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Fondazione Accademia
Teatro alla Scala

+ NABA

Nuova Accademia
di Belle Arti

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→ ROUND TABLE + CONCERT

Accademia Teatro alla Scala and P+ARTS at the Royal Opera House Muscat

A week of artistic production, professional coaching,
and scientific research

07 – 14 february, 2026

Muscat, Oman



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Partnership
for Artistic Research
in Technology
and Sustainability

Programme



Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca



Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Index

Introduction pag. 3

Thursday, 12 February

Round Table pag. 4

Speakers and Moderator pag. 5

Saturday, 14 February

Concert pag. 12

Programme pag. 13

Conductor pag. 15

The La Scala Academy Foundation pag. 16

The La Scala Academy Orchestra pag. 17

Muscat Royal Philharmonic Orchestra pag. 21

Accademia Teatro alla Scala and P+ARTS at the Royal Opera House Muscat

From February 7 to 14, 2026, Accademia Teatro alla Scala strengthens its partnership with the Royal Opera House Muscat (ROHM) through an initiative blending artistic production, professional coaching, and scientific research. The mission operates within P+ARTS (Partnership for Artistic Research in Technology and Sustainability), an EU-funded project (NextGenerationEU/PNRR - CUP G43C24000640006) led by NABA, Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti in a consortium of 10 Italian excellence institutions.

The project kicks off on February 9 with the “Oud Duel” concert, where five Accademia musicians perform alongside the Muscat Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (MRPO). Following this artistic debut, these same musicians transition into their roles as mentors, leading an intensive training and coaching program for the MRPO string section from February 10 to 13.

On February 12, the symposium “Knowledge, Creation, Cooperation: The Role of Research in the Performing Arts and in Transnational Cultural Dialogue” will explore artistic research as a driver for cultural diplomacy. Speakers include Umberto Fanni (General Manager and Artistic Director ROHM), Luisa Vinci (Accademia Teatro alla Scala), Daniele Borniquez (Accademia Teatro alla Scala), Elisa Poli (P+ARTS Scientific Coordinator and NABA), and Livio Aragona (Milan Conservatory “G. Verdi”), moderated by Umberto Bellodi (Accademia Teatro alla Scala).

The residency culminates on February 14 with a concert conducted by Anna Skryleva. The La Scala Academy Orchestra, joined by MRPO musicians, will perform Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker Suite and Stravinsky’s 1945 Firebird Suite. This performance represents a perfect synthesis of the project, where specialized training and research merge into a shared execution, celebrating the professional bond between Italy and Oman.

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Partnership
for Artistic Research
in Technology
and Sustainability

The P+ARTS project, funded by the European Union - Next Generation EU (PNRR), promotes interdisciplinary artistic research by integrating art, technology, and sustainability. It involves AFAM institutions and Italian universities to create an innovative ecosystem fostering creative excellence with a scientific approach.

The objectives of the project are to promote a culture of artistic research through an international network and a national arts doctoral program; foster innovation in the arts, encouraging original creative practices and internationalizing Italian artistic culture through workshops, exhibitions, and events; redefine the artist’s role in society as an agent of change, envisioning a Master’s program for artist-researchers.

Knowledge, Creation, Cooperation:

The Role of Research in the Performing Arts
and in Transnational Cultural Dialogue

12 february – 2026

11:00 am

**Multi-Purpose Room (MPR),
Royal Opera House Muscat Muscat, Oman**





The round table explores contemporary artistic production and cultural dialogue between Italy and the Middle East. By involving educational and production institutions, the encounter analyzes international co-production models and the role of musicological research as a driver for innovation. Through the exchange between Italy and Oman, the panel highlights how music and shared training act as powerful tools for cultural diplomacy, fostering sustainable collaborations with long-term social and economic impact.

SPEAKERS:**Umberto Fanni**

General Manager and Artistic Director, ROHM

Luisa Vinci

General Manager, Accademia Teatro alla Scala

Daniele Borniquez

Head of the Music Department, Accademia Teatro alla Scala

Elisa Poli

Scientific Coordinator, P+ARTS Project
and NABA's Research Program Leader

Livio Aragona

Musicologist, Conservatory "G. Verdi" of Milan

MODERATOR:**Umberto Bellodi**

Accademia Teatro alla Scala Scientific Coordinator
for P+ARTS Project

SPEAKER



Umberto Fanni

**General Manager and Artistic Director,
ROHM**

Umberto Fanni has had a distinguished career in the performing arts and arts management, recognized for his contribution to the enrichment of musical art in Oman and beyond. He was awarded the Order of Honor in January 2024 by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq. Since 2020, he has been a member of the Board of the Beijing Forum for Performing Arts and, since 2023, a member of the Board of Directors of the World Association of Performing Arts.

