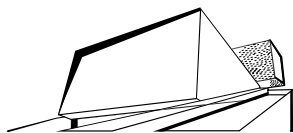


Theodor Guschlbauer (conductor)

Born in Vienna in 1939, he took piano and cello lessons before studying conducting with Hans Swarowsky. He then continued his studies with Lovro von Matačić and Herbert von Karajan. His first writing gives him the opportunity to conduct the Wiener Volksoper and the Landestheater in Salzburg. He soon became Music Director of the Opéra de Lyon (1969) and in 1975 he was appointed Generalmusikdirektor in Linz. He reached the position of musical and artistic director of the Strasbourg Philharmonic Orchestra between 1983 and 1998 and, from 1997 to 2001, he became Artistic and Musical Director of the Orchester Philharmonique Rhénanie-Palatinat. He conducts many of the most important orchestras including the Wiener Philharmoniker, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchester de Paris, the Orchester de la Suisse Romande, the Deutsches Symphonieorchester Berlin, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the Bavarian Radio Orchestra, the Filarmonica della Scala, the Santa Cecilia Orchestra in Rome, the RAI Orchestra of Turin, the NHK Orchestra of Tokyo and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. He periodically works in many festivals, including those in Salzburg, Aix-en-Provence, Prague, Bregenz, Oxford, Lucerna, Montreux, Ascona, Verona and the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. He is also guest conductor in Hamburg, Cologne, Munich, Vienna, Geneva, Brussels, Lisbon and Paris (Opéra Bastille). He has made over sixty recordings, some of which have been awarded by the Grand Prix du Disque. The Goethe Foundation in Basel awarded him with the prestigious "Mozart Prize", and the Alsace Foundation with its "Honor Prize". He is also a "Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honor", the highest honor attributed by the French Republic.

Andrea Lucchesini (piano)

Andrea Lucchesini attracted international attention at a very young age, with the victory of the "Dino Ciani" International Competition at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan. Since then he has played all over the world with prestigious orchestras and the greatest conductors, with great public success for the combination of solidity of the formal system in his performances, extreme care for sound, timbre refinement and natural communicative ability. His extensive activity, marked by the desire to explore music without limitations, sees him propose programs ranging from classical to contemporary repertoire, offered both in concert and in numerous recordings on disc, from early recordings for EMI to the full live performance of the 32 Sonatas by Beethoven (Stradivarius), while with Giuseppe Sinopoli and the Dresden Staatskapelle he recorded two 20th century masterpieces for Teldec such as Arnold Schönberg's *Pierrot lunaire* and Alban Berg's *Kammerkonzert*. Lucchesini is also passionately dedicated to teaching, currently at the Fiesole School of Music, of which he was artistic director until 2016. He also holds frequent masterclasses at important Italian and European musical institutions, including the Academy of Music in Pinerolo, the Mozarteum in Salzburg and since 2008 he has been an Academician of Santa Cecilia. After being artistic director of the Roman Philharmonic Academy from 2018 to 2021, he was recently appointed artistic director of the Amici della Musica in Florence, starting from the 2022-2023 season.



Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino

Founded in 1928 by Vittorio Gui as the Stabile Orchestrale Fiorentina, from its beginning the Orchestra plays in concerts and operas of the former Teatro Comunale of Florence, now Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. Today the Orchestra is still considered one of the finest orchestras both by conductors and audiences from all over the world. In 1933, on the birth of the Festival, it takes the actual name of Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. After Gui, the principal conductors were Mario Rossi (1937) and Bruno Bartoletti (after the Second World War). Fundamental chapters in the Orchestra history are the years from 1969 to 1981, where the position of principal conductor was given to Riccardo Muti, then to Zubin Mehta, who became Principal conductor from 1985, and then to Fabio Luisi from 2018 to 2019. Currently, and since 2006, Zubin Mehta is the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino's honorary director for life and he is a focal and fundamental part of the life of the Maggio as the fatherly guide of the institution itself. In its history the Orchestra del Maggio was conducted by greatest conductors such as: Victor De Sabata, Antonio Guarnieri, Gino Marinuzzi, Gianandrea Gavazzeni, Tullio Serafin, Wilhelm Furtwängler, Bruno Walter, Otto Klemperer, Issay Dobrowen, Jonel Perlea, Erich Kleiber, Arthur Rodzinski, Dimitri Mitropoulos, Herbert von Karajan, Leonard Bernstein, Thomas Schippers, Claudio Abbado, Lorin Maazel, Carlo Maria Giulini, Georges Prêtre, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Carlos Kleiber, Georg Solti, Riccardo Chailly, Giuseppe Sinopoli, Seiji Ozawa, Daniele Gatti, John Eliot Gardiner. So many composers conducted a premiere of their music pieces at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino such as: Richard Strauss, Pietro Mascagni, Ildebrando Pizzetti, Paul Hindemith, Igor Stravinskij, Goffredo Petrassi, Luigi Dallapiccola, Krzysztof Penderecki and Luciano Berio. Since the fifties, the Orchestra made numerous recordings, also for radio and television, which received major awards including, in 1990, the Grammy Award. At the eightieth anniversary of its foundation, the Orchestra receives the Fiorino d'Oro of the City of Florence. Recent tours at the Salzburg Festival for a symphonic concert and Tosca in concert form, conducted by Zubin Mehta; in Athens, at the Grafenegg Festival, in Budapest and Dubai for EXPO 2020. Recent the European tour with Zubin Mehta in Hamburg, Linz, Vienna, Luxembourg City, Muri and Dortmund and the two inaugural concerts of the new Auditorium of the Teatro del Maggio. In July 2022 he conducted the Orchestra and the Choir of the Maggio in the *Concerto for Florence* in the Cavea of the Teatro del Maggio and on tour in Piazza del Campo in Siena, Ravello, Rimini, Macerata and Marbella.