

Press release
English translation from the Italian by Samantha Stout

Sound and Image: Accademia Musicale Chigiana and Toscana Film Commission

present the new

Chigiana Film Scoring Intensive Program

**COMPOSITION, ORCHESTRATION, TECHNOLOGIES AND SOUND DESIGN
APPLIED TO IMAGES**

June 1-16, Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Siena

A new project of international relevance. It is now possible to obtain a specialization in music production and sound design for film and audiovisual media.

A 3-week long intensive program with award-winning faculty, many of whom bring their experience from the major productions of Hollywood

Film scoring returns to the Accademia Chigiana with a new educational offer following the historic masterclasses held by Nino Rota, Ennio Morricone, Nicola Piovani and Luis Bacalov

Applications are open until May 15th

Siena, 13.04.2022 – The Accademia Chigiana returns to the screen scoring scene with the project “Sound and Image” which will develop music for film and audiovisual media. It is the latest **announcement from the celebrated Sienese institution**, in collaboration with the **Toscana Film Commission**, a department of the **Fondazione Sistema Toscana**. In its **first edition**, from **1-16 June 2022 in Siena**, the ***Chigiana Film Scoring Intensive Program*** will accept **10 participants** who will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge in applying digital technologies according to the highest international standards to the **creation and production of music and sound designs for film** and for all types of audiovisual media.

“With the launch of this new area of activity *Sound and Image* - declares the President of the Fondazione Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Carlo Rossi - our institution aligns itself with its heritage, creating continuity with the prestigious masterclasses in film scoring, which witnessed the presence of great composers over the course of history, such as **Francesco Lavagnino, Nino Rota** and the Oscar winners **Ennio Morricone, Nicola Piovani and Luis Bacalov**. The ***Chigiana Film Scoring Intensive***

Program is a project of global significance which will apply the most innovative forms of sound production linked to current digital standards. It contributes to further expand the courses of the Accademia Chigiana, which were recently enriched with a large sector dedicated to Baroque music. Siena firmly establishes itself as an educational center that enables the integration of skills and development in diverse disciplines that combine research, experimentation, and production of the most advanced sectors of scientific research, cultural innovation, and entertainment to foster growth and progress of the whole community and the access of young people to the most advanced forms of communication and dissemination of knowledge.”

The Chigiana Film Scoring Intensive Program, is organized over **three weeks of intensive course work** (80 hours) with an award-winning international faculty who make up some of the best teachers and professionals in the field, many of whom come from Hollywood. Individual and group lessons will be held on the analysis of composition techniques, music technologies, and digital production – a field in which the Chigiana is a recognized international excellence, thanks to the course in Live Electronics. Sound and Music Computing – including competencies in post-production with modules dedicated to mixing, mastering, editing and sound design. In addition, 17 hours are specifically dedicated to **recording sessions, with a symphonic orchestra of 42 pieces**, thanks to the collaboration with the **ORT - Orchestra della Toscana**, and a string quintet.

«The new digital technologies have ushered in a new era in the elaboration of sound and images, with results that, it would not be an exaggeration to say, are revolutionary – explains **Nicola Sani**, the Artistic Director of the Chigiana who organized the course together with **Antonio Artese**, the Dean of the Chigiana Global Academy Programs. – In particular **in the field of digital technologies applied to the performance sector we can predict even more extremely interesting developments, specifically in the audiovisual component**. With the new area of activity “Sound and Image”, the Accademia Chigiana intends to integrate opportunities in higher education in all fields of music (from composition, to the performance technique, to the baroque), with a specific educational offer in the field of cinema and audiovisual media, connected to the entire chain of production and distribution in that field, and able to compete with major institutions and international initiatives».

“With the project ‘*Suono e Immagine*’, realized together with the prestigious Accademia Chigiana of Siena, the Fondazione Sistema Toscana – states its president **Iacopo Di Passio** – confirms and reaffirms the goals of the Manifatture Digitali Cinema infrastructure network, ever more a reference point for the development of the territory by means of the cinematic arts; the education of innovative professionals, who have roots in the traditions and local knowledge; and the productions in the cinematographic and audiovisual fields.”

«The new educational project represents an important enrichment of the cultural offer of the region, with developments of great appeal for the world of film and audiovisual media. The goal is to develop specialized competencies, which are particularly valued by the production houses, so as to assist young talents who want launch their careers in audiovisual media – underlines **Stefania Ippoliti**, at the helm of the Toscana Film Commission. – **In the past few years the Toscana Film Commission has given life to numerous projects in order to encourage the development of quality productions in the region**. Thanks to the network of Manifatture Digitali Cinema (in Prato, Pisa, Pistoia, and now also in Siena), the Toscana Film Commission operates to create infrastructure and projects for the region in

the field of cinema and audiovisual media, for productive, artisanal, artistic and creative vocations of the territory. The collaboration with the Accademia Musicale Chigiana is a project of absolute prestige, creating a center of excellence in the Tuscan region that is unique in Italy and has all the credentials to become an international point of reference in the audiovisual field.».

The instructors involved in the program are all award-winning professionals and expert educators coming from the best academic institutions, active in the United States and Europe: **Patrick Kirst**, composer and arranger, Director of the Screen Scoring Program at the Thornton School of Music – University of Southern California, and an integral part of the media industry in Los Angeles; **Pete Anthony**, orchestrator, arranger and conductor in Los Angeles with over 400 films and productions with the best composers of Hollywood; **Alessio Miraglia**, producer, composer and sound engineer, who has worked on films for Netflix and Disney; **Marco Beltrami**, American composer and conductor, author of soundtracks for a variety of films and TV series; **Lawrence Shragge**, award winning musical explorer, and author of 165 soundtracks; **Marco Streccioni**, sound engineer and recording guru for large orchestras, an historic collaborator of Ennio Morricone who also collaborates with RAI Productions in Rome and the Sofia Record Factory; and **Tim Starnes**, producer, music editor, mixer and composer who has worked on *The Lord of the Rings* and *King Kong*.

«In the process of conceiving, programming, and structuring the course – explains **Antonio Artese**, course coordinator – we carried out an extensive benchmarking analysis on the main courses offered by accredited international institutions and private entities, including the master’s degrees from the famous USC Thornton School of Music in Los Angeles, Berklee College of Music in Boston, the New York University Steinhardt School of Music, and the Royal College of Music in London».

The course is open to a maximum of **10 participants**, over 18 years of age and **without age limit** and carries a tuition fee of 2,000 euro. **Applications will close on 15 May 2022** (early deadline **22 April**). The result of the admissions will be communicated on a rolling basis after the early deadline.

At the end of the course, in addition to having explored compositional and orchestration techniques, each participant will have produced two 3-minute demo videos with original music, which will be the subject of two professional recordings with string quintet and symphony orchestra. The works created in the first edition of the course will be made accessible to the public and presented formally in a special screening during the final evening of the course.

The Chigiana **Film Scoring Intensive Program** is the first in a series of modules that make up the new project “Sound and Image” with the objective **to launch national and international professional collaborations**. Special thanks to our partners: Fondazione Sistema Toscana, with the Toscana Film Commission and Manifatture Digitali Cinema, University of Southern California, Orchestra della Toscana – ORT, together with institutional partners Regione Toscana, Comune di Siena and Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena, in addition to technical partners Virus Studio and Adam Audio.

For information and to apply: <https://filmscoring.chigiana.org/>

More information on applications and admissions: <https://filmscoring.chigiana.org/admissions>