

FABIO BIONDI CONDUCTOR

**‘Biondi got beautiful playing from the orchestra.
The pastoral symphony floated into the hall, the
strings positively gossamer’**

Classics Today reviews Messiah with New York Philharmonic

Fabio Biondi came to worldwide attention as a violinist, with his brilliant virtuosity and scholarly insight, in visceral performances of Baroque and Classical music. Since founding Europa Galante in 1989, he has developed these skills on the podium. Whether conducting or play-directing from the violin, he brings his vivid musical interpretations to major orchestras and opera companies around the world, in repertoire extending from Baroque to Romantic.

As Artistic Director and Founder of Europa Galante, Biondi has brought an original and distinctively Italian approach to Baroque and Classical repertoire, both thrilling and elegant. As Italy’s leading period ensemble, the group has made many landmark recordings, including of Vivaldi *Four Seasons*, which sold more than a million copies, as well as Handel and Scarlatti that won Diapason d’Or, Choc de Musique and Echo Klassik awards. Driven by Biondi’s musical openness and energy, the group has moved beyond Baroque repertoire into groundbreaking interpretations of operas by Bellini, Donizetti, Rossini and Verdi, and further afield to the Polish composer Moniuszko. They have been invited to the world’s most famous venues, from La Scala, Concertgebouw and Musikverein to Suntory Hall, Lincoln Center and Sydney Opera House.

As a conductor, Biondi brings his musical curiosity and insight to modern symphony and chamber orchestras around the world, often programming well-known classics alongside lesser-known discoveries. Highlights include Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* with Wiener Symphoniker, *Orfeo ed Euridice* at Teatro Regio di Parma, and *Idomeneo* at the Philharmonie Luxembourg. and diverse programmes with Iceland Symphony Orchestra, SWR Symphonieorchester, Konzerthausorchester Berlin and Chicago Baroque. He recently conducted New York Philharmonic in Handel’s *Messiah* and play-directed Chicago Symphony in Vivaldi and Corelli. He previously served as Artistic Director of Baroque Music at Stavanger Symphony Orchestra (2005–16) and has conducted top orchestras around the world, including Singapore Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Bamberg Symphony, Innsbruck Symphony Orchestra and Brussels Philharmonic.

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MAESTRO^QARTS

His passion for conducting opera takes him to major houses, including Opernhaus Zürich, Berlin's Staatsoper unter den Linden and Geneva's Grand Théâtre, where he recently conducted Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*. From 2015 to 2018 he was Music Director of Valencia's Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia, where he conducted productions of works by Donizetti, Rossini, Haydn and Verdi.

Alongside his work as conductor and Artistic Director, he continues to explore the violin repertoire, most recently recording Paganini's Sonatas for Violin and Guitar, and touring European venues with solo Bach and Paganini.

Biondi has been a member of the prestigious Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia since 2011, and was named an Officer of the National Order of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture in 2015. He was awarded the medal of Courage and Veracity by the Polish Government in 2019 in recognition of his outstanding cultural achievements. He plays a 1766 Gennaro Gagliano and a 1740 Domenico Montagnana.