## Il grande direttore d'orchestra russo

Scritto da Mario Arpaia Venerdì 25 Febbraio 2022 10:05



Ucraina, saltano i concerti a New York del maestro filo-Putin Gergiev. Sala: "Si dissoci o niente Scala"

di Andrea Montanari

Valery Gergiev con Vladimir Putin (ansa)

Il grande direttore d'orchestra russo vicino a Putin è atteso alla Scala per la "Dama di Picche", ma nel frattempo sono stati cancellati i tre spettacoli alla Carnegie Hall.

Valery Gergiev is Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre, Principal Conductor of the Munich Philharmoniker, Co-Chairman of the Organisational Committee of the International Tchaikovsky Competition and Honorary President of the Edinburgh International Festival. In 1997 following Sir Georg Solti's death, Valery Gergiev took over the World Orchestra for Peace.

At the Mariinsky Theatre Gergiev has overseen the emergence of a plethora of world-class

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singers. Under his direction the theatre's opera, ballet and symphony music repertoires have become much richer and more diverse, now including a broad range of works from 18th to 20th century classics as well as music by contemporary composers. 2009 saw the launch of the Mariinsky label, which to date has released more than thirty discs that have received great acclaim from the critics and the public throughout the world.

Under the direction of Valery Gergiev the Mariinsky Theatre has become a major theatre and concert complex, without par anywhere in the world. In 2006 the Concert Hall was opened, followed in 2013 by the theatre's second stage (the Mariinsky-II). Since 1 January 2016 the Mariinsky Theatre has had a branch in Vladivostok – the Primorsky Stage, and since April 2017 it has had a branch in Vladikavkaz: the National State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania and State Academic Philharmonic of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania.

Valery Gergiev's international activities are no less intensive and active. Having made debuts in 1991 at the Bayerische Staatsoper (Musorgsky's *Boris Godunov*), in 1993 at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (Tchaikovsky's

Eugene Onegin

) and in 1994 at the Metropolitan Opera (Verdi's

Otello

with Plácido Domingo in the title role), the maestro successfully continues to collaborate with the world's great opera houses. He works with the World Orchestra for Peace (which he has directed since 1997 following the death of the ensemble's founder Sir Georg Solti), the Philharmonic Orchestras of Berlin, Paris, Vienna, New York and Los Angeles, the Symphony Orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, Boston and San Francisco, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (Amsterdam) and many other ensembles. From 1995 to 2008 Valery Gergiev was Principal Conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic (of which he remains an honorary conductor to this day), and from 2007 to 2015 he was Principal Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra. Since autumn 2015 the maestro has headed the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra.



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Valery Gergiev is the founder and director of prestigious international festivals including the *Sta rs of the White Nights* (since 1993), the *Moscow Easter Festival* (since 2002), the *Gergiev Festival* in Rotterdam, the Mikkeli Festival and the *360 Degrees* festival in Munich, *Mariinsky Far East Festival* in Vladivostok. Since 2011 he has directed the organisational committee of the International Tchaikovsky Competition. Valery Gergiev focuses much of his attention on working with young musicians. One of his initiatives saw the revival of the All-Bussian Choral Society: this includes

Tchaikovsky Competition. Valery Gergiev focuses much of his attention on working with young musicians. One of his initiatives saw the revival of the All-Russian Choral Society; this includes the Children's Chorus of Russia, which has appeared at the Mariinsky-II, the Bolshoi Theatre and at the closing ceremony of the XXII Winter Olympics in Sochi. Since 2013 the maestro has directed the National Youth Orchestra of the USA and regularly appears with the youth orchestras of the Schleswig-Holstein Festival, the Verbier Festival and the Pacific Ocean Music Festival in Sapporo. Since 2015 the Mariinsky Theatre has run the *Mariinsky NEXT* 

annual festival, which features children's and youth orchestras of St Petersburg.

Valery Gergiev's musical and public activities have brought him three State Prizes of the Russian Federation (1993, 1998 and 2015), the titles of People's Artist of the Russian Federation (1996) and Hero of Labour (2013), the Order of Alexander Nevsky (2016), the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence Arts and Culture Award (2017) and prestigious State awards of Armenia, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, France and Japan.

In 2018, Valery Gergiev joined the Aurora Prize Selection Committee.