

# BRIDGING THE GAP

## COMMUNITY MUSIC AND COMMUNITY OPERA

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# 26-27 OCTOBER 2021

Faculty of Education – University of Bozen/Bolzano (Italy)  
University of Basilicata (Italy)  
International Centre for Community Music (ICCM)  
Community Music Italy | <https://communitymusic-italy.it>

VIRTUAL AND PRESENCE  
CONFERENCE

#### Scientific Committee:

Antonella Coppi – Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen/Bolzano (Italy)

Johann van der Sandt – Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen/Bolzano (Italy)

Dinko Fabris, University of Basilicata, Human Science Department / Past President International Society of Music (Italy)

Lee Higgins, Director ICCM, York Saint John University (UK)

Marika Calenda, Università della Basilicata, Human Science Department (Italy)

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#### Programme Committee:

Johann van der Sandt, Dinko Fabris,  
Antonella Coppi, Vania Cauzillo

#### Organising Committee:

Antonella Coppi (unibz),  
Johann van der Sandt (unibz),  
Vania Cauzillo (L'albero),  
Andrea Cervo (Coro Unimore),  
Allegra Iotti (Coro Unimore)

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## BRIDGING THE GAP

The Conference will be dedicated to Community Music as a field of practice, representing a natural place for everyday (musical) experiences to bring about socio-cultural changes. Community Music in Italy is a relatively new academic field, and with this symposium we would like to continue the discussion on the merits of CM. Both international and Italian speakers will share their research and show how CM addresses inclusion, integration and democratic education through participation in informal, non-formal and formal musical settings. CM is evolving internationally, becoming stronger and resonating in different contexts, also in Italy; this symposium serves as an important international networking opportunity to learn from each other and to successfully plough new experiences back into participants' own national community music landscapes.

The conference will also host the first discussion in Italy on the subject of "Community Opera". Just as there is not yet a clear definition of "Community Music", a definition of "Community Opera" is also not yet secured. And just like Community Music, Community Opera is still in its infancy to be recognized as a subject of academic studies. Opera is the most complex and expensive form of performance invented in Europe over four centuries ago, and since then it has always been strongly linked to the communities for which it was produced, at different social levels. But even before the pandemic emergency of 2020-21, the traditional "opera" model was in deep crisis. Opera houses, companies, organizers, and artists began experiments and projects to rethink new models and meanings of opera in communities. Through the participation of experts and the presentation of case studies, Community Opera will be examined from different points of view: as an artistic practice, as a model for integrating opera and music into cultural and social welfare, and as fertile ground for testing new methods for measuring the impact of classical music on the communities involved. The discussions will also highlight existing literature and resources to support the future development of Community Opera.

## PROGRAMME

26 October, 2021

13.00 – 14.00 Opening & registration

Chair: Johann van der Sandt

**14.00 – 14.15 Institutional Opening**

Director of the Department of Human Sciences, University of Basilicata: Francesco Panarelli,  
Dean of the Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen/Bolzano: Paul Videsott.

**14.15 – 15.00 Keynote address: Community Music: 9 illustrations of Practice.**

Lee Higgins, International Center for Community Music, York, S. John University (UK)

**15.00 – 15.30 "Together we are less alone" – a case study of community singing**

Antonella Coppi & Johann van der Sandt

**15.30 – 15.50 Community Music Therapy: itineraries, principles and practices.**

Paolo Caneva, Musicoteraphist

15.50 – 16.10 Break

Chair: Antonella Coppi

16.10 – 16.15 Introduction

**16.15 – 17.00 A Case study of Community singing during Covid-19 lockdown in Italy.**

Michele Biasutti, Università di Padova, past president Società Italiana di Educazione Musicale

**17.00 – 17:30 Community Music: New configurations for new communities**

Emily Achieng' Akuno, President ISME, Deputy Vice-Chancellor The Co-operative University of Kenya

17.30 – 18.00 Round table and concluding discussion

**18.00 – 18.30 "Community Music and Music Education" book presentation.**

Samuele Ferrarese, University of Milano Bicocca

## PROGRAMME

27 October, 2021

13.00 – 14.00 Opening and registration

Chair: Johann van der Sandt

14.00 – 14.15 Introduction

**14.15 – 14.55 Keynote address: A moment of decision: Opera, Community art and Technology. Traction project presentation: Opera Co-creation for a social transformation | Horizon 2020.**

François Matarasso, Community artist, researcher

**15.00 – 15.15 Community Opera (CMO): an introduction.**

Dinko Fabris, University of Basilicata, Human Science Department / Past President IMS

Chair: Dinko Fabris

**15.15 – 15.40 A European perspective on Community Opera (CMO) from a National Opera House: La Monnaie, Bruxelles | "Orfeo & Majnun case study"**

Peter de Caluwe, Intendant General e Artistic Director, Théâtre Royale de La Monnaie, Bruxelles.

**15.40 – 16.05 An Italian inclusive and accessible Community Opera (CMO). Case study "Silent City" commissioned by ECoC Matera 2019.**

Vania Cauzillo, co-artistic director "L'Albero" Theatre Company

16.05 – 16.15 Break

**16.15 – 16.40 50 years of Pioneering Outreach and educational work.**

Jane Davidson, Director of Education & Outreach, Scottish Opera, Glasgow

**16.40 – 17.10 Community Opera in Latino America, an overview.**

Miguel Fariás, composer, Paulina Ricciardi, Latin American theatre network, Ópera Latinoamérica OLA.

17.10 – 17.20 Break

17.20 – 18.00 Discussion and Questions

18.00 – 18.30 Concluding discussion

18.30 – 19.00 Ending Ceremony