. one work of the choir's own choice

Category G

1. one popular Italian song with original arrangement
2. one work from the choir's country of origin
3. one work of the choir's own choice

for Jazz Ensembles

1. one work from the great American Jazz repertoire

Category H

1. one work composed before year 1400
 2. one work composed before year 1600
 3. one work composed before year 1750
- minimum one piece must be a cappella
 - one piece must be from the Italian repertoire
 - one piece must be from the choir's country of origin

Category M

1. one obligatory work from Florence Choral “recommended pieces” (among those published on the 'Composer's Corner' page of our website)
2. one work of modern music (1900-2000)
3. one work composed after 2000

ORCHESTRAS

Categories A, B, C, D, E, F

1. one work of “classical” repertoire (1700-1900)
2. one work of Italian composer
3. one work of the orchestra's own choice

Category G

1. one work of Italian composer

2. one work from the orchestra's country of origin
 3. one work of the orchestra's own choice
- for Jazz Ensembles
1. one work from the great American Jazz repertoire

Category H

1. one work of “classical” repertoire (1700-1900)
2. one work of Italian composer
3. one work from the orchestra's country of origin

Category I

1. one work of Italian composer
2. one work composed before year 1650
3. one work composed before year 1750

PRIZES

In each category the Jury will assign the following prizes:

1st place: Gold Medal, Golden Diploma

2nd place: Silver Medal, Silver Diploma

3rd place: Bronze Medal, Bronze diploma

SPECIAL PRIZES

Grand Prix for the best Choir: for the Best Group of the Festival: 1.000 Euros and “Il Fiorino d'oro”, Florentine pure gold coin

Grand Prix for the best Orchestra: for the Best Group of the Festival: 1.000 Euros and “Il Fiorino d'oro”, Florentine pure gold coin

Best Choir Conductor: 500 Euros and Trophy

Best Orchestra Conductor: 500 Euros and Trophy

Best Performance of an Italian piece for Choir: 500 Euros and Trophy

Best Performance of an Italian piece for Orchestra: 500 Euros and Trophy

ADJUDICATING CRITERIA

Performances will be judged by the international jury whose members include conductors, opera singers and composers, instrumentalists

Choirs will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Intonation
- Vocal Production
- Insieme
- Interpretation
- Dynamics
- Repertoire

- Diction
- Overall Artistic Effect

Orchestras will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Intonation
- Quality of sound
- Insieme
- Interpretation
- Dynamics
- Repertoire
- Precision
- Overall Artistic Effect
- The Jury for the Competition will be composed of 5 or 7 members.

According to the mark achieved, **Bronze, Silver and Gold Diplomas** will be awarded. If the choir or the orchestra does not achieve a Diploma (mark under 65,01) it will receive a certificate of participation. **Each member of the Jury will write a report containing reviews and impressions about the performed repertoire of the choirs and orchestras. The reports will be sent to the choirs by email.**

Diploma	Level	Points
Bronze Diploma	1	65,01 – 70,00
	2	70,01 – 75,00
Silver Diploma	1	75,01 – 80,00
	2	80,01 – 85,00
Gold Diploma	1	85,01 – 90,00
	2	90,01 – 95,00
	3	95,01 – 100,00

The Jury for the Competition will be composed of 5 or 7 members.

The Grand Prix will be awarded to to the choir or orchestra (among the best selected) chosen to a final judgment of the jury.

The decisions of the Jury are final.

The Jury, after consideration of all artistic matters, may not award some prizes or may award joint or additional prizes.

FINAL CONCERT

The final concert will focus on a selected repertoire and will be conducted by a famous musician. The repertoire will be communicated soon after the application. This concert is not compulsory but it is a great chance to enhance the artistic skills of the choirs and of the orchestras.

ENROLLMENT FEE

The Festival enrollment fee for each choir is 200 euros and 150 euros for every additional category, non refundable. The Festival enrollment fee for each Choir and each Orchestra joining only non-competitive concerts (category Z) is 200 euros.

TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

Each Choir and each Orchestra, including accompanying persons and bus drivers, shall pay their own travel, accommodation and meals expenses.

For every group, up to three complimentary free accommodation will be offered according to the number of participants.

Travel

The organization can reserve a private coach on request at the Choir's and Orchestra expense for visits and tours.

Accommodation

Accommodation for all choirs and orchestras will be organized by the Festival in single, double, triple, multiple rooms in 2, 3, 4, 5 stars Hotels in the historical center of Florence.

On request the staff of the Festival can organize a longer stay in Florence and visits to other Italian cities.

For organisational and logistic reasons is not possible for the choirs and orchestras to book hotels by themselves. The purchase of an accommodation package is three (3) nights minimum. The package includes hotel accommodation in B&B. Banking information is also located on the invoice. We would like to draw your attention expressly to the fact that participation in the event is only possible if the costs due have been received net and by deadline. Delay in payments may affect the benefits of your participation. To ask the price of your package please go to [this page](#).

Payment for accommodation must be paid directly to the Festival organisation by bank transfer.

Meals

The Festival will organize meals for all the choirs and orchestras in typical Florentine restaurants serving traditional Italian food with quick service and inexpensive prices.

At the end of the Festival there will be a dinner (offered by the Organizers) for choir and orchestra conductors (up to 2 members for each group), Jury, staff in a very special and historical restaurant in the centre of Florence. All the other participants will have a special dinner-buffet in another venue in Florence (to be paid a part).

Policies

Application deadline: 10th January 2017.

After receiving the application form, each group will be contacted by email and receive detailed information on further steps. The payment of the enrollment fee must be paid as soon as possible after application.

5th February 2017 - Deadline for the first payment for rooms and board - 40% of the total

5th March 2017 - Deadline for the final payment for rooms and board.

Michelangelo Buonarroti International Music Festival Artistic Committee

Leonardo Sagliocca, Chairman and Artistic Director

Andrea Angelini, Associate Artistic Director

Tim Sharp, Principal Guest Conductor

Michelangelo Buonarroti International Music Festival

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