

RULES – OPERA CONDUCTING MASTERCLASS

Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège, March 10–14, 2026

As a follow-up to the International Opera Conducting Competition, the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège is organising **an opera conducting Masterclass** led by Maestro **Giampaolo Bisanti**, music Director of the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège.

This intensive session, to be held **from 10 to 14 March 2026**, is aimed at young opera conductors of all nationalities **born after 1 January 1993**. It will offer 4 active participants and 15 auditors the opportunity to refine their skills, deepen their relationship with the operatic stage and work with the Orchestra, Chorus of the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège, and soloists.

The masterclass will conclude with a **public concert** given by the active participants in the opera house's main auditorium on Saturday 14 March 2026 at 3 p.m.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must complete the online application form available at www.operalieu.be before 1 November 2025.

The application form must include the following documents:

- A personal information sheet
- A detailed curriculum vitae
- One or more video recordings, no longer than 15 minutes in total
- A high-resolution portrait photograph
- A copy of the applicant's passport or identity card

Any false or misleading information or material will invalidate the application.

The curriculum vitae must detail the applicant's musical background and career. No academic qualifications are required to take part in the Masterclass, although some knowledge of conducting technique is necessary. Young conductors who wish to apply as auditors only should make this clear in their CV.

The video recording must show the applicant conducting, filmed from the orchestra's point of view. Applicants must indicate the date, the title of the work and the name of the orchestra, either in the video title or in the CV. The Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège guarantees that the video will be used solely for the purpose of application review and will not be used in any other context. Applicants are responsible for obtaining any necessary copyright or image rights clearances for the submitted recording.

Masterclass address

Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège
Rue des Dominicains, 1
B - 4000 Liège
Belgium



A total of 4 active participants and 15 auditors will be admitted to the Masterclass following a review of their application. They will be notified of the outcome by email on 1 December 2025.

The reasons for acceptance or rejection will not be disclosed. All communication with applicants will be conducted via email.

The 4 selected active participants will be required to pay a registration fee of €600 (six hundred euros).

The 15 selected auditors will be required to pay a registration fee of €300 (three hundred euros).

The registration fee must be paid by 31 December 2025 to the bank account listed below. It is non-refundable unless the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège is forced to cancel the Masterclass due to *force majeure*.

Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège

IBAN: BE05 2400 0663 2275

BIC: GEBABEBB

Payment reference: Surname + first name + Masterclass 2026

Failure to pay the registration fee by the deadline will result in cancellation of participation.

The entire Masterclass will take place at the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège. Participants will work with the Orchestra, the Chorus of the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège and the soloists engaged by the General and Artistic Management.

MASTERCLASS SCHEDULE

Selected participants must report to the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège on Tuesday 10 March 2026 at 1 p.m. for a welcome session.

Tuesday 10/03	1p.m Welcome	2 – 4.30 p.m. Orchestra rehearsal	7 – 9.30 p.m. Orchestra rehearsal
Wednesday 11/03	10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Soloists' Piano Musical	2 – 5 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal	7 – 9.30 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal
Thursday 12/03	10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Soloists' Piano Musical	2 – 5 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal	7 – 9.30 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal
Friday 13/03	10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Soloists' Piano Musical	2 – 5 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal	7 – 9.30 p.m. Stage & Orchestra Rehearsal
Saturday 14/03		13 p.m Concert	

The final concert will take place on Saturday 14 March 2026 at 3 p.m., conducted by the active participants of the masterclass.

The 4 active participants must bring appropriate concert attire.

This schedule is provisional and subject to change.



MASTERCLASS PROGRAMME

Orchestra program:

- W.A. Mozart: Symphony from *Die Zauberflöte*
- V. Bellini: Symphony from *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*
- G. Donizetti: Symphony from *Don Pasquale*
- G. Verdi: Symphony from *Luisa Miller*

Chorus and soloists program:

- V. Bellini: *I Puritani*, Act I, final scene: “Ferma, invan rapir pretendi...” to the end of the act
- G. Bizet: *Carmen*, Act IV in its entirety (without entr’acte), from “À deux cuartos” to the end
- G. Donizetti: *L’elisir d’amore*, Act I, from “Bel conforto al mietitore” to the end of the concertato
- G. Verdi: *Macbeth*, Act I, finale: from “Immobil terra a passi miei...” to the end of the act

All scores will be provided to the participants.

FOLLOWING THE MASTERCLASS

Following the masterclass experience, Maestro Bisanti reserves the right to select one or more participants to assist him in a future production he will conduct at the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège. The terms and conditions of such an engagement will be determined at that time by the General and Artistic Management of the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège.

APPLICANT’S CHARTER

Participants accept the masterclass regulations without reservation. In the event of a dispute, **ONLY the French version** of the present regulations shall be deemed authoritative.

Any falsified credentials will be publicly refuted and prosecuted in accordance with applicable law.

Participants waive all rights, fees or privileges related to the recording and broadcast of any part of the masterclass by radio or television, or through any form of distribution on social media.

The Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège reserves the right to use any photographs or recordings that may be made for the press, national or international radio and television, social media, etc.

TIMELINE

September 5, 2025 – Applications open

November 1, 2025 – Application deadline

December 1, 2025 – Announcement of selected participants

December 31, 2025 – Deadline for payment of the registration fee

March 10, 2026 – Welcome session for participants

March 10–13, 2026 – Masterclass sessions

March 14, 2026 – Final concert

