

## Short Project Description

*Mr Baldocci* is a music-theatre spectacle for acting pianist, answerphone machine, stereo and stage props conceived and composed by Simone Spagnolo, and inspired and performed by acclaimed pianist Gabriele Baldocci.

Constellated by a multitude of musical references, fragments and interrupted beginnings sourced from the cultivated and popular past, *Mr Baldocci* portrays a man looking for his own identity, which ultimately reveals to be manifold and inconsistent.

Original music constantly dovetails with manipulated references drawn from collective and individual musical memories – from Stravinsky to Freddie Mercury, from Beethoven to George Michael – generating a continuous poly-stylistic interweaving in which musical identity is reworked and falsified. Similarly, the many voice messages the protagonist receives depict a character with a liquid identity. Two messages in particular, respectively by a psychoanalyst and a mysterious mafioso, put Mr Baldocci before a twofold existentialist choice, recalling a Beckettian scent.

In *Mr Baldocci*, ultimately, everything is fabricated and incomplete – music, action, the self – inviting spectators to reflect on the meaning of truth, and making the show itself a metaphorical representation of our contemporary post-truth condition.

*Mr Baldocci* also questions the role of the composer in a post-truth world, reimagining his craft as that of a stealer and falsifier: that steals to recompose, and that forges to create alternative truths.