

ACHROME
ensemble



Composition Workshop

for young composers, students of Conservatories and Music Academies,
students in Musicology and instrumentalists.

- Third edition -

Teachers



Pieralberto Cattaneo

Composer, former Professor of Composition at the Conservatory "G. Donizetti" of Bergamo and Artistic Director of "Incontri Europei con la Musica"



Simone Fontanelli

Composer, Senior Lecturer in Contemporary Music Practice and Director of the Institut für Neue Musik at the University of Mozarteum, Salzburg

Ensemble in residence



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ACHЯOME ensemble, in collaboration with Musica Aperta Association of Bergamo and with the Orchestra Crescendo Cultural Association, promotes a **Composition workshop – third edition** aimed at young composers who are students of conservatories and music academies, students in Musicology and instrumentalists. The Workshop is aimed at deepening the techniques of contemporary music writing under the guidance of two teachers and, subsequently, with the collaboration of ACHЯOME 's instrumentalists:

- Antonella Bini, *flute, piccolo, sopranino flute in F with kazoo effect, flute in C, flute in G, bass flute, double bass flute*
- Stefano Merighi, *Bb and A clarinet, bass clarinet*
- Elia Leon Mariani, *violin*
- Emanuele Rigamonti, *cello*
- Gabriele Rota, *piano*
- Marcello Parolini, *conductor and artistic director*

The Workshop includes in-person and online sessions and will be structured as follows:

1. **Analysis seminar on contemporary composers**

4 online appointments of 90 minutes each - Dates to be determined – divided into:

- Two online meetings with an analytical focus on contemporary Italian music held by Pieralberto Cattaneo.
- Two online meetings on contemporary European music held by Simone Fontanelli.

2. **Composition workshop**

The workshop will be held at the Orchestra Crescendo Cultural Association, Piazza San Francesco – Gorgonzola (Milan). Lessons will be in person. Those unable to attend due to circumstances beyond their control will have the option of participating online.

- Two 2-hour group composition lessons (one with Maestro Cattaneo and one with Maestro Fontanelli)
- Two 1-hour individual lessons (one with Maestro Cattaneo and one with Maestro Fontanelli) for each participant

Participants will work on composing a piece of their own.

At the end of the Workshop, teachers will indicate the pieces which, on a date to be set between October and November 2025, will be the subject of in-depth study during one in-person meeting with the

ACHЯOME ensemble instrumentalists .

The **Workshop** also includes:

- the inclusion of some of the pieces worked on in the *Composition workshop* in the next editions of "*...e adesso musica!*" – Season of contemporary music in Bergamo (Sala Piatti), project curated by ACHЯOME Ensemble
- the sharing of the video recording of the performance of the pieces selected by the teachers on the ACHЯOME ensemble YouTube channel and on other digital platforms.

Active students/Auditors

A maximum of 8 active students are expected to take part to the 6 group meetings (including the 2 meetings of the analysis seminar) and to the two individual lessons.

Participation as auditors is possible.

How to participate

- In order to participate you must complete and send the hereby attached registration form by **May 21, 2026** to the email address **master.achr.ensemble@gmail.com** adding:
 - copy of your identity document,
 - curriculum vitae ,
 - the scores in PDF of a work for ensemble (up to the quintet) and one for solo instrument (among those of the ACHROME ensemble).

On the basis of the received scores, **8 active students will be selected** and the secretariat will contact them promptly.

These ones, within a deadline that will be communicated, will have to pay the participation fee of €500.00 (or €100.00 as auditors) by bank transfer (expense transfer paid by the orderer) to the current account IBAN IT02X0503411103000000005512 (swift BAPPIT21AA3) in the name of Associazione Musica Aperta, reason "Composition Workshop 2026 [first name & last name]" and send the payment receipt to the following mail : **master.achr.ensemble@gmail.com**.

Participation fees and attendance:

- ✓ Actual Participants: € 500.00
- ✓ Conservatory Students (by sending a certificate of attendance): € 400.00
- ✓ Auditors: €100.00

At the end of the course a certificate of participation will be issued



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APPLICATION FORM

The undersigned (first name, surname).....

Date and place of birth

Permanent Address

City Province Country

Mobile phone number.....

E-mail

1) asks to participate in the **Third Composition Workshop**

2) attaches the following score(s) (write the instrumentation of the pieces):

.....

.....

