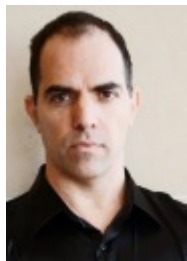


# Calderon, Rani - Conductor

## Biography



Following a sounding success with a new production of "Turandot" at the **Opéra national de Lorraine** in 2013, Rani Calderon was appointed its principal guest conductor for season 2014-15 and its music director from season 2015-16. During his time there he has raised considerably the level of the orchestra and reinforced the presence of the orchestra and the opera in the city. A major change initiated by Calderon is the move of the orchestra to the prestigious "Salle Poirel" - where the symphonic concerts are given - as its official home and rehearsal stage.

Calderon initiated collaboration with the regional Conservatoire du grand Nancy, as well as a chamber music festival called "Classique Poursuite", in which he performed as pianist with musicians of the orchestra in different venues of the city.

Rani Calderon **studied with the best teachers of his time** in both the Tel-Aviv and the Jerusalem Academis of Music. His piano teacher was the legendary Israeli pianist Pnina Salzman, pupil of Alfred Cortot. He studied conducting with Maestros Mendi Rodan and Noam Sheriff, and composition with Prof. Yitzhak Sadai.

He then went to Europe and **studied the different opera styles with various specialists**: Maestro Bruno Rigacci in Florence - an assistant of Tullio Serafin in his youth, Mme. Janine Reiss in Paris - the most acclaimed and influential French coach in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and a close collaborator of Maria Callas. He also worked with Mr. Richard Trimborn and Mrs. Rita Loving in Munich and Mr. Tom Christoff in Dresden - all of them specialists of the German repertoire.

Calderon's first appearances as an opera conductor was at "Spazio Musica" in Orvieto, Italy, where he won three consecutive years (1996-8) the first prize and conducted performances of Puccini's "Suor Angelica", "Madama Butterfly" and "Il Tabarro". He conducted in **various important opera houses and festivals such as** the Semper Oper Dresden ("Faust", "Rigoletto", "La Bohème"), "Theater an der Wien" ("Il Trittico"), "La Monnaie", Bruxelles ("Il Viaggio a Rheims"), The Royal Danish Opera ("Semiramide"), Opéra National de Lorraine ("Turandot", "Nabucco", "Francesca da Rimini" & "Aleko" - transmitted on French TV), Monte-Carlo ("Andrea Chenier"), Toulouse ("Euryanthe" & "Oberon"), Toulon ("Ariadne auf Naxos", "Don Giovanni"), Bilbao ("Faust"), the New Israeli Opera ("Rigoletto", "Il Trittico", "Turandot"), St. Etienne ("Thais" during the Massenet Festival 2009), Graz ("Elisir d'amore"), Martina Franca (Meyerbeer's "Semiramide" issued as a commercial CD by Dynamic), Liege ("La Gioconda", "La Vie Parisienne"), St. Gallen ("Le Nozze di Figaro"). He **worked with various symphonic orchestras such as** the Orchestre National de Belgique, Orchestre National d'Ile de France, Orchestre National de Montpellier, Orquesta del Principado de Asturias Oviedo, The Israeli Symphony Orchestra, the Sofia Philharmonic, the Romanian Radio orchestra and others.

Calderon became the musical director of the Filarmonica de Santiago - the Municipal's orchestra - in 2010 and during his three seasons tenure made of the newly formed orchestra a solid group with a distinguished musical profile acclaimed by both public and critics.

In 2014 he composed a song cycle for bass and piano in Russian entitled "Seven Pushkin Poems".

Rani Calderon speaks fluently seven languages: Hebrew, English, Italian, French, German, Russian and Spanish. He has also studied ancient Greek.

Link to the Opera National de Lorraine music director page:

<http://www.opera-national-lorraine.fr/a-propos-de-lopera/notre-directeur-musical>

## Repertoire

### Opera

<b>Bellini, V.</b>	La Sonnambula
<b>Bizet, G.</b>	Carmen
	Les Pêcheurs de Perles
<b>Donizetti, G.</b>	L'elisir d'amore
	Lucrezia Borgia
<b>Gluck, Ch.</b>	Orfeo ed Euridice
<b>Gounod, Ch.</b>	Faust
<b>Leoncavallo,</b>	I pagliacci
<b>Massenet, J.</b>	Thaïs, Werther
<b>Meyerbeer, G.</b>	Semiramide
<b>Mozart, W. A.</b>	Così fan tutte
	Don Giovanni
	Le nozze di Figaro
	Die Zauberflöte
<b>Ponchielli, A.</b>	La Gioconda
<b>Puccini, G.</b>	La bohème
	Madama Butterfly
	Il tritico
	Turandot
	Tosca
<b>Rachmaninov, S.</b>	Aleko, Francesca da Rimini
<b>Rimski-Korsakov, N.</b>	The Golden Cockerel
<b>Rossini, G.</b>	Il barbiere di Siviglia
	La cenerentola
	L'italiana in Algeri
	Il viaggio a Rheims
	Semiramide
<b>Strauss, R.</b>	Ariadne auf Naxos, Elektra
<b>Tchaikovsky, P.</b>	Eugene Onegin
<b>Verdi, G.</b>	Aida, Un ballo in maschera
	Macbeth, Nabucco
	Rigoletto
	Simone Boccanegra
	La traviata, Il trovatore
<b>Wagner, R.</b>	Der fliegende Holländer
	Tannhäuser
	Tristan und Isolde
<b>Weber, C.M. von</b>	Euryanthe
	Der Freischütz, Oberon
<b>Weill, K.</b>	Royal Palace

