

PUCCINI INTERNATIONAL OPERA COMPOSITION COURSE



PUCCINI International Opera Composition Course
Summer Seminar 2022
August 17th to 30th
Lucca, Italy

Guest Artists

Nicola Sani
Alessandro Bianchi

Teachers

Girolamo Deraco
Maria Elena Romanazzi
Antonio Agostini
Stefano Teani
Gabriele Micheli
Giuseppe Nicolò
Roberto Giurano

Artistic Director

Girolamo Deraco

Come and study how to write opera in Lucca, the city of Giacomo Puccini

IOCCPUCCINI@GMAIL.COM

Puccini International Opera Composition Course

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Summer Seminar 2022

August 17th to 30th - Lucca, Italy

ORGANIZED BY

PUCCINI International Opera Composition Course



Cluster – Compositori interpreti del presente



WITH THE PATRONAGE OF

MIUR - Ufficio Scolastico IX di Lucca e Massa Carrara



IN COLLABORATION WITH

Comune di San Daniele del Friuli



Fondazione Giacomo Puccini



Fondazione Franco Zeffirelli



Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Lucca



Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca



Teatro del Giglio di Lucca



Scriptorium Foroiulense



EMA Vinci Produzioni discografiche, editoriali ed artistiche



PROJECT

The PUCCINI International Opera Composition Course is addressed to composers (both with or without an academic degree) willing to investigate thoroughly all compositional techniques in use in opera writing today, focusing both on the Italian tradition and on the genre's contemporary international developments.

The course's aim is to hand down the great opera tradition, having as a target the creation of new operas, bridging the past and the future in a new and enthralling vision.

COURSE GOALS

Participants will get to a deeper understanding of the various aspects of composing for opera theatre.

- At the end of the course, each participant must submit a complete pre-project for a new chamber opera, writing a section or a full score for voice and piano (at least 25 minutes)
- The best projects will be selected to be performed as mise-en-scene at the 'PUCCINI Chamber Opera Festival 2023' in collaboration with Teatro del Giglio of Lucca
- All scores produced will be published and recorded video/audio by EMA Vinci

APPLICANTS SELECTION

Applicants must submit the following materials for selection:

- CV
 - Project scheme of a chamber opera for max 1 voice and piano
 - Full score and audio file of an orchestral or chamber composition*
 - Full score or voice/piano score and audio file of a vocal composition*
- *midi files can be accepted

- All materials must be e-mailed to ioccpuccini@gmail.com
- Submission deadline May, 31st 2022
- Eligible composers will be contacted by June, 10th 2022

Committee selection:

- Francesco Cipriano (President of Cluster)
- Girolamo Deraco
- Antonio Agostini

Knowledge of English or Italian language is required.

A minimum of 4 eligible composers is required for the course to start.

CLASSES

- 13 days of classes
- group and individual classes
- lectures and workshop by Guest Artists

Main subjects

- Opera composition: Girolamo Deraco

Lectures

- Invited Composer: Nicola Sani
- Singing: Maria Elena Romanazzi
- Analysis of opera: Antonio Agostini
- Analysis of arias: Stefano Teani
- Libretto: Gabriele Micheli
- Listening: Giuseppe Nicolò

Workshops

- The Stage: Alessandro Bianchi
- Writing: Roberto Giurano

CONTENTS

Opera composition: Girolamo Deraco

Individual classes: elements of vocal composition , elements of orchestration , elements of playwriting for opera

Group classes

- Composition of operatic elements
- Chamber Opera, Opera elements of analysis, Musical perception

Lectures and Workshop by Guest Artists

- 'How to finalize an opera project': Girolamo Deraco
- 'My Opera': visiting composer Nicola Sani (Composer and Artistic Director Accademia Chigiana - Siena)
- 'Traditional operatic and contemporary singing' Maria Elena Romanazzi (Soprano, Performer)
- Analysis of 'Infinite now, opera in six act – Chaya Czernowin' Antonio Agostini (Composer, Guitarist)
- Analysis of 'Opera Arias, a tile in the Mosaic': Stefano Teani (Composer, Conductor, Performer Pianist)
- 'The librettist, the unknown': Gabriele Micheli (Librettist, Pianist, Conductor)
- 'Voices from the past': Giuseppe Nicolò (Gramophones Collector, TV Presenter, Writer and Librettist.)
- 'The stage' (workshop): Alessandro Bianchi (Actor, Stage Director, Trainer)
- 'Writing, the ancient school' (workshop): Roberto Giurano (President of the Italian Amanuensis School.)

