



Centro Italo-Tedesco per l'Eccellenza Europea
Deutsch-Italienisches Zentrum für Europäische Exzellenz



Castrato Singers in Opera

The Current State of Research



Conference coordination

Dr. Valentina Anzani (Madrid, Bologna)

Prof. Dr. Arnold Jacobsnagen (Köln)

Conference supported by

**DFG-Programms zur Deutsch-Italienischen Zusammenarbeit
in den Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften**

International conference
21-24 October 2021

Villa Vigoni – Centro Italo-Tedesco per l'Eccellenza Europea
Loveno di Menaggio (Como)

Thursday 21 October

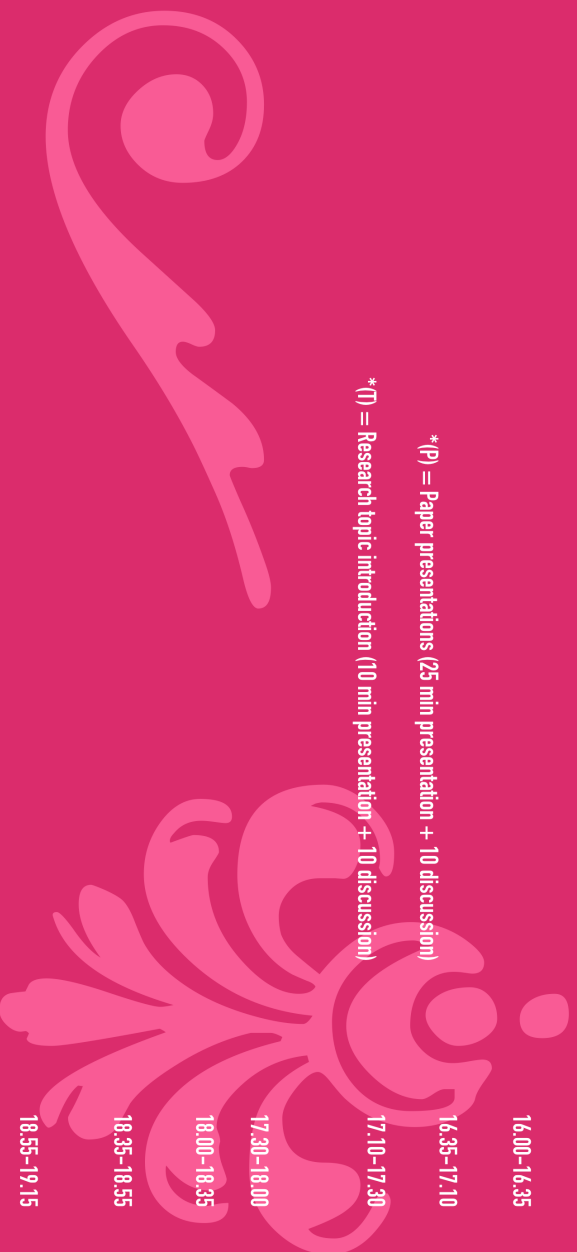
13.00–14.30	Lunch
15.00–16.4	AFTERNOON SESSION (15.00–18.30) Welcome and participants brief self-introduction
16.40–17.00	Coffee break
17.00–18.00	Keynote lecture – MARTHA FELDMAN <i>Castrato/Trans</i> [via ZOOM]
18.00–18.30	Discussion
19.00–19.30	Welcome aperitivo
19.30–21.30	Dinner

