

Biography

Danilo Rossi is an Italian violist. During his 40-years long career, he performed on the most important and prestigious stages of the world. His performances gathered high and sincere appreciation from both the public and the critics, like:

"Rossi confirms why he is considered one of the most important
and musical violist of today"
Alberto Cantù - "Il Giornale"

"An absolute genius, the violist Danilo Rossi dominated the stage with extraordinary
instrumental and interpretative mastership"
Angelo Foletto - "La Repubblica"

"It was a pleasure to hear Danilo Rossi playing such a complex concert and obtaining
such a triumph.. Extraordinary violist"
Lorenzo Arruga - "Il Giorno"

"The particular rich melodic lines and the warm musicality made it a
treasurable performance"
Will Cruthfield- "The New York Times"

Student of some of the most important viola masters (Merlini, Farulli, Asciola, Bashmet) and getting his diploma with the highest grade (cum laude), Danilo Rossi shown his musical skills already when he was 16, when he won his first International Competition. At 20, he was chosen to take the part of First Soloist Viola at the prestigious Teatro alla Scala di Milano, becoming the youngest musician of the whole history of the theatre to cover that role. Since that moment his career became an infinity of concerts, festivals, meetings and recitals that brought him all around the world.

During his career as soloist he performed the whole viola repertoire guided by Riccardo Muti, Gianandrea Gavazzeni, Riccardo Chailly, Gianandrea Noseda, Ottavio Dantone, Mung Wung Chung, Seji Ozawa, Zubin Mehta, Mario Brunello, Lorin Maazel, Umberto Benedetti Michelangeli, Adam Fischer, with some of the most prestigious orchestras of the world (Filarmonica della Scala, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, l'Orchestra d'Archi Italiana, Rai di Torino, Orchestra Regionale Toscana, Regio di Torino, Suddeutchekammerorchester, Filarmonica di Mosca, Kioi Symphony Orchestra di Tokyo, I Solistidi Mosca, Filarmonica di Budapest, Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana di Lugano, etc.).

He has been the First Viola at the Teatro alla Scala and in the orchestra of the Filarmonica della Scala for 36 years, and he collaborated with some of the best living orchestra conductors, like Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Carlos Kleiber, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Daniel Harding, Gustavo Dudamel, Leonard Bernstein and Daniele Gatti.

Danilo Rossi has also been a practicing chamber musician. Indeed, he has been guest of some of the most relevant Festivals of Chamber Music (St. Moritz, Cork, Asolo, Ravenna, I Suoni delle Dolomiti, Vicenza, Joliette, Nijny Novgorod, etc.), where he performed with some of the greatest musicians: Paul Tortelier, Jury Baschet, Pier Narciso Masi, Bruno Canino, Giuliano Carmignola, Mario Brunello, Andrea Lucchesini, Tomas Brandis, Franco Gulli, il Quartetto Arditti, il Fine Arts Quartet, il Nuovo Quartetto Italiano.

In 2018 Danilo Rossi will celebrate a 30-years collaboration with the pianist Stefano Bezziccheri. Together with him, Rossi played in the most important European concert halls, recording many CDs that cover completely the relevant repertoire for viola and piano.

Some of the most important contemporary composers dedicated a piece to Danilo Rossi, like Stefano Nanni, Carlo Boccadoro, Roberto Molinelli, Alessandro Appigiani, Valentino Metti, Nicola Campogrande, Simonide Braconi.

Numerous the radio and tv recordings that have seen Danilo Rossi performing, as well as the 40 CDs published. About this, in 2016 he has been dedicated of five episodes by the well-known radio broadcast RadioTreSuite, owned by RadioRai.

Crossover

Completely absorbed by the music, Danilo Rossi spaced between classical and modern types of music many times. Several collaborations with great jazz and pop artists have been done, and these made Rossi a unique sample of how living music in its full and complete essence is possible, without any barriers. Initially student of the great jazz leader Sante Palumbo, who Danilo Rossi recorded the disc "Bach in Jazz" with, he collaborated with some of the most relevant living jazzmen, like Massimo Moriconi, Stefano Bollani, Paolo Fresu, Steve La Spina, Renato Sellani, Aaron Flecher, la Drummeria, Jim Hall, Greg Osby e Bobby Mc Ferrin. During his career he even experienced the conduction of orchestras following Ian Anderson (Jethro Tull) and Terence Blanchard, one of the greatest American jazz trumpeter.

With Stefano and Gianluca Nanni, Massimo Moriconi and Luciano Zadro, the jazz project "Music Train Quintet" has been set up, resulting in two recorded discs about classic music re-arranged in a jazz way (Hindemith, L'Uccello di Fuoco di Strawinsky, Ravel).

Recently, Danilo Rossi and his viola have taken part in the last music discographic projects of Vinicio Capossela ("Le Sirene"), Remo Anzovino ("L'alba dei tram", a tribute to Pier Paolo Pasolini) and Carlo Fava ("Baby").

Teaching

Thanks to the great music leaders met during the years (Fabrizio Merlini, Dino Ascioffa and Piero Farulli about the viola, while Paolo Borciani and the Trio di Trieste about chamber music), Danilo Rossi teaches musical and human certainties since 30 years that brought his students to achieve excellent results. Indeed, nowadays several of them cover relevant roles in some of the most important European orchestras and in some of the greatest Ensembles, even achieving first-rate results in International competitions.

Furthermore, the violist took part into many teaching activities in several national and international Schools and Academies, like the Scuola di Musica di Fiesole, Master of Città di Castello and Bertinoro, Master at the University of South Carolina and Michigan State (USA), Master of Conservatorio di Warsaw (Poland), Parma and Cesena, Master of Tianjin (China).

Since 2009 he is involved in teaching activities at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana of Lugano (Switzerland). In the meanwhile he performs as teacher even in the Master Class of perfection of Desenzano del Garda (BS, Italy) and Castelsangiovanni (PC, Italy).

Theater and more

Always open to the most different experiences, the contacts with actors, writers and poets brought him performing in the most various places of the world: from prisons to the forests of Trentino Alto Adige, from the swamps of Sri Lanka to the Off-theaters of suburbs.

Many theaters have seen Danilo Rossi performing with his viola, collaborating with Ascanio Celestini, Alessandro Baricco, Licia Maglietta, Angela Finocchiaro, Marco Paolini and Giobbe Covatta. A 10-years collaboration with Stefano Benni has been set up, bringing the two artists performing together four different shows all around Italy.

During the past two decades several artists required the intense sound of his viola for soundtracks and prose theater collaboration, sometimes even written specifically for him. Between all of these it must be cited the project realized in collaboration with Milo de Angelis, one of the greatest living poets, where his poems have been accompanied and underlined by the sound of the viola in the documentary dedicated to the poet himself, and with the poet and writer Davide Rondoni, who wrote the monologue "Il Corpo del Musicista" specifically dedicated to Danilo Rossi, who performed the show in several Italian theaters with.

Each of these experiences makes Danilo Rossi's music activities even more unique and intense, who brings his viola beyond any border climbing every cultural barrier.