



**Press Release**  
**ROSSINI OPERA FESTIVAL 2025 OPENS AUGUST 10**  
**Two new productions and**  
**three rare Cantatas in critical edition**

The 46th edition of the Rossini Opera Festival will take place in Pesaro from 10 to 22 August 2025, featuring four opera productions. The Festival will open with a new staging of *Zelmira*, which has not been seen at ROF since 2009, conducted by Giacomo Sagripanti and directed by Calixto Bieito, making his Festival debut. This will be followed by another new production, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, under the baton of Dmitry Korchak and directed by Rosetta Cucchi. Two revivals will also be staged: *La cambiale di matrimonio*, successfully performed at ROF in 2020 and during the subsequent tour in Oman, conceived by Laurence Dale and this time conducted by Christopher Franklin; and *Il viaggio a Reims* in the usual version conceived by Emilio Sagi, conducted by Alessandro Mazzocchetti and performed by the students of the Accademia Rossiniana "Alberto Zedda".

The concert programme includes several rarities: the three cantatas *Il pianto di Armonia sulla morte di Orfeo*, *La morte di Didone*, and *Il pianto delle Muse in morte di Lord Byron* will receive their world premieres in critical editions prepared by the Fondazione Rossini. Also featured is the *Messa per Rossini*, which was conceived by Giuseppe Verdi shortly after Rossini's death and composed in 1869 by various authors, including Verdi himself, Lauro Rossi, Carlo Pedrotti, and Carlo Coccia. This significant work will serve as the Festival's grand finale.

The first three evenings of performances will be broadcast live on Rai Radio 3.

The Festival launches on 10 August at the Auditorium Scavolini with *Zelmira*, directed by Calixto Bieito, who also collaborates with Barbora Horáková on the set design. Costumes are by Ingo Krügler, with lighting by Michael Bauer. Giacomo Sagripanti will conduct the Chorus of the Teatro Ventidio Basso and the Orchestra of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, which returns to the ROF after serving as its principal orchestra for three decades. The cast includes Anastasia Bartoli in the title role, Lawrence Brownlee (Ilo), Enea Scala (Antenore), Marina Viotti (Emma), Marko Mimica (Polidoro), Gianluca Margheri (Leucippo), Paolo Nevi (Eacide) and Shi Xong (Gran Sacerdote). The three performances will take place on 13, 16, and 19 August.

*La Cambiale di matrimonio* will be performed on 11 August at Teatro Rossini, presented alongside the *Soirées musicales*. Christopher Franklin will conduct the Filarmonica Gioachino Rossini in this production conceived by Laurence Dale, with sets and costumes designed by Gary McCann and lighting by Ralph Kopp. The cast includes Paola Leoci (Fanni), Pietro Spagnoli (Tobia Mill), Jack Swanson (Edoardo Milfort), Mattia Olivieri (Slook), Ramiro Maturana (Norton),

**Rossini Opera Festival**

61121 Pesaro – Italia / Via Rossini, 24 • Tel. 0721.3800203  
[www.rossinioperafestival.it](http://www.rossinioperafestival.it) • e-mail: [rof@rossinioperafestival.it](mailto:rof@rossinioperafestival.it)



and Inés Lorans (Clarina). Additionally, Vittoriana De Amicis, Andrea Niño, Paolo Nevi, and Gurgen Baveyan will perform in the *Soirées musicales*, presented in the version orchestrated by Fabio Maestri for ROF 2019. Performances are scheduled for 15, 17, and 20 August.

The second new production, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, will be performed on 12 August at Teatro Rossini. Dmitry Korchak will conduct the Orchestra of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna and the Chorus of the Teatro Ventidio Basso. The production is directed by Rosetta Cucchi, with sets by Tiziano Santi, costumes by Claudia Pernigotti, video design by Nicolas Boni, and lighting by Daniele Naldi. The cast includes Daniela Barcellona as Isabella, Josh Lovell as Lindoro, Giorgi Manoshvili as Mustafà, along with Misha Kiria (Taddeo), Gurgen Baveyan (Haly), Vittoriana De Amicis (Elvira), and Andrea Niño (Zulma). Performances are scheduled for 14, 18, and 21 August.

