

V-ACCORDION FESTIVAL

Jury Members

Marco Giannotti was born in Pesaro. At the music academy "G. Rossini" in his town, he studied piano with M° Franco Scala. He has performed at several concerts achieving a widespread success among his public and a clear approval of the critics.

He taught piano at the "Liceo Musicale" music school in Fermo and then became full professor of Theory, Sol-Fa and Musical Dictation at the "G. Rossini" music academy, where he was also appointed deputy director.

He was later on appointed as trustee at the Music Academy in Fermo, which used to be a branch of the Music Academy in Pesaro.

He has chaired several juries of national and international contests.

At present he is the director of the state-owned "G. Rossini" music academy in Pesaro.

Gervasio Marcosignori is known as the "accordion poet". A famous British magazine described him with this nickname soon after an unforgettable concert this Italian soloist gave at the "Royal Festival hall" in London, where he played to honour Queen Elisabeth at the Crown Festival.

Since his first achievement at the first national competition in Ancona in 1947, he has played in the most important concert halls, radio and TV programs in a large number of different countries, so that his artistic career has been marked by a continuous and sensational success in Europe and America.

Most of his concert activity takes place especially in Great Britain, Germany and Italy.

He recorded several albums for the Decca and the Cetra recording companies, which are distributed worldwide.

In 1959 he was awarded the Accordion Oscar prize for his artistic merits as well as for his commitment in raising accordion to the role of a classic musical instrument.

Kimmo Mattila studied at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki with Matti Tantanen and achieved the Master of Music for classic accordion in 1988. Once completed his study he worked as a musician, teacher and published several tutorial methods for young accordionists.

He is the artistic director of the renown "Sata-Häme" accordion festival in Ikaalinen, that is one of the most important accordion festivals in the world, involving 30,000 participants, 30 concerts, prestigious TV shows and international high-quality programs.

Since 1997 Kimmo Mattila has chaired the Finnish Accordion Association including about 5,000 members.

He was a jury member of several international contests in Klingenthal, Pula, Poprad, Sarajevo and at the 'Coupe Mondiale'.

The Confederation Internationale des Accordeonistes (CIA) appointed him as its Secretary General in 2006.

Sergio Scappini was the holder of Italy's first accordion chair at the "Gioachino Rossini" music academy in Pesaro. At present he teaches at the "Giuseppe Verdi" music academy in Milan. He studied accordion, piano, and composition; his teachers were E. Spantaconi, A. Porrini and B. Bettinelli.

He won several national and international competitions, including the XXIV Trophée mondial of the C.M.A. (Confédération Mondiale de l'Accordéon).

He has long played as a soloist, chamber and orchestra musician at the most important concert seasons in prestigious national and international concert halls.

He has collaborated with some significant orchestras: Orchestra del Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Orchestra Sinfonica in Sanremo, "G. Cantelli" orchestra in Milan, Orchestra da camera della Svizzera italiana, Orchestra della Radio della Svizzera italiana.

He worked with Roland Europe S.p.A. to develop the V-Accordion, the first virtual accordion in the world, which he presented in Italy, Germany, Australia, Spain.

As accordionist he performs at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan.

Pierpaolo Salvucci – After studying accordion, he took a diploma in composition, choir music and choir conducting, Singing (singer specialization), Singing (teaching specialization) and music didactics at the music academies in Pesaro, Parma and Fermo. He graduated with honours in *Management of Music and Musical Shows*. He collaborated with the D.A.M.S. at the University in Bologna in ethnomusicology-related researches, with special reference to accordion, and carried out other research activities for the Fine Arts Academy in L'Aquila.

As accordionist, he won the Pescara (1979) and Gargano (1984) "Endas" national competitions. Since 1996 he has been the artistic director of the "G. M. Morganti" accordion orchestra in Ascoli Piceno; with this orchestra he has given numerous concerts in Italy and abroad comprising a wide repertoire ranging from the original pieces to classical-pop transcriptions made by himself. He is a music historian and musicologist and publishes essays, articles and "introduction notes" for important institutions such as the National Institute for promoting Music in South Italy, the "Santa Cecilia" music academy and the Teatro dell'Opera in Rome.

Marco Lo Russo – He is an eclectic accordionist, composer, arranger and conductor of orchestra, who's fond of contemporary Mediterranean sounds. His musical interests range from the classic repertoire to Argentinean tango and jazz contaminations. He took the diploma of accordion at the "G. Rossini" music academy, where his teacher was Sergio Scappini. He took the diploma of band instrumentation at the "G. B. Martini" in Bologna, where his teacher was Roger Mazzoncini. He studies composition with M° Filippo Maria Caramazza, M° Gianpaolo Luppi, M° Adriano Guarnieri, respectively at the "G. Rossini" music academy in Pesaro and the "G. B. Martini" music academy. He took an Arts and Philosophy degree at the University in Bologna and is attending the graduation course in Music at the DAMS. He won several national and international accordion contests. He works as a teacher, was a jury member in various competitions and gives concerts in Italy, Albania, Canada, France, Greece, Switzerland. He performs in theatres, concert halls of various foundations and in repertory theatres like the Teatro dell'Opera in Rome. He composes music for Rai Trade and plays accordion for Nicola Piovani.

Mirco Patarini was born in Spoleto in 1966. In 1978 he started to study music at the local branch of the CDMI (Italian Center for Music Education), because accordion had not been included among the official courses of Italy's music academies yet.

In 1981 he qualified first at the Italian Accordion Pre-Championship in Castelfidardo, thus becoming entitled to take part in the 30th World Accordion Trophy organized by the CMA, where he resulted to be the youngest participant.

Between 1983 and 1985 he won the Italian Accordion Pre-Championship another three times and was therefore entitled to compete in the World Trophy in Caracas (Venezuela), in Caldas de Rahina (Portugal), in la Caux-de-Fonds (Switzerland), where he won the first prize and became the world champion at the age of only 18.

His performs classic and modern music, he plays acoustic, electronic and MIDI accordions; he plays as a concert as well as a soloist accordionist. He has given concerts in Italy as well as in various cities in Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Holland, Great Britain, Brazil, USA, Japan, Egypt, Russia, Norway, China, Sweden, Mexico, etc.

Luigi Bruti was born in 1960 and started to study accordion when he was 8. He won several musical contests, like the Italian Championship in 1976 and the World Championship in 1977. Between 1977 and 1980 he worked for some Italian recording companies as a composer, a performer and as an expert synthesizer programmer to create soundtracks. He is expert in sound engineering and, as a producer and arranger, he has often collaborated to produce albums of Italian and foreign artists and to train audio technicians. Since 1979 he has collaborated with Roland Europe S.p.A. and as Research and Development Manager he has taken care of the musical design of the whole "arranger keyboard" series. He is the inventor of many patents in Europe, the USA and Japan protecting these arranger keyboards. Since 1995 he has worked as the author and producer of the ambitious research aimed at designing a virtual accordion, the V-Accordion. This instrument was developed in Roland Europe's Research and Development Department under his direct supervision. At present he is the V-Accordion and Marketing Division Director in Roland Europe S.p.A.

Akira Hanechi was born in Osaka (Japan) in 1958. He studied economy at the Kansai University in Japan and took his degree in 1982. He started to cooperate with Roland Corporation as Overseas Marketing Manager in March 1982. As Marketing Manager at the Roland Rotterdam Office (in Holland) he was responsible for the European region between 2001 and 2003. In November 2003 he moved to Roland Europe S.p.A., where he became Managing Director. He was appointed as President in April 2006.