



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL
10.00AM, 20 MARCH 2018

OPERA AND MUSIC 2018/19 SEASON

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THE ROYAL OPERA 2018/19 SEASON

- Oliver Mears, Director of Opera for The Royal Opera:

‘It is a great pleasure to introduce our 2018/19 Season, which contains a compelling mix of the very finest international and British singers, exciting new productions and classic revivals and operas that span the entire breadth of the repertory. We open with one of the most ambitious undertakings for any opera house: Wagner’s *Ring* cycle, conducted by our Music Director Antonio Pappano, in a final outing for Keith Warner’s acclaimed production. Our five new productions show our continued commitment to our two central principles of quality and breadth. We stage co-productions of Christof Loy’s *La forza del destino* and Stefan Herheim’s *The Queen of Spades*. Richard Jones continues our Janáček cycle, staging *Katya Kabanova*, and Deborah Warner makes a long-awaited return to the Royal Opera House with an acclaimed new production of *Billy Budd*, opening a series of operas by one of the UK’s greatest composers, Benjamin Britten. We are also planning a cycle of works for families over the next few Seasons, beginning this Christmas when director/designer Antony McDonald creates an enchanting *Hansel and Gretel* for all ages. Finally, I am delighted that we are able to introduce more Handel into the repertory, with a performance of Handel’s oratorio *Solomon*, which had its world premiere at Covent Garden in 1749.’

- Antonio Pappano conducts four cycles of Wagner’s *Ring* cycle, the new productions of *La forza del destino*, and *The Queen of Spades*, and a concert performance of Verdi’s Requiem, with further orchestral concerts scheduled at the Royal Opera House and Birmingham Symphony Hall.
- *Carmen* (directed by Barrie Kosky), *Così fan tutte* (directed by Jan Philipp Gloger), *Boris Godunov* (directed by Richard Jones) and *Andrea Chénier* (directed by David McVicar) will return for their first revivals.

- Richard Eyre's production of *La traviata* celebrates 25 years in the repertory.
- The Royal Opera celebrates its 50th anniversary since it received its Royal Charter in 1968.
- Five operas will be screened in the Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season: *Die Walküre*, *The Queen of Spades*, *La traviata*, *La forza del destino* and *Faust*.
- BBC Radio 3 will broadcast 11 productions during the Season, as well as the performance of Verdi's Requiem.

Music Director **Antonio Pappano**, now in his 17th Season with The Royal Opera, conducts *The Queen of Spades* for the first time at Covent Garden. The production was first performed in 2016 by Dutch National Opera. Members of the creative team for the Olivier Award-winning *Les Vêpres siciliennes* return to Covent Garden with this thrilling and thought-provoking new production of Tchaikovsky's intense opera of obsession and the supernatural. The production is set in the 1890s and depicts how Tchaikovsky imagines his opera into life as his own story, its characters giving voice to his unfulfilled desires. Latvian tenor **Aleksandrs Antonenko** returns to The Royal Opera to sing Gherman, following his recent performances with the Company as Calaf (*Turandot*) in 2017, and Dutch soprano **Eva-Maria Westbroek** makes her role debut as Liza. British mezzo-soprano **Felicity Palmer** makes a welcome return to sing the role of the Countess; her last appearances with the Company were in 2007 as the Marquise de Berkenfield (*La Fille du régiment*) and Kabanicha (*Katya Kabanova*). Bulgarian baritone **Vladimir Stoyanov** makes his Royal Opera debut as Prince Yeletsky (in this production Tchaikovsky's alter ego), a role he has previously sung for the Metropolitan Opera, New York. The production will be relayed into cinemas on 22 January 2019. *The Queen of Spades* was last performed by The Royal Opera in autumn 2006 in a production by Francesca Zambello.

Antonio Pappano returns to the Italian repertory in which he is so celebrated, continuing his long-established partnership with director **Christof Loy** with Verdi's epic opera *La*

forza del destino. Loy and Pappano have previously worked together with The Royal Opera on *Tristan und Isolde*, *Lulu* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*. This critically acclaimed production of Verdi's dramatic opera was first performed by Dutch National Opera in September 2017; its spectacular designs are by **Christian Schmidt**. The production is double cast. Singing the role of Leonora, in a role debut, is Russian soprano **Anna Netrebko**. She shares the role with **Liudmyla Monastyrskya**, who has previously sung Leonora in Valencia, and who has recently sung Abigail (*Nabucco*) and Amelia (*Un ballo in maschera*) for The Royal Opera. The role of Don Alvaro is shared between German tenor **Jonas Kaufmann**, who has previously sung Don Alvaro for Bavarian State Opera, and Azerbaijani tenor **Yusif Eyvazov**, who makes his Royal Opera debut in *Macbeth* in 2018. Singing the role of Don Carlo di Vargas are French baritone **Ludovic Tézier** and British baritone **Christopher Maltman**, who makes his debut in the role. Italian bass **Ferruccio Furlanetto** sings Padre Guardiano, a role he previously sang for The Royal Opera in 2004. Italian baritone **Alessandro Corbelli** sings the comic role of Fra Melitone and Italian mezzo-soprano **Veronica Simeoni** makes her Royal Opera debut as Preziosilla, sharing the role with Jette Parker Young Artist **Aigul Akmetschina**. The production will be relayed live into cinemas on 2 April 2019. Antonio Pappano first conducted *La forza del destino* for The Royal Opera in 2004, when he stepped in to replace Riccardo Muti at short notice.

