

**“THE FOUR TURANDOT – T4T”
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Project subsidised under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) –Mission 4 – Component 1 'Enhancement of services for education: from early childhood programs to universities' – Investment 3.4 'Advanced university teaching and skills,' sub-investment T5 'Strategic partnerships/initiatives to innovate the international dimension of the AFAM system,' funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU.

AUDITION N. 1: SINGERS
(ROLES OF TURANDOT, CALAF IN PUCCINI'S *TURANDOT*)

RULES

1. PURPOSE OF THE AUDITION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

This audition aims to select **twenty-four singers for the roles of Turandot (8), Calaf (8) and Liù (8) in Giacomo Puccini's opera *Turandot***, who will participate in ***The Four Turandot-T4T project***, taking part in four multimedia performances of the opera, with high technological content, in four different countries of the world: Italy, China, South Korea, and the USA.

The Four Turandot-T4T is a project of high artistic improvement and its objective is the in-depth study and valorisation of Giacomo Puccini's last masterpiece through a training course in international mobility. It has been created by the “Giuseppe Verdi” Conservatory of Music in Milan, Italy, in network with the following Italian institutions:

- “Luigi Cherubini” Conservatory of Music, Florence;
- “Vecchi Tonelli” Conservatory of Music, Modena and Carpi;
- “Giuseppe Nicolini” Conservatory of Music, Piacenza;
- “Giuseppe Verdi” Conservatory of Music, Turin;
- Polytechnic of the Arts of Bergamo;
- NABA-Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti in Milan;
- University of Milan.

It also involves the following international institutions:

- Keimyung University, Daegu (South Korea);
- Shanghai Conservatory of Music (China);
- Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Shanghai (China);
- University of Georgia (USA).

The project won a tender from the Italian Ministry of University and Research and is subsidised with European funds (NextGenerationEU) from the PNRR, the National Recovery and Resilience Plan following the Covid-19 pandemic.

The project will conclude with four performances of the four versions of *Turandot* known to the world of scholarship, namely:

- the one interrupted by the death of the composer and directed by Arturo Toscanini on April 25, 1926;
- the one with the finale originally written by Franco Alfano;
- the one with the second, and best known, finale by Alfano;
- the version with the finale composed by Luciano Berio.

In parallel to that, the project involves:

- an international study conference;
- an exhibition, in collaboration with the Archivio Storico Ricordi;
- the comparative edition of the two finales of *Turandot* composed by Franco Alfano, in collaboration with Casa Ricordi;
- the creation of a contemporary epilogue of the opera.

The singers selected through this audition will participate in a training program at:

- “Giuseppe Verdi” Conservatory of Music, Milan (Italy)
and remotely at:
- Keimyung University, Daegu (South Korea),
- Shanghai Conservatory of Music (China),
- University of Georgia (USA)

These institutions will also host some of the *Turandot* stagings.

The workshops will begin in April 2025 in preparation for the four performances described above, which will be held by March 2026.

2. ADMISSION CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Students of any nationality, born after January 1, 1989, regularly enrolled in academic institutions or graduated no earlier than the 2021/2022 academic year, can apply. The selection and preparation will take place in English. Therefore, a good command of the English language (equivalent to or higher than CEFR B1) is essential.

The application must be submitted by 11:59 PM (GMT+1) on Thursday, January 23, 2025, by completing the form at the [LINK](#).

The application must be accompanied by:

- copy of valid passport or other identity document proving age and nationality (pdf format)
- curriculum vitae (pdf format) in English, updated and complete with:
 - certification of the degree qualification or certificate of attendance of the institution to which one belongs,
 - level of knowledge of the English language,
 - any experience in multimedia projects (optional),
 - email address and telephone number.
- summary biography in English (pdf format, max 300 words),
- vertical close-up photo (jpg format, min.1 MB, 4x6, 300 dpi),
- links to any social platforms (optional),
- signed privacy form,
- signed release and consent form for the publication and transmission of images.

