



**MidAmerica Productions and MidAm International of New York City
International Festival of the Aegean, Hermoupolis, Syros, Greece
In Cooperation with the Municipality of Syros-Hermoupolis
George Marangos, Mayor and Thomai Mendrinou, Vice-Mayor for Cultural Affairs**

ANNOUNCE

**First Annual, Worldwide, 14th Annual International Festival of the Aegean's
"Young Artist Opera and Oratorio Competition"
Sunday, July 29, 2018, at the Apollo Theater, Island of Syros, Greece**

Eilana Lappalainen
Competition Director

*** Grand/Gold Prize ***
- 5,000 Euros -
AND

A concert appearance in historic Carnegie Hall in Spring 2019, as part of MidAmerica Productions' 36th Season of Concerts with the New England Symphonic Ensemble. Also, an appearance during the 15th Annual International Festival of the Aegean during the summer of 2019 in an opera production or oratorio with the Pan-European Philharmonia of Warsaw.



Historic Carnegie Hall, New York, USA

Silver Prize

- 3,000 Euros -
AND

An appearance during the 15th Annual International Festival of the Aegean, July 2019, in an opera production or oratorio with the Pan-European Philharmonia of Warsaw.

Bronze Prize

- 1,000 Euros -
AND

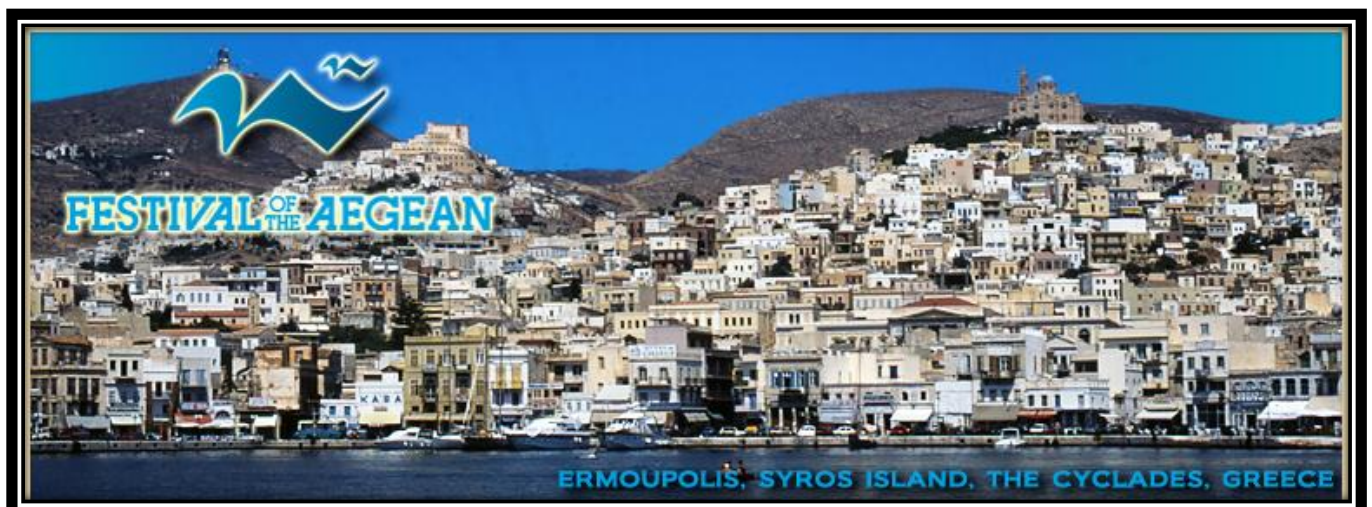
An appearance during the 15th Annual International Festival of the Aegean, July 2019, in an opera production or oratorio with the Pan-European Philharmonia of Warsaw.

Travel expenses, accommodation and food expenses, as well as a fee will be provided to the artists in the Grand/Gold, Silver and Bronze categories for opera or concert productions. Further, at the end of the competition, all finalists will be given a special certificate of participation with a grand reception to follow.

