

## Stefano Poda



### Opera Director / Set-Costumes-Lighting Designer Choreographer

In his search for aesthetic and conceptual unity, Stefano Poda always combines direction, choreography, sets, costumes and lighting: his personal seal is founded on a visionary, multi-level imprint balanced between ancient images and contemporary art. On stage he speaks his own language, immediately recognisable, erasing the barriers between different genres and disciplines, in order to create an all-embracing experience, a world of total art. His way of doing theatre is not a mere story-telling, but a plastic, holistic dimension, able to blend together design, architecture, sculpture, painting, music and

dramaturgy.

Stefano Poda's worldwide career numbers about one hundred productions. Recent projects include the opening of the 100th edition of the Arena di Verona Opera Festival with his new production of Verdi's **Aida** broadcast live worldwide; the opening of the 2023 Rossini Opera Festival with the first modern performance based on the new critical edition of **Eduardo e Cristina**; the opening of the 2023/2024 season of the Teatro Regio in Turin with Halévy's **Juive**; **Œdipe** by G. Enescu at the 2023 George Enescu International Festival.

His best-known works include **Tosca** (2021) in the repertoire of the Bolshoi Theatre of Moscow; Dvořák's **Rusalka** for the opening season of the Opéra National du Capitole de Toulouse (co-production with The Israeli Opera · broadcast on Mezzo TV); **Alcina** (2022 · broadcast on ARTE TV) and **Norma** (2023) both at Opéra de Lausanne; two different new productions of **Nabucco**: for the Teatro Colón of Buenos Aires (2022) and for the reopening of the National Theatre of Korea (KNO, 2021, 2023); **Ariane et Barbe-Bleue** at Opéra National du Capitole de Toulouse (2019 · broadcast on France TV); two different productions of **Les Contes d'Hoffmann** (coproduction Opéra de Lausanne/Israeli Opera Tel Aviv/Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège and at the State Theatre am Gärtnerplatz in Munich); **Roméo et Juliette** at NCPA of Beijing (2018); **Ariodante** (2016) and **Lucia di Lammermoor** (2017 · broadcast on ARTE TV) at Opéra de Lausanne; **Boris Godunov** (2017) and **Andrea Chénier** (2015) at Korea National Opera; **Thaïs** (2015), **Fosca** by Carlos Gomes and **Titan** (2016), a choreography on Mahler's Symphony No. 1, at Teatro Municipal de São Paulo; **L'Elisir d'amore** at Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg (2016); **Otello** at Hungarian State Opera of Budapest (2015, 2023); **Tristan und Isolde** conducted by Zubin Mehta for the opening of the 77th edition of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino Festival (2014); **Il Trovatore** at Odeon of Herodes Atticus, Athens Festival (2012, revival in 2017); **Trittico** by Puccini (2011) and **Faust** (2023) at Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires; **Leggenda** by Alessandro Solbiati at Teatro Regio di Torino (2011 · DVD EMA Vinci Records); **La Forza del destino** (2011) at Teatro Regio di Parma (DVD Unitel) and at the Festival Verdi in Parma (2014).

His iconic production of Gounod's **Faust** at Teatro Regio Torino in 2015, a co-production of the Israeli Opera of Tel Aviv and the Lausanne Opera (DVD & Blu-Ray Unitel Classica/C Major) had been broadcast with great success in movie theatres across the world. This is true also for Puccini's **Turandot** in 2018 (DVD Unitel Classica/C Major, streaming on Operavision) and Massenet's **Thaïs** in 2008 (DVD & Blu-ray, RAI/Arthaus Musik) both staged at Teatro Regio Torino and conducted by Gianandrea Nosedà.

Stefano Poda was awarded the prestigious "Prix Claude Rostand de la Critique Française" for best opera production for **Ariana et Barbe-Bleue** at Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse (2019).

He was invited as special guest to the PQ Prague Quadrennial 2019, the 14th edition of the largest international festival of theatre and stage design. In 2018, the Fifth International Experts Forum of the Stage Arts in Beijing was dedicated to "Stefano Poda, Opera Design as total Art Work" at an international symposium at the Forbidden City. In 2019 he received the "Ombra della Sera" Lifetime Achievement Award for Performing Arts at the Roman Theatre of Volterra.