

DINNER WITH THE MAESTRO

Imagine a lavishly laid table, soft lighting and glasses raised in a toast. Musicians with their instruments at the side. Surrounding them are not just dinner guests, but special guests: men and women of culture, entrepreneurs, journalists and Verdi enthusiasts. And above all, the Maestro himself: Giuseppe Verdi. Or rather, an actor playing the role of Verdi, ready to converse with those sitting next to him and with the audience. This is the spirit of *Dinner with the Maestro*, a series of ten unique events that combine cuisine, music and conversation to relive the magic of Verdi in an intimate and surprising setting.

Seated alongside the Maestro will be his chef, **Mario Marini**, the heart and soul of the Corale Verdi's Bistrot, accompanied from time to time by guest chefs from other restaurants. Together they will present special dishes, each linked to a theme that will guide the evening: from saffron risotto to nineteenth-century court cuisine, from Parmesan influences to the flavours that accompanied Verdi's European tours. Food will thus become a source of inspiration for stories, a common thread for reflections, anecdotes and timeless dialogues.

Each dinner will be a lively gathering, with the audience in the room able to participate and ask questions, transforming the table into a veritable cultural salon. The locations will be varied and evocative: from the **Corale Verdi's Bistrot** to theatres, historic buildings, gardens and restaurants, each time creating a different atmosphere, always faithful to the Verdian spirit.

The evenings will not end there: all conversations will be recorded and edited into **clips of approximately 25 minutes**, available on **VerdiMuseum – The Digital Open Museum® of Giuseppe Verdi** and on social media channels, allowing anyone, anywhere, to take a seat at that special table. *Dinner with the Maestro* is not just an event: it is an experience that intertwines art, memory, taste and conviviality, bringing Giuseppe Verdi out of the realm of myth and back among us, in his most authentic and human guise.

