



Opening of the 2025/2026 Opera and Ballet Season

# Francesca da Rimini

Andrea Battistoni conducts the Teatro Regio Orchestra and Chorus in Zandonai's masterpiece, in a new production by Andrea Bernard

Teatro Regio, Friday, 10th October 2025, 7p.m.

Under-30 Preview, Thursday, 9th October, 8p.m.

Riccardo Zandonai's *Francesca da Rimini* is set to open the **2025/2026 Opera and Ballet Season** at the Teatro Regio on **10th October 2025**, returning to very stage where it first premiered in 1914 in a **brand-new production by Andrea Bernard**. House Music Director **Andrea Battistoni** will be conducting the Teatro Regio **Orchestra and Chorus**.

Running **until 23rd October**, the opera is proudly **sponsored by Intesa Sanpaolo**, a Teatro Regio partner since 2011, continuing its commitment in support of culture and the promotion of artistic excellence and Italy's exceptional musical heritage.

## An identity founded on research and vision

With this opera, the Teatro Regio reiterates its identity as a **theatre of art and thought**, an **authoritative voice in the interpretation of the established repertoire** at its best and in **bringing back to the limelight rarer titles** often overlooked in contemporary programmes. A journey of rediscovery that continues along the path forged with *La Juive* and the trilogy *Manon Manon Manon* (in particular Auber's opera)—two consecutive season openings both awarded the Abbiati Prize—for insightful programmes that explore and build bridges between **tradition and research**, satisfying audience expectations and the desire to **open up new horizons**.

## A new perspective on Francesca

An intense and lyrically vibrant work, *Francesca da Rimini* is based on the eponymous tragedy by **Gabriele D'Annunzio**, inspired by Dante's celebrated verses in Canto 5 of his *Inferno*. It tells the story of the forbidden love that overwhelms Paolo and Francesca—a love that **defies the law**, that feeds off desire and guilt, and that is consumed in all-red passion and blood. In stage director **Andrea Bernard's** vision of her, Francesca is a young woman who has built for herself a world of apparent safety to defend herself from the patriarchal violence that surrounds her. But tragedy erupts when she finds in Paolo an authentic love, a dream able to project her towards a future that lies closer to our own contemporary sensibilities. A sentiment that will bring her closer to truth, but which bears the makings of the tragedy.

## Cast

On the podium, **Andrea Battistoni** brings his sensitivity and refined interpretation to this title for the first time, for what he calls “a visionary opera, suspended between orchestral refinement and inner drama, the product of a fertile and cosmopolitan age of Italian opera.” On stage, a **star-studded international cast** gives voice to the characters, featuring **Roberto Alagna**, who returns to the Teatro Regio after twenty years, **Barno Ismatullaeva**, a true revelation in 2023 in *Madama Butterfly*, and **George Gagnidze**, one of the opera world’s foremost baritones today. The **Teatro Regio Chorus** will be led by **Ulisse Trabacchin**.

## Conference-Concert

The Conference-Concert series returns again for the 2025/2026 Season to guide audiences in the discovery of the titles on the programme. The conferences feature guest appearances by the stars of the shows, with the opportunity to enjoy live performances of some of the most famous musical moments. Admission is free of charge. The first conference dedicated to *Francesca da Rimini* will be held on **Wednesday, 1st October at 6p.m.** at the Piccolo Regio Puccini, led by journalist **Susanna Franchi**.

## Under-30 Previews and new opportunities for everyone to enjoy the Teatro Regio

The **Under-30 Preview** of *Francesca da Rimini* will be staged on **Thursday, 9th October at 8p.m.**, with tickets on sale from 25th September at a price of €10.

The Teatro Regio is continuing its commitment to making the opera **accessible to everybody**. Just three price sectors to facilitate choice, “opening nights” for all, with ticket prices the same as for other shows, and Regio Card discounts. This year there are **even more opportunities for young people to enjoy the opera**, with the **Regio Card Giovani** now available for theatre lovers aged **16 to 30 years**, entitling card holders to **50% off tickets** and **last-minute offers at just €10**. Plus there is the new **Regio Card Under16**, with tickets at just **€10** and a 10% discount off the ticket for an accompanying adult.

