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ROYAL  
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## OPERA AND MUSIC 2016/17 SEASON

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## THE ROYAL OPERA 2016/17 SEASON

- Antonio Pappano renews his contract as Music Director of The Royal Opera until 2020.
- Antonio Pappano conducts three new productions – *Norma*, *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and *Otello* – as well as revivals of *Manon Lescaut* and *Madama Butterfly*.
- The Royal Opera presents the UK premiere of Thomas Adès’s new opera, *The Exterminating Angel*, which opens at Salzburg Festival in July 2016 and is a co-commission and co-production with Salzburg Festival, the Metropolitan Opera, New York, and the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen.
- The Season includes three other premieres outside the Royal Opera House in collaboration with a range of partners, co-producers and co-commissioners.
- There are seven new productions at the Royal Opera House (*Norma*, *Così fan tutte*, *The Nose*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, *The Exterminating Angel*, and *Otello*) with two directors new to Covent Garden (Jan Philipp Gloger and Barrie Kosky), as well as new productions from Àlex Ollé, Robert Carsen, Kasper Holten, Tom Cairns and Keith Warner.
- Shostakovich’s *The Nose*, new to The Royal Opera repertory, continues the line of Royal Opera programming focussing on early 20th-century works, which included *Król Roger* and *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* in the 2014/15 Season and *Oedipe* in the 2015/16 Season.
- *Oreste* will be performed at Wilton’s Music Hall by members of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme.
- *Manon Lescaut*, *Written on Skin*, *Il trovatore* and *Adriana Lecouvreur* return for their first revivals.
- Six operas will be screened in the Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season.
- BBC Radio 3 will broadcast eight productions during the 2016/17 Season.

- **André Tchaikowsky's *The Merchant of Venice* receives its London premiere in a production by WNO directed by Keith Warner at the end of the 2016/17 Season.**

Music Director **Antonio Pappano**, now in his 15th Season with The Royal Opera, conducts three new productions and two revivals. He has renewed his contract until 2020, making him in the 2018/19 Season the longest serving Music Director in the history of The Royal Opera.

**Antonio Pappano** returns to the Italian repertory for the opening of the Season with a new production of Bellini's *Norma*, last seen in a staged production by The Royal Opera in 1987. It is directed by members of the innovative Catalan theatre group La Fura dels Baus, who make their first appearance with The Royal Opera during the 2015/16 Season with Enescu's *Oedipe*. The opera is regarded as a leading example of the bel canto genre and Norma's aria 'Casta diva' is considered one of the most beautiful and demanding arias from the 19th-century bel canto tradition. Russian soprano **Anna Netrebko** takes on the challenge of the title role for the first time. Also making his role debut is Maltese tenor **Joseph Calleja** as Pollione, Norma's former lover and an enemy of her people, who betrays her for Adalgisa, sung by Italian mezzo-soprano **Sonia Ganassi** who makes a welcome return to Covent Garden. British bass **Brindley Sherratt**, whose recent roles at Covent Garden have included Prince Gremin (*Eugene Onegin*) and Sarastro (*Die Zauberflöte*), sings the role of Oroveso. Previous exponents of the title role of *Norma* at Covent Garden have included Maria Callas, Joan Sutherland and Montserrat Caballé. The opera is given a contemporary Western European setting by director Àlex Ollé and his set and costume designers **Alfons Flores** and **Lluc Castells**, and reflects on the role of fanatical religion in a society in crisis, dominated by a strong military power.

**Antonio Pappano** and **Kasper Holten** continue their creative partnership following the success of *Król Roger* in 2015 with a new production of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Wagner's lyrical comedy celebrating humanity and art. This will be Kasper Holten's fifth production for The Royal Opera, following *Eugene Onegin*, *Don Giovanni*, *L'Ormindo* (at Shakespeare's Globe) and *Król Roger*, and his Wagner productions have

included *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and *Tannhäuser* for Royal Danish Opera and *Lohengrin* for Deutsche Oper Berlin and Novaya Opera Moscow. *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* was first performed by The Royal Opera (then the Covent Garden Opera Company) in 1948, with Hans Hotter singing the role of Hans Sachs, conducted by Karl Rankl.

Welsh bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** takes on the role of Hans Sachs for the first time with The Royal Opera having made his role debut in Richard Jones's production for Welsh National Opera in 2010. German baritone **Johannes Martin Kränzle**, in his second appearance of the Season, takes on the role of pedantic town clerk Sixtus Beckmesser, the role in which he made his Metropolitan Opera, New York, debut in 2014, and his Glyndebourne Festival debut in 2011. He has also sung the role for Frankfurt Opera. Welsh tenor **Gwyn Hughes Jones** sings the role of Walther von Stolzing, the young knight with new ideas about music. He recently sang this role for English National Opera. American soprano **Rachel Willis-Sørensen**, whose roles for The Royal Opera have included Countess Almaviva (*Le nozze di Figaro*) and Guttrune (*Götterdämmerung*), sings Eva. Danish bass **Stephen Milling** takes on the role of her father Veit Pogner, his fourth Wagner role for The Royal Opera, having sung Hunding (*Die Walküre*), Daland (*Der fliegende Holländer*) and Landgraf Herrmann (*Tannhäuser*) for the Company.

**Antonio Pappano** joins forces once again with British director **Keith Warner**, following their work together on *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and *Wozzeck*, for a new production of Verdi's penultimate opera *Otello*. Antonio Pappano first conducted *Otello* at Covent Garden in 2005 and returned to Verdi's tragic masterpiece of jealousy love and betrayal for performances in 2012. German tenor **Jonas Kaufmann** makes his role debut in the demanding title role. His recent roles for The Royal Opera have included Andrea Chénier, Chevalier des Grieux (*Manon Lescaut*) and Don Carlo. He shares the role of Otello with American tenor **Gregory Kunde**, a leading Otello worldwide, who makes his Royal Opera debut in July 2016 as Manrico in a new production of *Il trovatore*. Otello's innocent wife Desdemona is sung by Italian soprano **Maria Agresta** who has recently sung Violetta Valéry (*La traviata*) and Lucrezia Contarini (*I due Foscari*) for The Royal Opera. She shares the role with German soprano **Dorothea Röschmann**, who

recently sang Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*) for The Royal Opera and made her role debut as Desdemona at the 2016 Salzburg Easter Festival. The role of Iago, Otello's traitorous ensign, is shared between French baritone **Ludovic Tézier** who in the 2015/16 Season sings Enrico Ashton (*Lucia di Lammermoor*) for The Royal Opera, and Serbian baritone **Željko Lučić**, who recently sang Iago for the Metropolitan Opera, New York, and most recently sang Carlo Gérard (*Andrea Chénier*) at Covent Garden. The last new production of Verdi's *Otello* by The Royal Opera had its premiere in 1987, directed by Elijah Moshinsky, conducted by Carlos Kleiber and with Plácido Domingo in the title role.

**Antonio Pappano** also conducts two Puccini operas: the first revival of Jonathan Kent's contemporary production of *Manon Lescaut*, and Patrice Caurier and Moshe Leiser's much-loved production of *Madama Butterfly* which he conducted at its premiere in 2003. In *Manon Lescaut*, the title role will be sung by American soprano **Sondra Radvanovsky** who recently sang Manon Lescaut for Deutsche Oper Berlin and whose recent roles for Covent Garden have included Tosca and Leonora (*Il trovatore*). Her lover Des Grieux is sung by Latvian tenor **Aleksandrs Antonenko**, who last appeared with The Royal Opera in Damiano Michieletto's *Cavalleria rusticana* (as Turiddu) and *Pagliacci* (as Canio) and has previously sung Des Grieux for Hamburg State Opera, while Romanian baritone **Levente Molnár**, who recently sang Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*) and Marcello (*La bohème*) for The Royal Opera, sings the manipulative Lescaut.

