Maestro Leonardo Saraceni

Pianist · Composer · Educator · Performer

An Italian pianist, composer and educator, Leonardo Saraceni has pursued an artistic career spanning more than thirty years that brings together concert performance, composition and teaching. His international outlook has taken his music from Mexico to Romania and on to the Far East.

Education

He holds a Diploma in Piano (pre-reform Italian Conservatory system) and a degree in Composition, and completed his training with a Master's degree in Performance and Concert Practice. He specialises in teaching methodology for guitar, drums, voice and accordion across classical music, jazz and pop-rock. He is also a qualified music teacher for schools at every level and is eligible to teach at Italy's State Conservatories of Music.

Composer and Performer

His *Piano Concerto No. 1, Op. 15* received its world premiere in Guanajuato, Mexico, in 2010, conducted by Maestro José María Melgar. Its European premiere followed in Romania in 2013 with the Banatul Philharmonic, with the composer himself as soloist.

His compositions have been broadcast on RAI Radio 2 and have entered the repertoire of several performers, some of whom have recorded them on CD. They are published and distributed through major retailers, including La Feltrinelli, Mondadori Store, IBS, Libreria Universitaria and Amazon.

He writes music for film, television and theatre. Among other works, he composed the original score for the music-theatre production *Hedy Lamarr – La mente invisibile* (Teofabula).

Educator and Organiser

In 1989 he founded the “F. Cilea” School of Music, which he has directed for more than thirty years and which has trained generations of young musicians. Since 2012 he has collaborated with the E.P.T.A. Italy International Piano Academy in Rome. Since 2022 he has been Director of the Civic School of Music of San Lorenzo del Vallo, which works in partnership with Trinity College London. He is also Head of the Music Department at the Accademia delle Arti in Castrovillari.

He gives masterclasses in piano performance, harmony and composition in Italy and abroad, and has created online courses in Harmony and Counterpoint. He is the author of teaching methods for a range of instruments.

In 2016 he founded the “Music in the World” International Prize in Rome. He serves as its President, and the prize is dedicated to promoting classical music and the talent of young performers.

An International Dimension

He works with the Siheung Dream Phil Orchestra of South Korea, with which he signed a memorandum of understanding as Director of the Accademia delle Arti. This partnership gave rise to the Art Academy Orchestra, which he founded and which in 2025 was officially invited to the

tenth-anniversary edition of the youth orchestra festival in South Korea. For the occasion he conceived and organised the project, bringing together an international orchestra of young musicians and professionals from Italy, Spain and Germany, in part thanks to the collaboration of Maestro Cornelia Blanche, Founding President of the International Prize “Music Talente”. He transcribed and composed the orchestra's entire repertoire.

He has also conceived and coordinates academic and artistic exchange projects between Italy and Mexico, China, Germany and Romania, formalised through memoranda of understanding. These include an agreement with the “Ion Vidu” Art High School in Timișoara.

In addition to Italian, he speaks fluent Spanish.

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