Honorable Mentions

Seven artists will be further considered for opera productions and oratorios during 2019 and 2020 as part of MidAmerica Productions' and MidAm International's presentations.

- Final public competition on July 29, 2018, to be broadcast worldwide on an internet live stream.
- Photos and videos to be provided to each artist within two weeks of the end of the Festival.
- Artist accompanists from Vienna and Athens will be provided for rehearsals and the final performance on July 29, 2018, by the Festival of the Aegean.



City of Hermoupolis, Syros, Greece

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND COST INFORMATION

A maximum of 10 finalists will be selected to appear on July 29, 2018, at the Apollo Theater in Syros, as part of the 14th Annual International Festival of the Aegean.



Apollo Theater - Hermoupolis, Syros, Greece

- The competition is open to singers of all voice types between the ages of 22 and 32 years of age.
- They must submit audition application by email (form attached).
- They must submit a two-page resume (maximum).
- They must forward YouTube or MP3 to opera.competition@midamerica-music.com, including one aria and one oratorio selection performed within the past 12 months.
- Artist Application Fees:

Option 1: Wire: €100 to
MidAm International, Inc.

c/o Santander Bank N.A
1350 Broadway
New York, NY 10018
Account Number 3741039616
Routing Number: 231372691
Swift Number: SVRNUS33

Option 2: Check: \$120 payable to
MidAm International, Inc.

Fedex to:
MidAm International, Inc.
Attn: Ms. Zui Tao,
Competition Administrator
39 Broadway
Suite 3600 (36th Floor)
New York, NY 10006
USA

* Exchange rate: \$1.20 US = € 1 Euros / All application fees are non-refundable.

- Application Deadline: December 15, 2017.
- Notification of 10 "finalists" by January 8, 2018.

- Location of competition: Apollo Theater, City of Hermoupolis, Island of Syros, Greece.
- Finalists must travel to Hermoupolis, Syros at their own expense. Upon arrival, the Competition will provide single hotel accommodation or private housing plus breakfast and one meal ticket per day during the stay for the period of July 26 – 30, 2018. Syros is a 25-minute flight from Athens or a 3-hour Blue Star Ferry trip from Port of Piraeus in Athens. Both departures are at 7:30am.

Note: You are ineligible to compete in this competition if you have ever performed anywhere under the aegis of MidAmerica Productions, MidAm International, Festival of the Aegean, Greek Opera Studio or Berlin Opera Studio.

SCHEDULE: July 26 – 30, 2018

Day 1 - Thursday, July 26, 2018: Arrive in Hermoupolis, Syros

Day 2 - Friday, July 27, 2018: Rehearsals with staff accompanists provided by Festival of the Aegean

Day 3 - Saturday, July 28, 2018: Rehearsals with staff accompanists provided by Festival of the Aegean

Day 4 - Sunday, July 29, 2018: Rehearsal and acoustic sound check in Apollo Theater in late morning or afternoon. Evening public competition.

*Contestants will perform two arias and one oratorio work of their choice on the final public concert. The total length of the performance should not exceed 15 minutes.

*Awards to be given at the end of the competition

*Three to five judges of international stature

*One “audience favorite” selection

* The music selection for July 29, 2018, can be from any musical period. Music selections must be submitted by February 15, 2018, to opera.competition@midamerica-music.com.

Day 5 - Monday, July 30, 2018: Depart Syros

For further information, contact:

Ms. Zui Tao

Competition Administrator

opera.competition@midamerica-music.com

Phone: + 1-212-736-1617

Fax: + 1-212-294-0878

New York Office:

39 Broadway

Suite 3600 (36th Floor)

New York, NY 10006

USA

MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS AND MIDAM INTERNATIONAL

Founded by the conductor Peter Tiboris in 1983, MidAmerica Productions has presented more than 1300 choral and symphonic concerts worldwide, including 1000 concerts in New York and 575 in Carnegie Hall – making MidAmerica the most prolific presenter of vocal music concerts in Carnegie Hall’s history. During its 35 years, MidAmerica Productions has brought together conductors, soloists, and choral and symphonic ensembles from the U.S. and abroad to appear at New York’s top venues, including Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, as well as Alice Tully Hall and Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center. Additionally, MidAmerica Productions has presented concerts in numerous U.S. cities and in countries throughout the world, including Greece, England, Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Italy, France, and Russia. In 2012, Peter Tiboris founded MidAm International to produce MidAmerica Productions’ concerts abroad.

