



LÜ JIA

Conductor

Exclusive management for Europe
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"In the world of classical music, few possess the ability to transform a score into a profoundly emotional experience for the audience. Lü Jia, the renowned conductor from Shanghai, is one of these exceptional talents, whose artistry has been captivating audiences worldwide for over 30 years."

L'Unione Sarda

biography

The Chinese conductor **Lü Jia** has received great acclaim internationally. Born into a musical family in **Shanghai**, Lü began studying piano and cello at a very young age. He later studied conducting at the **Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing**, under the tutelage of esteemed conductor **Zheng Xiaoying**. At the age of 24, Lü entered the **University of Arts in Berlin**, where he continued his studies under Professor **Hans-Martin Rabenstein** and **Robert Wolf**. The following year, he was awarded both the **First Prize and Jury's Prize** at the **Antonio Pedrotti International Conducting Competition** in **Trento, Italy**, and launched his career as a conductor.

Over the past decades, he has conducted over 2,000 orchestral concerts and opera performances in **Europe** and **America**, and became the first Asian conductor to serve as the artistic director of a major Italian opera house, as well as the first Chinese conductor to lead **Chicago Symphony**. He has worked with important productions at the **Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich**, the **Deutsche Oper Berlin** and **La Scala** in **Milan**, as well as opera houses in **Lausanne**, **Turin**, **Rome**, **Naples**, **Verona**, **Venice**, **Florence**, **Frankfurt** and **Stuttgart**. He has also worked with many renowned orchestras including the **Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra**, **Chicago Symphony Orchestra**, **Gewandhaus Leipzig**, **Munich Philharmonic**, **Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia**, **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra**, **Royal Liverpool Philharmonic**, **Oslo Philharmonic**, **Lyon National Orchestra** in **France**, **Finnish Radio Symphony**, **Hamburg Radio Symphony**, **Bamberg Symphoniker**, **Sydney Symphony Orchestra** and many others across **Europe**, **America** and **Australia**.

Lü Jia was the first Chinese conductor to record **Felix Mendelssohn's** complete orchestral works, and also the only conductor so far who has recorded the complete works by the important Swedish composer **Ingvar Lidholm**. His interpretations of German Classical Romanticism and French Impressionists have been praised for their "extremely convincing musical interpretation" with "musical precision and perfect baton technique". 2024 saw the release of **Lü Jia** and the **China NCPA Orchestra's** recording of **Bruckner's** complete symphonies, an album hailed by **Gramophone** magazine as "expressive and refulgent."

Having directed nearly 50 operas in **Italy** and **Germany**, homelands of the European opera tradition, he has also been praised by Italian music critics as "a conductor who understands Italian opera even better than the Italians themselves do".

In 2007, his performance of "**La Gazza Ladra**" at the **Rossini Opera Festival** in **Pesaro** was voted as **European Opera Production of the Year**. That same year, in recognition of his important contribution to musical culture in **Italy**, Lü Jia was awarded the **President's Prize** by **President Giorgio Napolitano**. In 2012, the **Domingo International Vocal Competition** invited Lü Jia to serve on the jury, making him the Competition's first-ever Chinese jury member.

Among his most recent engagements are appearances with the **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**, "**La Wally**" at **Teatro Lirico di Cagliari**, a concert at **Teatro Regio di Torino**, a conducting masterclass in **Italy** organized by **OnlyMaestros** (marking his very first teaching engagement), and his participation as jury member at the **Toscanini Conducting Competition**.

In the upcoming seasons, highlights include the opening of the Symphony Season at **Teatro Carlo Felice** in **Genoa** with **Ettore Pagano**, "**Il turco in Italia**" in **Verona** (**Teatro Filarmonico**) and a concert with the **Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana** in **Palermo**. He will also return to the **Orchestra Arturo Toscanini** in **Parma** with violinist **Charlie Siem**, and to **Verona Teatro Filarmonico** for performances of **Mahler's Ninth Symphony**.

In 2012, Lü Jia was appointed **Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of Opera** at the **National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA)** in **Beijing, China**. Under his musical direction, **NCPA's** own productions of "**Lohengrin**", "**The Flying Dutchman**", "**Othello**", "**Le Nozze di Figaro**", "**Un Ballo in Maschera**", "**Tosca**", and many other works, have received glowing reviews from the international press. With these brand new productions aspiring to high international standards, the **NCPA** has become a strong contender in the world of opera, and also launched an exciting new chapter in the history of professional opera productions in **China**. In the meantime, the **China NCPA Orchestra**, under Lü's baton, has fast established itself as one of the leading new ensembles in the orchestral world in **China**, presenting impressive performances season after season.

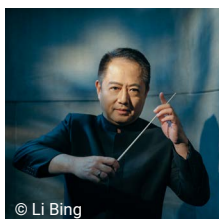
In 2017, Lü Jia has been appointed as **Artistic Director of Music** of **National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA)**, and **Music Director of China NCPA Orchestra**. Before taking up his current position in **Beijing**, Lü served as **Music Director** at **Fondazione Arena di Verona**, **Artistic Director** at **Symphony Orchestra of Tenerife**, **Music Director** and **Principal Conductor** of **Macao Orchestra**, as well as **Artistic Director** and **Chief Conductor** at **Teatro G. Verdi** in **Trieste**, **Orchestra Regionale Toscana** in **Florence** and **Norrköping Symphony Orchestra** in **Sweden**.

Season 2025/2026

video



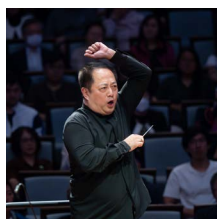
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