

Nicola Luisotti

Music Director, San Francisco Opera
Music Director, Teatro di San Carlo of Naples
Principal Guest Conductor, Tokyo Symphony

Tuscan conductor Nicola Luisotti serves as music director of San Francisco Opera, and principal guest conductor of the Tokyo Symphony. He was recently appointed Music Director of Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, one of Italy's oldest and most historic theaters. Since his international debut in 2002, Luisotti has garnered enthusiastic praise from both audiences and critics at venues throughout the world. Recent triumphs include his La Scala debut with *Attila* in a new production by Gabriele Lavia and his leadership of Puccini's rarely performed *La fanciulla del West* at the Metropolitan Opera in December of 2010. In conjunction with these 100th Anniversary performances Luisotti was awarded the Premio Puccini Award.

In his third season as Music Director of San Francisco Opera, Luisotti will conduct *Turandot*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Attila*, the latter two in new productions. His operatic engagements for the 2011-2012 Season also include a return visit to La Scala for *Tosca* and appearances with Teatro di San Carlo in the rarely performed Verdi opera, *I Masnadieri*. Information on future plans with Teatro di San Carlo will be announced in the Spring of 2012. Critically acclaimed for his orchestral conducting, Luisotti will also make appearances with six great orchestras this season including his own San Francisco Opera Orchestra presented by Cal Performances, the Berliner Philharmoniker, Orchestra del Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, Madrid's Orquesta Nacional de España and the orchestras of Cleveland and Philadelphia.

After his San Francisco Opera debut in 2005 conducting *La forza del destino*, Luisotti has led performances of *La bohème*, *Il trovatore*, *Salome*, *Otello*, *La fanciulla del West*, *Aida*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, and *Madama Butterfly* with the company. His critically acclaimed international debut leading a new production at the Stuttgart State Opera led to performances with nearly every major opera company across the globe, including the Bavarian State Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Dresden Staatskapelle, Frankfurt Opera, La Scala, Los Angeles Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Paris Opera, Royal Opera House, Seattle Opera, Teatro Carlo Felice, Bologna's Teatro Comunale, Teatro La Fenice, Teatro Real, Teatro di San Carlo, and Vienna State Opera. He has also led operatic productions in Japan's Suntory Hall, where he serves as Principal Conductor of the Tokyo Symphony.

The Italian conductor has also led many of the world's most acclaimed orchestral ensembles, including the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Frankfurt's Alte Oper, Atlanta Symphony, Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Berliner Philharmoniker, Budapest Radio Orchestra, Filarmonica della Scala, Hamburger Philharmonic, Hessischer Rundfunk Orchestra, London Philharmonia, NHK Symphony, Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della

RAI, Russian National Orchestra, Dresden Staatskapelle, San Francisco Symphony, Tokyo Symphony, and Zagreb Philharmonic. Luisotti led special concerts in Beijing in conjunction with the 2008 Olympic Games.

Maestro Luisotti's discography includes a complete recording of *Stiffelio* (Dynamic), the critically acclaimed *Duets* (Deutsche Grammophon) and he is on the podium for the DVD recording of the Met's *La bohème* (EMI).

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