VENUES

This year the beginning of course, August 18th to 20th, will take place in San Daniele del Friuli (north of Italy) in order to visit two special places: the Civica Biblioteca Guarneriana that has ancient Gregorian books, and the Scriptorium Foroiuliense, an amanuensis school that teaches old techniques about writing.

The second part of the course, August 21st to 30th, will take place in Lucca, the city of Giacomo Puccini - Lucca: Complesso di San Micheletto (Fondazione Cassa Risparmio Lucca) and 'Giacomo Puccini' Foundation - Lucca.

COSTS

Participants: € 1.600,00

Auditors: € 300,00

Travel, accommodation and food are not included in costs, excepted trip and accommodation from Lucca to San Daniele del Friuli and back.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Request a scholarship (please specify a motivation) together with your submission email. Three scholarships will be assigned by the committee of the course after a selection.

- 'Giacomo Puccini' € 500,00

- 'Alfredo Catalani' € 500,00

- 'Luigi Boccherini' € 500,00

ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONS

Lucca is an important music cultural and tourist destination. Very important composers were born in the city, such as: Giacomo Puccini, Luigi Boccherini, Alfredo Catalani and many others. Lucca is easily accessible by train from international airports in Rome and Milan, or can be reached from regional airports in Pisa, Florence, with trains and buses connections. Lucca is also close to many touristic places such as: Pisa (30 minutes), Florence (1.5 hours), Cinque Terre (2 hours), Siena (2.5 hours), Rome (3 hours), and Viareggio (30 minutes - the 'beach' of Lucca). The course will include a free entrance at the Puccini Museum - Casa Natale, Lucca (the house where Giacomo Puccini was born) and the Museum Fondazione Franco Zeffirelli, Florence.

INFO

For further information (travel & lodging, food discounts...)

Cristina Rosamilia: ioccpuccini@gmail.com

GUEST ARTISTS



Nicola Sani, Composer, Artistic Director, Cultural Manager and Journalist; since 2015 he is Artistic Director of the Chigiana Academy of Music Foundation.

He is president of the National Institute of Verdi Studies, director of the "Luigi Nono Archive of Venice" Foundation, artist of the IUC-University Concerts Institution of Rome, consultant of the German Academy "Villa Massimo" and of the American Academy in Rome for the Italian Affiliated Fellowship.

He was Superintendent and Artistic Director of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Administration and Artistic Director of the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, as well as President of the Isabella Scelsi Foundation in Rome, dedicated to the cultural legacy of the composer Giacinto Scelsi. He was also the Creator and Artistic Director of the "Sonora" project launched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the support and dissemination of new Italian music abroad, in collaboration with the CEMAT Federation. He was a member of the board of Opera Europa and of the ECPNM-European Conference of Promoters of New Music; he has collaborated with UNESCO and with institutions responsible for supporting the arts in many countries. Nicola Sani studied composition with Domenico Guaccero and electronic musical composition with Giorgio Nottoli, before specializing with Karlheinz Stockhausen. He also attended the composition seminars of Tristan Murail, George Benjamin and Jonathan Harvey. He is the author of musical theater works, works for dance, symphonic and chamber compositions, electronic and multimedia works, regularly present in the main international festivals and seasons. His works have been performed by internationally renowned conductors, soloists and instrumental ensembles. For his works and for his activity in the field of artistic direction in 2011 he was awarded with the title of "Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres" by the French Minister of Culture. He has also obtained numerous prizes and awards in Italy and abroad, including the New Connections Award of the British Council, the Prix "Ars Electronica" of the Linz Festival, the Guggenheim Award, the "Captains of the Year" Award awarded by Schroders Wealth Management, Lombardi Molinari Segni Law Firm and Orienta Partners, the Scanno Foundation Tanturri Award for Music, the Giuseppe Verdi Lifetime Achievement Award, the "Erato Farnesina" award from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the jury award at the Prix Italia. Nicola Sani has a large discography and videography. He has written books, numerous essays and articles published in Italy, Europe and the USA. The catalog of his works is published by Edizioni Suvini Zerboni, Milan.



