



CONDUCTOR

Rico Saccani

ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Rico Saccani is the most recently served as Music Director/Artistic Adviser of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra and was principal guest conductor of the Hungarian State Opera. He won top prize in the Herbert von Karajan International Conducting Competition in Berlin. He was immediately engaged to perform with the Berlin and Stuttgart Radio Orchestras, the Royal Danish Philharmonic and the Spoleto Festival. His opera debut came in 1985 in Verdi's *Un Giorno di Regno* at the Teatro Filarmonico di Verona. *La Traviata* at the Paris Opera and the Vienna State Opera, *Il Turco in Italia* at the Rossini Festival in Pesaro plus *La Bohème* at the Philadelphia Opera with Luciano Pavarotti for the PBS American television network immediately followed.

PERFORMANCES

He has returned on numerous occasions as a guest conductor with the most important symphony orchestras around the globe, such as Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, Cologne Gürzenich Symphony and Opera Orchestras, Houston Symphony, Oslo Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic of Denmark, Tokyo Philharmonic, Yomiuri Symphony Orchestra. He has also worked with many of the world's greatest solo artists, such as Alicia De Larrocha, Stephen Isserlis, Denis Matsouev, Sabine Meyer, Kun Woo Paik, Dimitri Sitkovetsky, Maxim Vengerov, Julian Lloyd-Weber, Pinchas Zuckerman, etc, as well renowned Beaux Arts Trio.

Maestro Saccani has also appeared at the Hamburg State Opera, the Lyon Opera, the Monte-carlo Opera, the Arena de Nimes Festival, the Paris Opera Comique, Rome, Dresden and Cologne Operas. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut in *Il Trovatore* and re-engaged for the first international radio broadcast of *Traviata* and *Aida*. He was also invited to conduct at the Teatro San Carlo (Naples), the Arena di Verona (*Rigoletto*), the Houston Grand Opera, the Puccini Festival Torre del Lago (*Turandot*), the Teatro Bellini di Catania (*La Favorita* and *I Puritani*) as well as the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, the Avenches Swiss Festival and the Santander Summer Music Festival in Spain. Maestro Saccani initiated a "Verdi Marathon" in the Hungarian State Opera house in January 2000 celebrating the Millennium where he conducted seven Verdi operas in 9 evenings. He returned to New York's Carnegie Hall and Washington's Kennedy Center that same year with the Iceland Symphony as their Music Director on their acclaimed North American tour. He conduct the great singers such as Roberto Alagna, Cecilia Bartoli, Piero Cappucilli, Iliana Cotrubas, Alfredo Kraus, Edita Gruberova, Thomas Hampson, Leo Nucci, Luciano Pavarotti, among many others.

RECORDING

In 2005 he received Hungary's Legion of Honor award recognizing his "distinguished contributions to Hungary's cultural life for over 20 years".