

Masterclasses & Cultural Journeys



Piano

SEPTEMBER 2025

Violin

Vocal

Chamber Music

Cello

& Historically Informed Performance for strings



OLIVE VALE ACADEMY

Dear Musicians,

The **OLIVE VALE ACADEMY** is not merely a masterclass – it is a renaissance of the artistic spirit. I believe that true artistic growth happens when we step beyond the practice room and allow ourselves to be transformed by beauty, history, and communion with fellow artists.

This is why each element of our academy has been carefully orchestrated to create breakthrough moments that traditional conservatory settings simply cannot provide. Here, your musical journey follows the rhythm of the land itself – half the day dedicated to intensive study with our Maestros, half to exploring the soul of Italy that has inspired countless composers and performers.

You will be studying in Italy, the motherland of **bel canto** and the birthplace of **string instruments**. Here, where **Stradivari** crafted his masterpieces and where the operatic tradition flowered under **Monteverdi**, **Rossini**, and **Verdi**, music is not simply performed — it is lived. Our academy connects you directly to this unbroken lineage of musical excellence, allowing the traditions that shaped Western classical music to inform and elevate your artistic development.

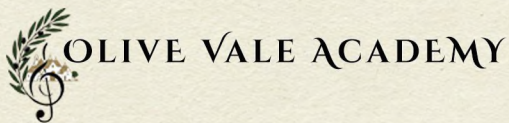
I look forward to welcoming you to our olive groves, where your musical voice will find both technical refinement and profound inspiration.



TEMUR YAKUBOV

Artistic Director

Violinist, Musicologist, PhD
President of the
Associazione Culturale «Mira & Arte»



PHILOSOPHY INSPIRED BY ARISTOTLE

The OLIVE VALE ACADEMY draws from Aristotle's educational vision, where true mastery emerges through dialogue, experience, and cultural immersion. We believe musical excellence flourishes when technical instruction is enriched by meaningful engagement with artistic heritage and environment. Beyond formal lessons, we foster connections through shared meals, evening gatherings, and informal conversations with Maestros—whether discussing musical interpretation over a Pugliese dinner or exchanging ideas during a coastal walk. These moments are integral to our philosophy, creating a supportive artistic community where learning continues naturally through dialogue and shared experience, as Aristotle envisioned.

ABOUT



WHAT MAKES OLIVE VALE ACADEMY UNIQUE

- **Studio to Sea:** A distinctive approach that balances intensive musical study with cultural immersion. Half-day intensive study with accomplished Italian Maestros, half-day exploring Puglia's rich cultural landscape
- This approach helps **prevent burnout** common in intensive music programs
- Learning is enriched by **Italian musical traditions, history, and landscapes**
- The balanced approach develops both **virtuosic skills** and **intuitive connection to craft**
- Combining structured lessons with hands-on experiences — specifically travel and cultural immersion — **deepens musical understanding and fosters innovation** (approved by scientific studies!)
- The combination creates a **transformative learning environment** where musicians develop both technical excellence and artistic depth



OLIVE VALE ACADEMY



Sala delle Muse
(Teatro Petruzzelli)

EXPERIENCE



CORE PROGRAM

- **Four private one-on-one sessions** with world-class professors, focused on your artistic development
- **Professional piano accompanist** available upon request during registration
- **Performance at the Final Concert** to demonstrate artistic progress
- Opportunity to perform at Sala delle Muse, chamber hall of Italy's prestigious **Petrucelli Theatre** (not available for piano)
- **Two Cultural Excursions** through Puglia's most inspiring locations, selected to enrich your artistic perspective
- **Certificate** signed by your professor as a recognition of participation
- Exclusive **discounts** at partner hotels and bed & breakfasts
- Complete **visa** assistance and support

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

(may involve Additional Cost)

- **Extended Cultural Discoveries** during additional excursions to Puglia's hidden gems
- **A convivial group dinner** where students and Maestro connect over exquisite local cuisine (Subject to professor's availability)
- **Additional one-on-one sessions** with Maestro (Subject to professor's availability)
- **Transportation** services available upon request

