

Alberto Cappiello

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Alberto Cappiello (born 25 June 1969) is an Italian **horn** soloist and **artistic director**. He is the artistic director and principal horn soloist of the **Rimini Chamber Orchestra**, an Italian chamber ensemble based in **Rimini** that he joined in 2017.^{[4][1][7]} He has performed as a horn soloist with orchestras across Europe, Asia, and the Americas, and is known internationally for his concerto interpretations of the works of **Richard Strauss**, **Reinhold Glière**, **Michael Haydn**, **Carl Maria von Weber**, and other composers of the standard horn-concerto repertoire.^{[3][8][1][17]}

Cappiello began studying the horn at age 10. He completed his diploma at the Conservatorio Statale di Musica "G. Rossini" in **Pesaro** in 1988 with top marks, undertook a scholarship-funded course in **Budapest**, and in 1996 received the special soloist diploma from the **Hochschule für Musik in Dresden** with top marks.^{[1][3][7]} In 1993, he received a Special Prize at the Philip Farkas International Horn Competition in **Budapest**.^{[3][1]}

Cappiello has appeared as a soloist with the Korea Symphony Orchestra, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra of El Salvador, the **Cuban National Symphony Orchestra**, the Domenico Scarlatti Orchestra, the Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra of Mexico City, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Kiev Chamber Orchestra, the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia, the Saint Petersburg Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira (**Venezuela**), the Warstein-Ruthen Chamber Orchestra (**Germany**), and other ensembles in Europe, Asia, the Americas, and the Caribbean.^{[3][8][10][1][16][5][21][22]} Earlier in his career he was a regular collaborator with leading Italian orchestras including **Teatro alla Scala** in Milan, the **Teatro di San Carlo** in Naples, the **RAI National Symphony Orchestra** in **Turin**, and the orchestras of the **Sanremo Music Festival**.^{[3][1]}

Cappiello's first commercial recording, *The Weber Concertos*, was released in 2026 and is distributed via Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17] He recorded Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2 at the Farm House Studio in the Republic of San Marino earlier in his career.^[1]



Cappiello with French horn

Born	25 June 1969 Cles, Trentino, Italy
Origin	Rimini, Italy
Nationality	Italian
Genre	Classical music
Occupation	Horn soloist · Artistic director
Instrument	French horn
Years active	1987–present
Alma mater	Conservatorio "G. Rossini" (Pesaro) Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden
Associated acts	Rimini Chamber Orchestra · Adıyaman Philharmonic Orchestra · Korea Symphony Orchestra
Website	albertocappiello.it albertocappiello.com

Early life and education

Early life and family background

Alberto Cappiello was born on 25 June 1969 in Cles, a small town in the Trentino province of northern Italy.^[1] He began studying the horn at the age of 10.^[3] In interviews with Italian regional press, Cappiello has described his early decision to pursue the horn as having been shaped by exposure to orchestral music in Trentino and to chamber and brass ensembles active in northern Italy.^{[1][3]}

Conservatorio in Rimini and Pesaro

Cappiello pursued his initial musical studies in Rimini and at the Conservatorio Statale di Musica "G. Rossini" in Pesaro, where he was admitted as a horn student.^{[1][3]} The Pesaro conservatory, founded in the nineteenth century and named after the composer Gioachino Rossini (a native of the city), is one of the oldest state music conservatories in Italy. He completed his diploma in 1988 with the highest marks (*massimi voti*).^[1] He also completed the Italian secondary-school programme of *Maturità scientifica* during his school years.^[1]

In 1988, shortly after completing his conservatory diploma, Cappiello was admitted as a member of the **Orchestra Giovanile Italiana** (Italian Youth Orchestra), an ensemble that gathers young instrumentalists from across Italy for residencies and concert tours under guest conductors. Participation in the Orchestra Giovanile Italiana is considered a step on the path to professional careers in the Italian orchestral scene.^{[1][3]}

