

CONTEMPORANEA AGORÀ

Twenty-fourth edition

From the 9th to the 24th of October



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contemporanea Agorà is back. The music composer Stefano Gervasoni will be the guest of honour for one of the most fascinating festival of *recherche musicale* in the Italian musical landscape.

The XXIV edition will be held in Udine, from the 9th to the 24th of October. It will include 8 events and the announcement of the results of the contest which saw the participation of 455 composers from 49 different countries.

Contemporanea Agorà never stopped, and now it is back with a program packed with prominent names from the world of international experimental music. The experimental music festival is organised by Associazione Culturale Delta Produzioni, supported by Regione Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Udine City Council and Fondazione Friuli, with the patronage of the European Commission, UNESCO, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Udine. It will be held in **Udine and other cities in Friuli-Venezia Giulia from the 9th to the 24th of October.**

As well as Gervasoni, a leading name in the modern international field of composition, the program also includes the performance of the works that have won the thirteenth edition of the international composition contest “Città di Udine”, artistic installations, conferences, electroacoustic streaming and several solo performances, with performances by the guitarist Sergio Sorrentino and the percussionist Simone Beneventi and Roberto Dani

Reservations on www.taukay.it or by sending an e-mail to: contemporanea.udine@gmail.com

THE PROGRAMME

The 24th edition of “Contemporanea” will start on the **9th of October** with a special event dedicated to the electric guitar. In **Udine, at the San Giorgio theatre**, starting from **9 pm** the public is invited to enjoy the presentation of **Sergio Sorrentino**’s music project “**Electric**”.

The artist, a prominent name of the electric guitar solo scene, shifts between his activity as a performer of contemporary classical music (which is often dedicated to him) and his activity with experimental music, as an improviser and sound artist. His collaborations with leading international contemporary musicians have been many and illustrious.

The performance will include compositions by Azio Corghi, Alvin Curran, Nick Didkovsky, Bryce Dessner, Morton Feldman, John King, Steve Reich, Sergio Sorrentino and Van Stiefel.

The evening of the **10th of October, at the San Giorgio theatre, starting at 9 pm**, will see the event “Dialoghi e suoni” (Dialogue and sounds), which has enjoyed great success in previous editions of the festival.

The internationally recognised composer **Stefano Gervasoni** (who is currently teaching as composition professor at the Conservatoire de Paris) will be present and, through an interview with Professor

Michele Biasuti, he will offer his thoughts to the audience about the most salient aspects of his musical career.

The interview will be followed by the performance of some of his most recent compositions, performed by the German soprano Sophie Klussman and the pianist Aldo Orvieto. The sound director will be Alvise Vidolin, a pioneer of Italian electroacoustic music.

On **Sunday, 11 October, starting at 6 pm** at the **San Giorgio theatre**, Professor **Susanne Kogler**, lecturer at the Karl Franzens Universität in Graz, will hold a conference on “Listening and arts in the 20th Century” (Das hören und die Kunst im 20. Jahrhundert). The event has been organised in collaboration with the University of Graz.

On the **same day**, starting at **8 pm**, the **San Giorgio theatre** will become a musical box. It will be possible to listen to “SONUS”, a quadrasonic music installation inspired by Louis of Teck’s Antiphony. The sound research, combined with images of the *codex* from the 14th century, is the result of the dedicated work of the musical research group “**Suono - Spazio**”, an organisation recently founded in order to deepen the study of the interactions between sound and architectural spaces within which silences could become a parallel “architecture”.

The installation will be followed by the presentation, in collaboration with **Kinoatelj**, of *d’auteur* videos that were selected within the project “Omaggio a una visione” (Homage to a vision). In particular, short films from the **Primi Voli / Prvi Poleti / First Crossings** selection will be presented. This part of the project is dedicated to the development of new film languages and this year it focused particularly on the role of sound and music in films.

