



ROYAL
OPERA

8 DECEMBER 2016

CAST AMENDMENT

IL TROVATORE (Giuseppe Verdi)

26, 28, 31 January 2017, 3, 6, 9 February 2017

Russian baritone **Dmitri Hvorostovsky** has regrettably had to withdraw from the role of Count di Luna in The Royal Opera's production of Verdi's *Il trovatore* in January and February 2017.

It was announced in June 2015 that Dmitri Hvorostovsky was beginning treatment for a brain tumour. In a message to his friends, fans and colleagues, he has said today:

'It is with great sadness that I must withdraw from opera performances for the foreseeable future. I have been experiencing balance issues associated with my illness, making it extremely difficult for me to perform in staged productions. I will continue to give concerts and recitals as well as make recordings. Singing is my life, and I want to continue bringing joy to people worldwide. With this pause in my operatic career, and more rest in between each engagement, I hope to have more time to focus on my health and treatment. Thank you for all your love, messages and well-wishes. Your support is felt and means the world to me.'

Kasper Holten, Director of Opera, for The Royal Opera said 'We admire Dmitri's extraordinary courage and positive spirit in dealing with his illness, and hope that with time his condition will improve to allow him to return to the stage. We know that the entire opera world and his London audiences in particular join us in sending him the warmest and most heartfelt good wishes'.

Replacement casting for the role of Count di Luna in *Il trovatore* will be announced in due course.

PRESS OFFICE CONTACTS

Ann Richards/David Brownlie-Marshall/Matthew Horne/Rhys Edwards

Opera Press Office, The Royal Opera

Tel: 020 7212 /9132/9504/9149/020 3772 6458

ann.richards@roh.org.uk /david.brownliemarshall@roh.org.uk

matthew.horne@roh.org.uk/rhys.edwards@roh.org.uk

For all Royal Opera House press releases visit www.roh.org.uk/press

