

COLLA VOCE singing workshop

for singers of all styles

JULY 2-27, 2010

Set on the beautiful Mediterranean coast , an intensive 3 week workshop PLUS a terrific little tourism package: 2 days in Rome, 2 days in Perugia, and day trips to Florence, Pisa and the Tuscan wine growing region.

- * **Experience life in a small Tuscan coastal town**
- * **Visit some of the most legendary places in Italy**
- * **Take part in Italy's coolest music festival, Umbria Jazz**
- * **Study with teachers you will love**
- * **Enjoy the rare opportunity to work with live music**
- * **Create with musicians and dancers to shape a final show**

A BIT ABOUT HOW WE WILL LIVE

This program has been created to give you an opportunity to experience Italian summer life in a small seaside town. After our initial stint in Rome, we will settle into the lovely Tuscan village of Caletta di Castiglioncello, right on the Mediterranean about 20 minutes south of Livorno. Pisa is 45 minutes away and Florence 90.

This year we have two options for lodgings: shared apartments, in which you will cook for yourself and really get to interact with the people around you, and a hotel very near the ocean with a meal plan. In any case, **we hope you discover *la bella vita* -- the beautiful life in which we slow down and take time to enjoy a place, its food, its art... and each other.**

A FEW WORDS ON THE TOURISM COMPONENT

It's ridiculous to come to Italy and not see Italy, so we've built a "best of Italy" tourism component into the program:

- 2 nights in The Eternal City of **Rome**, complete with fun group activity and guided tour
- A weekend in **Perugia** for the outrageous **Umbria Jazz Fest**
- A day trip to **Florence**
- An afternoon in **Pisa**
- Wine tasting in the heart of the **Tuscan wine region** + lunch in Medieval **Bolgheri**

MORE ON THE WORKSHOP

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED FOR singers of all styles wanting to open the doors to their creative, expressive and technical potential. **If you are a vocalist seeking to discover and develop your voice from all perspectives - physical, emotional and psychological - this program is for you.**

THE DAILY ROUTINE will run from midmorning until midafternoon with personal rehearsal time until 4.45pm (exact schedule yet to be set)*.

La Bella Vita ARTS WORKSHOPS

THE WORKSHOP WILL CONCLUDE WITH A SHOWING created by the instructors and students. Students are encouraged to create, collaborate and contribute.

THE INTENSIVE TWO WEEKS OF WORKSHOP will focus on **MUSICAL SKILLS, TECHNIQUE** and **PERFORMANCE**. The fundamental goal is to help students create a personal approach that is healthy, honest, and filled with ease and freedom.

MUSICAL SKILLS will focus on things such as music fundamentals, sight reading, ear training, understanding and writing charts, customizing a song (how to choose the right key and make cuts), and working with musicians.

TECHNIQUE will be developed in several areas:

Physical aspects of vocal production: range, resonance, placement, power, dexterity, precision, use of the breath, etc... The usual things.

Expressive aspects within your chosen style: diction, phrasing, colour/texture, placement, use of vibrato, etc.; isolating and eliminating limitations. We will work with pieces you bring and also set things on you in order to push your edges.

Choral skills: harmonizing, listening, blending, diction and vocal production in a group context, choral repertory covering a wide variety of styles

Improv work: develop confidence, uncover new ways of looking at musicality, find new sources of inspiration, open the doors to creativity. Enjoy the very cool opportunity to work with other disciplines. We will bring musicians, dancers and singers together for improv exercises that are mind-opening, skill-building and a lot of fun - and an aspect that students love.

PERFORMANCE skills will be honed through **one-on-one sessions**, in **group and master classes**, through **lectures** and in **rehearsals** for our final showing.

One-on-one sessions: Basically, we will meet you where you're at. Work in private with an instructor on whatever is important to you.

Group and master classes will focus on such things as:

Song interpretation - emotionally connecting a song to yourself, stylistically making a song your own, and enlivening delivery of a song using theatrical approaches to text.

Movement for singers - energizing the body to prepare for the day's work, bringing awareness to the body to inform the voice, understanding the link between body and mind

The artist onstage: We will explore how we can be powerful but at ease, exciting to watch, and in tune with our creative impulses.

Lectures will cover a range of topics from Somatic Psychology to how to put together a cabaret.

La Bella Vita ARTS WORKSHOPS

Rehearsals during the workshop will deal with the creative process and working with artists from other disciplines. Post-workshop we will have two rehearsal days in which to experience a full-on, real-world preparation for the showing.

FACULTY: All instructors speak English and are terrific. Confirmed at this time:

- Richard Link** (UK; main instructor)
- Michelle Contrino** (US; movement for singers)
- Sharon Richardson** (Canada; song interpretation, choreography)

TUITION

STANDARD: \$2,890 (US or Canadian. Residents of the Commonwealth may pay in Canadian \$.)
Shared apartment lodgings for students over 18; limited spaces. Meals not included.

