

2025/26

LEARNING  
BY DOING.



SEMMELWEIS  
UNIVERSITY 1769

VIII. PROGRESS REPORT

# PHD DEFENCE

SPECIAL  
OPERA  
EVENT  
22 APRIL



APRIL 21-23  
2026



BC22 OFFICE BUILDING  
GROUND FLOOR  
(1085 BUDAPEST,  
BAROSS STREET 22)  
MARCUS AURELIUS  
SEMINAR ROOM



SEMMELWEIS UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR  
TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE



tm-centre.org | semmelweis.hu/tmk



# PROGRAM

TUESDAY, 21 APRIL 2026

SECTION I. (8:00 - 10:30)

Opening speech of the first day of the PhD defence program of April 2026

**Péter Hegyi**  
Director of the Centre for  
Translational Medicine



## CANDIDATE ONE



**Supervisor(s)**  
Tibor Szarvas



### ANDRÁS KUBIK

Urology

*Prognostic Biomarkers and Multimodal Treatment Outcomes in Urothelial and Small-Cell Bladder Cancer*

#### Publications

Kubik, A. et al. Comprehensive Analysis of the Prognostic Value of Circulating MMP-7 Levels in Urothelial Carcinoma: A Combined Cohort Analysis, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis.

*International Journal of Molecular Sciences (2023), D1, IF: 4.91*

Kubik, A. et al. Radical Surgery Compared to Bladder-Preserving Approaches for Limited Stage Small-Cell Bladder Cancer: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*Clinical Genitourinary Cancer (2025), Q1, IF: 2.7*

Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Ronald de Wit (NED)	Claudia Kesch (GER)	David D'Andrea (AUT)	Tamás Beőthe (HUN, PK)	András Jávorházy (HUN, PTE)	Tamás Kói (HUN)	Eszter Szalai (HUN)

## CANDIDATE TWO



**Supervisor(s)**  
Attila Majoros



### JÚLIA ÁCS

Urology

*Evaluation of Risk Factors and Surgical Safety of Vaginal Pelvic Organ Prolapse Reconstruction with Implants*

#### Publications

Ács, J. et al. Risk factors for vaginal wall erosion after pelvic organ prolapse surgery with implant: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Sci Rep (2025), Q1, IF: 3.9*

Ács, J. et al. Safety and Efficacy of Vaginal Implants in Pelvic Organ Prolapse Surgery: A Meta-analysis of 161 536 Patients.

*Eur Urol Focus (2024), D1, IF: 5.6*

Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Ronald de Wit (NED)	Bence Kozma (HUN, DE)	András Jávorházy (HUN, PTE)	Claudia Kesch (GER)	David D'Andrea (AUT)	Tamás Kói (HUN)	Eszter Szalai (HUN)

## LECTURE OF THE DAY (11:00)

Achievements made in management of Genito-Urinary cancers in 4 decades, with focus on Germ Cell Cancer

**Ronald de Wit**  
MAE, Genito-Urinary medical oncologist, Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam



Professor Ronald de Wit is a towering figure in the field of Genito-Urinary medical oncology, based at the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam. As an elected Member of the Academia Europaea, his prolific career has been defined by leading landmark clinical trials that have redefined global standards of care for prostate and bladder cancers. He is widely recognized not only for his clinical brilliance but also for his commitment to academic excellence and international collaboration.

## SECTION II. (13:00 - 15:00)

### CANDIDATE THREE



#### BENJÁMIN SKRIBEK

Radiology

*The Role of Onco-Interventional Radiology in Modern Healthcare*

#### Publications

Skribek, B. et al. Oncological Efficacy and Safety of Minimally Invasive Focal and Whole-Gland Interventions in the Treatment of Low- and Intermediate-Risk Prostate Cancer : A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*Cancers (2025), Q1, IF: 4.4*

Ablation and laparoscopic adrenalectomy: Balancing efficacy and safety in the treatment of benign adrenal gland tumors: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Heliyon (2024), Q1, IF: 3.6*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Pál Ákos Deák



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Ronald de Wit (NED)	Claudia Kesch (GER)	David D'Andrea (AUT)	Tamás Beöthe (HUN, PK)	András Jávornázy (HUN, PTE)	Bence Szabó (HUN)	Eszter Szalai (HUN)