### Symphonic

<b>Beethoven, L. van</b>	Symphonies No. 1-9, Overtures
	Violino concerto No. 5
	Piano Concerto's No. 1-5, Choral Fantasy
<b>Berlioz, H.</b>	Symphonie Fantastique
	Harold en Italie
	Carnaval Romain
<b>Bernstein, L.</b>	Candide Overture
	Symphonic Dances
<b>Brahms, J.</b>	Symphonies No. 1-4, 4 Concerti
	Overtures, Ein deutsches Requiem
<b>Debussy, C.</b>	L'après-midi d'un faune, Jeux
	La Mer, L'enfant prodigue
<b>Dukas, P.</b>	L'apprenti Sorcier, Symphony
<b>Dvorak, A.</b>	Stabat Mater
<b>De Falla, M.</b>	El Sombrero de tres Picos, Homenajes
<b>Franck, C.</b>	Symphony, Symphonic variations
<b>Gershwin, G.</b>	Piano concerto
<b>Haydn, J.</b>	London Symphonies, Cello concerti
<b>Lalo, E.</b>	Symphonie Espagnole
<b>Mendelssohn, F.</b>	Symphonies 3, 4
	Violino Concerto
<b>Mozart, W.A.</b>	Symphonies No. 35-41
	Concerts (piano, violin, flute&harp, clarinet)
	Requiem
<b>Prokofiev, S.</b>	Symphony No. 1, Alexander Nevsky
<b>Rachmaninov, S.</b>	Rhapsody on a theme by Paganini
<b>Ravel, M.</b>	La Valse, Alborada del Gracioso
	Bolero, Pavane
<b>Rota, N.</b>	Trombone concerto
<b>Saint-Saëns, C.</b>	Piano concertos No. 2, 5
	Violino concerto No. 3
<b>Sibelius, J.</b>	Violino concerto
<b>Schubert, F.</b>	Symphonies 4, 5, 8, 9
<b>Schumann, F.</b>	Symphonies 1-4
	Piano concerto, Cello concerto
<b>Shostakovich, D.</b>	Symphony No. 10, Festive Overture
<b>Tchaikovsky, P.</b>	Symphonies 4-6,
	Romeo and Juliette
	Violino Concerto
<b>Weber, C.M. von</b>	concerti (Clarinet, Bassoon)



## Reviews

**Don Giovanni**  
**Opéra national de Lorraine**  
**September 2017**

"On the musical side things are going on very well and Rani Calderon, at the head of the *Orchestre symphonique et lyrique de Nancy*, an orchestra which the maestro is making grow extremely well, offers a problematic, varied, passionate Mozart, one would say modern, if the adjective didn't lend itself to ambiguous interpretation. The action and the music are definitely married in a perfect way and every moment receives its right attention, even those usually overlooked."

*Bellaunavitaallopera 30.09.2017*

**Philharmonic Concert**  
**(Shostakowitsch 10th, Sibelius Violinkonzert)**  
**Kieler Philharmoniker**  
**October 2016**

"Rani Caldeorn understood perfectly how to turn the recurring sorrowful torrents into powerful expression... in the second movement and in the finale the circumspect conductor drove the musicians in a tempo-delirium and in this way communicated the panic horror and later - the victory."

*Kieler Nachrichten 23.10.2016*

**Royal Palace/Kurt Weill & Il Tabarro/Giacomo Puccini**  
**Opera Orchestre national de Montpellier**  
**June 2016**

"Coming down from Nancy, where he is music director of the Opéra national de Lorraine, Rani Calderon conducts here the Orchestre de Montpellier Languedoc Roussillon with the energy and subtleties known to be his since a long while. Sustained tempo, flexibility, balance and respect of the different styles of Weill and Puccini, he makes the particularities of each one of them sound with the same vigor."

*WebTheatre.fr 14.6.2016*

**Carmen/George Bizet**  
**Theater Kiel**  
**December 2015**

"from the beginning one notices the thorough preparation. Under the conducting of the Israeli conductor Rani Calderon, the orchestra plays wonderfully with homogeneity, secure style, drive and at the same time precision."

*Online Merker 12.12.2015*

**Aleko & Francesca da Rimini/Sergei Rachmaninoff**  
**Opera national de Lorraine**  
**February 2015**

"In the pit, the Israeli Rani Calderon – especially appreciated at the Opera of Nancy - knows how to bring out the

richness of the writing, balance the colors (prolog of *Francesca da Rimini*) and motivate the orchestra and the chorus with elegant gestures which avoid any pathos. An operatic conductor who sets off enthusiasm and contributes considerably to the success of this original show."

*Concertclassic.com 10.2.2015*

**Don Giovanni/Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**  
**Opera de Toulon**  
**May 2015**

"It is no small merit, to be able to resist the temptations of showing originality, especially by pushing the tempi. His are extremely true to a Mozart reading which does not neglect a thing in order to keep the whole. Vigilant and tirelessly precise, he obtains a lively and nuanced interpretation of high classe from the orchestra, while at the same time playing efficiently the continuo part on the cembalo."

*Forumopera.com 27.5.2014*

**Gustav Mahler: Second Symphony**  
**Orquesta Filarmonica de Santiago**  
**Teatro Municipal de Santiago de Chile**  
**March 2014**

"From the violent calls of the lower registers of the strings, in the beginning of the first movement, the orchestra sounded solid, secure, attentive to the indications of the conductors, while moving amidst the lyrical and pastoral moods, to turn back to the crisis which concludes dry and enigmatic."

*El Mercurio 28.3.2014*