Dario Macellari

Biography

Dario Macellari was born in Rome in 1979. He started his studies in piano performance first at the Conservatory of Perugia and afterwards at the 'Santa Cecilia' Conservatory in Rome. He then dedicated himself to the study of orchestral conducting, earning his Master's degree at the 'San Pietro a Majella' Conservatory in Naples under Francesco Vizioli. In parallel with his academic studies, he further developed his conducting with Raffaele Napoli, a former pupil of Sergiu Celibidache. This association provided him with a formation grounded in a phenomenological approach to music and allowed him to learn the conducting techniques of the Celibidache school, with a profound and lasting impact upon his personal development in relation to the art of conducting and to music itself. He also received further training by attending Gianluigi Gelmetti's classes at the 'Accademia Musicale Chigiana' in Siena and Markand Thakar's Conducting Seminars in Baltimore.

Mr Macellari's prime musical interest concerns the symphonic repertoire of the Romantic and late-Romantic periods. At the same time, he is also attracted to music developed by new and young composers, and welcomes opportunities to combine the traditional repertoire with contemporary works. He shows a similar enthusiasm in rediscovering and performing music by 20th-century Italian composers.

Since 2006, Mr Macellari has conducted chamber orchestras in the Rome area. In 2010 and 2011 he cooperated with 'La Sapienza' University of Rome, conducting the MuSa Brass Ensemble. Particularly notable was the concert of the 'Musica a Roma nell'Ottocento' project, organised by the University's department of History of Music, during which he conducted the 'Diego Carpitella' Choir in works by Mozart, Donizetti and Liszt for choir and strings.

In 2014 he made his debut in Bulgaria with the Varna Opera Orchestra, which has since invited him regularly as a guest conductor: some ten engagements across the symphonic season and opera productions, the most recent in 2024. He has also worked with the Sanremo Symphony Orchestra, the Roma Tre Orchestra, the Maribor Opera Orchestra, where he made his debut in 2023, and the Olten Philharmonic Orchestra of Izmir. In recent years, he has further enriched his musical experience through his encounter with Fabio Luisi, serving as his assistant at the Festival della Valle d'Itria in Martina Franca in 2020 for the production of Ariadne auf Naxos by Richard Strauss.

His academic studies also include a degree in Humanities, obtained in 2004 with a dissertation on the History of Music focussing on the composer Luigi Dallapiccola, supervised by Prof. Pierluigi Petrobelli. He subsequently contributed articles to the journal Symphonia, edited by Piero Rattalino.