



THE VICENZA OPERA FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 2019



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Among the many beautiful Italian theatres, the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, Andrea Palladio's last masterpiece, stands out as a unique monument. Vincenzo Scamozzi's stage design, built in 1585 of wood and stucco, has been preserved in perfect condition for over four centuries. The building's form resembles a Roman amphitheatre, clearly representing the original ideas of the Florence Camerata.

PALLADIO'S LEGACY

THE TEATRO OLIMPICO

ORIGINAL CONCEPT

“Monteverdi’s L’Orfeo is not only one of the most beautiful operas ever written but it relates very strongly to the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza. The theatre was built in 1585, a few years before L’Orfeo has first been performed in Mantova. It is the perfect opera for the perfect theatre.

But there is an important aspect: I am fascinated by the finale. Originally (in the libretto and in the classic Greek-Roman sources) Orpheus returns from the underworld and is killed by mad, ecstatic women who are angry with him. Why? Because Orpheus denounces women - he never wants to fall in love again after having lost his “perfect” Euridice twice. The insulted mad women (followers of Dionysus who perform a wild bacchanalia) tear him to pieces.

Usually this opera is performed with a revised ending composed by Monteverdi a few years after the first performance. Here, there is no bacchanalia but Apollo appears from heaven and elevates Orpheus to the skies. We end with a happy end, with a conventional finale.

I am obsessed by performing L’Orfeo with the bacchanalia. I will compose the missing music in style of Monteverdi. It will be a word premiere of the original concept 500 years after it has been written!”

IVÁN FISCHER

Artistic Director





THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

OCTOBER 2019

PERFORMANCES:

October 20 Private Concert / Gala Dinner

October 21 Premiere L'Orfeo

October 22 Concert

October 23 L'Orfeo

October 24 L'Orfeo

La favola d'Orfeo

by Claudio Monteverdi

Libretto: A. Striggio

First version, completed by Ivan Fischer

A production of the Ivan Fischer Opera Company
co-produced by Budapest Festival Orchestra, Műpa Budapest,
Grand Théâtre de Genève

CAST:

Euridice/La Musica

Orfeo

Pastore/Speranza

Pastore/Spirito

Pastore/Spirito

Pastore/Plutone/Baccante

Ninfa/Proserpina/Baccante

Messagiera

Caronte

Emőke Baráth

Valerio Contaldo

Michał Czerniawski

Cyril Auvity

Francisco Fernández-Rueda

N.N.

Nuria Rial

Luciana Mancini

Antonio Abete

SUNDAY TIMES

4 November 2018

“Ivan Fischer and his Budapest Festival Orchestra are turning opera on its head with their bold and joyous attitude. And the crowds are loving it.”

“Even purists now acknowledge the BFO as one of the world’s best. Yet it is unlike any other orchestra. The players are creators alongside the conductor – they contribute to repertoire and interpretation.”

“Everything about it feels deliriously forbidden. There was a pause when it ended, as if everybody was too stunned or breathless to applaud. Then we all went wild, and then much wilder. Palladio would have been proud.”

TAGESSPIEGEL

19 October 2018

“Die Musik allein bewegt die Szene, das Ensemble mit wunderbaren Musikdarstellern wie Eva Mei, Sylvia Schwartz und Tassis Christoyannis gewinnt eine Autorität, wie man ihr nur selten begegnet. Nie klang der Glühwein, mit dem sich der pitschnasse dicke Ritter zurück ins Leben trinkt, so vitalisierend.“

OPER!

December 2018

“Dieser Falstaff hat das generelle Sein und Wollen Fischers auf dem Gebiet der Oper deutlich gemacht, überdies an einem speziellen Ort – dem Teatro Olimpico.”

“Im krisengeschüttelten Italien ist dieses neue Festival ein starkes Signal der Hoffnung”, so Paolo Pigato, Präsident der Società del Quartetto di Vicenza.

VICENZA OPERA FESTIVAL 2018 IN THE MEDIA



The magazine Gramophone called the BFO, founded thirty-six years ago by Iván Fischer, one of the top ten orchestras in the world.

The BFO will be the resident orchestra of the Vicenza Opera Festival.

ENSEMBLE OF EXCELLENCE

THE IVÁN FISCHER OPERA COMPANY

The BFO: "...might be the best orchestra in the world..."
(The New York Times)

The company was founded in 2017 by Maestro Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival Orchestra Foundation to produce exclusive opera productions internationally, caring for organic unity of music and theatre. One of its priorities is to bring productions to the yearly Vicenza Opera Festival.



BECOME A FRIEND OF THE VICENZA OPERA FESTIVAL

We are still very grateful that more than 80 opera lovers from all over the world supported the inaugural season of our festival in 2018. They experienced a very special tour to the magnificent city of Vicenza and to the finest Ville Venete and gardens of the area and made the first year very a memorable occasion.

Now we would like to follow up on that success and create another memorable occasion. Please help us to build and sustain this festival in October 2019!

