

## Mario Lanaro

Mario Lanaro first approached music from a very tender age: his future choices would be determined by the example of his father, himself an organist, and by his exposure to the rich collection of musical scores at his house. Divulging music is his daily commitment; he keeps studying conducting, composition, vocalism, didactics and the organ. He speaks about music, listens to it, rehearses, conducts, composes and creates it.

And he has fun.

Singing in a choir to hear yourself and others, to develop your sense for music, to travel in time, to grow as a person and as an artist: these are the principles underpinning Mario's philosophy. Based on these principles, Mario matured his idea of how to sing in choir, starting in 1983 at the Conservatorio di Rovigo, then at Trento in 1984 and finally, from 1993 onwards, at Dall'Abaco in Verona.

His career has seen him conduct the Gruppo Corale Valleogra Schio (1975-81), the Choir of the Brigata Alpina Julia (1981-82), the Schola Cantorum Malo (1975-97), the Concentus Vocalis (Vicenza), the Studio Corale di Verona (1997-98), the choir-lab Studio 97 (Diocese of Vicenza) and the Collegium vocale (Friends of the Conservatorio di Verona) with monographic repertoires. He has participated in the "Forum International de Musique Chorale Contemporaine", conducting the "Umberto Zeni" vocal ensemble as part of the "El Canto" project (1999).

He continues to be a guest professor and holds masterclasses and seminars for choir conductors and music teachers: from 1996 to 2005 at the Gubbio Festival, in 2013 at the Musical Academy at the University of Wroclaw (Poland) and in 2018 at the University of Miskolc (Hungary). In 2015 and 2016, he was an invited teacher at Feniarco's Festival di Primavera; between 2014 and 2018, he has held courses for Federazione Cori Alto Adige, Federazione Italiana Pueri cantores, ASAC, ARCOVA.

Mario collaborates with several institutions, for amateurs and professionals, with flexible, yet goal-oriented projects which involve both choir singers and conductors. As conductor, he carries out intense activity in choral and/or instrumental performances with an ample repertoire of traditional as well contemporary pieces and first executions. He is often invited to be a consultant for ensembles and choirs.

He is the creator of the musical-poetic competition "Scrivi che ti canto" for school children (with the support of the Società del Quartetto, Vicenza). Winning poems are set to music by professional composers, so that children can experience their words becoming melody. The competition is widely appreciated throughout Italy and the best compositions are collected into anthologies and distributed within school circuits. Moreover, with the collaboration of the Società del Quartetto he shoots video lessons specifically designed for school teachers.

In 2002, he received the prize "Castello d'Oro" (Corocastel, Conegliano). Since a young age, he has won national and international choral competitions: Vittorio Veneto (1977), Adria (1977, 1978, 1982), Ivrea (1979), Cuneo (1981) and Stresa (1985). He also attained first place in choral composition competitions as such Tours (1985), Trieste USCI (1989) and Verona AGC (2002, 2004, 2008).

He composes music for choir, organ and liturgy (published by Carrara, Elledici, A Coeur Joie, Società Filarmonica di Trento) and for four-hand piano (Sikorsky). His compositions, sacred and secular, are part of the repertoire of many Italian and foreign choirs and are performed at national and international music competitions. In 2011, his opera *La fabbrica di cioccolato* (based on R. Dahl's novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*) was performed at the Teatro Malibran, Venice. In 2017, he composed the "Annunciation", a Marian cantata for choirs and ensemble, based on a poem by P. P. Pasolini. In 2012 he published his choir conducting handbook *Esperienze corali* (Carrara), which is now a reference text in Italian music schools and for choir directors.

He has conducted large choirs in several projects: IV Convegno (Diocese of Verona, 1987), Se in Trentino d'Estate un Castello (Castel Beseno, Fed. Cori Trentino, 1989), 32<sup>nd</sup> Rassegna Internazionale Loreto (RAI Uno, 1992) and Conto Cento Canto Pace (Verona Arena, ASAC, 2015).

He has conducted (selection):

- A. Vivaldi, Gloria RV 589 in D major, Beatus Vir RV 598
- G. Gabrieli, *Sacræ Symphonice*
- F. Schubert, Deutsche Messe D 892, Mass n. 2 D 167 in G major
- F. Listz, *Via crucis*
- G. Fauré, *Requiem*
- A. Jolivet, *Suite Liturgique*
- L. Bernstein, *Chichester Psalms*
- M. A. Ingegneri, *Missa Gustate et videte* and *Responsoria Tridui Sacri*
- J. S. Bach, *Cantata BWV 161 Komm, du süße Todeßtunde*, *Cantata BWV 106 Actus tragicus*,
- J. S. Bach, *Messa brevis (Lutheran mass) BWV 234* in A major
- C. Franck, *Messe Solennelle*, op. 12
- W. A. Mozart, *Requiem* (version by R. Maunder, Süßmayr and Czerny)
- F. Canneti, *Requiem*
- J. Rutter, *Requiem*
- J. Stainer, *The Crucifixion*, Oratorio
- G. Verdi, *La Traviata*
- L. Bernstein, *West Side Story* (selections)
- E. Satie, *Geneviève de Brabant*,
- S. Prokofiev, *Peter and the Wolf* (narrators A. Branduardi and L. Toffolo)
- C. Orff, *Carmina Burana*
- W. A. Mozart, *Violin Concerto K 219* in A major
- P. Glass, *Concerto for saxophone quartet and orchestra*
- C. Ives, *Central Park in the Dark*
- K. Weill, *The Threepenny Opera Suite*
- G. Gerswhin, *Rhapsody in Blue*

First executions:

- F. Battiato, *Simonos Petra*, Festival Musica 900, Trento 1986;
- E. Macchi, *Ai luoghi della luna*, Trentino 1989;
- F. Biscione *Mamma Laser*, Fondazione Arena di Verona 2000;
- M. Lenzi, *Magic Mouse*, Fondazione Arena di Verona 2000;
- G. G. Ferrari, *Messa in Re*, Festival Musica Sacra, Bolzano 1991;
- R. Menichetti, *Missa in Honorem Beati Ubaldi*, Gubbio 1997;
- A. Zanon, *Effatà!*, Cantata, Verona 2001
- F. Zattera, *Voi siete qui - Suite*. Schio 2011