*Call for applications to the*

**TEATRO ALLA SCALA ACADEMY**

**OF LYRIC OPERA**

**ACADEMY PROJECT 2016**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - *DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE*

*2015 - 2016 Season*

The Fondazione Accademia d’Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala (hereinafter also “Academy”) hereby opens the admission process to the ***Teatro alla Scala Academy of Lyric opera, academic year 2015 - 2016,*** seeking performers for the 2016 Academy Project, ***Die Zauberflöte*** by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*.*

The Examining Committee will have the final decision as to the ranking. All candidates will be classified in a single ranking for the academic year 2015-2016.

1. **Course Goals and Professional Profile**

The selection process is oriented to young operatic singers having sufficient artistic and vocal qualities to merit higher specialization with the goal of participating in the opera *Die Zauberflöte* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the 2016 Academy Project opera for the 2015-2016 Teatro alla Scala opera season.

1. **Course Structure**

The course will run for one year starting in September 2015. Selected candidates will only be admitted after accepting and signing the Academy Regulations when the course begins. All selected candidates will participate in a trial period ending on December 31, 2015, when the Office of the Director will make the final determination as to which candidates will be admitted to the Academy.

At the end of the academic year, the Office of the Director will assess each single pupil to determine who shall be admitted to a second year of specialization, integrated into the production program of the Theatre and the Academy.

The curriculum includes the following subjects:

Interpretation and performance of the operatic and chamber repertoire

Vocal Score Coaching

Vocal and interpretative technique,

Stage Presence and Body Language Techniques for the Stage

Stage Movement

German language;

Italian for non-speakers.

If authorized by the Artistic Director, students may observe rehearsals of operas on the Teatro alla Scala season and take part in encounters with the Theatre’s orchestra conductors, stage directors and guest singers. The Office of the Artistic Director of Teatro alla Scala will also assess the option of offering performer or stand-in contracts to students for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and/or 2017-2018 seasons at Teatro alla Scala. Concerts with orchestra or piano accompaniment, festivals of chamber music in the Ridotto dei Palchi, and tours in Italy and abroad are planned during the period of the course.

1. **Course Locations**

The course will be held primarily in the following locations:

* Fondazione Accademia d’Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala, Via S. Marta 18 - 20123 Milano
* Fondazione Teatro alla Scala, Via Filodrammatici 2 - 20121 Milano
* Laboratori Ansaldo, Via Bergognone 34 - 20144 Milano
* Sala Prove Abanella, Via Bottelli 11 - 20125 Milano

1. **Requisites**

In order to be eligible, candidates must:

a) have been born on or after ***January 1, 1985***. An exception is made solely for bass singers, who must have been born on or after ***January 1, 1983;***

b) have earned a diploma in voice from an Italian state musical conservatory or a musical institute having equal status. If the candidate has studied at a private school of music or with a private teacher, the director of the school or the private teacher must issue a statement, under their own responsibility, attesting to the pupil’s maturity and capabilities.

Candidates under the age of eighteen are not eligible for admission to the course.

1. **Application Procedures and Deadlines**

Applications must be completed online and delivered along with all accessory documentation no later than 23:59 (11:59 p.m.) on ***Thursday, 26 February 2015.***

The application may only be submitted by means of the special online form at:  
<https://www.yaptracker.com/applications/teatro-alla-scala-academy-2015>. The website requires registration, which is free. An online **payment of €80 by credit card** (including VAT) will be required to complete the application process. The following documents must be submitted along with the application:

* Completed application form;
* Scanned image of identity document (identity card or passport);
* Scanned copy of certification of musical and voice studies, as specified above at Point 4;
* Two videos in which the candidate performs an aria from *Die Zauberflöte* by W. A. Mozart and an aria in Italian by another composer. Candidates for mezzosoprano roles shall perform an aria from an opera by W. A. Mozart and an aria in German by another composer. The videos must not be of professional quality; amateur, unedited productions are explicitly requested. The videos should have good sound quality and provide a clear view of the candidate. After examining the materials received, the Examining Committee will promptly notify the chosen candidates and invite them formally to the auditions in Milan.
* A detailed and signed CV with the following statements appended at the end:

1. Il/la sottoscritto/a consapevole delle sanzioni penali previste dall’art. 76 D.P.R. 28/12/2000 n. 445 per il caso di dichiarazioni mendaci e falsità in atti, dichiara ai sensi degli art. 46 e 47 D.P.R. 445/2000 che quanto contenuto nel presente curriculum corrisponde a verità [The undersigned, aware of the criminal penalties pursuant to Article 76 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000 (D.P.R. 445/2000) for false statements, declares, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of said D.P.R. 445/2000, that the information contained in this CV is true];

2. Autorizzo il trattamento dei miei dati personali, ai fini dell’utilizzo del mio curriculum, in base al D.Lgs. 30/06/2003 n. 196 [I consent to processing of my personal information for purposes associated with the use of my Curriculum Vitae pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003];

* Two recent digital photographs: one medium shot and one full figure.

The following optional documents may also be submitted with the application:

* Scanned copy of certifications of placement in the top three positions of national or international solo voice competitions;
* Letters of reference from persons of note or authorities in the music field.