SPEAKER

Luisa Vinci



**General Manager,
Accademia Teatro alla Scala**

A trombone graduate from Como Conservatory, Luisa Vinci specialized in management at LUISS Rome. She built a distinguished career at Sugar and Casa Ricordi, promoting composers like Berio and Sciarrino across top global institutions, from Teatro alla Scala to the Met. A visiting professor at Milan's Catholic University and board member for several cultural entities, she served as General Manager of the Accademia Teatro alla Scala for twenty years, shaping it into a world-class training hub.

SPEAKER



Daniele Borniquez

Head of the Music Department,
Accademia Teatro alla Scala

A Piano and Economics graduate, he joined Teatro alla Scala in 1996. He coordinated the Opera Singers Academy under Riccardo Muti and Leyla Gencer, collaborating with legends like Mirella Freni and Renato Bruson.

As Head of the Music Department at Accademia Teatro alla Scala, he manages all artistic productions and orchestral training. A coordinator for EU research projects and General Manager of the Leyla Gencer Vocal Contest, he serves on juries for top competitions like the “Francisco Viñas”.

SPEAKER



Elisa Poli

**Scientific Coordinator, P+ARTS Project
and NABA's Research Program Leader**

Professor Poli, NABA's Research Program Leader and P+ARTS Scientific Coordinator, is former Director of the Master in Urban and Architectural Design at Domus Academy (2014-2021). She holds a PhD from Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Facoltà di Architettura di Firenze. Her writings have appeared in leading architectural journals and, since 2010, she has lectured internationally at leading universities and cultural institutions worldwide.

SPEAKER

Livio Aragona

Musicologist,
Conservatory "G. Verdi" of Milan



Musicologist, independent researcher and professor specialized in Italian opera and music of the 20th and 21st centuries. He teaches History of Music at the Conservatorio di Milano and is a member of the scientific committee of the prestigious "Rivista Italiana di Musicologia".

MODERATOR

Umberto Bellodi



**Accademia Teatro alla Scala
Scientific Coordinator for P+ARTS Project**

Head of International Projects at Accademia Teatro alla Scala; cultural operator since 1996, formerly coordinating the Stagecraft department of the Accademia and currently advising the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency in Brussels as an expert evaluator.

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Fondazione Accademia
Teatro alla Scala

+ NABA

Nuova Accademia
di Belle Arti

The La Scala Academy Orchestra

Musicians from The Muscat Royal
Philharmonic Orchestra

Anna Skryleva conductor

14 february – 2026 12:00 pm

Music Theatre - Head Quarters
Royal Guard of Oman - Seeb Muscat, Oman



THE NUTCRACKER, Op. 71

Music by **Pëtr Il'ič Čajkovskij**
Suite from the ballet

- 1 **Ouverture** *Allegro giusto*
- 2 **Marche** *Tempo di marcia viva*
- 12 **Divertissement:**
 - 12a **Le Chocolat** *Allegro brillante*
 - 12b **Le Café** *Comodo*
 - 12c **Le Thé** *Allegro moderato*
 - 12d **Trépak** *Tempo di trepak. Molto vivace*
 - 12e **Danse des Mirlitons** *Andantino*
 - 12f **La Mère Cigonge et les Polichinelles** *Allegro giocoso*
- 13 **Valse des Fleurs** *Tempo di valse*
- 14 **Pas de deux:**
 - 14c **Le Prince et la Fée-Dragée. Variation II.**
Danse de la Fée-Dragée *Andante ma non troppo*
 - 14a **Le Prince et la Fée-Dragée. Entrée** *Tempo maestoso*
- 15 **Valse Finale et Apothéose** *Tempo di valse*



THE FIREBIRD [L'OISEAU DE FEU]

Music by **Igor' Fëdorovič Stravinskij**
Third Suite (1945 version)

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Prelude and Dance of the Firebird
- 3 Variations (Firebird)
- 4 Pantomime I
- 5 Pas de deux: The Firebird and Prince Ivan
- 6 Pantomime II
- 7 Scherzo: Dance of the Princesses
- 8 Pantomime III
- 9 Rondo (Khorovod)
- 10 Infernal Dance
- 11 Lullaby (Firebird)
- 12 Final Hymn



CONDUCTOR

Anna Skryleva



Conductor, composer, pianist, and synesthete, Anna Skryleva was awarded the prestigious Opus Klassik Prize in 2024, garnering international acclaim for her profound musicality. Both as a conductor and composer, she is passionately dedicated to expanding the orchestral and operatic repertoire. Her 2022 rediscovery and world premiere of Eugen Engel's opera *Grete Minde* sparked significant global interest.

During her tenure as General Music Director of the Theater Magdeburg (2019–2025), she led numerous successful projects, earning the German Orchestra Foundation's "Innovative Orchestra 2019" Special Prize and a nomination for the "International Opera Awards 2022." Her leadership was further distinguished by co-commissions with major orchestras in Canada, England, and the United States.

