



REGULATIONS

DANTE 700

LA DOLCE SINFONIA DI PARADISO

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF SYMPHONIC COMPOSITION

III EDITION



III EDITION

«...the Love that moves the sun and the other stars»

A PROJECT BY
CAMERATA STRUMENTALE DI PRATO
LA FILHARMONIE - ORCHESTRA FILARMONICA DI FIRENZE

IN COLLABORATION WITH
TEMPO REALE

càmp Camera
Strumentale
di Prato

filharmonie

ART.01

Competition Announcement

The Camerata Strumentale di Prato and the Florence Philharmonic Orchestra - la Filharmonie announce the **third edition of the International Competition for Symphonic Composition Dante 700 – “La dolce sinfonia di paradiso”**. The project aims to promote creative energies in the field of orchestral composition, focusing on the figure and poetry of Dante Alighieri. The submitted scores shall draw inspiration from the **Canto XXXIII of Paradise (Divine Comedy)** with specific reference to **verses 1-39** (Appendix 01), **St. Bernard’s Prayer to the Virgin Mary; 115-132** (Appendix 02), the **image of the Three Circles** symbolizing the mystery of the Trinity and the Incarnation; **145**, the celebrated line, **«the Love that moves the sun and the other stars»**

ART.02

Composition

The competition requires the composition of a **symphonic piece, of maximum 15 minutes duration**. The instrumentation must include the following instruments, which can be used in full or partially:

- 2 flutes (2° also piccolo)
- 2 oboes (2° also English horn)
- 2 clarinets (2° also bass clarinet)
- 2 bassoons
- 2 horns
- 2 trumpets
- Timpani (1 musician)
- Percussions (2 musicians) [see: list](#)
- Harp
- Celeste/Piano (1 musician)
- Strings (10,8,6,5,3)

It is permitted to include a **mid-range voice** either female or male.

Electronics:

- It is permitted to include 1 player for a possible electronic part consisting of
 1. **A playlist of pre-recorded materials** saved on a storage device
 2. **Sampler and/or synthesizer** performed via MIDI keyboard
- It is permitted to include **live electronics** with an additional performer as sound director; such part of live electronics may consist of the sound processing of individual or groups of instruments, or of the entire orchestra as well as the voice, with a small set of microphones. The PA (public address) system will be stereophonic or quadraphonic.
- It is required to specify the interaction between the electronic part and the conductor, including synchronization systems based on in-ear-monitors or other devices.

- Software used or patches designed by the composer shall be integrated when designing the performance with the staff of Centro Tempo Reale (Center for Music Production, Research and Education). To this end the composer is expected to spend a short period in Florence, prior to the performance, working in the Tempo Reale studios.

Furthermore, under penalty of exclusion from the competition, the submitted score must be **original and unpublished**. It must never have been presented in other competitions, performed in public concerts, distributed via the web, broadcast by radio and/or television, nor recorded for commercial use.

ART.03

The competition is open to **composers of any nationality, with no age limit**.

Participants

ART.04

The Jury is chaired by Maestro **Anders Hillborg**. It includes Maestri **Silvia Colasanti, Mauro Montalbetti, Hugo Ticciati, Jonathan Webb, Alberto Batisti** and **Paolo Cognetti**. Maestro **Nima Keshavarzi**, the conductor of the final concert, supports the Jury's work.

Jury

Secretary of the Competition is Dr. Elisa Furiosi.
The Jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal.

ART.05

Awards

The Jury will award the following three prizes:

- **First prize** of 5.000,00 (fivethousand/00)€, gross of taxes
- **Second prize** of 3.000,00 (threethousand/00)€, gross of taxes
- **Third prize** of 2.000,00 (twothousand/00)€, gross of taxes

The winning composition (first prize) will be published in the series Stilnovo, promoted by **Edizioni Curci** and by **CIDIM** (Italian National Music Committee).

The Jury might select another score for a "**Special Mention**" in addition to the three finalist compositions.

