



Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

## JoAnn Falletta, music director



Hailed by the *New York Times* as "...one of the finest conductors of her generation," JoAnn Falletta currently holds the position as Music Director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. An effervescent and exuberant figure on the podium, she has been praised by the *Washington Post* as having "Toscanini's tight control over ensemble, Walter's affectionate balancing of inner voices, Stokowski's gutsy showmanship, and a controlled frenzy worthy of Bernstein."

Highlights of Maestro Falletta's 2003/04 season with the Buffalo Philharmonic include the orchestra's return to New York's Carnegie Hall for two performances for the first time in over 15 years, and the release of a new recording of *The Music of Charles Tomlinson Griffes*, the second of three discs on the Naxos American Classics series by the Buffalo Philharmonic. Continuing to raise the BPO's national and international prominence, Ms. Falletta will lead the orchestra in a number of concerts to be broadcast on NPR's *Performance Today Performance Today* and *SymphonyCast* and by the European Broadcasting Union.

In great demand as a guest conductor, Ms. Falletta has conducted many of the world's finest symphony orchestras. Recent and upcoming engagements included appearances with the orchestras of Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Montreal, St. Louis, Houston, Indianapolis, Seattle, Utah, National Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and London. Ms. Falletta's summer activities have taken her to numerous music festivals including the Aspen, Tanglewood, Hollywood Bowl, Grand Teton, Eastern Music, Round Top, Cabrillo, OK Mozart International, Colorado, Lanaudiere, Peter Britt, and Breckenridge festivals.

Ms. Falletta has won the coveted Stokowski Competition and the Seaver, Toscanini, Ditson and Bruno Walter Awards for conducting, and has been recognized as one of America's most gifted programmers. She is the recipient of eight consecutive awards from ASCAP for creative programming, as well as the American Symphony Orchestra League's prestigious John S. Edwards Award. As a leading authority on orchestral repertoire and a champion of contemporary music, she has performed nearly 300 works by American Composers, including more than 60 world premieres. Maestro Falletta was recognized as Buffalo's most influential community leader after her first season leading the BPO. The following year, she was named Buffalo and Erie County's Artist of the Year for excellence in creating and supporting the arts in Western New York.

Her growing discography includes over 30 titles. Ms. Falletta's most recently released recordings include *The Music of Frederick Converse*, by the Buffalo Philharmonic on the Naxos label, *Pictures at a Gallery* by the Buffalo Philharmonic, John Powell's *Virginia Symphony*, with the Virginia Symphony on the Albany label, *The American Clarinet*, with the Czech National Symphony, and Schubert's *Guitar* on the Koch label, featuring Ms. Falletta as guitarist. In addition to the release of the *Griffes* disc, this season the BPO will record their fifth self-produced disc, entitled *Burchfield Gallery*. Ms. Falletta will lead the Virginia Symphony in the world of premiere recording of *The American Cello*, and the London Symphony in a recording of the music of Behzad Ranjbaran and Ken Fuchs.

A native of New York City, Ms. Falletta received her undergraduate degree from Mannes School of Music and her masters and doctorate degrees from The Juilliard School.