Budapest and Dresden

After his Italian diploma, Cappiello continued his horn studies in Budapest, where he held a scholarship to study within the Franz Liszt Academy tradition of horn pedagogy.^[1] The Budapest period brought him into contact with horn teachers in the Central European brass

tradition, which he has cited in Italian press interviews as a major influence on his solo approach.^{[1][3]}

He then enrolled at the Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber in Dresden, one of the leading conservatories of the German-speaking world for orchestral instruments, where in 1996 he received the special soloist diploma (*Solistenexamen*) with top marks.^{[1][7]} The *Solistenexamen* is the highest-level performance qualification offered by German music conservatories and is awarded to a small number of recital-ready graduates each year.^[1]

Career

Early career and Italian orchestral collaborations (1987–2013)

Italian opera houses and symphony orchestras

Cappiello began his professional career in 1987, while still completing his Italian conservatory studies. From the late 1980s through the early 2010s he appeared as a horn player with a series of leading Italian opera houses and symphony orchestras, including the orchestra of Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, the RAI National Symphony Orchestra in Turin and Rome, the Orchestra Sinfonica di Sanremo, the Lugano Radio Orchestra (Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana), and the Filarmonica di Torino.^{[1][3]}

His collaboration with the orchestra of Teatro alla Scala — Italy's most prominent opera house — brought him into contact with the conductors active in the Italian opera and symphonic scene in the 1990s and early 2000s.^[1] The 1999 appearance at La Scala is one of the milestones cited in Italian regional press coverage of his career.^{[1][3]}

Sanremo Music Festival appearances

Cappiello performed at the Sanremo Music Festival — Italy's most-watched annual music event — in 2010 and again in 2013, in the capacity of horn player within the festival orchestra.^[1] The Sanremo Festival is broadcast on Italian state television and is widely considered the most prominent platform for live music performance in Italy. The festival orchestra accompanies the competition's vocal performers and is composed of orchestral musicians drawn from across the Italian classical scene.^[1] His participation in two editions of the festival placed his playing before a national television audience reported in the millions for each broadcast.^[1]

Other Italian orchestras

During the same period Cappiello also collaborated with the Turin Philharmonic Orchestra, the Lugano Radio Orchestra of the Italian-speaking radio service of Switzerland (Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana), and the symphony orchestra of Sanremo.^{[1][3]} These collaborations, undertaken alongside his work at La Scala, San Carlo, and the RAI National Symphony, gave him exposure across the principal Italian and Italian-Swiss orchestral institutions of the period.^[1]

Soloist career and international touring (2014–present)

Transition to a solo career

Cappiello transitioned to a full-time solo career in 2014, ending his regular collaborations with Italian opera and symphonic orchestras and concentrating on solo concerto engagements and chamber-music recitals.^[3] He has stated in interviews that the decision was driven by the desire to focus on the horn solo concerto repertoire — particularly the works of Richard Strauss, Reinhold Glière, Michael Haydn, Carl Maria von Weber, and other late-Classical and Romantic composers.^{[3][1]}

European, Asian, and American touring

As soloist he has collaborated with chamber ensembles and symphony orchestras across Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Notable engagements have included performances with the Rotterdam Wind Ensemble, the Bellagio Symphony Orchestra, the Milano Chamber Orchestra, the Arezzo Chamber Orchestra, the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Kiev Chamber Orchestra, the Saint Petersburg Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Mussorgsky Symphony Orchestra, and the Virtuosi Lviv chamber ensemble.^{[1][3][8]}

International concerto appearances from the late 2010s and 2020s have included performances with the Korea Symphony Orchestra, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra of El Salvador, the Cuban National Symphony Orchestra, the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira (Venezuela), the New Caribbean Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orquesta Filarmónica de San Vicente, the Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra of Mexico City, the Ibero-Americana Symphony Orchestra of Mexico City, the Villhena Symphony Orchestra (Brazil), the Toscanini Symphony Orchestra (Italy), the Wiener Kammermusik Orchester, the Domenico Scarlatti Orchestra, and the Warstein-Ruthen Chamber Orchestra in Westphalia (Germany).^{[1][3][8][7][10][16][5][21][22]}