OPTIONS: Hotel and meal plans

*This year we are pleased to offer a hotel/meal plan option (required for students under 18) so you won't have to bring sheets, towels or a blow dryer; clean or cook; worry about the language or bringing a wad of cash to cover your meals. The hotel is close to the sea and has fans, TVs, phones, wireless internet, daily maid service, and English speaking staff. Be aware the meal plans begin once we get to Tuscany on July 4 (see **Meal Plan, Rome** below to cover July 2 & 3) and do NOT include lunch. During our weekend in Perugia, only breakfast is provided (ample American style).*

Hotel Il Bersagliere, Caletta di Castiglioncello

Half board (Italian breakfast and dinner excluding beverages): **ADDITIONAL 795 euro**

The hotel is quite close to the workshop site and the beach.

Meal Plan, Rome

We'll take you to dinner our first two nights in Rome and teach you about the food, its origins, and the Italian dining experience. One meal will be traditional pasta/pizza at *La Gallina Bianca* and the other will be modern bistro cuisine based on traditional Roman recipes at the wonderful *Urbana 47*. Limited to a small group. **ADDITIONAL 60 euro**

In order manage the currency exchange in a manner fair to all, hotel and meal plan options will be converted to dollars using current rates at the time of billing.

The standard tuition covers*:

- Three week workshop featuring live music
- Final showing and wrap up dinner party
- All accommodations from July 2-27
- 2 days in Rome, including guided tour
- 2 days in Perugia
- 1 afternoon in Pisa, including guided tour
- 1 day trip to Florence, including guided tour
- Wine tasting at Chiappini Winery and lunch in Bolgheri
- Icebreaker Bowling Night
- Transport for all scheduled excursions and events
- Full cultural and locale orientations
- Staff available 24/7

La Bella Vita ARTS WORKSHOPS

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY

The standard tuition does NOT include:

- Flight
- Transfers upon arrival or departure**
- Gallery, museum and attraction entry fees
- Festival concert tickets
- Meals (unless you have purchased a hotel/meal plan option)
- If you have purchased a meal plan, note that only breakfast is covered in Perugia
- Sheets, towels, or kitchen linens (unless you have purchased a hotel/meal plan option)
- Overnight guests***

**Exact schedule to be set. As with all things in Italy, all program events, schedules, faculty and lodgings are subject to change. If events must be modified we will make every effort to substitute an experience of equal type, significance and value. In the event of a train strike or other occurrence that forces us to remain in a excursion city beyond the planned duration, students are responsible for the cost of any extra overnight accommodations.*

****Our orientation (mandatory) in Rome is at 6pm on July 2. Departure time is by 12 noon on Tues, July 27. See the [GETTING THERE](#) section of the website for complete info re arrivals.**

PLEASE REVIEW THE [TRAVEL TIPS Flying/Airports](#) section BEFORE BOOKING YOUR TRAVEL and feel free to contact us for help.

*****All overnight guests (friends or family) in the apartments must be prearranged, space permitting. Cost of 25 euros per night payable in cash upon arrival.**

SCHEDULE*

Fri, July 2	Student arrivals in Rome, orientation (6pm; mandatory), group activity
Sat, July 3	Tour of Rome
Sun, July 4	Train to Tuscany; orientation
M-F July 5-9	Workshop Week 1 (including Icebreaker Bowling Night)
Fri, July 9	Train to Perugia/Umbria Jazz
Sat, July 10	Umbria Jazz
Sun, July 11	Umbria Jazz; return home
M-F July 12-16	Workshop Week 2
Thu, July 15	Excursion to Pisa (after classes)
Sat, July 17	Wine tasting at Chiappini Winery and lunch in Bolgheri
Sun, July 18	Free day
M-W, July 19-21	Workshop Week 3
Thu, July 22	Day trip to Florence
Fri, July 23	Rehearsal day 1
Sat, July 24	Rehearsal day 2; showing; wrap up dinner party
Sun, July 25	Free day (clean up, get ready to leave); Exit interviews
Mon, July 26	Free day (clean up; get ready to leave); Exit interviews
Tue, July 27	Departures (by 12 noon)

DAILY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE*

8.00	rehearsal rooms open for individual practice
9.00-13.15	classes
13.15-13.45	lunch break
13.45-14.45	group work/rehearsals
14.45-16.45	private lessons

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AGE, LEVEL, DEADLINE, APPLYING, AUDITIONS

Minimum age: 17 (16 year olds accepted on a case by case basis)

Level: Some background beneficial; all styles welcome

Deadline: Mar 1, 2010

Apply: online at www.labellavitaarts.com; read the APPLY ONLINE section first

Auditions: Required. Your audition can be one or two tunes, solo or with other musicians, and up to 5 minutes in length. Jazz vocalists should sing once through the form and add a scatting pass. You may email audio files to admin@labellavitaarts.com. If submitting a CD or DVD we will be in touch with the mailing address after your application is received.