

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

PROGRAMME CALENDAR

2017
18

A brief history of opera in Hungary

2017

Last year we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the publication of the play that was later to be used as the libretto of the first surviving Hungarian musical drama. And even though a certain form of opera performance had already existed in Hungary in the courts of the aristocrats and primates – for an example, one need look no further than Haydn, who worked at Eszterháza (today's Fertőd) – the first institution at the national level was the one which opened as the Hungarian Theatre of Pest in 1837 and was renamed the National Theatre in 1840. The opera company led by Ferenc Erkel and the dance ensemble led by Frigyes Campilli were given their own building and independence only at a relatively late stage, in 1884. But then they moved into the new building designed and built by Miklós Ybl on the “radial” avenue, and in doing so became the greatest of all of Hungary’s cultural institutions.

We follow in the footsteps of legendary personalities: intendants Miklós Bánffy, Miklós Radnai, Aladár Tóth, Miklós Lukács and Miklós Szinetár; musical directors and conductors Gustav Mahler, Artúr Nikitsch, János Richter, Egisto Tango, Sergio Failoni, István Kerner, Otto Klemperer, Ferenc Fricsay, János Ferencsik, Lamberto Gardelli, Giuseppe Patané, Miklós Erdélyi, János Kovács and Ádám Medveczky; choreographers Gyula Harangozó, László Seregi and Lilla Pártay; stage directors Sándor Hevesi, Kálmán Nádasdy and András Békés; and designers Gusztáv Oláh, Zoltán Fülöp, Attila Csikós, Tivadar Márk and Nelly Vágó.

Operating in Budapest today, in the first-rank – even by European standards – cultural paradise of Hungary, is one of the largest opera “holdings” in the world. Its real estate empire comprises the two largest theatre buildings in Hungary: the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre, as well as the Administration Building, the Orchestra Centre, the Eiffel Art Studios and the Sales Centre, the latter two still under construction, and various warehouses, workshops, apartments and resorts, which post a maintenance challenge at least as great as the joy their existence brings. The great quantity of moveable assets includes 10 billion forints worth of sets for 120 productions, 400,000 costumes, props, a wealth of valuable instruments and music scores, as well as the irreplaceable Memorabilia Collection.

But the most precious valuables are the people themselves: it is the skill, energy, sacrifice and commitment of the artists and staff of the Opera and the external partners collaborating with our institution that keep the improving infrastructure operating and yield the levels of quality and activity that have attracted the world’s notice.



_ The Ring and the Opera – spectacles and stories

"The function of art is to replace a life full of unfulfilled yearning."

Richard Wagner's motto finds the Hungarian State Opera in an extraordinary season. Not once in the past 34 years – and only five times over the course of the century before then – has the beautiful Opera House designed by Miklós Ybl failed to open its doors for Budapest's theatre season. These numbers are what justifies the recurrence of such a strange event: due to a meticulously scheduled ten-month modernisation project, our season will begin at the Erkel Theatre and go on to include a number of tours and guest appearances, as we cannot let our standards and level of activity decline: in 2016 we broke records in audience numbers and revenues, sold more subscriptions than in any season of the past decades and put on more opera performances than any other opera house in the world. On 24 May 2018, the centenary of the world premiere of *Bluebeard's Castle*, we – together with you and Bartók – will again get to enter our "castle", the Opera House, once again made radiant in its old splendour, but now equipped with 21st century technology.

By that time, it will also have emerged whether a season we intended to be unique will have also proved to be special. The "Around the Ring" season promises so much in the way of spectacles and stories: images and narratives. It focuses thematically not only on the *Ring of the Nibelung* itself (with the premiere of *Götterdämmerung* coming in June!), but on the antecedents and impact of Wagner's genius. Being performed will be works for the stage by Bach, Gluck and Weber, Beethoven, Schubert and Spontini, Lortzing, Marschner and d'Albert, Humperdinck, Wolf and Korngold as well as Richard Strauss, Hindemith and Orff (together with a few "nonconformists" in the shape of Offenbach's *Die Rheinnixen* and some of Mozart's works), and this is how we will be using the *Ring* – after our Hungarian Season – to introduce a kind of intellectual and spiritual Valhalla of pan-Germanic culture.

