

L'aura di Willaert

Petrarchan Madrigals in *Musica nova*, 1559

Master classes and lectures by
Lisandro Abadie, Katelijne Schiltz and Corrado Bologna

Call for Application

Deadline: 15 September 2026

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Petrarchan Madrigals in *Musica Nova*, 1559

Master classes and lectures by
Lisandro Abadie, Katelijne Schiltz and Corrado Bologna
Venice, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, 2-6 November 2026
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With the contribution of:
Regione del Veneto; Foundations Concordance; Alamire; Irma Merk and L.+Th. La Roche

Out of Willaert's extensive body of work, the Seminar will examine a group of madrigals published in his collection *Musica nova* (Venice: Gargano, 1559), which set sonnets from Petrarch's *Canzoniere*, comparing them with two examples of his liturgical polyphony. These are the *Kyrie* settings of the masses *Mente tota* (1512-17) and *Mittit ad Virginem* (ca. 1560).

On the one hand, this comparison will allow us to observe the enduring Petrarchan legacy among the madrigalists of the 16th-century Po Valley and Venice, and to assess the relationship between their work and Zarlino's new theories on the expressiveness of melodic intervals. On the other, it will help us appraise the stylistic transformations that took place during Willaert's extraordinarily long career. Perhaps not coincidentally – and not without irony – the Venetian comedian and playwright Andrea Calmo linked Willaert to the *aurum potabile*, the legendary elixir of longevity.

The main teacher will be the Swiss-Argentinian baritone Lisandro Abadie (teacher at the *Schola Cantorum* in Basel), assisted by the musicologist Katelijne Schiltz and the philologist Corrado Bologna.

Masterclasses and lectures are addressed to young professional or semi-professional singers and instrumentalists specialized in the repertory, only if awarded a scholarship (see below).

Call for Application

In order to apply, please send an e-mail to the secretariat of the Seminars: musica.antica@cini.it, containing the following materials, by **15th September 2026**:

- A detailed CV;
- A copy of an ID document;
- A video recording of a live soloist performance of two Renaissance pieces, sent as a link of a sharing platform (Google drive, Vimeo, YouTube). Files sent via WeTransfer or similar transfer providers will not be accepted);
- A declaration of full commitment to attend the Seminar during each and every of the indicated days (2-6 November 2026), if selected;
- A declaration of agreement to perform a non-commercial, recorded public concert at the end of the seminar.

Scholarships

All selected musicians will receive scholarships which cover: enrolment fee; accommodation in single rooms (maximal four nights); partial board (breakfast and lunch); and travel (economy class tickets up to EUR 400 per person; no extra seats covered).

Travel must be agreed with, and purchased by, the seminars' secretariat.

The seminar can be accessed free of charge by listeners, who make a request (subject to approval) to the secretariat.

Contacts

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