



THIRD ROMANO GANDOLFI International Choral Conducting Competition

Competition Rules

I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The 3rd ROMANO GANDOLFI International Choral Conducting Competition (the *Competition*) is organised with the aim of disseminating choral culture, helping talented conductors of the next generation to embark on an international career, bridging the gap between training and professional activity.
2. The Competition is organised by *AERCO*, *Associazione Emiliano-Romagnola Cori*, in collaboration with the *Parma Conservatory*, the *Romano Gandolfi Centre of Studies*, the *Municipality of Medesano*, and with the patronage of *FENIARCO*, *ANDCI*, *IFCdA*, the *Emilia-Romagna Region* and the *Municipal Administration of Parma*.
3. The Competition will take place from 24 to 26 November 2023 at the Parma Conservatory and the Auditorium del Carmine in Parma.
4. The official language of the competition is English.

II. PARTICIPANTS

The competition is open to choir conductors, students, or graduates in Italy and abroad, born **between 1 January 1983 and 23 November 2005**.

III. REGISTRATION

1. To register, an online form, available at <https://bit.ly/2EMoqbl>, must be filled.
2. The following documents must be attached to the Competition registration form:
 - A. A current passport photo, in digital format.
 - B. A scan of an identity document with the competitor's date of birth.
 - C. Curriculum Vitae of the candidate indicating the artistic activity undertaken and studies obtained.
3. If still a student, a letter of recommendation of the candidate from the director of the musical institute attended is welcome.
4. Transmission of the completed competition entry form shall be deemed acceptance of these competition rules.
5. The deadline for submitting entry forms for the competition is **30 July 2023**.

IV. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Candidates will be selected by a committee composed of members of AERCO's Artistic Commission, on the basis of the applications received, including all the documents required by the Competition Rules and Regulations. The curriculum vitae submitted will be the determining element for selection.
2. **A maximum of 16** candidates will be admitted to the first stage of the competition.
3. The committee may establish a 'waiting list' of candidates.
4. The list of candidates admitted to the first stage of the Competition will be published on the websites www.choralconductorcompetition.eu and www.aerco.it by **1 September 2023**. Admitted candidates will receive written notification from the Organisation by **10 September 2023**.



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V. COSTS

1. Candidates admitted to the competition will be required to pay an entry fee of **EUR 50** (non-refundable) by **30 September 2023**.
Payment to be made by:
 - a) **Bank Transfer**
Intesa Sanpaolo Bank
IBAN: IT61G0306902520100000005066
SWIFT / BIC: BCITITMM
Reason for payment: *Registration for the Romano Gandolfi - 'Your Name' International Conducting Competition.*
 - b) **PayPal**
AERCO's PayPal account: ufficio@aerco.emr.it
Reason for payment: *Registration for the Romano Gandolfi - 'Your Name' International Conducting Competition.*
2. Failure to pay the registration fee by **30 September 2023** will be considered as the candidate's decision not to participate in the competition.
3. The Organisation will provide, at its own expense, accommodation and breakfast, (4 days from the evening of 23 November to the morning of 27 November 2023) for competitors taking part in the Competition.
4. The organisation will not reimburse participants' travel expenses.
5. Any accompanying persons will pay their own accommodation expenses in Parma.

VI. STAGES OF THE COMPETITION

1. The competition will consist of three stages, during which the participants will be evaluated based on their work.

STAGE I. - 24 November 2023 - ELIMINATORY - 16 competitors

- A. concertation, for a maximum duration of 7 minutes of a piece drawn at random, on the evening of Thursday 23 November, from among eight available. The final performance of the piece itself is not compulsory.
- B. performance, without the possibility of concertation, of one piece among eight available drawn by lot at the time.
The order in which the conductors will perform will be drawn on the evening of Thursday 23 November.
The eight participants with the highest score in Phase I will be admitted to Phase II.