The magnificent Teatro Olimpico is relatively small; seats for the premiere of L'Orfeo will be reserved mainly for the Circle of Friends Members, who make this festival possible with their generous annual membership fee.

All members will receive a ticket for a house concert and a gala dinner in Villa Valmarana ai Nani, a ticket for the premiere of L'Orfeo and a ticket for a symphony concert in the Teatro Olimpico.

Honorary Committee Members and Founding Patrons receive additional benefits.



MEET THE MAESTRO AND THE ORCHESTRA

In the spirit of the festival, Circle of Friends Members will be invited to Villa Valmarana ai Nani to a house concert and exclusive dinner. The friends will meet Maestro Fischer, the musicians and the singers, and will have the chance to connect and exchange

ideas. Villa Valmarana is the home of Countess Carolina di Valmarana and her family. This 17th-century villa was frescoed by Giambattista and Giandomenico Tiepolo, commissioned in 1757 by the owner, Count Giustino di Valmarana.

EXPERIENCE THE VENETO REGION

In addition to the musical part, we are looking forward to a fabulous and exclusive three-day journey with individual tour packages. The tour will start off on Sunday October 20th: after a welcome drink at hotel Villa Michelangelo you can either visit Villa La Rotonda, one of the Palladio's best-known legacies to the architectural world, or alternatively Monte Berico, one of the most important and most

frequented sanctums of the region, followed by a gala-evening at Villa Valmarana. For Monday October 21st we will offer three options: an excursion to Padova, Marostica and Thiene or a wine tasting in La Montecchia followed by a visit with exclusive lunch to the magnificent Villa dei Vescovi. On Tuesday October 22nd we will offer a second excursion to Padova, to Marostica and Thiene and a Vicenza tour.

AS WE WANT TO OFFER YOU AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE, WE HAVE LIMITED PLACES FOR THE TOURS. SO PLEASE MAKE YOUR REGISTRATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.





TOUR DETAILS

OCTOBER 2019

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th

- Individual arrival at Hotel Villa Michelangelo or Palazzo Otello in the afternoon

Hotel Villa Michelangelo

Via Sacco 35
36067 Arcugnano, Vicenza
+39 04444 550300

Palazzo Otello

Corso Fogazzaro 4
36100 Vicenza
+39 0444 546576

www.starhotelscollezione.com/en/our-hotels/hotel-villa-michelangelo-vicenza
www.palazzootello.it

We have reserved rooms at both hotels. Please contact us directly for more information.

- **4:00 pm:** Welcome drink at the Hotel Villa Michelangelo

- **5:00 pm:** Departure to

A Villa La Rotonda: Private visit of one of Palladio's best-known legacies to the architectural world with owner Count Nicolò di Valmarana

B Monte Berico: Guided tour through la Basilica di Monte Berico and its cloister: frescoes, a painting by Veronese; ex voto to the Madonna di Monteberico

- **7:00 pm – 10:30 pm:** Cocktails, chamber music concert and seated dinner in Villa Valmarana ai Nani, the home of Countess Carolina di Valmarana and her family

- **11:00 pm:** Return to the hotels Villa Michelangelo / Palazzo Otello



MONDAY, OCTOBER 21st

• Individual breakfast in Hotel Villa Michelangelo / Palazzo Otello

A 10:00 am – 3:30 pm: Wine tasting in La Montecchia, visit to Villa dei Vescovi including lunch

B 9:30 am – 4:00 pm: Tour to Marostica and Thiene, including lunch in Castello di Thiene, hosted by Countess Francesca di Thiene

C 9:30 am – 4:00 pm: Tour to Padova, including lunch at Palazzo Papafava, hosted by Countess Francesca Papafava Sforza

• **6:00 pm:** Opera introduction at Hotel Villa Michelangelo

• **6:30 pm:** Transfer to Teatro Olimpico

• **7:30 pm – 9:45 pm:** Premiere of Monteverdi's L'Orfeo at Teatro Olimpico

• **10:00 pm:** Return back to Hotel Villa Michelangelo

• **10:30 pm:** Dinner buffet in Hotel Villa Michelangelo (optional)

• **10:00 pm – 0:00 am:** exclusive dinner at Villa Valmarana (Founding Patrons and Honorary Committee Members only)



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

- Individual breakfast in Hotel Villa Michelangelo / Palazzo Otello

A 10:00 am – 3:30 pm: City tour through Vicenza, including lunch at Sala Palladio e in the Loggia of Palazzo Bonin Longare

B 9:30 am – 4:00 pm: Tour to Marostica and Thiene, including lunch in Castello di Thiene, hosted by Countess Francesca di Thiene

C 9:30 am – 4:00 pm: Tour to Padova, including lunch at Palazzo Papafava, hosted by Countess Francesca Papafava Sforza

- **6:00 pm:** Concert introduction at Hotel Villa Michelangelo

- **6:30 pm:** Transfer to Teatro Olimpico

- **7:30 pm – 10:00 pm:** Concert of the Budapest Festival Orchestra conducted by Iván Fischer

- **10:15 pm:** Return back to Hotel Villa Michelangelo

- **11:00 pm:** Dinner buffet in Hotel Villa Michelangelo (optional)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

- Individual departure

Please understand that start and end times may vary slightly. Exact times will be communicated in time before the tour.





