



progetto grafico: Antonio Molotese - Foto: Luigi Angelucci

# A SILENT CHRISTMAS

**Mario Mariani - Concerto per pianoforte e quattro film muti**

A trap for Santa (USA 1909, 16') di D.W.Griffith

A Christmas carol (USA 1910, 10') Edison Film Corp.

Santa Claus (USA 1925, 29') di F.E. Kleinschmidt

A winter straw ride (USA 1906, 7') Edison Film Corp.

# MARIO MARIANI - A SILENT CHRISTMAS

**A Silent Christmas** is a live show for piano and images that celebrates Christmas with four silent films, realized between 1906 and 1925.

Mainly unknown to big audiences, these movies are: “A trap for Santa”, by D.W.Griffith (1909); “Santa Claus” (1925, by F.E.Kleinschmidt), an amazing story shot in Alaska; “A Christmas Carol” (1910) and “A winter straw ride”, (unknown directors, both produced by Edison Corporation)

Over the past few years this project has been widely appreciated all around Italy, performed in prestigious national theaters and it is appropriate for any kind of audience.

## **Technical specifications:**

- parlor grand piano or upright (Steinway, Yamaha or equivalents) tuned at A440Hz, angle shot of about 20 degrees in order for the keyboard to be partially visible to the audience.
- Stable and noiseless piano-bench
- Projector 2000 Ansi Lumen or upper quality
- Cinema screen or white surface appropriate to the room and visible for the pianist
- Spotlight directed on the pianist (with blue, green or pale amber gold colour filter)

Concert lenght: 1 hour



## **Mario Mariani**

Pianist and composer, he writes music for movies, theatre, tv and orchestra, working for Biennale di Venezia, (musics for two editions of **Venice Film Festival**), Auditorium di Roma, Teatro Stabile delle Marche, and **Italian Institutes of Culture**.

He composed soundtracks for Vittorio Moroni's movies: You must be the wolf (2004) , Licu's holidays (2006) , Eve and Adamo (2009) and Under my garden by Andrea Lodovichetti, (**Babelgum Award in Cannes**) awarded for best original soundtrack at Novaracinefestival.

Regarding orchestral works: LUZ, for orchestra; Die Wolf-Gangsters, for young student orchestra and Il parlatore eterno, opera for baritone e 7 pianos commissioned by Rassegna Lirica Torelliana. In 2010: Bolero 2.0 for orchestra.

His sound dubbing of silent movies have been numerous and always outstanding, in happenings such as the **International Exhibition of the New Cinema in Pesaro** (1990-1993) and many festivals all around the Country.

One of the most remarkable performances has been in 2001 when he played the original soundtrack he composed for the movie Caina' (1922, G. Righelli) for the inauguration of the Fano Film Festival (other then for movies by D.W. Griffith, Dryer, Wiene, Lang, Murnau, Vertov, Reiniger and many others)."

He decided to move a step further staying and living for one month in a cave on the top of the Monte Nerone, between Marche and Umbria regions: he performed in the cave for the entire month just with his grand piano, using a recording system and sleeping in a tent. In 2011 he built a small wooden theatre in a forest creating the **Teatro libero del Monte Nerone** (Free theatre of Monte Nerone) : an "environmental sustainability" festival with over one month of events with international artists that has become yearly event.

After his debut album "UTOPIANO"(2010) his second one called "ELEMENTALEA" (2012) is out.

He recently won the "Oscar Marchigiano 2014" award.

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