

Lachenmann Music

Ferdinando Sulla, Conductor

Ferdinando Sulla is a highly regarded conductor and musicologist whose career spans both the concert hall and the opera stage. With a unique flair for historical performance practice, a profound knowledge of the musical canon, and a conducting style that is as precise as it is passionate, he combines analytical acuity with artistic intuition. Sulla's artistic versatility ranges from acclaimed opera productions and high-calibre concert series to world premieres by contemporary Italian composers. His work is characterised by stylistic depth, meticulous phrasing and an unwavering passion for musical expression, through which he captivates audiences worldwide and inspires musicians alike.

He began his musical career by studying organ, composition and choral conducting in Cosenza, later honing his skills through orchestral conducting training at the renowned Civica Scuola di Musica 'Claudio Abbado' in Milan. Sulla's early career was enriched by his work as assistant conductor to the renowned Fabio Luisi, during which he gained valuable experience in both concert and opera productions.

After completing his formal music studies, Sulla pursued further academic excellence and obtained a degree in musicology from the University of Milan. His academic career culminated in a PhD in Music from the University of Tor Vergata in Rome. As one of the leading experts in Rossini performance practice and philology, he has made significant contributions in this field, including the publication of critical editions of two major works by G. Rossini: *Messa di Milano – Miserere* and *Messa di Ravenna*. These editions were published by the Rossini Foundation in Pesaro, and Sulla had the honour of conducting the world premieres of these works at the renowned Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, thereby cementing his reputation as a key figure in the interpretation and preservation of Rossini's legacy.

Throughout his career, Sulla has conducted at a wide range of major festivals and institutions worldwide. These include the Festival der Jeunesses Musicales Deutschland in Germany, the Festival della Valle d'Itria in Martina Franca, the Festival Verdi in Parma and the Festival Resurrexit in Šiauliai, Lithuania, where he performed at the invitation of the Lithuanian National Philharmonic of Vilnius. He has also performed at major Italian venues, including the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, the Teatro Regio in Parma and the Teatro Rossini in Pesaro. His international engagements have taken him to venues including the Auditorium of the Fondazione Cariplo in Milan, the Auditorium Maximum in Cluj, the TauberPhilharmonie in Weikersheim and the Klaipeda Chamber Orchestra, underscoring his versatility across different musical styles and genres.

Sulla has conducted some of the world's most renowned orchestras, including the orchestra and choir of the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano (laVerdi), the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini in Parma and the Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto.

His collaborations have also included the Orchestra Sinfonica G. Rossini in Pesaro, the Orchestra Magna Græcia, the Filarmonica Gioacchino Rossini Orchestra and the I Filarmonici Friulani Youth Orchestra, to name but a few. In addition, he has worked with outstanding soloists, including the pianist and composer Stefano Bollani, the harpist Emanuela Battigelli, and the cellists Guillermo Pastrana and Martina Biondi.

As a passionate advocate of contemporary Italian music, Sulla has also conducted world premieres of works by emerging composers such as Giampaolo Testoni and Paolo Furlani, thereby underlining his commitment to the further development of Italian music.

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As a choral conductor, Sulla has worked with some of the most renowned choral ensembles in Italy and abroad, including the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (USA), the Cluj State Philharmonic Choir and the Festival della Valle d'Itria. He has also had the honour of collaborating with internationally acclaimed conductors such as Diego Fasolis and Fabio Luisi, further expanding his artistic network.

Alongside his work as a conductor, Sulla shares his knowledge as a teacher at several prestigious institutions. He has served as a professor at the Accademia del Belcanto "Rodolfo Celletti" in Martina Franca, the Accademia Teatro alla Scala in Milan, and at the conservatories of Reggio Calabria and Potenza. Maestro Sulla currently teaches orchestral conducting at the Conservatory of Cosenza and music history at the Civica Scuola di Musica "Claudio Abbado" in Milan.

In recognition of his artistic achievements, Sulla was awarded the prestigious "Young Excellence" prize by the Rotary Club in May 2019. This honour recognises his outstanding contributions to the world of music, his deep commitment to the preservation and promotion of classical traditions, and his dedication to supporting contemporary Italian composers. Sulla's career continues to develop dynamically, and he is establishing himself as one of the most important and versatile figures in classical music.