

THE ITALIAN SONGBOOK

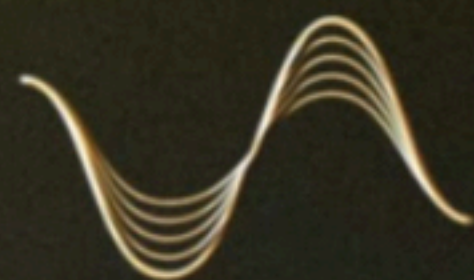
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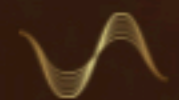
THE ITALIAN SONGBOOK

LIVE IN CONCERT



We believe that song is the most beautiful of all human creations. Every piece of music ever written was once a direct and passionate outcry from the heart and mind of one person to another. As those moments that inspire us in life come to pass, the songs remain.

These are the stories and expressions of life. We celebrate this as we journey through newly created arrangements of Italy's greatest songs presented for the twenty-first century listener. Music conveys emotion in a language that is separate from time, connecting with each of us on a visceral level. *The Italian Songbook* is your guide and companion as you embrace the beauty of vocal and orchestral art.



ABOUT

The Italian Songbook — a Cultural Soundscape

Music can transcend time and culture, encapsulating virtues of a higher power or expressing intimate emotional sensations that feel familiar, even if we lack the words to justify them.



The aim of The Italian Songbook project is to revitalise an older taste of our ancestors to celebrate the eternal and powerful aspects of song, within a context that suits our own modern sentiments.

Director Antonio Pappano Riccio, born of Italian migrants in London draws from his own ancestral heritage of music and song. Removed from the family structure of his native land, Antonio learned to savour each moment of friendship, love, and of course melody. In the spirit of celebration, The Italian Songbook delivers an unforgettable experience of vocal and orchestral music that punches and soars.

In our modern world we have learned to embrace diversity. Where polarisation exists, each of us offers a hand of understanding. More apt to draw parallels than differences, the Songbook exists to share experiences and rediscover music as the most beloved art form of humanity. Italian at heart and northern European in conduct, Antonio created The Italian Songbook to combine the romantic elements of the cinematic, with the modern infusion of subtle and nuanced rhythms akin to the urban. This project is an invitation to enjoy well-known melodies reimagined for the modern listener while preserving the nuance of their Italian roots.



DIRECTOR

ANTONIO (TONINO) PAPPANO
RICCIO

Born in London to Italian immigrants, Antonio's upbringing and environment was particularly significant to the development of The Italian Songbook concept. As a first-generation son of Italians, Antonio learned to adapt and balance the culture carried from a little village near Napoli with the progressive metropolis of London.

One of the world's oldest multicultural centres, London proved to be the ideal catalyst for a project like The Italian Songbook to form. From a musical family, Tonino, as he is affectionately called, began his formal music training at an early age, aided by the late 20th Century's exposure to a range of musical and art genres.

Eventually he became involved in the music of the classical, choral, jazz, pop, gospel, electronic club-based music and more.

As a talented musician, he also balanced his exploration of new music with writing and composition including the latest technological equipment and methods.

Ultimately his passion for orchestral music, performance, and deep roots within the Italian community combined to form a response to the postmodern desire for genre amalgamation.

This combination of the classical and popular presented itself in **The Italian Songbook**.