3) accepts completely the regulations of the Workshop

A brief biography is to be attached

Place and date

Signature

SIMONE FONTANELLI

Composer, conductor, former Professor of Contemporary Music Practice at the Mozarteum University of Salzburg and Director of the Institute for New Music at the same university.

Winner of the prestigious Salzburg Mozart Prize (1995) for Composition. Guest conductor and composer at international festivals in Italy, the USA, Austria, England, Spain, Russia, Hungary, Sweden, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, Israel, Taiwan, and Thailand.

In 2011 his children opera "Es war ein einmal Stück Holz" ("Once Upon A Time There was A piece Of Wood") after C. Collodi's Pinocchio, commissioned by the Cologne Gürzenich-Orchester, has achieved great success in Germany, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, and Austria, and has also been released on CD in an English version.

His compositions are performed worldwide by some of the most celebrated performers.

Mr. Fontanelli was born in 1961 in Milan. He studied guitar and graduated in Composition from the Conservatorio of Milano in 1989. He also studied Philosophy at the University of Milan

He has held masterclasses, seminars and guest lectures at some of the most renowned academies and universities in Europe, Asia and the USA.

From 2003 to 2009, he was Artistic and Musical Director of the Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music (Brunswick-Maine, USA) and a faculty member at the Bowdoin International Music Festival.

Since 2023, he has been a faculty member at the prestigious Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena.

In 2024, the prestigious Széchenyi Academy of Letters and Arts in Budapest awarded him the title of Honorary Member.

PIERALBERTO CATTANEO

Diploma in composition from the *Donizetti Musical Institute* in Bergamo with Vittorio Fellegara; degree with a Diploma of Merit in composition under Franco Donatoni from the *Accademia Chigiana* of Siena; master classes with Witold Lutoslawsky (composition), Franco Ferrara and Bruno Martinotti (conducting). Degree with honours at the *University of Bologna* with a thesis on the sacred music of Donizetti (lecturer Luigi Rognoni). Teacher of composition at *Donizetti Institute* in Bergamo (retired from November 2020).

Prizes and awards for composition: Competition for Chamber Music of Portofino (1st and 2nd edition), "*Cassadò*" of Florence, *Castle of Belveglio* (Italy), "*Malipiero*" of Treviso, "*Contilli*" of Messina, "*Prix de la Ville d'Avignon*" (France).

Compositions commissioned by international festivals: *Biennale Musica* of Venice, *Nuova Consonanza* of Rome, *Romaeuropa festival*, *Spaziomusica* of Cagliari, "*Trieste prima*", G.A.M.O. of Florence, "*Rive Gauche*" of Turin, "*Correnti*" of Pescara (*Giochi del Mediterraneo*), ISCM Festival, *Tage der neue Musik* (Würzburg), Zagreb Biennial, C.D.M.C. of Madrid, Summer of Avignon, Autumn of Moscow, "*Days of New Music*" of Bacau and Chisinaw, Bucharest Festival, broadcasted by the National Radios of Italy, Germany, Hungary, Rumania, Moldavia, Spain, U.K., Poland, Yugoslavia, Russia, published and recorded by BMG Ariola, EDI-PAN, Rugginenti, Tirreno editoriale, Sinfonica, Union of Bulgarian Composers, ISCM-Italy, Stradivarius

He founded the Wind Ensemble *Musica Aperta* in 1976 and has conducted it in concerts not only in Italy, but abroad (Europe, U.S.A., Brazil). He founded the Chamber Orchestra of the "*Incontri Europei con la Musica*" in 1983; with the Wind ensemble he recorded sacred music of Donizetti and Mayr and Italian contemporary music, and, with the Orchestra, the 1st modern performance of G.S. Mayr's c minor ***Stabat Mater*** (Dynamic). He recorded also a CD with Bin Huang (1st Prize *Paganini*) and the orchestra "*Gli archi italiani*" and the 1st modern performance of G.S. Mayr's ***Vesperi per il Corpus Domini*** (Bongiovanni) with "*Milano Classica*" Chamber Orchestra.

He conducts symphonic and chamber orchestras in Italy ("*Haydn*", Sanremo), Germany (Deutsches Kammerorchester Frankfurt), Poland (Stettino), Czech Republic ("*I Virtuosi di Praga*", Karlovy Vary), Hungary ("*Camerata Transsylvanica*"), Rumania (National Radio, Craiova, Bacau, Valcea), Moldavia (Chisinaw), Egitto (Cairo Symphony Orchestra), Turchia (Adana), Corea, Canada, USA, Brazil ... in performances of classical, romantic, operatic and contemporary music, with many unpublished Italian works from XVIII and XIX centuries (Gozzini, Gasparini, Lenzi, Mayr, Coccia, Donizetti, Salvi, Piatti ...).

