

Herminigildo G. Ranera, conductor



Herminigildo G. Ranera graduated from the UST Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree, majoring in the fields of Trombone and Theory, Master of Music degree in Conducting from the University of Northern Colorado (with the Deans' citation for Graduate Excellence and National Graduate Award), and the Doctor of Philosophy major in Educational Management from the Cagayan State University.

A multi-awarded performer, he was a three-time prize winner of the National Music Competitions for Young Artists (NAMCYA) in 1982 and 1983 as a performer in Trombone, Baritone and Tuba (Chamber Music) categories. He was a prize-winner of the 1983 League of Filipino Composers Competition for Young Composers, and collaborated with his mentor, Fr. Manuel P. Maramba, O.S.B. for various productions of the CCP.

Among his conducting mentors were Bernardino Custodio, Duilio Dubrin, Kenneth Singleton, David Mackenzie, Piero Gamba, Salvador Mas Conde at the Konservatium Wien Privatuniversitat, Redentor Romero, Jae Joon Lee and Dr. Christopher Hughes.

His orchestral arrangements have been featured in the CD albums of Redentor Romero featuring the Moscow Symphony Orchestra and the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra. His recent recording Symphonic Winds with the UST Symphony Band features him in multiple roles as conductor, composer, and orchestra arranger.

As an orchestra conductor, he has led the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO), CSULB Symphony Orchestra, Chia Yi Wind Orchestra, Mania Philharmonic, San Miguel Philharmonic, Philippine Pop Orchestra, and the UST Symphony Orchestra. He has also conducted the Transylvania Philharmonic Orchestra in Club, Romania. He has collaborated with international and local artists such as Alexander Tomescu, Tian Jiang, Maki Hrasawa, Theo Mertens, Zoltan Szabo, Nena Del Rosario-Vilanueva, Fi-Manuel Maramba, Leonor Kilayko, Reynaldo Reyes, Rowena Arieta and Raul Sunico.

As an opera and ballet conductor, he was the musical director and conductor of the 2005 Philippine Opera Companies OPERA NOW With 30 of the country's top artists performing best loved opera arias with the PPO, Zarzuela Something to Crow About (2005), the 2006 Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin production (Philippine Premiere); the 2008 production of Johannaus Jr's operetta Die Fledermaus; and the 2010 production of Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana,), Carmina Burana Full Ballet Production with Philippine Ballet Theater (2010), Noli Me Tangere Opera at CCP (2019), Swan Lake Ballet Production (2019), Opera Takayama Ukon. He also conducted the world premiere of 3 Filipino Operas and Zarzuela: Aba! Santo Nino and La Naval by Fr. Manuel Maramba, Lorenzo Ruiz by Jerry Dadap, and Ang Sarswela sa San Salvador by Fr. Maramba.

He has been invited as guest lecturer, resident composer, and guest conductor in Asia and the United States. He served as visiting professor in Taiwan Regional Development Institute (1998), National Taiwan Normal University (1989), and in California State University- Long Beach (1996).

Dr. Ranera is the founder of the Philippine Band Association (PHILBANDA), Board Member of the Asia-Pacific Band Directors Association and the adviser of Band Conductors League of the Philippines.

In 2003, Dr. Ranera was chosen as a Dangal Awardee (most outstanding faculty in the Performing Arts Category) by the University of Santo Tomas. He was the recipient of the 2006 Patnubay ng Sining at Kalinangan Award for Music given by the City of Manila. He was an Aliw Awardee for 2014 and 2015 for his contributions in the field of music as conductor, composer, arranger, and educator. He also won the 2019 Live Entertainment Arts and Festival (LEAF) "Outstanding Musical Director" award, the 2019 UST "Most Outstanding Teacher" award and the 2021 Distinguished Thomasian Alumnus Award.

Presently teaching at the UST Conservatory of Music, and St. Paul University Manila Graduate School. Dr. Ranera is the principal conductor of the UST Symphony Orchestra and Wind Orchestra. He is also the music director at the Philippine Coast Guard Symphonic Band with the rank of Commander, the San Juan Nepomuceno Band, the Pasay City Symphony Band and the resident conductor of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra.