

themusicretreatofficial@gmail.com

The Music Retreat

The Music Retreat
Sicily Piano Masterclass
Edition II

17 – 23 August 2026



A Journey of Music, Culture and Inspiration



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"Music is the purest expression of the soul; through it, the heart speaks without the need for words."

- Vincenzo Bellini

Following the success of our inaugural edition and strong demand for its return, The Music Retreat Sicily Piano Masterclass Second Edition welcomes pianists back to the inspiring landscape of Sicily for an immersive week of artistic refinement, personalised tuition, and holistic musical growth.

Designed for intermediate to advanced pianists, the masterclass offers a focused and supportive environment in which the piano becomes a vessel for discovery, expression, and artistic transformation. Participants will refine technique, deepen interpretative insight, and develop confidence in performance.

This Second Edition is guided by two internationally respected pianists and pedagogues, Petras Geniušas and Peter Pažický, providing personalised instruction, rich musical dialogue, and complementary artistic perspectives. New to this edition is an expanded faculty, increased individual tuition, and a more refined integration of musical work and reflective practice.

Beyond the piano, the retreat embraces a holistic approach to performance and wellbeing. Evening Pilates sessions support physical alignment, breath awareness, and mental focus, essential foundations for sustainable musicianship and artistic freedom.

Set within Sicily's rich cultural and historical landscape, the retreat offers a rare opportunity for both artistic growth and personal renewal. This harmonious blend of music, body, and place ensures a deeply rewarding and memorable experience.

The Music Retreat - Where Music, Body and Soul Unite in Harmony



Petras Geniušas

Petras Geniušas is one of Lithuania's most prominent and versatile pianists, internationally recognised for his mastery of classical, romantic and contemporary repertoire. His artistry is defined by expressive depth, refined sound and a natural curiosity that allows him to move fluently between solo, chamber and concerto repertoire, as well as theatre, jazz and crossover projects.

He graduated from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, where he studied under Professor Vera Gornostaeva. His international reputation was confirmed early on through major competition successes, including first prizes at the Y.C.A.A. International Piano Competition in 1991 and the Palm Beach Invitational International Piano Competition in 1992.

Geniušas has performed in over forty countries, appearing at major concert venues such as Vienna's Musikverein and New York's Lincoln Center. Alongside his performing career, he is a highly respected pedagogue and currently serves as a professor at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre and at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

His artistic achievements have been recognised with numerous honours, including the Lithuanian National Award, the Ministry of Culture medal "Bring Your Light and Believe," and the Order of the Grand Duke Gediminas.



Peter Pažický

Peter Pažický is a renowned Slovak pianist and piano teacher with a broad repertoire spanning all stylistic periods, including contemporary music. Alongside his solo work, he is a highly sought after piano partner for singers and chamber musicians.

He studied with Darina Švára and Prof. Marián Lapšanský at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava and continued his artistic development through masterclasses with Halina Czerny Stefańska, Eugen Indjic, and Lazar Berman. He participated in the 13th Chopin International Competition in Warsaw in 1990.

Pažický has received numerous awards at Slovak and Czech piano competitions, including the Slovak Conservatory Competition, the Smetana Competition, and the Chopin Competition in the Czech Republic. As a member of the Slovak Piano Duo, he won multiple first prizes at international competitions, including the Schubert Competition for Piano Duos in Jeseník, "Città di Marsala", and the Premio Valentino Bucchi Competition.

He has performed widely across Slovakia and Europe, as well as internationally at EXPO Shanghai and on multiple tours of Japan. He has collaborated with leading Slovak and Czech orchestras and recorded for Chandos with the Safri Duo, as well as major Slovak record labels. He is currently a piano teacher at the Conservatory in Bratislava and Associate Professor at the Academy of Arts in Banská Bystrica.

Testimonials

“In the medieval castle of Giuliana, guided by Professor Petras Geniušas, every day felt like a fairytale — music, laughter, friendship, and discovery.

During the Gala Concert, as I looked across the Sicilian valley, I made a wish to return the following year. A piece of my heart remained there.”

“A piece of my heart remained there.”



“The teachers were of the highest level, and the progress I noticed over the course of the week was truly remarkable.

It was inspiring to exchange musical ideas with both teachers and students, and to feel so supported throughout the masterclasses.

Beyond the music, it was a deeply human experience — full of connection, generosity, and shared moments that made the week unforgettable.”



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The Music Retreat Package: £1,300

Includes:

- Individual and group piano masterclasses
- Sunset Pilates sessions
- 7 nights accommodation in a traditional Sicilian house (single or double rooms)
- Optional curated cultural excursion
- Gala concert in the castle courtyard
- Transfers between Palermo Airport and Giuliana (arrival and departure)

Arrival - Sunday 16 August

- Transfer from Palermo to Giuliana

Accommodation

- 7 nights in a traditional Sicilian house (comfortable single and double rooms)

Pilates - Monday, Wednesday, Friday

- Sunset sessions supporting alignment, breath, and focus

Masterclasses - Monday to Friday

- Individual tuition, technique development, repertoire coaching and performance classes

Cultural Trip - Thursday (optional add-on)

- Curated cultural exploration of Sicily and its traditions

Concert & Celebration - Saturday

- Gala Concert in the Castle Courtyard

Departure - Sunday 23 August

- Transfer to Palermo Airport

Meals are not included and are paid individually by participants.



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Contact Us!

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