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Irene Veneziano - Newsletter n°2 - 2020

Castelletto Ticino (No), June 2020

Dear friends,

Hoping to find you all healthy, I'm sending this Newsletter to you in a **very special period**, in an historic moment that none of us will forget very easily and that has tested all of us.

Fortunately, my family and I are fine, but I have suffered a lot from learning about friends, pupils and acquaintances who have lost loved ones or who have contracted the virus from the mildest to the most acute forms.

I hope that in Italy as in the whole world the situation will move towards a progressive improvement and that this bad story can soon be forgotten!

I also hope that all humanity will come out of it grown and enriched thanks to the values that this state leads us to remember: the need for solidarity with others, the respect towards the rules and other people, the importance of small things and our family, the equality of all men (the virus, at least it, does not look at the color of the skin, social status or religion).

For musicians this is a **very hard time**: all the musical events of these last months and also of the near future have been cancelled and it is not yet clear when exactly we can resume our activity and in which way.

As far as I am concerned, with immense displeasure I had to postpone to 2021 the 1st International Piano Competition "Città di Arona" for which I was Artistic director. Similarly, my presence on the jury at the "Città di Riccione" Music Competition was cancelled due to the annulment of the Competition. The concerts that I should have played at Casa Verdi in Milan, the two recitals at the Palacultura Antonello in Messina and at the Politeama Theatre in Palermo with the flutist Andrea Griminelli, the events in Novara in trio with Anna and Lucia Molinari and in Moneglia with the violinist Daniele Pascoletti (Concertino of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan) have all been cancelled and I hope that at least some of these events will be replanned next year.

I also announce with immense displeasure that all my summer **masterclass** in Latisana, San Benedetto del Tronto, Sciacca and Santa Margherita Ligure have been cancelled by the organizers.

However, despite this negative news, I am happy that the music world has not forgotten me during these months and that it has involved me in many interviews and projects to be carried out online! Here are the main news of this period.

I'd like to inform you that my latest **CD "Pictures at an exhibition"**, which includes a program entirely inspired by painting with music by Musorgsky, Liszt, Rachmaninov, Dvorak, Granados, Piana is now present on the largest online distribution websites: [Itunes](#) and [Amazon](#) to download it, [Spotify](#) and [Deezer](#) to listen to it for free online. Take a look: <https://imusiciandigital.lnk.to/4hvPA1kb!>

For the physical copy, you can find information at this link on my website:

<http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/cd-pictures-at-an-exhibition-and-other-pictorial-works-irene-veneziano-2019/>.

In April I was involved in this beautiful project on **TV Classica HD** (Sky channel 136) "Maestro! Artists at work": to show how our activity as musicians goes on from home, Classica TV broadcast some short "homemade" videos of various artists. Here is the link to see my video (23-04-2020): <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/video-trasmesso-su-classica-hd-sky-canale-136-per-il-progetto-maestro-artisti-allopera-23-04-2020/>.

As regards videos, I've also recently uploaded my performance in concert of Scherzo op. 31 no. 2 by F. Chopin, played in October 2019 in Gallarate for "Music donors": <https://youtu.be/9xz6QMKaG-s>. At these three links you can listen to some memories of the concert in Sciacca for Onde Sonore-Sciacca Classic in August 2017 with the great flutist Andrea Manco, First Flute of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan:

- A. F. Doppler, Hungarian Pastoral Fantasy: <https://youtu.be/WXqnC5zpazA>;
- F. Poulenc, Sonata: https://youtu.be/H_p5_rIRN60;
- B. Godard, Suite de trois morceaux op.116: <https://youtu.be/U1fyepjRimI>.

At these two links you can listen to some excerpts from the concert held in Sesto Calende in December 2019 in trio with the clarinet player Marco Giani and the cellist Andrea Favaledda, first clarinet and cello of the Orchestra I Pomeriggi Musicali in Milano, first time playing together!