The three finalist scores – along with the possible piece selected as "Special mention" – will be **performed** in a public concert and **recorded** by Camerata Strumentale Città di Prato and La Filharmonie, and **broadcast by Rete Toscana Classica and RAI5**. The audio-video recording of the final concert will be distributed by the CIDIM to the international web of Italian cultural institutes of MAECI.

The composers of the three finalist scores are invited to attend and collaborate in the rehearsals prior to the awards concert.

The travel and accommodation expenses of the three finalist composers on rehearsal days and on the day of the performance will be covered by the Organization.

ART.06

Participation Fee

Participation in the competition is subject to the payment - by bank transfer - of a **registration fee of € 100.00 (onehundred/00)**. Payment must be issued to:

BANCA INTESA SANPAOLO

IBAN: IT08J0306909606100000149255

SWIFT/BIC: BCITITMM

HEADED TO: Associazione Filharmonie

REASON: specifying "Dante 700 -" followed by name and surname.

Or via **PayPal:**

(amministrazione@lafilharmonie.com)

The participation fee is not refundable except in case of the competition not taking place.

ART.07

How to participate

The application to the competition must be **submitted exclusively online** on the page www.dante700competition.org/application/ within the terms indicated in art. 08.

The submitted score must be **anonymous, perfectly legible, marked with a recognisable motto** and with no signs or marks that could lead in any way to the identification of the participant.

The application form must contain the following **information:**

- Name and surname
- Date and place of birth
- Nationality
- Residential address, together with telephone number and email address
- Acceptance of the present Regulations by the participant
- Statement declaring that the composition is original and that it has never been published, performed, or recorded
- Statement declaring to be the owner of the Score and, in the case of third-party copyrights - including those of any co-authors - ensuring that all necessary authorizations for the use of the work have been obtained, thereby releasing the Competition from any liability for any violations of such rights.
- Authorization for the work's performance, recording, radio-television and online broadcasting of the final concert, and for the use of photographs and relevant documentation
- Authorization for the publication of the composition.
- Guarantee to possess the requirements and ownership of all copyrights to make the above-mentioned statements.

And attach:

- Receipt of the payment for the application fee of art. 06 in JPG or PDF format.
- Complete score in PDF format, drawn up with a professional software (e.g. Finale, Sibelius, Dorico).
- An audio file in MP3 format of the playlist of pre-recorded materials and/or of the sampler/synthesizer parts (if present)
- Curriculum Vitae in English
- Copy of a valid identity document or passport in JPG or PDF format
- Recent photograph in JPG or PDF format
- It is recommended, although not mandatory, that participants send a Midi simulation in MP3 format of the submitted score without signs of identification of the composer.
- Optionally, participants can attach a short description of the work, in PDF format, written in English.

ART.08

Deadlines and Calendar

All material listed in art. 07 must be sent via email and received no later than **15th July 2025, midnight GMT+1**.

The selection of the three finalist compositions will be declared by **1st September 2025** and will be announced through the official website www.dante700competition.org and the websites of Camerata Strumentale di Prato and la Filharmonie (www.cameratastrumentale.org) (www.lafilharmonie.com).

Composers of the finalist scores are expected to provide for the realization and sending, exclusively by e-mail, of **all the orchestra material**, all parts of the individual instruments in PDF format, drawn up with a professional software (e.g. Finale, Sibelius, Dorico), and whatever is necessary for the performance no later than **15th September 2025, midnight GMT+1**. If, for any reason, any finalist fails to comply with this deadline (or the material is incomplete or graphically incompatible with standard professional use) they will lose all rights to the performance of their piece and will be excluded from the competition.

The public performance of the three selected scores, in addition to the piece selected as “Special Mention,” if any, and the announcement of the winner will take place in the **Teatro Politeama Pratese on 10th October 2025**.

ART.09

Responsability

The Organisation disclaims any liability in case of failure or incorrect reception of registration documents, caused by their transmission via any means and for any reason. Within the limits of its ability, the Organisation will try to inform each candidate should the documentation be incomplete or illegible, and allow them to resend the materials. The Organisation disclaims any liability in the event of a breach of copyright by competitors.