Antonio Pappano shares the conducting honours for *Madama Butterfly* with The Royal Opera's outgoing Chorus Director **Renato Balsadonna**. Following her recent acclaimed performances with The Royal Opera in the title role in *Suor Angelica*, Albanian soprano **Ermonela Jaho** sings the role of Cio-Cio-San for the first time at Covent Garden, following performances of the role for Paris Opéra, Berlin State Opera and Chorégies d'Orange. She shares the role with Puerto-Rican American soprano **Ana María Martínez** who sang Cio-Cio-San for The Royal Opera in 2015 and whose other recent roles at Covent Garden have included Alice Ford (*Falstaff*) and Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*). Argentine tenor **Marcelo Puente** makes his Royal Opera debut as the seductive naval officer Pinkerton, sharing the role with **Teodor Ilincai** (last seen at

Covent Garden as Rodolfo in *La bohème* and who most recently sang Macduff in *Macbeth* for The Royal Opera in Japan), while American baritone **Scott Hendricks** returns to The Royal Opera to sing the US Consul Sharpless following his debut at Covent Garden as Scarpia (*Tosca*) in 2013. American mezzo-soprano **Elizabeth DeShong** makes her Royal Opera debut as Suzuki.

New to The Royal Opera repertory is Shostakovich's first opera *The Nose*, an absurdist, 'anti-opera' from 1928, based on Gogol's preposterous tale of what happens when the nose of a St Petersburg civil servant goes walkabout around the Imperial City. Australian director **Barrie Kosky** makes his Royal Opera debut with a production that promises to illustrate the surreal confusion created when something weird and unexpected is thrown into an otherwise ordered and controlled society. Kosky is currently Artistic Director of Komische Oper Berlin and his recent productions in Britain have included the highly praised *Saul* at Glyndebourne Festival and *Die Zauberflöte* at the Edinburgh International Festival. The opera will be sung in English in a new translation by **David Pountney** in order for the immediacy and humour of the opera's rapid-fire conversation to be fully appreciated.

Shostakovich was just 22 when he wrote the opera which includes a variety of different styles of music such as folk music, popular music and atonality, and incorporates canons and quartets to maintain structure in a dramatically chaotic work. The opera features more than twenty named roles, and The Royal Opera has assembled a huge cast. This is headed by Austrian bass-baritone **Martin Winkler** as Kovalev, the man who has lost his nose, and British bass **John Tomlinson** as the barber Ivan Iakolevitch, who finds Kovalev's nose in his bread one morning and subsequently gets arrested trying to dispose of it. Twentieth-century music specialist **Ingo Metzmacher** returns to conduct having previously conducted *Die tote Stadt* and *The Rake's Progress* for The Royal Opera.

German director **Jan Philipp Gloger** makes his Royal Opera and UK debut with a new staging of Mozart's complex and subtle comedy *Così fan tutte*. Jan Philipp Gloger began his career in theatre focussing on classic dramas (with productions including

Shakespeare's *Much Ado about Nothing* at the Bavarian State Theatre), and on modern works such as Philipp Löhle's *Das Ding* for Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg. He directed his first opera in 2010 and his recent operatic productions have included *Der fliegende Holländer* for the Bayreuth Festival, *Idomeneo* for Frankfurt Opera and *Der Rosenkavalier* for Dutch National Opera. His new production of *Così fan tutte* plays on the Shakespearean idea of the world as a stage, and is set in a theatre. Don Alfonso, sung by leading German baritone **Johannes Martin Kränzle** making his Royal Opera debut, is a stage director who puts the pairs of lovers into situations that make them consider the question 'what is love?'. Russian conductor **Semyon Bychkov** returns to The Royal Opera to conduct his first Mozart score for the Company. His most recent performances with The Royal Opera include *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, *La bohème*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten* and *Eugene Onegin*. The cast is largely made up of rising stars, many making their Royal Opera debuts. American soprano **Corinne Winters**, who recently sang Mimì (*La bohème*) at ENO, sings Fiordiligi, and her mezzo-soprano compatriot **Angela Brower** sings Dorabella, a role she has previously sung in Munich, and will make her debut in at the 2016 Salzburg Festival. German tenor **Daniel Behle** makes his Royal Opera debut as Ferrando following recent performances of the Mozart roles of Belmonte (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*) in Berlin and *Idomeneo* for Frankfurt Opera. Italian baritone **Alessio Arduini** returns to sing Guglielmo, having made his Royal Opera debut in 2013 as Schaunard (*La bohème*), while **Sabina Puértolas**, a former Operalia winner, who made her Royal Opera debut in 2013 as Lisette (*La rondine*), sings Despina.

Acclaimed British composer and conductor **Thomas Adès** returns to conduct his new opera *The Exterminating Angel*. The opera has a libretto by Adès and **Tom Cairns**, who directs the production, and is based on Luis Buñuel and Luis Alcoriza's screenplay for Buñuel's 1962 film *El ángel exterminador*. The opera is co-commissioned and co-produced by The Royal Opera, The Salzburg Festival, The Metropolitan Opera, New York, and the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen. Edmundo and Lucia Nobile (sung by American tenor **Charles Workman** and South African soprano **Amanda Echalaz**) invite friends over for an opulent dinner party. While the guests enjoy their food, the servants disappear one by one. Afterwards the visitors retire to the salon for an evening of music and conversation but soon find that they are mysteriously incapable of leaving

the room. Adès chose the film as the basis for his third opera as 'It's territory that I like very much because it looks as though the people are in a room, but it's not really about the room, they're actually trapped in their own heads'. Described as a 'circular vision of hell', the surreal scenario represents a breakdown of order into chaos. A large cast of British and international singers are assembled for this production. Apart from Workman and Echalaz, the singers include British bass **John Tomlinson** (Doctor), British mezzo-soprano **Christine Rice** (Blanca), British baritone **Thomas Allen** (Roc), British soprano **Sally Matthews** (Silvia), Swedish mezzo-soprano **Anne Sofie von Otter** (Leonora), French tenor **Frédéric Antoun** (Raúl), British counter-tenor **Iestyn Davies** (Francisco), British tenor **Ed Lyon** (Eduardo), British soprano **Sophie Bevan** (Beatriz), American baritone **David Adam Moore** (Colonel Gomez), and Danish bass-baritone **Sten Byriel** (Sergio Russell). Thomas Adès first worked with Tom Cairns on the opera *The Tempest* which was given its world premiere by The Royal Opera in 2004. Adès's first opera *Powder Her Face* was performed in the Linbury Studio Theatre in 2008 and 2010.