3. FIRST STAGE: PRESELECTION

When registering, candidates must upload links to the following video recordings onto the digital form:

- one unique video with the interpretation of the following pieces:
 - Turandot: “In questa reggia”; “Straniero, ascolta!”
 - Calaf: “Nessun dorma”; “Straniero, ascolta!”
- one self-introductory video in English (maximum duration: 90 seconds).

Videos must comply with the guidelines described here: [LINK](#).

By Monday, January 27, 2025, the candidates who have passed this preselection stage (maximum: 16 x Turandot, 16 x Calaf) will receive, via email, the official communication of admission to the second stage, with practical information and timetables. This communication can be used for any visa applications required for entry into the country.

4. SECOND STAGE: FINAL SELECTION AND INITIAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE WINNERS

Roll call – On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, the candidates admitted to the second stage of the audition will have to present themselves in the afternoon at the "Giuseppe Verdi" Conservatory of Music in Milan for the roll call. They need to produce an official identity document: a passport or identity card. In case of absence or delay, caused by proven reasons of health, family or force majeure, the participants may or may not be admitted to the second stage at the jury's sole discretion.

Rehearsals – Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday, February 12, and Thursday, February 13, 2025, in preparation for the final round. The candidates will rehearse with the collaborative pianists and the conductors who have passed the preselection of the respective “T4T” project auditions. The pairings will be made by drawing lots. Available times and classrooms will be communicated by the secretariat.

Final round – On Friday, February 14, and Saturday, February 15, 2025, the final round will take place in the Sala Verdi of the Milan Conservatory. The candidates will be accompanied by the pianists and conducted by the conductors with whom they were paired for the rehearsals. The performance order will be established by drawing lots. All the rounds will be open to the public and streamed.

In case of absence or delay on the final round days, caused by proven reasons of health, family or force majeure, the candidates may or may not, at the sole discretion of the jury, be admitted to participate in the round in a different order of execution.

Programme – Candidates will study the entire part of the opera (Ricordi Edition) and will perform excerpts chosen by the jury. These excerpts will be the same for all candidates for the same role, without prejudice to the jury's right to interrupt the performance at any time.

Jury – The jury will be composed of prominent musicians, teachers and figures from the music world. All decisions of the jury are final and are recorded by a secretary.

Results – At the end of the round, the jury will communicate the names of the 24 singers selected to participate in the “T4T” project (8 Turandot, 8 Calaf) who will eventually be paired together for the casts of the four different productions.

Initial commitments for the winners – The selected singers will perform at the conductors' final round, which will take place in the Sala Verdi on Sunday, February 16, 2025. They will then need to remain in Milan from Monday, February 17, to Wednesday, February 19, 2025, for the initial preparations for the creation of high-tech costumes and multimedia setup, including body measurements, 3D scanning, and voice sampling.

5. OTHER INFORMATION

Travel expenses for the round-trip to attend the final stage will be reimbursed by the Milan Conservatory only to the candidates who win the final selection. Receipts for tickets must be retained and presented for reimbursement.

The Milan Conservatory will also organise and cover the costs of travel, accommodation, lessons, workshops, meetings, and all activities related to the T4T project for the selected participants.

The locations and schedule of commitments for the T4T project will be communicated within a week of the final round.

In compliance with the applicable data protection regulations in Italy, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the sensitive data collected will be used solely for purposes related to the candidate selection process and the management of the project. For further information, please visit: <https://www.consmi.it/it/481/info-privacy>.

By registering, the candidate implicitly agrees that the Milan Conservatory may use the personal data essential for the T4T project, including photographic images, and also authorises the recording of audio and video, as well as the online transmission of the auditions, rehearsals and performances. The performance rights for any recordings or filming within the T4T project are the property of the Milan Conservatory. Performers will not be entitled to any fees for recordings, streaming, radio, or television broadcasts.

Registration for the call implies acceptance of all these Regulations in all their parts. In case of complaints or disputes, only this text is valid. In case of any dispute, the competent court is that of Milan.