Alessandro Bianchi, Actor, Stage Director, Trainer.

He graduated as an actor and director at the SAT, at GITIS, with Jurij Alschiz. He specializes in theatrical pedagogy and theatrical biomechanics with Nikolaj Karpov; He studies in Commedia dell'Arte at the "Scuola Sperimentale dell'Attore" in Pordenone and at the "Kalambur Theater" in Venice. He specializes with Anatolij Vassiliev in Dramatic Art. Workshop creator of Commedia dell'Arte "Officina Commedia dell'Arte", of MITOS Italian meeting of social theater. Actor / Director of "Cantiere Obraz_Laboratorio Permanente", Company previously directed by Nikolaj Karpov. He specializes in Opera direction at the Zeffirelli Foundation. He specializes in the areas of Social Theater:

Theater of the Oppressed, Playback Theater, Invisible Theater, Psychodrama, Sociodrama. Theater director at the C.R. of San Gimignano, Lucca and Massa. Co-founder of Dublab S.r.l. Film Production House.

TEACHERS



Girolamo Deraco, Composer, Contemporary Opera Stage Director, Principal Teacher and Artistic Director of the PUCCINI International Opera Composition Course.

His lyric operas have been played in Carnegie Hall (New York, USA), Gran Teatro José Asunción Flores (Asunción, Paraguay), Centro de las artes (Monterrey, Mexico), Bartokplusz Miskolci Operafesztivál (Miskolc, Hungary), Tiroler Festspiele Erl (Erl, Austria), and in Italy at the Festival Pucciniano, Auditorium Parco della Musica, Festival Play.it, and many others.

He has been a finalist and the winner of almost thirty international composition contests, including the Bartokplusz Miskolci Operafesztivál (Joint prize) in Hungary (where he set two Guinness world records registered in Hungary, the shortest opera ever written - 8 seconds - and the most played opera during a single evening - 17 times), Anima Mundi, Windstream and many others. He received the 'Award of Merit' from the President of Italian Republic at the Premio Abbado Award 2015.

He has received commissions by Farnesina - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Italy), MiBAC Lucca Massa Carrara - Italian Ministry of Culture (Italy), Embajada de Italia en Paraguay (Paraguay), Italian synchronized swimming team (Italy), Tiroler Festspiele Erl (Austria), Bartók Plusz Operafesztivál (Hungary), Festival della Robotica di Pisa in collaboration with Festival Pucciniano (Italy), Habana Clásica (Cuba) and many others.

He has collaborated with renowned international orchestras and ensembles including: Orchestra Haydn, Orchestra I Pomeriggi Musicali, Orchestra Regionale Toscana, Orchestra Sinfonica Sanremo, Orchestra Città di Grosseto, Orchestra Francesco Cilea, Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina, Orquesta Sinfónica del Congreso Nacional del Paraguay, Miskolci Szimfonikus, MÁV Szimfonikus Zenekar Budapest, Riga Professional Symphonic Band, Orchestra di Fiati di Delianuova, Dedalo Ensemble, Amarida Ensemble, Underground Brass Trio, and many others. With renowned international artists, including: Kuhn, Kesselyák, Alessandrini, Kovatchev, Cadario, Carlini, Meloni, Neubauer, Brand, Caiello and many others.

His music has been performed in important festivals and broadcasted on radio all around the world. Several CDs have been released of his works, including recording by Orchestra Haydn, I Pomeriggi Musicali, Etymos Ensemble, among others. He has been a jury member in international composition competitions, and a teacher for international masterclasses.

In 2008 he received a Master in Music Composition with the highest grade, cum laude, special mention, and a scholarship from the Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali 'L. Boccherini' Lucca with Maestro Rigacci (the only composer since 1842, when the institute was founded, to have achieved this accolade). In 2020 he received a Master in Artistic Direction and Music Management with the highest grade, from the Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali 'L. Boccherini' Lucca.

