

SCOTT LEVINE MANAGEMENT

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ELAINE RINALDI

Conductor

Conductor Elaine Rinaldi is fast making her mark among the ranks of rising young American conductors. Critics have called her performances “brilliant” and her interpretative work “impeccable”. As Founder and Artistic Director of **Orchestra Miami**, Rinaldi has brought a new level of professionalism and quality to the local arts scene. Of her work with **Orchestra Miami**, Daniel Fernandez of El Nuevo Herald writes, “In just two years, Rinaldi has created an orchestra which, though small in size, is clearly of a high caliber”, and of her opening night performance of the 2008 season, Lawrence A. Johnson of The Miami Herald writes, “the orchestra's playing was consistently energized, polished and responsive to Rinaldi over the 2 1/2-hour program, showing some of the fire and excitement of the [former Florida] Philharmonic on its best nights”.

In addition to her work with **Orchestra Miami**, Rinaldi is much in demand as an opera conductor. In response to her performance of *Porgy and Bess*, Critic Lawrence Budmen wrote “Rinaldi showed real affinity for Gershwin’s bluesy brand of Americana, and drew supple playing from the hard-working orchestra, whipping up quite an instrumental storm in the hurricane scene.” For four consecutive seasons, she was the principal guest conductor at the **Dicapo Opera Theater** in Manhattan. She has also led several tours for the **National Lyric Opera**, twice appeared as a guest conductor with the **Albany Symphony** for the **Shaker Mountain Performing Arts Festival**, appeared as a guest conductor with **Teatro Lirico Europa** at the Kravis Center in Palm Beach and conducted performances of *La traviata* for **Island Opera Theater** in Key West, FL. Rinaldi has also held many positions as an Assistant and/or Cover Conductor in many of this country’s leading regional opera theaters. From 1997-2000, she held the positions of Resident Associate Conductor and Chorus Master at the **Florida Grand Opera** in Miami. Critics called her work with the chorus “exquisite”, and Tim Smith of the Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel said “the chorus, under Elaine Rinaldi’s direction, gets better and better.”(3/13/99, *La bohème*).

As a student and young professional, Rinaldi had the privilege of working with many of the world’s most important opera singers, accompanying extensively in their master classes and lessons. Several of the artists with whom she worked closely are Renato Capecchi, Nico Castel, Sherrill Milnes, Mignon Dunn, Renata Scotto, Juan Pons, Judith Blegen and Dodi Protero, as well as Franco Corelli, Sena Jurinacs, Theo Adam, Maestro Horst Stein, Dolores Ziegler and James King. This important work has contributed to her versatility and her status as one of the most sought after vocal coaches in opera today. As an educator, Rinaldi has taught at many opera training programs, and given master classes at several universities throughout the United States. She spent the summer of 2007 at Intermezzo Summer Opera Training Program, where she

conducted performances of *Die Zauberflöte* and *Suor Angelica*, and in 2008, she led performances of Handel's *Orlando* for BASOTI in San Francisco. Currently, she is on the faculty of the University of Miami, as an Adjunct Professor in Vocal Coaching.

Rinaldi began her musical studies at an early age with renowned pedagogue Dr. Rosalina Sackstein in Miami, FL. A winner of numerous scholarships and awards, Rinaldi made her professional debut at the age of 16 as a piano soloist with the Ft. Lauderdale Chamber Orchestra. She continued her studies at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, where she received the full-tuition M.B. Byrd Scholarship. After graduation, Rinaldi received a scholarship to the prestigious Mannes School of Music in New York, where she studied piano with Nina Svetlanova, Chamber Music with Julius Levine and Vocal Coaching with Benton Hess and Joan Dornemann. As a recital accompanist, Elaine has accompanied hundreds of recitals for all instruments and voice types. At Mannes, she was awarded the Newton Swift Prize for Accompanying. Notable recital engagements have included performances with Metropolitan Opera stars Olga Makarina, Elizabeth Caballero, and Russell Thomas. She is currently the collaborative pianist for the "Prima Volta" debut recital series at the Austrian Cultural Institute in Manhattan.