STAGE II. - 25 November 2023 - SEMIFINALS - 8 competitors

- A. concertation and performance of a piece drawn at random, on the evening of Friday 24 November, from among eight available. The candidate will have a maximum time limit of 15 minutes.
- B. concertation and performance of a piece drawn at random, on the evening of Friday 24 November, from eight available. The candidate will have a maximum time limit of 10 minutes.
The order in which the conductors will perform will be drawn on the evening of Friday 24 November.
The five participants with the highest score in Phase II will be admitted to Phase III.

STAGE III. - 26 November 2023 - FINALS - 5 competitors (tests A and B); 3 competitors (test C)



- A. concertation and performance of a piece drawn at random on the spot and not repeatable, from among 5 proposed. The candidate will have a maximum time limit of 20 minutes.
- B. concertation and performance of two pieces of Gregorian Chant chosen by lot, on the spot and not repeatable, from eight proposed. The candidate will have a maximum time limit of 15 minutes.
- C. public concert performance of a song drawn at random, on the spot and not repeatable, from among 3 proposed.

The performance order of the conductors for rehearsals A and B will be drawn on the evening of Saturday 25 November. The directors' performance order for rehearsal C will be drawn on Sunday 26 November, immediately after the end of phase B.

VII. AWARDS

1. The international jury of the competition may award the following prizes:

1ST PRIZE

- A scholarship of euro 3,500
- A place as a jury member at the 4th Romano Gandolfi International Choral Conducting Competition, November 2025.
- A concert in the United States. Travel expenses to be borne by the winner.
- Diploma.

2ND PRIZE

- A scholarship of EUR 1,500
- Diploma.

3RD PRIZE

- A scholarship of EUR 1,000
- Diploma.

SPECIAL AWARDS

- 500-euro scholarship for the conductor with the most similar artistic characteristics to Maestro Romano Gandolfi (prize awarded by a special jury)
- 500-euro scholarship for the best approach to Gregorian Chant, awarded by the *Schola Gregoriana Ecce*.

2. The scholarships awarded will be subject to taxation according to the regulations in force in Italy.
3. According to the competition rules, other special prizes may also be awarded.
4. All participants in the competition will receive a certificate of participation.
5. The jury's decisions are final.

VIII. COMPETITION PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2023

At 16:00 Arrival of jurors and participants

Arrigo Boito Conservatory of Music in Parma:

6 p.m. Meeting of participants with the jurors, draw to determine the order of performance and musical pieces for Stage I.

FRIDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2023

Arrigo Boito Conservatory of Music in Parma:

9:00 Official opening of the competition. Presentation of jurors and participants.

9:30 - 11:00 Auditions Stage I-A (8 participants)



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11:30 - 13:00 Auditions Stage I-A (8 participants)

15:00 - 16:30 Auditions Stage I-B (8 participants)

17:00 - 18:30 Stage I-B auditions (8 participants)

Around 7.15 p.m. Announcement of the results of Stage I.

Drawing to determine the order of performance and the pieces of music for Stage II.

SATURDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2023

Arrigo Boito Conservatory of Music in Parma:

9:45 - 11:15 Auditions Stage II-A (4 participants)

11:30 - 13:00 Auditions Stage II-A (4 participants)

15:00 - 16:15 Auditions Stage II-B (4 participants)

16:30 - 17:45 Auditions Stage II-B (4 participants)

At around 18:45 the results of Phase II were announced.

Drawing to establish the order of execution for Stage III-A and III-B.

SUNDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2023

Auditorium del Carmine, Conservatorio di Musica 'Arrigo Boito', Parma:

Auditions Stage III-A

Hours:

10:00 - 10:20 (1 candidate)

10:25 - 10:45 (1 candidate)

10:50 - 10:10 (1 candidate)

11:15 - 11:35 (1 candidate)

11:40 - 12:00 (1 candidate)

Auditions Stage III-B

Hours:

15:00 - 15:15 (1 candidate)

15:20 - 15:35 (1 candidate)

15:40 - 15:55 (1 candidate)

16:00 - 16:15 (1 candidate)

16:20 - 16:35 (1 candidate)

16:50 – 17:50: Medieval Vibration: Masterclass on Gregorian Chant

18:00 - Announcement of the results of the first two phases and drawing of the order of the 3 finalists.

