



BOLOGNA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

'Culture does not stop' in Bologna

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the city of Bologna, a UNESCO Creative City of Music in Italy, has mobilized its various cultural institutions to continue providing its inhabitants with access to the city's cultural content.

Leveraging its creative potential in the field of music, the city has launched a series of online initiatives to maintain its vibrant cultural environment. Thanks to the close collaboration of the leading music institutions and other cultural practitioners and organizations, the official web portal of the Municipality, 'Bologna Agenda Cultura', has become a genuine online cultural hub. Through this platform, inhabitants can participate or access multiple cultural activities from home.

The platform contains diverse musical content including operas for the past seasons published by the famous Teatro Comunale, and musical performances from the Orchestra Senzaspine, composed of 450 musicians under the age of 35. Through the inclusion of the orchestra compositions, the city continues to help revive classical music amongst audiences while giving new professional opportunities to young orchestral musicians.

To further promote the music sector, the city of Bologna has also launched the project 'Canzoni sotto i Portici' (Songs under Arcades), in collaboration with the official Tourist Board, and Spotify – a digital music service. The platform has already created and released a series of theme-based playlists including international, Indie and Jazz Music.

In addition to the music sector, the city's museums have also put in place several initiatives to bring culture to homes during confinement. Using the application MuseOn, the Archaeological and the Medieval Museums have opened their virtual spaces to users to explore museums and cultural institutions in Italy. Furthermore, Museums of Bologna have also created the video game WunderBO, to encourage players to explore the cultural heritage of Bologna. Throughout the game, players experience adventures full of puzzles, curiosities and hidden objects, while collecting 'discoveries' from the Medieval Museum and the Museum of Palazzo Poggi in Bologna to recompose a real Wunderkammer or 'chamber of wonders'.

For more information, kindly visit:

- <http://cittadellamusicacomune.bologna.it/en/culture-doesnt-stop/>
- <http://agenda.comune.bologna.it/cultura/>