

“CENTRE DE PERFECCIONAMENT PLÁCIDO DOMINGO”

PALAU DE LES ARTS REINA SOFÍA, VALÈNCIA

OPERA SINGER AUDITIONS



Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía in Valencia offers, for the twelfth year, a training project for young Opera Singers and répéteur pianists organized by its Opera Studio, the *Centre de Perfeccionament Plácido Domingo*. The *Centre de Perfeccionament* develops its activity at the Teatre Martín i Soler, one of the four venues of the *Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía*.

The course is offered to singers who possess **high vocal and artistic qualities**, as well as **adequate technical preparation** to allow for the perfection of their skills and provide them with practical training in a world-class opera house.

The course will pay attention to the vocal-technique, interpretative and scenic aspects, and the study of the lyrical repertoire, in order to facilitate the entry of the singers into the world of professional opera.

The training will take place from September to July, both months included, and it will be full-time.

It is foreseen that the admitted candidates would be part of the Centre de Perfeccionament Plácido Domingo for the two forthcoming seasons (Season 2020-2021 and 2021-2022), as long as the Direction considers, after the first season evaluation, whether the evolution of the singer has been positive.

The course will include the following activities:

- Vocal technique
- Musical and scenic interpretation
- Alexander Technique
- Psychology
- Languages applied to Singing

The students will receive instruction from qualified teachers, stage directors, singers, and other artists and professionals participating in the productions and events programmed on the current season at *Palau de les Arts*.

Participation in the artistic and educational activities of the *Centre Plácido Domingo* is mandatory for all the singers. They could also be part of the productions staged during the season, in the various roles assigned to them by the Artistic Direction of *Palau de les Arts*.

Profile: Opera singer

1. Requirements

The advanced training course is aimed at individuals who are of legal age and who have completed their secondary school education.

Participants from the Autonomous Region of Valencia, as well as citizens from throughout the European Union and other countries are welcome to apply to this advanced training course.

To apply for this selection process, candidates must:

- Have an age between 18 and 30 years old for women, and between 18 and 33 for men.
- Provide proof that they have received adequate musical and vocal education and training in either a public or a private institution.
- Provide proof of experience in the area of operatic theatre and/or qualified concert activity.
- Candidates who come from countries outside the European Union and who have been selected to participate in the advanced training course **must apply for a Student Visa valid for Spain that includes the whole course period.**
- The selected candidates must have basic health insurance valid for Spain during the course period.

Preference will be given to those candidates who possess knowledge of a European foreign language among the main ones of the opera repertoire.

2. Course location

The course will be offered at the *Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía* in Valencia (Spain).

3. Application process

The application for admission, together with the necessary documents, must be submitted through the webpage <https://www.yaptracker.com/applications/palau-2020> before **10th March 2020 at 23:59 (Central European Time)**. In order to submit the application, candidates should register FOR FREE in the website (<https://www.yaptracker.com/register-applicant>).

The application process will consist on **an online form**, which must be duly filled out with all the requested personal and contact information, studies and the **compulsory programme** (see section 4).

In the form, the candidate must include a detailed explanation of the commitments already signed that will take place during the course period, so that the Direction can evaluate the possibility of the candidate's participation in the course, once the candidate has been chosen.

In addition to that, the following documents must be sent as attached files:

- Two **Video recording** of two arias **in a different language and of different style**. The recordings might be (or not) of the same arias presented to the audition programme. These videos should NOT be a recording of a concert or a production and they must not be edited nor cut. A clean sound quality and a good visibility of the candidate are required.
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (studies, musical training, work experience, repertoire and prizes).
- A copy of the Passport or Identity Card.
- A certificate of musical and vocal studies as well as for all other academic titles.
- Two recent photographs, a portrait ("head-shot") and a full-body photograph.
- The candidates selected to take part in the "semifinal round" must send **a scanned copy of the scores of the pieces chosen for the audition** (that must be sent by e-mail **within 7 days** after receiving the confirmation email). If the candidate does not send the documents on time, he or she will be automatically excluded from the audition process.

Should any of the information on the application prove to be false or incorrect, the applicant will be excluded from the audition.

4. Selection auditions

Once accepted to participate in the qualifying round, the candidate must present **5 pieces of music according to the following requirements:**

- 1 Mozart's aria of opera
- 1 aria of opera in Italian
- 1 aria of opera in a language different from Italian
- 1 aria by Monteverdi
- 1 *zarzuela* aria, a traditional Spanish lyric genre
- 1 piece of sacred or chamber music (*Lied, chanson, aria da camera*)

The selection process will consist on three rounds:

4.1. QUALIFYING ROUND (not in-person)

This round will not require the candidate's attendance. The selection will be carried out by listening to two video recording.

All the candidates registered in the auditions will be informed per mail about the results of this round between March 21 and 23.

4.2. SEMIFINAL ROUND (30th, 31st March and 1st April)

This round will be in-person and it will take place at the *Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía*, Avenida del Professor López Piñero (Historiador de la Medicina), 1 – Valencia (Spain).

The candidates who go up to the Semifinal round will sing two arias. The first aria will be chosen by the candidate and the second one will be chosen by the jury, among those presented for the competition. The results of the semifinal round will be announced on 1st April.

The arias must be known by heart and must be sung rigorously in the original language and tonality, including the recitative.

The Jury may choose to listen to the arias in their entirety or to limit the audition to a fragment thereof.

In this round, the candidate can be accompanied on the piano by a maestro répétiteur from the *Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía* or by his/her own pianist.

4.3. FINAL ROUND (3rd April)

On the final round, Maestro Plácido Domingo will chair the selection committee.

On this round, the candidates will be accompanied on the piano by a maestro répétiteur from the *Palau de les Arts*.

The day prior to the final (2nd April the candidate will be informed about the aria that he/she must sing on the final round. The 2nd April will be dedicated to the preparation for the final audition.

The jury may ask for a second aria or any fragment if needed.

The selection committee will announce the names of the candidates admitted to the course within 5 days after the final round. The result will be communicated to each candidate by e-mail. Only the candidates admitted to the course will be contacted by telephone.

If, at the end of the final round, the number of candidates selected is not enough to start the course, the selection Committee can open new auditions, a new selection process and/or select singers that have been finalists in national or international singing contests.

The selection Committee will consider the chance to offer partial scholarships to those candidates that have reached the final round, and who due to their vocal characteristics might fit in a specific project of the season.

5. Probationary period

The first three months will be considered as a probationary period for all the admitted singers. During the whole training period, *Palau de les Arts* reserves the right to expel any person who, for disciplinary or artistic reasons, does not comply with the necessary requirements to be part of the *Centre de Perfeccionament*.

6. Leaves of absence for artistic purposes

All possible leaves of absence to attend already signed commitments must be sent by the candidates with the application form.

During the course, attendance is mandatory, and **exclusivity is required**. Nevertheless, the Artistic Direction will consider the projects that could be interesting for the professional development of the student. Those leaves of absence which had not been notified during the legal inscription period, should be requested in writing to the Direction of *Centre de Perfeccionament*. The Direction will study the request and the convenience of granting or not the leave of absence; which will likewise be notified in writing. The absences cannot exceed the 25% of the course.

7. Scholarship

The advanced training course will be free of charge for all singers admitted.

In addition, scholarship of € 1,200 net per month will be provided to each singer who is admitted to and enrolls in the course.

The scholarship will be paid from first to fifth day of the following month, according to actual attendance of the candidate.

8. Information

For any other information, send a query by e-mail to: centredeperfeccionament@lesarts.com

For technical problems with the application, send a query by e-mail to: help@yaptracker.com