**Robert Carsen** returns to direct a new production of *Der Rosenkavalier* for The Royal Opera following recent successful stagings of *Falstaff* and *Dialogues des Carmélites* with the Company. Carsen sets his production in Vienna just before the outbreak of World War I. Set designs are by **Paul Steinberg** and costumes by **Brigitte Reiffenstuel** who were the designers for his *Falstaff* for The Royal Opera. **Andris Nelsons** returns to conduct all performances having previously conducted *Der fliegende Holländer*, *Elektra*, *Salome*, *Madama Butterfly* and *La bohème* for The Royal Opera. American soprano **Renée Fleming** makes a welcome return as the Marschallin. She most recently sang Countess Madeleine in *Capriccio* (concert performances) for The Royal Opera in 2013. She first sang the role of Marschallin for The Royal Opera in 2000 and has sung the role across the world most recently in Washington and Vienna. She shares the role with her compatriot **Rachel Willis-Sørensen** who also sings Eva in The Royal Opera's new production of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* in the 2016/17 Season. The Marschallin's young lover Octavian is sung by **Alice Coote**, seen most recently with The Royal Opera as Le Prince Charmant (*Cendrillon*) and as Octavian with Vienna State Opera, and by the Anglo-French mezzo soprano **Anna Stéphany**, making her Royal Opera debut



following performances as Octavian for the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and for Kungliga Operan, Stockholm. British soprano **Sophie Bevan** sings the role of Sophie, which she sang under Nelsons with the CBSO in 2014 and also at ENO. Most recently for The Royal Opera she has sung Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*). British bass **Matthew Rose** sings the role of Baron Ochs for the first time at Covent Garden having recently made his role debut as Ochs for the Lyric Opera of Chicago. The previous Royal Opera production of *Der Rosenkavalier* was directed by John Schlesinger and first seen in 1984 with Kiri Te Kanawa in role of the Marschallin and Agnes Baltsa as Octavian, conducted by George Solti. The production was last seen at Covent Garden in 2009 with Soile Isokoski as the Marschallin and Sophie Koch as Octavian, conducted by Kirill Petrenko.

Along with *Manon Lescaut* and *Il trovatore* The Royal Opera revives two other productions for the first time: **George Benjamin's** opera *Written on Skin*, conducted by the composer, directed by **Katie Mitchell** and first performed at Covent Garden in 2013, and **David McVicar's** staging of Francesco Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur*, first performed by The Royal Opera in 2010.

*Written on Skin* is the disturbing tale of a medieval overlord who invites an artist into his home to create an illuminated manuscript with devastating consequences. Three of the original cast members reprise their roles: British baritone **Christopher Purves** as the controlling Protector, Canadian soprano **Barbara Hannigan** as his questioning wife Agnès and British mezzo-soprano **Victoria Simmonds** as Angel 2/Marie. New to the cast are British countertenor **Iestyn Davies** who sings the role of The Boy/Angel 1, and British tenor **Mark Padmore** singing Angel 3/John. American soprano **Georgia Jarman**, who recently sang Roxana (*Król Roger*) for The Royal Opera, shares the role of Agnès with Barbara Hannigan.

*Adriana Lecouvreur* focuses on the personal and professional life of the great French actress Adrienne Lecouvreur, whose death at the age of 38 was rumoured to have been caused by poison administered by a rival. Romanian soprano **Angela Gheorghiu** returns to the role she created in this production in 2010 following recent performances with The Royal Opera as Tosca and acclaimed performances as Adriana in Paris. She

shares the role with rising star Armenian soprano **Hrachuhi Bassenz**, whose recent roles include Mimì (*La bohème*) and Valentine (*Les Huguenots*) in Nuremberg and Norma in Gelsenkirchen. American tenor **Brian Jagde** returns to sing Adriana's lover Maurizio, following his Royal Opera debut as Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*) in the 2014/15 Season. Russian mezzo-soprano **Ksenia Dudnikova** makes her Royal Opera debut and role debut as Adriana's rival the Princesse de Bouillon and **Gerald Finley** (in his role debut) and **Alessandro Corbelli** (returning to this production) share the role of Michonnet, the stage manager in love with his leading lady Adriana.

Verdi continues to be strongly represented with a trio of revivals: the first revival of German director **David Bösch**'s production of *Il trovatore* (which has its premiere in June 2016), a revival of Richard Eyre's ever-popular production of *La traviata* and a revival of Nicholas Hytner's production of *Don Carlo*.

Outgoing Music Director of Opera North **Richard Farnes** conducts all performances of *Il trovatore*, having previously conducted *Simon Boccanegra* for The Royal Opera. Bösch's staging draws on a range of complementary images including dirt and stardust, fire and snow, to tell a tale involving witchcraft, infanticide and romantic rivalry set against the uneasy background of civil war. Italian soprano **Maria Agresta**, a recent Violetta Valéry (*La traviata*) and Lucrezia Contarini (*I due Foscari*) for The Royal Opera, French-Italian tenor **Roberto Alagna** (in one of three roles this Season) and Hawaiian baritone **Quinn Kelsey** star in the first cast as Leonora, Manrico and Count di Luna. Returning to the production are American tenor **Gregory Kunde** and Armenian soprano **Lianna Haroutounian** heading the second cast as Manrico and Leonora, joined by Russian baritone **Dmitri Hvorostovsky** in one of his key roles as Count di Luna. Following her recent performances of Carmen for The Royal Opera, Georgian mezzo-soprano **Anita Rachvelishvili** sings the role of the enigmatic gypsy Azucena in both casts.

*La traviata* returns in a number of different castings conducted by Italian conductors **Daniele Rustioni** and **Maurizio Benini** and British conductor and member of Royal Opera music staff, **Christopher Willis**. Canadian-Lebanese soprano **Joyce El-Khoury**

makes her Covent Garden debut as Violetta Valéry, a role she has also sung for WNO, Dutch National Opera, Savonlinna Festival and various American and Canadian companies. Her recent performances also include Maria Stuarda for Seattle Opera and Musetta (*La bohème*) for Bavarian State Opera. She shares the role with **Corinne Winters** – who sings Violetta for some June performances, following her Royal Opera debut in the new production of *Così fan tutte* in September 2016 – and Russian soprano **Ekaterina Bakanova**, who first sang Violetta Valéry for The Royal Opera in 2015, replacing an indisposed Sonya Yoncheva, and who has also sung Musetta (*La bohème*) for the Company. Brazilian tenor **Atalla Ayan**, who has previously sung Ruggiero (*La rondine*) and Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*) for The Royal Opera, sings Alfredo Germont. Two further tenors make their Royal Opera debuts in the role of Alfredo; Russian tenor **Sergey Romanovsky**, whose recent roles include Duke of Mantua (*Rigoletto*) at the Bolshoi and Count Almaviva (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) at the Mariinsky Theatre, and Armenian tenor **Liparit Avetisyan** who has previously sung Alfredo Germont for Armenian National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre. Polish baritone **Artur Ruciński** returns to the role of the stern patriarch Giorgio Germont, which he shares with Romanian baritone **George Petean**, who sang the role in 2015 for The Royal Opera, and Italian baritone **Nicola Alaimo**, who makes his Royal Opera debut, and whose recent roles have included Falstaff for La Scala, Milan and Doctor Bartolo (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) for Paris Opéra.

American tenor **Bryan Hymel** returns to The Royal Opera to sing the title role of Verdi's *Don Carlo* for the first time for The Royal Opera in the third revival of Nicholas Hytner's production. He is joined by Bulgarian soprano **Krassimra Stoyanova** as Carlos's beloved Elizabeth of Valois. Russian bass **Ildar Abdrazakov** sings the role of Philip II, with Russian mezzo-soprano **Ekaterina Semenchuk** as Princess Eboli and Georgian bass **Paata Burchuladze** as the Grand Inquisitor. French baritone **Ludovic Tezier**, in one of two appearances for The Royal Opera in the 2016/17 Season, sings Posa, a role he has previously sung in Vienna and Paris. **Bertrand de Billy**, who has previously conducted *Carmen*, *Maria Stuarda* and *Cendrillon* for The Royal Opera, conducts.

