Società Italiana Musica Contemporanea

Comune di Livorno

Rasenna Music Art

CALL FOR SCORES 2027

SOLO DOUBLE BASS

The voice of the double bass: languages, identity and crossovers

With the patronage of the Municipality of Livorno
In collaboration with the Rasenna Music Art Association

AIMS

The Italian Society for Contemporary Music (SIMC) is launching a call for scores dedicated to solo double bass, with the aim of highlighting the instrument's expressive, timbral and technical potential and its ability to move across different musical languages and experiences.

The call is open to composers of all ages and nationalities, with no restrictions on musical style. Works from any musical field are welcome, from contemporary music and experimental research to jazz and crossovers between traditions and languages, including proposals that explore new expressive possibilities for the instrument.

Regardless of aesthetic approach or technique, submissions should demonstrate a strong musical identity, quality and originality of writing, and particular attention to melodic, rhythmic and harmonic dimensions. The aim is to give space to works that present the double bass not only in its traditional role, but as an independent, versatile instrument rich in expressive resources, capable of sustaining a broad musical vision even within a short form.

REGULATIONS

1. Eligibility

Works must be written for solo double bass, without accompaniment by any other instrument.

The maximum duration of each work is 5 minutes.

Previously published or performed works are also eligible, provided they meet the requirements of this call.

2. How to apply

Composers must submit their application by email to callforscores@simc-italia.com no later than 11:59 p.m. (Italian time) on 31 December 2026, attaching the following materials in PDF format:

- The complete score;
- a short description of the work;
- a short artistic CV (maximum one page);
- the completed application form;
- proof of payment of the participation fee, where applicable.

Each applicant may submit only one score.

Participation is free of charge for SIMC members whose membership fees are up to date. Non-members must pay a participation fee of €25.

Payment, required only for non-SIMC members, may be made by bank transfer or PayPal.

Account holder: Società Italiana della Musica Contemporanea – ETS

IBAN: IT48Q0558412700000000005765

Payment reference: Applicant's full name – Call for Scores for Solo Double Bass

PayPal payment: https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/CMMSBE6RVAF4U

3. Selection

The jury, comprising Andrea Mannucci, composer and SIMC President; Paolo Ricci, composer; Giulio Boschi, double bassist; and Virginio Zoccatelli, composer and SIMC Secretary, will select six works for inclusion in the programme of a concert dedicated to solo double bass.

Submissions will be assessed on musical quality, originality, idiomatic instrumental writing, and their ability to explore the double bass's melodic, rhythmic, harmonic and timbral potential. The diversity of musical languages will be regarded as a resource for research and for the vitality of music today, reaching beyond the boundaries between genres and traditions.

4. Concert

The six selected works will be performed on 28 February 2027 in a concert dedicated to solo double bass, promoted by SIMC in collaboration with the Rasenna Music Art Association. The concert will take place in the former chapel of Villa Mimbelli, home to the Giovanni Fattori Civic Museum in Livorno, Italy.

The works will be performed by double bassist Giulio Boschi. Further organisational details will be communicated to the selected composers.

5. Rights and recordings

Selected composers will retain full ownership of their works.

By entering the call, composers authorise SIMC to give public performances of the selected works at the scheduled concert and to make audio and/or video recordings of the performances, directly or through appointed third parties.

SIMC may use these recordings, on a non-commercial basis and without additional fees, solely for documentation, cultural, educational, outreach and promotional purposes relating to its activities. Such use may include SIMC's website, social media channels, video platforms, and informational materials produced by SIMC and the partners involved in the initiative.

Any independent commercial use of the recordings is excluded. Any use beyond the purposes specified above must be agreed with the composers in advance. Where possible, SIMC will credit the title of the work and the composer's name in materials accompanying the recordings.

6. Acceptance

Participation in the call implies full acceptance of these regulations.

In the event of any dispute, the Italian-language version of the regulations shall prevail.