



Call for Participation

Summer School “From Parchment to Pixel and Back”

Rome, Istituto Svizzero, 19-24 July 2026

The summer school *From Parchment to Pixel and Back*, organised by the Universität Zürich with Università degli Studi di Pavia, Universität Regensburg, and KU Leuven is an intensive one-week training course taking place from Sunday 19 July to Friday 24 July 2026, at the Istituto Svizzero in Rome, Italy.

The summer school brings together material source studies, digital humanities, and performance practice as three complementary approaches to the study of late medieval and early modern musical sources. Founded on the conviction that the rapid expansion of digitization should enrich rather than replace traditional codicological, philological, and historical methods grounded in the physical examination of artefacts, the programme offers advanced training in the analysis of musical manuscripts and prints, while situating these sources within their broader institutional, liturgical, and cultural contexts.

Set in the unparalleled environment of Rome, *From Parchment to Pixel and Back* offers a distinctive interdisciplinary learning experience that brings together manuscript and print studies, digital scholarship, and performance practice in direct dialogue. Participants will acquire experience in working with early music sources in both material and digital form and develop a critical understanding of their production, circulation, and reception; they will also gain hands-on experience with digital editing as well as learning how historical research can be translated into performance practice. The summer school combines lectures, library visits, digital laboratories, and performance practice workshops, delivered by an international team of specialists and centred on interdisciplinary dialogue. Topics include Roman manuscripts, music printing and confessional identities, compositional techniques, the history of emotions, digital editions and data modelling, digital codicology, and performance practice. A central case study runs throughout the programme, focused on the music of Tomás Luis de Victoria. The programme encourages students to approach early music not only as a field of scholarly inquiry, but as living cultural heritage that can and should be preserved, interpreted, and performed.



Admission Requirements

Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled as master's or doctoral students at one of the organising universities (Universität Zürich, Università degli Studi di Pavia, Universität Regensburg, KU Leuven), in one of the following fields: musicology, medieval and/or early modern studies (history, art history, literature, etc.), book history and/or manuscript studies, cultural heritage

Language: The working language of the summer school is English. Knowledge of Italian will be considered an asset in the selection process.

Supporting Documents

Applications must include the following:

- *Motivation letter (max. 2 pages):* Applicants should articulate their interest in and motivation for participating in the summer school. Accepted languages: English, Italian, German, or Dutch.
- *Curriculum vitae:* A current CV in one of the accepted languages (English, Italian, German, or Dutch).
- *Proof of enrolment:* An official document confirming the current student registration at one of the organising universities.

Applications and Enrolment

- The summer school is merit-based, with a total of 12 places available, distributed equally among the participating universities. Only candidates meeting the prerequisites will be considered.
- Applications must be submitted by email to **nicolo.ferrari@uzh.ch** no later than Sunday, 19 April (23:59 CEST). By submitting an application, the applicant confirms having read and accepted these conditions of participation. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications are reviewed by a selection committee from the organising universities.
- Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision in writing. Decisions are final and no appeal is possible.

Accommodation

- Accommodation in single rooms at the Istituto Svizzero is provided to all participants from Sunday, 19 July (arrival) to Friday, 24 July 2025 (departure).
- Room assignments are made by the organising institutions. Assignments are final and no appeal is possible.

Travel and Accommodation Costs

The following costs are taken in charge by the organizing institutions:



- Accommodation at the Istituto Svizzero from Sunday 19 July to Friday 24 July;
- Breakfasts and lunches from Monday 20 July to Friday 24 July at the Istituto Svizzero;

Participants are responsible for booking their own travel (train in second class, or standard flight with hand luggage only), both outward and return journeys.

Travel expenses are subject to the following reimbursement policy:

- Participants who have access to their own funding sources (e.g. through their university, a grant, or other financial support) are expected to cover their travel costs through those means.
- Participants without access to alternative funding may apply for reimbursement by the organising institutions. Reimbursement will be made after the event, upon submission of proof of payment and evidence that no other funding source was available.

The following costs must be taken in charge by the participants:

- Participants must take charge of their evening meals. A kitchen is at the disposal of the participants at the Istituto Svizzero.
- Participants must assume all costs not related to the above points..

Duties and Obligations of the Participant

- The participant shall comply with all the regulations applicable to their respective institutions. The organizing institutions reserve the right to exclude any participant who fails to comply with said regulations.
- Considering the unique opportunity offered by the summer schools, the organising institutions expects participants to act as ambassadors of the university communities and to make proof of a positive and welcoming learning environment.

Certificate of Completion

- A Certificate of Completion will be issued to all participants attending the summer school, if they satisfy the summer school attendance requirements.

Cancellation

- The organising institutions reserve the right to cancel the summer school due to unexpected reasons. The cancellation will be communicated to participants by email without delay. No appeal will be possible.

Insurance

- Participants are responsible for purchasing the appropriate insurances (including but not limited to civil liability, accident and health insurance) for the duration of the summer school;
- The organising institutions strongly recommend all participants to get full travel insurance coverage.