

THE ROYAL OPERA | SPRING 2018

- The Royal Opera presents the world premiere of George Benjamin and Martin Crimp's new opera *Lessons in Love and Violence*.
- Janáček's final opera *From the House of the Dead* receives its Royal Opera premiere in a new production directed by Krzysztof Warlikowski and conducted by Mark Wigglesworth.
- Antonio Pappano conducts two revivals of acclaimed productions: Phyllida Lloyd's production of Verdi's *Macbeth* in which Anna Netrebko sings Lady Macbeth, and Richard Jones's production of Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, with a cast led by Eva-Maria Westbroek in the title role.
- Christian Gerhaher joins Antonio Pappano and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House in concert, in a programme featuring music by Richard Strauss, Frank Martin, Shostakovich and Elgar.
- Philip Venables's award winning opera *4.48 Psychosis* receives its first revival at Lyric Hammersmith.

The Royal Opera's 2018 Spring Season culminates with the hotly anticipated world premiere of composer **George Benjamin** and playwright **Martin Crimp**'s new opera *Lessons in Love and Violence*. Following the major success of the duo's previous collaboration *Written on Skin* – the most performed new opera of the 21st century – *Lessons in Love and Violence* reunites George Benjamin and Martin Crimp with director **Katie Mitchell** and designer **Vicki Mortimer**. The cast includes Canadian soprano **Barbara Hannigan**, who created the role of Agnès in *Written on Skin* to great acclaim, alongside French baritone **Stéphane Degout**.

Prior to *Lessons in Love and Violence*, **Janáček**'s final opera *From the House of the Dead* receives its Royal Opera premiere in a new production directed by **Krzysztof Warlikowski**, who makes his Royal Opera and UK debut. **Mark Wigglesworth** conducts an ensemble cast including Danish bass-baritone **Johan Reuter** and Jamaican bass **Willard W. White**.

Music Director **Antonio Pappano** conducts two revivals during the Spring Season, beginning with **Phyllida Lloyd's** production of **Verdi's *Macbeth***. Russian soprano **Anna Netrebko** returns to The Royal Opera to sing Lady Macbeth, alongside Serbian baritone **Željko Lučić** in the title role. **Richard Jones's** acclaimed production of **Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*** also returns conducted by Pappano, featuring Dutch soprano **Eva-Maria Westbroek** as Katerina and British bass **John Tomlinson** as Boris Ismailov.

Antonio Pappano also conducts the **Orchestra of the Royal Opera House** in concert, joined by German baritone **Christian Gerhaher**. The programme consists of **Richard Strauss's *Metamorphosen***, **Frank Martin's *Sechs Monologe aus 'Jedermann'***, **Shostakovich's *Eight British and American Folk Songs*** and **Elgar's *Variations on an Original Theme (Enigma)***.

Away from Covent Garden, The Royal Opera returns to **Lyric Hammersmith** for the first revival of **Philip Venables's** award-winning opera ***4.48 Psychosis***. Inspired by **Sarah Kane's** extraordinary final play, *4.48 Psychosis* received its premiere in 2016, winning the **2016 UK Theatre Award for Achievement in Opera** and the **2017 Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Large-Scale Composition**.

The Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season continues in Spring 2018, with a performance of ***Macbeth*** being relayed live to cinema around the world on **4 April 2018**.

ENDS

Further information regarding The Royal Opera's Spring 2018 Season can be found in the full Spring 2018 press release, available via the [Royal Opera House website](#).

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About The Royal Opera

The Royal Opera, under the artistic direction of Antonio Pappano, Music Director, and Oliver Mears, Director of Opera, is one of the world's leading opera companies. The Royal Opera presents a wide-ranging programme, which includes the regular commissioning of new operas, both in the iconic Covent Garden theatre in London and also streamed and relayed live around the world as part of the ROH Live Cinema Season. The Royal Opera and the Royal Opera House play a leading role in education, community engagement, skills development, professional training and cultural regeneration in the UK.

***FROM THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD* Leoš Janáček**

7, 10, 14, 19, 22 and 24 March 2018 at 8pm

***MACBETH* Giuseppe Verdi**

25 March 2018 at 3pm | 28 March and 2, 4* and 10 April 2018 at 7.30pm | 31 March and 7 April 2018 at 7pm

*ROH Live Cinema relay

***LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK* Dmitry Shostakovich**

12, 17, 20, 24 and 27 April 2018 at 7pm

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

23 April 2018 at 7.30pm

***4.48 PSYCHOSIS* Philip Venables**

24, 26, 28 and 30 April 2018 and 2 and 4 May 2018 at 7.30pm

Lyric Hammersmith, Kings Mall Shopping Centre, King Street, Lyric Square, London W6 0QL

***LESSONS IN LOVE AND VIOLENCE* George Benjamin**

10, 12, 15, 18 and 24 May 2018 at 8pm | 26 May 2018 at 7.30pm