ARTISTIC CAREER

- Performed at prestigious festivals and events under Maestro **Riccardo Muti**, including the **Salzburg Festival**, reopening of **Teatro La Fenice** (Venice), and **Festival of Saint Denis** (Paris)
- Featured in the reopening concert of **Teatro Petruzzelli** in Bari
- Performed at leading Italian theaters (**Teatro alla Scala**, **Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**, **Teatro dell'Opera**, **Teatro Carlo Felice**, **Teatro Massimo**) and international venues in Paris, Frankfurt, Tokyo, Seville, Geneva, Granada, Valladolid, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai
- Collaborated with renowned conductors (**Muti**, **Gatti**, **Conlon**, **Palumbo**) and prestigious directors (**Pizzi**, **Carsen**, **Kokkos**, **Krief**)
- Received media recognition including magazine covers (**Opera**, **Amadeus**) and acclaim from international publications (**The Times**, **Corriere della Sera**, **Repubblica**)
- Apart from **bel canto**, in recent years she has developed expertise in **baroque and contemporary repertoire**, with recent notable performances including Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*
- International recitals including performances at **Cairo** (programs dedicated to Dante and Gabriele D'Annunzio), **Vienna's** prestigious *Erbhar Saal* (2024), and **Hong Kong** for a Master in "Performing Art Management"



SARA ALLEGRETTA

Soprano

Sara Allegretta is a renowned soprano and vocal music educator with a distinguished career spanning performance, teaching, and cultural management. She holds advanced degrees in both music and economics, blending artistic excellence with strategic leadership in the arts.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- Professor of Vocal Chamber Music at the **Conservatory of Bari**
- Dedicated to nurturing the next generation of artists through masterclasses and workshops

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

- Artistic Director of the **Federiciana Symphony Orchestra**
- Member of the Board of Directors for the **Petruzzelli Theatre Foundation**



ARTISTIC CAREER

Early Career & Awards

- Began piano study at age **five** and won **first prize** in the prestigious national competition "ENAL" at La Spezia at age **ten** (1962)
- Won **first prize** in Italy's most important piano competition, Città di Treviso, at age twenty-one
- Received recognition as a prizewinner in the prestigious **Busoni** and **Chopin** competitions

Performance Career

- Performed as soloist throughout Italy and Europe, earning enthusiastic praise from renowned musicians including **Rostropovich**, **Ciccolini**, **Vasary**, and **Franco Ferrara**
- Established a significant chamber music career, particularly through his association with **cellist Michael Flaksman** since 1982
- Collaborated with distinguished musicians including **Nina Beilina**, **Ruggiero Ricci**, **Felix Ayo**, and ensembles such as the **Sebastian Quartett**, **Trio di Roma**, and **Quartetto di Cremona**
- Performed with renowned vocalists such as **Katia Ricciarelli**, **Mariella Devia**, and **Michele Pertusi** in lieder and operatic recitals
- Appeared at prestigious venues including **La Scala** in Milan, **Carnegie Hall** in New York, and the **Oriental Art Center** in Shanghai
- Performed **with orchestras** conducted by notable conductors including **Gabriele Ferro**, **Samuel Friedman**, and **Tamas Gal** in major Italian and European theaters
- Released **recordings** with Bongiovanni, Abegg, and Farelive featuring works by Chopin, Brahms, Franck, Grieg, Fauré, Scriabin, Tchaikovsky, and Mussorgsky, and rare composers like Van Westerhout, showcasing his versatility and dedication to **expanding the piano repertoire**



PIERLUIGI CAMICIA

Pianist

Pierluigi Camicia, a distinguished pianist from Apulia, Italy, has built an illustrious career as a performer, educator, and cultural leader. Recognized for his technical brilliance and profound musicality, he is a prize-winner of the **Busoni** and **Chopin** competitions and has performed on some of the world's most prestigious stages.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- Appointed professor at the Bari Conservatory at age 20, engaged by Maestro **Nino ROTA**
- Mentored notable pianists including **Benedetto Lupo**, prizewinner in the **Van Cliburn Piano Competition** through masterclasses and workshops
- Conducted Piano and Chamber-music Masterclasses internationally in **Europe** (Italy, Germany, Croatia, France, Poland), **Asia** (China and Japan), and the **USA**

