CV: Johannes Theodorus van der Sandt

Johann van der Sandt received his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Music from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and later specialised in Choral Conducting at the Institute for Choral Conductors Training in Gorinchem, the Netherlands. He has established an extensive career as a composer, arranger, adjudicator, and choral conductor across national and international platforms, and is regularly invited as a guest conductor, clinician and jury member at international choral festivals, competitions, and symposia.

He has conducted a wide range of ensembles, from children's and youth choirs to university and adult choirs. His tenure with the University of Pretoria Camerata brought the ensemble critical acclaim and international awards. As Director of Music at the Drakensberg Boys Choir School, he helped solidify the choir's reputation as one of the leading boys' choirs in the world. He also founded and directed Singkronies, an adult chamber choir dedicated to the development and recording of South African choral repertoire.

Johann has presented lectures and workshops at numerous international symposia on choral pedagogy and music education, including events in Europe, Africa, and North America. He has published widely on choral methodology and education, and his recordings—ranging from sacred choral works to South African traditional music—reflect his versatility and commitment to cultural engagement through music.

Currently, he is Full Professor of Musicology and Music Education at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy. He conducts the South Tyrolean Youth Choir (Landesjugendchor Südtirol), is artistic director of the Südtiroler Vokalensemble (since September 2025), unibzVoices (the university's vocal ensemble), the community choir VOICES Brixen and the male choir Brummnet, which he co-conducted for many years with the late Clara Sattler. He is also Director of LaSiDo, an association for early childhood music education using singing as a central pedagogical approach, which organises a yearly SINGCAMP for children. His community music projects include Si! per il canto in southern Italy and Ja! vir die lewe in South Africa, and his research focuses on inclusion, community music and collective singing with children and young people. He remains a highly sought-after conductor and mentor, known for his artistic sensitivity, pedagogical insight, and deep commitment to the transformative power of choral music.

General information

- van der Sandt, Johannes Theodorus
- BMus (UP), BMus Honns (UP), MMus (UP), DMus (UP), Diploma: Choral Conducting (IDE, Netherlands)
- ORCID: 0000-0002-2652-7017 – https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2652-7017
- johannes.vandersandt@unibz.it

Academic Qualification

- 1985-1991 Studied at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.
- 1988 Obtained BMus (Ed) at the University of Pretoria. Title of graduate paper: Die Musiek van Hans Roosenschoon: 'n Stylbespreking. (The music of Hans Roosenschoon: a Stylistic Discussion)
- 1988 Obtained Diploma: Individual Music Teaching at the University of Pretoria
- 1989 Obtained BMus (Hons: Music Education) at the University of Pretoria
- 1991 Obtained MMus (Musicology) at the University of Pretoria - Title of thesis: The Secular Works for Mixed a Capella Choir by Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901).

- 1996 Obtained Diploma: Choral Conducting at the Hogeschool voor Muziek Gorinchem (Instituut voor Dirigente Edukatie) – Institute for Conductor Training, Gorinchem, The Netherlands.
- 2013 Obtained Doctor in Music (Choral Conducting) (DMus Performing Art) from the University of Pretoria. Title of thesis: Towards a Curriculum for the Training of Undergraduate Choral Conducting Students.

Employment Experience

Current Position: Scientific Disciplinary Area L-ART/07 - Musicology and History of Music; Position: Full Professor; Appointment since: 01/07/2015; University: Free University of BOLZANO; Faculty of EDUCATION; Website https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/35788-johannes-theodorus-van-der-sandt

- 2015 – present - Full professor in SSD PEMM-01/C (formerly L-ART/07), COURSES: Community Music (2017-2021); Perspectives of Music making and Music education (2022-present); Music as Communication; Lab on Didactical Technologies with a Focus on Music, Art and Aesthetics; Pedagogy and Didactics of Music with an Emphasis on the Age Range (0)-2-7 (Laboratorium); Pedagogy and Didactics of Music: Theoretical and Methodological Basics; unibzVoices. Choral singing.
- 01-01-1999 - 31-07-2008 Senior Lecturer for Choral Conducting, Music Education and Aural Training at the University of Pretoria.
- 01-01-2001 - 31-07-2008 Associate Professor in Choral Conducting at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.
- 01-01-1995 - 31-12-1998 Lecturer for Choral Music and Choral Conductor at the University of Johannesburg (previously Rand Afrikaans University). Department of Music.
- 01-01-1991 - 31-12-1995 Contract Lecturer for Music Education at Vista University – Mamelodi Campus (Vista University, South Africa was established in 1981 by the apartheid government to ensure that urban black South Africans seeking tertiary education would be accommodated within the townships rather than on campuses reserved for other population groups)