Auditions Stage III-C

Hours:

21:00 - Concert of finalists

21:10 (1 candidate)

21:20 (1 candidate)

21:30 (1 candidate)

21:40 (Concert by the *En Kör* Choir, Sweden, winner of the Grand Prix at the Guido d'Arezzo Polyphonic Competition 2022)

22:15 - Award Ceremony

22:45 - Official closing of the competition.

IX. JURY OF THE COMPETITION

The jury of the competition will consist of five renowned masters.



X. MUSICAL PROGRAMME OF THE COMPETITION

STAGE I-A - Early Music Vocal Ensemble: Ingenium Ensemble (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

1. Ne Irascaris, Civitas Sancti Tuae (W. Byrd)
2. Haec Dies (W. Byrd)
3. Sing Joyfully (W. Byrd)
4. Vigilate (W. Byrd)
5. O Vos Omnes (C. Gesualdo da Venosa)
6. Ave Virgo Sanctissima (F. Guerrero)
7. Tu es Petrus (G.P. da Palestrina)
8. Cantate Dominum Canticum Novum (C. Monteverdi)

STAGE I-B - Lyric Choir: Corale Giuseppe Verdi (Parma, Italy)

1. O Signore dal Tetto Natio, from 'I Lombardi' (G. Verdi)
2. Qual v'ha Speme, from 'Joan of Arc' (G. Verdi)
3. Vedi le Fosche, from 'Il Trovatore' (G. Verdi)
4. Patria Oppressa, from 'Macbeth' (G. Verdi)
5. Nell'Orribile Foresta, from 'Joan of Arc' (G. Verdi)
6. Per Te d'Immenso Giubilo, from 'Lucia di Lammermoor' (G. Donizetti)
7. Te Dio Lodiam, from 'Joan of Arc' (G. Verdi)
8. Va Pensiero, from 'Nabucco' (G. Verdi)

STAGE II-A - Mixed Choir: Youth Choir of Emilia-Romagna (Bologna, Italy)

1. Crucifigatur (G. Deák-Bárdos)
2. Eli, Eli (G. Deák-Bárdos)
3. Da Pacem Domine (A. Pärt)
4. Earth Song (F. Ticheli)
5. In Paradisum (E. Fissinger)
6. O Filii et Filiae (I. Antognini)
7. Regina Coeli (R. Twardowski)
8. The Lamb (J. Tavener)

STAGE II-B - White Voice Choir: Young Voices of Bassano (Bassano del Grappa, Italy)

1. Ave Maris Stella (V. Miškinis)
2. Tota Pulchra (O. di Piazza)
3. Kala, Kallà (E. Whitacre)
4. Gloria, from 'A Little Jazz Mass' (B. Chilcott)
5. Hotaru Koi (Japanese translation)
6. Dance (L. Spevack-Avery)
7. Song of Hope (S. Lindmark)
8. Lullaby (E. Whitacre)

STAGE III-A - Gregorian Ensemble: Schola Gregoriana Ecce (Bologna, Italy)

1. GR. Hæc dies (responsum only)
2. AN. Lumen ad revelationem gentium
3. Kyrie Lux et origo
4. HY. Veni creator spiritus
5. CO. Videns Dominus



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STAGE III-B - Chamber Choir: En Kör (Stockholm, Sweden)

1. Advance Democracy (B. Britten)
2. Nimrod (Lux Aeterna) (E. Elgar)
3. Venite, Gaudete! (A. Peacock)
4. Il Giardino di Aphrodite (I. Pizzetti)
5. Timor et Tremor, from 'No 1, Quatre Motets pour un Temps de Pénitence' (F. Poulenc)

STAGE III-C - Chamber Choir: En Kör (Stockholm, Sweden)