As musicologist he is frequently invited to international conferences on Donizetti, Mayr, Alfredo Piatti and the sacred music of the XVIII and XIX century.

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"[...] I was lucky enough to hear Achrome Ensemble [...] for the project ...e adesso musica! [...]. I was amazed by the large audience [...] It means that Achrome's work as organizers was well done. But the biggest surprise was hearing the Ensemble [...] very good!" (Renzo Cresti, musicologist); *"one of the reference groups for contemporary music"* (Fialdini, Ape musicale); *"a special group with which you can pleasantly work on the present while imagining the future"* (Simone Fontanelli, composer).

ACHROME ensemble, winner of the **2021 Cultural Award** for the performance of Guido Farina's "**String Quartet called dell'Uomo che sapeva**" and of the "**Vittorio Fellegara**" Award, second edition (2022), has concerts and performances to its credit in Italian and foreign concert halls and festivals: Cenon/Bordeaux (France), Bacau (Romania), Sala Verdi of the Milan Conservatory, Teatro dei Filodrammatici, Sala Piatti of Bergamo, Bergamo Estate, Estate in... of Gazzaniga, Donizetti Night, Rai Radio3-Piazza Verdi, Preludio Livestreaming, Teatro dal Verme, Auditorium Di Vittorio, Palazzina Liberty and Museo del '900 of Milan, Accademia Albertina, Teatro della Vittoria, Comodo 64 and Villa Tesoriera of Turin, Villa Truffini of Tradate, Auditorium of the Como Conservatory, Teatro Faraggiana of Novara...

Always attentive to multimedia technologies, the ACHROME ensemble's performances are frequently broadcast on the digital radio RADIOCEMAT, and present on the YouTube channel **CMACITALY – CONTEMPORARY MUSIC AREA CHANNEL ITALY**, as well as in the episodes of **NoMus - live streaming**.

Recording projects include: **VITTORIO FELLEGGARA Chamber Works - 5 stars in MUSICA magazine** - a recording of the chamber music production by the composer Vittorio Fellegara, in collaboration with **MusicAperta** and **NoMus**, for Vermeer Classics. Musicologist Renzo Cresti described it as: *"A recommended release for its quality and for presenting the body of chamber music by a great composer who deserves even greater recognition"*; **Chamber Music Works for ensemble by Davide Anzaghi**, praised by musicologist Andrea Bedetti of musicvoice – 4.5/5 artistic rating and 4/5 technical rating – as: *"A pivotal recording, a must-see for anyone who knows they can also find beauty, purity, and the essential in the panorama of international contemporary music. Simply exemplary"*; **Music for Dummies - Contemporary Chamber Music** by composers F. Biscione, A. Cara, and P. Coggiola received a 7.5 rating from Kathodik webzine. These last two projects are both published by Da Vinci Classic Label.

The ACHROME ensemble presents contemporary works and historical repertoire, and, above all, collaborates with composers to engage an audience increasingly attentive to the evolution of music through the centuries. This has led to the creation of interdisciplinary educational projects for students at the "Paolina Secco Suardo" Music High School, the "G. Donizetti" Conservatory of Bergamo, the "G. Verdi" Conservatory of Como, and the Donizetti Foundation.

This particular focus on new generations of composers has been strengthened over the years with the highly successful ACHROME ensemble International Call for Scores, now in its ninth edition and aimed specifically at composition students from around the world, and the second edition of the Composition Workshop.

With 2026, the project *"...e adesso musica"* - **contemporary music season in Bergamo** - ACHROME ensemble proudly reaches its **tenth year of activity**, thanks also to the great trust and external support shown for the commitment that all its members have demonstrated in these years of presence in the Bergamo area.

ACHROME ensemble is made up of:

Marcello Parolini, conductor/ artistic director

Antonella Bini, piccolo, sopranine flute in f, flute in C, flute in G, Bass flute, Double bass flute

Stefano Merighi, piccolo in Eb, cl. in A, cl. in Bb, Bass clarinet

Elia Leon Mariani, violin

Matilde Pesenti, Emanuele Rigamonti, cello

Gabriele Rota, piano