Scientific and artistic Publications

1. van der Sandt, J. T. (in press - forthcoming). Lo sviluppo della creatività nella formazione degli educatori musicali. In S. Damiano (Ed.), [volume title of the ARTEDU 2022 proceedings] (pp. [final pages – proof pages run to p. 23, first page unnumbered; provisional]). [Open Access publisher, place, DOI/ISBN – not shown in the proof]

2. van der Sandt, J. T. (2026). Heimaten im Klang – Singen als Raum der Zugehörigkeit. In M. Fuchs & U. Sievert (Eds.), Perspektiven II: Heimaten. Tagungsband des Leipziger Symposiums zur Kinder- und Jugendstimme 2026 (Kinder- und Jugendstimme, Vol. 19). Logos Verlag Berlin.

3. van der Sandt, J. T. (2027). Voices of Belonging – Singen als Gamechanger für Inklusion und sozialen Zusammenhalt in multikulturellen Bildungsräumen. In A. Bernhofer & A. M. Kalcher (Eds.), Tagungsband der SOMA-Superar-Tagung „Singen und Musizieren als soziale Gamechanger“ (Einwürfe. Texte zu Musik – Kunst – Pädagogik). LIT Verlag.

4. van der Sandt, J. T. (2026). Choral voices, evolving spaces: Gender-sensitive education and the future of boys' choirs. In M. Encarnação, T. De Baets, S. Mommartz & L. Van Dooren (Eds.), Unlocking voices: Shaping music education futures (European Perspectives on Music Education, Vol. 18). Helbling. ISBN 978-3-7113-1410-9

5. Nardi, C., & van der Sandt, J. T. (Eds.). (in press - forthcoming 2027). Singing and inclusion: Promoting social justice in collective singing with children and youth (SEMPRE Studies in The Psychology of Music). Routledge. ISBN 978-1-041-00793-7. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003611707

6. van der Sandt, J. T., & Nardi, C. A. (in press - forthcoming 2027). Making music together with children from a migrant background: The challenges of promoting inclusion within a separated school system. In Singing and inclusion. Routledge.

7. van der Sandt, J. T., & Nardi, C. A. (in press - forthcoming 2027). From access to social transformation: Expanding the reach of inclusivity in singing and choral education. In Singing and inclusion. Routledge.

8. Jiřičková, J., & van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Exploring the role of body movement in music education and choral practise through autoethnography. Gramotnost, Pregramotnost a Vzdělávání, 8(3), 37–61. https://doi.org/10.14712/25337890.4846

9. van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Singing in music education as a tool for the development of children's communication skills. Gramotnost, Pregramotnost a Vzdělávání, 8(3), 63–79. https://doi.org/10.14712/25337890.4848

10. van der Sandt, J. T. (Ed.). (2024). Singing with children: Vocal pedagogical perspectives. FrancoAngeli.

11. van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Prelude. In Singing with children: Vocal pedagogical perspectives (pp. 7–9). FrancoAngeli.

12. van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Postlude. In Singing with children: Vocal pedagogical perspectives (pp. 187–194). FrancoAngeli.

13. van der Sandt, J. T., van Aswegen, R., & Masuelele, O. (2024). United through song: The role of school choirs in nation building. In Singing with children: Vocal pedagogical perspectives (pp. 148–158). FrancoAngeli.

14. van der Sandt, J. T., van Aswegen, R., & Masuelele, O. (2024). School choirs as agents for cultural bridge builders in South Africa. In Singing with children (pp. 65–82). FrancoAngeli.

15. van der Sandt, J. T., Jiřičková, J. (2024). The influence of movement in music education. In Singing with children (pp. 85–96). FrancoAngeli.

16. van der Sandt, J. T., Jiřičková, J. (2024). Comparative approaches to music folklore in music education: The Czech Republic and South Tyrol (Italy). In Singing with children (pp. 137–147). FrancoAngeli.

17. van der Sandt, J. T., Jiřičková, J. (2024). Folk songs: Tradition embedded in education. In Singing with children (pp. 13–26). FrancoAngeli.