Rimini Chamber Orchestra (2017–present)

In 2017, Capiello joined the Rimini Chamber Orchestra as principal horn soloist and artistic director, a dual role he has continued to hold.^{[4][1]} Under his artistic direction, the orchestra programmes an annual concert season focused on the classical and Romantic chamber-orchestra repertoire, including symphonies and concertos drawn from the standard concert repertoire as well as new arrangements and chamber transcriptions of works originally written for larger orchestras.^{[1][7]}

With the Rimini Chamber Orchestra, Capiello has performed and recorded a series of concerto programmes featuring himself as horn soloist, including the world premiere in chamber arrangement of Reinhold Glière's Horn Concerto.^{[3][1][18]}

In addition to his work in Rimini, Capiello has held the position of principal horn soloist with the Adıyaman Philharmonic Orchestra in Turkey.^[1]

Selected international concerto appearances

2017–2019: Eastern Europe and South America

In late 2017, Capiello performed as soloist with the Virtuosi Lviv chamber ensemble in Ukraine and with the Belarusian Chamber Orchestra (Belarus).^[1] In 2018 he appeared with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira in Venezuela, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, and the New Caribbean Philharmonic Orchestra.^{[1][3]} His Venezuelan appearances were reported by the regional newspapers *Los Andes* and *La Nación* in Táchira.^{[21][22]} In subsequent engagements he returned to the Moscow Chamber Orchestra and made his debut with the Kiev Chamber Orchestra.^[1]

National Symphony Orchestra of El Salvador (2019)

In 2019, Capiello performed as soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra of El Salvador, playing Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2 under the direction of Maestro Cáceres.^{[1][3]} The engagement formed part of his Central American concert activity in the years immediately preceding his 2024 tour of the region.^[1]

Korea Symphony Orchestra (2017, 2023, 2025, 2026)

Capiello has performed as a soloist with the Korea Symphony Orchestra on four separate engagements between 2017 and 2026, performing horn concertos from the standard solo repertoire.^{[3][1]} On 15 November 2023, he performed Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 1 with the orchestra at the Yerimdang Arts Center in Seoul, conducted by Sung-ho Ha; an audio-video recording of the performance has been published on YouTube via the orchestra's distribution channels.^{[8][7][19]} Subsequent appearances with the orchestra have included performances of Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2 and Reinhold Glière's Horn Concerto in 2025 and 2026.^{[1][3]} According to coverage by *Rimini Today*, Capiello's Korean appearances have been received "as a star" by Korean audiences and have been the subject of regional press coverage in both Italy and South Korea.^[3]

West Virginia Symphony Orchestra (2022) and the Butler Philharmonic exchange

In 2022, Capiello appeared as soloist with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra in the United States, performing Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2.^[1] The engagement followed an exchange initiated with the orchestra's then–music director and was reported on at the time by the *Journal-News* in Butler County, Ohio, which noted that the conductor of the Butler Philharmonic Orchestra had been invited to Italy following the appearance.^[15]

Warstein-Ruthen Chamber Orchestra (Germany, 2022)

Also in 2022, Capiello performed as a soloist with the Warstein-Ruthen Chamber Orchestra in Warstein, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, in a concert programme reported on by the regional German magazine *Westfalium*.^[16] The performance was part of a chamber-music programme in the Westphalia region.^[16]

Central American and Caribbean tours (2024)

In 2024, Capiello toured Central America and the Caribbean as a horn soloist. He appeared with the Orquesta Filarmónica de San Vicente, the Domenico Scarlatti Orchestra, and the Cuban National Symphony Orchestra in Cuba.^{[1][5]} *Rimini Today* reported on his Central American programme at the time.^[5]