This Season, The Royal Opera brings back two productions not seen at Covent Garden for some time: **Graham Vick**'s production of *Mitridate, re di Ponto*, last seen in summer 2005, and **John Schlesinger**'s production of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, last seen in autumn 2008. In *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Italian tenor **Vittorio Grigolo** sings the title role for the first time at Covent Garden, following appearances with The Royal Opera as Massenet's Werther this Season. He shares the role with Italian-American tenor **Leonardo Capalbo** who makes his Royal Opera debut in 2016 as Ismaele (*Nabucco*). American baritone **Thomas Hampson** sings the four villains, and Russian soprano **Sofia Fomina**, British mezzo-soprano **Christine Rice** and Bulgarian soprano **Sonya Yoncheva** sing Hoffmann's three great loves: Olympia, Giulietta and Antonia. American mezzo-soprano **Kate Lindsey** sings Hoffmann's friend Nicklausse, and Italian conductor **Evelino Pidò** conducts. In *Mitridate, re di Ponto*, French conductor and baroque specialist **Christophe Rousset** makes his Royal Opera debut. American tenor **Michael Spyres** sings the title role following his Royal Opera debut in 2013 as Rodrigo (*La donna del lago*), and other cast members include Russian soprano **Albina Shagimuratova** as Mitridate's betrothed Aspasia, British soprano **Lucy Crowe** as Ismene and American countertenor **Bejun Mehta** (who for The Royal Opera last sang Boy/Angel 1 in *Written on Skin* in 2013) as Farnace.

Two Italian comic operas also form part of the Season, with revivals of **Patrice Caurier** and **Moshe Leiser**'s production of *Il barbiere di Siviglia* conducted by Hungarian **Henrik Nánási**, music director of Komische Oper Berlin, and a revival of **Laurent Pelly**'s production of *L'elisir d'amore* conducted by **Bertrand de Billy**. Rising star Argentinian mezzo-soprano **Daniela Mack** (a finalist in the BBC Cardiff Singer of the Year competition in 2013) sings Rosina with Mexican tenor **Javier Camarena** as Count Almaviva, the role in which he made his debut at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, in 2016. Italian baritone **Vito Priante** and French baritone **Florian Sempey** (in his Royal Opera debut) sing the cunning barber Figaro. Returning to the role of ardent but shy Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* is **Roberto Alagna**, playing opposite Polish soprano **Aleksandra Kurzak** as the feisty and sophisticated Adina. Alagna and Kurzak last sang these roles for The Royal Opera in autumn 2012. They share the roles of Nemorino and Adina with South African soprano and Operalia winner **Pretty Yende**, making her

Royal Opera debut, and Mexican tenor **Rolando Villazón**, singing one of his key roles for the first time with The Royal Opera. For one performance, Nemorino is sung by Sicilian tenor **Ivan Magri** who makes his Royal Opera debut. Italian bass-baritone **Alex Esposito**, who recently sang Leporello (*Don Giovanni*) for The Royal Opera, sings the comic travelling salesman and 'doctor' Dulcamara in all performances.

The Royal Opera's last production of the Season is Puccini's final opera *Turandot* which focuses on the cold Princess Turandot and her determined suitor Calaf's attempt to answer three riddles in order to win her hand. Leading American sopranos **Christine Goerke** and **Lise Lindstrom** sing the challenging title role with **Aleksandrs Antonenko**, **Roberto Alagna** and Korean tenor **Alfred Kim** sharing the role of her ardent suitor Calaf.

Other singers returning to The Royal Opera in the 2016/17 Season include Italian bass **Ferruccio Furlanetto** as Don Basilio (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), a role he first sang in The Royal Opera's production in 2009, American bass **Eric Halfvarson** as Crespel in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and Geronte di Revoir in *Manon Lescaut*. British tenor **Robin Leggate** as Emperor Altoum (*Turandot*), British mezzo-soprano **Susan Bickley** as Noble Old Lady, American mezzo-soprano **Helene Schneiderman** as Madame Podtotschina and Irish soprano **Ailish Tynan** as Podtotschina's daughter (*The Nose*) and Hungarian bass **Gábor Bretz** as Ferrando (*Il trovatore*).

Among the artists making their debuts with The Royal Opera during the 2016/17 Season and not previously mentioned, American coloratura soprano **Audrey Luna** sings Leticia in Adès's *The Exterminating Angel*, having previously sung Ariel in Adès's *The Tempest* for Vienna State Opera and for the Metropolitan Opera, New York; Portuguese baritone **Jose Fardilha** sings Doctor Bartolo (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) having recently sung the title role in *Don Pasquale* for Glyndebourne Festival; Austrian tenor **Wolfgang Ablinger-Sperrhacke** sings Ivan (*The Nose*) having recently sung Mime (*Der Ring des Nibelungen*) in Paris and Captain (*Wozzeck*) for La Scala, Milan, and in Munich; Italian bass-baritone **Paolo Bordogna** sings Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*) having recently sung

Figaro (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) for Opera Australia and Leporello (*Don Giovanni*) in Vienna; German soprano **Anett Fritsch** sings Sifare (*Mitridate, re di Ponto*) following recent performances as Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*) and Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*) for Deutsche Opera am Rhein; and Azerbaijani soprano **Dinara Alieva**, a soloist with the Bolshoi (where she has recently sung Micaëla (*Carmen*) and Mimi (*La bohème*)), sings the role of Liù (*Turandot*).

## **JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAMME**

Meet the Young Artists Week will run from Monday 3 to Sunday 9 October 2016 and gives audiences a chance to meet the new intake of the Jette Parker Young Artists and to see them perform alongside those who are continuing for their second Season.

This year the week's events will be presented at the beautiful church of St Clement Danes in the Strand. All events are free but ticketed.

### **Monday 3 October at 1pm**

Lunchtime recital featuring all the available Young Artists in a programme that will include operatic arias and ensembles accompanied by **David Gowland**, Artistic Director of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme.

### **Tuesday 4 October at 1.30pm**

American soprano **Francesca Chiejina** and New Zealand tenor **Thomas Atkins** perform art songs accompanied by David Gowland.

### **Thursday 6 October at 1pm**

Director's Workshop

British director **Richard Gerard Jones** works with British mezzo-soprano **Angela Simkin**, Hungarian baritone **Gyula Nagy**, South African bass-baritone **Simon**

**Shibambu** and British conductor/répétiteur **James Hendry** on Handel's *Oreste*, which will be presented at Wilton's Music Hall in November.

Sunday 9 October 12 at 12.30pm and 6pm

### **Juke Box**

Two separate events presented by all Young Artists. The audience at the lunchtime session choose the repertory for the evening recital, followed by an opportunity to meet the Young Artists over a glass of wine.

### **Monday Lunchtime Recital Series**

The popular Monday lunchtime recital series will continue under Jette Parker Young Artists Programme auspices at the Swiss Church in Endell Street, five minutes' walk from the Royal Opera House, with hour long recitals at 1pm on alternate Mondays from 27 October to 24 June 2017. The series will include a recital by each member of the Programme including the pianists, a director's workshop and recitals by a number of former Young Artists.

The summer performance on Sunday 16 July 2017 at 6.30pm sees the **Jette Parker Young Artists** take part in a selection of opera scenes staged on the main stage and chosen specially to show off their talent, directed by Jette Parker Young Artist **Richard Gerard Jones**, and conducted by **David Syrus, James Hendry** and **Matthew Scott Rogers**.