Director/designer **Antony McDonald** creates an enchanting new production of Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* for the Christmas period. This new production draws on the fantastical tales of the Grimm brothers through a picture-book design that brings together fairytale charm and a dash of unexpected wit. Two former Jette Parker Young Artists return to make their role debuts in the title roles of Hansel and Gretel. Polish mezzo-soprano **Hanna Hipp** sings Hansel; she recently sang Magdalene (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*) for The Royal Opera. Irish soprano **Jennifer Davis** sings Gretel; in 2017 she stepped in to sing the role of Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*) for the Company, and also sang Arbate (*Mitridate, re di Ponto*) and First Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*). German tenor **Gerhard Siegel** sings the role of the Witch for the first time at Covent Garden, having previously sung the role for the Metropolitan Opera, New York. His roles for The Royal Opera have included Mime (*Der Ring des Nibelungen*), Herod (*Salome*) and Captain (*Wozzeck*). In the 2018/19 Season he also sings Mime for the Company. German mezzo-soprano **Michaela Schuster**, who

recently sang Herodias (*Salome*) for the Company, sings the role of the children's mother Gertrud, and **James Rutherford** sings their father, Peter. The previous Royal Opera production of *Hansel and Gretel* was directed by Moshe Leiser and Patrice Caurier and was last seen at Covent Garden in December–January 2010/11.

Billy Budd, one of the most popular of 20th-century operas, returns to The Royal Opera in a co-production with Teatro Real, Madrid and Rome Opera, directed by **Deborah Warner**. The production was first seen at Teatro Real, Madrid, in February 2017. *Billy Budd* received its world premiere at the Royal Opera House in 1951, conducted by Benjamin Britten, with Peter Pears in the role of Captain Vere; the staged premiere of the revised two-act version (the standard one today) also took place at the Royal Opera House, in 1964. Deborah Warner previously directed *The Turn of the Screw* for The Royal Opera in 1997 at the Barbican Theatre; this production was also staged at the Royal Opera House in 2002. **Ivor Bolton**, Music Director at Teatro Real, Madrid, returns to The Royal Opera, having most recently conducted *La Calisto*, *Tamerlano* and *Le nozze di Figaro* for the Company. Former Jette Parker Young Artist, South African baritone **Jacques Imbrailo**, sings the title role, which he also sang in this production in Madrid. He first sang Billy Budd for Glyndebourne Festival in 2010. **Toby Spence** returns to the role of Captain Vere which he has previously sung at English National Opera, in Rome and in Madrid. British bass **Brindley Sherratt** returns to the role of John Claggart, which he has sung for Glyndebourne Festival, Aldeburgh Festival and Teatro Real, Madrid.

British director **Richard Jones** directs a new production of Janáček's *Katya Kabanova*. This is the second in a planned series of four of the Czech composer's major works, and follows on from The Royal Opera's 2018 production of *From the House of the Dead*. Designs are by **Antony McDonald**. **Edward Gardner** makes his Royal Opera debut as conductor. He has previously worked with Richard Jones on *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, *Julietta* and *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci* at English National Opera. Making her Royal Opera debut in the title role is America soprano **Amanda Majeski**. Her recent roles include Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*) at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, Eva (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*) for Glyndebourne Festival and Vitellia (*La clemenza di Tito*) for Paris Opéra. British mezzo-soprano **Susan Bickley** sings the role of Kabanicha for the first time at Covent Garden,

having sung the role for Paris Opéra, Glyndebourne and English National Opera. Making his Royal Opera debut is Czech tenor **Pavel Černoch** who sings Boris Grigorjevič, a role he has also sung for Berlin State Opera (with Simon Rattle conducting). British tenor **Andrew Staples** makes his role debut as Tichon, Katya's husband, and British tenor **Andrew Tortoise** makes a role debut as Váňa Kudrjáš with former Jette Parker Young Artist Australian mezzo-soprano **Emily Edmonds** as his sweetheart Varvara.

This Season, The Royal Opera stages the first revivals of four of its recent new productions: *Carmen* (directed by Barrie Kosky), *Così fan tutte* (directed by Jan Philipp Gloger), *Boris Godunov* (directed by Richard Jones) and *Andrea Chénier* (directed by David McVicar).

