



**CASA DELLA MUSICA  
SAN MICHELE**

**Guitar Masterclass**

**Guitar and Composition Workshop**

**ELENA CASOLI, GIORGIO COLOMBO TACCANI**

**01.06/05.06.2022**



## **The masterclass**

The Guitar Masterclass is aimed at young guitarists interested in exploring the repertoire of the 20th and 21st centuries and experimenting directly with new techniques and scores. The Masterclass will include the presentation of some important works of the contemporary repertoire, working through individual lessons and moments of common reflection on one's own repertoire. An integral part of the Masterclass will be a Guitar Interpretation Workshop of new compositions for solo guitar curated by Elena Casoli and composer Giorgio Colombo Taccani. The aim of the Workshop is to work closely with the composers participating in the same Workshop and in the Masterclass held by Giorgio Colombo Taccani, developing together new works for guitar composed by the participants in the Masterclass, but also focusing on common moments of reflection and investigation. Under the guidance of the teachers, the relationship between composer and performer will be examined, as well as the relationship between sign and interpretation, or other topics that may interest the participants, in an atmosphere of dialogue and transversal interaction, working on the development of new pieces for guitar.

The organisation of the course includes a selection process, after which pairs of guitarists and composers will be formed. Each composer enrolled in the course will write a piece for solo guitar, entrusted to each guitarist; the organisation will then put each composer in contact with a guitarist to exchange drafts and ideas, so that the piece can be finalised in a profitable manner during the Masterclass. During the five days of the course it will be possible to work not only on an in-depth study of the repertoire of the 20th and 21st centuries, but also to have the opportunity to collaborate with a composer in the creation of a new work for guitar, following the path from the commission to the first public performance, in a concert to be held during the last day of the Masterclass by Foresty International Music Festival.

A live recording (audio and video) of the concert will be made, which will be given to each composer and guitarist and (by prior agreement with them), published on the social pages and website of CdM San Michele and Foresty International Music Festival. In case you would like to make further recordings at CdM, see the "After Masterclass" section.

The residency at Casa San Michele and in the neighbouring village (Montaldeo) will offer the possibility to share ideas and experiences of our artistic activity also in our free time.

## **Elena Càsoli: 'Artistic experience and teaching experience'.**

I play an instrument that is currently experiencing one of the happiest moments in its long history. An instrument that has been able to evolve, adapting its structure and timbre to the changes in musical thought, to the point of finding in this century an extraordinary multiplicity of forms and expressions. An instrument that has preserved its expressive identity, amplifying it without distorting it.

This is the guitar in my artistic work: classical, acoustic, amplified, electric, a single expressive medium that encompasses the possibility of bringing together musical thoughts far apart in space and time.

In my work over the years, I have consolidated a special relationship with the repertoire: on the one hand, the passionate study of works from the past, and on the other, the search for the new, the newly written, and the invitation to write addressed to composers, for the pleasure of playing new music for the first time.

For me, **transferring this into my teaching experience** means trying to establish contact between the student and this new repertoire, offering the possibility of exploring new acoustic, timbre and expressive potentialities of the guitar, a "resonant object" open to experimentation and invention.

Collaborating with composers has led me to observe the guitar from different points of view, developing techniques and sonorities that are new to me, and to the awareness that I can play a new guitar at every first performance.



See has appeared at international festivals as a soloist (Melbourne Festival, Hamburg Festspiel, New Music Prague, Biennale Venezia, Dresdner Musikfestspiel, Singapore Int. Guitar Festival, MilanoMusica, Uppsala Int. Festival, Shanghai-Concert Hall) with symphony orchestras (Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra RAI, NDR Radiophilharmonie), with ensembles (Divertimento Ensemble, Ensemble Modern, Sentieri Selvaggi) and with computer music studios.

She has recorded for RivoAlto, Dabringhaus&Grimm, Larecords, BMG Ricordi, Victor Japan, Col Legno, Velut Luna, Stradivarius, Scandicus.

Videos and dvd for Vortice/Spi, Gog/DIST Genova, LimenMusic, Musik Syd Channel Sweden, Nomus, Al Gran Sole (D. Scarlatti (2006), Nelle Corde di Elena (2009), J. S. Bach (2010), Gesualdo da Venosa (2015), El Cimarrón by H. W. Henze (2021).

In 2019 she released for Stradivarius **Solare**, a CD dedicated to Fausto Romitelli's guitar music.

In 2016 and 2018 she collaborated with the Giorgio Cini Foundation in Venice as a teacher and performer in the **Research-Led Performance project**.

In 2021 she was a guest speaker and performer at the **21st Century Guitar Conference** organised by NOVA University in Lisbon.

She gives masterclasses in Europe, South America and China, such as at the Shanghai Concert Hall, the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá and the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki.

Since 2002 she has been teaching Guitar, Chamber Music and Interpretation of Contemporary Music at the **Hochschule der Künste in Bern**.

## Giorgio Colombo Taccani



Giorgio Colombo Taccani (1961) completed his classical studies, graduating in Modern Literature at the State University of Milan with a thesis on Bruno Maderna's *Hyperion*, which in 1993 was awarded the "Missiroli Prize" by the City of Bergamo on the occasion of a conference on post-war Italian musical theatre.

At the same time he studied music, graduating in Piano and Composition at the Conservatorio "G. Verdi" in Milan with Pippo Molino and Azio Corghi, and later obtaining a Diploma in the advanced course in Composition held by Franco Donatoni at the Accademia di Santa Cecilia in Rome, where he was awarded a S.I.A.E. scholarship.

He also attended masterclasses with Azio Corghi and György Ligeti and was selected for the 1995 IRCAM workshop on computer music.