### CANDIDATE FOUR



#### MÁRTON KÓNYA

Obstetrics & Gynecology

*Genome-Wide Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing for Rare Chromosomal Abnormalities: Diagnostic Accuracy, Discordant Results, And Clinical Implications*

#### Publications

Kónya, M. et al. Discordant findings in genome-wide non-invasive prenatal testing (GW-NIPT) for rare chromosomal abnormalities, adverse pregnancy outcomes, and maternal malignancies: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Am J of Obst and Gynec (2025), D1, IF: 8.4*

Kónya, M et. al. Genome-Wide, Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing for rare chromosomal abnormalities: A systematic review and meta-analysis of diagnostic test accuracy.

*Journal of Ovarian Research (2024), Q1, IF: 4.2*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Anikó Gál



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
Judit Mária Molnár (HUN, SE)	Bence Kozma (HUN, DE)	Csaba Ákos (HUN, SE)	Boglárka Pethő (HUN, SE)	Bence Szabó (HUN)	Isabel Pinto (BRA)

## SECTION III. (15:30 - 17:30)

## CANDIDATE FIVE

**TEODÓRA FILIPOV**

Radiology

*Ultrasound-Guided Minimally Invasive Diagnostic and Therapeutic Innovations in Interventional Radiology*

**Publications**

Filipov, T. et al. Cryoablation for Fibroadenoma with Liquid Nitrogen Based System: a retrospective analysis of prospectively collected data.

*Plos One (2025), Q1, IF: 2.3*

Filipov, T. et al. Investigating the role of ultrasound-based shear wave elastography in kidney transplanted patients : correlation between non-invasive fibrosis detection, kidney dysfunction and biopsy results-a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Journal of Nephrology (2024), Q1, IF: 2.6*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Pál Ákos Deák



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Gábor Varga (HUN, SE)	Eszter Végh (HUN)	Dénes Horváthy (HUN, SE)	Balázs Nemes (HUN, SE)	Dávid Tárnoki (HUN)	Bence Szabó (HUN)	Isabel Pinto (BRA)

## CANDIDATE SIX

**ADRIENN KOVÁCS**

Gastroenterology

*Ketosis-Prone Type 2 Diabetes: Challenges in Diabetes Classification*

**Publications**

Kovács, A. et al. Ketosis-prone type 2 diabetes in Caucasian adults: a follow-up cohort analysis.

*Diabetes And Metabolic Syndrome: Clinical Research and Reviews (2026), Q1, IF: 3.4*

Kovács, A. et al. One third of cases of new-onset diabetic ketosis in adults are associated with ketosis-prone type 2 diabetes-A systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Diabetes-Metabolism Research and Reviews (2024), Q1, IF: 6.0*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Nóra Hosszúfalusi



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
István Takács (HUN, SE)	Zsuzsanna Putz (HUN, SE)	Emese Mezősi (HUN, PTE)	György Jermendy (HUN)	Bence Szabó (HUN)	Koorosh Karimi (IRN)

## WEDNESDAY, 22 APRIL 2026

### SECTION IV. (8:00 - 10:30)

Opening speech of the second day of the PhD defence program of April 2026

**Péter Hegyi**  
Director of the Centre for  
Translational Medicine



#### CANDIDATE SEVEN



#### EDINA TARI

Gastroenterology

*Underrecognized Risk Factors in Acute Gastroenterological Conditions Requiring Endoscopic Intervention*

#### Publications

Tari, E. et al. Morphology of the papilla can predict procedural safety and efficacy of ERCP-a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Scientific Reports (2024), Q1, IF: 3.9*

Tari, E. et al. At admission hemodynamic instability is associated with increased mortality and rebleeding rate in acute gastrointestinal bleeding : a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Therapeutic Advances in Gastroenterology (2023), Q1, IF: 3.9*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Bálint Erőss



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Michael Trauner (AUT)	Vasile Drug (ROM)	Livia Archibugi (ITA)	Zoltán Szepes (HUN, SZTE)	Áron Vincze (HUN, PTE)	Boglárka Szentes (HUN)	Mahmoud Obeidat (JOR)

#### CANDIDATE EIGHT



#### ENDRE BOTOND GAGYI

Gastroenterology

*The Disease Continuum from Acute to Recurrent and Chronic Pancreatitis: Progression Patterns in Children and Adults*

