

# SERENADE TO THE WIND

Directed by Sanela Bajrić

Produced by Andrea Candio

[www.serenadetothewind.com](http://www.serenadetothewind.com)

Running Time: 56 minutes

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## LOGLINE

There was only one reason why this opera couldn't be performed. But 75 years later...

## SYNOPSIS

"Let my music be performed!" were the last words of Aldo Finzi, the composer that wasn't allowed to perform his art because he was Jewish.

In 1937 La Scala Theater in Milan held a contest for a new opera. The winning opera should have been "La Serenata al Vento" (The Serenade to the Wind) composed by Aldo Finzi, a young, but already successful composer.

But Aldo Finzi was Jewish, and racial laws were going to be enacted in a few months, so the contest was nullified and the prize never awarded.

From then on, the composer was forced to work anonymously. With the break out of the World War II, he, along with his family, had to hide to avoid deportation. The years that followed were full of fear and continuous danger, until his sudden death in 1945, just a few months before the end of the war. Aldo Finzi passed away prematurely, and without having seen his opera staged.

However, thanks to his family and friends' efforts, his music has been performed and recorded during the past few decades. But there was one last composition that nobody has ever heard: "La Serenata al Vento", the unlucky opera, had to wait 75 years to be finally brought to life. An international coproduction between Italy and Israel made it possible and finally in December 2012 the Donizetti Theatre in Bergamo hosted the world premiere of "La Serenata al Vento".

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The end of a war is not the end of suffering. World War II, just like any other conflict, left behind terrible consequences whose dangerous effects reached even these days. The attempt to exterminate the Jewish population and its culture failed, the racial laws were abolished, but the enormous damage they caused has thrown into a long-lasting oblivion countless people.

Among them were also many artists, writers and musicians, whose works risk to disappear forever, just like it happened to their lives.

Emerging from this oblivion is hard, but it is also possible: thanks to Aldo Finzi's friends and family members, his music lives again.

We want to tell this story to keep alive the memory and to encourage the recovery of artists whose life and work was affected by prejudice and discrimination.

- Sanela Bajrić

## FILMMAKERS

### *Sanela Bajrić – director*

Born and raised in Croatia, moves to Milan to study filmmaking. She is an award winning filmmaker with over 15 years of experience in the industry. She received a bachelor's degree in film studies and a master's degree in communication from the University of Milan.

### *Andrea Candio – producer*

After graduating in Economic and Social disciplines from the prestigious University Bocconi in Milan, works for several years as journalist and researcher and then gets involved with producing for the media. The projects include documentaries, live-action films and corporate videos.

# CREDITS

A FILM BY:

Sanela Bajrić

PRODUCED BY:

Andrea Candio

HONORARY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:

Ole Jørgensen

INTERVIEWS (in order of appearance):

Aldo Massimo Finzi

Bruno Finzi

Paolo Finzi

Simonetta Heger

Francesco Bellotto

Otello Cenci

Diego Montrone

Ferruccio De Bortoli

Michele Sarfatti

Tamar Millo

Ole Jørgensen

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MUSIC:

La Serenata al Vento

Music by: Aldo Finzi

Libretto by: Carlo Veneziani

Performed by: Accademia delle Opere, Bergamo Musica Festival,

Compagnia Aeterna Opera

Conducted by: Diego Montrone

Published by: Bel Air Music

Pavana

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Oxana Yablonskaya

Published by: Bel Air Music

Pastoralina

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Simonetta Heger, Giambattista Pianezzola

Published by: Bel Air Music

Valzer lenti

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Simonetta Heger

Published by: Bel Air Music

Nunquam – Sinfonia Romana

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by: Dmitry Yablonsky

Published by: Bel Air Music

Shylock Overture

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Libretto by: Auturo Rossato

Performed by: Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra

Conducted by: Gian Paolo Sanzogno

Published by: Bel Air Music

Interludio

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: The Russian State Orchestra

Conducted by: Dmitry Yablonsky

Published by: Bel Air Music

Toccata

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Oxana Yablonskaya

Published by: Bel Air Music

Inni alla notte

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: The National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine

Conducted by: Nicola Giuliani

Published by: Bel Air Music

Preludio e fuga per organo

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Fausto Caporali

Published by: Bel Air Music

Il Salmo

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: The National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine

Conducted by: Nicola Giuliani

Published by: Bel Air Music

Tempo di marcia per pianoforte

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: Simonetta Heger

Published by: Bel Air Music

Come all'ultimo suo ciascuno artista

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: The Russian State Orchestra

Conducted by: Dmitry Yablonsky

Published by: Bel Air Music



L'infinito

Written by: Aldo Finzi

Performed by: The Russian State Orchestra

Conducted by: Dmitry Yablonsky

Published by: Bel Air Music

SPECIAL THANKS:

Bel Air Music

Federica Bressan

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Cristiano Ostinelli

Michelle Perrin

Federico Rettondini

Andrea Riscassi

Staff del Teatro Gaetano Donizetti di Bergamo

Gian-Luca Zoccatelli

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Aman

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Die Mühle (Vals)  
Georg Ellemunter  
Michele Ferretto  
Bruno Finzi  
Eva Gergely  
Hans & Katinka  
Helene  
Illi  
Andrea Jarach  
Neven Jurjak  
Martina Leitner  
Clay Lowe  
Pierantonio Maconi  
Franco Maggioni  
Alfred Nocker  
Nicola Petruccelli  
Andrea Riscassi  
Vera Ruokonen  
Ivan Mirko Senjanović  
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