Bizet's ever-popular *Carmen* returns for two runs in the 2018/19 Season in **Barrie Kosky's** energetic production, first performed by The Royal Opera in February and March 2018. Kosky's production of *Carmen* was given its premiere by Frankfurt Opera in 2016. It is a far from traditional version of the opera, in which Kosky incorporates music written for the score by Bizet but not usually heard, and replaces the spoken dialogue with the recorded voice of a female narrator. The first run, conducted by **Keri-Lynn Wilson** in her Royal Opera debut, stars Uzbekistan mezzo-soprano **Ksenia Dudnikova**, who made her Royal Opera debut in the 2016/17 Season as Princesse de Bouillon (*Adriana Lecouvreur*), as Carmen. She has previously sung Carmen with Stanislavsky Opera in Moscow. American tenor **Brian Jagde** sings the role of Don José. He made his Royal Opera debut in 2015 as Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*) and has since returned to sing Maurizio (*Adriana Lecouvreur*) with the Company. Singing the role of Escamillo is Russian bass **Alexander Vinogradov**. Italian soprano **Eleonora Buratto** makes her Royal Opera debut as Micaëla, a role she has previously sung in Rome, Naples and for the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

The second run is conducted by British conductor **Julia Jones**, returning to the Royal Opera House after her recent performances of *Die Zauberflöte* with The Royal Opera in the 2017/18 Season. French mezzo-soprano **Clémentine Margaine** makes her Royal Opera debut in her signature role of Carmen. American tenor **Bryan Hymel** returns to the role of Don José (which he last sang for the Company in 2015), sharing the role with Armenian tenor **Arsen Sghomonyan** who makes his Royal Opera debut. Arsen Sghomonyan

made his tenor debut (as Cavaradossi in *Tosca*) in March 2017 in Moscow. Prior to this he was a leading baritone of the Stanislavsky Theatre. Italian bass-baritone **Luca Pisaroni** sings Escamillo, a role he shares with New Zealand baritone **Phillip Rhodes**. Making a welcome return to Covent Garden is American soprano **Ailyn Pérez** (last seen here as Violetta in 2015) as Micaëla, a role she shares with **Kristina Mkhitarian** who sang the role with The Royal Opera in February and March 2018 in this production.

The Olivier Award-nominated production of *Così fan tutte* by **Jan Philipp Gloger** returns for its first revival since the production had its premiere with The Royal Opera in the 2016/17 Season. Making his Royal Opera debut is Italian conductor and violinist **Stefano Montanari**. **Thomas Allen** returns again to the role of Don Alfonso, which he has performed many times at Covent Garden since 1995, alongside four rising operatic talents as the young lovers. Italian tenor **Paolo Fanale**, who made his Royal Opera debut in 2016 as Rinuccio (*Gianni Schicchi*), sings Ferrando. Hungarian-Romanian baritone **Gyula Orendt** is Guglielmo. His roles for the Company have included the title role in *Orfeo* at the Roundhouse, and, in the 2017/18 Season, Gaveston/Stranger (the world premiere of *Lessons in Love and Violence*). Georgian soprano **Salome Jicia**, who made her Royal Opera debut in the 2016/17 Season as Sifare (*Mitridate, re di Ponto*) sings Fiordiligi, and Italian mezzo-soprano **Serena Malfi**, who made her Royal Opera debut in 2014 as Rosina (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), sings Dorabella. Italian soprano **Serena Gamberoni**, who sang Oscar (*Un ballo in maschera*) in 2014–15 in her Royal Opera debut, sings Despina.

Also returning for its first revival is Richard Jones's gripping production of Musorgsky's magnificent historical opera *Boris Godunov*, in a production first seen in March 2016. Welsh bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** returns in the title role, and also returning to their roles from 2016 are British bass **John Tomlinson** as Varlaam, and former Jette Parker Young Artist British tenor **David Butt Philip** as Grigory Otrepiev. New to the cast this time are British bass **Matthew Rose**, also a former Young Artist, who sings the role of Pimen in a role debut, Canadian tenor **Roger Honeywell** as Prince Shuisky, in his Royal Opera debut, and Russian baritone **Boris Pinkhasovich** in his Royal Opera debut as Andrei Shchelkalov. German conductor **Marc Albrecht**, Music Director of Dutch National Opera, conducts. He previously conducted *Der fliegende Holländer* for The Royal Opera, in 2011.

David McVicar's beautiful and historically informed production of Giordano's French Revolution opera *Andrea Chénier* returns for its first revival, conducted by Israeli conductor **Daniel Oren**. This production was first seen at Covent Garden in 2015. French-Sicilian tenor **Roberto Alagna** sings the idealistic revolutionary poet Chénier and Canadian-American soprano **Sondra Radvanovsky** sings Maddalena di Coigny, a role she recently sang for the first time in Barcelona. Greek baritone **Dimitri Platanias** sings the role of the revolutionary Carlo Gérard. Italian mezzo-soprano **Elena Zilio** returns to the role of Madelon, with British mezzo-sopranos **Rosalind Plowright** and **Christine Rice** (the latter in a role debut) as the Contessa di Coigny and Bersi respectively.

Verdi continues to be strongly represented in the 2018/19 Season, not only with the new production of *La forza del destino*, but also through revivals of *La traviata* (a production celebrating its 25th anniversary) and *Simon Boccanegra*, and a performance of Verdi's Requiem.

