



**Luciano Chessa,
Guest Conductor**

Luciano Chessa is a composer, conductor, audiovisual and performance artist. His most recent record, *Canti felice*, has been released on the Parisian label Skank Bloc Records in Spring 2018. His compositions include *Cromlech*, a large organ piece that just premiered in Melbourne's Town Hall as part of a solo organ recital that received over 2,200 ticket bookings; the opera *Cena oltranzista nel castelletto al lago*—a work merging experimental theater with reality TV which required from the cast over 55 hours of fasting—and *A Heavenly Act*, an opera commissioned by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, with original video by Kalup Linzy. Chessa has been commissioned multiple times by the Performa Biennial, and in 2014 he presented three events at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum as part of the exhibition *Italian Futurism, 1909–1944: Reconstructing the Universe*. Chessa's work appeared more than once in *Artforum*, *Flash Art*, *Art in America*, and *Frieze*; and has been featured in the Italian issue of *Marie Claire* and in the September Issue of *Vogue Italia*. He has been interviewed twice by the British *BBC* and has been the subject of two short documentaries: one produced by *RAI World* (2014), and the other by Vietnamese State TV *VTV1*

in the occasion of his first trip to Viet Nam (2015). Chessa is also a music historian specializing in 20th-century Italian and 21st-century American repertoire. He is the author of *Luigi Russolo Futurist. Noise, Visual Arts, and the Occult* (University of California Press, 2012), the first monograph dedicated to Russolo and his "Art of Noise." In 2009 his Orchestra of Futurist Noise Intoners (OFNI) was hailed by the *New York Times* as one of the best events in the arts; Chessa has conducted this project across the USA and internationally to sold out houses including RedCat in Los Angeles, the New World Center in Miami, Radial System / Maerzmusik-Berliner Festspiele, the ArtScience Museum in Singapore, and Lisbon's Municipal Theater. With this project he collaborated with the likes of Joan La Barbara, Mike Patton, Lee Ranaldo, Ellen Fullman, Blixa Bargeld, Pauline Oliveros, among others. He just completed his residency at the Steel House in Rockland, ME, where he developed the audiovisual installation *#00FF00 #FF00FF* and prepared for Schirmer the diplomatic edition of Julius Eastman's Second Symphony, the world premiere of which he is about to conduct at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall with Mannes Orchestra. His chapter on Julius Eastman "Gay Guerrilla" closes the book of the same title—the first ever dedicated to Eastman's music. Edited by Mary Jane Leach and Renée Levine Packer for University of Rochester Press, "Gay Guerrilla" just came out on paperback.