**Elena Sartori**

Elena Sartori was born in Ravenna, Italy. After graduating with a degree in piano and undertaking several years of intense chamber music activity (including winning First Prize at the 1990 *Concorso Città di Moncalieri*), she graduated with top marks and honours in Organ and Organ Composition, Choral Conducting, and Orchestral Conducting, which she studied at the *Basel Conservatory*, the *Bach Academy* in Stuttgart, the *Salzburg Musikhochschule* and the Italian Conservatories of Cesena and Ferrara.

Sartori also graduated from the University of Bologna with honours in Magisterium with a thesis on modern interpretative approaches to Gregorian Chant. She studied singing (madrigal address) with Claudio Cavina. From 2005 to 2012 she worked as choirmaster at the Ravenna Festival alongside Maestro Riccardo Muti. In 2002 she founded the Vocal-Instrumental Consort *Melodi Cantores*, which became *Allabastrina Choir & Consort* in 2017. As conductor of this ensemble - but also as soloist on organ - she has given concerts at the *Bolshoi Hall* of the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the *New York Cathedral*, the *Teatro del Giglio* in Lucca, the *Auditorium Vallisa* in Bari, the *Teatro Palladium* in Rome and many other venues in Japan, Germany, Spain, Croatia, Belgium, France, Luxembourg and the USA.

In 2021, Sartori was given the Special Mention *Premio Abbiati del Disco* for making the first ever Italian recording of Luigi Rossi's opera *L'Orfeo*, as well as a nomination for the *International Classical Music Awards* 2021. In May 2023, the periodical *Online Merker* called Elena Sartori 'one of the most independent and important figures on the Italian music scene'.