2025 South American and Korean appearances

In 2025, Capiello performed Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 2 with the Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra of Mexico City and Glière's Horn Concerto with the Korea Symphony Orchestra and the Vilhena Symphony Orchestra in Brazil.^[1] The Brazilian and Mexican appearances formed part of a broader Americas tour that brought him into contact with audiences across North America, Central America, and South America.^{[1][3]}

2026 world tour

In 2026 Cappiello undertook a three-month international tour spanning Asia, Europe, and the Americas, running from 26 February through the end of May 2026.^{[6][1][13][14]} The tour included performances of the Forster Horn Concerto with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra of Forlì, Carl Maria von Weber's Concertino for Horn with the Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra of Mexico City, and Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 1 with the Korea Symphony Orchestra.^{[1][7][8]} Italian regional press, including *Corriere Romagna*, *Rimini Today*, *La Piazza Rimini*, *Chiamami Città*, *Emilia Romagna News 24*, *Sesto Potere*, *AltaRimini*, *InfoOggi*, and *Politicamente Corretto*, reported on the tour both as it began and at the time of his return to Italy at its conclusion.^{[6][3][1][7][8][9][10][12][13][14]}

Chamber music and recital activity

Outside of solo concerto engagements, Cappiello performs in chamber and recital settings, including horn–piano duo programmes. He has performed in concert with the pianist Ulysse Bonaventura, as reported by *AltaRimini*.^[11] His chamber repertoire includes works by classical and Romantic composers as well as twentieth-century chamber works for horn and keyboard.^{[11][1]}

World premieres and notable performances

With the Rimini Chamber Orchestra, Cappiello premiered Reinhold Glière's Horn Concerto in a transcription for horn and strings, in a concert in Coriano, near Rimini.^{[3][1][18]} He has also performed Telemann's Horn Concerto with the same ensemble.^[3]

A 1999 appearance at the Teatro alla Scala opera house in Milan represented an early career milestone, and his 2010 and 2013 appearances within the orchestra of the Sanremo Music Festival introduced his playing to a wide Italian television audience.^[1]

Repertoire

Cappiello's solo and concerto repertoire — as documented in Italian regional press coverage and in his published recordings — includes the following works:^{[1][3][17]}

- Richard Strauss — Horn Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, Op. 11.^{[3][7]}
- Richard Strauss — Horn Concerto No. 2 in E-flat major.^{[1][15]}
- Reinhold Glière — Horn Concerto in B-flat major, Op. 91 (performed in chamber arrangement).^{[3][1]}
- Michael Haydn — Horn Concerto.^{[20][3]}
- Georg Philipp Telemann — Horn Concerto.^[3]
- Carl Maria von Weber — Concertino for Horn in E minor, Op. 45.^{[1][17]}
- Christoph Forster — Horn Concerto.^[1]
- Joseph Haydn — Horn Concerto No. 1 in D major, Hob. VIIId:3.^{[1][3]}
- Giovanni Punto — Horn Concertos.^{[1][3]}
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart — Horn Concertos.^{[1][17]}
- Johann Sebastian Bach — Suites (performed in transcription for horn).^{[1][3]}

Discography

- The Weber Concertos* (2026) — solo album featuring Carl Maria von Weber's Concertino for Horn, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Richard Strauss, Horn Concerto No. 2 — studio recording made at the Farm House Studio in the Republic of San Marino.^[1]
- Richard Strauss — Horn Concertos, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Joseph Haydn — Horn Concertos, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart — Horn Concertos, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Reinhold Glière — Horn Concerto, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Christoph Forster — Horn Concertos, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]
- Johann Sebastian Bach — Suites, in transcription for horn, distributed on Spotify and other digital platforms.^[17]