His compositions have won awards in national and international competitions, are regularly performed all over the world, broadcast by radio stations and since 1989 have been published by Edizioni Suvini Zerboni in Milan.

From 1991 to 2001 he worked on electronic music at the AGON studio in Milan.

From 1992 to 1999 he taught composition at the Civica Scuola di Musica in Milan.

From 2005 to 2017 he collaborated with the Conducting course for the contemporary repertoire held first by Giorgio Bernasconi and then by Arturo Tamayo at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano.

Since 1999 he has been teaching composition at the Conservatorio "G. Verdi" in Turin.

# REGULATIONS

## **The course**

Attendance as a full student costs €250; free access for auditors (subject to availability). The cost includes the lessons, the possibility to attend all the lessons and/or seminars that will be held during the course, the performance and recording of the pieces presented during the masterclass. Lessons begin on 01/06/2022 and end on 05/06/2022 (total n. 5 effective days). Lesson times will be communicated at the beginning of the course; study spaces will be available whose times will be self-managed by the students; the use of the main rooms for rehearsals and study will be coordinated with the activities taking place. At the end of the experience, certificates of participation authenticated by the teacher and the organisation will be handed out. The course will be held in Italian and/or English. Lessons will be held at CDM's premises.

## **Concerts**

Participation in the course includes a performance of the guitar pieces presented for the workshop (at the discretion of the teachers), with a concert as part of the [Foresty International Music Festival](#); a live recording of the concert is also provided free of charge for participants; for any other recordings, see the "After Masterclass" section below.

## **Room and Board**

Casa San Michele offers accommodation in conventioned structures (flats) in the village of Montaldeo (AL) at the cost of €40 per day (total n. 5 effective days). If necessary, the structure is available to those who wish to stay the night before or after the beginning and the end of the course (upon reservation) at an additional cost of €25 per night. The cost includes overnight stay in a double or triple room with private bathroom and dinner (the latter at the CDM facility), served in the dining room or in the garden; it is recommended to indicate any food allergies on the registration form. Water is always available in the common area of CDM; other consumptions will be considered extra. The lunch break is free: two conventioned restaurants and a grocery shop are within easy walking distance, so you can choose from sandwiches to traditional dishes. The cost of lunch is not included in the cost; the use of the SPA is also included, limited to the times agreed on the occasion of the course and in accordance with current regulations. Rubber slippers (non-slip) and a swimming costume are compulsory for use of the SPA.

The balance of any extras can also be paid on the spot by credit or debit card or bank transfer.

Please note that in the village of Montaldeo there are no tobacconists, pharmacies or ATMs; all the necessary services can be easily reached by car in the neighbouring villages.

## **How to reach us**

The nearest railway stations are Ovada, Novi Ligure, Arquata Scrivia; a transfer service is available from the arrival station to Montaldeo at a cost of €15. The nearest airports are Turin, Milan, Genoa, with respective train connections. For those travelling by car, Google Maps shows the exact location by searching for "Casa San Michele Montaldeo"; the nearest motorway exits are Ovada (A26), Novi Ligure (A26), Arquata Scrivia (A7).

## **Registration and fees**

From the opening date of registration you can fill in and send the form (complete with privacy policy and image release form) to [\*\*masterclasscdm@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:masterclasscdm@gmail.com).

Together with the completed form, you are requested to send your CV, 1 or 2 recordings (soundcloud links, vimeo, youtube, personal website or similar); further materials are optional. Please also attach a short motivational letter explaining your reasons for enrolling in the course.

### **Deadline for registration is 25 March 2022.**

By 31 March the selection of participants for the masterclass will be communicated; you will receive an email with a summary of the data and details of the payment, which must be made by bank transfer. Within a week after receiving the email you will have to pay the first instalment (€150). With the payment of the first instalment you confirm your enrolment in the course. The second instalment (€100) can be paid by 7 May. You can choose whether to pay the whole stay together with the second instalment, or to pay 50% with the second instalment and pay the remaining 50% on arrival. Accommodation costs are €40 per day for the days of the course (total €200), €25 for each additional night before or after the course.

## **After Masterclass**

On the two days immediately following the end of the course, it will be possible to stay at CdM San Michele to make **recordings at a special price**. For more information, please write to [\*\*cdmsanmichele@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:cdmsanmichele@gmail.com)

## **Cancellation**

Registration fees, net of bank charges, will not be refunded under any circumstances, except in the event of cancellation of a course due to force majeure or failure to reach a minimum number of participants. The accommodation fee, net of bank charges, is refundable in the event of cancellation by the participant.

## **Covid-19 regulations**

CdM San Michele, in addition to taking all possible precautions and necessary equipment on site to prevent contagion and to comply with current regulations, will communicate after the registration the protocol to be followed for a course and a stay as safe as possible.

## APPLICATION FORM

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Code \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Place of residence \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code/Country \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a copy of your **identity document** and **curriculum vitae** to be sent to [masterclasscdm@gmail.com](mailto:masterclasscdm@gmail.com).

You will receive an email with a summary and details of the payment, which must be made by bank transfer. Together with the completion of the registration you will also receive the model for the privacy protection and release for the recording of photographic material / video. In the event of a large number of registrations, **candidates will be selected on the basis of the submitted materials, at the discretion of the teachers.**

**Proposed Pieces** (Composer, Title, Duration):

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Food Allergies:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Healthcare/Ethical/Religious Diets:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Food Intolerances:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Disliked ingredients:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

date \_\_\_\_\_

signature \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you find out about the course?**

Social Media

Google/website

Personal contact of the professor

Personal contact of the organisation

International web platforms

Other: \_\_\_\_\_