

## Elena Cecconi, Bio & Publications

### Mo. Elena Cecconi



**Elena Cecconi** has captivated audiences in concert halls and Festivals in Italy, Europe, Brazil, Argentina, Costa Rica, Japan, Thailand, USA and Russia. As soloist she has performed with several Orchestras including the Budapest and UCS Brazil Orchestras, Scarlatti of Napoli and Cremona Soloists, Albanian Radio Television, Catania and Sicilian Symphony Orchestras. She recorded for Edipan, Ricordi-Stradivarius, Bayer Records, Talent, Tactus, Brilliant, La Bottega Discantica. She was Principal Solo Flute of the Sicilian Symphony Orchestra until 1994 and also performed as Principal Solo Flute in the Orchestras of Venice, Parma, Vicenza, Piacenza, Alessandria. Elena is Professor of Flute at the Music Academy of Genova and she teaches Masterclasses in Italy, Turkey, Weimar-Germany, Krakov- Poland, Alicante-Spain, and in USA: Florida, Louisiana, Illinois Universities, in Porto Alegre-Brazil and Maimonodes University in Buenos Aires-Argentina, at the International Flute Festival in San José- Costa Rica. She specialized at the Hochschule für Musik of Vienna with W. Schulz after graduating in Italy at Conservatorio of Frosinone with the highest marks. She is a Haynes Flute Artist and she plays a Haynes gold flute 14 K which belonged to the famous Italian flutist Severino Gazzelloni. Elena is Artistic Director of Space Renaissance Italia.

### Professional and artistic history

Elena Cecconi graduated in Italy at Conservatorio of Frosinone with the highest marks under the guidance of A. Pucello. She attended the Mastercourses at the Mozarteum of Salzburg with K. H. Zoeller and at the Hochschule für Musik of Vienna with the flutist W. Schulz and E. Melkus for Baroque Music.

As a soloist, she has performed under the conducting of G. Ferro (Ibert concert), H. Soudant, M. Boder (Mozart concerts), U. B. Michelangeli (Bach suite) and many others, with different Italian orchestras including the Scarlatti Orchestra, Cremona soloists, Teatro Bellini of Catania Orchestra, Sicilian Symphony Orchestra, Alessandria Classica and others. She also has performed with the Albanian Radio Television Orchestra, Budapest Chamber Orchestra and UCS University Orchestra-Brazil. Elena has captivated audiences in many places around the world such as Germany, Austria, Albania, Poland, Switzerland, Spain, France, Turkey, Brasil, Argentina, Costa Rica, Japan, Thailand; Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Illinois (USA); and Russia, in the famous Ciaikovskij hall of Moscow (Mercadante Concerto). She performed in important and famous Concert halls as Olimpico Theater in Rome, Bellini Theater of Catania, Jesi and Panicle Theaters, Olimpico Theater and Music Academy Concert Hall in Vicenza, Concert hall in Cagliari and Palermo, Music International Festivals of Gressoney, Cappadocia, Santander; Florianka Hall in Krakov- Poland and many other Italian and European Music halls and Festivals; Concert halls in Lafayette, Loyola, Dekalb, Hammond, Tulane Universities, Westwego Theater in New Orleans, Teatro Nacional de San Jose'- Costa Rica, Goethe Institute in Bangkok and Concert halls in USA, Japan, Thailand, Brazil, Argentina, Costa Rica.

She won several Competitions (Palmi, Caltanissetta, Galicia International Competition) and recorded as soloist for Edipan (T. Procaccini pieces), Ricordi-Stradivarius (Luoghi Immaginari-F. Vacchi), Bayer Records-Germany- (Operatic Fantasias for flute and piano), Clarinet Classics -UK- (Concertoni of Mercadante for fl and orch.) Talent Records (Belgium), Tactus Records, Brilliant Classics (The Netherlands) and La Bottega Discantica -Italy- (solo flute, flute and harp, flute and piano). Her CDs appeared with the highest tribute on important International Music Magazines and worldwide radio broadcasting.

