

Biography Anna Astesano

Born in December 1993, she began the study of the harp at the age of seven entering soon the Conservatory of music "G. F. Ghedini" of Cuneo, where she took her Diploma in February 2012 with an evaluation of 10/10 and mention.

From September 2013 to June 2017 she studied at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Danse in Lyon, in the class of Fabrice Pierre, Sylvain Blassel and Park Stickney. Here she has had an intense activity as part of the trio VIF (harp, flute and viola), other chamber music ensembles (harp and horn in particular) and developing her contemporary music's repertoire thanks to "Atelier XX-XXI" ensemble. She graduated at the Faculty of Letters at Lumière's University in Lyon in June 2015 in Musicology.

She has won several national and international competitions.

She attended lots of master classes with harpists well known all over the world like Catherine Michel (Paris Opera), Emmanuel Ceysson (MET New York), Marie Pierre Langlamet (Berliner Philharmoniker).

Between 2014 and 2015 she has been harpist at "Teatro alla Scala" Academy in Milan, being conducted by Maestro Fabio Luisi, David Colemann, Marco Armiliato, and many others. In the summer 2015 she has attended the NJO (Netherlands Jugend Orchestra) Academy, having concerts in Amsterdam's Muziekgebouw an der t'ill and the Konzerthaus in Berlin, conducted by Anthony Hermus. In July 2015 she is the first harpist in the Mediterranean Youth Orchestra, playing in France, Greece and Tunisia, followed by coaches from the London Symphonic Orchestra, conducted by Carlo Rizzi. In June 2015 she has won the audition as first harp at "Luigi Cherubini" Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Riccardo Muti, making orchestra tours around the world, and having the chance to collaborate with artists such as Vadim Repin, Svetlana Zakarova and the Bolshoi Ballet, Renata Scotto and many others.

She has taken concerts in collaboration with important festivals and organisations, such as the Società del Quartetto in Milan, Bracco Foundation, Unione Musicale Association, Aix-en-Provence Music Festival and Tokyo Spring Music Festival.

Invited by Salvi Harps, in October 2016 she has taken part at the « Arpissima » event in Bari, having a recital and holding a masterclass for the Conservatoire's students.

In November 2016 she records with the ensemble « Les temps modernes » the inedited CD of the Chinese composer Ye Xiaogang.

In 2017 she is one of the winners of the second harp position opened by the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale (RAI) in Turin, and the first harp position in Bolzano.

Thanks to a scholarship offered by the school, starting in September 2017, she is joining the harp class at Trinity and Laban Conservatoire of Music and Danse in the Postgraduate Advanced Diploma course, guided by Gabriella dall'Olio.

In December 2017 she has been awarded the "Featured Young Performer Price" offered by the London Year Festival, well-known contemporary music festival in London, playing as soloist and with the Uroboros chamber music ensemble. She has worked as first harp with the Southback Sinfonia Orchestra and the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, conducted by Antonio Pappano, collaborating with artists such as Anna Netrebko, Angela Georghiu, Aida Garifullina and many others. She has recently recorded film music at the Abbey Road Studios and in May 2018 she is having her debut in Wigmore Hall.