The 2016/17 Season sees the return of many former Young Artists to the Royal Opera House to perform with The Royal Opera. They include Irish soprano **Ailish Tynan** as Podtotschina's daughter (*The Nose*), Portuguese tenor **Luis Gomes** as Edmondo (*Manon Lescaut*), British bass **Matthew Rose** as Baron Ochs (*Der Rosenkavalier*), Polish mezzo-soprano **Hanna Hipp** as Magdalene (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*), British soprano **Sally Matthews** as Silvia (*The Exterminating Angel*), New Zealand soprano **Madeleine Pierard** as Berta (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Brazilian baritone **Michel de Souza** as Ping (*Turandot*), Chinese baritone **ZhengZhong Zhou** as Ping (*Turandot*), Australian tenor **Hubert Francis** in various roles in *The Nose* and Estonian mezzo-soprano **Kai**

**Rüütel** as Emilia (*Otello*). Italian conductor **Daniele Rustioni** conducts *La traviata*. Italian conductor **Jonathan Santagada** joins the music staff for *Norma*, *Manon Lescaut* and *Otello*. British répétiteur **Susanna Stranders** joins the music staff for *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and British conductor **Andrew Griffiths** joins the music staff for *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for The Royal Opera. British conductors **Dominic Grier** and **Paul Wingfield** act as conductor and assistant conductor on *The Nutcracker* and Scottish ballet pianist **Colin J Scott** will work on a number of productions for The Royal Ballet. Former Jette Parker stage directors will work on the following productions: **Greg Eldridge** (*Il trovatore*), **Rodula Gaitanou** (*Turandot*), **Thomas Guthrie** (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) and **Pedro Ribiero** (*Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Manon Lescaut*).

## WILTON'S MUSIC HALL

### *Oreste*

George Frideric Handel

8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19 November at 7.30pm; 13 November at 2pm

Due to the redevelopment of the Linbury Studio Theatre as part of Open Up, the **Jette Parker Young Artists'** annual chamber opera will be a staged production of Handel's *Oreste* performed at Wilton's Music Hall. The production is directed by **Richard Gerard Jones** and designed by **Matt Carter**. Southbank Sinfonia is conducted by **James Hendry** with continuo by **Nick Fletcher**. The director, conductor, continuo player and cast are all members of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme and all except the director, **Vlada Borovko** and **Jennifer Davis** are new to the Programme.

*Oreste* had its premiere in 1734 at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, the first theatre to be built on the site of the Royal Opera House. Eighteenth-century composers often produced a type of work known as a *pasticcio* made up of pre-existing arias and ensembles brought together to make a new opera. All the work in *Oreste* is by Handel, with everything taken from operas written between *Agrippina* in 1709 and *Sosarme* in 1732, apart from the recitatives and some of the dances, which are new.



The story depicts Orestes, son of the doomed Greek king Agamemnon and his treacherous wife Clytemnestra, discovering and recognizing his sister Iphigenia in a moment of high drama many years after the terrible events that have split the family apart.

British mezzo-soprano **Angela Simkin** sings the title role of Oreste. Her previous operatic engagements have included Teseo (*Arianna in Creta*) and Iside (*Giove in Argo*) for the London Handel Festival, and Hebe (*HMS Pinafore*), Leila (*Iolanthe*), Pitti-Sing (*The Mikado*) and Edith (*The Pirates of Penzance*) for the Buxton Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company.

Singing the role of Ifigenia is Irish soprano **Jennifer Davis**. Her roles for The Royal Opera have included Euphrosine/Lachesis in Rossi's *Orpheus* at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, Shakespeare's Globe, and Nursing Sister (*Suor Angelica*) and Ines (*Il trovatore*) for The Royal Opera. Russian soprano **Vlada Borovko**, sings the role of Ermione. In the 2015/16 Season she sings Frasquita (*Carmen*), Xenia (*Boris Godunov*) and Anna (*Nabucco*) for The Royal Opera.

Singing the role of Pilade is New Zealand tenor **Thomas Atkins**. His previous roles have included Don José (*Carmen*) for New Zealand Choral Foundation and Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*) at the Grimeborn Festival. He is currently a Jerwood Young Artist at Glyndebourne Festival Opera. Hungarian baritone **Gyula Nagy** sings the role of Filotete. His previous roles have included Don Giovanni for the National Opera Studio and Tarquinius (*The Rape of Lucretia*) for Irish Youth Opera. In 2016 he sings the role of Silvio (*Pagliacci*) as an Associate Artist at WNO.

South African bass **Simon Shibambu** sings the role of Toante. His operatic roles include Sarastro and Speaker of the Temple in *Die Zauberflöte*, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* and Méphistophélès in *Faust*.

## WELSH NATIONAL OPERA AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Welsh National Opera brings Polish composer André Tchaikowsky's *The Merchant of Venice* to London in 2017. This production was first seen at Bregenz Festival in 2013 and is directed by **Keith Warner**. The composer was best known as a concert pianist. A Polish Jew, he lost his mother at a young age and went into hiding with his grandmother during World War II. *The Merchant of Venice* is a potent attack on prejudice and feels like a deeply personal response to Tchaikowsky's experiences as a child in the Warsaw Ghetto. He spent a quarter of a century working on the opera before he died in Oxford at the age of 46 in 1982. It took more than three decades for the opera to reach the stage with its Bregenz premiere, directed by Keith Warner, in 2013 and performances with the Polish National Opera, also in Warner's production.

The central role of Shylock is sung by American baritone **Lester Lynch** who leads a cast that includes New Zealand mezzo-soprano **Sarah Castle** as Portia, German countertenor **Martin Wölfel** as Antonio and British tenor **Mark Le Brocq** as Bassanio. British conductor **Lionel Friend** conducts.

This production forms part of an agreement between The Royal Opera and Welsh National Opera which sees WNO bring one opera to the Royal Opera House each Season. In July 2014, WNO brought Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* followed in 2015 by the London premiere of *Peter Pan* written by British composer **Richard Ayres** with a libretto by poet and novelist **Lavinia Greenlaw**, directed by **Keith Warner**. 2016 sees the London premiere of **Iain Bell**'s new opera *In Parenthesis*, directed by **David Pountney** and conducted by **Carlo Rizzi**.

Previous performances given by WNO at the Royal Opera House have included *Tristan und Isolde*, *La favorita*, *Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci*, *Falstaff* and Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*.

*The Merchant of Venice* is a co-production of the Bregenzer Festspiele, Austria, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute as part of the Polska Music programme and Teatr Wielki, Warsaw, and is supported by the Getty Family as part of WNO's British Firsts Series.

## THE ROYAL OPERA COLLABORATES

- ***A Man of Good Hope*, is a Young Vic and Isango Ensemble Production co-produced by The Royal Opera and Repons Foundation.**
- **The Royal Opera continues to provide programmes for younger audiences and will collaborate once again with Polka Theatre following the commission *Dot, Squiggle and Rest* from 2015.**
- **The Royal Opera and London Philharmonic Orchestra will co-produce a major new Ravi Shankar project in association with Curve, Leicester.**

The Royal Opera House unveils a range of collaborations to be performed in venues across London and outside of London. This Season, The Royal Opera works with companies and ensembles including **The Young Vic, Polka Theatre and Leicester Curve** to develop new work.

The Royal Opera together with the Repons Foundation will co-produce *A Man of Good Hope*, a Young Vic and Isango Ensemble Production. Isango Ensemble, based in Cape Town, South Africa, have created a number of new versions of great works (*Carmen, La bohème, Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream*) in their highly distinctive style.

By way of departure, this new work is based on a contemporary story. South African writer Jonny Steinberg's book *A Man of Good Hope*, first published in 2015, tells of the

extraordinary journey of Asad Abdullahi, an eight-year old boy caught up in the civil war that broke out in Mogadishu in January 1991. His mother is murdered by militia, his father goes into hiding, and he is swept up in the great wartime migration that scattered hundreds of thousands of Somali people, leading them from one catastrophe to another. Asad's journey covers many countries as he makes his way to South Africa where he tries to make a new life. Once there, he is forced to confront the rising tide of xenophobia that has spread across the country. *A Man of Good Hope* is one man's story of determination overcoming the odds but it also deals with the more general issue of refugees in the modern world, an issue that affects Europe as much as Africa.