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## Subscription Tickets

Subscription tickets are still available for the exciting new season. Purchasing a **subscription ticket** has never been more convenient, with a **discount** of as much as **30% off** the price of the single tickets. Subscription ticket-holders also have the benefit of an exclusive pre-sale period to take advantage of **special promotions**. **Guided-option carnets** to **three or four shows** instead offer a discount of **20% off** the price of the single tickets, whereas **open carnets** to **three or four shows** offer a discount of **10% off** single ticket prices.

## Tickets and information

Tickets can be purchased at the Teatro Regio Box Office and online at [www.teatroregio.torino.it](http://www.teatroregio.torino.it).

**Teatro Regio Box Office:** Piazza Castello 215, Turin | Tel. +39 011 8815241 / +39 011 8815242 | [biglietteria@teatroregio.torino.it](mailto:biglietteria@teatroregio.torino.it) Opening hours: Monday-Saturday, 11a.m. to 7p.m.; Sunday, 10:30a.m. to 3:30p.m. For full information and updates: [www.teatroregio.torino.it](http://www.teatroregio.torino.it)

Turin, 15th July 2025

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# Francesca da Rimini

Tragedy in four acts  
Libretto by Gabriele D'Annunzio  
Abridged by Tito Ricordi

Music by Riccardo Zandonai

Roles	Cast
I figli di Guido Minore da Polenta:	
Francesca <i>soprano</i>	<b>Barno Ismatullaeva / Ekaterina Sannikova</b> (14th, 23rd)
Samaritana <i>soprano</i>	<b>Valentina Boi</b>
Ostasio <i>bass</i>	<b>Devid Cecconi</b>
I figli di Malatesta da Verucchio:	
Giovanni, <i>lo sciancato baritone</i>	<b>George Gagnidze / Sebastian Catana</b> (14th, 23rd)
Paolo, <i>il bello tenor</i>	<b>Roberto Alagna / Marcelo Puente</b> (19th, 21st, 23rd)
Malatestino <i>dall'occhio tenor</i>	<b>Matteo Mezzaro</b>
Le donne di Francesca:	
Biancofiore <i>soprano</i>	<b>Valentina Mastrangelo</b>
Garsendra <i>soprano</i>	<b>Albina Tonkikh*</b>
Altichiara <i>mezzosoprano</i>	<b>Martina Myskohlid*</b>
Donella <i>mezzosoprano</i>	<b>Sofia Koberidze</b>
La schiava Smaragdi <i>mezzosoprano</i>	<b>Silvia Beltrami</b>
Ser Toldo Berardengo <i>tenor</i>	<b>Enzo Peroni</b>
Il giullare <i>baritone</i>	<b>Janusz Nosek</b>
Il balestriere <i>tenor</i>	<b>Daniel Umbelino*</b>
Il torrigiano <i>baritone</i>	<b>Eduardo Martinez*</b>
Conductor	<b>Andrea Battistoni</b>
Stage Direction	<b>Andrea Bernard</b>
Sets by	<b>Alberto Beltrame</b>
Costumes by	<b>Elena Beccaro</b>
Choreography by	<b>Marta Negrini</b>
Lighting by	<b>Marco Alba</b>
Stage Direction Assistant	<b>Paolo Vettori</b>
Sets assistant	<b>Giulia Turconi</b>
Costume assistant	<b>Emilia Zagnoli</b>
Chorus Master	<b>Ulisse Trabacchin</b>

## TEATRO REGIO TORINO ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS

New production by Teatro Regio di Torino

\* Teatro Regio Ensemble artist

Teatro Regio | October 2025 | Thursday, 9th, 8p.m., Under-30 Preview | Friday, 10th, 7p.m. | Sunday, 12th, 3p.m. | Tuesday, 14th, 3p.m. | Sunday, 19th 3p.m. | Tuesday, 21st, 8p.m. | Thursday, 23rd, 8p.m. © Kids  
Playtime will be organized during this show