18. van der Sandt, J. T., Nardi, C. A. (2024). A pathway to inclusive social integration through singing: Preliminary findings from an ethnographic study in South Tyrol, Italy. In Singing with children (pp. 159–168). FrancoAngeli.

19. van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Singing in music education as an instrument for the holistic education of children = Il canto nell'educazione musicale come strumento per l'educazione olistica dei bambini. IUL Research, 5(10), 149–167. https://doi.org/10.57568/iulresearch.v5i10.649

20. van der Sandt, J. T., Nardi, C. A. (2024). The benefits of choral singing: A study of Italian university choirs (2018–2019). International Journal of Community Music, 17(1), 61–86. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm_00098_1

21. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2024). Community music in Italy. International Journal of Community Music, 17(1), 3–6. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm_00099_2

22. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (Eds.). (2024). "Musica per tutti": Community Music in Italy. International Journal of Community Music. Intellect.

23. Coppi, A., & van der Sandt, J. T. (2024). Changing life: Historical musicology as a strategic tool in the Italian community music perspective: A case study. Musica Docta, XIV, 89–101. https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2039-9715/20909

24. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2023). Community singing in Italy during the first COVID-19 lockdown: Singing for emotional well-being. In Music Pedagogy in the Context of Present and Future Changes 8 (pp. 517–525). Sveučilište Jurja Dobrile u Puli.

25. van der Sandt, J. T. (2023). 5. Příprava na profesi učitele hudební výchovy = 5. Preparation for the profession of music teacher: 5.1 Developing creativity in music teacher education. In Kapitoly z kreativní hudební výchovy (pp. 93–109). Univerzita Karlova.

26. van der Sandt, J. T., & Jiřičková, J. (2023). 4. Aspekty kreativní hudební výchovy: Význam rytmu a pohybu v dětské zkušenosti při tvořivé práci s písní. In Kapitoly z kreativní hudební výchovy (pp. 41–47). Univerzita Karlova.

27. van der Sandt, J. T. (2023). Africké písně: spojení zpěvu a pohybu = African songs: A combination of singing and movement. In Kapitoly z kreativní hudební výchovy (pp. 234–244). Univerzita Karlova.

28. van der Sandt, J. T. (2022). Singen als Mittel zur Entwicklung sozialer Kompetenzen. In Praxis: Singen mit Kindern und Jugendlichen (pp. 81–102). LIT Verlag.

29. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2022). Andrà tutto bene! Musicking together and apart: The role of popular music and singing during the COVID-19 period in Italy. Journal of Popular Music Education, 6(1), 65–80. https://doi.org/10.1386/jpme_00075_1

30. van der Sandt, J. T., Schaumberger, H., Coppi, A., Salminen, S., & Wolf, M. (2021). Singing is what we do (together) – redefining "together": A comparative study. Formazione & Insegnamento, 19(3), 28–52. https://doi.org/10.7346/-fei-XIX-03-21_03

31. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2021). MUSICOVID-19: When the world paused but singing continued. International Journal of Community Music, 14(2–3), 151–167. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm_00042_1

32. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2021). Community music: Perspectives on a new model for music education and social change in Italy. Musica Docta, 11, 23–39. https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2039-9715/13971

33. van der Sandt, J. T., & Coppi, A. (2021). Musica per tutti: The manifestation of community music activities as alternative music education offerings with perspectives on El Sistema in Italy. In Community Music at the Boundaries. Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

34. van der Sandt, J. T., & Bocchi, B. (2021). Il canto nella scuola dell'infanzia: una ricerca in Alto Adige. LIM.

35. van der Sandt, J. T. (Ed.). (2020). Singing with children: International perspectives. Libreria Musicale Italiana.

36. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). Josef Rheinberger: An analysis of the secular compositions for mixed a cappella choir. LIM.

37. Coppi, A., & van der Sandt, J. T. (Eds.). (2022). I cori e le orchestre universitarie oggi: Quando fare musica diventa un'esperienza trasformativa (Ars Musicalis, 7). LIM. ISBN 978-88-7096-959-7

38. Schaumberger, H., van der Sandt, J. T., & Wolf, M. (2020). The status of singing in schools: An overview of national curricula in Austria, England, Italy and South Tyrol (Italy). In Singing with children: International perspectives. LIM.