She was First Solo Flute of the Sicilian Symphony Orchestra till 1994 and she played and plays as First Flute and Soloist in the "La Fenice" Orchestra of Venice, the "Toscanini Orchestra" of Parma, in the "Olimpico Theatre Orchestra" of Vicenza, in the Italian Philharmonic Orchestra of Piacenza, and in the Classical Orchestra of Alessandria.

She performs in several chamber groups (fl. and piano, fl. and harp, fl. and guitar, fl. and harpsichord, wind quintet, etc) and in 1996 she founded "La Variazione" Ensemble, a group consisting of a flutist, harpist, and a tenor (recordings and tournée in Italy, Switzerland, Japan, USA). She performs with the harpist Paola Devoti, they recorded for Bottega Discantica and they performed at Falaut Festival 2009.

Elena is Professor of Flute at the Conservatorio - Music University of Genova.

She taught MasterClasses at Valtidone International Festivals and Summer Camp-Italy, International Mastercourses at Assisi Umbria Estate, Flute Masterclass at International Musical Holidays of Castellina Marittima (Pisa-Italy), Accademia Operarmonica-Pistoia.

She teaches Flute Masterclasses and performs Flute recitals at Conservatorio-Music Academy in Vicenza- Italy.

Recently she taught a Masterclasses and performed recitals in Turkey and at F. Liszt Music University in Weimar (Germany), Music Academy in Krakov (Poland) and Conservatorio Superior de Musica in Alicante (Spain).

She teaches Masterclasses in USA at the Florida State College in Jacksonville (FL), at Southeastern Louisiana University in

Hammond, University of Louisiana at Lafayette UL and Loyola University and Tulane University in New Orleans (LA), at ThomasCountyCentral Highschool of Thomasville (GA) and at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb-Chicago (IL) where she also played solo flute, flute and piano and flute and harp recitals. Elena taught Masterclass and solo flute recital at UFRGS University in Porto Alegre-Brazil and at Maimonides University in Buenos Aires-Argentina.

On January 2007, February 2008 and January 2010 Elena performed Solo Flute Recitals and a "Virtuoso Operatic Fantasias"- Flute and piano recital with the pianist Tim Carey- at the Flute Fair in the Florida Flute Annual State Convention (Orlando-Florida)

She has been selected to play an Operatic Fantasias recital for flute and piano at the 36th Annual NFA Convention- National Flute Convention in Kansas City-Missouri , August 2008. In the same Convention she performed the piece "Hurricane!" for solo flute of H.Buss-Brixton Publications.

Elena has been invited to represent Italy at the VIII International Flute Festival in Costa Rica in April 2013, where she taught Masterclass and performed Verdi Operatic Fantasias with the pianist Tim Carey.

The Florida composer, H. Buss composed pieces for Elena: "Alpine Spring" and " Inner Quest", for flute and harp, and Pieces for solo flute entitled "Space Renaissance" and "Venetian Memoirs" - Brixton Publications - this one performed by Elena at the Florida Flute Convention- January 2010 - World Premiere. The composers C.Galante, R.Di Marino, P.Devoti, A. Del Re, P.Furlani, H.Buss, A.Hagman, N. Harizanos composed pieces dedicated to Elena.

Elena Cecconi is Artistic Director and chair of the Música Nueva International Flute Competition in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Elena is Magistral Dama of the Knights of Malta, she is a musician of Donatori di Musica, and she is the Artistic Director of Space Renaissance International.

Elena Cecconi is a Haynes Flute Artist and she plays a Haynes gold flute 14 K which belonged to the famous Italian flutist Severino Gazzelloni.

### **An abridged list of performances**

Concerts, Recitals and MasterClasses, Collaborative Activities, Competitions and Teaching , "La Variazione" Ensemble, Soloist and First Flute concerts. Finally, a selected list of performances.

