

# Songs List

Track 1 (this song cannot be changed, as stated by the art. 9)

Air.....

Opera.....

Composer.....

Track 2

Air.....

Opera.....

Composer.....

Track 3

Air.....

Opera.....

Composer.....

Track 4

Air.....

Opera.....

Composer.....

Track 5

Air.....

Opera.....

Composer.....

I ask pianist accompanying plan accompanist requested

No wonder pianist accompanying plan accompanist not necessary

(Please tick that apply)

Date.....

Signature.....

Info line: 335 7542186 – 345 8533213 – 0578 749796 – 0578 748502

Info Comune di Pienza - [www.comune.pienza.si.it](http://www.comune.pienza.si.it)



COLDFRAG



*Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri*



Il Direttore Artistico  
Monica Faralli

Il Sindaco  
Fabrizio Fè

Il Responsabile della Cultura  
Andrea Giorgi

Il Collaboratore Artistico  
Guglielmo Pianigiani

Il Collaboratore al Pianoforte  
Paolo Andreoli

Info line: 335 7542186 – 345 8533213 – 0578 749796 – 0578 748502

## THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR SINGERS BENVENUTO FRANCI

Città di Pienza • October 14 - 15 - 16, 2010

[www.comune.pienza.si.it](http://www.comune.pienza.si.it)

### BENVENUTO FRANCI

"Charming Pienza! Small but a beautiful and great treasure. From the hill on which it sits, one gazes at an exquisite panorama that reaches all the way to southern Tuscany and completely seduces the spirit."

Benvenuto Franci thus describes the town where he was born on 1 July 1891. As a youngster, he was fascinated by the musical instruments of the town band: large and small instruments, woodwinds and brass - he played them all but preferred the euphonium. He studied the viola and performed in a trio with the band-master on the violin and the town barber on the cello. As he grew up, people noticed that he not only had great talent with musical instruments but that he also sang with an easy and sonorous voice.

In 1910 his parents decided to send him to study voice in Rome at the Academy of Santa Cecilia where he attended the famous school of the great Maestro Antonio Cotogni. Fellow students, Beniamino Gigli and Giacomo Lauri Volpi, shared with him all their anxieties, hopes and fears.

In 1917, he brazenly requested an audition with Emma Carelli, who was then running the Teatro Costanzi. After hearing the baritone, Carelli said: "A beautiful voice, a great voice. I would like to discipline and release it. This season the new opera Lodoletta by Mascagni will be performed. I will prepare you myself and will put you on the stage."

The day after Christmas of 1917 he debuted in Rome to great acclaim. This success at the Costanzi immediately earned him a contract with the San Carlo in Naples, where, working with Maestro Franco Capuana, he expanded his repertoire: Un Ballo in Maschera, Aida, Rigoletto, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, La Gioconda, Andrea Chenier, Cavalleria, Pagliacci, La Bohème, La Traviata, Don Pasquale, all operas that he would continue to sing throughout his career.

His great success opened the doors to La Scala. Toscanini wanted him for Aida, Tristan, Carmen, Traviata, affirming his faith and esteem for Franci over a ten year period. He premiered a number of important works: Boito's posthumous work Nerone, Zandonai's Francesca da Rimini and I Cavalieri di Ekebù, directed by the composer himself, Umberto Giordano's La Cena delle beffe, Il piccolo Marat by Mascagni, and Marinuzzi's Palla dé Mozzi, directed by the composer.

For twenty years he sang in the most important Italian and foreign theatres, all the while expanding his repertoire: I Puritani, Tosca, La Fanciulla del West, Guglielmo Tell, Gianni Schicchi, La forza del destino, Fidelio, Otello, Nabucco, Die Meistersinger, and Lohengrin (Franci is one of the few Italian singers to embrace the Wagnerian repertoire). In Bologna, on the occasion of the premiere of Il Tabarro, he met Puccini who advised him to study Gianni Schicchi, a role he subsequently performed many times. The list of theatres in which Benvenuto Franci performed is long and glorious including, among many, Rome, Naples and Milan, Bologna, Genoa, Verona, Torino, Parma, Palermo, Trieste, Florence, etc. Abroad, he was regularly invited to perform at Covent Garden in London, at the Paris Opéra, in Madrid, Barcelona, Vienna, Berlin, and Lisbon.

In the summer of 1924 he set sail for South America with the Company of Ottavio Scotto and Claudia Muzio, and the director Marinuzzi. The sixteen performances he was scheduled to sing became forty. He returned regularly to Brazil, Chile, and Argentina for ten years.