#### Publications

Gagyí, EB. et al. Incidence of recurrent and chronic pancreatitis after acute pancreatitis: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Therapeutic Advances in Gastroenterology (2024), Q1, IF: 3.4*

Gagyí, EB. et al. Progression from acute to chronic pancreatitis in children: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Clinical and Experimental Pediatrics (2025), D1, IF: 3.6*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Bálint Erőss



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Michael Trauner (AUT)	Vasile Drug (ROM)	Áron Vincze (HUN, PTE)	Livia Archibugi (ITA)	Zoltán Szepes (HUN, SZTE)	Boglárka Szentes (HUN)	Mahmoud Obeidat (JOR)

## LECTURE OF THE DAY (10:45)

Presentation of the lecture of the day by Michael Trauner

**Michael Trauner**  
MAE, University of Vienna,  
Div. of Gastroenterology and  
Hepatology



Professor Michael Trauner serves as the Chair of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Medical University of Vienna, where he leads with a vision for innovative patient care. A distinguished Member of the Academia Europaea, his research into the molecular mechanisms of bile acid signaling and cholestatic liver diseases has gained worldwide recognition. Professor Trauner is a master at translating complex physiological insights into tangible therapeutic breakthroughs for liver health.

## SECTION V. (12:30 - 14:30)

### CANDIDATE NINE



**DIANA ELENA FLORIA**

Gastroenterology

*Optimizing the Management of Patients with Gastro-Esophageal Reflux Disease*

#### Publications

Floria, DE. et al. Systematic review and meta-analysis: proton pump inhibitors slightly decrease the severity of chronic cough.

*Scientific Reports (2024), D1, IF: 3.9*

Floria, DE. et al. Proton pump inhibitors are not associated with an increased risk of *Clostridioides difficile* infection: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

*Gut Microbes (2025), D1, IF: 11*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Bélint Eröss  
Vasile Drug



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Michael Trauner (AUT)	Petra Golovics (HUN, SE)	Livia Archibugi (ITA)	Zoltán Szepes (HUN, SZTE)	Áron Vincze (HUN, PTE)	Réka Tóth (HUN)	Mahmoud Obeidat (JOR)

### CANDIDATE TEN



**DOROTTYA TARJÁN**

Gastroenterology

*Challenges in Acute Pancreatitis Management*

#### Publications

Tarján, D. et al. Persistently High Procalcitonin and C-Reactive Protein Are Good Predictors of Infection in Acute Necrotizing Pancreatitis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*Int J of Molecular Sciences (2024), D1, IF: 4.9*

Tarján, D. et al. Safety and Effectiveness of Cholecystectomy and Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography in Biliary Pancreatitis During Pregnancy: BORN Study.

*United European Gastro Journal (2025), D1, IF: 6.7*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Péter Hegyi  
Alexandra Mikó



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Michael Trauner (AUT)	Petra Golovics (HUN, SE)	Zoltán Szepes (HUN, SZTE)	Livia Archibugi (ITA)	Áron Vincze (HUN, PTE)	Réka Tóth (HUN)	Mahmoud Obeidat (JOR)

## SECTION VI. (15:00 - 18:00)

## CANDIDATE ELEVEN

**RÉKA GARAI**

Pediatrics

*Pediatric Viral Infection Control: Strategies for Prevention and Long-Term Sequelae***Publications**

Garai, R. et al. Head-to-head comparison of influenza vaccines in children: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Journal of Translational Medicine (2024), D1, IF: 7.5*

Garai, R. et al. Clinical assessment of children with long COVID syndrome.

*Pediatric Research (2023), D1, IF: 3.1***Supervisor(s)**  
Attila Szabó  
Péter Krivácsy

Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Andrea Fekete (HUN, SE)	Katalin Alexandra Csernus (HUN, PTE)	Gabriella Bottari (ITA)	Charlotte Demoor-Goldschmidt (FRA)	Stefan Pfister (GER)	Andrea Harnos (HUN)	Koorosh Karimi (IRN)

## CANDIDATE TWELVE

**MÁRTON SZABADOS**

Pediatrics

Identifying Risk Factors for Mental Health and Quality of Life Among Childhood Cancer Survivors

**Publications**

Szabados, M. Association of tumor location with anxiety and depression in childhood brain cancer survivors: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Child and Adol Psych and Mental Health (2023), Q1, IF: 3.4*

Szabados, M. et al. The hungarian cross-cultural adaptation of the MMQL-AF for measuring quality of life in adolescents with cancer.

