International
Divertimento
Ensemble
Academy

Salvatore Sciarrino, Maria Grazia Bellocchio and the students of the 2023 *Call for Young Performers* on the stage of *Rondò* 2023 (Milan, Sala Donatoni, Fabbrica del Vapore)

Call for Young Performers

Piano in the contemporary repertoire

November 2025 - May 2026

WERE Milan, Sala Donatoni, Fabbrica del Vapore

TEACHER Maria Grazia Bellocchio

CONCERTS 4 in *Rondò* 2026 season, Milano

APPLICATION DEADLINE 20 September 2025

ULYSSES platform

Co-funded by
the European Union

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COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is reserved for students **born after January 1, 1991**. It is divided into **two cycles**: the first from November 2025 to February 2026, and the second from February to May 2026. Each cycle consists of **four two-day sessions** (Saturday and Sunday).
Participation in one or both cycles is possible. Each active participant is entitled to **four 90-minute individual lessons** for each cycle.

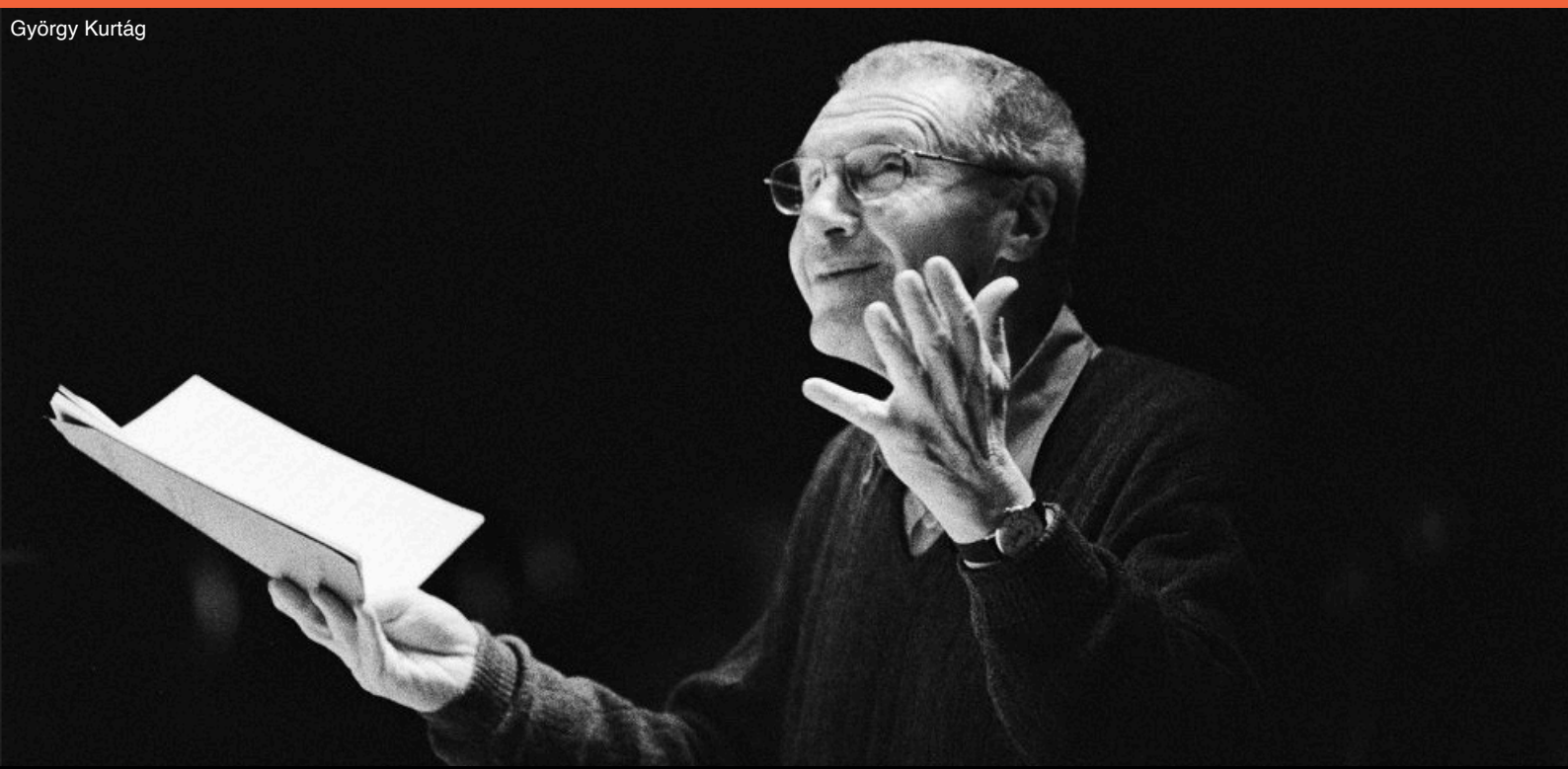
REPERTOIRE

The first cycle is dedicated to the piano and chamber music works of **György Kurtág**. The second cycle is dedicated to the **late twentieth-century and contemporary** repertoire for piano and chamber music, proposed by the students.