Ms. Skryleva regularly collaborates with leading institutions, including the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Copenhagen Phil, Royal Swedish Opera, and Dallas Opera. In 2025, she debuted at Teatro alla Scala and the Sydney Opera House. Her vast repertoire spans from the Viennese classics of Mozart and Beethoven to the German and Russian Romanticism of Wagner, Strauss, and Tchaikovsky, as well as Italian masters such as Verdi and Puccini.

A champion of contemporary music, she works closely with composers like Lera Auerbach and Errollyn Wallen, and performs with renowned soloists such as Arabella Steinbacher and Felix Klieser. Admitted to the composition class of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow at just ten years old, Skryleva has remained a prolific composer. Recent highlights include the 2024 world premieres of *3 Impromptus in C* and *Mirror*, as well as her upcoming *Scherzo for Horn and Orchestra* for Felix Klieser in 2025.

The La Scala Academy Foundation

The Academy's roots date back to 1813 with the founding of the Ballet School, reflecting Teatro alla Scala's longstanding commitment to passing down its invaluable heritage. Over time, these educational activities evolved, leading to the establishment in 2001 of an autonomous Foundation, now a global point of reference in the field.

Through its four departments (Music, Dance, Stage, and Management), the La Scala Academy covers all professions within the musical theatre sector. It offers advanced specialization programs, academic degrees, training courses, as well as Masters, executive programs, workshops, and summer stages. The high employment rate of its alumni confirms the Academy as a premier international hub for the future of the performing arts.

The faculty comprises Teatro alla Scala's own professionals, alongside leading industry experts. The "learning by doing" methodology prioritizes daily field experience - both on stage and behind the scenes - through concerts, opera, and ballet productions. A highlight is the "Accademia Project," an opera title included in the Teatro alla Scala season and entirely entrusted to the Academy's students.

The La Scala Academy Orchestra

Within the Music Department, the two-year program of The La Scala Academy Orchestra stands out, preparing young musicians for professional careers through comprehensive training in symphonic, operatic, and ballet repertoire. The curriculum includes orchestral exercises and ensemble workshops, alongside individual instrumental lessons, chamber music, and sectional rehearsals conducted by the First Chairs of the Teatro alla Scala Orchestra. This educational path is complemented by intensive artistic activity in Italy and abroad under the guidance of some of the world's most authoritative and renowned conductors.

The Orchestra performs primarily at the Teatro alla Scala, which not only hosts it annually for the “Academy Project” — an opera included in the main season — but also engages the ensemble for various ballet productions and numerous concerts. Furthermore, as a crowning achievement of their training, students are given the opportunity to join the Teatro alla Scala Orchestra for scheduled productions on a rotational basis. Between 2007 and 2024, the Academy Orchestra has performed an extensive range of works at La Scala, including many titles by Rossini, Mozart, Donizetti, and Verdi, as well as masterpieces by Humperdinck, Puccini, and Rota, alongside major ballets like *Giselle*, *Onegin*, *Histoire de Manon*, and *Swan Lake*. Additionally, the Orchestra has accompanied prestigious companies such as the Bolshoi Ballet and the Tokyo Ballet.

Among the Orchestra's most significant recent engagements: in 2023, the ensemble performed Strehler's celebrated production of *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Royal Opera House Muscat in Oman, followed by *La fille mal gardée* at La Scala and a tour conducted by Fabio Luisi through the Vittoriale degli Italiani, the Nervi Festival, and the Ravello Festival. In 2024, a tour conducted by Marco Armiliato with soloists Lisette Oropesa and Benjamin Bernheim touched the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, and Teatro alla Scala. In 2025, the ensemble stands out for its residency at the 51st Festival della Valle d'Itria and three major productions at La Scala: Rossini's *La Cenerentola* conducted by Gianluca Capuano, the *Lander/Kylián/Béjart Triptych*, and the world premiere of *Anna A.* by Silvia Colasanti.

In addition to the venues already mentioned, the Academy Orchestra has performed at numerous internationally renowned institutions and festivals, including the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Saint Petersburg Philharmonia, Vevey Spring Festival, Harris Theater in Chicago, Strathmore Hall in Washington, Peter Norton Symphony Space in New York, and the universities of Maryland and Princeton. In Italy, they have appeared at La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Massimo in Palermo, Teatro San Carlo in Naples, Teatro Petruzzelli in Bari, and the RAI Auditorium in Turin, as well as the Ravenna and Wolfegger festivals.

