



## GIOVANNI CULTRERA

Giovanni Cultrera di Montesano is an internationally acclaimed pianist, educator, artistic director, entrepreneur, and the current Superintendent of the *Teatro Massimo Bellini* Regional Opera House in Catania, Italy. He holds a degree with highest honors in Piano and Musical Disciplines, a three-year Master's High Piano Specialization with Boris Petrushansky, and a Law degree magna cum laude.

As a solo pianist, Cultrera has performed across the Americas, Asia, North Africa, and Oceania in major global capitals. He has won over thirty national and international competitions, served as president and juror in over 100 competitions worldwide, and has given master classes and lectures in numerous nations.

He has managed and directed the artistic organization of thousands of concerts and cultural events for theaters, foundations, moral bodies, and festivals. In 2022, he was awarded the *Knight of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic* by the President of Italy for his outstanding artistic achievements.

Since 2019, Cultrera has served as Superintendent of the Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania, a position renewed in 2024 by regional decree, extending his leadership through 2028.

In 2026 he received the prestigious **Candelora d'Oro Sant'Agata Award**, one of Catania's highest civic honors, recognizing his cultural, artistic, and civic impact through visionary leadership and excellence in promoting culture and music on both local and international stages.

Under his stewardship, the Bellini has presented ambitious seasons such as the 2025/26 program "*Freedom to Choose Beauty*", combining tradition and innovation in opera, ballet, symphonic works, and new commissions, reinforcing the theater's role as a dynamic cultural hub.

In addition to his artistic career, he teaches Piano Performance Practice and Repertoire and Organization, Law, and Legislation of Entertainment at the Conservatory of Catania and holds academic and institutional positions in the field of music and arts administration.