



# Violinist Francesca Dego



**Jack Price**  
*Managing Director*  
1 (310) 254-7149  
Skype: pricerubin  
[jp@pricerubin.com](mailto:jp@pricerubin.com)

**Rebecca Petersen**  
*Executive Administrator*  
1 (916) 539-0266  
Skype: rebeccajoylove  
[rbp@pricerubin.com](mailto:rbp@pricerubin.com)

**Olivia Stanford**  
*Marketing Operations Manager*  
[os@pricerubin.com](mailto:os@pricerubin.com)

**Karrah O'Daniel-Cambry**  
*Opera and Marketing Manager*  
[kc@pricerubin.com](mailto:kc@pricerubin.com)

**Mailing Address:**  
1000 South Denver Avenue  
Suite 2104  
Tulsa, OK 74119

**Website:**  
<http://www.pricerubin.com>

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Complete artist information including video, audio and interviews are available at [www.pricerubin.com](http://www.pricerubin.com)

## Francesca Dego – Biography

**FRANCESCA DEGO** (born 1989 in Lecco, Italy) has established herself as one of the best young violinists on the international musical scene. Recently signed by Deutsche Grammophon, her debut album with the 24 Paganini Caprices recorded on the ex-Ricci Guarneri del Gesù was released in October 2012 and received high critical acclaim. She is now recording the complete Beethoven violin sonatas, the final volume to be released in Fall 2015. She is also featured guest artist in Italian tenor Vittorio Grigolo's album "Ave Maria" released by Sony Classical.

She is a winner of numerous national and international competitions. In 2008 she was the first Italian female violinist since 1961 to reach the final of the renowned "Paganini Competition" in Genoa and she won the "Enrico Costa" prize for having been the youngest finalist.

Francesca made her debut as soloist at the age of 7 in California with a Bach concerto, in Italy at 14 with Beethoven Concerto and at 15 with Brahms concerto in Milan conducted by György Györiványi Ráth and Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante at the Tel Aviv Opera House with Shlomo Mintz. Since then she performs regularly with major orchestras including the Milan Symphony, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Nice, the Chamber Orchestra of La Scala, European Union Chamber Orchestra, Sofia Festival Orchestra, the Teatro Colon Orchestra of Buenos Aires, "Arturo Toscanini" Symphony Orchestra, Arena di Verona Orchestra, the Soloists of the Rostov State Theatre, Leeds' Opera North Symphony Orchestra, Israel Sinfonietta, Trento "Haydn" Orchestra, Turin Philharmonic, "I Pomeriggi Musicali", the Bologna, Trieste, Genova and Bari Theater Orchestras and the Orchestra della Toscana (ORT) alongside great soloists and conductors such as Salvatore Accardo, Christopher Hogwood, Bruno Giuranna, Gianluigi Gelmetti, Julian Kovatchev, Wayne Marshall, Diego Matheuz, Antonio Meneses, Domenico Nordio, Donato Renzetti, Daniele Rustioni, Yoel Levi, Jan Lisiecki, Peter Stark and Xian Zhang.

**Price Rubin & Partners**

Toll Free: 866-PRI-RUBI (774-7824) ext. 1

LA: 310-254-7149 Skype: pricerubent



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## Francesca Dego – Biography

She regularly appears in prestigious venues and festivals including Wigmore Hall and Royal Albert Hall in London, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall and St. Petersburg's Philharmonic, Shanghai's Oriental Arts Center and Beijing's NCPA, Bruxelles and Geneva, "Les Flâneries Musicales" festival in Reims and "Generation Virtuoses" festival in Antibes, in Lebanon at the Al Bustan festival and in Perù for Lima's Sociedad Filarmonica.

She performed as soloist at the Concerts for Life and Peace in Bethlehem and Jerusalem with the Orchestra Giovanile Italiana under Nicola Paszkowski and at the 2014 and 2015 Remembrance Day Concerts in Rome, broadcast worldwide by RAI. In June 2014 she was invited to open the Football World Cup in Brazil performing at Rio De Janeiro's Theatro Municipal.

