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## Carolyn's Italian Journal

In Scena is On Stage Until June 20, 2013!



The first Italian Theater Festival, In Scena, opened in NYC June 11 at Dicapo Opera in Manhattan. This Festival will celebrate Italian playwrights and actors on New York stages throughout the five boroughs. The Festival brings Italian theater and artists from Italy to collaborate with Italian theater and artists in America. Sponsored by KIT Theater, these productions are presented in both English and Italian.

Opening Night was a luscious taste of the caliber of performances to expect during the next 10 days. The guest of honor was Mario Fratti, best known for his musical Nine. Mr. Fratti has collected quite a roster of awards: O'Neill Award, Richard Rogers Award, Outer Critics Circle Awards (2 of them), Drama Desk Awards (8 of them!) and 5 Tony Awards. Some of his works will be performed during the Festival.

Opening Night Performances included:

The Last Snowfall (L'Ultima Nevicata), excerpt from Mediterranean Voices, text by Nicola Iervasi, directed by Kevin Albert

Pinocchio, excerpt from the musical, performed by Simona Rodano, directed by Saverio Marconi, music by Pooh

Entroterra, excerpt, by Anabella Lenzu

YoungKIT: Kairos Italy Theater Young Company

Una Madre, by Franca Rame, reading by Cristina Spina

A special note about YoungKIT's performance. This was based on an Italian program called *Voci nel Deserto* (Voices in the Desert). In this program both famous and not so famous actors recite readings by various authors, thinkers and playwrights through the centuries. The persistent surprise is how often words from a millennia ago sound as though they were written today, commenting on a social situation or economic or philosophical dilemma that we believe is unique to our time in history. This wonderful, thought provoking program challenges this myopic notion and reminds us that

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nothing is new under the sun.

In Scena is a long held dream of KIT's founder, Laura Caparrotti. She describes it as her "love letter to Italian theater." It seems that in the US, only the work of a handful of authors is well known, such as Pirandello, Eduardo or Goldoni. For Ms. Caparrotti, "Italian theater is much more. It is beautiful and precious like the Valle dei Templi or the Colosseum."

To learn more and get a complete listing of performances, visit <u>inscenany.com</u>.

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