



Price • Rubin
—
& PARTNERS

Jack Price
Managing Director

220 West Pershing
Phoenix, AZ 85029

e-mail:
jp@pricerubin.com

phone:
1-800-848-3360

fax:
1-888-439-1186

web site:
www.pricerubin.com

RUGGERO BARBIERI

CONDUCTOR

Contents:

- Biography
- Curriculum Vitae
- Critical Acclaim

BIOGRAPHY

“His baton is like a magic wand. Every time he waves it, the music comes alive, never failing to enthral, to captivate, to make the listener euphoric. It’s as if he has breathed his own life to the music.”
Rene Martel, *Today* newspaper (Philippines).

Italian conductor Ruggero Barbieri’s international career embraces both the symphonic and operatic repertoires. Currently the Artistic Director and Founder of the Intramuros International Music Festival in Manila, he has recently concluded his successful tenure as Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, a position he earned in 1997. He continues his association with the orchestra as a regular guest conductor. He and the PPO toured Europe in 2001, performing in Austria, the Czech Republic, and Spain, during which the orchestra performed with Filipino artists and presented works of Philippine music that were much appreciated by the audiences. The PPO was one of just five foreign orchestras invited to take part in Asia Orchestra Week 2002 in Tokyo.

Upcoming engagements include a tour to Australia and Bangkok with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and performances with the Paris Sinfonietta and the Klagenfurt Symphony Orchestra.

Maestro Barbieri has conducted the National Symphony Orchestra of Argentina, the Orchestra of the State of Mexico, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, the National Orchestra and Chorus of Spain, the RTVE Symphony Orchestra (Radio Television Orchestra of Madrid), the Haydn Symphony Orchestra in Bozen, the Symphony Orchestra of Lugano, Switzerland, and several symphony orchestras in Italy—including the prestigious Pomeriggi Musicali Symphony Orchestra of Milan.

From 1991 to 1995, Barbieri was assistant conductor for Maestro Aldo Ceccato with the National Orchestra and Chorus of Spain in Madrid. He was, at various times, Assistant Conductor for Maestros Donato Renzetti and Thomas Bricetti. He was one of the founders of the Orchestra Città di Bergamo, and until 1991, was Principal Conductor of the Orchestra Stabile di Bergamo, with which he toured.

After rigorous musical and conducting training at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory of Milan, the Music Academy of Pescara, and the Konservatorium für Musik in Vienna (with Julius Kalmar), Barbieri honed his conducting skills with the most prestigious Italian conducting teachers, including Franco Ferrara, Mario Gusella, and Alceo Galliera. In 1989, he was one of just six Conducting Fellows (chosen from 100 international applicants) who actively participated in Leonard Bernstein’s international orchestral conducting seminar at the Santa Cecilia Academy in Rome.

Maestro Barbieri’s enthusiasm for coaching young singers has brought him to Canada’s Opera Nuova in Edmonton in 2004. He conducted *Così fan tutte* and *Falstaff* for Opera Nuova’s Canadian Vocal Arts Festival. He returns to conduct *Hänsel und Gretel* in October 2004.

Barbieri made his Asian debut as opera conductor in 1997, with Puccini’s *Madama Butterfly* in Manila at the Cultural Centre of the Philippines with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. Further operatic engagements followed—Manila (1999) with *Don Giovanni* and Singapore (2001) with *Il Trovatore*.

In his 20s, Barbieri was harpsichordist for Rossini’s *La Cenerentola* at the Teatro alla Scala, Milan, under Claudio Abbado and Riccardo Müller. He worked as répétiteur at the Teatro G. Donizetti, Bergamo and the Teatro Grande, Brescia in operas such as Donizetti’s *Linda di Chamounix* and *La Favorite*, and Verdi’s *Il Trovatore* and *Rigoletto*. He conducted opera buffas such as *Il Matrimonio Segreto*, *La Serva Padrona*, *Der Schauspieldirektor*, *Bastien und Bastienne*, and one-act operas such as Poulenc’s *La voix humaine*.

Maestro Barbieri traces his deep interest in opera to two things—to his childhood, when he regularly attended performances of *Aida*, *La Fanciulla del West*, *Nabucco*, *Otello*, and other operas at the Arena di Verona, Italy, where his father was principal double-bass player; and to attending an astonishing performance of *Rigoletto* in the early '70s at Teatro Grande in Brescia, Italy, under the baton of a brilliant Italian student of Leonard Bernstein's—Maestro Angelo Campori. The powerful emotions he experienced through this music inspired him to make opera an important part of his professional musical life.