Competitions and awards

- 1993 – Special Prize, Philip Farkas International Horn Competition, Budapest.^{[3][1]}
- 1998 – Third Prize and Special Prize, Riviera del Conero International Chamber Music Competition.^[1]

- 2010 – Finalist, International Horn Competition, Cairo.^[1]
- 2010 – Finalist, International Horn Competition, Copenhagen.^{[1][3]}
- 2010 – Finalist, International Horn Competition, London.^{[3][1]}
- 2010 – Finalist, International Horn Competition, São Paulo.^[1]

Media coverage

Italian press

Cappiello has been the subject of regular coverage by Italian regional press, particularly in the Emilia-Romagna region. Publications that have profiled him or reported on his concerts and tours include *Corriere Romagna*, *Rimini Today*, *La Piazza Rimini*, *Chiamami Città*, *Emilia Romagna News 24*, *Sesto Potere*, *AltaRimini*, *InfoOggi*, *Politicamente Corretto*, *Rimini Beach*, *Il Resto del Carlino*, and *Corriere delle Alpi*.^{[6][3][1][7][8][9][10][12][14][18]}

Online coverage

Alongside print and broadcast reporting, Cappiello's concert activity has been documented across a range of Italian and international online news outlets, regional news portals, and specialist classical-music websites, which have published concert announcements, tour reports, and interviews over the course of his solo career.^{[1][3][6][7][8][9][10][12][13][14]} Coverage of this kind has accompanied in particular his international tours from 2017 onwards and the release of his 2026 album *The Weber Concertos*.^{[6][17]}

International press

International press coverage of Cappiello's career has included the Venezuelan newspapers *Los Andes* and *La Nación*, which covered his appearances with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira; the German magazine *Westfalium*, which reported on his 2022 appearance with the Warstein-Ruthen Chamber Orchestra in North Rhine-Westphalia; and the American newspaper *Journal-News* in Butler County, Ohio, which reported on the exchange initiative between the Butler Philharmonic Orchestra and the Italian Rimini scene that followed Cappiello's 2022 West Virginia Symphony Orchestra appearance.^{[21][22][16][15]}

Television and broadcast

His appearances at the Sanremo Music Festival in 2010 and 2013 and at the Teatro alla Scala in 1999 received Italian national television and theatre exposure.^[1] Performance recordings have also been distributed via YouTube, including his Strauss Horn Concerto No. 2 performance with the Korea Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sungho Ha.^{[19][20]}

Artistic profile

Style and approach

Italian regional press has characterised Cappiello's playing as combining the Central European brass-school approach he absorbed during his studies in Budapest and Dresden with the Italian operatic and chamber-music tradition rooted in his Pesaro Conservatory training and his early collaborations with Italian opera-house orchestras.^{[3][1]} *Rimini Today* has highlighted his "sound power and innovative style" in international solo concerto contexts, citing in particular his interpretations of Strauss and Glière.^[3]

Repertoire focus and programming

Cappiello's solo repertoire emphasises horn concertos of the Classical and Romantic eras, with Richard Strauss's two horn concertos and Reinhold Glière's Horn Concerto forming recurring centrepieces of his international concerto appearances.^{[1][3][17]} His chamber-arrangement performance of Glière's concerto with the Rimini Chamber Orchestra is reported as the work's premiere in that configuration.^{[3][1]} As artistic director of the Rimini Chamber Orchestra, he has programmed seasonal concerts combining standard chamber-orchestra repertoire with rarely-performed horn concertos and chamber arrangements of works originally written for larger orchestras.^{[1][7]}

Personal life

Cappiello lives in Rimini, Italy.^[4]