39. van der Sandt, J. T. (2022). Cori universitari: una prospettiva internazionale con particolare attenzione al Sudafrica. In I cori e le orchestre universitarie oggi. LIM.

40. van der Sandt, J. T. (2022). I benefici del cantare: un'indagine sui cori universitari italiani. In I cori e le orchestre universitarie oggi. LIM.

41. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). The effective choral conductor. In Singing with children: International perspectives. LIM.

42. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). Oh boy! Do boys' choirs still matter? In Singing with children: International perspectives. LIM.

43. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). I direttori di cori come guida della comunità di musicisti: «Sono un artista o un insegnante?». In Donare-donarsi. Libreria Musicale Italiana.

44. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). Introduction. In Singing with children: International perspectives. LIM.

45. van der Sandt, J. T. (2020). Premessa. In Donare-donarsi. Libreria Musicale Italiana.

46. van der Sandt, J. T. (2019). Riflessione sullo stato della community music in Italia. In La Community Music in Italia: Cenni storici, modelli pedagogici, contesti sociali. Carocci.

47. van der Sandt, J. T. (2019). Community music come strumento di sviluppo del potenziale musicale per tutti. In La Community Music in Italia. Carocci.

48. van der Sandt, J. T. (Ed.). (2019). La Community Music in Italia: Cenni storici, modelli pedagogici, contesti sociali. Carocci.

49. van der Sandt, J. T. (2018). Music education seen through alternative lenses with special reference to community music practices. In Maestra Natura: Per una pedagogia esperienziale e co-partecipata. Zeroseiup.

50. van der Sandt, J. T. (2018). Vokale Meisterleistung. Neue Südtiroler Tageszeitung.

51. van der Sandt, J. T. (2017). Postfazione: Community music come strumento di sviluppo del potenziale musicale per tutti. In Community Music: Nuovi orientamenti pedagogici. FrancoAngeli.

52. van der Sandt, J. T. (2016). Choral conducting: History and didactics. Libreria Musicale Italiana.

53. van der Sandt, J. T. (2016). "Remembered Joy": Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir.

54. Coppi, A., & van der Sandt, J. T. (2016). Conducting Technique. In Choral Conducting: History and Didactics (pp. 81–95). LIM.

55. van der Sandt, J. T. (2013). Men of Faith.

56. van der Sandt, J. T. (2013). Live in Concert. [performer/label/format to confirm]

57. van der Sandt, J. T. (2012). "Droomland - Live recording of Ariel Ramirez: Missa Criola". Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir and Chris Chameleon. Chris Chameleon Publishing, 2012. DVD.

58. van der Sandt, J. T. (2012). "We are young". Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir. Prospect (LC 03695) 00258, 2012. CD.

59. van der Sandt, J. T. (2011). "Christmas with the Drakensberg Boys Choir". Drakensberg Music, 2011. CD.

60. van der Sandt, J. T. (2011). "In Worship". Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir. Maranatha Record Company, MARD567, 2011. CD.

61. van der Sandt, J. T. (2010). "Cantemus – JUST SING!". Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir. Prospect (LC 03695) 00222, 2010. CD.

62. van der Sandt, J. T. (2010). "Hallelujah". Perf.: Drakensberg Boys Choir. Maranatha Record Company, MARD566, 2010. CD.

63. van der Sandt, J. T. (2008). "Lux Aeterna". Perf.: Singkronies Chamber Choir. Prospect (LC 03695) 00200, 2008. CD.

64. van der Sandt, J. T. (2008). "A Reign of Rest". Perf.: University of Pretoria Camerata. University of Pretoria, 2008. CD.

65. van der Sandt, J. T. (2007). "An International Collection of Choral Music". Perf.: University of Pretoria Camerata. Prospect (LC 03695) 00175, 2007. CD.

66. van der Sandt, J. T. (2006). South African Choral Music IV. "KHUTSO - Chant for Peace". Perf.: UP Camerata, Singkronies Chamber Choir, Vocal Ensemble Cant'afrika. Prospect 00174, 2006. CD.

67. van der Sandt, J. T. (2006). South African Choral Music II. "Come Lord". Perf.: Singkronies Chamber Choir. Prospect 00136, 2006. CD.

68. van der Sandt, J. T. (2005). South African Choral Music III. "Eleven Years - Eleven Languages". Perf.: UP Camerata & UP Chorale. Prospect 00161, 2005. CD.