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

- Artistic director of **Camerata Musicale Salentina** and "**OLES**" (Orchestra Sinfonica di Lecce e del Salento)
- Director of the **State Conservatory of Music "Tito Schipa"** in Lecce until 2013
- Directed the **Talos Jazz Festival** in Ruvo di Puglia (2002-2003), one of Italy's premier jazz festivals
- Co-founded the baroque orchestra "**La Lyra di Amphione**" in 1998



OLIVE VALE ACADEMY

VIOLIN & CHAMBER MUSIC

📍 Bari

ARTISTIC CAREER

3-7 September 2025

Education & Early Recognition

- Obtained diplomas in advanced Violin and Chamber Music at the prestigious **Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia** in Rome, studying with Felix Ayo and Riccardo Brengola
- Graduated with a scholarship from the Accademia Chigiana di Siena, studying with **Uto Ughi**
- Earned diploma of merit at the Courses of **Igor Oistrakh** and **Victor Pikaizen** in the Soviet Union

Performance Career & Recordings

- Maintains an intensive artistic schedule across **Europe**, the **United States**, **Canada**, **Mexico**, **China**, and **Korea** as a soloist and chamber musician
- Performed at renowned venues including the **Berliner Philharmonie**, where he debuted with the **Berliner Symphoniker** under the direction of Lior Shambadal
- Collaborated with distinguished artists including Felix Ayo, Uto Ughi, Katia Ricciarelli, Bruno Canino, and conductors such as Giuseppe Patanè, Gianandrea Gavazzeni, and Bruno Aprea
- Dedicated to premiering and recording works by contemporary composers
- **Recorded** for prestigious labels including RAI, Discoteca di Stato, Irish Far Western, Phoenix Classics, Tactus, Stradivarius, Rusty Records, and Brilliant Classics
- Notable recordings include sonatas by Tom Cullivan written specifically for him, **first world recording** of V. Mortari's works, **world premiere** of Raffaele Gervasio's compositions with Fondazione Orchestra Lucana,
- **Released solo projects** including "Recital" (Stradivarius), "Carmelo Andriani plays Bach and Ysaye" (Rusty Records), works by Michele Esposito (Brilliant Classics), and a tribute to Henri Vieuxtemps



CARMELO ANDRIANI

Violinist

Carmelo Andriani, born into a family of musicians in Bari, Italy, is celebrated as one of the most gifted Italian violinists of his generation. Renowned for his impeccable technique and expressive tone, he has captivated audiences worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician, and recording artist.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- **Professor at Conservatorio Niccolò Piccinni:** Andriani is a dedicated violin professor, nurturing the next generation of musicians at the prestigious conservatory in Bari.
- **International Masterclasses:** Regularly invited to teach masterclasses in Italy and abroad, he shares his expertise and passion for the violin with aspiring artists.

UNIQUE ARTISTIC VOICE

- **Vocal Influence:** Andriani credits his distinctive sound to the "Art of Singing," learned from his mother, which imbues his playing with a beautiful, old-generation tone
- **Instrument Collection:** He performs on a splendid 1942 Marino Capicchioni violin and a custom-made instrument by master luthier Angelo Andrulli



OLIVE VALE ACADEMY

CELLO & HISTORICALLY INFORMED PERFORMANCE & CHAMBER MUSIC

ARTISTIC CAREER

📍 Bari

8-12 September 2025

Cellist

- Principal cellist of the **RAI Orchestra in Rome** and the renowned chamber group "**I Musici**"
- Performed as a soloist in prestigious venues worldwide, including **Vienna, London, Paris, New York, and Tokyo**
- **Recordings:** Bach's Sonatas and Partitas for Violin on cello, a pioneering achievement based on an 18th-century transcription. Released critically acclaimed albums, including Bach's Six Suites for Cello Solo
- Collaborated with artists like Heinz Holliger, earning acclaim for his expressive and technically masterful performances.

