

The ***Orchestra Giovanile Italiana***, created by Piero Farulli at the ***Scuola di Musica di Fiesole***, during its 30 years of orchestral training has made a vital contribution to musical life in Italy, with more than 1,000 former members employed by Italian and foreign symphony orchestras. Christened by Riccardo Muti, **OGI** has been invited to perform for prestigious national and international festivals.

The Orchestra's conductors have been, among others: *Claudio Abbado, Roberto Abbado, Salvatore Accardo, Yuri Ahronovitch, Piero Bellugi, Luciano Berio, Andrej Borejko, Gabriele Ferro, Daniele Gatti, Carlo Maria Giulini, Eliahu Inbal, Riccardo Muti, Gianandrea Noseda, Nicola Paszkowski, Krzysztof Penderecki, Giuseppe Sinopoli* and *Jeffrey Tate*. Composers such as *Sylvano Bussotti* and *Giorgio Battistelli* have dedicated compositions to the Orchestra. *Giampaolo Pretto* serves as **OGI's** tutor.

The ***Orchestra Giovanile Italiana*** has made recordings for Nuova Era, Aulos, Fonit Cetra and Stradivarius, as well as for RAI, Radio France and for the European Radio Broadcasting Union.

In 2004 **OGI** was awarded the **Abbiati Prize** by the National Association of Music Critics and in 2008 it received the **Praemium Imperiale** Grant for Young Artists from the Japan Art Association.

Supporters of the Orchestra include the Region of Tuscany and the *Ente Cassa di Risparmio* banking foundation of Florence, as well as the Minister of Cultural Assets and Activities. The *Compagnia di San Paolo* banking foundation provides scholarships for principals in the orchestra.

Since 2008, OGI's Artistic Director is *Andrea Lucchesini*.