



## MARIO DE CARLO

### BIOGRAPHY

De Carlo chose to study at a Liceo Classico (secondary school), specialising in Greek and Latin studies and from an early age also studied pianoforte. During Liceo, he directed, set designed and designed the costumes for student productions of Sophocles' Electra and Mozart's The Magic Flute. To begin his University career, De Carlo moved to Rome, where he studied Italian Language and Literature, History of the Theatre and Music with Fedele D'Amico at 'La Sapienza' University.

Subsequently, De Carlo transferred to Milan where he gained valuable and varied experience working in the studios of such well known set-builders and costume makers as Sormani and Brancato. As a set and costume designer assistant for the opera, De Carlo worked with such illustrious houses as The Fenice, Venice (Donizetti's La favorita with Shirley Verrett), Opera Giocosa, Savona (Apolloni's L'ebreo, for the first time in the XX century), The Arena, Verona (Mascagni's Cavalleria rusticana with Fiorenza Cossotto), the Teatro Filarmonico, Verona (Donizetti's Don Pasquale with Enzo Dara), and the Politeama in Palermo (Rossini's Cenerentola with Lucia Valentini Terrani)

In 1991 he designed a production of Il barbiere di Siviglia (Paisello), produced by Katia Ricciarelli's Academia Lirica at the Teatro Scientifico del Bibiena, Mantova. The production was broadcast by RAI Uno and occasioned Alessandro Safina's debut.

In August of the same year Mario designed productions of Puccini's Le Villi and Il tabarro at the 37th Puccini Festival at Torre del Lago.

In '92 De Carlo directed and designed a production of Leoncavallo's Pagliacci at the Teatro Comunale F. Cilea in Reggio Calabria. In '99, also in Reggio Calabria, De Carlo directed and designed the award ceremony for the Omaggio a Cilea, in this case awarded to Mirella Freni. In 2000 he was commissioned to design and make the award, in gold plated bronze, for the same ceremony.

In March 2001, De Carlo directed There is a time for everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1) a production for soloists and chorus, exploiting music spanning from Gesualdo to Schoenberg in the Chiesa di San Marco, Milan.

In tandem with his theatrical activities, De Carlo remained committed to the development of his skill as a studio artist, concentrating on portrait work of people and animals. In 2002 he held an

exhibition of this work at the "Tikkun" gallery in Milan.

In 2003/2004 season for the Teatro Comunale G. d'Annunzio, Latina, De Carlo directed Tosca (Puccini), Pagliacci (Leoncavallo), La Traviata (Verdi), and Madama Butterfly (Puccini).

In the same year, he directed and designed L'orchestra Doremì (Giani Luporini), for the Fondazione Verdi at the Auditorium, Milan.

In November De Carlo returned to the Teatro Comunale G. d'Annunzio in Latina to open the 2004/2005 season with his production of Turandot. He followed this with a new production of La bohème in January 2005 and Manon Lescaut in April.

In the same year he directed Aida at the Teatro Comunale F. Cilea in Reggio Calabria and a new production of Tosca at the Anfiteatro Romano in Terni, both chosen to feature in the annual calendar of l'Opera magazine.

Again in Terni in 2006, De Carlo directed an innovative full production of Carmen at the Anfiteatro Romano to resounding acclaim; in 2007 he repeated this success with La Traviata at Teatro Verdi.

Since 2007, De Carlo has enjoyed a varied and productive relationship with the Opera Nationala Romana (Timișoara, Romania), where he has directed and designed La bohème and Madama Butterfly (Puccini) in 2007, Il barbiere di Siviglia (Rossini) and Die Fledermaus (Strauss) in 2008, Nabucco (Verdi) with Carlos Almaguer and The Lustige Witwe in 2009, La Traviata (Verdi) with Tatiana Lisnic and Stefan Pop and Gianni Schicchi (Puccini) with Alberto Rinaldi in the title role, in 2010.

In 2011 he has directed and designed a new production of Adriana Lecouvreur (Cilea), for the first time absolutely acted on stage in Romania: this event was broadcast by TVR Cultural Channel.

In December 2008, De Carlo returned to Reggio Calabria to direct and design Turandot with Giovanna Casolla and Nicola Martinucci at the Teatro Comunale F. Cilea. Since then, he has continued his collaboration with this theatre to great effect directing Il pipistrello (Strauss) and Werther (Massenet) with Giuseppe Filianoti and Lucia di Lammermoor (Donizetti) with Désirée Rancatore in 2009.

In May 2010, for the same house De Carlo directed La vedova allegra (Lehar), that's The merry widow in Italian, editing new dialogues, with Paoletta Marrocu as Hanna and Alessandro Safina as Danilo, following this title with La bohème (Puccini) with Amarilli Nizza as Mimì, in December.

In 2011, he comes to the Teatro Vittorio Emanuele of Messina with his well-known staging of "La vedova allegra".

De Carlo's 2012 contemplates: in March Rigoletto (Verdi) at the Teatro F. Cilea of Reggio Calabria, in October Faust (Gounod) with Roberto Scandiuzzi as Mephisto at Opera Nationala of

Timișoara; always in October at the Teatro Cantero of Chiavari Carmen (Bizet) with Alberto Cupido; in December in Florence at the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino Gianni Schicchi (Puccini).

In 2012, November 19th, at the Opera House in Bucharest he was awarded the prize "Gala Artele Spectaculului Muzical – "Opera, Operetta e Musical", promoted by the Ministry of Culture of Romania, as the 'Best Opera Director' of the year, and a special Award for 'Best Set Designer and Costume Designer' for its production of Faust, that was recognized as the 'Best Show' for the Opera section.

On June 8th, 2013 at the Romana National Opera of Iași , in the "Gala Premiilor Operelei Nationale" (Oscar for Opera, first edition) gets four nominations and won the award 'Best Costume Designer' of the year.

In October 2013, at the National Opera of Macedonia, Skopje, he created a new production of Gounod's Faust.

In November 2013, faces two commitments of particular importance by different reasons, as director, set designer and costume designer: L'impresario in angustie (Cimarosa), 'opera buffa' rarely performed in a scenic staging, for the historical Teatro Mauro Pagano, Canneto sull'Oglio and Rigoletto at the Seoul Arts Center in Seoul, South Korea with George Gagnidze, Elena Mosuc e Stefan Pop.

In May 2014, in Skopje, his Faust was staged again, with Inva Mula in the role of Marguerite.

In June 2014 he went back at the Seoul Arts Center for Carmen with Nino Surguladze and Stefano Secco.

In 2014, in the month of August will present La traviata for the Morgana inCanta Opera Academy in Locri; in October, a new production of Lucia di Lammermoor at the Opera Nationala Romana of Cluj-Napoca and in November Turandot at Opera Nationala Romana of Timișoara.

In addition to the on-stage's activity De Carlo is a member of the jury at international singing competitions and professor of directing and stagecraft.

Mario De Carlo is Artistic Director of the Associazione Musicanimus and President of the Associazione Atto Primo.

<http://www.mariodecarlo.it>