THE CONCERTS

The repertoire studied will be performed in **four concerts in Milan** (Sala Donatoni, Fabbrica del Vapore) during the 2026 Rondò season. **Two** will be scheduled in February, at the end of the first cycle, and **two** in May, at the end of the second.
The concerts will be performed by selected musicians who have attended **at least three meetings per cycle**. **Repeat performances** of the concerts are planned for other concert seasons.

Furthermore, the artistic direction of Divertimento Ensemble will **assign a concert** to one or more students during the 2027 Rondò concert season.


György Kurtág

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APPLICATION AND SELECTION

The course is open to musicians of any nationality **born after January 1, 1991**.
The application for admission must be **received by September 20, 2025**, by completing the form available **HERE**.

In the enrolment form you'll be asked to attach:
- a copy of your identity document
- your CV
- your repertoire of 20th-century music to the present
- the compositions you wish to study
- a link to an audio or video recording of 20th-century pieces, if any.

The application form contains **instructions for paying the €30 registration fee**, which is refundable only if the course cannot be held.

Selection for admission will be based on the documentation submitted. A maximum number of 12 students will be selected for admission.
The selection results will be communicated to all registered participants **by email by October 1, 2025.**

PARTICIPATION FEES

For each cycle: € 300: piano solo – **€ 400**: chamber ensembles
For both cycles: € 500: piano solo – **€ 600**: chamber ensembles

Fees must be **paid by October 10, 2025.**
In the event of cancellation of the course, all fees already paid will be refunded in full.

Call for Young Performers 2025: the young pianists, Maria Grazia Bellocchio and Helmut Lachenmannat the end of the concert dedicated to him

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MARIA GRAZIA BELLOCCHIO

After her musical studies in piano and composition at the Milan Conservatory, Maria Grazia Bellocchio specialized with Karl Engel at the Bern Conservatory.
She regularly gives piano masterclasses at Italian conservatories and summer music courses (Campus musica Sermoneta, Chianti in musica, Municipality of Maccagno), and is currently the holder of the piano class and teacher of the Master of Contemporary Piano at the Conservatory of Milano. She has performed in numerous solo, chamber music récitals (with Salvatore Accardo, Rocco Filippini, Bruno Giuranna, Franco Petracchi, Myriam Dal Don, Alda Caiello and in piano duo with Stefania Redaelli) and with orchestra for concert institutions in Italy and abroad (Amici della Musica of Padua, Perugia, Florence, Palermo, Festival Mito, Teatro Comunale in Bologna and Ferrara, Teatro Regio in Parma, Società Barattelli in l'Aquila, Società dei Concerti in Milan, Milano Musica, Rec Festival, New Music of Middelburg, Klangforum Wien, University of Valparaiso (Chile), Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, Festival Musica in Strasbourg, Festival Presences in Paris, Biennale di Venezia, Printemps des Arts de Monte-Carlo).

She collaborates permanently with Divertimento Ensemble conducted by Sandro Gorli regularly in major festivals and joined in 2012 the European network Ulysses, which brings together 14 major European institutions dedicated to promoting and disseminating contemporary music.
In 2011, on the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy, she conceived the project "Viaggio in Italia – Nuovo canzoniere popolare - 20 popular songs transcribed by 20 composers," which was premiered together with Alda Caiello at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and replicated at the Mito festival, Musica Insieme in Bologna and several other Italian cities.
She has recorded CDs for Ricordi and Stradivarius with works by Bruno Maderna, Sandro Gorli, Franco Donatoni, Stefano Gervasoni, Gabriele Manca, Federico Gardella, Stefano Bulfon, Marco Momi, Claudio Ambrosini, Ivan Fedele and György Kurtág.

In 2022, together with composer Alessandro Solbiati, on the centenary of Pier Paolo Pasolini's birth, she created the project "soave poeta, quel mio omonimo che ancora ha il mio nome...," a journey through his poetry that weaves together the reading of his verses by actor Fabio Zullo, songs from the Friulian folk tradition and Bach transcriptions performed by soprano Laura Catrani and some piano pieces chosen from the Interludi and the Third Sonata.

In 2023 the project dedicated to Salvatore Sciarrino's Piano Sonatas, conceived by Maria Grazia Bellocchio as part of IDEA – International Divertimento Ensemble Academy, received the "special prize" of the Franco Abbiati critics.

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Project curated by
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