Richard Eyre's sumptuous production of *La traviata*, with stunning set and costume designs by **Bob Crowley**, celebrates its 25th anniversary. The production is double cast, led by Albanian soprano **Ermonela Jaho** and American soprano **Angel Blue** in the role of courtesan Violetta Valéry. Ermonela Jaho returns to the role in which she made her Royal Opera debut in 2008 and returned to in 2010 and 2012; she has also sung Suor Angelica, Massenet's Manon, Magda (*La rondine*), Mimì (*La bohème*) and Cio-Cio-San (*Madama Butterfly*) for the Company. Angel Blue makes her Royal Opera debut; she has previously sung Violetta for Seattle Opera. American tenor **Charles Castronovo** returns to the role of Alfredo Germont, which he shares with French tenor **Benjamin Bernheim**, who made his Royal Opera debut in 2017 as Rodolfo (*La bohème*). The role of Giorgio Germont is shared between Russian baritone **Igor Golovatenko** (who makes his Royal Opera debut), Italian baritone **Simone Piazzola** (who made his Royal Opera debut in 2017 as Rodrigo, Marquis of Posa (*Don Carlo*)) and Spanish baritone **Plácido Domingo**, who sings this role for the first time at Covent Garden, having previously sung Giorgio Germont for companies including Bavarian State Opera and Paris Opéra. Italian conductor **Antonello**

Manacorda makes his conducting debut at Covent Garden. The production will be relayed live into cinemas on 30 January 2019.

Verdi's opera *Simon Boccanegra*, set in Renaissance Genoa, and exploring the themes of treachery, forgiveness and a pivotal father-daughter relationship, returns to Covent Garden in **Elijah Moshinsky's** majestic production, first seen in 1991. Heading the cast is Spanish baritone **Carlos Álvarez**, making a welcome return to Covent Garden in the title role. His previous roles for The Royal Opera have included Rigoletto and Giorgio Germont (*La traviata*). Armenian soprano **Hrachuhi Bassenz** (Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* for The Royal Opera in June/July 2018) sings the role of Amelia Grimaldi, Boccanegra's long-lost daughter, with Italian tenor **Francesco Meli** in the role of Gabriele Adorno, and Italian bass **Ferruccio Furlanetto** returning to the role of Fiesco, the first of his two roles with The Royal Opera in the 2018/19 Season. Former General Music Director of the Komische Oper in Berlin, Hungarian conductor **Henrik Nánási**, returns to Covent Garden to conduct all performances, following his success in the 2017/18 Season conducting *Salome*.

Verdi's powerful Requiem showcases the forces of the Royal Opera Chorus and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House under the baton of Antonio Pappano, in the first of two concerts he conducts this Season. They are joined by soloists who include Bulgarian soprano **Krassimira Stoyanova**, American mezzo-soprano **Jamie Barton** and Hungarian bass **Gábor Bretz**. The performance is given in celebration of The Royal Opera's 50th anniversary.

Gounod's *Faust*, his most popular opera, returns to The Royal Opera in **David McVicar's** lavish production, which portrays the decadence and elegance of 1870s Paris. The story, adapted by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré from Carré's play *Faust et Marguerite*, is based on Goethe's epic drama *Faust*. American tenor **Michael Fabiano** sings the role of Faust for the first time for The Royal Opera and the role of Marguerite is shared between German soprano **Diana Damrau**, who has recently sung the role for Deutsche Oper Berlin, and Russian soprano **Irina Lungu**, who made her Royal Opera debut in 2014 as Musetta (*La bohème*). Uruguayan bass-baritone **Erwin Schrott**, who sang the role of Procida (*Les Vêpres*

siciliennes) in the 2017/18 Season, returns to sing the role of Méphistophélès for the first time at Covent Garden, having recently sung the role in Vienna. Singing the role of Valentin is French baritone **Stéphane Degout**, who creates the role of the King in the world premiere of George Benjamin's *Lessons in Love and Violence* (May 2018). Armenian mezzo-soprano **Varduhi Abrahamyan** makes her Royal Opera debut as Siébel. Israeli-born conductor **Dan Ettinger** returns, following performances of *Tosca* in January and February 2018, to conduct all performances of *Faust*. The production will be relayed into cinemas on 30 April 2019.

Laurent Pelly's witty and inventive production of Donizetti's sparkling French comic opera *La Fille du régiment* returns to end the 2018/19 Season with French soprano **Sabine Devieille** singing the title role, which she has sung recently in Zürich and Vienna, for the first time with The Royal Opera. She made her Royal Opera debut in the 2017/18 Season as the Queen of the Night (*Die Zauberflöte*). Singing the role of Tonio with its multiple high Cs is Mexican tenor **Javier Camarena**, who made his Royal Opera debut as Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in 2016 and who has recently sung Tonio in Madrid and Vienna, and will sing it also at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, in 2019. He shares the role with Jette Parker Young Artist South Korean tenor **Konu Kim**, whose roles for The Royal Opera in the 2017/18 Season include Arturo Bucklaw (*Lucia di Lammermoor*) and Malcolm (*Macbeth*). Albanian mezzo-soprano **Enkelejda Shkosa** (Hedwige in *Guillaume Tell* and Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with The Royal Opera in 2015) sings the Marquise de Berkenfield and British baritone **Donald Maxwell** returns to the role of Hortensius. Italian conductor **Evelino Pidò**, acclaimed for his work in the bel canto repertory, conducts all performances.

Also performed in the 2018/19 are two popular favourites: Puccini's thriller *Tosca* and Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* (*Le nozze di Figaro*).