VILLA LA ROTONDA

BY ANDREA PALLADIO

“Maybe never architectural art has reached such a level of magnificence”

(J. W. Goethe, after the visit at La Rotonda)

- La Rotonda is not a villa. It's something more. In time it has been visited by poets and artists, sovereigns and statesmen, scholars and art amateurs, travellers and tourists.



To everyone La Rotonda has given an unforgettable emotion, that sense of harmony and grace whose answer is a smile, a silence. After 500 years, La Rotonda today is still a place of pure beauty, waiting to give inspiration, culture, joy.

The visit will be exceptionally conducted by Count Nicolò Valmarana, one of the owners.

- The Sanctuary of Monte Berico was originally built in 1426 when a local peasant, Vincenza Pasini, during an epidemic of the Pest, saw the Madonna who suggested to build a church dedicated to her. Upon its construction, the Pest left Vicenza.

It is both a site of devotion and of architectural and artistic value. The church hosts a moving “Pietà” by Bartolomeo da Montagna (early 1500); the gothic cloister is full of “ex voto” to the Madonna and the old refectory displays the magnificent supper of St Gregory by Paolo Veronese (1572).

MONTE BERICO



VILLA VALMARANA (1720)

- Villa Valmarana is the only place in the world where the art of Giambattista and that of Giandomenico Tiepolo who both frescoed the Villa's Palazzina and Foresteria can be admired next to each other.

The Gala dinner under the frescoes is a unique and thrilling experience and Countess Carolina di Valmarana is delighted to share it with you.

PADOVA

- The morning in Padova will focus on the visit of the Cappella degli Scrovegni – masterpiece in the history of painting in the 14th century, and considered the most complete series of frescoes executed by Giotto in his mature age. A short walk through the center of Padova will take us to Palazzo Papafava (1763) where Countess Francesca Papafava Sforza will host us for lunch.

MAROSTICA AND THIENE

- For the morning in the Province of Vicenza we offer an example of a fortified town (Marostica) with a passeggiata through its medieval center and a caffè, followed by a lunch at the Castello di Thiene hosted by Countess Francesca di Thiene.

The Castle of Thiene is considered the most notable 15th-century Gothic building in the Vicenza area. It is an extraordinary example of a pre-Palladio villa, the only one of its kind and a benchmark in the evolution of the Veneto villa.





LA MONTECCHIA

- The estate Count Emo Capodilista produces very high quality wines, valued all around the world and awarded by the most important wine guides. Bordering the Regional Park of Euganean Hills, just a few kilometers far from Padova, La Montecchia welcomes you to an extraordinary and very special wine tasting.



VILLA DEI VESCOVI

- Built in the first half of the 16th century as a summer retreat for the bishops of Padua, the Villa dei Vescovi is considered a masterpiece by the Veronese architect and painter Giovanni Maria Falconetto (1468-1535). Set on a hilltop, it commands attention and provides a contrast to the villas of Andrea Palladio (1508-1580), which became the standard of excellence in the next generation. Falconetto's villa design was well known in its day and admired as a high point of 16th-century architecture in the region.



VICENZA

- Vicenza is Palladio. The city tour will include the visit to the Teatro Olimpico, a walk through palaces and churches, made by the greatest architect of all times, inspired by him or dedicated to him. The tour will end with lunch at Palazzo Bonin Longare, designed in 1572 by Andrea Palladio and built by Vincenzo Scamozzi after the great architect's death.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

MEMBERSHIP FEES

FOUNDING PATRONS

50,000 USD / 45.000 EUR / 40,000 GBP

HONORARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10,000 USD (incl. 8,800 USD donation)

9.000 EUR (incl. 8.000 EUR donation)

8,000 GBP (incl. 7,100 GBP donation)

FRIENDS

2,900 USD (incl. 1,700 USD donation)

2.500 EUR (incl. 1.500 EUR donation)

2,300 GBP (incl. 1,400 GBP donation)

Donations are eligible for Gift Aid in the UK, US tax exemption, and
Spendenabzugsbescheinigung in Germany.

THE FEE PER PARTICIPANT INCLUDES:

- One ticket for an opera performance and a concert
- All visits and private visits, including museum entries
- English-speaking guide
- Luncheons, dinners and receptions as listed
- All transportations by private bus

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Hotel accommodation
- Airfare to and from Vicenza
- Any kind of personal insurance

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CONTACT: JULIANE TEGMEYER, COORDINATOR OF THE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
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SOCIETÀ
DEL QUARTETTO
DI VICENZA 1910



Budapest
Festival Orchestra

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FOUNDING PATRONS



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