His music is published by Edizioni Sconfinarte and EMA Vinci, Scomegna Edizioni, Feniarco.

As a Contemporary Opera Stage Director, he performed the world premieres of: 'Ñomongeta' by the Paraguayan composer Diego Sánchez Haase (the first opera ever written in the indigenous language Guaraní), 'Pitentzin' by the Mexican composer Eduardo Caballero, and many others. He also performed as Stage Director his own operas such as "Oceano" and "Universo" commissioned by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Current positions:

- Artistic Director of 'Cluster - Compositori interpreti del presente, Lucca', 2015-present
- Artistic Director and Founder of the 'Puccini' Chamber Opera Festival, Lucca', 2018-
- Artistic Director, Founder and Principal Teacher of the 'Puccini International Opera Composition Course', held in Lucca (Italy), Monterrey (Mexico), Asunción (Paraguay). With the collaboration of: Cluster - Compositori interpreti del presente, Lucca, Fondazione Giacomo Puccini, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Lucca, Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca, Teatro del Giglio di Lucca, Edizioni EMA Vinci, 2017-present



Maria Elena Romanazzi, Soprano, Performer.

She started studying ballet and artistic gymnastics at a very young age, and went on to develop a strong passion for music and singing. Her initial specialization in the classical repertoire was naturally followed by a keen interest for contemporary music. She has collaborated with well-known composers such as Luis De Pablo, Luca Francesconi, Michele dall'Ongaro, J.B. Barriere, taking part in Italian as well as international premieres (including works by Kaajja Saariaho, Giya Kancheli, W.Bolcom).

She has performed in prestigious Theatres and Festivals, such as the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, RomaEuropaFestival, Urticanti, Cini Foundation (for which she performed songs by L. Nono, directed by André Richard, with equipment provided by the Experimental Studio of Freiburg), Teatro dal Verme in Milan, Teatro Verdi in Florence (for "Play.it"), Opera House in Amsterdam, Festival "Les Flâneries Musicales" in Reims, Bartok Opera Festival in Miskolc etc. Her performances have been broadcast by Radio 3 and Radio CEMAT. Since 2011, she has frequently collaborated with the director Giancarlo Cauteruccio, taking part in many of his projects of experimental theatre. After graduating in Operatic Singing and Music Didactics, she took specialization courses with Manuela Custer, Gabriella Bartolomei and Alda Caiello. With the latter, she brilliantly achieved a High Specialization Diploma in Contemporary Operatic Singing at the Opera Academy in Verona. During her research on contemporary vocalism at the Nederlandse Opera in Amsterdam, she worked with experts coming from all parts of Europe. She is presently engaged on a European tour with a new production of "La voix humaine" by Poulanc and "Facebooking" by Girolamo Deraco, which is being widely praised by both the audience and the critics. She has completed a Master in performing Arts and Planning of Cultural Events at the Università Cattolica in Milan, focusing on the analysis of the contemporary age in all its artistic forms. She collaborates with a good number of Institutions and Foundations, taking part in many special projects. She also is a singing teacher at the Liceo Musicale Dante in Florence.



Antonio Agostini, Composer, Guitarist.

Born in Viareggio (Italy), 07/07/'69. Guitarist, he studied composition at Conservatorio Statale "G. Puccini" of La Spezia and privately with Riccardo Dapelo. He attended the improved course in composition (1996-2002) with Giacomo Manzoni, at the Fiesole' High school of music, where he won the scholarship of the course (2001/2002). In 1999 he won the "Veretti Prize" (Rome).

In 2001 is guest composer, selected by Mario Ancillotti and Enzo Porta, with Ensemble Kontrapunkte, for the "Festa della Musica 2001", Florence' music Festival. Consecutively for two years (2002 e 2003) is guest composer for the Italian new composition' congress "Compositori a Confronto", at Conservatorio "Achille Peri" of Reggio Emilia.

From 1992 to 2002 he followed workshops and courses of study with Karlheinz Stockhausen, Luciano Berio, Pierre Boulez, Salvatore Sciarrino, Adriano Guarnieri, Luca Francesconi, Sylvano Bussotti and Nicola Sani. For two years (2003/2004) is the music director of the exposition "La vita agra - L'arte del resistere", with ten electronic music pieces and installations.

