

# ALESSANDRO BENAZZO

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

His programming is all about quality, diversity and the breaking down of genre boundaries.

"There is no serious music or unserious music, just good music and bad music." - Leonard Bernstein -

Since 2023 he is the Music Director of the Filarmonica Cittadina Alessandro Volta - Como (1871).

His tenure has been defined by an impulse to embrace, develop and expand the possibilities of the prestigious Como institution.

Furthermore, since 2023 he is the Music Director of the Filarmonica Centro Valle Intelvi. Since 2018 he is Artistic and Music Director of the Schola Cantorum Ambrosiana - Porlezza, diocese of Milan.

Since 2000 he is Music Director of the Filarmonica S.Cecilia di Porlezza, Filarmonica di Agno, Agno Young Band, choir Canterini di Lugano and Voci di Canobbio choir.

Since 2017 he is the creator and Artistic Director of the international choral festival "InCanto" (Castagnola-Switzerland), now in its fourth edition.

In 2019 he collaborated with the singer-songwriter Davide Van Der Schroep in concerts, record productions and choir arrangements.

In the literary field, in 2015 he presented an essay on Arnold Schönberg (available at [www.fondazioneelindenberg.org](http://www.fondazioneelindenberg.org)) commissioned by the E. Lindenberg Foundation (Switzerland) and published in Italian and English in the "Reto Rigassi Dodecafonia" catalogue.

From the age of 15 to today he has also guest conducted the Ensemble 900/Presente of the Conservatory of Italian Switzerland, Ensemble TicinoMusica, Camerata Giovanile della Svizzera Italiana and Vivaldi String Orchestra, Symphonische Orchester Mammern (Switzerland), Swiss Accordion Orchestra, Gandria Mandolin Orchestra, TecnoEnsemble (Milan) and Accademia Estro Armonico (Milan).

He conducted Mahler's 20th/21st century works - IV Symphony; Pierrot Lunaire, Verklärte Nacht, Erwartung by Schönberg and KammerSymphonie op.9 by Schönberg/Webern; Stravinsky's Octet for Wind Instrument, Petroushka and Pastorale; Berio's Folk Songs; Zeitmasse by K.Stockhausen; Derive I of Boulez; KammerKonzert by Ligeti, "Etwas Ruhiger im Ausdruck" by F.Donatoni; "Der wunderbare Mandarin" by B.Bartók.

He has performed in festivals, theatres, churches, universities, museums, conferences, congresses, recordings and broadcasts including the Festival de Musica de Vic (Barcelona), Musik Forum München, Stresa International Festival, Castrocaro Festival, Serassi International Festival, Musica Riva Festival, Fogazzaro Prize, 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, International Festival of Liturgical Music Pantheon (Rome), Teatro Apollonio of Varese, Palazzo dei Congressi of Lugano, Teatro LAC and Auditorium Stelio Molo RSI, Festival de Musique De Sion-Valaise , RAI, RSI, SRG, SSR.

He was the protagonist 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 gave the world premiere of Meinrad Schmitt's "Tschaikowsky - Paraphrase" for Trombone, Violin and Piano at the Musik Forum München; at the Stresa International Festival, the world premiere of L.Abbate's "Paraphrasi sull'Ocra" for orchestra with the European Sinfonietta UK.

By Giacomo Manzoni he performed the world premiere of the opera "Clamoroso non Ricominciar Neppure" for Orchestra, in the Sala G.Verdi of the Milan Conservatory. Some composers have written works for Solo Trombone specifically for Alessandro which move between contemporary idioms together with intricate melodic lines and technical virtuosity. In 2015 the Swiss composer/conductor Pietro Damiani dedicated to him "Impromptu" pour Trombone Seul and "Theme and Variations for Trombone Banda" published by "Eufonia Brescia"; the Swiss composer Renato Grisoni dedicated the "Capriccio for Trombone and Piano" to him in 1995; the Milanese composer Angelo Bellisario dedicated the "Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra" to him in 2001. The composer and organist E.Cominetti dedicated 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 the 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 Italian, Orchestra dell'Assunta (Milan).

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

He has worked in exclusive 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 R.Chailly and the G.Verdi Symphony Orchestra of Milan.

In 2014 he appeared on "Paganini" - RSI - for the production of the multimedia stage tragedy "Kraanerg" by Iannis Xenakis " directed by Arturo Tamayo.

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

Born in Lugano (CH) he graduated in Trombone at the "Arrigo Boito" Conservatory of Music in Parma with Giancarlo Corsini (Soloist Orchestra RAI Milan) and subsequently at the Accademia Internazionale Superiore di Musica "Lorenzo Perosi" in Biella with Jacques Mauger (Soloist Opéra national de Paris).

He specialized with Christian Lindberg and Michel Becquet.

He continued his studies in Conducting in Contemporary Repertoire at the University School of the Conservatory of Italian Switzerland with Arturo Tamayo (International conductor).

He continued with his studies of Gregorian Chant and Conducting in Lugano (CSI), Arco di Trento, Assisi, Cremona with G.Conti, R.Zoia, A. De Lillo, p. Maurizio Verde, p. Matteo Ferraldeschi, Mariusz Bialkowski.

He studied conducting/composition in Switzerland with F. Ghilardotti (student of N.Rota, I.Stravinsky, F.Ferrara).

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.