

Alessandro Scarlatti from Palermo to Rome

BIP Project, Conservatorio "Alessandro Scarlatti", Palermo

24-28 November 2025

Institutions from Belgium, Germany, Poland, Slovenia and Spain will participate in the Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) dedicated to our great composer Alessandro Scarlatti (Palermo 1660 - Napoli 1725) to celebrate the composer on the 300th anniversary of his death.

In-presence activities (period confirmed): from November 24 to November 28, 2025

Venues: Conservatorio "A. Scarlatti", Oratorio di San Filippo Neri, Teatro di Santa Cecilia.

The BIP is designed for **students and teachers** in **Early music**, music performance, choir and orchestral conducting, musicology, education.

We'll offer formative and performative sessions (lectures, workshops, concerts) with specialized trainers.

The former Vincenzo Bellini Conservatory of Palermo – nowadays the Conservatory which bears the name of the most important composer of the city – is devoting its 2025 Erasmus Blended Intensive Programme to the tricentenary of his death.

The new short mobility formula will serve for a full artistic research on the mid Italian Baroque, starting from Scarlatti most representative ones, in order to investigate wider connections and legacy, also about his less known instrumental music: orchestral and solo works, for flute and for keyboard, the field of his son Domenico.

We'll focus on the Oratorio ***Abramo*** or ***Agar et Ismaele***, which will be fully performed next October, as well as on operas such as *Mitridatere del Ponto*, and the cantatas of our *Fondo Pisani*.

Until the final performance in the ancient Teatro di Santa Cecilia, the participants will work under the guidance of specialized trainers, included some Italian scholars.

The Dean of the Musicology faculty at the University of Roma TRE, prof. Luca Aversano, will offer original directions for the research on late Seventeenth century in Rome, where Alessandro Scarlatti was so active around the Arcadia Academy and Queen Cristina from Sweden. The librarian and musicologist Dario Lo Cicero will offer a seminar on the sources and the bibliographical research. In addition the peculiarities of musical life in Palermo in the 17th century will be examined, with visits to baroque sites.

The Conservatory Early Music Department will provide a specialised team coordinated by Ignazio Schifani, a conductor and continuo player of Concerto Italiano and other famous ensembles.

The other trainers also have an intense international concert activity: Filippo Mineccia (countertenor), Nicholas Robinson and Rossella Croce (violín), Piero Cartosio (recorder), Giocchino Comparetto (oboe), Guido Morini and Rossella Policardo (harpsichord).

The Choir conductor Fabio Ciulla will involve participants in the rehearsals of Alessandro Scarlatti's *Inno per Santa Cecilia, Jesu corona virginum* (for soloists, choir, strings and b.c., 1720), as well as on *Cantata pastorale per la nascita di Nostro Signore: "Oh, di Betlemme altera"* and "Si suoni la tromba", in the days leading up to the concert for the Musicamente Association.

The external "Maestro di Concerto" from Rome Valerio Losito, who took his degree in Palermo with Enrico Onofri and already took care of our wonderful partners in the previous BIP "Bach for Piece", well embodies the 'bridge' between Palermo and Rome that the project is going to highlight. Rehearsals and performances will take place at the most important Palermo baroque musical sites.

Some guided tours will be offered: we'll visit the ancient church where Alessandro Scarlatti's baptismal certificate was found, the "Oratorio of Santa Cita" where the Scarlatti's Oratorio *Abramo* was performed in 1691, the baroque "Chiesa del Santissimo Salvatore" and its bell tower, the "Teatro Massimo".

Daily meals during the program will be provided by our Conservatory.

We will agree on a date for the virtual component before the rehearsal days of the Oratorio *Abramo*, next October.