ART. 10

For any enquiry or particular request, participants may contact the secretary of the Competition Dr. Elisa Furiosi, writing to: info@dante700competition.org.

Information

ART. 11

General conditions and privacy policy

Nothing will be due by the Competition Organisation for the complete orchestral parts and their use on occasions related to the event. The composer of the winning score agrees to the work's recording (television, radio, and audio) and to its posting on websites, without any extra cost for the Organization.

Being understood that the author will hold the copyright, the Camerata Strumentale di Prato and La Filharmonie will keep the score and parts in their archives and retain the ownership, which would allow them to use the material also in further concerts that they might sponsor, upon agreement on rental costs, and in respect of performing rights due to the composer.

In accordance with article 13 of the GDPR 2016/679 (E.U. General Data Protection Regulation) and article 13 of the Italian D.Lgs 196/2003 we inform all participants that personal data provided by them will be used solely for the purposes of the competition.

ART. 12

Final regulations

Participation in the competition implies unconditional acceptance by the participant of all the rules established by the competition announcement.

The Camerata Strumentale di Prato and the Florence Philharmonic Orchestra La Filharmonie reserve the right to modify due dates and regulations at any time; both organisations remain committed to share immediate updates on the official website www.dante700competition.org and their respective websites www.cameratastrumentale.org and www.lafilharmonie.com.

In the event of claims or dispute, the only legal valid document is this Notice of Competition in its Italian text. The Court of Prato will have exclusive competence.

APPENDIX.01

Dante Alighieri,

Paradise,

Canto XXXIII,

vv. 1-39

Translated by Henry

Charles Eliot Norton:

1902/1952

“Virgin Mother, daughter of thine own Son,
humble and exalted more than any creature,
fixed term of the eternal counsel, 3

thou art she who human nature
didst ennoble so that its own Maker
not disdained to become its creature. 6

Within thy womb was rekindled the Love
through whose warmth in the eternal peace
thus has blossomed this flower. 9

Here thou art to us the noonday torch
of charity, and below, among mortals,
thou art of hope the living fount. 12

Lady, thou art so great, and so availest,
that whoso would have grace, and to thee has not recourse,
his desire would have fly without wings. 15

Thy benignity not only succors
him who asks, but oftentimes
freely the asking foreruns. 18

In thee mercy, in thee pity,
in thee magnificence, in thee are united
whatever in any creature is of goodness. 21

Now this man, who, from the lowest abyss
of the universe, far even as here, has seen
the spiritual lives one after one, 24

doth supplicate thee of grace, for power
such that he may be able with his eyes to uplift himself
higher toward the Ultimate Salvation.” 27

APPENDIX.02

Dante Alighieri,

Paradise,

Canto XXXIII,

vv. 115-145

Translated by Henry

Charles Eliot Norton:

1902/1952

Within the profound and clear subsistence of the lofty Light appeared to me three circles of three colors and of one dimension:	117
and one by the other, as Iris by Iris, seemed reflected, and the third seemed fire which from the one and from the other is equally breathed forth.	120
O how inadequate is speech, and how feeble toward my conception! and this toward what I saw is such that it suffices not to call it little.	123
O Light Eternal, that sole in Thyself abidest, sole Thyself understandest, and, by Thyself understood and understanding, on Thyself lovest and smilest!	126
That circle, which appeared generated in Thee as a reflected light, by my eyes awhile being surveyed,	129
within itself, of its own very color to me seemed depicted with our effigy; wherefore my sight upon it wholly was set.	132
As is the geometer who wholly applies himself to measure the circle, and finds not by thinking that principle of which he is in need,	135
such was I at that new sight. To see I wished how was conformed the image to the circle, and how therein it has its place;	138
but not were for this my own wings, had it not been that my mind was smitten by a flash in which its wish came.	141
To the high fantasy here failed power: but now were revolved my desire and my will, like a wheel which evenly is moved,	144
by the Love which moves the sun and the other stars.	145

A project by



**CAMERATA
STRUMENTALE
DI PRATO**

**ORCHESTRA
FILARMONICA
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