*Scientific Reports (2025), Q1, IF: 3.9***Supervisor(s)**  
Miklós Garami

Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Stefan Pfister (GER)	Charlotte Demoor-Goldschmidt (FRA)	Katalin Alexandra Csernus (HUN, PTE)	Andrea Fekete (HUN, SE)	Gabriella Bottari (ITA)	Andrea Harnos (HUN)	Koorosh Karimi (IRN)

## CANDIDATE THIRTEEN

**MÁRK VIKTOR HERNÁDFŐI**

Pediatrics

*Survivor And Survival in Pediatric Oncology***Publications**

Hernádfői, MV. et al. Burden of Childhood Cancer and the Social and Economic Challenges in Adulthood. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*Jama Pediatrics (2024), D1, IF: 18.0*

Hernádfői, MV. et al. Dinutuximab Beta for the Treatment of High-Risk Neuroblastoma : Data from the Hungarian Pediatric Oncology Network.

*Journal of Clinical Medicine (2025), Q1, IF: 2.9***Supervisor(s)**  
Miklós Garami

Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Member 2	Statistician	Methodologist
Stefan Pfister (GER)	Charlotte Demoor-Goldschmidt (FRA)	Alexandra Katalin Csernus (HUN, PTE)	Andrea Fekete (HUN, SE)	Gabriella Bottari (ITA)	Andrea Harnos (HUN)	Koorosh Karimi (IRN)

THURSDAY, 23 APRIL 2026

SECTION VII. (8:00 - 11:30)

Opening speech of the third day of the PhD defence program of April 2026.

**Péter Hegyi**  
Director of the Centre for  
Translational Medicine



CANDIDATE FOURTEEN



**ESZTER UHRIN**

Dentistry

*Reducing Oral Health Inequities in Underserved Populations Through Secondary Prevention and Early Detection*

**Publications**

Uhrin, E. et al. Effect of oral healthcare prevention program on oral hygiene in post-stroke patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

*J Dent (2025), D1, IF: 5.5*

Uhrin, E. et al. Teledentistry: A Future Solution in the Diagnosis of Oral Lesions: Diagnostic Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review.

*Telemedicine and e-Health (2023), Q1, IF: 2.8*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Orsolya Németh



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
József Szalma (HUN, PTE)	Márk Fráter (HUN, SZTE)	Krisztina Mártha (ROM)	Zsolt Lohinai (HUN, SE)	Karen Fazekas (HUN)	Darius-Valentin Sandu (ROM)

CANDIDATE FIFTEEN



**ELIAS-LEON NOLDEN**

Dentistry

*Implication Of Personalized Medicine in Maxillofacial Surgery*

**Publications**

Nolden, EL. Comparative efficacy of patient-specific and stock implants in temporomandibular joint replacement: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Int J of Oral and Maxill Surgery (2025), Q1, IF: 2.7*

Nolden, EL. Comparative Safety and Efficacy of Patient-Specific Versus Hand-Molded Implants in Cranioplasty: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*J of Clinical Medicine (2025), Q1, IF: 2.9*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Mihály Vasziló  
László Köles



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
Krisztina Mártha (ROM)	Márk Fráter (HUN, SZTE)	József Szalma (HUN, PTE)	Zsolt Lohinai (HUN, SE)	Karen Fazekas (HUN)	Darius-Valentin Sandu (ROM)

## CANDIDATE SIXTEEN



**ELEONÓRA SÓLYOM**

Dentistry

*The Use of Autogenous Tooth Bone Graft for Reconstructive Periodontal Surgeries*

### Publications

Solyom, E. The use of autogenous tooth bone graft is an efficient method of alveolar ridge preservation – meta-analysis and systematic review.

*BMC Oral Health (2023), Q1, IF: 3.1*

Solyom, E. Title Autogenous Tooth Bone Grafts with Enamel Matrix Derivates in Non-Contained Intrabony Periodontal Defects—A Case Series Study.

