

# AMALFICOAST music&artsfestival

March 2017

## Welcome to Our Festival Newsletter

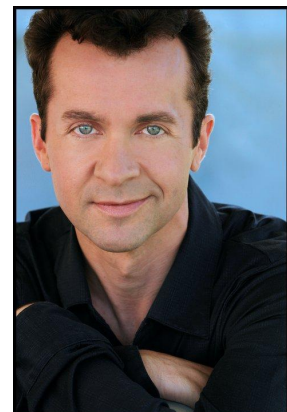
Stay connected with festival updates, activities, and exciting additions!



## Welcome Bruce Stasyna, Conductor

Widely-acclaimed conductor with the San Diego Opera & Washington Concert Opera to join the 2017 Festival.

We're delighted to announce the addition of Bruce Stasyna, conductor, to the 2017 festival staff. Bruce is looking forward to conducting our productions of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and *Suor Angelica* in July. A "highly skilled conductor, choral technician, pianist, vocal coach and music administrator," Mr. Stasyna was recently awarded the position of Chorus Master at the San Diego Opera, while also serving as the Music Director for Vero Beach Opera. Mr. Stasyna was Head of Music for the Minnesota Opera, has conducted at New York City Opera, the Green Mountain Opera Festival, Des Moines Metro Opera, Lake George Opera Festival, Opera Roanoke and Sugar Creek Opera, and he currently serves as a judge for the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions at the district and regional levels. More information about Mr. Stasyna can be found [here](#).



## *Land of the Sirens: Insiders Tour*

Join art specialists [Jack Rasmussen & Rebecca Ravenal](#) for an idyllic adventure for lovers of art and music!



We welcome all avid art and music lovers to join our special 2017 trip to discover the "Land of the Sirens" as guests of the festival! Meet our dynamic art specialist team who will lead the group: **Jack Rasmussen**, director and curator of the American University Museum at the Katzen Art Center and **Rebecca Ravenal**, a longtime Washington-area artist and board member of the James Renwick Alliance. Together you will tour the remarkable museums and churches of Naples, visit Roman ruins and explore the haunting excavations of Pompeii under the shadow of Vesuvius, plus tour private studios of local artists. "Spotlight talks" and slide lectures on art and architecture of the area will enrich your stay while you enjoy festival concerts in historic cathedrals and cloisters each evening. Enjoy our opera productions of Puccini's *Suor Angelica* & *Gianni Schicchi* in unforgettable venues. Learn more about this exclusive guest tour to the Amalfi Coast [here](#).

---

## *The Artist's Sketchbook: A Mixed Media Course with David Page*

[Translate your experiences of Italy with an array of techniques as you develop your artistic focus](#)



Join David Page, noted artist and sculptor, for this new offering in our visual arts program this year. Under David's tutelage, you will investigate the natural surroundings, architecture and artifacts of the Amalfi Coast. Discover how to observe and record your personal experience via a series of drawings, direct rubbings, photographic imagery, and written accounts as you explore the area. Group discussions and visits to museums and artists' studios will complement class time in the field. A much sought-after teacher, David Page is currently Sculptor in Residence at American University and George Washington University. He has received the Maryland State Arts Council's Individual Artist Award on five different occasions, and was awarded the Trawick Prize as well as the University of Maryland's Art for Peace Award, which included the commission of a small sculptural object that was presented to Nelson Mandela upon his visit to the university. Read more about Mr. Page and this compelling new class [here](#).

---

## *Experience Puccini at the Campano Amphitheater*

[Look for opera singers instead of gladiators!](#)



We are thrilled to announce that the cultural heritage office for the Region of Campania has invited us to perform our 2017 opera production in a stunning new venue, the Roman-era Campano Amphitheater. Built in the time of the emperor Augustus and restored by Hadrian, the Campano Amphitheater is located outside the town of Capua, a short distance from the Palace of Caserta. It is second in size only to the Colosseum in Rome, which probably served as a model. The original exterior was formed by 80 Doric arcades in travertine, each four stories high, although only two arches remain; the keystones were once adorned with busts of divinities. The amphitheater was the seat of the first and world-renowned school of gladiators and holds a place in the collective imagination because it was there in 73 BC that the gladiator Spartacus launched the revolt that held Rome in check for two years. Since 2014, the amphitheater has been under the management of the Department of Museums of the Region of Campania. The festival's performance will be a key feature in the monument's summer season!

---

## Contact

**Amalfi Coast Music & Arts Festival**  
**CMS Center of Musical Studies**  
(301) 587-6189  
music@amalfi-festival.org

---

## Stay Connected



Interested in joining the  
festival this summer?

Find all of the information  
you need and more at

[amalfi-festival.org](http://amalfi-festival.org)