From 2004 to 2010, he wrote the music for three theatre pieces, "Parti di Guerra" and "La mi(ser)abile storia di Bert Ichspaltung" by the Italian writer and poet Giancarlo Micheli, and "The Proceeding of the Sphenoid" by the poet and performer Daniele Poletti. In 2005 he won the first prize of the international composition competition "DSCH-Dimitri Shostakovic" ("Le chant du Monde-Éditions"), in Moscow. In 2008 he won the first prize of the 4th edition of the international prize of composition "Musici Mojanesi"(Treviso, Italy). In 2010 is invited, by the music department of the Medellin' EAFIT University (Colombia) for a masterclass about

his work and a concert of his music and in Berlin by Mario Mazzoli for a solo dedicated concert. In 2012 is invited in Paris at the Nova Musica Studios by violist Cornelia Petroiu and saxophonist and composer Daniel Kientzy to recording his piece "Tre Immagini del Labirinto" (edited by Nova Musicarec.). In 2013 is invited by Centro Musica Contemporanea (Contemporary Music Centre) of Milan at the "Festival Verdi,

Wagner e la musica d'oggi" with a new work for ensemble. In 2014 is guest composer at the "Italian Composers Forum 2014", in Milan. In 2016 he win the first prize of the International Call for Scores of the Sirga Festival, Catalogna, Spain. In 2017 is one of the composers in residence in Milan with the New Made Ensemble (CMC) and guest composer by Ensemble Reconsil in Vienna Festival' Wien Modern.

His music, from solo instrument pieces to orchestral works, are performed in Italy and around the world and have been performed by Irvine Arditti, Rohan De Saram, Vinko Globokar, Flavio Emilio Scogna, Alexei Vinogradov and many others. He played, as guitarist and conductor, in various european festivals of improvised music (Stockolm, Copenhagen, Zurich). From 1999 is member of the ensemble "Le Onde Martenot", with whom he win the "Piero Ciampi's prize" (2001) for the best performance, the second prize of "Fabrizio De Andre' Memorial Competition" (2002) , and the second prize at "Festival Teatro Canzone-Giorgio Gaber" (2007).

His works are edited and distributed by "Ars Publica Music Publisher", Aliamusica records and Nova Musica.



Stefano Teani, Composer, Conductor, Performer pianist.

Stefano Teani (Lucca, 1994) has made the synthesis between technique and expression his distinctive feature. He graduated in Piano in 2014 at ISSM L. Boccherini in Lucca with full marks with honors and honorable mention. In the following two years he graduated in Composition and obtained the Master of I Level in Applied Music (film scoring), both with full marks.

Starting from 2009 he has had foreign experiences, participating twice (2009, 2010) at the masterclasses hosted by the North London Piano School in London, under the guide of relevant teachers, obtaining, in 2010, the public performance in the Duke's Hall of the Royal Academy of Music. In 2013 he has got the scholarship from the ISSM L. Boccherini that has led him at the Mozarteum of Salzburg, under the guide of the Master Aquiles Delle Vigne, performing in the University and in the Wiener Saal. He has also followed masters of international fame as Konstantin Bogino, Svetlana Bogino, Vladimir Ogarkov, Sonia Pahor, Vincenzo Balzani, Pietro De Maria and Oleg Marshev. He begins also to work as a repetiteur in the production of *Così fan tutte*, conducted by Janos Acs. Later on his repertoire has grown quickly with many opera productions, giving him the chance to work with conductors as Matteo Beltrami, P. Carignani, F. Haider and directors as Claudia Blersch, Renato Bonajuto and Riccardo Canessa. In 2015 he obtained the eligibility in the international selection for repetiteurs of the Academy of Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. Furthermore, he starts his training under the guide of Gustav Kuhn. In summer 2016 he has been chosen by Riccardo Muti to attend his academy as a repetiteur. In Composition he attended the masterclasses of Girolamo Deraco, Antonio Agostini, Alberto E. Colla, Tristan Murail, Azio Corghi and Mauro Bonifacio. From 2015 his music has been regularly performed in Festivals such as Tiroler Festspiele Erl, Cluster Music Festival, Festival Sanctæ Juliae, with new commissions of original scores, also in film music. In 2018 he was nominated composer in residence at the Montegral Academy by Gustav Kuhn. One year later the opera *Maximilian*, that he wrote together with Beomseok Yi, was premiered at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, in Austria. He studied Conducting with Günter Neuhold, Marcello Bufalini, and Gustav Kuhn. He conducts symphonic and operatic repertoire, with a particular interest for contemporary music. In 2020 he debuted *Così fan tutte* at Teatro Savoia in Campobasso within the Opera Studio Molise. He conducted many Ensembles and orchestras as: Orchestra dell'ISSM Boccherini, Orchestra da Camera del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino,