During 2017, MidAmerica Productions produced its regular season of concerts in Carnegie Hall, and MidAm International presented concerts in Florence, Vienna, and Syros, Greece [as the 13th Annual Festival of the Aegean]. In 2018, MidAmerica Productions and MidAm International will produce concerts in Carnegie Hall, Florence, Verona, Vienna, Salzburg, Syros, Paris, Lisbon, Porto, and Macao, China.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE AEGEAN

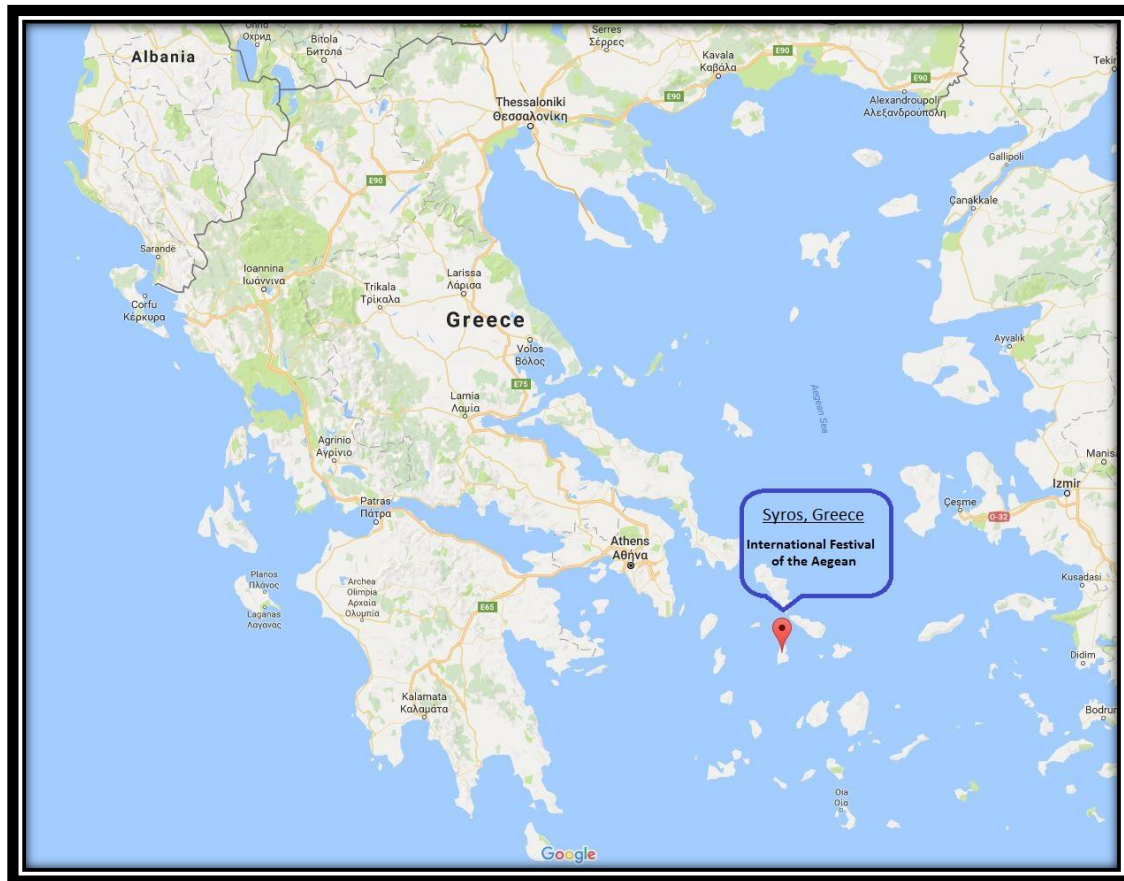
The International Festival of the Aegean was founded by Greek-American conductor Peter Tiboris in 2005 and was presented under the auspices of his company, MidAmerica Productions, the world’s foremost independent producer of vocal music concerts in Carnegie Hall, through 2012. Since 2013, the Festival has been presented by MidAm International. Every July, hundreds of musical, dance, and theatrical artists gather on the sunny Island of Syros, primarily at the Apollo Theater, to perform two weeks of opera, oratorios, symphonies, dance and theater. In 2011, the Festival of the Aegean received the honorary distinction award as “Best cultural organization operating in the wider region of Greece in 2011” by the Music Critics of the Union of Greek Theatre and Music Critics. The award was given to the Festival for its presentation of Verdi’s *La Traviata*, conducted by Peter Tiboris and directed by Renato Zanella in July 2011, at the Seventh Annual Festival in Syros, Greece; and for the Festival’s wider contribution of important productions and international standards to the continuation of the musical and cultural tradition of the island of Syros since the 19th Century.