### **Main Events**

From the initial concerts until presently, Elena has appeared as soloist in concerts for flute and Orchestra, in Chamber Music - Wind Quintet, Flute Quartet, Flute and cembalo, flute and harp- recitals with piano, and with singers. In addition she has played important Concerts and Musical Events in Italy , Austria, Germany, Albania, Switzerland, Poland, Spain, France, Turkey, Japan, Russia, Brazil and the United States.

Elena's debut as soloist took place in Roma, at Teatro Greco of Villa Flaminia. She was still a very young student, and performed the Vivaldi Concert for two flutes, strings and b.c.

From 1985 until 1994 Elena Cecconi was First Soloist Flute of the Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana (EAOSS-Palermo) winner of the Competition.

She played with world famous Conductors and Soloists, playing as well as soloist, and with chamber groups.

She has played all the important symphonic repertoire as well as much of the contemporary music.

From April 1996 until present time, "La Variazione" Ensemble , founded by Elena and her husband, tenor Filippo Pina Castiglioni, performed in many recitals and appeared in several groups (flute and harp, singers flute and harp, wind ensemble, singers and winds or strings etc...)

The Ensemble played for important Theaters, Festivals, Musical Seasons as Val Tidone International, Festival of Ancient Organs, Gressoney Festival etc (see Ensemble curriculum)

The debut of the Ensemble took place in Venice at Palazzo Mocenigo, April 1996.

Many concerts and recitals were performed in Italy, Switzerland, Japan and USA. They played in Tokyo, June 2000, at an Italian Festival, and in Florida, Louisiana and Illinois - United States, fall 2007 and 2009 and the repertoire included italian virtuoso and operatic pieces, for flute and harp and tenor flute and harp.

She performs with the harpist Paola Devoti, they recorded for La Bottega Discantica and they performed at Falaut Festival 2009.

The Florida composer, H. Buss composed three pieces for Elena: "Alpine Spring" and " Inner Quest", for flute and harp (December 2007- December 2009) and Pieces for solo flute entitled "Space Renaissance" and "Venetian Memoirs" ( January 2009) - Brixton Publications - this one performed by Elena at the Florida Flute Convention- January 2010 - World Premiere.

### **Collaborative activities - Records**

Elena performed as First Flute and soloist such as several Orchestras as Orchestra Toscanini of Parma(1994-1996) and Orchestra of

Teatro Olimpico of Vicenza (1995-1997).

She also played with Orchestra Filarmonica Italiana and Orchestra of Teatro La Fenice of Venezia.

She played as soloist with La Camerata of Cremona, I Solisti di Cremona, and with the Orchestra Classica of Alessandria.

Elena has performed with many famous Conductors such as Soudant, Baudo, Delman, Krivine, Boder, Čelibidache, Ferro, Benedetti Michelangeli, P. Entremont, D. Nazareth, A. Ceccato, F. Welser-Möst, G. Guida, H. Graf, J.C. Casadesus and many others.

She has also played with world famous performers such as Lynn Harrell, M. Brunello, M. Argherich, B. Canino, B. Bloch, G. Tachinò, D. Geringas .....

At the Salzburg Festival in 1991, she has been invited by the famous pianist and composer, Jörg Demus, to play his composition for flute and piano.