*Biomedicines (2026), Q1, IF: 3.9*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Réka Fazekas  
Bálint Molnár

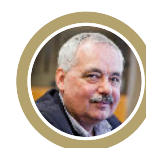


Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
Márk Fráter (HUN, SZTE)	József Szalma (HUN, PTE)	Krisztina Mártha (ROM)	Zsolt Lohinai (HUN, SE)	Karen Fazekas (HUN)	Nazanin Ghods (IRN)

## LECTURE OF THE DAY (12:00)

Adventures of a basic scientist in gastroenterology and dentistry

**Gábor Varga**  
Vice Director of the Centre  
for Translational Medicine



Professor Gábor Varga is the esteemed Vice Director of the Centre for Translational Medicine at Semmelweis University, where he continues to be a driving force for scientific innovation. He brings a wealth of expertise from his long-standing tenure as the former Head and current Professor of the Department of Oral Biology, a role where he has pioneered research into dental stem cells and tissue regeneration. A dedicated educator and researcher, his work masterfully bridges the gap between basic oral science and systemic clinical applications.

## SECTION VIII. (14:00 - 16:00)

### CANDIDATE SEVENTEEN



**ESRA ZHUBI**

Neurology

*Prognostic Imaging Markers and Reperfusion Strategies in Acute Ischemic Stroke*

### Publications

Zhubi, E. et al. Association of FLAIR Positivity and Worse Outcomes After Intravenous Thrombolysis in Known-Onset Strokes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

*Journal of Clinical Medicine (2025), Q1, IF: 2.9*

Zhubi, E. et al. Bridging therapy versus direct endovascular thrombectomy in basilar artery occlusion stroke: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Geroscience (2025), Q1, IF: 5.4*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Bence Guna



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
Anita Kamondi (HUN, SE)	József Janszky (HUN, PTE)	Péter Klivényi (HUN, SZTE)	Gábor Csukly (HUN, SE)	Dániel Veres (HUN)	Nina Galdzytska (UKR)

## CANDIDATE EIGHTEEN



### ALEXANDER KANCSEV

Psychiatry

*Association Between Metabolic Syndrome and Cognitive Dysfunctions in Schizophrenia*

#### Publications

Kancsev, A. et al. Glucose homeostasis and cognitive functions in schizophrenia: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

*Sci Rep (2024), Q1, IF: 3.9*

Kancsev, A. et al. Association between metabolic syndrome, diabetes mellitus, inflammation and cognitive dysfunctions in schizophrenia: a cross-sectional analysis.

*Schizophrenia (2025), Q1, IF: 4.1*

**Supervisor(s)**  
Szabolcs Kéri



Chair	Opponent 1	Opponent 2	Member 1	Statistician	Methodologist
Anita Kamondi (HUN, SE)	Péter Klivényi (HUN, SZTE)	Gábor Csukly (HUN, SE)	József Janszky (HUN, PTE)	Dániel Veres (HUN)	Nina Galdzytska (UKR)



# SPECIAL OPERA EVENT

WEDNESDAY, 22 APRIL 2026, 8PM

Marcus Aurelius Seminar Room (Baross street 22)

As the sun sets on this unforgettable day, prepare to be swept away by Soprano Daria Kovalenko's soaring voice, Guitarist Manuel Buda's fiery strings, Pianist Zoltán Neumark's masterful keys, and Tenor Julian Dionne's passionate timbre. They'll plunge you into an electrifying odyssey through timeless Italian opera, cinematic masterpieces, and irresistible pop anthems—featuring breathtaking duets that ignite the soul.

This 75-minute immersion could stretch into the starry night if the audience's energy fuels the magic. Don't miss the vibes of a notte illuminata...



## NOTTE ILLUMINATA

### *First Act*

*Parlamo d`amore Mariu*  
(Neumark, Dionne)

### **La traviata** (extracts)

*Un dí felice etera*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

*È strano, è strano...*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark)

*Amami Alfredo!*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

*Parigi o cara*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

### **La Boheme** (extracts)

*Mi chiamano Mimi*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark)

*O soave fanciulla*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

### *Second Act*

*Reginella, Malafemmena*  
(Buda, Dionne)

*Cinema Paradiso*  
(Buda)

*Era gia tutto previsto*  
(Buda, Neumark, Dionne)

*Chitarra Romana*  
(Buda, Neumark, Dionne)

*Non ti scordar di me*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

*Torna a surriento*  
(Buda, Neumark, Dionne)