If the candidate is unable to procure certification of his/her musical and voice studies, a self declaration may be submitted. Candidates making false statements will be excluded or expelled from the Academy and be liable to prosecution by law.

Candidates residing outside of Italy must submit all required documentation both in original form and translated into Italian or English.

The application fee is non-refundable.

The Office of the Director reserves the right to accept applications submitted after the deadline but before auditions have started at its sole discretion and without expressing a justification.

1. **Admission**

Candidates for admission must present **6 opera pieces** as follows: one from *Die Zauberflöte* by W. A. Mozart, 3 in Italian, and 2 in another language. Candidates for mezzosoprano roles must present 1 aria from an opera by W. A. Mozart, 3 arias in Italian and 2 in another language; at least one of these arias must be in German. Candidates must also present **2 chamber music and/or sacred music pieces.**  The two pieces recorded in the videos at Point 5 must be included among the 8 required pieces.

In order to be admitted to the courses, the candidate must pass a series of tests, structured as follows:

1. **Elimination round:** the candidate must perform two opera pieces by heart, one of which will be chosen by the Examining Committee on the basis of the program presented by the candidate while the other may be freely chosen by the candidate. The Committee reserves the right to limit the audition to a single piece.
2. **Semifinal round:** the candidate must perform by heart a piece of chamber music or sacred music and an opera piece, both of which shall be chosen by the Examining Committee. The candidate will also be asked to sight-read a score of medium difficulty, to demonstrate his/her stage abilities and to take part in a motivational interview.
3. **Final round:** the candidate shall perform two opera pieces selected by the Examining Committee.

All pieces must be sung in their original language.

The Examining Committee may opt to hear the required pieces in their entirety or only partially and may limit the audition to only a part of the envisaged program.

At the time of the audition, the candidate shall submit the scores to the chosen pieces, which shall be played on the piano as accompaniment by a musician associated with the Teatro alla Scala Academy.

Candidates are forbidden from bringing their own accompanists.

The auditions will take place in March 2015; the exact dates will be communicated in an official convocation from the Academy.

Candidates will not be admitted to the auditions unless they have accepted all conditions and provisions contained in this call for applications.

The Examining Committee shall rank, at is sole discretion, the candidates who are admissible to the course. Candidates who are admissible but not admitted because of their relatively low position in the ranking will be able to participate in the course if a sufficient number of admitted candidates decline or are unable to attend.

1. **Final Certification**

Upon completing the course with a positive assessment by the Office of the Director in terms of overall performance and achievement of specific objectives set forth, each student will receive a diploma from the Accademia d’Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala.

**8. Incentives for Candidates Admitted to the Academy**

A monthly scholarship is provided for each candidate admitted to the Academy of **€860.00** (*eight hundred sixty euros*) gross for each month that the pupil effectively attends the course. The scholarship is made possible partially by contributions from the **Fondazione Milano per la Scala** and the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**.

**The course is full time, tuition is free and attendance is mandatory:** it is thus incompatible with other academic or professional commitments. Any pupil missing 25% or more of lessons shall be removed from the course.

**9. Admission of Non-Europeans**

If chosen during the selection process, candidates not residing in one of the European Union member states must submit, on or before the date that lessons begin, the documentation required by European law and by the Italian Public Security Authorities (application for permit of stay [*permesso di soggiorno*] for purposes of study) for people from their country of citizenship.

**10. Artistic Leave**

The Office of the Director of the Academy may grant artistic leave to students, depending on the artistic quality of the program in question and on the course schedule of the Academy. Such leave may be granted for a maximum of 30 days per year and may be divided into a maximum of 3 periods. Artistic leave is not to be construed as a right of any pupil, but a privilege that may be granted as an exception and on a case-by-case basis at the sole and uncontestable discretion of the Office of the Director.

**11. Preemption Rights of Teatro alla Scala and of the Academy**

At the end of the academic year (or two years for those who are admitted to a second year), Teatro alla Scala and Accademia Teatro alla Scala may exercise the right of preemption regarding the participation of (former) pupils in operas on the Teatro alla Scala program for the following three years.

**12. Reliance**

In the event of any discrepancy of interpretation between the English text of this call for applications and the original text in Italian, reliance shall be placed exclusively on the original Italian text.

**13. Meeting with Course Coordinators**

You may request to meet the Course Coordinators by writing to:

Paola Cavani*, Coordinator*, [musica@accademialascala.it](mailto:musica@accademialascala.it)

Ilaria Pachera, *Tutor,* [musica@accademialascala.it](mailto:musica@accademialascala.it)

**For further information please contact**

tel. +39 02 8545111 (option 2) – fax +39 02 86460020

Via Santa Marta 18 - Milano:

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday – 10.00 till 13.00 and 14.30 till 17.00

**e-mail:** [**segreteria.didattica@accademialascala.it**](mailto:segreteria.didattica@accademialascala.it)

[**musica@accademialascala.it**](mailto:musica@accademialascala.it)

**web site: www.accademialascala.it**

*Milan, 10 December 2014*

The Managing Director

Luisa Vinci