

GIORGIO MADIA

STAGE DIRECTOR | CHOREOGRAPHER

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BIOGRAPHY

Giorgio Madia graduated from the ballet school of Teatro alla Scala in Milan and started his career as classical dancer in the La Scala ballet company. He joined Maurice Béjart's "Ballet du 20^{ième} siècle", later "Béjart Ballet Lausanne" as Soloist Dancer. As Principal Dancer he performed with Pennsylvania Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Aterballetto and Zurich Ballet. Rudolf Nureyev invited him to participate in his world farewell tour for several years to dance in two pieces with him, including Maurice Béjart's duet "Le Chant du compagnon errant".

In 1997 Giorgio Madia concluded his dancing career, worked as a ballet teacher and was engaged as First Ballet Master at Balletto di Toscana, Ballett Basel or at BerlinBallett at Komische Oper. As Artistic Director he took responsibility for the Ballet of Teatr Wielki in Łódź. From 2003 to 2005 he was appointed Ballet Director and Chief Choreographer at the Wiener Volksoper.

In 1995 Giorgio Madia began choreographing and directing, since 2005 he has been doing so as a freelancer. The list of his work is extensive. Alongside the great classics of the ballet repertoire – "Sleeping Beauty", "The Nutcracker", "Swan Lake", "Romeo and Juliet", "La fille mal gardée" and "Coppélia" – are full-length dance works based on individual concepts: "Nudo", "Alice's Wonderland", "Cinderella", "OZ – The Wonderful Wizard", "Chopin imaginaire", "La Dolce Vita", „Peter Pan" or "Don Juan" based on music by Gluck, a creation for Staatsballett Berlin.

The essential features of his artistic style – musicality, sophistication, humour, and an intuitive sense for the moment – find their distinctive expression also in his work as stage director. Among others he directed Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffmann", a double bill of two baroque operas "La Guirlande | Zéphyre" by Rameau, Milhaud/Cocteau's "Le pauvre matelot", musicals such as "Ain't misbehavin'", "Little Shop of Horrors", "La Cage aux folles", Gluck's opera-ballet "Orphée et Eurydice", or Bizet's "Carmen".

Several times he was invited to work with Staatsballett Berlin, Wiener Staatsballett, or Kammeroper Wien, he choreographed the opening of the Vienna Opera Ball in four seasons. Repeatedly he has choreographed and directed the opening ceremony of the world famous "Life Ball" in Vienna, dedicating this work to charity.

Most recently he was invited by Béjart Ballet Lausanne to create a choreography for Gil Roman, the Artistic Director of the company. In summer 2016 Salzburger Festspiele entrusted him, teaming up with Reinhard von der Thannen, with the co-staging and choreography of Gounod's "Faust".

He has been awarded with the critic's award "Golden Mask" Poland in 2005/06 (production of the year), 2006/07 (stage director and choreographer of the year) and 2007/08 (stage director of the year), in 2011 he was honoured with the Premio Anita Bucchi (best light design) and the Premio Montepaschi „L'italia che danza" as choreographer of the year.