*Time to say Goodbye*  
(Kovalenko, Neumark, Dionne)

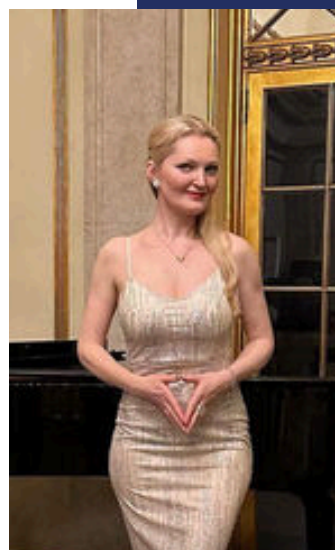
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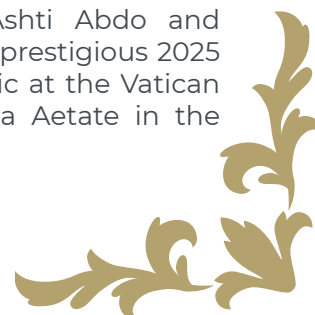
## Daria Kovalenko

Daria Kovalenko is an award-winning soprano celebrated for her "vocal brilliance" and versatile international career in Italian and Russian repertoire. Originally trained as a violinist before graduating from the State Academy of Theater Arts in Moscow, she refined her artistry under legendary mentors like Montserrat Caballé. Since her 2014 debut in Genoa, she has performed signature leading roles—such as Violetta and Gilda—on prestigious global stages, collaborating with world-renowned conductors and directors. With major competition wins like the Shalyapin Opera Grand Prix under her belt, she continues to captivate audiences with her exceptional dramatic depth and stage presence!



## Manuel Buda

Manuel Buda is an exceptionally eclectic Italian performer whose artistic path spans from a degree with honors in Classical Guitar to a degree in Physics. His passionate, high-energy performances blend expressive guitar work, vocals, and creative looping to bridge diverse repertoires ranging from Bach and David Bowie to Middle Eastern and Mediterranean traditions. Deeply influenced by his mixed Jewish and Christian roots, Buda has spent years exploring Jewish identity through music, notably as the founder of the KlezParade Orchestra and a member of the acclaimed NefEsh Trio. His extensive international career includes collaborations with artists like Ashti Abdo and Malika Ayane, and culminated in a prestigious 2025 invitation to represent Jewish music at the Vatican for the 60th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate in the presence of Pope Leone XIV.





## Zoltan Neumark

Zoltan Neumark is a distinguished pianist, musical director, and accompanist with a prolific career spanning opera, klezmer, and Jewish liturgical traditions. A graduate of the Franz Liszt Music Academy and the Music Academy of Vienna, he has served as a corepetitor for the Budapest Opera House and as the longtime musical director for various Hungarian theaters. Neumark is deeply rooted in Jewish musical heritage, serving as an adjunct in hazanut at the Hungarian Jewish Theological Seminary and founding the klezmer ensemble "Haverim." His extensive collaborative history includes performing alongside world-renowned cantors such as Moshe Stern and Naftali Herstik, as well as accompanying the annual Pavarotti master course in Baja since 2011. An internationally active artist, his versatile expertise across flute, piano, and vocal coaching has made him a cornerstone of the Hungarian and international musical landscapes.



## Julian Dionne

Born in Bologna, Julian Dionne is a versatile professional singer whose career spans opera, theater, and film. A graduate of the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan and the Bocconi University, Dionne further refined his vocal artistry under the mentorship of Luciana Serra. Since 2017, he has been a member of the renowned ensemble "The 12 Tenors," performing in Europe's most prestigious venues, including the Berliner Philharmonie and the Vienna Stadthalle. His diverse repertoire includes leading roles such as Alfredo in *La Traviata* and Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, alongside appearances in the Biennale di Venezia and various motion pictures. Currently, Dionne balances his active solo career—focused on the Italian Belcanto tradition—with advanced medical studies as an MD-PhD student at Semmelweis University and the Centre for Translational Medicine in Budapest.





Supporting partner  
of our program



**MOL-ÚJ EURÓPA  
ALAPÍTVÁNY**

LEARNING  
BY DOING.

VIII. PROGRESS REPORT

# PHD DEFENCE



SEMMELWEIS UNIVERSITY  
CENTRE FOR TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE



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