



Elaine Rinaldi • Founder • Musical & Artistic Director • 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 Music Director of Orchestra Miami, Miami’s only fully professional orchestra, 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.”

In addition to her work with Orchestra Miami, Rinaldi is much in demand as an opera conductor. 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, 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.”

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 Capestchi, 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 BAYSOTI 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 and Russell Thomas, and with acclaimed soprano Patricia Johnson. She is currently the collaborative pianist for the “Prima Volta” debut recital series at the Austrian Cultural Institute in Manhattan.