



FONDAZIONE  
MASCARADE  
OPERA

MASCARADE OPERA APPLICATION AND AUDITION PROCESS

# APPLYING AND AUDITIONING FOR MASCARADE OPERA 2024/26

Online applications to Mascarade Opera 2024/26 are now open on Yaptracker until 4 December 2023.

Live auditions will be held in Florence in late February 2024.

Applications are welcomed from artists of exceptional talent at the initial stages of their career.

If shortlisted, you will be contacted with a date for a live audition.



HOW TO APPLY



## APPLYING TO AUDITION

Mascarade Opera welcomes artists from all backgrounds and nations. We recognise the benefits that a variety of experiences and cultural contexts bring to an individual's performances and the group's interactions as a whole. Artists receive a stipend equivalent to entry level salaries in the profession.

We ask any artist who is interested in applying to the programme but concerned about any barrier they might face in taking up a position to please get in touch with us as early as possible to discuss how we can help. We firmly believe that exceptional talent should be developed, wherever it is found.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are welcomed from artists of exceptional talent at the initial stages of their career.

It is expected that most applicants will have completed postgraduate conservatoire or equivalent training, have significant performance experience and have a track record of excellence.

We welcome applications from artists of all backgrounds and are available to discuss any questions or requirements to support you in applying.

# STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Mascarade Opera offers a two-year elite training and performance programme for exceptionally talented singers and repetiteurs at the beginning of their career.

The programme runs in collaboration with partner houses in Europe.

Artists receive a stipend equivalent to entry level salaries in the profession.



# FAQ

## WHO CAN APPLY?

Applicants for the programme are accepted from all countries and all nationalities. We recognise that people follow a variety of paths to a classical singing career, however **the upper age limit for applicants is 30**. Applicants are expected to have already completed conservatoire or a similar level of training, and/or to have significant performance experience and a proven track record of excellence.

## DO APPLICANTS NEED PERMISSION TO WORK/STUDY IN THE EU TO APPLY?

There is no obligation to have permission to work or study in the EU prior to applying for the programme. If non-EEA applicants are offered a place on the programme, it is the candidate's responsibility to apply for and obtain a study visa and permit on arrival (permesso di soggiorno) required by European law and by the Italian Public Security Authorities as appropriate for people from their country of citizenship.

## WHAT MATERIAL IS NEEDED TO APPLY?

A completed application through YAP Tracker.

## WHAT REPERTOIRE IS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION?

### SINGERS

Links to 2 recent video recordings (recorded within the last three months) of two contrasting arias in different languages, one of which must be in Italian, and one which must include some recitative style delivery.

A link to a short video-recorded personal statement of why the applicant wishes to apply to Mascarade Opera in English or Italian.

### RÉPÉTITEURS

Links to 2 recent video recordings (recorded within the last year) of accompanying singers or a singer in one song and one operatic aria.

A link to a short video-recorded personal statement of why the applicant wishes to apply to Mascarade Opera in English or Italian.

# FAQ

## WHAT DOES IT COST TO APPLY?

There is a €30 submission fee for applications on YAP Tracker.

## WHERE AND WHEN ARE AUDITIONS HELD?

### ONLINE APPLICATIONS

Applications for entry in 2024 open via YAP Tracker on 2 October 2023.

The deadline for online submissions is 4 December 2023

### LIVE AUDITIONS

Florence, Italy: dates will be announced once applications have closed (end of February, early March 2024)

Please note that we cannot accommodate audition swaps.

## CAN APPLICANTS BRING A PIANIST, AGENT, FAMILY OR FRIEND?

All auditions are closed and applicants may not bring friends, relatives, singing teachers, agents or their own pianist to the audition.

Members of the panel speak Italian and German as well as English.

## WHAT REPERTOIRE/MATERIAL MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE AUDITION?

### SINGERS

Singers must offer three arias in different languages, one of which must be in Italian, and one which must include some recitative style delivery, as well as two songs.

### RÉPÉTITEURS

Répétiteurs will need to prepare a solo piano piece or movement of approximately 5 minutes in duration and the following two opera scenes:

G. Puccini, *La bohème*, Act I Opening to the entrance of Benoit and W. A. Mozart, *Così fan tutte*, Act I Scene 1.

You will be asked to play while singing in the vocal lines. You will also be given some sight reading.

# FAQ

## WHO WILL ACCOMPANY THE AUDITION?

An accompanist will be provided by Mascarade Opera. Singers applying may not bring their own pianist.

## WHAT DO SINGERS NEED TO BRING FOR THE AUDITION?

Singers should bring sheet music for all their offered repertoire for the pianist. They should also bring two copies of a list of their arias for the panel.

## WHAT AUDITION WEAR IS APPROPRIATE?

Applicants should wear normal daytime audition wear; it is important to feel comfortable during your audition.

## HOW DO APPLICANTS FROM NON-EEA COUNTRIES OBTAIN A VISA TO ATTEND THE AUDITION?

Visa applications for attending auditions are NOT handled by the Fondazione Mascarade Opera.

Applicants who are invited to audition and need a visa to do so can be sent a Letter of Invitation to bring to the local relevant embassy/consulate to apply for a visa.

Please contact us at [auditions@mascaradeopera.com](mailto:auditions@mascaradeopera.com) as soon as you receive an invitation to audition if this is required.

If you have a question about your application which is not answered here please email [auditions@mascaradeopera.com](mailto:auditions@mascaradeopera.com)

If you require technical support with your YAP Tracker application, please email [help@yaptracker.com](mailto:help@yaptracker.com).





## CONTACT

For further information please contact

[AUDITIONS@MASCARADEOPERA.COM](mailto:AUDITIONS@MASCARADEOPERA.COM)

## APPLY

To apply please [click here](#)

If you require technical support with your YAP TRACKER:

[APPLICATIONHELP@YAPTRACKER.COM](mailto:APPLICATIONHELP@YAPTRACKER.COM)