

FRANCESCO ATTARDI

Conductor

Conductor, pianist and musicologist, Francesco Attardi occupies a prominent place in the Italian music scene, having combined the musicological skills with his remarkable conducting activity, with the rediscovery of forgotten masterpieces of Italian nineteenth-century symphonies, such as Giovanni Sgambati's 2nd Symphony (one of Franz Liszt's brightest pupils and the father of the Italian symphony) of which he edited a critical edition for Suvini Zerboni and conducted the first performances in modern times in Milan (La Verdi Orchestra), in Palermo (Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana) and in Catania (Teatro Massimo 'Vincenzo Bellini'). After his musical studies at the G. Verdi Conservatory in Milan, he specialized in conducting with Pierre Dervaux at the Académie Internationale in Nice, with Murry Sidlin at the Aspen Music School (US) and with Leopold Hager at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and completed his training as an assistant to Romano Gandolfi at Teatro alla Scala and Teatro del Liceo in Barcelona, and Giuseppe Patanè and Wolfgang Sawallisch at the Munich State Opera. Born to an American mother from Boston, he recently returned to the US to conduct the Magnificat Day Concert with the Philharmonia Orchestra of New York and the New Jersey College Choir in the historic Kings Theater of Brooklyn, with an audience of more than three thousand people, concert televised by EWTN.

Active in Italy and abroad, he has conducted numerous major Italian orchestras including, in addition to the aforementioned, the Pomeriggi Musicali of Milan, the San Remo Symphony Orchestra, the Mantua Chamber Orchestra, the Cantelli Orchestra of Milan, of which he was coordinator and guest conductor (2002-2004). Artistic director of the "Week of Sacred Music" of Monreale from 2000 to 2004, in 2011 he conducted the Verdi's Requiem at the Ancient Theater of Taormina for the 'Taormina Arte' Festival.

He has performed in tournées in Japan with the Kyushu Symphony Orchestra, in the Czech Republic with the Bohemian Symphony Orchestra, the Choir of Radio Prague and the Chamber Orchestra of Prague, in Germany with the Jaener Philharmonie, in Mexico with the Symphony Orchestra of Guadalajara and the Guanajuato Symphony,

Among the most recent performances, Mozart's Don Giovanni and Donizetti's Don Pasquale at the Sforza Castle in Milan; La Traviata and Rigoletto in Germany and Switzerland (Schaffhausen, Friedrichshafen, Lugano); The Merry Widow at the Teatro Dal Verme in Milan and La Bohème and Madame Butterfly at the Gran Teatro Nacional in Havana (Cuba).

He has also conducted renowned soloists such as Bruno Canino, Huseyn Sermet, Paul Badura-Skoda, Valentina Lisitsa, Martina Filjak, Natasha Korsakova and Desirè Rancatore.

Francesco Attardi has distinguished himself in the formations of youth groups such as the Young Soloists of Milan who also performed at the Teatro alla Scala in the nineties. In 2011-12 he helped found the 'Mediterranean Chamber Orchestra' of young musicians from around the world for Palermo Classica Festival and in 2013 the young 'Academic Orchestra of Mantua' on the occasion of the masterclasses for young singers held by Renato Bruson and Edda Moser at Sabbioneta (Italy).

He is Professor of History and Musical Analysis at the 'Claudio Abbado' Civic School of Milan, where he also holds Masterclasses of Orchestra Conducting on Italian Opera.

Francesco Attardi studied Piano, Composition and Conducting at the Conservatorio 'G. Verdi' Conservatory of Milan, earning the Academic Master in Conducting and the Piano Diploma, with Honors. He also received the degree in Musicology at the University of Bologna.

Address: Viale Lunigiana 16
20125 Milano

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Italy

Email: francescoattardi2013@gmail.com

Mob: +39 3395727303

Website: www.francescoattardi.it