On the mornings of the first three days, ROF Talks will be held in the Sala della Repubblica at Teatro Rossini. Hosted by Susanna Franchi of Rai Radio3, these insightful sessions will explore the festival's productions and other timely topics. On 10 August at 11:30, Giacomo Sagripanti and Calixto Bieito will introduce *Zelmira*. Immediately afterward, the ceremony for the 44th Premio Abbiati, considered the Oscar of Italian classical music and presented by the Associazione Nazionale dei Critici Musicali, will take place. ROF will receive the award for Best Production of the previous year for *Ermione*, conducted by Michele Mariotti and staged by Johannes Erath. On 11 August at 12:00, Superintendent Ernesto Palacio and Artistic Director Juan Diego Flórez will unveil the programme for the 2026 Rossini Opera Festival. Afterwards, Christopher Franklin and Laurence Dale will discuss the *Soirées musicales* and *La cambiale di matrimonio*. On 12 August at 12:00, Vania Cauzillo (chair of Reseo), Elisabetta Garilli of the eponymous Atelier, and Barbara Minghetti of the Teatro Sociale di Como will address the theme *Educating through Opera*. This will be followed by a presentation by Dmitry Korchak and Rosetta Cucchi on *L'Italiana in Algeri*.

The fourth opera in the programme is *Il viaggio a Reims*, performed by the emerging talents of the Accademia Rossiniana "Alberto Zedda." This production will be presented at Teatro Rossini on 15 and 18 August, featuring the historic staging originally conceived by Emilio Sagi and skillfully revived by Matteo Anselmi. Costume design is by Pepa Ojanguren, with lighting crafted by Fabio Rossi. Alessandro Mazzocchetti will conduct the Orchestra Sinfonica G. Rossini and direct the cast.

The concert programme is rich and varied, with seven events at Teatro Rossini and an additional concert at Auditorium Scavolini. On 17 August, the Cantatas *Il pianto di Armonia sulla morte di Orfeo*, *La morte di Didone*, and *Il pianto delle Muse in morte di Lord Byron*, will receive their world premiere in the critical edition by the Fondazione Rossini. The performance will be led by conductor

#### **Rossini Opera Festival**

61121 Pesaro – Italia / Via Rossini, 24 • Tel. 0721.3800203  
[www.rossinioperafestival.it](http://www.rossinioperafestival.it) • e-mail: [rof@rossinioperafestival.it](mailto:rof@rossinioperafestival.it)



Cesare Della Sciucca, with the Orchestra Sinfonica G. Rossini, the Chorus of the Teatro Ventidio Basso, and soloists Giuliana Gianfaldoni and Dave Monaco.

The Festival will also feature three lyric-symphonic concerts: on 13 August, François López-Ferrer will conduct Vasilisa Berzhanskaya alongside the Orchestra Sinfonica G. Rossini; on 19 August, Manuel López-Gómez will lead Michele Pertusi with the Filarmonica Gioachino Rossini; and on 21 August, Asier Eguskitza will conduct Sergey Romanovsky and the Orchestra Sinfonica G. Rossini. The programme also includes three Belcanto concerts featuring Marko Mimica (14 August), Cecilia Molinari (16 August), and Hasmik Torosyan (20 August), accompanied on piano by Marcos Madrigal, Jean-Paul Pruna, and Giulio Zappa.

The Rossini Opera Festival 2025 will conclude on 22 August at Teatro Rossini with a performance of the *Messa per Rossini*, dedicated to the memory of Gianfranco Mariotti, the Festival's founder and longtime Superintendent, who led the event from its founding until 2017 and passed away in November 2024. Donato Renzetti will conduct the Orchestra of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna and the Chorus of the Teatro Ventidio Basso, along with a cast including Vasilisa Berzhanskaya, Caterina Piva, Dmitry Korchak, Misha Kiria and Marko Mimica.

The founding entities of the ROF are the Municipality of Pesaro, Intesa Sanpaolo, and the Fondazione Scavolini. The 46th edition is supported by the Ministry of Culture, the Municipality of Pesaro, the Marche Region, Intesa Sanpaolo, ASPES Spa - Farmacie Comunali, EBWorld, Pesaro Parcheggi, the Fondazione Meuccia Severi, and Green partner Gruppo Diba.

Pesaro, 28 July 2025.

**Rossini Opera Festival**

61121 Pesaro – Italia / Via Rossini, 24 • Tel. 0721.3800203  
[www.rossinioperafestival.it](http://www.rossinioperafestival.it) • e-mail: [rof@rossinioperafestival.it](mailto:rof@rossinioperafestival.it)