

Richard Cordova (Conductor) made his professional conducting debut leading the Scandinavian Premiere of Bernstein's *Candide* in Bergen, Norway, and has subsequently conducted productions for Oper der Stadt Bonn, Opera North (New Hampshire), Sarasota Opera, Opera Company of Boston, Long Beach Opera, Berkshire Opera, Florida Grand Opera and Baltimore Opera. He has served as Music Director for both Julie Taymor's *Juan Darien* during its initial off-Broadway inception (later conducting the work during its Tony Award nominated run at Lincoln Center Theater during the 1996-97 season); and earlier for Music-Theater Group's groundbreaking off-Broadway production of Virgil Thomson's *The Mother of Us All*, an opera he later conducted more often than any other living conductor. As a pianist, he has collaborated with such artists as Martina Arroyo, Frederica von Stade, Renato Bruson, Florence Quivar and Julia Migenes, and has worked in this capacity for several major opera companies around the world. For the past seventeen years, he has toured internationally with various productions of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, conducting the work on four continents. He continues a ten-year association with the Sarasota Opera, having held various titles with organization including that of Program and Music Director for the Studio Artists.