



2019 Unexpected Italy Schedule

The Kennedy Center's *Unexpected Italy* celebration will feature a diverse array of artists and art forms, showcasing the breadth and depth of Italy's contributions to the world's artistic and cultural histories. Confirmed performances include:

May 11-25

Washington National Opera

Puccini: *Tosca*

Speranza Scappucci, conductor

WNO presents one of the most famous of all Italian operas: Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca*. This story of love and politics set in 19th century Rome will feature Keri Alkema and Latonia Moore in the title role of Tosca, Riccardo Massi and Robert Watson as Cavaradossi, and Alan Held as the villain Scarpia.



May 16-17

National Symphony Orchestra

Gianandrea Noseda, conductor

Maestro Noseda and the NSO will be joined by a quartet of celebrated singers in Gioachino Rossini's dramatic *Stabat Mater*. This program also features Franz Liszt's *Dante* Symphony, which is based on Dante Alighieri's journey through Hell and Purgatory, as depicted in *The Divine Comedy*.



May 19

National Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall

Gianandrea Noseda, conductor

Performing together at Carnegie Hall for the first time, this concert represents a landmark moment in the artistic partnership between the NSO and Maestro Noseda. The program will include Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and Liszt's *Dante* Symphony. This very high-profile performance is sure to be a highlight of both the NSO season and the Italy celebration.



May 21

Mario Biondi

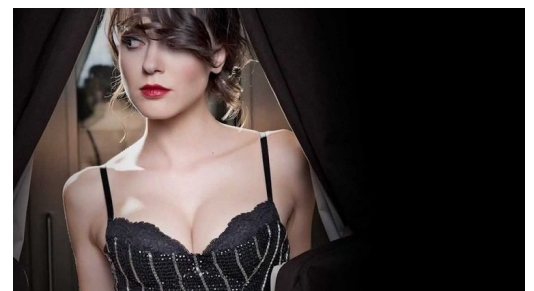
Born in Catania, Italy, singer and composer Biondi has presented memorable collaborations with Chaka Kahn and Michael Bolton. His most-recent album, *Brasil*, was released in 2018.



May 26

Simona Molinari

Born in Naples, Italian singer/songwriter Simona Molinari started singing as a child, showing an early fondness for jazz and graduating from the Conservatory of L'Aquila. Hits include *In Search of You* and *Egocentrica*.



May 28

Doctor 3

An Italian jazz trio formed by Danilo Rea on piano, Enzo Pietropaoli on double bass, and Fabrizio Sferra on drums, Doctor 3 has recorded several hits since 1997.



May 30 & June 1

National Symphony Orchestra

Gianandrea Noseda, conductor

This program showcases Respighi's "Ancient Airs and Dances" – Suite No.2, Casella's Symphony No. 2, and Rachmaninoff's best-known work, *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, featuring pianist Francesco Piemontesi.



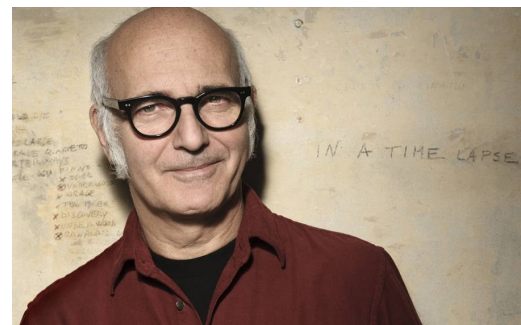
May 31

Ludovico Einaudi

The Italian composer and pianist incorporates styles and genres such as pop, rock, folk, and world music into his performances.

Kennedy Center Millennium Stage Performances

Millennium Stage features a variety of performances. Affording patrons an accessible opportunity to experience high-quality Italian arts and culture, performances are free and open to the public daily at 6:00 p.m. Currently confirmed dates and artists include:



May 3

Chiara Izzi

An award-winning Italian singer/songwriter, Izzi's style is based on her own unique interpretation and fusion of various genres, including jazz, pop, and Mediterranean sounds.

May 5

Vinicio Capossela

Strongly influenced by U.S. singer/songwriter Tom Waits, Capossela also draws inspiration from Italian folk music.



May 12

Paolo Angeli

Guitarist, composer, and ethnomusicologist, Angeli is an instrument-builder associated with traditional Sardinian, flamenco, jazz, post-rock, and experimental music.

May 16

Joe Barbieri

Singer, songwriter, and producer, Barbieri's sound combines world music, jazz, and the tradition of the Italian cantautori.

Food and Wine

May 5 - June 8

Throughout the celebration, the Kennedy Center will highlight the global influence of Italian cuisine, which may include featuring one of Maestro Noseda's signature recipes and presenting Italian-themed menus, wines, cordials, and coffees in the Roof Terrace Restaurant, KC Café, and in the Grand Foyer.