Recent and upcoming highlights include debuts with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, Oviedo Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra at Suntory Hall, Kyushu Symphony, the Armenian Philharmonic, Orquestra Sinfónica Portuguesa, Fresno Philharmonic, Reno Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra da Camera di Mantova, Thailand Philharmonic and the Philharmonique du Liban.

Her live recording of the Beethoven concerto at 14 years old comprised a large part of the sound track of the documentary "The Gerson Miracle", winner of the Golden Palm at the 2004 Beverly Hills Film Festival and selections from her CDs have been included in the sound track of the 2008 film by prize-winning director Steve Kroschel "The Beautiful Truth".

Francesca plays a precious Francesco Ruggeri violin (Cremona 1697) and the ex-Ricci Guarneri del Gesù (Cremona 1734) courtesy of Florian Leonhard Fine Violins.

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## Francesca Dego – Reviews

...violinist Francesca Dego, who, from the first bars is well able to portray with perfect measure the chiaroscuro of the score... the violinist adds to the beauty of her tone the smooth fluency of her phrasing increasingly streaked with dynamic tone-colors... crystalline beauty of Francesca Dego's fourth string... what can one say of the superb Tzigane by Ravel? A piece that exalts the splendid gifts of Dego, a musician who not only dominates all technical difficulties, but reveals a well-defined interpretative personality, exhilarating for her control of musical subject matter.

**Carlo Bellora, Musica Magazine**

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A joyful spirituality, delightful sonority, attractive emotions were expressed by Francesca Dego... Dego's tone is sweet, clear, controlled, her performing flair never departs from the composer's inspiring sensibility, a truly genial Beethoven. Dego enhanced the gold of the notes with extra carats...

**Attilio Botarelli, Corriere di Siena**

---

...a truly elegant reading of the Mozart Sonata only to launch with bold confidence into the Franck Sonata... enthralling performance of Tzigane, a dazzling piece which, albeit short, seems designed to create difficulties for players. Not however for Francesca Dego who extracted the harsh and spectacular sonorities lavishly scattered throughout the score. Greeted with well-deserved, thunderous applause...

**Ettore Napoli, Amadeus**

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...in taking on the infinite virtuosities of Paganini, which exploit the violin and bow's unimaginable technical and expressive potential, Francesca Dego was able to demonstrate all her bravura based on a truly enviable technique, clarity of sound, rhythmical precision, and an ability to communicate with the other musicians and the public. All combined with a musical sensitivity which promises high achievements...

**Roberto Zaniboni, La Provincia di Lecco**

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Recently, Italian concert societies have been giving increasing attention to feminine musical talent. In line with this trend, the IUC – Istituzione Universitaria dei Concerti – decided to entrust the opening concert of their 65th season to Francesca Dego, an accomplished violinist still fresh from her studies but already boasting an impressive curriculum. Poised and graceful, the young soloist from Lecco plunged with flawless technical mastery and self-assured spontaneity into the arduous and impassioned pages of Sibelius's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra Op.47, effortlessly dominating the difficulties of this subtle composition. Skilled at drawing from the wood of her instrument a tone of alluring beauty, always warm, mellow and refined, and at shaping with care and reassuring calm the rhapsodic inflections of the melody, the lovely interpreter chose to cast the score of the Finnish composer into a dimension more amiable than imposing, more amorous than troubled, soothing the distressful dramatic force of the narrative structure and leading the restless gypsy animation of certain passages back to a more austere composure.

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## Francesca Dego - Reviews

### **Luigi Cioffi, Archi Magazine, Nov-Dec 2009**

A beautiful and impetuous violinist...sound is magnificent, secure, full, with a natural flair for lyricism that emerges with stirring drama and a gradually increasing pace... The applause from the packed Rossini Theatre was so warm, prolonged, genuine and enthusiastic that it brought two encores: the "Scherzo" by Brahms and the highly popular "Meditation" from "Thaïs" by Massenet. The two young virtuosos redeemed in this last piece the thousands of mewling whines that we have heard at weddings for a century. So, in addition to our unconditional and well-wishing admiration, we owe her deep gratitude.