Friday 22 October

08.00–09.00	Breakfast
09.30–10.05	MORNING SESSION (09.30–12.30) – Chair: Anne Desler (P) DANIEL MARTIN SAEZ <i>Myth and Reality: European Press and Diplomacy around Farinelli</i>
10.05–10.40	(P) HELEN BERRY <i>William Beckford's Birthday Party: A Tale of Three Castrati</i>
10.40–11.00	(T) GESA ZUR NIEDEN <i>John Walsh's Favorite Songs "sung by" castrati (1721–1765)</i>
11.00–11.30	Coffee break
11.30–11.50	(T) KORDULA KNAUS <i>Comic opera and castrato singers – new research perspectives</i>
11.50–12.10	(T) THOMAS SEEDORF <i>Female singers "en travesti" in heroic roles</i>
12.10–12.30	General discussion on main topic – <i>Approaching the phenomenon of castrato singers: Archival sources and microhist</i>
13.00–14.30	Lunch
16.00–16.35	AFTERNOON SESSION (16.00–19.30) – Chair: Thomas Seedorf (P) VALENTINA ANZANI <i>Microhistory of castrati: social issues revealed by archival sources</i>
16.35–17.10	(P) ANNE DESLER <i>The castrato: 17th- and 18th-century cultural perspectives</i>
17.10–17.30	(T) HENDRIK HEBERL <i>Which was the use of castrato singers? – In search of factors initiating the castrato vogue in the late 16th and early 17th centuries</i>
17.30–18.00	Coffee break
18.00–18.35	(P) BRUCE ALAN BROWN <i>Castration as microhistory: the many worlds of Bartolomeo Nucci of Pesco (via ZOOM)</i>
18.35–18.55	(T) DAVIDE MINGOZZI <i>A mysterious outrage of the castrato Giovanni Toschi (Genoa, 1775)</i>
18.55–19.15	General discussion on main topic – <i>Castrato singers, reception history and historical anthropology</i>
19.30–21.30	Dinner

*(P) = Paper presentations (25 min presentation + 10 discussion)

*(T) = Research topic introduction (10 min presentation + 10 discussion)



Saturday 23 October

- 08.00–09.00 **Breakfast**
- 09.30–10.05 **MORNING SESSION (09.30–12.30) – Chair: Valentina Anzani**
(P) **STEFANO ARESI**
“Score says no”: modern fairy tales on castrato vocality and raw truth from 18th- and 19th-century sources.
- 10.05–10.25 (M) **STEFANO ARESI – ANDREA FRIGGI**
New perspectives on Moreschi recordings
- 10.25–10.45 (M) **MELANIA BUCGARELLI**
The Wölkén project and the castrato – questions, hypotheses and methodologies
- 10.45–11.05 (M) **ANKE CHARTON**
Castrato Singing: Gendered Legacies [via ZOOM]
- 11.05–11.35 **Coffee break**
- 11.35–11.55 (M) **ARNOLD JACOBSHAGEN**
Counter-tenor and Castrato: On the State of Research
- 11.55–12.15 (M) **MARCO BEGHELLI**
More fairy tales about the voice of castrati?
- 12.15–12.30 **General discussion on main topic – The voice of castrato: State of the art and new perspectives**
- 13.00–14.30 **Lunch**
- 15.00–15.35 **AFTERNOON SESSION (15.00–18.30) – Chair: Arnold Jacobshagen**
(P) **NORBERT FINZSCH**
Hermaphrodites, Castrati, Fricatrices, Tribodes, Virgines, Eunuchs: Liminal Spaces during the Formation of Binary Sex Models
- 15.35–16.10 (P) **CORINNA HERR**
The castrato's voices and bodies in a digital world [via ZOOM]
- 16.10–16.30 (M) **ANKE CHARTON**
Castrato Singing: Gendered Legacies [via ZOOM]
- 16.30–17.00 **Coffee break**

17.00–17.35

(P) **BONNIE GORDON**
Voices Machines: The Castrato, the Cat Piano, and Other Strange Sounds [via ZOOM]

17.35–18.10

(P) **JESSICA GABRIEL PERITZ**
The Castrato Remains: Sensibility, Materiality, Erotichistography

18.10–18.30

General discussion on main topic – Approaching the phenomenon of castrato singers: Innovative and interdisciplinary methodologies

19.30–21.30

Dinner

Sunday 24 October

- 08.00–09.00 **Breakfast**
- 09.30–11.00 **MORNING SESSION (09.30–12.30) – Chair: Valentina Anzani**
General discussion – Summary of the main issues on research about castrato singers generated during the conference
- 11.00–11.30 **Coffe break**
- 11.30–12.30 **Next meeting and publication planning**
- 13.00–14.30 **Lunch**

