

BRIDGING THE GAP

COMMUNITY MUSIC AND COMMUNITY OPERA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

26-27 OCTOBER 2021

ROOMS 1.15-1.16

Faculty of Education - University of Bozen/Bolzano (Italy)

University of Basilicata (Italy)

International Centre for Community Music (ICCM)

Community Music Italy | <https://communitymusic-italy.it>

VIRTUAL AND PRESENCE CONFERENCE

Programme Committee:

Johann van der Sandt, Dinko Fabris, Antonella Coppi, Vania Cauzillo

Organising Committee:

Antonella Coppi (unibz), Johann van der Sandt (unibz), Vania Cauzillo (L'albero), Andrea Cervo (Coro Unimore), Allegra Iotti (Coro Unimore)

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<https://bit.ly/3G7dHXa>

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Lee Higgins, Director ICCM, York Saint John University (UK)

Marika Calenda, Università della Basilicata, Human Science Department (Italy)

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THE CONFERENCE WILL BE DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY MUSIC AS A FIELD OF PRACTICE, REPRESENTING A NATURAL PLACE FOR EVERYDAY (MUSICAL) EXPERIENCES TO BRING ABOUT SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGES. COMMUNITY MUSIC IN ITALY IS A RELATIVELY NEW ACADEMIC FIELD, AND WITH THIS SYMPOSIUM WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION ON THE MERITS OF CM. BOTH INTERNATIONAL AND ITALIAN SPEAKERS WILL SHARE THEIR RESEARCH AND SHOW HOW CM ADDRESSES INCLUSION, INTEGRATION AND DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN INFORMAL, NON-FORMAL AND FORMAL MUSICAL SETTINGS. CM IS EVOLVING INTERNATIONALLY, BECOMING STRONGER AND RESONATING IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS, ALSO IN ITALY; THIS SYMPOSIUM SERVES AS AN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER AND TO SUCCESSFULLY PLOUGH NEW EXPERIENCES BACK INTO PARTICIPANTS' OWN NATIONAL COMMUNITY MUSIC LANDSCAPES.

THE CONFERENCE WILL ALSO HOST THE FIRST DISCUSSION IN ITALY ON THE SUBJECT OF "COMMUNITY OPERA". JUST AS THERE IS NOT YET A CLEAR DEFINITION OF "COMMUNITY MUSIC", A DEFINITION OF "COMMUNITY OPERA" IS ALSO NOT YET SECURED. AND JUST LIKE COMMUNITY MUSIC, COMMUNITY OPERA IS STILL IN ITS INFANCY TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A SUBJECT OF ACADEMIC STUDIES. OPERA IS THE MOST COMPLEX AND EXPENSIVE FORM OF PERFORMANCE INVENTED IN EUROPE OVER FOUR CENTURIES AGO, AND SINCE THEN IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN STRONGLY LINKED TO THE COMMUNITIES FOR WHICH IT WAS PRODUCED, AT DIFFERENT SOCIAL LEVELS. BUT EVEN BEFORE THE PANDEMIC EMERGENCY OF 2020-21, THE TRADITIONAL "OPERA" MODEL WAS IN DEEP CRISIS. OPERA HOUSES, COMPANIES, ORGANIZERS, AND ARTISTS BEGAN EXPERIMENTS AND PROJECTS TO RETHINK NEW MODELS AND MEANINGS OF OPERA IN COMMUNITIES. THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS AND THE PRESENTATION OF CASE STUDIES, COMMUNITY OPERA WILL BE EXAMINED FROM DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW: AS AN ARTISTIC PRACTICE, AS A MODEL FOR INTEGRATING OPERA AND MUSIC INTO CULTURAL AND SOCIAL WELFARE, AND AS FERTILE GROUND FOR TESTING NEW METHODS FOR MEASURING THE IMPACT OF CLASSICAL MUSIC ON THE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED. THE DISCUSSIONS WILL ALSO HIGHLIGHT EXISTING LITERATURE AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY OPERA.