

ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE "ARMONIE DELLO STILARO" APS



Orchestra di Fiati "Città di Pazzano"

International Composition Competition for Solo Alto Saxophone and Wind Band

3rd Edition – 2026

- ARMONIE DELLO STILARO —
in collaborazione con

Regione Calabria, Città Metropolitana di Reggio Calabria,
Comune di Pazzano, Comune di Stilo, Comune di Bivongi,
Comune di Monasterace, Selmer, Anbima APS Calabria, Conservatorio
Statale di Musica "Tchaikovsky", Puccini International Opera
Composition Academy Lucca, Parrocchia Santa Maria Assunta in Cielo
Pazzano, Radio Tele Montestella Web ODV, Trekking-Stilaro Experience,
Riitano Strumenti musicali, Associazione Amici della Musica di Brescia.

OFFICIAL EVENT SPONSORS



INTRODUCTION

The International Composition Competition “Armonie dello Stilaro” is an invitation to professional composers from all over the world to write a work inspired by Calabrian folk singing.

Folk music has its deep roots in centuries-old traditions that have accompanied—and continue to accompany—every moment of our lives. It is the responsibility of each individual, as well as of the community as a whole, to preserve and keep this memory alive. In the age of technology, where information can be accessed in real time from any corner of the planet and where the watchword is “standardisation,” the greatest risk is the loss of an identity whose origins lie in tradition and song. The composition competition celebrates original music for wind orchestra that embodies creativity, excellence, and a strong connection to the cultural identity of the Vallata dello Stilaro. Our aim is to inspire composers to create works that speak to our territory, stimulate local musicians, and enrich the repertoire of our wind orchestra. The competition invites composers to draw inspiration from the religious folk chant “Maria di Monte Stella.”

“It is a civil and moral duty of every individual to gain a profound understanding of their own folk musical culture” – Zoltan Kodaly

 Regione Calabria	Città metropolitana di Reggio Calabria 	Comune di Pazzano 	COMUNE DI STILO 
Comune di Bivongi 	Comune di Monasterace 		
	 TELE MONTESTELLA ODV SINCE 1982	 Presidenza Regionale Calabria	
 Riitano STRUMENTI MUSICALI			 trekkingstilaro Guide Ambientali Escursionistiche Associate AIGAE
 S.A.G.I. SpA gelati & surgelati		 SABATINO TRASPORTI & LOGISTICA Zona Ind. C. da Tavoliera - STILO (RC) Tel. 0964.775926 - Fax 0964.775913 DEPOSITO ZONA IND. EX S.I.R. - 88046 LAMEZIA TERME (CZ) - Tel. 0968.209158 / Fax 0968.209775	

Art. 1

The competition is open to composers of any nationality, with no age limits. Each applicant may participate with one composition only.

Submitted works must be unpublished; otherwise, the composition will be excluded from the competition.

The winner of the previous edition (2nd edition) is not eligible to participate in the 3rd edition of the Competition.

Art. 2

Compositions may belong to any musical trend, genre, or form, provided they comply with the technical requirements set out in this call.

The compositions must be inspired by the folk chant indicated in Appendix 1.

The folk chant may be used freely by the applicants, whether as a quotation, as a theme and variations, or in any other creative form. The material of the religious chant **“Maria di Monte Stella”** must be recognisable within the composition, either through a clear presentation or through a creatively developed form, while preserving its identity.

Art. 3

Scores must be written for a maximum of the following instrumentation:

1st and 2nd Flute (Piccolo); Oboe; Bassoon; 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bb Clarinet; Eb Alto Clarinet (optional); Bb Bass Clarinet; 1st and 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone; Bb Tenor Saxophone; Eb Baritone Saxophone; 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bb Trumpet; 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th F Horn; 1st, 2nd and 3rd Trombone; Euphonium; Tuba; Harp (optional); Timpani (26”, 29”); 4 Percussionists (glockenspiel, xylophone, snare drum, bass drum, hand cymbals, suspended cymbal, wind chimes, triangle, 2 wood blocks, 5 temple blocks, 2 bongos, ratchet, whip, shaker, maracas, castanets, 4 bells (C, Eb, F, Ab), tambourine, vibraslap).

The minimum duration of the piece is 5 minutes; the maximum duration is approximately 10 minutes. The work may be divided into several movements.

Degree of difficulty: maximum level 5.

Art. 4

Scores must be submitted no later than **31 May 2026**, exclusively by e-mail to:

competitionarmoniedellostilaro@gmail.com

in PDF format, together with an MP3 or MIDI audio file (optional).

Works must be notated using music notation software (© Finale, © Sibelius, © Dorico, © MuseScore) and must be strictly anonymous and free of any identifying marks, including the title. At the discretion of the participants, a Word file may be submitted explaining the musical materials used. Each copy must be clearly and visibly marked with a motto in order to guarantee anonymity during the jury's evaluation process.

The registration form – **APPLICATION FORM** – is attached.

Art. 5

The entry fee is **€50.00**, to be paid by bank transfer.

Bank account no. **001052989728**, in the name of the Association "**Armonie dello Stilaro**",

Via Tenente Libero Fiorenza no. 2, 89040 Pazzano (RC), Italy.

code BIC/SWIFT: **BPPIITRRXXX**

IBAN:

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Payment reference: entry fee for the International Wind Band Composition Competition

Art. 6

Prize

- Public performance of the winning composition at the event “Riflessi nel Passato” – 5th Edition (16–22 August 2026)
Solo Alto Saxophone: **Vincent David**
- Cash prize of €800
- Recognition plaque
- Audio/video recording of the concert
- Meals, accommodation, and local excursions covered by the organization from 20 to 22 August 2026



The jury reserves the right to award one or more **special mentions**, with the possibility of performing the work in the next season.