Conductor and HIP Specialist

- Founded and conducted the baroque orchestra "**La Lyra di Anfione**", specializing in period instrument performances
- **Conducted** Bach's Mass in B minor and Pasquale Cafaro's Stabat Mater with "**La Lyra di Anfione**", earning praise for his authentic and emotionally resonant interpretations
- Led acclaimed productions of Dido and Aeneas by Purcell and La Cecchina by Piccinni, showcasing his deep understanding of **baroque style** and performance practices
- Recorded Sammartini's flute concertos with the Benedetto Marcello Orchestra of Teramo, highlighting his expertise in 18th-century repertoire
- Conducted Tosca and La Traviata at **Teatro Petruzzelli**, earning praise for his innovative interpretations

Composer

- Has composed and arranged works that blend tradition with innovation, earning recognition for his creative contributions to the classical repertoire



VITO PATERNOSTER

Cellist | HIP Specialist

Vito Paternoster is a multifaceted musician celebrated for his contributions as a cellist, conductor, composer, and specialist in Historically Informed Performance (HIP). A protégé of **Nino Rota**, he made his debut at just 15 years old and has since become a leading figure in classical and baroque music.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- **Professor at Bari Conservatory:** Mentored numerous students, many of whom have become notable cellists.
- **Educational Contributions:** Known for his dedication to nurturing young talent and promoting historically informed

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

- Co-founded the baroque orchestra "**La Lyra di Amphione**" in 1998
- Animates small **opera seasons** in Palese Macchie, experimenting with chamber adaptations of classic operas



Alberobello – The Fairytale Trulli Town

UNESCO-Listed Trulli Houses – Wander through the iconic whitewashed, cone-roofed trulli, a unique architectural wonder found nowhere else in the world.

Rione Monti District – Explore this picturesque neighborhood with over 1,000 trulli, now housing artisan shops, cafés, and small museums.

Trullo Sovrano – Visit the only two-story trullo, now a museum showcasing traditional Puglian life.

Local Craftsmanship – Discover handmade ceramics, olive wood products, and lace in quaint trulli boutiques.

Alberobello's Panoramic Views – Climb to the Belvedere Santa Lucia for stunning views over the sea of trulli rooftops.

Polignano a Mare – The Cliffside Gem

Dramatic Coastal Views – Walk along the cliffs for breathtaking vistas of the Adriatic Sea, especially from Terrazza Santo Stefano and Lama Monachile (the famous pebble beach).

Historic Old Town (Centro Storico) – Stroll through narrow white alleys, flower-filled balconies, and charming piazzas like Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II.

Grotta Palazzese (View Only) – While the famous cave restaurant is pricey, you can admire the stunning sea cave from above for free.

Street Art & Poetry – Polignano is known for its poetic murals and the Domenico Modugno statue, celebrating the singer of "Volare".

Gelato & Local Cuisine – Try artisanal gelato (like at Gusto Caruso) or Puglian specialties like focaccia, orecchiette, and fresh seafood.

Alberobello





The City of Caves

UNESCO Wonder – Ancient cave city carved into limestone cliffs. A unique urban landscape unlike anywhere else.

Living History – Continuously inhabited for over 9,000 years. Walk through streets that breathe ancient stories.

Cinematic Backdrop – Featured in Hollywood films like James Bond (No Time to Die), The Passion of the Christ, and Wonder Woman.

Rock-Hewn Churches – Explore extraordinary Byzantine churches carved directly into stone. Remarkable medieval frescoes await.

Panoramic Views – From Belvedere Luigi Guerricchio to Convento di Sant'Agostino, the city offers cliffside vistas over the Sassi's sea of stone rooftops and ravines.

Underground Adventures – Descend into Palombaro Lungo, a colossal underground cistern, or explore hidden tunnels beneath the city—Matera's secret subterranean world.

