





## 92 CANDIDATES ADMITTED TO THE SELECTION PHASE OF THE 56TH INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION VOCI VERDIANE CITTÀ DI BUSSETO More than 160 applications received from Italy, Europe, the USA, Guatemala Bolivia Chile Cuba Brazil Israel Iran Korea China and Russia

*Guatemala, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Brazil, Israel, Iran, Korea, China, and Russia.* Teatro Giuseppe Verdi di Busseto Selections from 12 - 16 June 2018

92 young singers have been admitted to the selection phase of the 56th International Competition Voci Verdiane Città di Busseto, produced under the High Patronage of the President of the Republic, in honour and memory of Carlo Bergonzi. Open to all singers aged 18 to 33, the selections will take place in Busseto 12 - 17 June 2018, and will be presided over by Giancarlo Contini, Mayor of Busseto, and the Teatro Regio di Parma, which has been appointed to direct the competition for the three years from 2017 to 2019.

More than 160 applications were received from 27 countries, including Italy, Europe, the USA, Guatemala, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Brazil, Israel, Iran, Korea, China, and Russia. Chosen based on their submitted audio-visual recordings, the 92 admitted candidates, the youngest of which is 20 years old, will now perform live in front of a judging panel who will the select the finalists.

Led by the General Director of the Teatro Regio di Parma, Anna Maria Meo, the judging panel will consist of renowned figures from the music world, including the directors and managers of some of the most prestigious opera houses and musical institutions in Austria, France, Brazil, Italy, and China: Paulo Abrão Esper (General and Artistic Director of the Teatro Lírico de Equipe / Cia Ópera São Paulo and the "Maria Callas" singing competition), Umberto Fanni (General Director of the Royal Opera House Muscat), Christophe Ghristi (Artistic Director of the Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse), Fulvio Macciardi (Superintendent of the Fondazione Teatro Comunale di Bologna), Cristiano Sandri (Manager of Artistic Programming at the Teatro Regio di Parma), Evamaria Wieser (Artistic Director of the Festival di Salzburg), Qing Xu (General Secretary of NanHai, China), and Andrea Rinaldi from the Lions Club "Giuseppe Verdi' di Busseto, who will join the judging panel in the finals phase.

The Competition will assign the following prizes: 1st 'Carlo Bergonzi' prize of €5,000 offered by Chengdu LeMeiSiBo Culture Communication Co. (China); 2nd prize of €3,000 offered by the Lions Club Busseto 'Giuseppe Verdi'; 3rd Prize of €1,500. The best female voice will be further awarded the special Verdissime.com prize of €1,000, offered by the Verdissime.com Association. The winners, semi-finalists, and finalists may be further entrusted with the roles of Cavalier di Belfiore, the Barone di Kelbar, The Marchesa del Poggio, Giulietta di Kelbar, Edoardo di Sanval, and La Rocca in the opera: Un giorno di regno, to be performed during Festival Verdi 2018 at the Teatro Giuseppe Verdi di Busseto from 28 September to 21 October 2018.



The winners of the Competition will be announced Saturday 16 June 2018 at the end of the concert, which is open to the public, programmed for 9.00pm in the Cortile di Villa Pallavicino in Busseto,

during which the finalists will perform accompanied by the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini conducts by Fabrizio Cassi. All prize winners will feature in a Verdian recital on Sunday 17 June 2018 at 9.00pm, close to the birthplace of the Maestro in Roncole Verdi, accompanied on piano by Simone Savina.

Tickets for the concerts (Finalists' Concert, single numbered seats €17.00; Gala Concert, single €11.00) are available from the Teatro Regio di Parma box office and online through: www.teatroregioparma.it Tickets can also be purchased at the venue on the day of the performance from 7.00pm.

For further information: Teatro Regio di Parma Box Office, Tel. 0521 203999 - biglietteria@teatroregioparma.it; Iat di Busseto, Tel. 0524 92487 - info@bussetolive.com; www.teatroregioparma.it - www.vociverdiane.com

The 56th International Competition Voci Verdiane Città di Busseto is produced with the support of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, Regione Emilia-Romagna, Provincia di Parma, Chengdu LeMeiSiBo Culture Communication Co. (China), Lions Club Busseto 'Giuseppe Verdi', verdissime.com, and Fondazione Cariparma.

## 56th INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION VOCI VERDIANE CITTÀ DI BUSSETO

Busseto, Cortile del Palazzo delle Scuderie di Villa Pallavicino Saturday 16 June 2018, 9.00pm FINALISTS' CONCERT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE WINNERS FILARMONICA ARTURO TOSCANINI Conductor FABRIZIO CASSI

Roncole Verdi, Birthplace of Giuseppe Verdi Sunday 17 June 2018, 9.00pm GALA CONCERT OF THE AWARDED PARTICIPANTS Piano SIMONE SAVINA

Parma, 14 maggio 2018

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