

# Lucca Classica Music Festival

**L**ucca Classica Music Festival is celebrating its fourth consecutive year in late April/early May, opening with an Anteprema on 29-30 April and 1-2 May, and the festival proper on 3, 4, 5, 6 May. Each spring the city bursts into music, and this year at least 30 concerts and many more collateral events are scheduled for theaters, town squares, palaces, churches, auditoriums and museums throughout the historic center.

Cellist Silvia Chiesa will open the festival on 3 May, together with pianist Claudio Baglini. On the second day, 4 May, Enrico Bronzi and his cello class from the Salzburg Mozarteum will perform the Bach cello suites, while that same evening at Teatro del Giglio, Nicola Campogrande's *Trois langages imaginaires*, a concert for public and orchestra, will offer a unique involvement of the public, under the direction of the second conductor. There will also be an open rehearsal with Beatrice Venezi, and later in the evening, at 11 pm in the auditorium of the Boccherini Institute, a concert in the dark will evoke a unique auditory sensation, with music by Bach and Hindemith performed by cellist Enrico Bronzi.

On Saturday 5 May, an unusual workshop by a choreographer, a musician, and an astrophysicist will explore gravitational waves with Bach accompaniment. On the same day, a never-yet-presented work by Giacomo Puccini, *Torre del Lago 1904*, will be performed by pianist Simone Soldati. The cashmere "king" Brunello Cuccinelli will be given the Lucca Classica 2018 award for supporting the arts, followed by a concert by pianist Pietro De Maria. In the evening, Uto Ughi will present his latest production, with music by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Saint-Saens, and De Sarasae.

Closing the festival on 6 May will be ballet star Eleanora Abbagnato, dancing with the ballet company of the Teatro dell'Opera of Rome.

This is just a taste of the many treats in store!

**Promoters:** Associazione Musicale Lucchese, Teatro del Giglio, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Lucca

**Supporters:** Mibact, LuccaTown & Province, MIUR, Lucca Prefecture

**Organizers:** Fondazione Giacomo Puccini, Centro Studi Luigi Boccherini, Teatro del Giglio, Anteprema Vini

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[www.luccaclassica.it](http://www.luccaclassica.it)

– by Norma Jean Bishop

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Photos (top to bottom):

1. Uto Ughi
2. Brunello Cucinelli
3. Pietro De Maria
4. Enrico Bronzi
5. Beatrice Venezi (left)