Authentic Lucanian Flavors – Savor Pane di Matera (cave-aged bread), peperoni cruschi (crispy sun-dried peppers), and robust Aglianico wine—a cuisine shaped by the land itself.

Artisan Crafts – Discover local workshops preserving ancient traditions of ceramics, weaving, and stone carving.

Cultural Renaissance – Once a symbol of poverty, Matera's rebirth earned it European Capital of Culture 2019.

Unforgettable Experience – More than a destination, Matera captures the soul of Southern Italy — where history isn't just preserved, it's lived in.





OLIVE VALE ACADEMY

TRANI & CASTEL DELMONTE

Trani: The Pearl of the Adriatic

Medieval Masterpiece – Stunning Romanesque cathedral rising directly from the sea. A breathtaking architectural jewel of southern Italy.

Historic Harbor – Picturesque marina with elegant white boats and historic fishing traditions. Perfect blend of maritime charm and historic beauty.

Jewish Heritage – Explore the ancient synagogues and Jewish Quarter. A profound cultural journey through centuries of multicultural history.

Coastal Elegance – Walk along pristine seafront promenades. Enjoy stunning views of the Adriatic and the city's elegant architecture.

Seafood Paradise – Taste exceptional fresh seafood and local Puglian wines. Renowned culinary destination with authentic Mediterranean flavors.

Castel del Monte: The Geometric Wonder

Architectural Marvel – UNESCO World Heritage octagonal castle. Frederick II's mysterious and mathematically perfect fortress.

Historical Enigma – A castle defying traditional medieval design. Blend of mathematical precision, astronomical symbolism, and architectural genius.

Breathtaking Views – Panoramic landscape views from the highest point in the region. Stunning vistas of Puglia's countryside.

Art and History – Museum showcasing medieval artifacts, royal history, and architectural innovations of the Holy Roman Empire.

Photographic Dream – Iconic silhouette that captures imagination. One of the most photographed monuments in Southern Italy.

Trani



Castel del Monte

The Baroque Jewel of Puglia

Baroque Architectural Wonderland – Nicknamed the "Florence of the South," Lecce showcases extraordinary Baroque architecture. Ornate churches and palaces feature mind-blowing stone carvings that seem to breathe with life.

Magic of Pietra Leccese – Discover the unique soft limestone allowing artisans to create delicate architectural decorations. Each building tells a story carved in exquisite stone.

Roman Amphitheatre – Explore the remarkable ancient Roman amphitheatre hidden in the city center, a direct window into Lecce's antique roots.

Papier-Mâché Artistry – Witness the centuries-old craft of cartapesta, with workshops revealing how artisans transform paper into intricate religious and cultural sculptures.

Culinary Paradise – Indulge in Salento's gastronomic traditions. Savor Caffè Leccese (iced espresso with almond syrup), pasticciotto pastries, rustico Leccese (savory pastry). Try Ciceri e Tria (fried pasta with chickpeas) with exceptional local wines and fresh seafood.

Santa Croce Basilica – Marvel at the most spectacular Baroque church, featuring a facade filled with mythological creatures and intricate architectural fantasies.

Historic City Center – Wander through a living museum of narrow streets, hidden courtyards, and magnificent piazzas. Each corner reveals an architectural surprise.

Castles and Fortifications – Explore the region's defensive architecture, including the Castle of Charles V and historic fortresses that tell stories of medieval protection.

Underground Lecce – Discover the hidden underground world with ancient crypts, chambers, and archaeological sites revealing layers of the city's complex history.

Living Craft Traditions – Explore workshops preserving ancient crafts like ceramics, weaving, and traditional bookbinding, capturing the city's artisan soul.



Lecce



OLIVE VALE ACADEMY

Masterclasses & Cultural Journeys

FEES

800€ Active Participation (soloist)

550€ Active Participation (duo member)

450€ Active Participation (trio member & more)

200€ Passive Participation (parent/guardian etc.)

ORGANIZED BY:



Associazione culturale

✦ Mira & Arte



miraetarte@gmail.com

IN PARTNERSHIP



Solidarieta'
Per La Pace

Register here



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