

THE MET OPERA 2017-2018 SEASON

Norma – Vincenzo Bellini

NEW PRODUCTION

From October 28, 2017

The season opens with a new production of Bellini's bel canto tragedy *Norma*, starring **Sondra Radvanovsky** in the title role, which she has sung to acclaim at the Met in 2013, as well as at the Canadian Opera Company, San Francisco Opera, Bavarian State Opera, Gran Teatre del Liceu, and Lyric Opera of Chicago—making her one of the world's leading interpreters of the iconic title character. **Joyce DiDonato** co-stars as Norma's colleague and rival, Adalgisa, opposite **Joseph Calleja** as Pollione and **Matthew Rose** as Oroveso. **Carlo Rizzi** conducts and **Sir David McVicar** directs the new production.

Die Zauberflöte (Mozart)

From November 11, 2017

Met Music Director Emeritus **James Levine** conducts Tony Award winner **Julie Taymor's** production of Mozart's masterpiece, *Die Zauberflöte*. **Golda Schultz** makes her Met debut as Pamina with **Kathryn Lewek** as the Queen of the Night, **Charles Castronovo** as the fairy tale prince Tamino, **Markus Werba** as the bird-catching Papageno, **Christian Van Horn** as Sprecher, and **René Pape** as Sarastro. The holiday presentation of *The Magic Flute*, an abridged staging sung in English for families, was the first *Live in HD* performance to be transmitted. This is the first time the full-length German opera will be seen in the series.

The Exterminating Angel – Thomas Adès

MET PREMIERE

From December 9, 2017

The Exterminating Angel has its Met premiere this season, conducted by the composer, **Thomas Adès**. The 2016 opera, co-commissioned by the Met and sung in English, is based on the screenplay by Luis Buñuel and Luis Alcoriza for the acclaimed 1962 Buñuel film. Directed by the librettist **Tom Cairns**, the ensemble cast features **Audrey Luna** as Leticia Maynar; **Amanda Echaz** as Lucia de Nobile; **Sally Matthews** as Silvia de Ávila and **Sophie Bevan** as Beatriz, both in Met debuts; **Alice Coote** as Leonora Palma; **Christine Rice** as Blanca Delgado; **Iestyn Davies** as Francisco de Ávila; **Joseph Kaiser** as Edundo de Nobile; **Frédéric Antoun** in his Met debut as Raúl Yebenes; **David Portillo** as Edmundo; **David Adam Moore** in his Met debut as Col. Álvaro Gómez; **Rod Gilfry** as Alberto Roc; **Kevin Burdette** as Señor Russell; **Christian Van Horn** as Julio; and **John Tomlinson** as Dr Carlos Conde. *The Exterminating Angel* is a co-commission and co-production with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Royal Danish Theatre; and Salzburg Festival, where the production premiered in 2016.

Tosca – Giacomo Puccini

NEW PRODUCTION

From February 10, 2018

Rivaling the splendor of Franco Zeffirelli's Napoleonic-era sets and costumes, **Sir David McVicar's** ravishing new production offers a splendid backdrop for extraordinary singing. **Sonya Yoncheva** stars as the title prima donna alongside **Vittorio Grigolo** and **Željko Lučić**. **Emmanuel Villaume** will be on conducting duties.

L'Elisir d'Amore (Donizetti)

From March 3, 2018

Pretty Yende debuts a new role at the Met as the feisty Adina, opposite **Matthew Polenzani**, who enthralled Met audiences as Nemorino in 2013 with his ravishing "Una furtiva lagrima." Bartlett Sher's production is charming, with deft comedic timing, but also emotionally revealing. **Domingo Hindoyan** conducts.

La Bohème (Puccini)

From April 7, 2018

An exciting young cast stars in **Franco Zeffirelli's** classic production of *La Bohème*, the most-performed opera in Met history. **Sonya Yoncheva** stars as Mimi opposite **Michael Fabiano** as the passionate writer Rodolfo. **Susanna Phillips** reprises the role of the flirtatious Musetta and **Lucas Meachem** sings the role of her lover, the painter Marcello. The cast also features **Alexey Lavrov** and **Matthew Rose** as Rodolfo and Marcello's friends Schaunard and Colline and **Paul Plishka** as Benoit and Alcindoro in this performance, led by **Marco Armiliato**.

Semiramide (Rossini)

FIRST TIME IN HD

From April 28, 2018

Angela Meade makes her Met role debut as the title character in *Semiramide*. Rossini's opera, which has not been seen at the Met in 25 years, will be conducted by **Maurizio Benini** and feature **Elizabeth DeShong** as the Commander of the Assyrian army Arsace, **Javier Camarena** as an Indian king Idreno, **Ildar Abdrazakov** as the prince Assur, and **Ryan Speedo Green** as the high priest Oroe.

Così fan tutte (Mozart)

NEW PRODUCTION

From May 26, 2018

Phelim McDermott returns to the Met staging Mozart's comedy *Così fan tutte*, led by **David Robertson**. Set in the 1950s on Coney Island, the cast features **Amanda Majeski** as the conflicted Fiordiligi; **Serena Malfi** as her sister, Dorabella; Tony Award winner **Kelli O'Hara** as their feisty maid, Despina; **Ben Bliss** and **Adam Plachetka** as the sisters' fiancés, Ferrando and Guglielmo; and **Christopher Maltman** as the cynical Don Alfonso. *Così fan tutte* is a co-production with the English National Opera.

Luisa Miller (Verdi)

FIRST TIME IN HD

From June 16, 2018

Not seen at the Met since 2006. Starring **Sonya Yoncheva** as a peasant girl Luisa opposite **Piotr Beczala** as Rodolfo in Verdi's tragedy about a young woman who sacrifices her own happiness in an attempt to save her father's life. The cast also stars **Plácido Domingo** as Luisa's father Miller, with **Olesya Petrova** as Federica, and **Alexander Vinogradov** in his Met debut and **Dmitry Belosselskiy** as Walter and Wurm respectively, the ruthless men determined to tear Luisa and Rodolfo apart.

Cendrillon (Massenet)

MET PREMIERE

From July 14, 2018

Massenet's enchanting opera *Cendrillon*, based on Cinderella, premieres at the Met conducted by **Bertrand de Billy** and directed by **Laurent Pelly**, whose Met credits include staging Donizetti's *La Fille du Régiment* and Massenet's *Manon*. **Joyce DiDonato** adds another role to her Met repertory as the title character, a role she has sung to acclaim at the Grand Teatre del Liceu, Santa Fe Opera, and Royal Opera, Covent Garden. The cast also stars **Alice Coote** as Prince Charmant, **Stephanie Blythe** as the evil stepmother Madame de la Haltière, **Kathleen Kim** as the Fée, and **Laurent Naouri** as Pandolfe. *Cendrillon* is produced in association with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London; Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona; Théâtre Royal de La Monnaie, Brussels; and Opéra de Lille. This production was first performed at The Santa Fe Opera.