



## THE ROYAL OPERA | AUTUMN 2017

- Antonio Pappano conducts Richard Jones' new production of *La bohème*, to open the 2017/18 Season on 11 September
- The Victoria and Albert Museum and the Royal Opera House present *Opera: Passion, Power and Politics* – a vivid and immersive journey through nearly 400 years of opera
- The Jette Parker Young Artists return to Wilton's Music Hall to perform *La Tragédie de Carmen*, Peter Brook's radical reworking of Bizet's opera
- Revivals of *Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)*, *Les Vêpres siciliennes*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci* are performed by The Royal Opera

The Royal Opera's 2017/18 Season opens on 11 September with **Richard Jones'** highly anticipated new production of Puccini's *La bohème*, conducted by Music Director **Antonio Pappano**. Replacing John Copley's previous 1974 production for the Company (which was in the repertory for 41 years), the new staging of Puccini's opera of love, bohemian life and death in 19th-century Paris features an outstanding international cast including **Nicole Car**, **Michael Fabiano**, **Nadine Sierra** and **Mariusz Kwiecień**.

*La bohème* not only opens The Royal Opera's Season, but coincides with a celebration of opera taking place across London and the UK this autumn. The **Victoria and Albert Museum** and the **Royal Opera House** present *Opera: Passion, Power and Politics*, a vivid and immersive journey through nearly 400 years of opera, and the inaugural exhibition at the V&A's new Sainsbury Gallery. Curated by **Kate Bailey**, the landmark exhibition explores key moments of the history of European opera, from its roots in Renaissance Italy to its present-day form. The exhibition runs from 30 September.

The **BBC** joins the Royal Opera House and the Victoria and Albert Museum in telling the story of opera across TV, radio and online channels, with plans including a BBC Two documentary series presented by historian and broadcaster **Lucy Worsley** and featuring **Antonio Pappano**, to air

alongside the exhibition. Opera companies from across the UK also come together with the BBC for **#OperaPassion** day, an online celebration of British, European and global opera.

Following sold-out performances of Handel's *Oreste* in the 2016/17 Season, stars of the **Jette Parker Young Artists Programme** return to **Wilton's Music Hall** from 3 November to perform *La Tragédie de Carmen*, Peter Brook's radical reworking of Bizet's opera. Directed by former Jette Parker Young Artist **Gerard Jones**, the intimate chamber opera features just four singers in an intense and focused retelling of the tragedy of the gypsy Carmen and the soldier Don José. Jette Parker Young Artists also appear in the annual **Meet the Young Artists Week** from 2 October, featuring a diverse programme of free recitals, a workshop and a chance to meet the Young Artists in person.

The Royal Opera performs four revivals on the main stage during the Autumn Season. **David McVicar's** classic production of *Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)* returns from 12 September, with **Julia Jones** conducting two wonderful casts including **Roderick Williams** as Papageno and **Janai Brugger** as Pamina. **Malin Byström, Bryan Hymel, Michael Volle** and **Erwin Schrott** lead the cast of **Stefan Herheim's** theatrical production of Verdi's spectacular grand opera *Les Vêpres siciliennes* from 12 October, under the baton of Maurizio Benini. **Katie Mitchell's** powerful staging of **Donizetti's** tragic masterpiece *Lucia di Lammermoor* receives its first revival from 30 October, with Cuban-American soprano **Lisette Oropesa** making her Royal Opera debut in the famous title role. Finally, **Damiano Michieletto's** Olivier Award-winning production of the classic double bill of Italian opera, *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, returns from 2 December – the first time since its widely acclaimed premiere in 2015. Excellent casts for both operas include **Elīna Garanča, Bryan Hymel, Fabio Sartori, Simon Keenlyside** and **Carmen Giannattasio**.

The Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season continues in Autumn 2017, with performances of *Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)* and *La bohème* being relayed live to cinema around the world on 20 September and 3 October respectively.

**ENDS**

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Further information regarding The Royal Opera's Autumn 2017 Season can be found in the full Autumn 2017 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 opera, 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.

### ***LA BOHÈME* Giacomo Puccini**

11, 13, 19, 25, 29 September and 3\*, 6, 7, 10 October at 7.30pm | 16, 23 September at 12 noon

\*ROH Live Cinema relay

[roh.org.uk/boheme](http://roh.org.uk/boheme) | [#ROHboheme](https://twitter.com/ROHboheme)

### ***DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE (THE MAGIC FLUTE)* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

12, 14, 16, 20\*, 21, 23, 26 September and 5, 11, 13, 14 October at 7.30pm | 7 October at 12 noon

\* ROH Live Cinema relay

[roh.org.uk/zauberflote](http://roh.org.uk/zauberflote) | [#ROHzauberflote](https://twitter.com/ROHzauberflote)

### ***LES VÊPRES SICILIENNES* Giuseppe Verdi**

12, 17, 20, 25, 31 October and 4 November at 6.30pm

[roh.org.uk/vepres](http://roh.org.uk/vepres) | [#ROHvepres](https://twitter.com/ROHvepres)

### ***LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR* Gaetano Donizetti**

30 October and 2, 8, 11, 15, 20, 24, 27 November at 7.15pm

[roh.org.uk/lucia](http://roh.org.uk/lucia) | [#ROHlucia](https://twitter.com/ROHlucia)

***LA TRAGÉDIE DE CARMEN*** Georges Bizet, adapted by Peter Brook

3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 November at 7.30pm

Wilton's Music Hall, 1 Graces Alley, London, E1 8JB

[roh.org.uk/tragedie](http://roh.org.uk/tragedie) | [#ROHtragedie](https://twitter.com/ROHtragedie)

***CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA / PAGLIACCI*** Pietro Mascagni / Ruggero Leoncavallo

2, 9, 12, 15, 19, 22 December and 9 January at 7.30pm | 6 December and 6, 9 January at 12 noon

[roh.org.uk/cavandpag](http://roh.org.uk/cavandpag) | [#ROHcavandpag](https://twitter.com/ROHcavandpag)

***OPERA: PASSION, POWER AND POLITICS***

30 September 2017 – 25 February 2018

Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 2RL

[roh.org.uk/operapassion](http://roh.org.uk/operapassion) | [#OperaPassion](https://twitter.com/OperaPassion)