69. van der Sandt, J. T. (2005). South African Choral Music in Finland. Perf.: University of Jyväskylä Choirs. Unpublished archive recording, JAMK. 2005. CD.

70. van der Sandt, J. T. (2005). 4 Commissioned South African Choral Works. Perf.: UP Camerata. Unpublished archive recording. 2005. CD.

71. van der Sandt, J. T. (2004). South African Choral Music I. "Horizons".

72. van der Sandt, J. T. (2003). "Tuks Camerata 2003". Perf.: UP Camerata. University of Pretoria, 2003. CD.

73. van der Sandt, J. T. (2003). "Music for a while". Perf.: UP Camerata. Prospect 00135, 2003. CD.

74. van der Sandt, J. T. (2002). "Voice of Africa". Perf.: UP Camerata. Guild Music GMCD 7246, 2002. CD.

Professional development attendance and presentations

- 2026 – Workshop presenter: chor.com 2026, Kongresshalle am Zoo Leipzig, 2 October 2026. “Südafrikanische Chormusik” (South African folk songs in new arrangements for equal or mixed voices; in cooperation with Helbling Verlag).
- 2026 – Initiator, organiser, artistic director and principal investigator: Si! per il canto, community music project in southern Italy with the Coro Polifonico Angelo Candela (Irsina) and the South African choir Si! per il canto (the name covers both the project and the choir). Concerts in Irsina, Montescaglioso and Matera, 23–28 September 2026.
- 2026 – Conductor: Südtiroler Vokalensemble, a cappella programme “In Marias Stille”. Marienkirche Asch (Anras, East Tyrol), 7 June; Pfarrkirche Sand in Taufers, 13 September; südtirol festival merano . meran (series mystica), Pfarrkirche Nals, with the Laurin Quintett, 18 September 2026.
- 2026 – Lecturer and conductor: “Lehrer:innenchor”, continuing professional development seminar for music school teachers, Landesdirektion Deutsche und ladinische Musikschule, Musikschule Seis, 10–11 September 2026.
- 2026 – Founder and conductor: Ja! vir die lewe, Pretoria (14–16 August) and Western Cape (21–23 August 2026).
- 2026 (second half) – present – Conductor: Brummnet Männerchor, again (co-conducted 2016–2024 with the late Clara Sattler, d. 5 August 2026).
- 2026 – Conductor: Landesjugendchor Südtirol, “The Word Was God”, Festival Regionale di Musica Sacra. Collegiata, Arco, 13 June; Bozen Cathedral, 14 June 2026.
- 2026 – Conductor: unibzVoices, Lange Nacht der Kirchen, Evangelische Christuskirche, Bozen, 29 May 2026.
- 2026 – Conductor: Landesjugendchor Südtirol, cross-border project “Grenzenlos im EinKlang” with the Bündner Jugendchor and the Landesjugendchor Vorarlberg “Voices”, in cooperation with the Südtiroler Chorverband. Brixen Cathedral, 23 May 2026; tour to Chur and Feldkirch.
- 2026 – Invited lecturer and workshop presenter: CHORup 2026, Chorverband Österreich (meeting of the Austrian state and youth choir directors), Hotel Brunauer, Salzburg, March 2026. “Vom Klangbild zur Klangkultur – Klang, Bewegung und gemeinsame Verantwortung im Chor” (invited by Manuel Schuen, chair of the music committee).