Acusmatica is the title of the streaming performance that will be available starting from the **13th of October at 9 pm** on the **TEM - Taukay Edizioni Musicali website (taukay.it)**. The exhibition will focus on electroacoustic material, originating primarily from various international calls for works organised recently that have involved thousands of composers from all over the world. The programme includes compositions made by Michele Biasutti (Italy), Rocío Cano Valiño (Argentina), Riccardo Dapelo (Italy), David Holland (UK), Filippo Mereu (Italy), Eduardo Palacio (Mexico).

The evening of the **17th of October, at 9 pm, at the Udine San Giorgio theatre**, as always, will be dedicated to the performance of the compositions that have won the 13th edition of the international composition contest “Città di Udine”. The initiative, to which 455 people from 49 different countries participated, is sponsored and supported by major institutions, both private and public, and the media partners include Rai Radio3.

The instrumental ensemble **Mikrokosmos** will be the protagonist of the evening. For the occasion, the award ceremony of the contest will be held in the presence of representatives of illustrious public and private institutions. The event will be recorded with the intention to make an album out of it.

The programme includes works by Alessandra Bellino (Italy), Hakki Cengiz Eren (Turkey), Carlos Nuñez Medina (Spain), João Pedro Oliveira (Portugal), Lina Posėchnaitė (Lithuania), Simone Scarazza (Italy) and Davor Branimir Vincze (Croatia).

The last event held in Udine will be on the **18th October, starting at 9 pm**.

The percussionist and performer **Simone Beneventi**, winner of the Silver Lion at the Biennale music festival in 2010 and protagonist of various partnerships with important avant-garde composers from all over the world, will perform **Cantico Eterno** (Eternal canticle), a concert for which unusual percussion, in name and substance, will be used: ancient gongs, and mechanisms and contraptions for an evocative auditory and visual experience.

The programme includes compositions by Mario Bertoncini, Luigi Ceccarelli, Alexander Knaifel and Thomas Meadowcroft.

On the **24th October**, thanks to the collaboration with the “Salotto Musicale FVG”, the festival will move to Fagagna at Palazzo Pico. The percussionist **Roberto Dani** will be on stage with the performance “Solo” for drums. His research, focused on the border between improvisation and preparation, will examine the relationship between sound, body and space.

The musicologist Carlo Boccadoro said about Dani: “Between pure composition and improvisation, Dani stands out in the international landscapes as one of the most extraordinary musicians active today, he is the author of performances that involve mind, body and sound in a union of incredible expressive power.

Venerdì 9 ottobre 2020, ore 21.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

ELECTRIC

Sergio Sorrentino, chitarra elettrica

Sabato 10 ottobre 2020, ore 21.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

DIALOGHI E SUONI

Incontro con Stefano Gervasoni e Michele Biasutti

Sophie Klusmann, soprano

Aldo Orvieto, pianoforte

Alvise Vidolin, regia sonora e live electronics

Domenica 11 ottobre 2020, ore 18.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

L'ASCOLTO E LE ARTI NEL XX SECOLO

Das Hören und die Kunst im 20. Jahrhundert

a cura della prof. Susanne Kogler

Domenica 11 ottobre 2020, dalle ore 20.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

SONUS

A cura del gruppo di ricerca musicale “Suono – Spazio”

Installazione sonora quadrifonica

OMAGGIO A UNA VISIONE

Primi Voli / Prvi Poleti / First Crossings

a cura di Kinoateljje

Martedì 13 ottobre 2020, dalle ore 21.00 – Streaming su www.taukay.it

ACUSMATICA

Performance di opere elettroacustiche

a cura di Vittorio Vella

Sabato 17 ottobre 2020, ore 21.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

MIKROKOSMOS

Esecuzione delle opere vincitrici della tredicesima edizione del concorso internazionale di composizione “Città di Udine”

Domenica 18 ottobre 2020, ore 21.00 – Teatro San Giorgio – Udine

CANTICO ETERNO

Simone Beneventi, percussioni

Sabato 24 ottobre 2020, ore 21.00 – Palazzo Pico – Fagagna

SOLO

Roberto Dani, percussioni

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