### **Ivana Baldassarri, Il Resto del Carlino**

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On the vast stage of the Auditorium, slender as she is, the violinist Francesca Dego looks fragile and even younger than her age. But the minute she begins to play, one forgets her enviable 20 years, and recalls if anything her dazzling early performances at the Milan Conservatory when she first began to amaze. Last year she was the first Italian girl to enter the roll of honour at the Paganini Competition, arriving in the final round. In spring she played Mozart with the Pomeriggi Musicali, and this week she is performing the Sibelius Concerto with the Verdi Orchestra, a tough challenge she met with a masterful sound and taste and a technical nonchalance that entirely warranted the ovations from the public. Conducted by Wayne Marshall, the young musician showed maturity in her control of Sibelius's obsessive and sometimes disorganized lyricism, boldly alternating impetuously resolved passages with others sustained by pure beauty of tone. With proud composure, almost detached performing skill, Dego rendered the difficult Concerto scintillating and anti-rhetorical. Apparently without effort. So much so that she conceded two encores (Ysaÿe and Bach) which alone were worth the price of the ticket.

### **Angelo Foletto, la Repubblica**

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Francesca Dego is definitely a violinistic revelation. The impression could not be clearer listening to her...At only twenty, the artist possesses entrancing solidity and a beautiful tone, secure bow-skill, not to speak of masterful precision and intonation...

### **Gian Mario Benzing, Corriere della Sera**

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Francesca Dego is only 20 years old but she has to her credit a long list of important achievements and performances with acclaimed virtuosos of the caliber of Salvatore Accardo and Shlomo Mintz... the beautiful and elegant Francesca, as always unruffled and entirely self-possessed, set the pace of the celebrated late romantic concerto with delicate and precise bowing, and perfect intonation... Dego has a superlative technique, enhanced by a refined intelligence that brings out every melodic and rhythmical detail... she is without doubt the best young Italian violinist on the scene today. Two encores, Paganini and Bach (Sarabanda), splendid the Capriccio no. 24, with its famous variations, by the composer from Genoa.

### **Cesare Guzzardella, Corrierebit**

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## Francesca Dego - Reviews

Miss Dego displays sparkling technical ability... a sumptuous and intense tone...confident and sustained bow-strokes... undeniable force... blending lyrical and expressive qualities with spontaneous freshness and... crystal-clear intonation.

**Claudio Gherbitz, Il Piccolo**

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...Francesca Dego's precision and verve confirm the strong personality of this young artist... Flawless technique and powerful tone...demonstrate immaculate and natural virtuosity... An exhilarating violinist...

**Sara Patera, Giornale di Sicilia**

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...Francesca Dego presented one of the most complex pages of the violin and orchestra repertoire, the E minor Mendelssohn Concerto, highly virtuosistic work, dominated with poise and incredible technical security by the soloist who has on her side perfect intonation, expert phrasing, and an intelligent balancing of nuances of expression within a musical plan...expression of a passionate, emotional, ardent personality...

**L'Adige**

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.. artistic magnetism, a sublime quality possessed by very few.

**Attilio Botarelli, Siena Corriere**

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As always, Dego's performance was impeccable...

**Nello Colombo, Il Giorno**

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...she displayed control and an impressive maturity and richness in her performance and in her presence...great confidence in her playing...we could sense that she will go far...

**Yossi Shifman, Habama (Israel)**

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# Francesca Dego – Concerto Repertoire

## **BACH**

Concerto in A minor BWV1041  
Concerto in E major BWV 1042  
Concerto for two violins in D minor BWV 1043

## **BEETHOVEN**

Concerto in D major Op. 61

## **BRAHMS**

Concerto in D major Op. 77

## **BRUCH**

Concerto in G minor Op. 26

## **CARRARA**

A Peace Overture for violin and Orchestra (2010 premiered by F. Dego)

## **DVORAK**

Concerto in A minor Op. 53

## **MENDELSSOHN**

Concerto in E minor Op. 64  
Double Concerto in D minor

## **MOZART**

Concerto in D major K211  
Concerto in G major K216  
Concerto in A major K219  
Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola in Eb major K364