In 1956, he retired from the stage where he had performed for forty years. "At the end of the opera, Toscanini called me into his dressing room, hugged me and spoke to me in a way that filled me with emotion and joy. Never will I forget that hug – I consider it the ultimate prize of my career."  
**(Benvenuto Franci)**

#### Vincitori I° Concorso Edizione 2008

I° Premio:  
**Liudmila Kuzmina**  
II° Premio (ex Aequo):  
**Sung-mi Jung e Ji-hye Kim**  
III° Premio (ex Aequo):  
**Anna Corvino e Solmaaz Adeli Sarrafzadeh**  
Premio Speciale per La Voce Di Baritone:  
**Joung-min Park**



## REGULATIONS

**Art. 1:** Singers of all nationalities are invited to participate. Candidates must be born after December 31, 1974. There is also a Senior Section for singers of all nationalities born before January 1, 1975.

**Art. 2:** The competition will take place in the City of Pienza at the Biblioteca Comunale "E. Balducci" , part of the former Conservatory S.Carlo Borromeo), Piazza San Carlo 12, on 14, 15, 16 October 2010.

**Art. 3:** For admission to the Competition, candidates must:

- Complete the attached registration form, taking care to specify exactly the list of songs chosen.
- Attach a photocopy of their identity papers
- Attach a copy of the receipt of payment or bank transfer (euro 60.00) of the registration fee, payable to the City of Pienza. IBAN: c/c IT 24 I 088857193000000430374 ( foreign) SWIFTCODE ICRAIT3FOL0. Payment may also be made by postal account (euro 60.00) to the Tesoreria del Comune di Pienza c/c 14086532;
- Attach 2 passport photos, signed on the back
- If the candidate requests a piano accompanist, please attach a photocopy of the music for all the songs chosen (single-sided photocopy, not double-sided)

**Art. 4:** Applications can be sent by email, to be received before 6 October 2010, to: iscrizione.concorsofranci@comune.pienza.si.it. Or by registered mail to the following address: "2° Concorso Internazionale «Benvenuto Franci», Città di Pienza, Corso Il Rossellino, 61, 53026 Pienza (SI)". Please write on the outside of the envelope the following: "Contiene DOMANDA DI PARTICIPAZIONE CONCORSO LIRICO – NON APRIRE" . Applications received after 6 October 2010 will be admitted at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

**Art. 5:** The Registraton Fee is 60.00 euros.

**Art. 6:** Competitors should present themselves, along with valid identification (ID card, passport, driving licence, Rail Pass) at the Biblioteca Comunale "E. Balducci" Former Conservatory S. Carlo Borromeo, 12 Piazza San Carlo on Thursday October 14, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. for 'roll call'. No further notice regarding this convocation will be sent. Competitors who do not present themselves at the 'roll call' will be excluded from the competition, unless the delay is supported by a legitimate reason. The order of call for the elimination round is by alphabetical order starting immediately after the roll call. The first elimination round begins Thursday, October 14, 2010 immediately following the convocation.

**Art 7:** The organisation provides a piano accompanist. Competitors are offered the option of using their own accompanist but at the expense of the competitor. The piano accompanist will be available the day before the elimination round from 10:00 to 20:00 at the headquarters of the competition. Competitors should book the accompanist by telephoning the Secretariat of the Competition.

**Art. 8:** Competitors must submit 5 opera arias, to be sung in their original language and vocal arrangement.

**Art. 9:** The competition is divided into the following elimination rounds: First ELIMINATION ROUND: The competitors will perform, among the 5 arias submitted, 1 aria of their own choice (this aria must be indicated on the registration form and cannot be changed)

Second Elimination Round - SEMIFINAL: The competitors will perform 1 aria of their own choice and 1 aria selected by the Committee. The aria selected by the competitor cannot be the same as the one performed in the first elimination round.

Third Elimination Round - FINAL: the competitor will perform 1 or more arias at the choice of the Committee from among those submitted.

All the arias presented must include the Recitative and Cabaletta (where provided).

Performance from memory is compulsory.

All Elimination Rounds of the competition are open to the public.

**Art 10:** Members of the Selection Committee will abstain from voting for any competitor with whom they have a family relationship, or if they have taught the candidate in the two years prior to the competition. At the beginning of the competition each member of the Selection Committee will issue a specific statement to this effect. If a Committee member has to abstain, the Artistic Director or delegate will substitute.

**Art. 11:** The competitors will be judged as follows: First ELIMINATION Round: Each member of the Selection Committee will vote on whether the candidate is 'eligible' or 'not eligible'. The decision is based on the vote of the majority of the Committee. In the case of a tie-vote, the Artistic Director or his Delegate will cast the final vote.

Second and Third ELIMINATION Rounds (SEMIFINAL and FINAL): Each member of the Selection Committee will vote according to a numerical score. The highest and lowest scores will be eliminated and the ranking of competitors will be based on the remaining scores. Only competitors with a score of 80/100 will be admitted to the Final Round. The list of semi-finalists and finalists will be made public at the conclusion of Selection Committee meeting and immediately following the completion of the administrative requirements.

