

# LIVORNO, GOLDONI THEATRE, FATTORI AND MASCAGNI

By Annalisa Coppolaro

“We wanted to show London the System Livorno, our culture and our theatre, as ambassadors to promote the richness of our town, with a gradual discovery that has been supported by very important public and private sponsors”.

In these words by Livorno Mayor Alessandro Cosimi, who is also the president of the Fondazione Goldoni in Livorno, you can easily find some of the meaning of a fantastic evening of art that took place this month at the Italian Cultural Institute in Belgrave Square, where a multimedia project (music, singing, painting, acting) has offered a very interested audience the precious occasion to “meet” Livorno, and its most famous children, the artist Giovanni Fattori and the composer Pietro Mascagni. More names from Livorno have been remembered, for example Amedeo Modigliani, during this celebration, where the past and the present of a magical town have shone in its art, scenic beauty, culture. The Tuscan town has many faces, and attracts a growing number of visitors. The restoration of its theatre has been very important for a new era for Livorno, and the sequences of its rebirth were shown to the audience.

On the large screen of the ICI, there were images of works by hyperrealist painter Fattori, and images from the large exhibition of his works at the Museo di Villa Mimbelli, while the jazz music by famous pianist from Livorno Andrea Pellegrini was playing in the background. He played “Impressions about impression”, improvisations inspired by the intense colours of the Livorno painter Fattori himself. Then, two young students of the Laboratorio compagnia of the Fondazione Goldoni came on the stage, showing the overpowering strength of acting and words, that goes beyond the language barrier. They performed “Law of Men, law of God – a scene from Sofocle’s Antigone”, cured by Francesco Torregiani and with the visual comment of images taken from the show that took place last May at the Goldonetta, directed by Torregiani himself.

The beautiful Goldoni Theatre in Livorno, who was already presented in London at the Bottaccio centre in Hyde Park where a concert took place, has been recently restored in its splendid details. The theatre is a splendid reality in the beautiful Tuscan sea town, and this evening at ICI was a great success, also thanks to the music by Pietro Mascagni , dedicated to some fabulous women who gave inspiration to the Maestro for the Cavalleria Rusticana. The young, brilliant tenor Stefano La Colla performed "Women's Profiles – Arie and duets from his most famous operas", conquering the audience with his generous Mascagni passion, together with the magic voice of the soprano Simona Bertini, accompanied by the fabulous piano of Anna Cognetta. All together they have celebrated at best the music by the great Maestro, on the background of images and films of some Mascagni productions from the past seasons of Teatro Goldoni.

A standing ovation has closed the evening, marking the triumph of an event which was possible thanks to various sponsorship. The Autorita' Portuale Livorno, the Capanna Group, Renzo Conti srl, LTM Livorno Terminal Marittimo – Autostrade del Mare, Porto di Livorno 2000, and the presence of an international delegation of amateurs, of the Associazione Amici del Teatro Goldoni and of the selected audience of ICI, with its president Pierluigi Barrotta, have given even more prestige to a very high level event. Confirming again the artistic and cultural leadership that Tuscany and the centre of Italy have on a world scale.

*For further information: [www.goldoniteatro.it](http://www.goldoniteatro.it)*