The winning composer will be required to submit the individual parts within 5 days of being notified of the award, under penalty of forfeiture of the prize and disqualification.

Art. 7

The Jury is composed of:

M° GIROLAMO DERACO – President of the Jury

(Composer, Teacher, Director)

M° COSIMO DANIELE BOMBARDIERI

(Composer and Orchestra Conductor)

M° MARIO GAGLIANI

(Composer, Teacher and Orchestra Conductor)

M° VINCENT DAVID

(Soloist performing, Composer and Teacher)

M° ANDREA GRAZIANI

(Orchestra Conductor and Teacher)

The Jury reserves the right **not to award the prize** if none of the submitted compositions are deemed worthy. The Jury also reserves the right not to award any prize if the submitted works do not meet the required artistic and technical standards.

The decision of the judges is **final and binding**. No explanation or feedback regarding the submitted works will be provided.

Art. 8

The winner will be announced on 15 June 2026 and the result will be published on the website www.armoniedellostilaro.com

- The organization will take care of informing the participants of the outcome.

Art. 9

An audio/video recording of the winner's concert will be made. By registering for the competition, the winning composer agrees to authorize this recording. It is understood that the recording may be publicly broadcast via radio, television, or the internet, both nationally and internationally, and may potentially be released as part of a commercial recording.

Participants in the competition authorize the Pazzano Wind Orchestra to perform the submitted works in one of its future concerts. The score and all individual parts of the work must be provided free of charge. Composers agree to grant the organization all performance and recording rights without any form of payment.

The organization may conduct audio or video interviews with the composers and reserves the right to publish information related to their participation in the competition.

Art. 10

Any changes to these regulations may be necessary due to "force majeure" and will be communicated promptly via e-mail, on the competition website, and on social media pages.

In case of disputes, the Italian-language version of the Regulations, published on the competition website, shall prevail.

The competent court is Locri.

Art. 11

Registration for the competition implies full acceptance of all the rules of these Regulations, as well as consent to the use of personal data in accordance with the law. Participation in the competition implies that each contestant accepts the Regulations. All decisions of the organization are final. Appeals are not accepted.

Associazione Culturale
“Armonie dello Stilaro” APS

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CONTATTI:

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Orchestra di Fiati Pazzano



[Orchestra.di.fiati.pazzano](https://www.instagram.com/Orchestra.di.fiati.pazzano)

APPENDIX - 1

CANTO POPOLARE RELIGIOSO

"MARIA DI MONTE STELLA"



Author: Anonymous

The piece selected for this edition is Maria di Montestella, a song from Pazzano that is deeply connected to the Sanctuary of Montestella and the devotion to the Virgin Mary.

A song that has its roots in faith and popular tradition, a living memory of the miracle and the arrival of the Madonna, still preserved today with devotion by the community.

Notes by Maria Pia Russo

TESTO LETTERARIO IN DIALETTO

Maria de monti stella nativa all'esteria
E cu si l'ammaginava lu mari attraversu chi venia
E quand'era a menzu lu mari, lu mari si misa n'tempesta
e Maria voleva nesciri e lu mari si misa a cedira
quand'arriva a bassu marina nu jencu s'ava chiamatu
alli sue piedi s'a n'dinocchiatu e a monti stella l'ava n'chianatu
quando arriva rin'pettu alla grutta na fiamma di focu n'ciannu schicciatu
lu diamoni s'avia m'possessatu e on si voleva moticara
scinda l'angelu Gabrieli e si lu misa sutta i piedi
cu na lancia n'ciava minatu e u so cori n'ciava schiacciatu
e l'angelu n'ci dicia è di Pazzanu stella Maria
fu calata do ternu patra e de Pazzanu la santa vvucata
o divoti chi veniti ada Madonna v'adurati
a scala n'dinocchiuni n'chianati e scinditi quantu grazi n'ci cercati
a Madonna vi n'da duna ca vi sana li malati
adu 15 d'agustu si celebra la sua festa
senza spari e batteria ma cu divuzioni assai
e l'angelu n'ci dicia è di Pazzanu stella Maria
fu calata do ternu patra e de Pazzanu la santa vvucata.

International Composition Competition for Solo Alto Saxophone and Wind Band

APPLICATION FORM

TITLE _____

MOTTO _____

Surname _____ **First Name** _____

Place of Birth _____ **Country** _____

Date of Birth _____ **Residence** _____

Country _____ **Address** _____

ZIP Code _____ **Phone** _____ **Mobile** _____

E-mail _____

TO ATTACH:

- **Proof of payment**

DECLARATION

I declare that I am familiar with the Regulations of the International Composition Competition for Solo Alto Saxophone and Wind Band, organized by the Cultural Association "Armonie dello Stilaro" of Pazzano (RC), and I fully accept them. I also declare:

- That I am the sole composer of the submitted work;
- That the composition is unpublished;
- That I accept the final and binding judgment of the Jury;
- That I consent freely to the public performance of the composition, any audio or video recording, its broadcast, archiving, and potential inclusion in a commercial recording, without requesting any payment other than the rights due to the author.

Place and date

Signature

We hereby inform you that, pursuant to Legislative Decrees **196/2003** and **101/2018**, the personal data collected will be processed by the Cultural Association "**Armonie dello Stilaro**" **APS**, data controller, with registered office in **Pazzano, Via Tenente Libero Fiorenza No. 2**. The **Data Manager** is identified as **Noemi Passerelli**, President of the Competition. Data processing will be carried out manually and/or using electronic means. At any time, the data subject may exercise their rights to obtain information or to object to the processing by contacting the data controller.