SYROS – HERMOUPOLIS

Syros is a Greek island in the Cyclades and the capital of the Cycladic Islands in the Aegean Sea. It is located 78 nautical miles (144 km) southeast of Athens. The Island has 25,000 inhabitants and during the summer, the population grows to 40,000. The largest towns are Ermoupoli, Ano Syros, and Vari. Ermoupoli is the capital of Syros. Ermoupoli stands on a site with neoclassical buildings, old mansions and white-washed houses on the surrounding hills, cascading down to the harbor. A monumental Town Square and the historic Apollo Theater are the main features at the center of town, with numerous other important buildings surrounding them. The City Hall, where Miaoulis Square lies ringed with cafes and with seating areas under palm trees, has a grandeur all of its own. The “City of Hermes” has numerous magnificent

churches, the most interesting of which are Metamorphosis, Koimisis, St. Demetrius, Three Hierarchs, Anastasis, Evangelistria, and St. Nicholas. The Archeological Museum has a collection of notable finds and the Municipal Library contains numerous interesting and rare editions. The quarter of the town know as Vapporis, where the sea captains lived, is of special interest. It has a great harbor and 12 incredible beaches.

MAP – SYROS, GREECE



Syros is a 25-minute flight from Athens or a 3-hour Blue Star Ferry trip from Port of Piraeus in Athens.

THE APOLLO THEATER (“LA PICCOLA SCALA”)

The Apollo Theater (also known as “La Piccola Scala”) in Hermoupolis, the main town of the island of Syros, is an important landmark and a symbol of its financial and cultural prosperity since the mid-19th century. Constructed between 1862-1864, it is the oldest opera house in Greece and the 11th oldest in Europe. It is widely believed that the Apollo Theater was modeled after the famous La Scala di Milano Opera House in Milan and the Teatro di San Carlo of Naples. The inaugural performance was *Rigoletto* by Giuseppe Verdi on April 20, 1864 after which opera and theater performances became the center of the cultural life in Hermoupolis. The Apollo Theater played host to numerous Greek and Italian theatrical and operatic troupes, performing the most famous and popular plays, operas and operettas of their time.



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Peter Tiboris
General Music Director

Eilana Lappalainen
Competition Director

**First Annual, Worldwide, 14th Annual International Festival of the Aegean's
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Name of Artist: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address(es): _____

Voice Type (Check one): ☐ Soprano ☐ Mezzo-Soprano ☐ Tenor ☐ Baritone ☐ Bass-Baritone ☐ Bass

Website: (Optional) _____ Birth Date: _____

Mobile Telephone: (Including country code) _____

Alternate Telephone: (Including country code) _____

**A valid passport is required to enter the United States and Greece.
Please check with your embassy for visa entry requirements.**

Your signature below indicates that you understand the parameters of this competition and its operating procedures.

Signature & Date

Print Name

NOTE: This application process is not completed unless it is signed and returned.

For further information, contact:

Ms. Zui Tao, Competition Administrator

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