Toscana Classica, Orchestra Sinfonica di Sanremo and Filharmonia Kameralna (Poland). In 2020 he founds the Orchestra Sinfonica della Versilia, of which he is President and Musical Director.



Gabriele Micheli, Librettist, Conductor, Pianist.

Graduated in Piano (Lucca 1980) and Choral Conducting (Bologna 1984) he studied the interpretation on historical keyboard instruments with D. Chorzempa, and masterclasses led by T. Koopman, K. Gilbert, K. Kite. He trained his voice in many masterclasses. He worked with I. Partridge, E. Kirkby, E. Tubb. He worked as a ripetiteur at Conservatorio of Genoa (1985 - 1989).

He worked as a ripetiteur at Conservatorio of Genoa (1985 - 1989) and Parma (1990 - 1995) and in 1996 he won the place of conductor of the Choir at the Musical Institute "P. Mascagni" in Livorno. He has been working since 1984 as harpsichordist, substitute and choir conductor with H. Handt, Orchestra Regionale Toscana, Solisti Aquilani, Pro Musica, L'Homme Armée, I Solisti del Madrigale, Pro Cantione Antiqua, The Consort of Musicke. He recorded for Bongiovanni, Sonitus, Nuova Era, Musica Oscura, RAI, Dynamic. In June 2019 his text "Il pappatacio" for the music of Silvia Marchetti won the prize "Valerio Valoriani" held by Teatro del Giglio in Lucca for the best "libretto" in the season "Puccini Chamber Opera Festival 2019".



Giuseppe Nicolò, Gramophones Collector, TV Presenter, Writer and Librettist.

Collector of antique vinyls and gramophones, his collection consists of almost 150 gramophones and 10,000 vinyls.

A room of the palace of culture "Pasquino Crupi" Reggio Calabria (Italy) is dedicated to the gramophones of his collection.

In June 2017 Giuseppe Nicolò and his gramophones collection participated at the Festival Bela Bartok in Hungary with the project 'Phonè - for orchestra of 100 gramophones and 100 singers' written by the composer Girolamo Deraco. He has held masterclasses on traditional opera at the 'Dante Alighieri' University for Foreigners in Reggio Calabria, the 'Francesco Cilea' Music Conservatory, the 'Musicalia Foundation' and many others. He has been co-host on Reggio Tv television for series entitled 'L'opera non è vietata ai minori'. In 2009 he was awarded by Minister Luca Zaia at the 'Paolo Sylos Labini' poetry section competition with the poem 'E' notte sull'Aspromonte'. He is the author of the librettos of the operas 'Oceano' and 'Universo' commissioned by the Farnesina - Ministry of Foreign Affairs with music of the composer Girolamo Deraco. His book "CIC l'ultima missione" is edited by Laruffa Editore.



Roberto Giurano, President of the Italian Amanuensis School.

Co-founder in 2013 of the Italian School of Amanuensis with main office in San Daniele del Friuli (Ud). Teacher and Director of Scuola Italiana Amanuensi since 2013. Appointed in 2018 Cultore della Materia for the teaching of Laboratory of Comparative Biomechanics at the Department of Industrial Bioengineering, University of Udine.

President of Scuola Italiana Amanuensi since 2019. Under his direction, the Italian School of Amanuensis over the years has created works for national and international clients, including: "Il Vangelo secont Marc" (preserved in Rome at the Pontifical seat); Diplomas for TWAS World Academy of Sciences for the progress of science in developing countries; Gold Lists for Prefectures and Police Headquarters.