



BELCANTO & VERISMO WEEK 2025

 OperUs
Create through music

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OPERUS & TRIESTE, ITALY

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WELCOME

“On behalf of the whole team we would like to extend a warm welcome to OperUs, international company and academy of music education and artistic development, offering a wide range of programs and services, based in Trieste, Italy.

In 2025 we are so excited to welcome both those OperUs alumni who have participated in previous programs, and those of you who may be joining us for the first time!

Since OperUs' founding in 2022 - among other activities - we have held two summer academies for young artists, masterclasses with star guests including mezzo-soprano Daniela Barcellona, soprano Barbara Frittoli and bass-baritone Luca Pisaroni and three international opera studios supporting emerging talent. We have also launched our inaugural Young Artists' Academy, a 9-month program nurturing students' and young professionals' artistic and career development as they prepare to enter the industry.

This coming year we are delighted to be running our first Belcanto & Verismo Week, as well as our fourth international opera studio: Alcina 2025. The primary aim of the Belcanto and Verismo week is to offer young artists a deeper exploration of the style, technique and interpretation of the Italian repertoire of the 19th and 20th century.

To date some of OperUs' alumni have achieved places on young artists' programs at institutions including Glyndebourne and Pegasus Opera, and concerts at Wigmore Hall. We are particularly proud that a number of alumni have since been cast in professional productions in the UK, Netherlands, Australia and more, following participation in our Opera Studios on the same titles.

Our ultimate objective for all of our programs is to see our students each further develop their artistic personality and skill and nurture their unique talents to help them find their place in the industry; and to create an unforgettable collective experience which the young artists will look back on as a key moment in their journey as performers. We look forward eagerly to the 2025 Summer Season of Learning and we hope to welcome some of you here to Trieste in the near future."

Antonella Costantini OperUs Artistic Director
Fiorenza Badila OperUs CEO



OPERUS

OperUs' mission is to bridge the gap between study and the music industry. We offer bilingual (English-Italian) training from internationally celebrated musicians and teachers, nurturing not only the young artists' musical skills but also what makes them unique and their professional development with our expert career strategy and branding coachings.

We also frequently stage valuable performance opportunities as an integral part of our programs, as we believe deeply that practical performance experience is vital to artistic and professional growth. We collaborate with leading music institutions worldwide and in our home city of Trieste, Italy, including Teatro Lirico "G. Verdi", the festival "Una Luce Sempre Accesa", the Orchestra Filarmonica del Teatro Verdi, the American music publication OperaWire and the music qualification boards ABRSM and Trinity College London, for which we are the only exam centre in Trieste and from whom our students have a 100% pass rate.

We have welcomed students from over 25 countries and are proud of a high rate of return to our programs by previous OperUs alumni. In all our activities, OperUs promotes an ethos of sustainability and care for the environment. We also pay particular attention to nurturing the relationship between art and nature, fundamental for young artists' wellbeing and to develop their artistic sensibility and understanding. OperUs is also sincerely committed to supporting and promoting diversity and accessibility. We welcome and uplift students of all ages, genders and backgrounds at our courses and events. We work hard to maintain a supportive, safe work and study environment and break down barriers to access, where everyone can feel free to be themselves and fulfil their creative potential.



TRIESTE, THE GEM OF THE ADRIATIC SEA

Recently named by [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) among the top 10 trendiest tourist destinations worldwide for 2025, Trieste is a beautiful Italian maritime city with a rich multicultural history and artistic life. Nestled on the Adriatic coast between Venice to the south and Central Europe to the northeast, the city owes its harmonious synthesis of Italian and Austrian architecture and cultural traditions to a history at the heart of Europe. Once the beating coastal heart of the Austro-Hungarian empire before being incorporated into a united Italy, Trieste possesses a rich and cosmopolitan cultural heritage. In the present day the city boasts a variety of concert halls, galleries and museums, as well as multiple theatres including the Teatro Lirico "G. Verdi": an opera house counted among the fourteen "Fondazioni Liriche", the most prestigious state operas in Italy and the Teatro Stabile del Friuli Venezia Giulia "Politeama Rossetti", which has made Trieste the Italian capital of musical theatre. Strategically located in the centre of New Europe, Trieste is less than 500 km from the main cities of Central and Eastern Europe (Munich, Vienna, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Budapest, Prague, Bratislava). Piazza Unità d'Italia, the city's main square, is the largest in Europe to open directly onto the sea, symbolising Trieste's lifeblood and its vital links to the wider Mediterranean to the south. Every year the city welcomes the world's greatest sailing regatta, the Barcolana boat race. In addition to its musical, artistic and sporting scene, Trieste and its famous coffee bars have welcomed some of the 20th century's greatest thinkers and writers - James Joyce, Umberto Saba and Italo Svevo just to name a few were inspired by the city's history, culture and unique dialect and met over cups of its beloved coffee to share ideas and new works. Trieste's welcoming atmosphere and sophisticated cultural offerings - as well as its long history as an international artistic and philosophical meeting point - make it the perfect base for our programs, offering participants a unique experience at the heart of Europe.