- L. Van Beethoven, Clarinet Trio, op. 11 'Gassenhauer', Excerpts: <https://youtu.be/O1SVayGxG6U>
- M. Bruch, Eight pieces op. 83 n. 2: <https://youtu.be/4PyOot1hIN0>

This was my small contribution for the "special kids" of **LabO** (9-05-2020): it reminded me that beautiful and pure souls that love each other and make themselves loved as they are, without any prejudice, still exist:

<http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/contributo-per-i-ragazzi-speciali-di-labo-09-05-2020/>.

And here is a video-souvenir of the concerts I played in **Carrara** a few years ago during the Spring Concerts and at the Ridotto degli Animosi for the Circolo Musicale La Lugnola: the organization, having to interrupt its musical season due to the Corona Virus, created these short videos with photos and original audio of some past events: <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/video-ricordo-concerti-a-carrara-per-il-circolo-musicale-la-lugnola-20-06-2020-su-visita-carrara/>.

This is the video with my home performance of Ottorino Respighi's Notturmo, which I recorded specifically for the "**Treviglio in Piano**" project promoted by the Malala Association, which very courageously organized a day of music for June 20 both with live performances and with video projections, to try to mark a restart:

<http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/video-per-il-progetto-treviglio-in-piano-dellassociazione-malala-20-06-2020/>.

Even some of my very talented pupils performed on this occasion!

And here are the numerous audio and video interviews that I have been asked, with great pleasure, in this period and that you can review and listen to again in case you missed them!

- Video-interview by Christian Salerno, related to my participation in the International Competition "F. Chopin" in Warsaw 2010 (10-04-2020): <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/video-intervista-sul-concorso-f-chopin-di-varsavia-2010-a-cura-di-christian-salerno-10-04-2020/>

- Audio-interview for the broadcast Reteduecinque on Rete Due, Radio Svizzera italiana by Claudio Farinone (07-05-2020), with reference to my latest CD "Pictures at an exhibition": <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/intervista-per-la-trasmissione-reteduecinque-su-rete-due-radio-svizzera-italiana-a-cura-di-claudio-farinone-07-05-2020/>

- Audio-interview for the podcast "The piano of tomorrow" by Giulia Vazzoler (13-05-2020): <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/intervista-per-il-podcast-il-pianoforte-del-domani-a-cura-di-giulia-vazzoler-13-05-2020/>

- Audio-interview for the podcast "Cultural Contact" by Luigi Donato (15-06-2020): <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/audio-intervista-per-il-podcast-contatto-culturale-a-cura-di-luigi-donato-15-06-2020/>
- Interview for the newspaper Amadeus by Silvia Del Zoppo, with reference to my latest CD "Pictures at an exhibition" (17-06-2020): <http://www.ireneveneziano.com/en/intervista-per-amadeus-online-a-cura-di-silvia-del-zoppo-sul-cd-pictures-at-an-exhibition-17-06-2020/>

Among the other activities carried out in this period, I can tell you about my participation on the jury at the **XXVI Music Competition "E. Arisi" in Vescovato**, competition for which I was on the jury last year too, this time taking place online. I certainly cannot say that listening to children through a screen is the same thing as hearing them live, but surely these events remain an important stimulus for young musicians, who prepare a program in the best way and have the opportunity to perform.

Furthermore, the **Liceo Musicale "Felice Casorati" in Novara**, not being able to invite me in person for a masterclass like last year, organized an online interview for students within the "Meetings with the teacher" project, so that they could satisfy many of their curiosities about the technical aspects of the instrument but also about the activity of professional pianist. The exchange with students is always very exciting for me: I see myself in them and they go towards what they perceive of me.

Finally, in addition to my class of the Conservatory "G. Puccini" in Gallarate which always gives me a lot of satisfaction (some of my students have participated and won several online competitions), I will also follow a class of the **Conservatory in Avellino** until October, with instrument lessons but also with some theoretical subjects, for now exclusively online!

I send to all of you a warm wish for the near future, hoping to update you with better news about my concert activity next time!

Best regards,

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