References

1. "Rimini. Il musicista Alberto Capiello in tournée mondiale di tre mesi". La Piazza Rimini. Rimini, Italy. February 2026 (in Italian). lapiazzarimini.it
2. "Rimini. Musica, Alberto Capiello bella tournée". La Piazza Rimini. Rimini, Italy. 2026 (in Italian). lapiazzarimini.it
3. "Applausi da Seoul al Messico: il maestro riminese conquista il mondo. 'In Corea accolto come una star'". Rimini Today. Rimini, Italy (in Italian). riminitoday.it
4. "Alberto Capiello — profilo". Rimini Today. Rimini, Italy (in Italian). riminitoday.it
5. "Rimini, Il maestro Alberto Capiello vola in Centro America per due concerti". Rimini Today. Rimini, Italy (in Italian). riminitoday.it
6. "Il musicista Alberto Capiello in partenza per una tournée mondiale dal 26 febbraio alla fine di maggio". Corriere Romagna. Italy. February 2026 (in Italian). corriereromagna.it
7. "Il Maestro riminese Alberto Capiello torna a casa dopo una lunga tournée mondiale". Chiamami Città. Rimini, Italy. 2026 (in Italian). chiamamicitta.it
8. "Il Maestro riminese Alberto Capiello torna a casa dopo una lunga tournée mondiale". Emilia Romagna News 24. 2026 (in Italian). emiliaromagnanews24.it
9. "Musica: il maestro riminese Alberto Capiello parte per una tournée mondiale lunga tre mesi". Sesto Potere. Italy. February 2026 (in Italian). sestopotere.com
10. "Si chiude la tournée mondiale del maestro riminese Alberto Capiello". AltaRimini. Rimini, Italy. 2026 (in Italian). altarimini.it
11. "Il musicista riminese Alberto Capiello in concerto assieme al pianista Ulysse Bonaventura". AltaRimini. Rimini, Italy (in Italian). altarimini.it
12. "Il Maestro riminese Alberto Capiello torna a casa dopo una lunga tournée mondiale". InfoOggi. Italy. 2026 (in Italian). infooggi.it
13. "Il Maestro riminese Alberto Capiello parte per una tournée mondiale lunga tre mesi". InfoOggi. Italy (in Italian). infooggi.it
14. "Una vita per la musica: il Maestro riminese Alberto Capiello parte per una tournée mondiale lunga tre mesi". Politicamente Corretto. February 13, 2026 (in Italian). politicamentecorretto.com
15. "Conductor of Butler Philharmonic Orchestra invited to Italy after being seen on broadcast". Journal-News. Butler County, Ohio. journal-news.com
16. "KI in Warstein mit viel Programm". Westfalium. Germany. September 2022 (in German). westfalium.de
17. "Alberto Capiello: The Weber Concertos". Spotify. 2026. open.spotify.com
18. "Concerto Alberto Capiello Coriano". Rimini Beach. Rimini, Italy (in Italian). riminibeach.it
19. "R. Strauss 2 Horn Concerto Alberto Capiello Korea Symphony Orchestra Dir. Sungho Ha" (video). YouTube. youtube.com
20. "M. Haydn Horn Concerto, Alberto Capiello, Rimini Chamber Orchestra" (video). YouTube. youtube.com
21. Concert report on Alberto Capiello's appearance with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira. *Los Andes*. Táchira, Venezuela (in Spanish).
22. Concert report on Alberto Capiello's appearance with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Táchira. *La Nación*. Táchira, Venezuela (in Spanish).

External links

- Official website — albertocapiello.it
- Alberto Capiello — international site — albertocapiello.com
- Alberto Capiello: *The Weber Concertos* — on Spotify
- Richard Strauss Horn Concerto No. 2, Alberto Capiello with Korea Symphony Orchestra (Sungho Ha, conductor) — on YouTube
- Michael Haydn Horn Concerto, Alberto Capiello with Rimini Chamber Orchestra — on YouTube

Categories: 1969 births · Living people · Italian classical horn players · Italian male classical musicians · 21st-century Italian male musicians · 21st-century classical musicians · Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden alumni · People from Cles · Musicians from Rimini · Italian artistic directors