Isango Ensemble has previously collaborated with the Young Vic on the Olivier Award-winning *Magic Flute – Impempe Yomlingo* which also played in the West End, at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris and across the US. **Mark Dornford-May** directs the production and **Mandisi Dyantyi**s conducts. Musical Direction is by **Mandisi Dyantyi**s and **Pauline Malefane**, movement is by **Lungelo Ngamlana** and lighting is by **Mannie Manim**. *A Man of Good Hope* received its world premiere at the District Six Museum, Cape Town, on 16 March 2016.

The Royal Opera and the Polka Theatre have commissioned Brazilian musician **Adriano Adewale** to create a new work. He is artist in residence at the Lakeside Theatre, University of Exeter, and Associate Artist of SEGUE, and Escalator Artists supported by Arts Council England East. He has previously created *Catapluf's Musical Journey*, based on a character whose imagination travels to places where everything is music. This work was commissioned by the EFG London Jazz Festival in 2013 as a concert for families and children aged five to seven years old.

The distinguished Indian musician Ravi Shankar enjoyed a long international career that raised the profile not only of his chosen instrument – the sitar – but of the entire musical culture of which he was such an eloquent advocate. Many of his works bring together elements of Eastern and Western traditions. The Royal Opera and London Philharmonic Orchestra will co-produce a major Ravi Shankar project in May 2017, with performances at Curve, Leicester, Symphony Hall Birmingham, the Royal Festival Hall,

London and The Lowry, Salford. Full details of this collaboration will be released at a later date.

## **FANFARE**

Now in its seventh year, the Fanfare competition gives young musicians the opportunity to have their music arranged by a professional composer, recorded by the Orchestra of the Royal Opera with Antonio Pappano conducting, and played at every main stage performance, letting the audience know it is time to take their seats. The Fanfare competition continues this Season and is now incorporating some changes that bring it closer in line with learning objectives in the National Curriculum Syllabus.

Antonio Pappano has been involved in the competition since its inception in 2009 and conducted every fanfare recorded as part of the competition, a total of more than 50 front-of-house fanfares to date. In this year's competition, a bank of musical ideas taken from repertory from The Royal Opera's forthcoming Season has been provided to students. Students are required to use two of the musical ideas from the ideas bank in their fanfare, and must write for at least four instruments. The age range of the competition has also been extended to incorporate students from the age of 11 to 18.

The final date for competition entry for the current Season was Friday 25 March. The winners will be announced in mid-April, and they will attend orchestration workshops with Duncan Chapman and a number of members of the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House on Thursday 5 and Friday 6 May. Antonio Pappano will then record the winning fanfares on Saturday 18 June 2016.

## **SCHOOLS MATINEES**

The Schools Matinee programme offers school groups aged between 8 – 18 years old access to three Royal Opera productions during the 2016-17 Season. The matinee excursions include 'wrap around' activity on the day which further explore aspects of

the performance or backstage activity, and all teachers are sent classroom material written to prepare the students before their visit and deepen their experience of opera. Schools from across the country attend performances which cost £7.50 per child, thanks to the generosity of The Taylor Family Foundation.

*Il barbiere di Siviglia*: - 26 September 2016

*Il trovatore*: - 1 December 2016

*Madama Butterfly*: - 20 March 2017

## **CHORUS!**

A new singing scheme *Chorus!* will be piloted in ten schools in Thurrock in Autumn 2016. It will provide primary schools with a new route into singing through operatic repertory linked to drama and character. *Chorus!* will then run in 50 schools in England in Autumn 2017.

## **YOUTH OPERA COMPANY**

This Season marks the seventh anniversary of the Royal Opera House's Youth Opera Company. Members are drawn from across London and the South East. The Youth Opera Company offers young people with untapped potential from a wide variety of backgrounds the opportunity to discover and develop their music and acting talent. The group is made up of around fifty young people who are invited to join the Youth Opera Company after taking part in participatory taster workshops and informal auditions. The Youth Opera Company is generously supported by Bjarne and Yvone Reiber

## **PROGRAMME OF INSIGHT EVENTS**

Generously supported by the Paul Hamlyn Education Fund

### **Insights to be filmed**

During the Season a range of Insight Events will be filmed or streamed live.

Insights relating to the following productions will be filmed: *The Nose*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and *The Exterminating Angel*.

Insights relating to the following productions will be live-streamed;

*Norma*, *Così fan tutte*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Otello*.

### *Norma Insight*

**Thursday 1 September 7.30–9pm**

#### **Clore Studio Upstairs**

Join Music Director Antonio Pappano and guests as they explore Bellini's masterpiece *Norma*.

### *In Conversation with John Tomlinson*

Tuesday 13 September 7.30–8.45pm

#### Clore Studio Upstairs

In celebration of his 70th birthday, British bass John Tomlinson looks back over a career of more than 50 years in which he has sung more than 200 roles and discusses highlights, his plans for the future and why he loves working with young singers.

### *Così fan tutte Insight*

Thursday 15 September 7.30–9pm

#### Clore Studio Upstairs

Members of this new production's creative team share their plans for staging the last of the Mozart/Da Ponte collaborations with audience members and Kasper Holten.

### *The Nose*

27 September 7.15–8.45pm

#### Clore Studio Upstairs

Members of the creative team and cast of this new production discuss Shostakovich's first opera *The Nose* acclaimed for its biting wit, hilarious action and virtuoso vocal writing.

### *The Big Sing*

Tuesday 8 November 7.15–8.45pm

Clore Studio Upstairs

Sing in the new Season and learn a selection of musical highlights from the autumn and winter opera programming including chorus numbers from *La traviata* and *Il trovatore*.

### *Behind the Scenes: Production Management*

Wednesday 23 November 7.15–8.45pm

Clore Studio Upstairs

Putting together a growing number of new productions each year alongside revival repertory is no small feat. However, for a Production Manager at the Royal Opera House, it's all in a day's work. Our Production Managers tell us how they take opera and ballet productions from page to stage.

## **BBC RADIO 3 AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE**

The Royal Opera continues its relationship with BBC Radio 3 and will relay the following eight operas during the course of the 2016/17 Season:

September 2015

Vincenzo Bellini NORMA

New Production

Anna Netrebko, Sonia Ganassi, Joseph Calleja, Brindley Sherratt

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Àlex Ollé

October 2015

Mozart COSÌ FAN TUTTE

New Production

Corinne Winters, Angela Brower, Daniel Behle, Alessio Arduini, Johannes Martin

Kränzle, Sabina Puértolas

Conductor: Semyon Bychkov

Director: Jan Philipp Gloger

October 2016

Shostakovich THE NOSE



New Production

Martin Winkler, John Tomlinson, Wolfgang Ablinger-Sperrhacke, Peter Bronder, Helene Schneiderman, Ailish Tynan, Alexander Lewis, Alexander Kravets, Susan Bickley

Conductor: Ingo Metzmacher

Director: Barrie Kosky

December 2016

Strauss DER ROSENKAVALIER

New Production

Renée Fleming, Alice Coote, Sophie Bevan, Matthew Rose, Jochen Schmeckenbecher, Wolfgang Ablinger-Sperrhacke, Helene Schneiderman, Giorgio Berrugi, Samuel Sakker, Thomas Atkins<sup>§</sup>, Miranda Keys.