Power and politics, love and lust combine in the opera *Tosca*, one of the most popular pieces in the repertory since its world premiere in 1900. *Tosca* has received more than 500 performances at Covent Garden. **Jonathan Kent's** production with designs by the late **Paul Brown** was first seen at Covent Garden in 2006. Latvian soprano **Kristine Opolais**

sings the title role, which she previously sang in 2013 for The Royal Opera. She shares it with Romanian soprano **Angela Gheorghiu** who sang Tosca in the 2006 premiere of this production and has returned to it with the Company many times, most recently in January 2018. Singing the role of Mario Cavaradossi for the first time at Covent Garden is Italian tenor **Vittorio Grigòlo** (who recently made his role debut as Cavaradossi with the Metropolitan Opera, New York), while Welsh bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** returns to the role of Scarpia, which he sang when this production was new in 2006, and has returned to in three revivals. Italian baritone **Marco Vratogna** also sings Scarpia – a role he most recently sang for The Royal Opera in February and March 2018. British conductor **Alexander Joel** conducts.

Mozart's great comic opera of intrigue, misunderstanding and forgiveness returns with German baritone **Christian Gerhaher** as the clever Figaro and British baritone **Simon Keenlyside** as his aristocratic master. **David McVicar's** popular production brings the revolutionary elements to the fore, updating the period to the early 1830s on the eve of France's second revolution. Making their Royal Opera debuts are German soprano **Hanna-Elisabeth Müller** as Susanna and German soprano **Julia Kleiter** as Countess Almaviva. The role of Cherubino is sung by Korean-American countertenor **Kangmin Justin Kim**, who makes his Royal Opera debut. British conductor **John Eliot Gardiner** conducts.

Handel's English oratorio *Solomon* was given its premiere at the Covent Garden Theatre in 1749. The Royal Opera presents a concert performance of this masterpiece, whose highlights include magnificent choruses, performed here by the **Royal Opera Chorus**. *Solomon's* anonymous libretto is based on the Old Testament stories from the First Book of Kings and the Second Book of Chronicles about the wise King Solomon, with additional material from *Antiquities of the Jews* by Flavius Josephus. Each act focuses on a different story about the King. In Act I, Solomon and Zadok the High Priest celebrate the completion and consecration of the Temple of Jerusalem, and the joys of Solomon's marriage. Act II tells the famous story of Solomon's wisdom when two women fought over a baby, each claiming to be its mother; Solomon's judgement led him to discover who was telling the truth. Act III describes the visit from the Queen of Sheba, and opens with the

famous orchestral number *The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*, which has become one of Handel's most well-loved and popular tunes.

THE RING CYCLE 2018/19 SEASON (#ROHring)

The Royal Opera will present four complete cycles of Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in autumn 2018, conducted by Music Director **Antonio Pappano** and directed by **Keith Warner**, in the third and final revival of his production.

Returning to the production are German tenor **Stefan Vinke** who sings Siegfried, a role he has also sung for Bayreuth Festival among other companies, British mezzo-soprano **Sarah Connolly** as Fricka, German tenor **Gerhard Siegel** as Mime, Danish bass **Stephen Milling** (who previously sang Hunding in this production) as Hagen and American soprano **Emily Magee** as Guttrune (she also sings the role of Sieglinde for the first time).

Making his Royal Opera debut in the role of Wotan/Wanderer is Swedish dramatic baritone **John Lundgren**, who has previously sung Wotan/Wanderer for Bayreuth Festival and for the Royal Swedish Opera in 2017. Swedish soprano **Nina Stemme** will sing the role of Brünnhilde for the first time with The Royal Opera, having sung the role in Vienna, Dresden, Washington and in concert at the BBC Proms. Australian Heldentenor **Stuart Skelton** makes his Royal Opera debut singing the role of Siegmund. German baritone **Johannes Martin Kränzle**, who in 2017 sang Sixtus Beckmesser (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*) for The Royal Opera, sings Alberich, British tenor **Alan Oke** makes a role debut as Loge, and Estonian bass **Ain Anger**, who made his Royal Opera debut in 2016 as Pimen (*Boris Godunov*) makes a Royal Opera role debut as Hunding. Other new cast members include Norwegian soprano **Lise Davidsen** as Freia, Ortlinde and Third Norn.

Die Walküre will be relayed into cinemas on 28 October 2018.

JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAMME

Supported by Oak Foundation

The Jette Parker Young Artist Programme is now in its 17th Season and under the internationally respected artistic leadership of David Gowland and Elaine Kidd. The Programme continues its expansion and development of relationships with a wider group of artists both in the UK and abroad, to encourage the diversity of artists who are nurtured through the programme.

Meet the Young Artists Week runs from Monday 22 to Saturday 27 October 2018. In 2018 the week's events will be held in the Crush Room at the Royal Opera House. Events include recitals and the ever-popular Juke Box.

Summer Performance: 21 July 2019 at 1.30pm

Jette Parker Young Artists directed by Jette Parker Young Artist director **Noa Naamat**.

