

# VIOLA SHAULA VALERIO

Biography 2016

Viola Shaula Valerio is a flutist, a music scholar and a teacher.

In 2006 she obtained her B.A. in flute (10/10) from the Music Conservatory of Florence, Italy. After that, she studied with several prominent professors such as James Walker (USC), Maxence Larrieu (Académie de musique de Nice), Fabio Fabbrizzi (“Estate in Musica,” Barberino Val d’Elsa, Italy), Nicola Mazzanti (Piccolo Masterclass “Esperienze Musicali,” Florence, Italy), Andrea Oliva (Centro Studi Musica e Arte, Florence, Italy), Alda Dalle Lucche (Scuola di Musica di Fiesole, Italy), Riccardo Cecchetti (Scuola di Musica di Fiesole), and Lorenzo Bettini (Scuola di Musica di Fiesole).

During her studies at the Music Conservatory she played in several orchestras, such as Orchestra del Conservatorio Cherubini, Orquesta Internacional del Encuentro de Conservatorios de Música Europeos, Elche (2006/ 2009), performing as a soloist both in Spain and in Italy. Also, she performed with various chamber music ensembles, such as Trio Mistral, Duo Lonardelli-Valerio and Florence Ensemble. With these ensembles, she performed at the Orsanmichele Museum for Toscana Classica 2013, at Teatro “il Bobolino”, Auditorium Santo Stefano al Ponte (2014), Teatro di Castello, Roman Theater (Fiesole), Le Murate “Caffè letterario”, and at the Regione Toscana “Palazzo aperto.”

In 2008, Viola S. Valerio enrolled for a Master in Musicology at the University of Florence. In 2011 she graduated, with a 110/110 cum laude score, under Aloma Bardi’s supervision, with a thesis on American music: “*Music’s Airy Voice*”: *The Flute in the Music of Anthony Philip Heinrich’s (1781-1861), Romantic Composer in America*. This research relied on the ICAMus and The Library of Congress Music Division’s staff advice and expertise.

While completing her Master’s studies, she contributed to the ICAMus Doctoral Seminar *Com’era nuovo il Nuovo Mondo. Gli Stati Uniti d’America, la musica, la musicologia, il senso di una scoperta permanente*, held at the Ph.D. Program and the

Scuola Dottorale in Storia dello Spettacolo of the University of Florence in April 2010, under the direction of Fiamma Nicolodi and Aloma Bardi. On this occasion, she offered the European première of original flute music from 19<sup>th</sup>-century American composers such as Stephen C. Foster and Anthony Philip Heinrich.

Viola S. Valerio is the author of the scholarly article *At the Origins of Art Music for the Flute in North America*, published in 2013 in the In-Depth Section of the ICAMus Website: <http://www.icamus.org/en/depth/previews/origins-art-music-flute-north-america/>. In this research, she explores the production of flute music in Colonial America and the first original pieces for this instrument in Early American Music, focusing on compositions by Stephen C. Foster and Anthony Ph. Heinrich.

In 2012, she became an ICAMus member, and has collaborated ever since to the Organization's scholarly projects and events on American music. Since March 2014, she has been the editor of the ICAMus Facebook page, featuring the Center's specialist initiatives: <https://www.facebook.com/ICAMus.org>

In 2014, she was the first recipient of the newly-established ICAMus Scholarship. This research grant allowed her to work on the Anthony Philip Heinrich Collection at the Library of Congress Music Division, Washington, DC. The outcome of her research is forthcoming as a chapter in the first modern book entirely devoted to this prominent 19<sup>th</sup>-century composer, conceived and developed by the Dvořák Society. This international project involves a select group of specialists from around the world.

Since 2007, Viola S. Valerio has been a passionate teacher of flute and of music theory in numerous elementary schools and private music schools of Florence, such as Scuola Primaria e dell'Infanzia "Madre Mazzarello," Centro Studi Musica e Arte, Scuola Primaria "Nadia Nencioni," Scuola Primaria "Petrarca" and "Montagnola," Scuola Primaria "Giacomo Matteotti," and Associazione Musicale Fiorentina.

In addition, she has worked as an interpreter and translator (English/Italian) at the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) exams held in Florence, Italy.

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