CURRICULUM VITAE

- Upcoming Engagements:** Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra tour to Australia (Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne) and Bangkok (Fall 2004)
Opera Nuova, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (October 2004)
Regular guest conductor, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra
Paris Sinfonietta (2005)
Klagenfurt Symphony Orchestra, Austria (2005)
- Present Position:** Artistic Director and Founder, San Agustin International Festival of Music at Intramuros, Manila
- Previous Positions:** Conductor and Vocal Coach, Opera Nuova, Edmonton, Alberta (May/June 2004)
Music Director and Principal Conductor, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (1997 – April 2004)
Deputy Music Director and Principal Guest Conductor, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (1996)
Assistant Conductor to Maestro Aldo Ceccato, Orquesta y Coro Nacionales de España, Madrid [National Orchestra and Chorus of Spain] (1991 – 1995)
Assistant Conductor to Maestro Thomas Bricetti (1990)
Assistant Conductor to Maestro Donato Renzetti (1988)
Music and Artistic Director of the Orchestra Stabile di Bergamo (Permanent Orchestra of Bergamo) (1986 – 1987)
- Orchestral Tours:** Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra tour to Tokyo for Asia Orchestra Week (2002)
Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra tour to Austria, Czech Republic, and Spain (2001)
Orchestra Stabile di Bergamo and the Nuova Polifonica Ambrosiana Choir tour to several Italian cities and Lyon, France (1992)
- Operas Performed:** Così fan tutte (Edmonton, Opera Nuova, 2004)
Falstaff (Edmonton, Opera Nuova, 2004)
Il Trovatore (Singapore, 2001)
Don Giovanni (Manila, 1999)
Madama Butterfly (Manila, 1997)
La Locandiera (Avellina, 1985)
Il Matrimonio Segreto (Milan Conservatory, 1980s)
La Serva Padrona (Milan Conservatory, 1980s)
Der Schauspieldirektor (Milan Conservatory, 1980s)
Bastien und Bastienne (Milan Conservatory, 1980s)
La voix humaine (Milan Conservatory, 1980s)
- Additional Opera Repertoire:** Die Entführung aus dem Serail
Hänsel und Gretel
La Favorite
Linda di Chamounix
Rigoletto

- Orchestral Guest Conducting:** Singapore Symphony Orchestra (2001)
Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional de Argentina [National Symphony Orchestra of Argentina] (1998)
Orquesta de Estado de Mexico [Orchestra of the State of Mexico] (1997)
Slovenska Philharmonia [Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, in Bratislava] (1995 and 1991)
Orquesta Sinfonica "RTVE" [Radio Television Orchestra Madrid] (1995)
Pomeriggi Musicali Symphony Orchestra Milan (1994)
Haydn Symphony Orchestra—Bozen (1994)
Symphony Orchestra of Lugano (1993)
Orchestra Sinfonica di San Remo [Symphony Orchestra of San Remo] (1991 and 1984)
Orchestra Sinfonica di Bari [Symphony Orchestra of Bari] (1989)
Orchestra Sinfonica di Pescara [Symphony Orchestra of Pescara] (1984 – 1988)
Orchestra Sinfonica de Avellino [Symphony Orchestra of Avellino] (1985)
- Conducting Courses:** Conducting Fellow at the International Seminar of Conducting at the Santa Cecilia Academy of Rome with Maestro Leonard Bernstein (1989)
Conducting Fellow at the Young Conductors' Meeting with the Symphony Orchestra of Bari (1989)
Conducting Fellow at the International Orchestral Conducting Course at Avellino, with Maestro Umberto Cattini (1985)
Conducting Fellow at the International Orchestral Conducting Course at Assisi, with Maestro Franco Ferrara (1984)
Conducting Fellow at the International Orchestral Conducting Course at L'Aquila, with Maestro Jacques Bodmer (1984)
Conducting Fellow at the International Orchestral Conducting Course at Brescia, with Maestro Alceo Galliera (1983)
- Conducting Teachers:** Maestros Leonard Bernstein, Jacques Bodmer, Umberto Cattini, Franco Ferrara, Alceo Galliera, Mario Gusella
- Education:** Studied orchestral conducting and composition at the G. Verdi Conservatory of Music in Milan, Italy (1989)
Awarded Diploma in Orchestral Conducting by the Scuola Superiore di Musica, Pescara, Italy (1987)
Awarded Diploma in Piano by the Gaetano Donizetti Civic Institute of Music (Conservatory) of Bergamo, Italy (1981)
Studied English, German, and Spanish at the State University of Bergamo, Italy (1980 – 1983)
Studied music at the Konservatorium für Musik in Vienna, Austria (Summer 1981)
- Awards:** Awarded the "Cruz de Isabel la Catolica" by His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of Spain, the highest honour given to artists, in special recognition of his diffusion of Spanish music and culture all over the world

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

“His baton is like a magic wand. Every time he waves it, the music comes alive, never failing to enthral, to captivate, to make the listener euphoric. It is as if he has breathed his own life to the music.”

Today

“Maestro Barbieri unleashes the full power of the “Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra” to project the full glory of G. Mahler’s dream-symphony (Third Symphony). The effect on his audience was absolutely staggering . . . The admirable rendition of G. Mahler’s Symphony No. 3 in D minor is doubtless a high point in Ruggero Barbieri’s tenure as P.P.O. conductor.”

Philippine Star

“The unbelievably beautiful dulcet sound of the P.P.O. that night is a credit to the sensitivity and artistry of its conductor, Maestro Ruggero Barbieri. The Italian “bel canto” certainly came out in abundance that night.”

Manila Times

“Nothing less than spectacular were the rendition of conductor Maestro Ruggero Barbieri and the “Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra” as they delivered the superb composition of American composers such as L. Bernstein (“West Side Story”), A. Copland (“An Outdoor Overture”) and S. Barber (“Piano Concerto, Op. 38”). It was a truly extraordinary event.”

Manila Bulletin

“The Maestro’s Magnificent Mahler”

“The performance of the G. Mahler’s Symphony No. 8 was a total triumph for Maestro Barbieri and the P.P.O., the choruses and the soloists that the theater resounded with a rapturous standing ovation.

The Inquirer