- 2026 – Invited speaker: 22. Leipziger Symposium zur Kinder- und Jugendstimme „Perspektiven II: Heimaten“, HMT Leipzig, 20–22 February 2026 (talk on 22 February). “Heimaten im Klang – Singen als Raum der Zugehörigkeit und Begegnung – Kinderstimmen zwischen Identität, Inklusion und kultureller Resonanz”.
- 2026 – Chorus master (Direzione del coro): On Fire Choir, formed by the Südtiroler Chorverband with singers from all over the province, for “ON FIRE 2026 – Winter Games Opening Show Südtirol Alto Adige”, celebrating the opening of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, with the Südtirol Filarmonica. Palasport Bolzano, 30 January 2026.
- 2025 – Keynote speaker and workshop presenter: SOMA-Superar conference „Singen und Musizieren als soziale Gamechanger“, Universität Mozarteum Salzburg, November 2025. Keynote: “Singing as a Game-changer for Inclusion and Social Cohesion in Multi-cultural Classrooms”. Workshop: “Ubuntu! – I am because we are!”.
- 2025 – Organiser and presenter: Symposium on community music with children, “Music education in non-formal settings”, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, October 2025. Presentation (with C. Nardi and U. Dengel): “Building community with children through music-making: An inclusive music education project in South Tyrol”.
- 2025 – present – Artistic Director: Südtiroler Vokalensemble (since September 2025).
- 2025 – Workshop presenter and lecturer: University of Pretoria Kodály Association, Music Education Course, Cape Town, South Africa, July 2025.
- 2025 – Speaker and workshop presenter: 32nd EAS Conference & 10th ISME European Regional Conference, “Unlocking Voices – Shaping Music Education Futures”, Évora, Portugal, 4–7 June 2025. Papers: “Cultivating Creativity and Cultural Connection through Inclusive, Student-Centred Music Education in South Tyrol”; “Choral voices, evolving spaces: gender-sensitive education and the future of boys’ choirs”. Workshops: “Ubuntu! – I am because we are! – African music as a vehicle for the development of important educational domains”; “Creative Singing with Children: Fostering Social Skills, Empowerment, and Musical Independence Through a Holistic Approach”.
- 2025 – Speaker: Choral Celebration Network Foundation (CCNF), National Choral Conductors Convention, Cape Town, March 2025.
- 2025 – Guest conductor and clinician: Kärntner Sängerbund, „Chorsingen in Vielfalt – Techniken und Ansätze“, Möllbrücke, Austria, 11–14 February 2025.
- 2024 – Permanent jury member and artistic director: International Festival and Competition of Advent and Christmas Music, Prague, November/December 2024 (also 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).
- 2024 – Workshop presenter: Music pedagogical conference on research and practice in music education, Faculty of Education, Charles University, Prague, 19–21 September 2024. “Ubuntu! – I am because we are! The power of African music in holistic child education”.
- 2024 – Workshop presenter and lecturer: Musikschule Wien, September 2024.
- 2024 – Guest conductor and main clinician: Symposium on choral conducting, Deutscher Fachverband der Chorleiter, September 2024.
- 2024 – Workshop presenter and lecturer: University of Pretoria Kodály Association, Music Education Course, Pretoria, July 2024.
- 2024 – Speaker: 31st EAS Conference, “Traditions in Transformation”, TU Dublin Conservatoire, Dublin, 12–15 June 2024.
- 2024 – Keynote speaker: CCNF National Choral Conductors Convention, Cape Town, March 2024.
- 2024 – present – Founder and conductor: Ja! vir die lewe, a hybrid community choral project open to all singers (online rehearsals led from Italy, pre-recorded vocal rehearsal videos, and in-person rehearsal weekends ending in a public concert). Editions: March 2024, Pretoria; September 2024, Irsina (Italy); August 2025, Pretoria and Western Cape; August 2026, Pretoria and Western Cape.