A long list of distinguished artists has conducted the Orchestra, including Roberto Abbado, Marc Albrecht, Giovanni Antonini, John Axelrod, Roland Böer, Alessandro Bonato, Paolo Carignani, Daniel Cohen, David Coleman, Ottavio Dantone, Óliver Diaz, Plácido Domingo, Gustavo Dudamel, Christoph Eschenbach, Diego Fasolis, Vladimir Fedoseyev, Iván Fischer, Ádám Fischer, Lawrence Foster, Sascha Goetzl, Giuseppe Grazioli, Marco Guidarini, Theodor Guschlbauer, Michael Halász, Simon Hewitt, Manfred Honeck, Fabio Luisi, Susanna Mälkki, Michele Mariotti, Zubin Mehta, Pietro Mianiti, Gianandrea Noseda, Daniel Oren, Evelino Pidò, Sesto Quatrini, Stefano Ranzani, Donato Renzetti, Daniele Rustioni, Mikhail Tatarnikov, Yuri Temirkanov, Lorenzo Viotti, and Massimo Zanetti. Collaborative soloists include David Fray, Herbie Hancock, Olga Kern, Lang Lang, and Giovanni Andrea Zanon.

The La Scala Academy Orchestra

FIRST VIOLINS

Anna Maria Cristina Popan*
 Lucia Sperandio*
 Chiara Rollini**
 Teresa Ceni
 Julian Davidson
 Domenico Giannattasio
 Chiara Guida
 Mei Harabe
 Yuliia Kozlovska
 Silvia Paola Meloni
 Lucia Piastrelloni
 Costanza Zappalà
 Chiara Stella Zollo

SECOND VIOLINS

Naoki Sato*
 Laila Farag**
 Angelica Rebecca Bove
 Beatrice Calini
 Alice Dalla Pozza
 Valeria Di Crosta
 Loubna Farhat
 Tommaso Galindo Pacheco
 Emma Vanni Nicoletti
 Franziska Rosemann
 Jessica Siciliano

VIOLAS

Letizia Ricciardi*
 Lois Loos**
 Cora Bellati
 Michelangelo Caprioli
 Vincenzo Della Monica
 Nicole Gallegos
 Giuditta Marcolin
 Virginia Rigotti
 Rebecca Scuderi

CELLOS

Jacopo Gaudenzi*
 Andrea Cavalazzi**
 Chiara Boido

Rolando Benjamin Cañoles Cuevas
 Gioele Cerra
 Silvia Di Summa
 Carlos Uriel Morales Lumbreras

DOUBLEBASSES

Daniele Sesi*
 Giulio Ruggeri**
 Amelia Cherry
 Lorenzo Iacoponi
 Giada Morici

FLUTES

Davide Lantrua*
 Cecilia Oneto
 Giada Romanenghi
 (also Piccolo)

OBOES

Enrique Frausto Corona*
 Meritxell Quilis
 Federico Marconcini
 (also English Horn)

CLARINETS

Francesca Romano*
 Mattia Formento Moletta
 Marina Tiraboschi
 (also Bass Clarinet)

BASSOONS

Lorenzo Drago*
 Hanna Pezzeri

HORNS

Giovanni Montanaro*
 Diana Gargano
 Luca Nicola Santoro
 Loris Nastasi

TRUMPETS

Alberto Guerrero*
 Massimiliano Zenato



TROMBONES

Angelo Ruffino*
Alessio Novaria
Edoardo Colombo

TUBA

Francesco Cotti Cometti*

HARP

Emanuele Raviol*

TIMPANI

Alessandro Gerlo*

PERCUSSION

Giulio Di Prima
Luigi Piro
Federico Spoto

PIANO

Valentina Rando
(also celesta)

* Firts Chairs

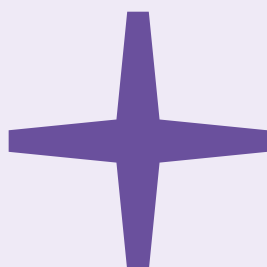
** Masterclass coaches

Muscat Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

The Muscat Royal Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 2010 under the auspices of his Majesty, the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said, may God rest his soul. Alongside the Royal Oman Symphony Orchestra, the MRPO is a cultural showcase for Oman, enriching the cultural, artistic, and musical identity of the country. The orchestra performs both Western Classical Music and Arabic music, seeking to engage audiences with Western Classical Music while remaining connected to their Omani roots and cultural heritage.

The MRPO performs in the major cultural venues in Muscat, including the Royal Opera House Muscat, the Oman Auditorium at the Al Bustan Palace Hotel, the Al Irfan Hall Theatre, the Grand Theatre at Sultan Qaboos University, and the German University Theatre, as well as in venues across the country. The orchestra, alongside the Opera Choir Group, made its international debut in London in 2024, with a performance at The Theatre-Royal Drury Lane.

The Muscat Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has worked with a number of conductors including Peter Stark, David Curtis, Riley Court-Wood, and Leon Frantzen-Melasani. Beginning in 2024, Oman's first female professional conductor, Ilham Al Toqi, was appointed as MRPO's full-time conductor.



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