

FIRST LEVEL MASTER IN RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE EXECUTIVE PRACTICE OF ITALIAN MUSIC FOR HISTORICAL KEYBOARDS: ORGAN AND HARPSICHORD

One-year Master degree in Performance Practices of Italian Renaissance and Baroque music for historical Keyboards: Organ and Harpsichord.

PRESENTATION

The master's course aims to provide professional musicians in the performance of the Italian Renaissance and Baroque repertoire for historical keyboards instruments: organ and harpsichord.

This programme of studies, of theoretical-practical nature, will allow the acquisition of philological, historical, and performing skills, in close disciplinary interrelation, which allow a conscious, original and in-depth performing approach to the Italian repertoire, both as soloist and instrumentalist.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLETS

The Master's degree, meeting the demands for specific professional skills coming from the working music world, aims to train students who intend, facing the Italian repertoire of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, to specialise both as a soloist and an instrumentalist.

The board of the Master is composed as follow:

- Ivana Valotti (professor of organ at the Conservatory in Milan)
- Alberto Grazzi (professor of Baroque bassoon and early music ensemble at the Conservatory in Milan)
- Anelide Nascimbene (Professor of History of early music at the Conservatory in Milan)
- Fabio Bonizzoni (Professor of harpsichord at the Conservatory in Novara)
- Giovanni Acciai (Professor of music palaeography at the Conservatory in Milan)
- Enrico Viccardi (Professor of organ at the Conservatory in Parma)
- Walter Chinaglia (renowned expert for building historically-informed pipe organs and harpsichords)

The lessons will take place during the academic year 2025-2026, two weekends a month starting from January 2026 (Friday afternoon-Sunday morning), with a ten-day intensive stage during the summer period aimed at preparing the final text.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Students in possession of the following qualifications may apply for admission:

- first-level academic diploma in Organ
- first-level academic diploma in Harpsichord
- second-level academic diploma or diploma relating to the system prior to the law 508/99) in Organ
- second-level academic diploma or diploma relating to the system prior to the law 508/99) in Harpsichord
- qualification also obtained at a foreign institution deemed to be equivalent

Admission exam: free programme (maximum duration 15 minutes) to be performed on organ or harpsichord.

The Master will be activated when the minimum total number of 5 students is reached.

Open enrollment from September 8, 2025 to October 20, 2025

Link for enrollment

<https://siami.conservatoriodimusica.it/preselections/add>

The enrollment fee for the Master's course is set at € 56,04

The attendance fee for the Master's course is set at € 2.400,00

STUDY PLAN

- Performance praxis and repertoire of Italian Renaissance and Baroque music for organ (18 h), 9 CFA, exam.
- Renaissance and Baroque treatises inherent to «a good manner for organ registration» on Italian Renaissance and Baroque organs. (12 h), 1 CFA, eligibility.
- Literature of the instruments: «the keyboard works by Girolamo Frescobaldi». (18 h), 2 CFA, eligibility.
- Organ practice of basso continuo (12 h), 2 CFA, exam.
- Modal theory and solmization practice (36 h), 3 CFA, eligibility.
- History of forms and repertoires: «Sonata and Concerto in the Baroque era» (24 h), 2 CFA, exam.

- History of musical notation: «mensural notation and practice of tablature» (42 h), 3 CFA, exam.
- Temperaments and tuning workshop (30 h), 2 CFA, eligibility.
- Performance praxis and repertoire of Italian Renaissance and Baroque music for harpsichord (18 h), 9 CFA, exam.
- Harpsichord practice of basso continuo (12 h), 2 CFA, exam.
- Ensemble music for voices and ancient instruments (36 h), 3 CFA, exam.
- Masterclass for early music instrumental ensemble (12 h), 1 CFA, eligibility.
- Seminar: «Historical improvisation for keyboard instruments» (30 h), 2 CFA, eligibility.
- Conferences and laboratories, workshops (60 h), 3 CFA, eligibility.
- Stage, internships 10 CFA
- Final text: 6 CFA

FINAL TEXT

Performance text of approximate 40 minutes to be performed partly on organ, partly on harpsichord

More information:

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