- 2023 – Workshop presenter: Fachtagung Kinder- & Jugendchorleitung, Chorverband Tirol with PH Tirol, Mozarteum, Zechhof and Bildungsdirektion Tirol, September 2023.
- 2023 – Speaker: Eighth International Symposium of Music Pedagogues, Pula, Croatia, June 2023.
- 2023 – Speaker: EAS Conference, “Liberty – Equity – Creativity”, Lyon, France, 2023.
- 2023 – Keynote speaker: CCNF National Choral Conductors Convention, Cape Town, March 2023.
- 2022 – Workshop presenter: Fachtagung Kinder- & Jugendchorleitung, Chorverband Tirol, September 2022.
- 2022 – Member of the scientific committee and author of a position paper (with Giuseppina La Face, Lorenzo Bianconi and Paolo Somigli): International Conference LIT – Lost In Translation, unibz, Brixen, 2022.
- 2022 – Speaker: EAS Conference, “Music and Meaning”, Belgrade, Serbia, 2022.
- 2022 – present – Conductor: VOICES community choir, Brixen.
- 2021 – Speaker: EAS Conference, “Competences in Music Education”, Freiburg, Germany, 2021.
- 2019 – Delegate of the unibz Rector: member of the Scientific Technical Committee for Musical Activities in Universities, CRUI (CRUI committee member also 2017 and 2018).
- 2019 – Jury member: comparative evaluation for a post of full professor, SSD L-ART/07, Sapienza University of Rome (president: Prof. Piperno) [same procedure as the 2018 entry below, or a separate one?].
- 2018 – Member of the commission: comparative evaluation for a post of full professor, SSD L-ART/07, Sapienza University of Rome.
- 2018 – Chair of the commission: comparative evaluation for a research post (Research Assignee), SSD L-ART/07.
- 2018 – present – Artistic director and conductor: Landesjugendchor Südtirol.
- 2018 – Guest lecturer, conductor and main clinician: Goldegger Seminar für Chorleitung und Chorgesang, Chorverband Salzburg with PH Salzburg Stefan Zweig, Goldegg, Austria, 11–17 February 2018.
- 2018 – Jury member: Istria Cantat, International Choral Competition, January 2018.
- 2018 – Speaker: EAS Conference, Jelgava, Latvia, 2018.
- 2017 – present – Director and editor: academic book series ARS MUSICALIS – Music, Musicology, Pedagogy and Didactics, LIM, Lucca (https://www.lim.it/it/list-collana/40567_ars-musicalis-musica-musicologia-e-didattica).
- 2017 – Member of the scientific committee and author of a position paper: International Conference “Community Music: Perspective and Relevance”.
- 2017 – Speaker: EAS Conference, Salzburg, 2017.
- 2016/17 – Guest conductor and clinician: Chorwerkstatt Bludenz, Vorarlberg Choral Association.
- 2016–2024 – Co-conductor: Brummnet Männerchor (with Clara Sattler).
- 2016 – present – Founder and director: LaSiDo Music (children’s choir, Brixen) – see Third Mission.
- 2016 – President of the jury: Gesamttiroler Wertungssingen.
- 2016 – Guest conductor and main clinician: Kärntner Musikdidaktiktage SINGENDE-KLINGENDE-SCHULE, 2016.
- 2015 – present – Founder and conductor: unibzVoices, choir of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano.
- 2015 – Jury member: Tolosa International Choral Contest, Tolosa, Spain, October 2015; guest conductor for the Choir Federation of Gipuzkoa, October 2015.
- 2014 – Speaker: IFCM World Symposium on Choral Music, Seoul, Korea, August 2014. “Boy, oh Boy! Boys’ Choirs: Do they still matter?”
- 2012 – Guest lecturer and conductor: Performing Arts Institute of Wyoming Seminary, USA (also 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008).
- 2012 – Clinician and guest conductor: Chor Akademie Kärnten, July 2012.
- 2011 – Guest conductor: Lithuanian Choral Union Summer Academy, September 2011.
- 2011 – Clinician and guest conductor: Chor Akademie Kärnten, February 2011 (“Crescendo – Meet Africa”).

- 2010 – Workshop presenter and guest lecturer: mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, February 2010 (South African choral composers).
- 2010 – Clinician and guest conductor: Winter Choral Academy, PH Salzburg, February 2010.
- 2004 and 2006 – Guest conductor: Vorarlberg Choral Association, Bregenz.
- 2003 – Guest lecturer: Institute of Music Pedagogy, KUG Graz, 2003.
- 2002, 2003, 2004 – Guest conductor: Chorleiterlehrgang of the Austrian Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, Graz.

Third Mission (public engagement and community music)