1. Even When He is Silent (K.A. Arnesen)
2. Tykus, Tykus (V. Augustinas)
3. Data Est Mihi (P. MacMillan)

XI. STUDY TOUR

1. On the occasion of the third edition of the 'Romano Gandolfi' International Choir Directors Competition, we would like to offer the opportunity to participate in the event from a special angle, with the valuable guidance of an experienced teacher-director. The initiative, already in use in important national and international contexts, aims to involve choir directors and students of choral conducting in a training and in-depth study path that allows them to analyse a plurality of situations, experiences, repertoires, in a context of high international profile.
2. It will be possible to follow all the competition rounds (preliminary rounds, semi-finals and finals) with reserved access and guaranteed places in the various competition venues (Parma Conservatory, Auditorium del Carmine in Parma).
3. There will also be specific moments of debate and analysis, outside the competition hours, led by the Study Tour teacher, Professor Ilaria Poldi. An opportunity, therefore, not only to listen but also to deepen and share aimed at personal and professional growth.
4. The programme will start at 9.30 a.m. on Friday 24 November and will end on Sunday 28 November with the award ceremony at 10.15 p.m. Precise times will be communicated after the closing of registration, the deadline for which is 30 July 2023 (subject to availability).
5. The cost of participation is Euro 60 for AERCO/FENIARCO/ANDCI members and € 80 for non-members and includes the complete scores in PDF, "sample" mode.
6. There will be a maximum of 20 participants, according to the order of registration.
7. Is required to pay, by **22 November 2023**, a fee of **Euro 60** (members of FENIARCO circuit associations) or **Euro 80** (non-members).
8. To register, an online form, available at <https://form.jotform.com/aercobologna/studytour2023> must be filled.

Payment to be made by:

a) **Bank Transfer**

Intesa Sanpaolo Bank

IBAN: IT61G0306902520100000005066

SWIFT / BIC: BCITITMM

Reason for payment: *Study Tour - Romano Gandolfi International Competition for Conductors - 'Your Name'*.

b) **PayPal**

AERCO's PayPal account: ufficio@aerco.emr.it



- Reason for payment: *Study Tour - Romano Gandolfi International Competition for Conductors - 'Your Name'*.
9. The organisation will not provide the auditors with board and lodging and will not cover their travel expenses.
 10. The fee includes:
 - a. An identification card and promotional material.
 - b. The right to participate in the auditions of the different stages and meetings with the jurors.
 - c. Music material with the Competition repertoire (sheet music in 'sample' mode).
 - d. A ticket for the gala concert.
 - e. A certificate of participation in the competition as an auditor.

XII. COPYRIGHT AND PERSONAL DATA

After submission of the completed competition entry form, the candidate:

1. He/she accepts that photos may be taken, with his/her image, during the Competition, and that these photos may be used, processed and reproduced, by any means whatsoever, for promotional and AERCO archive purposes, without the need for specific authorisation each time.
2. It grants free of charge to the Organisation of the Competition the right to use audiovisual artistic recordings made during the Competition or the Finalists' Concert exclusively for non-commercial purposes, including promotional and archiving purposes, in the following fields of use:
 - a. with regard to reproduction - recording by means of digital sound and image technology, production of CDs and/or DVDs or other media.
 - b. with regard to the distribution of copies on which an artistic performance has been recorded - the placing on the market, lending or rental.
 - c. with regard to the dissemination of the performance in a manner other than that specified under b above: broadcasting, rebroadcasting and performance and making it available to the public on selected web pages.
3. You agree to the processing of your personal data for purposes related to the Competition, in accordance with the declaration submitted in the registration form. Personal data are provided by candidates on a voluntary basis, but their submission is required for participation in the Competition.

FINAL PROVISIONS

1. The Organisation reserves the right to amend these regulations.
2. The Organisation may cancel the Competition for important and force majeure reasons.

The Artistic Direction of the Competition:

Andrea Angelini - Artistic Director

Silvia Biasini - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Gianluigi Giacomoni - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Elide Melchioni - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Ilaria Poldi - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Silvia Perucchetti - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Maria Luce Monari - Preliminary Evaluation Commission

Claudia Rondelli - Preliminary Evaluation Commission



AERCO

Emilia-Romagna Choirs Association

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