Marco Pucci Catena

Stage Director · Musicologist · Singing and Stagecraft Teacher



Complete artistic curriculum · English version · 2026

1 Professional profile

Marco Pucci Catena is a stage director, musicologist, tenor, and teacher of singing and stagecraft. He began his career in 1981, at the age of twenty, as a theatre actor and director. In 1983 he began his vocal studies and his first collaborations with the opera organisation in Cagliari. He subsequently made his tenor debuts in Spoleto and at the Arena di Verona.

His directing career officially began in Imperia in 1995. In 1998 he achieved international recognition in Vienna and continued working with major theatres and companies in several countries. In 2023 he founded a company in Quito, Ecuador, which received the highest cultural distinction awarded by the National Assembly of Ecuador in 2025.

2 Education and studies

- Higher Technical Institute diploma in Accounting, Rome.
- Studies at the Licinio Refice Conservatory in Frosinone.
- Private studies with baritone Sesto Bruscantini and tenor Alfredo Kraus.
- Advanced teaching and training in vocal technique and stagecraft.

3 Chronological career highlights

- **1981**: debut as theatre actor and director.
- **1983**: vocal studies and first opera collaborations in Cagliari.
- **1988**: tenor debut in Spoleto.
- **1992**: debut at the Arena di Verona, with activity there through 1996.
- **1995**: official beginning of his directing career in Imperia.
- **1998**: international directing debut in Vienna and City of Vienna Award.
- **2000**: United States debut with the Philadelphia Opera Company.
- **2001**: recognition by the Israeli Government as a Messenger of Peace in the Holy Land.
- **2010–2018**: professional activity and collaborations in Korea.
- **2024**: debut as conductor and choir master.
- **2025**: highest cultural honour from the National Assembly of Ecuador.
- **2026**: QTMDLO listed by FeedSpot among the nine best opera podcasts of 2026.

4 Artistic direction and appointments

- Founder and artistic director of the Compagnia Romana dell'Opera Comica Italiana (1982–1986).
- Director of the opera season at Teatro Cavour, Imperia (1995).
- Founder and artistic director of Associazione Mozart Veneto, in collaboration with the Mozarteum Salzburg (1994–1996).
- Artistic director of TRING S.r.l., London, a record company (1994–1996).
- President for Italy of the Vienna Belvedere International Competition (1999–2001).
- Artistic consultant for TELEFOOD — FAO (2001–2003).
- Artistic director of "Concerto per la Vita e per la Pace", Jerusalem and Bethlehem, broadcast worldwide by RAI (2002–2005).

- Founder and artistic director of “La Mala Compañía”, Quito, Ecuador (2022–2025).
- Collaboration with the Ministry of Culture (2000–2010).
- Board member of the “Venezze” Conservatory in Rovigo, appointed directly by the Minister (2005–2009).
- Member of the Ministerial Commission for FUS — the Single Fund for the Performing Arts (2009).
- Member of the Lazio Regional Commission for the allocation of performing-arts funds (2010).

5 Awards and recognitions

- City of Vienna Award for Rossini’s **Il turco in Italia**: 18 performances, 18 sold-out shows (1998).
- “Catania Talenti” Award for the 2001 Verdi Year, for **Simon Boccanegra**, best production of the season (2001).
- Recognition by the Israeli Government as a Messenger of Peace in the Holy Land for the Concerts for Life and Peace (2002).
- Highest cultural honour awarded by the National Assembly of Ecuador (2025).
- QTMDLO listed by FeedSpot among the nine best opera podcasts of 2026.

6 Teaching and university collaborations

Accademia Nazionale di Studi Verdiani, Parma; Gunsan University, Korea; New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria; First International Opera Singing Masterclass, São Luís do Maranhão, Brazil; Orfeo Music Academy, Houston, Texas; Conservatory of São Luís do Maranhão, Brazil; Oriuki Academy, Tokyo; Quito — Zaldumbide Foundation Masterclass.

7 Artistic collaborations

He has collaborated with singers including Vittorio Grigolo, Renato Bruson, Katia Ricciarelli, Riccardo Zanellato, Fabio Sartori, Ermonela Jaho, Elisabeth Matos, Leo Nucci and Bruno Pola. Conductors include Gianandrea Gavazzeni, Richard Bonynge, Alain Lombard, Bruno Bartoletti, Spiros Agiris, Alberto Taverna and Angelo Campori.

8 Tenor activity

Active as a tenor from 1985 to the present. Repertoire and productions include Mozart’s **Vesperae Solennes de Confessore**, Lehár’s **Die lustige Witwe**, Offenbach’s **Les Contes d’Hoffmann**, Petrassi’s **Morte dell’aria**, Poulenc’s **Dialogues des Carmélites**, Puccini’s **Il Tabarro**, Strauss’s **Die Fledermaus**, and Verdi’s **Il trovatore**, **Rigoletto**, **Simon Boccanegra** and **Don Carlo**, as well as galas, zarzuelas, opera concerts and operetta repertoire.

Productions and performances include the Fondazione Arena di Verona, Teatro dell’Opera di Roma, Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania, Teatro Nuovo di Spoleto, Kammeroper Vienna, Donau Festival Wien, Canterbury Theatre, Salzburg Festival, Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the National Theatre of Lviv, São Luís do Maranhão, Adria Festival, Atri, Cesena, Perugia, Naples and Quito.

9 Stage directing

Stage director from 1996 to the present. He has directed productions at Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, Arena di Verona and Teatro Filarmonico, Teatro Massimo V. Bellini in Catania, Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Coccia in Novara, Teatro Donizetti in Bergamo, Opera Company Philadelphia, National Theater Novi Sad, KN Opera Changwon, Montreal Opera House, Opera Honam in Jeonju, Jeonju Opera Company, Varna Opera Festival, Kansas City Lyric Opera, Teatro Nazionale in Tirana, Opera House in Russia, Narodno Pozoriste in Belgrade, and companies in Spain and Japan.

Productions include **Madama Butterfly**, **La Bohème**, **Simon Boccanegra**, **Don Pasquale**, **Fedora**, **Le nozze di Figaro**, **Rigoletto**, **La cenerentola**, **Faust**, **Un ballo in maschera**, **Tosca**, **Turandot**, **Carmen**, **Aida**, **La traviata**, **Il trovatore**, **Suor Angelica**, **Cavalleria rusticana**, **Don Carlo**, **La vedova allegra** and **La prova di un'opera seria**.

10 Publishing, radio and podcast

- Writer and performing-arts editor for the weekly newspaper "Passaparola" (1999).
- Author of the music-history book **S.M.S. — Short Music Story** (2009).
- Creator of the Spanish-language opera radio and podcast programme **¿Quién tiene miedo de la ópera?** (2024–present).
- QTMDLO listed by FeedSpot among the nine best opera podcasts of 2026.

11 Languages and contact

Languages: Spanish, English and French. Nationality: Italian. Upcoming engagements listed in the original curriculum: **La traviata**, Fuerteventura, a tour in Germany and China.

Telephone: +39 327 110 4085

Email: marcopuccicatena@yahoo.it

Via Peschiera 6, 45010 Papozze (RO), Italy

Curriculum translated from the Italian document provided by Marco Pucci Catena · 2026