## **PAGANINI**

Concerto n. 1 in D major Op. 6

## **PROKOFIEV**

Concerto n. 2 in G minor Op. 63

## **RESPIGHI**

Concerto Gregoriano

## **SHOSTAKOVICH**

Concerto n. 1 Op. 77

## **SIBELIUS**

Concerto in D minor Op. 47

## **TCHAIKOVSKY**

Concerto in re maggiore Op. 35

## **VIVALDI**

Four Season and other concertos

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# Francesca Dego – Solo Repertoire

## **BACH**

Sonata I in G minor BWV 1001  
Sonata II in A minor BWV 1003  
Partita II in D minor BWV 1004

## **CAMPOGRANDE**

“Bizzarra” (2011), dedicated to Francesca Dego

## **CORGHI**

Syncopations (2006)

## **PAGANINI**

Capricci Op. 1 (complete cycle)

## **PROKOFIEV**

Sonata for solo violin

## **YSAÏE**

Sonata Op. 27 n. 2  
Sonata Op. 27 n. 3 “Ballade”

## **VACCHI**

Consonanze (2008)

## VIRTUOSO PIECES

### **ACHRON**

Hebrew Melody

### **BARTÓK**

Rumenian Dances

### **BAZZINI**

La ronde des lutins

### **CHAUSSON**

Poème

## **CHOPIN/MILSTEIN**

Nocturne

## **DE FALLA/KREISLER**

Danze spagnole da “La vida breve”

## **MASSENET**

Meditation from “Thais”

## **PAGANINI**

Le streghe  
La Campanella  
Cantabile

## **RACHMANINOFF**

Vocalise

## **RAVEL**

Tzigane

## **SAINT-SAENS**

Introduction et rondo capriccioso

## **SARASATE**

Zigeunerweisen Op. 20 n. 1

## **SZYMANOWSKI**

3 Paganini Caprices Op.40

## **TARTINI/KREISLER**

The Devil’s Trill

## **WAXMAN**

Carmen Fantasy

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# Francesca Dego – Duo Repertoire

## **BEETHOVEN**

Sonata Op.12 n.2 in A major  
Sonata Op.12 n.3 in E flat major  
Sonata Op.23 in C minor  
Sonata Op.24 in F major “Spring”  
Sonata Op. 30 n. 2 in C minor  
Sonata Op. 30 n.3 in G major  
Sonata Op.47 in A major “Kreutzer”

## **BRAHMS**

Sonata n. 2 Op.100 in A major  
Sonata n.3 Op.108 in D minor  
Scherzo from the F.A.E. Sonata

## **CAMPOGRANDE**

Danze per la Signorina Olivia (2008)  
Effetto Kreutzer (2007)

## **DEBUSSY**

Sonata

## **DVORAK**

Sonatina Op. 100

## **FRANK**

Sonata

## **GINASTERA**

Pampeana for violino and pianoforte

## **LISZT**

Gran Duo Concertante

## **MOZART**

Sonata K301 in G major  
Sonata K304 in E minor  
Sonata K305 in A major  
Sonata K454 in B flat major

## **PAGANINI**

Sonata Concertata (violin and guitar)

## **POULENC**

Sonata

## **PROKOFIEV**

Sonata n. 2 Op. 94bis in D major  
5 melodies Op. 35bis

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## Francesca DeGo - Duo Repertoire

### **RAVEL**

Sonata

Tzigane, Rhapsodie de Concert

### **RESPIGHI**

Sonata

### **SCHUBERT**

Rondo in B minor D895

Sonatina N. 1 in D major Op.137

### **SCHUMANN**

Sonata N.1 Op. 105 in A major

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## Francesca Dego – Photo Gallery



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## Francesca Dego – Deutsche Grammophon CDs



Violinist Francesca Dego's highly-acclaimed debut release on Deutsche Grammophon features the 24 Paganini Caprices.

CD DDD 481 0025 GH



Vol. 1 of violinist Francesca Dego's cycle of Beethoven Violin Sonatas on Deutsche Grammophon. Sonatas 3, 4 & 9 "Kreutzer" With Francesca Leonardi, pianist

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Vol. 2 of violinist Francesca Dego's cycle of Beethoven Violin Sonatas on Deutsche Grammophon. Sonatas 1, 2, 5 "Spring" & 8 With Francesca Leonardi, pianist

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