LEARNING AND PARTICIPATION

The Schools' Matinee performances continue in the 2018/19 Season:

Carmen – 27 November 2018

Hansel and Gretel – 11 December 2018

Supported by The Taylor Family Foundation

The Learning and Participation Programme continues to run the **Fanfare Competition**, now in its eleventh year. The ten competition winners aged between 12 and 18 have the opportunity to workshop their fanfares with musicians of the Royal Opera House to develop their understanding of orchestration and composition before they are recorded by the Orchestra of the Royal Opera with Antonio Pappano conducting. These fanfares are played throughout the Season to let the audience know it is time to take their seats.

Create and Sing *Carmen*, the Royal Opera House's national dramatic singing programme, based on Bizet's opera *Carmen*, will continue this Season, providing an opportunity to inspire a generation of young people to sing and engage with opera. The programme is generously supported by The Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

Student Performances

Students will have specially reduced prices for three operas in the 2018/19 Season. The performance of *Billy Budd* on 2 May 2019 will be a student-only performance. In addition, the whole of the amphitheatre will be available to students only for the performance of *La traviata* on 14 January 2019 and for the performance of *Katya Kabanova* on 18 February 2019.

ROH Students are generously made possible by the Bunting Family and Sir Simon Robey

BP BIG SCREENS 2019

This annual summer festival supported by BP is a wonderful opportunity for both seasoned fans and newcomers to experience live, free outdoor relays from the Royal Opera House in June and July 2019. Each screening will bring exclusive backstage films, competitions and the best performances free to towns across the UK.

roh.org.uk/bpbigscreens

BBC RADIO 3 BROADCASTS

Das Rheingold
Die Walküre
Siegfried
Götterdämmerung
Verdi's Requiem
Simon Boccanegra
The Queen of Spades
Katya Kabanova
La forza del destino
Billy Budd
Andrea Chénier
The Marriage of Figaro

Please check BBC Radio 3's *Opera on 3 website* for the latest schedule or broadcasts

THE ROYAL OPERA 2018/19 SEASON AT A GLANCE

DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN Wagner (#ROHring)

Revival

Cycle One

24 September 2018 at 7.30pm, 26 September 2018 at 4.30pm, 29 September 2018 at 3pm,
1 October 2018 at 4pm

Cycle Two

2 October 2018 at 7.30pm, 4 October 2018 at 4.30 pm, 7 October 2018 at 3pm, 9 October
2018 at 4pm

Cycle Three

16 October 2018 at 7.30pm, 18 October 2018 at 4.30pm, 21 October 2018 at 3pm,
24 October 2018 at 4pm

Cycle Four

26 October 2018 at 7.30pm, 28 October 2018 at 4pm, 31 October 2018 at 4.30pm,
2 November 2018 at 4pm

Cast includes: John Lundgren, Johannes Martin Kränzle, Alan Oke, Nina Stemme, Stuart Skelton, Emily Magee, Ain Anger, Sarah Connolly, Stefan Vinke, Gerhard Siegel, Markus Butter

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

Director: Keith Warner

ROH Live Cinema – *Die Walküre* on Sunday 28 October 2018

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast of complete cycle

SOLOMON (Concert performance) Handel (#ROHsolomon)

11 October 2018 at 7.30pm

REQUIEM Verdi (#ROHrequiem)

Concert

23 October 2018 at 7.30pm

Soloists include Krassimira Stoyanova, Jamie Barton, Gábor Bretz

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

SIMON BOCCANEGRA Verdi (#ROHboccanegra)

Revival

15, 19 November 2018 at 7.30pm, 24 November 2018 at 7pm, 27 November 2018 at
7.30pm, 1, 5, 10 December 2018 at 7.30pm

Cast includes: Carlos Álvarez, Ferruccio Furlanetto, Hrachuhi Bassenz, Francesco Meli,
Mark Rucker, Simon Shibambu

Conductor: Henrik Nánási

Director: Elijah Moshinsky

CARMEN Bizet (#ROHcarmen)

Production from Frankfurt Opera

First Revival

27 November 2018 Schools' Matinee 12 noon, 30 November 2018 at 7pm, 4, 8, 11, 14, 22 December 2018 at 7pm, 19 December matinee 2018 at 12 noon

Cast includes: Ksenia Dudnikova, Brian Jagde, Alexander Vinogradov, Eleonora Buratto, Jean Teitgen, Yaritza Véliz, Aigul Akhmetshina, Germán E Alcántara, François Piolino, Dominic Sedgwick

Conductor: Keri-Lynn Wilson

Director: Barrie Kosky

MEET THE YOUNG ARTISTS WEEK

Monday to Saturday 22–27 October 2018

Crush Room, Royal Opera House

Generously supported by Oak Foundation

HANSEL AND GRETEL Humperdinck (#ROHhansel)

New Production

11 December 2018 Schools' Matinee at 12.30pm, 13, 17 December 2018 at 7.30pm, 21 December matinee 2018 at 12.30pm, 27 December 2018 at 7.30pm, 29 December 2018 matinee at 11.30am

Cast includes: Hanna Hipp, Jennifer Davis, Gerhard Siegel, Michaela Schuster, James Rutherford, Haegge Lee, Christina Gansch

Conductor: Sebastian Weigle

Director: Antony McDonald

THE QUEEN OF SPADES Tchaikovsky (#ROHqueen)