**Art. 12:** The Selection Committee reserves the right to stop the process and/or require a repetition of the performance. No Committee member will abstain from voting (except as otherwise provided in Article. 10).

**Art. 13:** The decision of the Selection Committee is final. At the request of the candidate, the Committee will provide the decision in confidence. The Committee reserves the right not to award prizes if the candidates are not deemed worthy.

**Art. 14:** Finalists will be awarded a Certificate of Merit; all others will receive a Certificate of Participation. Non-participation by the winners in the Finalists Gala Concert and the prize-giving ceremony will constitute a cancellation of the prize.

**Art. 15:** Prizes

- 1st Prize: Scholarship of 2.500,00 euros

- 2nd Prize: Scholarship of 1.500,00 euros

- 3rd Prize: "Terre di Siena" Scholarship of 1000.00 euros

- Special prize of 500.00 euros for Baritone voice

- Special prize for the Senior Section offered by Rotary Club of Chiusi-Chianciano Terme-Montepulciano (1.000 euros)

1. Prize offered by the Opera and Symphony Foundation «Teatro Petruzzelli» in Bari: the winners are guaranteed an audition at the «Teatro Petruzzelli». The audition can lead to an eventual participation of the winner in a future production of the «Teatro Petruzzelli».

2. Prize offered by Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino - the possibility for the candidates considered most deserving to audition for the Artistic Director of Theatre (to take place before December 2010).

3. Special Prize «Anselmo Colzani». At the discretion of the Artistic Director of the competition Maestro Aldo Salvagno a FREE 3-day Masterclass, to be offered in the fall of 2011, with the soprano June Anderson, to be followed by a concert performance with orchestra at the Teatro Consortiale di Budrio (Bologna). Room and board are included. The candidate will receive a certificate of participation.

4. Special Prize «Maria Caniglia»

5. At the discretion of the M° Luca Canonici, Artistic Director of Opera Festival (Giardini di Boboli and the Abbazia di San Galgano) candidates deemed most deserving will be offered an audition for Opera Festival

6. Prize-winners concert for the first three winners organized by the Cultural, Conference and Promotional Centre Avditorij Portoroz - Portoroz at the Theatre Tartini (Pirano) in Slovenia. Competition winners will perform at the Teatro Tartini Pirano (Slovenia) by October 31, 2010.

7. Competitors who have distinguished themselves in various stages of the competition will be considered for auditions by the agency Stage Door Inc. for Angelo Gabrielli.

8. The prize-winner will be offered a concert with the Chamber Orchestra «Orfeo Stillo» by the Società Beethoven A.C.A.M. Crotone

**Art. 16:** All phases of the competition will be recorded, reproduced, filmed, shown in audio and video, freely used and circulated both in Italy and abroad, without any claim by the participants.

**Art. 17:** The Organising Committee reserves the right by reason of force majeure, to make changes to these Regulations. In such a case, participants will receive this information in a timely fashion.

**Art. 18:** The application for participation implies that the candidate has understood and agrees to these Rules of the Competition.

**Art. 19:** The Rules of Competition have a legal value in the Italian language.

**Art. 20:** In the case of dispute, the Court of Montepulciano will apply.

**Jury:**

Adua Veroni President

Francesca Barbieri Musical consultant

Carlo Franci Conductor

Renato Bruson Baritone

Giandomenico Vaccari Superintendent of the Opera and Symphony Foundation «Teatro Petruzzelli» in Bari

Cristiano Sandri Casting Manager Direzione Artistica Teatro Maggio Musicale Fiorentino

Angelo Gabrielli Lyric Agent Stage Door

Luca Canonici Tenor and Artistic Director of Opera Festival

Aldo Salvagno Conductor and Artistic Director Concorso «A.Colzani» di Budrio (BO)

The final elimination round and winners' concerts will be recorded. Candidates hereby agree to give full consent to such recordings.

## • Registration Form

## The Second International Competition for Singers «Benvenuto Franci»

Please complete the printed form or as a word document (photocopies are also accepted)

Nome _____	
First Name	
Cognome _____	
Last Name	
Luogo di Nascita _____	
Place of birt	
Nazionalità _____	
Nationality	
Città di Residenza _____ c.a.p _____	
Place of Residence	
Indirizzo _____	
Address	
Registro Vocale _____	
Vocal range	
Senior born <input type="checkbox"/> prior to 1 January 1975	
Documento di identità _____	
Identification Document	
Phone _____ Mobile: _____	
Fax _____	
e-mail _____	
Web Site _____	
The undersigned declares that they agree to the rules contained in 'Competition Regulations' and the irrevocable decisions of Board of Examiners.	
Data.....	Signature.....
Privacy Information: In accordance with the legislation D.Lgs n. 196/2003, the information above will be used only for the purposes for which it is collected. The undersigned hereby agrees to this use.	