THE PROGRAM

BELCANTO
& VERISMO
WEEK 2025

The Belcanto & Verismo Week 2025 is designed for young artists ranging from undergraduate-level students (or equivalent level of private study) to early-career young professionals and those preparing to enter the industry.

The schedule is packed with individual coachings on style, technique and interpretation, as well as expert Italian phonetics tuition from a native-speaking tutor and a lecture from our resident arts manager on the Italian model of opera production in the modern day.

After a week of intensive training with our internationally respected coaches and refining their performance and understanding of the subtleties of this repertoire, each singer will conclude the week by participating in a final public concert at the beautiful Sala Bobi Bazlen of Palazzo Gopcevich, Trieste.

"The intensive preparation and supportive atmosphere greatly contributed to my development... Overall, the opera studio was an unforgettable and extremely valuable experience."

Yasemin Ek | Soprano

"They were the loveliest people to audition for... So supportive, and they seemed to really care about what they were doing and the people they were working with"

Sean Purtell | bass

"I am very grateful for the experience, tutoring and warm and welcoming atmosphere. Also for [...] the opportunity of performing a full role on stage which is essential for a young artist at the beginning of their professional career."

Antonija Zarkovic | soprano

KEY FACTS & FEATURES

BELCANTO
& VERISMO
WEEK 2025

Duration

- The total duration of the Program is 7 days
- Participants will join us in person in Trieste, Italy from July 14th-20th 2025

Positions available

- The program is open to 6 singers, selected by recorded video audition

Bilingual teaching

- The program will be taught bilingually in English and Italian. Prior understanding of the Italian language is not required, and Italian phonetics training will be provided.

Location

- The OperUs Atelier, Via Cecilia de Rittmeyer 7/c, Trieste
- Sala Bobi Bazlen, Via Gioacchino Rossini 4, Trieste

BELCANTO & VERISMO WEEK 2025

KEY FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM

- Refine and apply your skills in the beautiful and complex Italian bel canto and verismo genres
- Gain an unforgettable study and life experience
- Discover the current Italian model of opera production
- Benefit from dedicated 1:1 tuition from our expert coaches and perform in the final concert
- Improve your Italian with our native-speaking teachers
- Delve into the history and cultural tradition behind these beloved genres
- Join the OperUs community and experience the supportive environment of our programs
- No barriers to access: tuition payment possible in installments, no upper age limits

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APPLICATION PROCESS

BELCANTO
& VERISMO
WEEK 2025

Application deadlines

- EU Citizens: February 1st 2025
- Non EU Citizens: January 31st 2025

The above deadlines are a final date; however, OperUs will review applications as soon as it receives them, and places will be assigned as suitable applicants are identified so we recommend early application for the best chance of being selected. Please note that the deadline for non-EU citizens is earlier to allow time for travel arrangements as well as visa processing when necessary. Applications are open to classical singers over the age of 18. There is no upper age limit.

How to apply

To apply, please send the following documents along to info.operaus@gmail.com

- CV/Resumé in English or Italian
- HD Photo
- A copy of your Passport/ID card
- One-two video or audio recordings of an aria by Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, Puccini, Mascagni, Leoncavallo.
- Proof of payment of 50€ application fee, payable to:

Account name: OPERUS SRLS

IBAN: IT72W0200802230000107099082

BIC/SWIFT: UNCRITM10PA

BANK ADDRESS: BANCA UNICREDIT, FILIALE TRIESTE CASSA DI RISPARMIO, VIA SAN NICOLO', 16, TRIESTE, ITALY

REFERENCE: NAME+SURNAME COURSE APPLICATION FEE

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TUITION FEES

The following tuition fees are payable in installments: 1620€ including VAT

Accommodation and food are not included, however, OperUs can provide a list of recommended accommodation options on request.

For further information, please feel free to reach out to our office at info.operaus@gmail.com, or visit our website <https://www.operuscommunity.com/belcanto-verismoweeek2025>