Co-Production with Dutch National Opera

Production first performed in Amsterdam on 7 May 2016 by Dutch National Opera

13 January matinee 2019 at 3pm, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28 January 2019 at 7pm, 1 February 2019 at 7pm

Cast includes: Aleksandrs Antonenko, Vladimir Stoyanov, Eva-Maria Westbroek, Felicity Palmer, John Lundgren, Anna Goryachova, Tigran Martirosian, Alexander Kravets, Louise Winter, Harry Nicoll, Jacquelyn Stucker, Konu Kim, Michael Mofidian

Director: Stefan Herheim

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

ROH Live Cinema – 22 January 2019

Encore – Sunday 27 January 2019

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

LA TRAVIATA Verdi (#ROHtraviata)

Revival – 25th Anniversary of this production

14, 17, 21, 23, 24 January 2019 at 7pm, 26 January 2019 matinee at 12 noon and at 7pm, 29, 30, 31 January 2019 at 7pm

Cast includes: Ermonela Jaho (14, 17, 21, 23, 26 mat, 30 January 2019)/Angel Blue (24, 26 eve, 29, 31 January 2019), Charles Castronovo (14, 17, 21, 23, 26 mat, 30 January 2019)/Benjamin Bernheim (24, 26 eve, 29, 31 January 2019), Igor Golovatenko (14, 17, 21, 26 eve January 2019)/Simone Piazzola (24, 29, 31 January 2019)/Plácido Domingo (23, 26 mat, 30 January 2019), Pamela Helen Stephen/Gaynor Keeble, Aigul Akhmetshina/Hongni Wu, Germán E Alcántara, Simon Shibambu, Thomas Atkins/Konu Kim, Jeremy White

Conductor: Antonello Manacorda

Director: Richard Eyre

ROH Live Cinema – Wednesday 30 January 2019

Encore – Sunday 3 February 2019

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

8 February 2019 – Royal Opera House at 7.30pm

10 February 2019 – Birmingham Symphony Hall at 7.30pm

Conductor: Antonio Pappano

KATYA KABANOVA Janáček (#ROHkatya)

New Production

4, 6 February 2019 at 8pm, 9 February 2019 at 7pm, 18, 21, 26 February 2019 at 8pm

Cast includes: Amanda Majeski, Pavel Černoch, Susan Bickley, Andrew Tortise, Andrew Staples, Clive Bayley, Emily Edmonds, Sarah Pring, Dominic Sedgwick

Conductor: Edward Gardner

Director: Richard Jones

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

COSÌ FAN TUTTE Mozart (#ROHcosi)

First Revival

25, 28 February 2019, 4, 9, 13, 16 March 2019 at 7pm

Cast includes: Paolo Fanale, Gyula Orendt, Thomas Allen, Salome Jicia, Serena Malfi, Serena Gamberoni

Conductor: Stefano Montanari

Director: Jan Philipp Gloger

LA FORZA DEL DESTINO Verdi (#ROHforza)

Production first performed in Amsterdam on 9 September 2017 by Dutch National Opera
New to The Royal Opera

21 March 2019 at 6.30pm, 24 March matinee 2019 at 2pm, 27, 29 March 2019 at 6.30pm, 2, 5, 9, 12, 17, 22 April 2019 at 6.30pm

Cast includes: Anna Netrebko (21, 24, 29 March, 2, 5 April 2019)/Liudmyla Monastyrskaya (27 March, 9, 12, 17, 22 April 2019),

Jonas Kaufmann (21, 24 mat, 27 March, 2, 5, 9, 12 April 2019)/Yusif Eyvazov (29 March, 17, 22 April 2019),
Ludovic Tézier (21, 24 mat, 27 March, 2, 5, 9, 12 April 2019)/Christopher Maltman (29 March, 17, 22 April 2019),
Ferruccio Furlanetto, Alessandro Corbelli, Carlo Bosi, Veronica Simeoni (21, 24 mat, 27, 29 March, 2, 5, 9 April 2019)/Aigul Akhmetshina (12, 17, 22 April 2019), Roberta Alexander, Robert Lloyd, Michael Mofidian
Conductor: Antonio Pappano
Director: Christof Loy
ROH Live Cinema – Tuesday 2 April 2019
Encore – Sunday 7 April 2019
BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

FAUST Gounod (#ROHfaust)
Revival

11, 15, 18, 25, 30 April 2019, 3 6 May 2019 at 7pm
Cast includes: Michael Fabiano, Erwin Schrott, Diana Damrau/Irina Lungu (3, 6 May), Stéphane Degout, Varduhi Abrahamyan, Carole Wilson, Germán E Alcántara
Conductor: Dan Ettinger
Director: David McVicar
ROH Live Cinema – Tuesday 30 April 2019
Encore – Sunday 5 May 2019

BILLY BUDD Benjamin Britten (#ROHbudd)

Co-production with Teatro Real, Madrid and Teatro dell'Opera di Roma

Production first performed in Madrid on 31 January 2017 by Teatro Real Madrid

New to The Royal Opera

23, 29 April, 2, 7, 10 May 2019 at 7.30pm

Cast includes: Jacques Imbrailo, Toby Spence, Brindley Sherratt, Clive Bayley, David Soar, Thomas Oliemans, Alasdair Elliott, Peter Kellner, Alan Ewing, Konu Kim, Sam Furness, Christopher Gillett, Dominic Sedgwick, Duncan Rock