Conductor: Andris Nelsons

Director: Robert Carsen

March 2017

Wagner DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG

New Production

Bryn Terfel, Johannes Martin Kränzle, Gwyn Hughes Jones, Rachel Willis-Sørensen, Stephen Milling, Allan Clayton, Hanna Hipp, Sebastian Holecek

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Kasper Holten

April 2017

Thomas Adès THE EXTERMINATING ANGEL

Co-Commission, Production New to The Royal Opera

Anne Sofie von Otter, Christine Rice, Charles Workman, Amanda Echalaz, Frédéric Antoun, John Tomlinson, Thomas Allen, Iestyn Davies, Ed Lyon, Audrey Luna, Sally Matthews, Sophie Bevan, Sten Byriel, David Adam Moore

Conductor: Thomas Adès

Director: Tom Cairns

28 June 2017

Verdi OTELLO (live)

New Production

Jonas Kaufmann, Ludovic Tézier, Maria Agresta, Frédéric Antoun, Brindley Sherratt, Kai Rüttel

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Keith Warner

June 2017

Mozart MITRIDATE, RE DI PONTO

Michael Spyres, Albina Shagimuratova, Bejun Mehta, Lucy Crowe, Andrew Tortise, Anett Fritsch, Jennifer Davis<sup>§</sup>

Conductor: Christophe Rousset

Director: Graham Vick

§ Jette Parker Young Artist

*All of the titles listed above are subject to change. Please check BBC Radio 3's [Opera on 3 website](#) for the latest schedule.*

## **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE LIVE CINEMA SEASON**

Six operas are part of the Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season:

Vincenzo Bellini NORMA

New Production

Anna Netrebko, Sonia Ganassi, Joseph Calleja, Brindley Sherratt

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Àlex Ollé

Live: Monday 26 September 2016 7.15pm

Encore: Sunday 2 October 2016 (2pm)

¨ Mozart COSÌ FAN TUTTE

New Production

Corinne Winters, Angela Brower, Daniel Behle, Alessio Arduini, Johannes Martin

Kränzle, Sabina Puértolas

Conductor: Semyon Bychkov

Director: Jan Philipp Gloger

Live: Monday 17 October 2016 6.30 pm

Encore: Sunday 23 October 2016 (2pm)

Offenbach LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN

Vittorio Grigolo, Thomas Hampson, Sofia Fomina, Christine Rice, Sonya Yoncheva, Kate Lindsey, Eric Halfvarson, Christophe Mortagne, Vincent Ordonneau, Catherine Carby

Conductor: Evelino Pidò

Original Director: John Schlesinger

Live: Tuesday 15 November 2016 (6.15pm)

Encore: Sunday 20 November 2016 (2pm)

Verdi IL TROVATORE (live)

Gregory Kunde, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, Lianna Haroutounian, Anita Rachvelishvili, Alexander Tsymbalyuk

Conductor: Richard Farnes

Director: David Bösch

Live: Tuesday 31 January 2017 (7.15pm)

Encore: Sunday 5 February 2017 (2pm)

Puccini MADAMA BUTTERFLY

Ermonela Jaho, Scott Hendricks, Marcelo Puente, Carlo Bosi, Elizabeth DeShong

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Directors: Moshe Leiser and Patrice Caurier

Live: Thursday 30 March 2017 (7.15pm)

Encore: Sunday 2 April 2017

28 June 2016 [7.30pm]

Verdi OTELLO (live)

New Production

Jonas Kaufmann, Ludovic Tézier, Maria Agresta, Frédéric Antoun, Brindley Sherratt, Kai Rüütel

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Keith Warner

Live: Wednesday 28 June 2017 (7.15pm)

Encore: Sunday 2 July 2017 (2pm)

[www.roh.org.uk/cinema](http://www.roh.org.uk/cinema)

## CASTING FOR THE JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS

### **Vlada Borovko**

In the 2016/17 Season, she will sing Clotilde in *Norma*, Ermione in *Oreste* (at Wilton's Music Hall), Mlle Jouvenot in *Adriana Lecouvreur* and Giannetta in *L'elisir d'amore* and cover Violetta Valéry in *La traviata*, Leonora in *Il trovatore*, Voice from Heaven in *Don Carlo* and Aspasia in *Mitridate, re di Ponto*.

### **Francesca Chiejina**

In the 2016/17 Season she makes her Royal Opera debut as Ines in *Il trovatore* and also sings Voice from Heaven in *Don Carlo*. She will also cover Antonia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Giannetta in *L'elisir d'amore* and Arbate in *Mitridate, re di Ponto* and sing the soprano solo in Górecki's Third Symphony.

### **Jennifer Davis**

In the 2016/17 Season, she will sing Ifigenia in *Oreste* (at Wilton's Music Hall), Ines in *Il trovatore* and Arbate in *Mitridate, re di Ponto* and cover Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* and Adina in *L'elisir d'amore* for The Royal Opera. She will also sing Elisabeth in *Les Enfants terribles* and the soprano solo in Górecki's Third Symphony.

### **Emily Edmonds**

In the 2016/17 Season, she will sing Singer in *Manon Lescaut*, Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* and Tebaldo in *Don Carlo* and cover Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Magdalene in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and Emilia in *Otello* for The Royal Opera. She will also sing Agathe and Dargelos in *Les Enfants terribles* for The Royal Ballet.

### **Angela Simkin**

In the 2016/17 Season, she will make her Royal Opera debut in the title role of *Oreste* (at Wilton's Music Hall), and also sing Annina in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Flora Bervoix in *La traviata* and Mlle Dangeville in *Adriana Lecouvreur*. She will also cover Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* and Tebaldo in *Don Carlo*.

### **Thomas Atkins**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will perform Pilade in *Oreste* (at Wilton's), followed by Major Domo in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Poisson in *Adriana Lecouvreur* and Rodrigo in *Otello* (in which production he is also covering Cassio).

### **David Junghoon Kim**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will sing Flavio in *Norma*, Nathanael in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Lamplighter in *Manon Lescaut*, Ruiz in *Il trovatore*, Gastone de Letorières in *La traviata*, Augustin Moser in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Count of Lerma in *Don Carlo* and Pong in *Turandot* and cover Italian Tenor in *Der Rosenkavalier*.

### **Gyula Nagy**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will make his Royal Opera debut as Fiorello in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, and also sing Filotete in *Oreste* (at Wilton's Music Hall), Konrad Nachtigall in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Imperial Commissioner in *Madama Butterfly*, Flemish Deputy in *Don Carlo* and Baron Douphol in *La traviata*. He will also cover Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly* and Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*.

### **Simon Shibambu**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will make his Royal Opera debut as Toante in *Oreste* (at Wilton's Music Hall), and also sing Quinault in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, Flemish Deputy in *Don Carlo* and Montano in *Otello*.

### **David Shipley**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will sing Clerk, Policeman, Speculator and Respectable Lady's Son in *The Nose*, Sergeant in *Manon Lescaut*, Dr Grenvil in *La traviata*, Nightwatchman in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and Flemish Deputy in *Don Carlo* (also covering the Monk).

### **Yuriy Yurchuk**

After leaving the Programme, he will join The Royal Opera as a principal artist, singing roles in *The Nose*, Schlemil in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Baron Douphol in *La traviata*, Prince Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly*, Flemish Deputy in *Don Carlo* and Mandarin in *Turandot* and covering Lindorf, Coppélius, Dappertutto and Dr Miracle in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Giorgio Germont in *La traviata* and Rodrigo, Marquis of Posa in *Don Carlo*

### **Samuel Sakker**

After leaving the Programme, he will join The Royal Opera as a principal artist, singing roles in *The Nose*, Ruiz in *Il trovatore* (Cast B), Major Domo I and Doctor in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Ulrich Eisslinger in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Enrique in *The*

*Exterminating Angel*, Gastone de Letorières in *La traviata* (Cast B) and Pang in *Turandot* (cast B) and covering Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*.

