

ALESSANDRO BENAZZO

Alessandro Benazzo is constantly pushed to reposition music in the current artistic context.

Born in Lugano (CH), he graduated in Trombone at the "Arrigo Boito" Conservatory of Music in Parma and later at the "Lorenzo Perosi" International Academy of Music in Biella.

He studied with Christian Lindberg and Michel Becquet.

He continued his studies in Conducting in the Contemporary Repertoire and Gregorian Chant at the University School of the Conservatory of Italian Switzerland.

He continued with his Gregorian Chant studies and Gregorian Choir Conducting in Lugano, Arco di Trento, Assisi and Cremona.

He studied composition in Switzerland with F. Ghilardotti (pupil of N.Rota, I. Stravinsky).

He obtained scholarships for the training of orchestra professors in Italy with the F. Fenaroli International Youth Orchestra and in Germany with the International Orchestra of the Landesakademie für die Musizierende in Baden-Württemberg.

He has held positions as orchestra professor with the G. Verdi Symphony Orchestra of Milan, "I Pomeriggi Musicali di Milano" Orchestra, S. Remo Symphony Orchestra, G. Cantelli Symphony Orchestra of Milan, European Sinfonietta UK, Ensemble900/Presente of the Conservatory of Italian Switzerland, Lugano Chamber Orchestra.

He has worked in important roles with conductors such as R.Chailly, Yutaka Sado, Ulf Schirmer, Ch.Lindberg, O.Vänka, A. Veronesi, P. Hinkinen, V. Globokar, V.Ponkin, D. Renzetti, A.Tamayo. In 2002 he recorded unpublished scores by G. Rossini for Decca, with the G. Verdi Symphony Orchestra of Milan and R.Chailly. In 2014 he appeared on "Paganini" - RSI - for the production of the scenic multimedia tragedy "Kraanerg" by Iannis Xenakis, Arturo Tamayo conductor.

Alessandro was winner of the International Music Competition of Stresa 1997 and of the "City of Stresa Special Prize", European Music Competition (TO) 1997, Swiss Parade 1998 - RSI-SRG-SSR, International Music Competition for Young Performers 2002 - Chieri (TO), FE.BA.TI. Young Instrumental Competition 1993 with the "City of Lugano Special Prize" and "Massagno Musica Prize", International Competition of Musical Interpretation "Lario in Musica 2001" .

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He has starred with Ch Lindberg and H. Hardenberger at the 39th Festival de Musique De Sion-Valaise for the premiere of "" The Ballade of KitBone "by F. Högberg.

He has premiered the "Tschaikowsky - Paraphrase" for Trombone, Violin and Piano by Meinrad Schmitt at the Musik Forum München; at the Stresa International Festival, the world premiere of L.Abbate's "Paraphrase on the Okra" for orchestra with the European Sinfonietta. By Giacomo Manzoni performed the world premiere of the opera "Clamoroso non Ricominciar Neppure" for Orchestra, in the G. Verdi Milan Conservatory Concert Hall.

Some composers have written specifically for Alessandro works for Trombone Solo that move between contemporary idioms together with intricate melodic lines and technical virtuosity. In 2015 the Swiss composer/conductor Pietro Damiani dedicates to him "Impromptu" pour Trombone Seul and "Theme and Variations for Trombone and Band" published by "Eufonia Brescia"; the Swiss composer Renato Grisoni in 1995 dedicated the "Capriccio for Trombone and Piano" to him; Angelo Bellisario, in 2001 dedicated the "Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra" to him. The composer and organist E. Cominetti dedicates to him: Variations on a theme by Van Eyck for Trombone and Organ, Ave Maria and Clarissima Mater for Voice, Trombone and Organ on texts by H.von Bingen and The Passion of Christ for Trombone and Orchestra.

From 1989 to today, he has also performed the main works for Trombone and Orchestra in concerts, tours and recordings, as a guest of numerous orchestras including Orchestra Cameristica Lombarda, Orchestra Da Camera di Lugano, Orchestra Arcadia (Switzerland), Camerata Giovanile della Svizzera Italiana, Orchestra Assunta in Vigentino (Milan).

Since 2014 his activity has been divided between conducting and composition. Since 2018 he has been musical director of the Schola Cantorum Ambrosiana - Porlezza, Milano' s diocese.

In Italy he is musical director of the Filarmonica di Porlezza and Centro Valle Intelvi Wind Band. In Switzerland he is musical director of the Canterini di Lugano Choir, Voci di Canobbio Choir, Filarmonica di Agno and Agno Young Band.

Since 2017 he is the creator of the international choral festival "InCanto" (Castagnola-Switzerland), now in its 4th. edition.

In 2019 he collaborated with the songwriter Davide Van Desfroos in concerts, record productions and arrangements for choir.

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From the age of 15 to today, he has also conducted as a guest many string, wind ensembles and choirs including the Ensemble 900/Presente of the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, Ensemble TicinoMusica, Camerata Giovanile della Svizzera Italiana and the Orchestra Vivaldi, Symphonische Orchester Mammern, Swiss Accordion Orchestra, Orchestra Mandolinistica di Gandria, TecnoEnsemble (Milan) and Estro Armonico Academy (Milan).

He has conducted works of the 900/present of Mahler - IV Symphony; Pierrot Lunaire, Verklärte Nacht, Schönberg's Erwartung and Schönberg/Webern's KammerSymphonie op.9; Octet for Wind Instrument, Petroushka and Pastorale by Stravinsky; Folk Songs by Berio; Zeitmasse by K.Stockhausen; Boulez's Derive I; KammerKonzert by Ligeti, “Etwas Ruhiger im Ausdruck” by F. Donatoni; “Der wunderbare Mandarin” by B. Bartók.

He has performed in festivals, theaters, churches, universities, museums, conferences, congresses, recordings and broadcasts including the Festival de Musica de Vic (Barcelona), Musik Forum München, Stresa International Festival, Castrocara Festival, Serassi International Festival, Musica Riva Festival, Fogazzaro Award, Corona Ferrea Concert Society of Monza, Philological Cultural Center of Milan, Magadino International Festival (Switzerland), Carlo Prati Festival (Italy), Montevicchia May Festival (Italy), HungaroFest (Budapest), Concerts De Riells Abbey of Sant Martí (Spain), VolksHaus Theater Zürich, Pantheon International Festival of Liturgical Music (Rome), Apollonio Theater of Varese, Palazzo dei Congressi in Lugano, LAC Theater, Auditorium Stelio Molo RSI, Festival de Musique De Sion-Valaise , RAI, RSI, SRG, SSR.

In the literary field, he presented in 2015 an essay on Arnold Schönberg (available at www.fondazioneilindenberg.org) commissioned by the E. Lindenberg Foundation (Switzerland) and published in Italian and English in the catalog "Reto Rigassi Dodecafonia" .