As a soloist, she has performed under the conducting of G. Ferro (Ibert concert), H. Soudant, M. Boder (Mozart concerts), U. B. Michelangeli (Bach suite), M. Schmiedt (Reinecke concert and Chaminade concertino) and many others, with different Italian orchestras including the Scarlatti Orchestra, Cremona soloists, Teatro Bellini of Catania Orchestra, Sicilian Symphony Orchestra, Alessandria Classica and others. She also has performed with the Albanian Radio Television Orchestra, Budapest Chamber Orchestra and UCS University Orchestra-Brazil. Elena has captivated audiences in many places around the world such as Germany, Austria, Albania, Poland, Switzerland, Spain, Brasil, Argentina, Costa Rica, Japan, Thailand; Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Illinois (USA); and Russia, in the famous Ciaikovskij hall of Moscow (Mercadante Concerto). She performed in important and famous Concert halls as Olimpico Theater in Rome, Bellini Theater of Catania, Jesi and Panicale Theaters, Olimpico Theater and Music Academy Concert Hall in Vicenza, Concert hall in Cagliari and Palermo, Music International Festivals of Gressoney, Cappadocia, Santander; Florianka Hall in Krakov- Poland and many other Italian and European Music halls and Festivals; Concert halls in Lafayette, Loyola, Dekalb, Hammond, Tulane Universities, Westwego Theater in New Orleans, Teatro Nacional in San Jose' de Costa Rica, Goethe Institute in Bangkok, and Concert halls in USA, Japan, Thailand, Costa Rica, Argentina and Brazil.

Elena has recorded as soloist for Edipan (solo flute and flute and piano sonatas of the composer Teresa Procaccini), Ricordi-Stradivarius (Luoghi Immaginari-F. Vacchi), Bayer Records-Germany- (Operatic Fantasias for flute and piano), Clarinet Classics -UK- (Concertoni of Mercadante for fl and orch.) Talent Records (Belgium), Tactus Records, Brilliant Classics (The Netherlands) and La Bottega Discantica -Italy- (solo flute, flute and harp, flute and piano). Their distribution network is worldwide (Italy and Europe, USA, Japan, Korea etc.) and are broadcast in international radio programs and reviewed on musical magazines.

Elena also found herself judging many musical competitions.

### **Competitions and Teaching**

Elena won several Musical and Orchestras' Competitions.

In 1985 she won the Competition at the Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, and here she played as First Soloist Flute until 1994.

From 2002, she has been Professor of Flute at Conservatorio-Music University- of Cagliari. It is of interest that in 1990, she won the Teaching Ministerial Competition to teach at the Musical Universities.

She won many other Competitions for 1st Flute: Orchestra Giovanile Italiana, Rai di Napoli, S. Carlo di Napoli, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and in 1992 the International Competition of Galicia (Spain) with auditions all over the world.

Elena won the X Flute Competition "F. Cilea" of Palmi in 1986, and the II Chamber Music Competition of Caltanissetta with the Wind Quintet "Collegium Ars Musica" in 1985

Elena Cecconi is Artistic Director and chair of the Maimonides University International Flute Competition in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Elena is currently Professor of Flute at the Conservatorio- Music University-"N. Paganini" di Genova.

She has taught Master Classes in Louisiana (Southeastern University - SLU- Hammond - University of Louisiana UL of Lafayette, Loyola University and Tulane University of New Orleans), Florida ( State College- Jacksonville), Illinois ( Northern Illinois University in DeKalb-Chicago ) Georgia ( Thomas County Central High School), where she also played solo flute, flute and piano and flute and harp recitals. She taught Masterclasses and performed in Brazil at UFRGS University in Porto Alegre, Maimonides University in Buenos Aires (Argentina) and in Costa Rica.

She taught MasterClasses at Valtidone International Festivals, Summer Camp-Italy and International MasterCourses at Assisi Umbria Estate, Castellina Marittima-Pisa- International Summer Courses, Accademia Operarmonica- Pistoia.

She taught Masterclasses and performed recitals in Turkey, Weimar-Germany, Krakov-Poland, Alicante-Spain Music Academies.

In July 2009 Elena recorded the Sonata op.75 for flute and piano of Teresa Procaccini playing with the composer (Edipan). The Sonata has been composed from the Concertino for flute and strings, played by Elena in Rome as first world performing.

### **More about recent news:**

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Tim Carey at the Flute Fair in the Florida Flute Annual State Convention (Orlando, Florida)

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