

**Giorgio Benati** was born in 1953 in Nogarole Rocca (Verona, Italy).

He graduated in organ from the Conservatory of Music in Verona (Renzo Buja), studied harpsichord at the Conservatory of Music in Milan (Emilia Fadini), and composition at the Conservatory of Music in Verona (Antonio Zanon). He furthered his studies with Anton Heiller (Bach), Jean Langlais (Franck and Langlais), and Ton Koopman (early rep.).

He has an intense international concert career, appearing at prestigious festivals and events, with over two thousand concerts to his credit: Paris Notre-Dame, Salzburg Festival, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Linz, Stockholm, Madrid, Barcelona, Zaragoza, Lisbon, Budapest, Bucharest, and in various Italian and European cities.

He has taught organ and organ composition at the State Conservatories of Vicenza, Darfo Boario Terme, Campobasso, Piacenza, and Brescia. From 2018 to 2022, with his organ class and in collaboration with the State Conservatory of Music of Castelfranco Veneto (Treviso), he performed the complete organ works of J.S. Bach (387 compositions performed) with concerts in Brescia, Darfo Boario Terme (BS), Asolo (TV), Verona, and Cremona. Some of his students have also won awards in important national and international organ competitions.

He is also active as a composer, lecturer, and columnist for major newspapers (Corriere della Sera/Corriere del Veneto, L'Arena di Verona, Il Fatto Quotidiano, La Verità) on cultural and musical issues.

Given his extensive musical and managerial background, he has served as Deputy Artistic Director of the Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Artistic Director of seven festivals, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Arena di Verona Foundation. He has served on several prestigious juries, including the Plácido Domingo Operalia International Competition, the Viotti-Valsesia International Competition, the 2nd Concours International de Chefs d'Orchestre d'Opéra de Liège (Belgium), and President of the 49th and 50th "Toti Dal Monte" International Competition for Singers in Treviso.

He is currently Artistic Director of the Bach Consort Brescia.

He has published an essay entitled "Notes for a Rhetorical Analysis of Early Seventeenth-Century Keyboard Music" (published by Scuola Civica di Milano) in collaboration with Emilia Fadini.

He is Honorary Inspector of the Superintendence of Historical and Architectural Heritage for the protection of the organ heritage of the provinces of Verona, Vicenza, and Rovigo.

Together with organists Fausto Caporali and Alessandro Perin, he embarked on a 2022 recording of Jean Langlais's complete organ compositions for the Brilliant Classics label. Fifteen CDs have already been released in three box sets.

He recently recorded a concert for YouTube on the 1713 Giuseppe Bonatti organ at the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Valverde in Rezzato (Brescia).