- 2026 – Si! per il canto, Basilicata: community music project bringing together the Coro Polifonico Angelo Candela (Irsina) and the South African choir Si! per il canto; three public concerts in Irsina, Montescaglioso and Matera, 23–28 September 2026 (see Projects).
- 2026 – Conductor, Südtiroler Vokalensemble, “In Marias Stille”: public concerts in Anras/Asch (East Tyrol, 7 June), Sand in Taufers (13 September) and Nals (südtirol festival merano . meran, 18 September 2026) (see Professional development).
- 2026 – Lecturer and conductor, “Lehrer:innenchor” seminar for music school teachers (continuing education), Musikschule Seis, 10–11 September 2026 (see Professional development).
- 2026 – Conductor, Landesjugendchor Südtirol, “The Word Was God”: free public concerts in Arco (13 June) and Bozen Cathedral (14 June 2026).
- 2026 – Conductor, unibzVoices, Lange Nacht der Kirchen, Bozen, 29 May 2026 (open to the public).
- 2026 – Conductor, Landesjugendchor Südtirol, “Grenzenlos im EinKlang”: cross-border youth choir project with Graubünden and Vorarlberg, with the Südtiroler Chorverband; Brixen Cathedral, 23 May 2026 (free entry); tour to Chur and Feldkirch.
- 2026 – Invited lecture and workshop, CHORup 2026, Chorverband Österreich, Salzburg, March 2026 (training for state and youth choir directors).
- 2026 – Chorus master, On Fire Choir (singers from across South Tyrol, Südtiroler Chorverband), “ON FIRE 2026 – Winter Games Opening Show”, Palasport Bolzano, 30 January 2026.
- 2025 – Member of the artistic committee, Giovanni Maria Trabaci Festival, Irsina (Basilicata), 11–13 July 2025 (free concerts).
- 2025 – Co-leader (with Anna Candela) of the creative children's workshop “Il barocco per i piccoli”, Giovanni Maria Trabaci Festival, Irsina, Ex Convento di San Francesco, 12–13 July 2025.
- 2024 – present – Founder and conductor, Ja! vir die lewe: hybrid community choral project open to all singers; editions in Pretoria, the Western Cape and Irsina, each ending in a public concert (see Projects).
- 2022 – present – Principal investigator, Gemeinsam musizieren / Musicking together (Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and unibz): weekly community music workshops for the inclusion of migrant and refugee children in schools in Brixen, Franzensfeste and Mittewald; public recital 19 May 2023; Rai Südtirol TV report 30 May 2023 (see Projects).
- 2022 – present – Conductor, VOICES community choir, Brixen: community outreach choir open to all, with public concerts [2026 dates/venues?].
- 2016 – present – Director: LaSiDo (Brixen), an association (Verein) for children's music education with singing as the vehicle, including the LaSiDo children's choir (preschool and primary age). Organiser and presenter of the LaSiDo SINGCAMP, organised yearly under LaSiDo's auspices: singing and music camp for children aged 4–11 (singing, music-making, movement), Waldorfschule Sarns near Brixen, e.g. 29 June – 3 July [year?].

Memberships

- 2024 – present - International Kodály Society
- 2016 – present – EAS
- 2019 – present – Società Italiana di Pedagogia
- 2010 – present – ACDA
- 2010 – present - ISME
- 2017 – 2023 Steering committee of SiME (Singing in Music Education), EAS focus group
- 2019 – present - ADUIM – Associazione fra Docenti Universitari Italiani di Musica (Association of Italian University Professors of Music)

Research Interests and activities

- The intersectionality between music (education) and the social and political streams in cultural development.
- The role of leadership in social categories (race, class, gender) and inter-communal development.
- Development of teacher training programmes for Music Education.
- Multicultural Perspectives in Music Education.
- Youth/Children Choral Singing, Social Capital Benefits of Choral Singing, the apparent decrease of boys in Choral Singing
- Attitudes and perspectives of children toward singing and choir participation - meaning, value and implications.
- Music education teachers – a skill and ability assessment to implement the minimum requirements for early childhood music education.

Scientific responsibility for research projects funded through competitive peer-reviewed calls

- External funds – Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse and unibz. Principal investigator (with Dr. Carlo A. Nardi, assistant researcher): “Musicking together / Gemeinsam musizieren” – a community music experience for the inclusion of migrant and refugee children in South Tyrol, since September 2022. The project began at the Manzoni school in Brixen (workshops April–May 2023, 22 children, with a recital on 19 May 2023 together with the LaSiDo and Liberarmonia choirs) and then moved to the primary schools of Franzensfeste and Mittewald, with weekly inclusive music workshops; live TV report by Rai Südtirol, 30 May 2023; networking in South Africa, February 2023 (Stellenbosch Community Music Centre; University of Pretoria). The volume Singing and Inclusion (Routledge, forthcoming 2027) grew out of the project.
- unibz internal funds. CO-PI (with Antonella Coppi): 'Art and Beyond for an educating community in and out of school: a descriptive/exploratory study'. 01-11-2019 - 31-10-2022
- unibz internal funds. PI: Community Singing: a pathway to Social Capital – a cross-cultural comparative assessment of the benefits of singing communities in South Tyrol and South Africa
- External funds - Autonomous Province of Bolzano. PI: A Didactical approach to developing musical competences, with special reference to singing, of children in South Tyrol