### **Richard Gerard Jones**

In the new Season, he will direct *Oreste* at Wilton's Music Hall and the JPYAP Summer Performance at Covent Garden and assist the directors of *Così fan tutte*, *Written on Skin*, *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and *La traviata*.

### **James Hendry**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will make his Royal Opera conducting debut with *Oreste* at Wilton's Music Hall and also conduct part of the Jette Parker Young Artists Summer Performance at the Royal Opera House. He will join the Royal Opera music staff for *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Otello* and *Turandot* and the Royal Ballet music staff for *Les enfants terribles*.

### **Nick Fletcher**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will play continuo for *Oreste* at Wilton's Music Hall and the Jette Parker Young Artists Summer Performance. He will also join the Royal Opera music staff for *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Written on Skin*, *Don Giovanni*, *La traviata* and *Mitridate, re di Ponto*.

### **Matthew Scott Rogers**

In the 2016/17 Season, he will conduct part of the Jette Parker Young Artists Summer Performance at the Royal Opera House, act as assistant conductor on *Anastasia*, *The Nutcracker*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and two mixed programmes for The Royal Ballet and join the Royal Opera music staff for *La traviata* and *Madama Butterfly*.

## THE ROYAL OPERA 2016/17 SEASON AT A GLANCE

Bellini NORMA

New Production

Co-production with Opéra National de Paris

12, 16, 20 September at 7.15 pm; 23, 26 September at 7.30pm; 1 October at 7.30 pm;

4 October at 7.15pm; 8 October at 12pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE, Alfiya and Timur Kuanyshev and The Tsukanov Family Foundation*

Rossini IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA

13, 15, 17, 21, 28 September at 6.45pm; 23 September at 12pm; 1 October at 12pm;

8 October at 7pm; 11 October at 6.45pm

*Generous support from Professor Paul Cartledge and Judith Portrait OBE and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund*

Mozart COSÌ FAN TUTTE

New Production

22, 24, 29 September at 6.45pm; 3, 7, 12, 14, 17, 19 October at 6.45pm

MEET THE YOUNG ARTISTS WEEK

Recitals at St Clement Danes Church

3 October at 1pm, 4 October at 1.30pm, 6 October at 1pm, 9 October at 12.30 and 6pm.

*Generously made possible by Oak Foundation*

A MAN OF GOOD HOPE

A Young Vic and Isango Ensemble production co-produced by The Royal Opera and Repons Foundation

Young Vic

6–8, 10–12 October at 7.30pm – Previews

13 October at 7.30pm – Press Night

14, 17–21, 24–28 October at 7.30pm

15, 22, 29 October at 2.30 pm and 7.30pm

1–4, 7–11 November at 7.30pm

5, 12 November at 2.30pm and 7.30pm

Shostakovich THE NOSE

New Production

Co-Production with Komische Oper Berlin and Opera Australia

20, 27 October at 7.30pm; 1, 4, 9 November at 7.30pm

*Generous philanthropic support from The Tsukanov Family Foundation*

Offenbach LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN

7, 11, 15, 18, 21, 24, 28 November at 6.30pm; 3 December at 6.30pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet*

Handel ORESTE

Wilton's Music Hall

(Presented by the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme)

8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19 November at 7.30 pm

13 November at 2pm

*Generously made possible by Oak Foundation*

Puccini MANON LESCAUT

Co-production with Shanghai Grand Theatre

22, 29 November at 7.30pm; 26 November at 7pm; 2, 5, 9, 12 December at 7.30pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE*

Verdi IL TROVATORE

Co-production with Oper Frankfurt

4 December at 6.30pm, 7, 13, 16 December at 7.30pm, 10 December at 7pm

Richard Strauss DER ROSENKAVALIER

New Production

Co-production with The Metropolitan Opera, New York, and Teatro Regio Turin

17, 20, 22 December at 6pm; 8 January at 3pm; 11, 14, 17, 24 January at 6pm;

*Generous philanthropic support from the Monument Trust, Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the Friends of Covent Garden and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund*

George Benjamin WRITTEN ON SKIN

Co-commission and co-production with Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Dutch National Opera (Amsterdam) and Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse

13, 18, 23, 27, 30 January at 8pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mr Stefan Sten Olsson*

Verdi LA TRAVIATA

16, 19, 25 January at 7pm; 28 January at 12pm; 1 February at 7pm;

*Generous philanthropic support from the Jean Sainsbury Royal Opera House Fund*

Verdi IL TROVATORE

Co-production with Oper Frankfurt

26, 28, 31 January at 7.30pm; 3, 6, 9 February at 7.30pm

Cilea ADRIANA LECOUVREUR

Co—production with Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona, Vienna State Opera, San Francisco Opera and Opéra National de Paris.

7, 10, 17, 21, 24, 27 February at 7pm; 2 March at 7pm

*Generous philanthropic support from the Friends of Covent Garden*

Wagner DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG

New Production

Co-production with National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing and Opera Australia

11, 25 March at 4pm; 15, 22, 28, 31 March at 4.30pm; 19 March at 3pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE, Dr Genevieve Davies, Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the Die Meistersinger Production Syndicate and the Wagner Circle*

Puccini MADAMA BUTTERFLY

Co-production with Gran teatre del Liceu, Barcelona

23 March at 12pm; 27, 30 March at 7.30pm; 4, 7, 10, 13, 17, 22, 25 April at 7.30pm; 20 April at 12.30pm

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE*

Thomas Adès THE EXTERMINATING ANGEL

Production new to The Royal Opera

Co-commission and co-production with the Salzburg Festival, the Metropolitan Opera, New York and the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen

24, 27 April at 7.30pm; 1, 3, 8 May at 7.30pm; 6 May at 7pm;

*Generous philanthropic support from Mr Stefan Sten Olsson and The John S Cohen Foundation*

Verdi DON CARLO

Co-production with Norwegian National Opera and the Metropolitan Opera, New York

12, 15, 19, 22, 26 May at 6pm; 29 May at 3pm

*Generous philanthropic support from the Patrons of Covent Garden and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund*

Ravi Shankar Project

Dates in May 2017

Co-production with the London Philharmonic Orchestra in association with Curve Leicester

Curve Leicester, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Royal Festival Hall, London, The Lowry, Salford

*Generous philanthropic support by Arts Council, England and the Bagley Foundation*

Donizetti L'ELISIR D'AMORE

Co-production with Opéra National de Paris

27, 30 May at 7.30pm; 3, 6, 13, 16, 19, 22 June at 7.30pm; 11 June at 6pm

Verdi LA TRAVIATA

14, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30 June at 7pm; 25 June at 6pm; 30 June, 4 July at 7pm

*Generous philanthropic support from the Jean Sainsbury Royal Opera House Fund*

Verdi OTELLO

New Production



21, 28 June at 7.30pm; 24 June at 7pm; 2 July at 2pm; 6, 8, 10, 12, 15 July at 7.30pm

*Generously supported by Rolex*

*Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE, Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the Otello Production Syndicate and The Royal Opera House Endowment Fund*

Mozart MITRIDATE, RE DI PONTO

26, 29 June at 6.30pm; 1, 7 July at 6.30pm

Puccini TURANDOT

5, 11, 14 July at 7.30pm; 9 July at 6.30pm; 8, 12, 15 July at 12.30pm; 16 July at 11.30am

JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER PERFORMANCE

16 July at 6.30pm

*Generously supported by Oak Foundation*

Welsh National Opera

André Tchaikowsky THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Co-production of Bregenz Festspiele, Austria, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute as part of the Polska Music programme and Teatr Wielki, Warsaw

19, 20 July at 7.30 pm

*Supported by the Getty Family as part of British Firsts.*

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