

David William Spiro

Conductor

Critics have called the performances of **David William Spiro** thrilling, vibrant, extraordinary, dramatic, noble, incisive, and energetic. The 2023-2024 season included two new operas for Maestro Spiro – ***Les Pêcheurs de perles*** and ***Il Trovatore*** – alongside fresh looks at ***Rigoletto*** and ***Tosca***. His extensive repertoire includes ***Aida***, ***Un Ballo in Maschera***, ***Il Barbiere di Siviglia***, ***La Bohème***, ***Carmen***, ***Cavalleria Rusticana***, ***Così fan tutte***, ***Don Giovanni***, ***Don Pasquale***, ***L'elisir d'Amore***, ***Eugene Onegin***, ***Falstaff***, ***Der Fliegende Holländer***, ***Madama Butterfly***, ***Le Nozze di Figaro***, ***Otello***, ***Turandot***, and his specialty, ***La Traviata***. Spiro is already scheduled to debut three new titles during the 2024-2025 season – ***La Cenerentola***, ***Nabucco*** and ***Norma***.

The Albanian-American conductor made his professional debut by leading members of the *Boston Symphony Orchestra* in a tribute to his mentor, **Leonard Bernstein**. Rossini's ***Stabat Mater*** featured **Edda Moser**, **D'anna Fortunato**, **Gregory Kunde** and **Jerome Hines** and was hailed as “a tribute worthy of Bernstein”. Maestro Spiro's interpretation was singled out as “the closest thing to heaven” (*The Boston Globe*). This was followed by a dynamic performance of **Cherubini's *Medea*** featuring **Sylvia Sass**, **Rita Gorr**, **Franco Bonanome** and **John Macurdy** with the *Boston Festival Opera*.



His focus is primarily on the operatic repertoire. Spiro regularly performs throughout Europe – Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, and the Czech Republic. In 2018, he conducted his first *Carmen* in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Spiro began piano studies at age four. His prodigious skills led him to the famed **Longy School of Music** and, later conducting studies with **Piero Bellugi** at the **New England Conservatory of Music**. For years, he assisted **Sarah Caldwell** at the **Opera Company of Boston**, becoming versed in the responsibilities of an operatic conductor and artistic director. He served in a similar capacity for with the legendary **Nicola Rescigno** at the **Dallas Opera**.

Maestro Spiro founded the **Albanian Choral Society of Boston**, which was featured in a historic performance at the **United Nations**. This elicited an unprecedented invitation from the Albanian government for Spiro to serve as United States representative to the *National Congress* and as well as interact with the **Teatri Kombëtar i Operas dhe Baletit** and the **Orkestra Simfonike e RTSH**. Media coverage from this event led to an invitation for Spiro to work with Leonard Bernstein, who said Spiro was a “unique talent and will be a great conductor” (*The Boston Herald*).

In addition to the standard operatic repertoire, Maestro Spiro is a specialist in the 19th-century Italian opera tradition spanning the *bel canto* and *verismo* periods and encompassing the Verdi *oeuvre*. He has prepared most of these works under the guidance of acknowledged experts – specifically **Magda Olivero**, **Francesco Siciliani**, and **Virginia Zeani** – all of whom can trace their lineage back to the composers.

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