Conductor: Ivor Bolton

Director: Deborah Warner

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

ANDREA CHÉNIER Giordano (#ROHchenier)

First Revival

20, 24, 28, 31 May, 3 6 June 2019 at 7.30pm, 9 June mat 2019 at 3pm

Cast includes: Roberto Alagna, Sondra Radvanovsky, Dimitri Platanias, Christine Rice, Rosalind Plowright, Elena Zilio, Carlo Bosi, Stephen Gadd, Aled Hall, John Cunningham, Adrian Clarke, David Stout, Germán E Alcántara, Jeremy White

Conductor: Daniel Oren

Director: David McVicar

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

TOSCA Puccini (#ROHtosca)

Revival

27, 30 May 2019 at 7.30pm, 4 June matinee 2019 at 12 noon, 7, 10, 15, 17, 20 June 2019 at 7.30pm

Cast includes: Kristine Opolais, Angela Gheorghiu (15, 20 June 2019), Vittorio Grigòlo, Bryn Terfel/Marco Vratogna (15, 17, 20 June 2019), Hubert Francis, Michael Mofidian, Jonathan Lemalu, Jihoon Kim

Conductor: Alexander Joel

Director: Jonathan Kent

BORIS GODUNOV Musorgsky (#ROHboris)

First Revival

19, 22, 25, 27 June 2019 at 8pm, 29 June mat 2019 at 12 noon, 3 July 2019 at 8pm

Cast includes: Bryn Terfel, John Tomlinson, Roger Honeywell, Matthew Rose, David Butt Philip, Boris Pinkhasovich, Harry Nicoll, Anne Marie Gibbons, Haegge Lee, Sam Furness, Jeremy White, Adrian Clarke, Alan Ewing, Nicholas Sales

Conductor: Marc Albrecht

Director: Richard Jones

CARMEN Bizet (#ROHcarmen)

Production from Frankfurt Opera

Revival

22 June matinee 2019 at 12 noon, 24, 26, 28 June 2019 at 7pm, 2, 5, 10 July 2019 at 7pm, 13 July matinee 2019 at 12 noon, 16, 20 July 2019 at 7pm

Cast includes: Clémentine Margaine, Bryan Hymel/Arsen Sghomonyan (16, 20 July 2019), Luca Pisoni/Phillip Rhodes (16, 20 July 2019), Ailyn Pérez (22 June matinee, 24 June, 5, 10 July, 13 July matinee, 16, 20 July 2019)/Kristina Mkhitarian (26, 28 June, 2 July 2019), Michael Mofidian, Jacquelyn Stucker, Hongni Wu, Dominic Sedgwick, Stuart Patterson, Germán E Alcántara

Conductor: Julia Jones

Director: Barrie Kosky

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (LE NOZZE DI FIGARO) Mozart

Revival (#ROHfigaro)

29 June, 1, 4, 6, 9, 12, 17, 19 July 2019 at 7pm, 21 July 2019 at 6pm

Cast includes: Christian Gerhaher, Simon Keenlyside, Hanna-Elisabeth Müller, Julia Kleiter, Kangmin Justin Kim, Diana Montague, Maurizio Muraro, Jean-Paul Fouchécourt, Jeremy White, Alasdair Elliott, Yaritza Véliz

Conductor: John Eliot Gardiner

Director: David McVicar

BBC Radio 3 Broadcast

LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT Donizetti (#ROHfille)

Revival

Co-production with Vienna State Opera and the Metropolitan Opera, New York

8, 11, 13, 15, 18 July 2019 at 7.30pm, 20 July matinee 2019 at 12 noon

Cast includes: Sabine Devieille, Javier Camarena/Konu Kim (18, 20 July 2019), Enkelejda Shkosa, Pietro Spagnoli, Donald Maxwell

Conductor: Evelino Pidò

Director: Laurent Pelly

JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER PERFORMANCE (#ROHjpya)

21 July 2019 at 1.30pm

Artists include: Aigul Akhmetshina, Germán E Alcántara, Konu Kim, Haegge Lee, Michael Mofidian, Dominic Sedgwick, Jacquelyn Stucker, Patrick Terry, Yaritza Véliz, Hongni Wu

Conductor: tbc

Director: Noa Naamat

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PRESS OFFICE CONTACTS

Ann Richards

Head of Opera Press

Tel: 020 7212 9132

Mobile: 07767 870 517

ann.richards@roh.org.uk

Jolene Dyke

Opera Press and Communications Officer

Tel: 020 7212 9504

Mobile: 07941 188 976

jolene.dyke@roh.org.uk

Matthew Horne

Opera Press and Communications Officer

Tel: 020 7212 9149

Mobile: 07946 555 303

matthew.horne@roh.org.uk

Rhys Edwards

Opera Press Assistant

Tel: 020 3772 6458

Mobile: 07580 991 307

rhys.edwards@roh.org.uk

Rachel Gaston

Press Officer ROH Cinema and Special Projects

Tel: 020 7212 9781

Mobile: 07961 536933

rachel.gaston@roh.org.uk