



The **Dutch National Opera Academy** in association with the **Istituto Italiano di Cultura**

We are delighted to announce the second installment of the **Montgomery–van Dooren Series**, celebrating the extraordinary legacy of the late **Kenneth Montgomery** and **Jan van Dooren**.

Led by artists who worked closely with them, this ongoing series of masterclasses honours their lifelong dedication to supporting, encouraging, and inspiring generations of young artists.

Through this initiative, we pay tribute not only to Kenneth Montgomery’s remarkable career, but also to the enduring spirit of collaboration and generosity that both he and Jan brought to every endeavour.

Pietro Spagnoli

Italian baritone **Pietro Spagnoli** is celebrated for his rich and wide-ranging repertoire — from the wit and brilliance of Rossini and Donizetti to the elegance of Mozart and beyond. Audiences worldwide have admired his portrayals of Figaro, Don Bartolo, Almaviva, Don Alfonso, Dulcamara, and Falstaff, each brought to life with his trademark blend of vocal finesse and dramatic flair.

Praised for his “natural comic timing and strong characterisation,” Spagnoli has performed at major opera houses including La Scala, the Met, and the Royal Opera House. He now shares his artistry and experience through inspiring masterclasses that offer singers a rare opportunity to learn from one of opera’s most engaging and expressive performers.

About the Dutch National Opera Academy

Since its founding in 1996, the Dutch National Opera Academy (DNOA) has been the result of a unique and lasting collaboration between two leading institutions of higher music education: the Conservatorium van Amsterdam (CvA) and the Royal Conservatoire The Hague (KC).

What makes this collaboration so powerful is that both conservatoires share a deep commitment to artistic excellence and craftsmanship. At the same time, each brings its own emphasis on inquiry and reflection, innovation, social engagement, and artistic boldness. It is precisely in this combination—of craftsmanship and experimentation, of excellence and curiosity, of tradition and forward thinking—that



the DNOA finds its foundation. Here, a learning environment is created in which young opera singers are not only trained at the highest level but are also challenged to develop their own artistic voice within a rapidly changing international opera landscape.

A distinctive feature of the programme is its strong focus on authentic, practice-based education, designed in an artistic, craft-oriented, reflective, and research-driven way. The curriculum is carefully balanced and intrinsically linked to the intensive preparation for and performance of productions in a professional context. In particular, the production of full-scale operas defines the unique value of the DNOA and sets it apart: it highlights the reality that a performance venue is not merely a stage but also a classroom—a place for lifelong learning. This principle runs through the entire programme and indeed throughout the professional life of every opera singer. The involvement of a dedicated core team and the expertise of international guest teachers ensure not only continuous qualitative development but also constant alignment with the rapidly evolving professional field and its expectations.

Join Pietro Spagnoli and the singers of the Dutch National Opera Academy for this special masterclass — an unforgettable chance to learn, perform, and be inspired.