And because, as Wagner said, art is a remedy for the soul itself, we would never restrict this repertory theatre that is possibly the largest of its kind in the world to just one vision: "Around the Ring" season or not, we will offer a large number of children's programmes, including a new full-scale fairy-tale opera (*Hänsel und Gretel*), introduce a brand-new Hungarian piece (*The Tót Family*), revive an old success (*The Gold and the Woman*), come up with a new *Bánk bán* (baritone version) and a contemporary version of Mozart's *Figaro*, and remember the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with *Les Huguenots*, *Stiffelio*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Bach's *Passion*. Our stage will host Rossini's comic opera *L'italiana in Algeri* for the first time ever and the return of *Un ballo in maschera* after a long hiatus, and if everything goes according to plan, we will finally break the spell that has been cast on Gershwin's only opera, *Porgy and Bess*. At the end of the season, we will be organising three festivals. RingFest will condense the Wagnerian themes to their very essence, with a Szálinger-Nietzsche piece also spicing up the mix. May's Bluebeard100 festival will present four different versions of that work (including the very first one, by Miklós Bánffy), and the Best of Fest will feature a selection from our – expiring – seven-year term managing the Opera, with *Dialogues des Carmélites*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Swan Lake*, the latest version of *Bluebeard's Castle* and the Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala.

Speaking of ballet: we will present *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*, perform a Balanchine premiere and have *The Karamazovs* and *La fille mal gardée* return to our stage too. And, for the first time in the now 11-year-long history of OperAdventure, the series in May will become a BalletAdventure... And let us not forget to inaugurate the Eiffel Art Studios, a potential international sensation, and its Bánffy Stage with a Mozart world premiere (*L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*) in March 2018. We will appear on the Sphinx Terraces of the Opera House (*Il campanello*, *I pazzi per progetto*, *The Telephone*, *Coffee Cantata*), at Müpa Budapest (*Otello*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Turandot*; and the ballet nights *LÖL* and *Classic 47°N19°E*), on Margaret Island (*Salome* and *Tosca*), in Veszprém (*Rigoletto*), in Balatonfüred and other theatres around the country (*Figaro 2.0*); 400 of us will tour Transylvania, the Partium, Slovakia, the South Country and Transcarpathia with 33 performances (*Hunyadi László*, *The Merry Widow*). We will be the guest performers for a whole festival on the Estonian island of Saaremaa (*Der Zigeunerbaron*, *Nabucco*, the *Kyling It* ballet programme, *Madama Butterfly*) and will take *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *Die Fledermaus* to our tenth tour around Japan. We will premiere *Salome* on Mount Machaerus in Jordan and perform in the stadiums of Western European cities with the mega-production of *Aida* being conducted

by Plácido Domingo. We will issue records (operas by Poldini and Kenessey) and books and will also contribute to the symphonic concerts of the Virtuosos series. In short, we will hold nearly a hundred performances and concerts outside the Erkel Theatre while the Opera House is closed.

And while we're on the subject of Plácido Domingo, the maestro will be donning the costume of Simon Boccanegra on his 77th birthday, and we will also be welcoming Anna Netrebko and Yusif Eyvazov, Roberto Alagna and Aleksandra Kurzak, Ramón Vargas and Leo Nucci, Marcello Giordani and Johan Reuter, Aleksandrs Antonenko and Stuart Neill, along with Tómas Tómasson and Arturo Chacón-Cruz. Appearing as conductors will be Sebastian Weigle, Eugene Kohn and Massimo Zanetti, with the season's directors to include Kasper Holten, Fabio Ceresa and Rafael R. Villalobos.

As for those whom I have not listed in this introduction to the busy "Around the Ring" season, well, they are the most important ones of all! The members of the leading institution of Hungarian culture, the Opera, almost two thousand of them: 500 instrumentalists, chorus singers and ballet dancers, 200 vocal and dance soloists, another 200 in training, 100 extras and the hundreds of other staff members who work in the background in order to ensure that the one thousand who do appear on stage are able to provide you with an experience that is as perfect as possible.

A romantic undertaking with unimaginable possibilities.

The creative genius behind the *Ring* might have been right. We who work at the Opera were given art as our life – and what we wish to do most of all is to put it in your life too, like food, so that you, who are "First of All" can observe its beauty and drama.

Szilveszter Ókovács

General Director
Hungarian State Opera

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Programme Calendar

AUGUST

BILLY ELLIOT₁

SEPTEMBER

CARPATHIAN HOMELAND OPERA TOUR I –
TRANSYLVANIA AND THE PARTIUM₁
(HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ; THE MERRY WIDOW)

BÁNK BÁN

SEASON OPENER (IL CAMPANELLO; I PAZZI PER PROGETTO; THE TELEPHONE)

OPERA WITHOUT BORDERS (BÁNK BÁN)

OPERA 134 – WITH WAGNER (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

IL TRITTICO

CAR-FREE WEEKEND (IL CAMPANELLO; I PAZZI PER PROGETTO; THE TELEPHONE)

OPERACINEMA (DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER/DON QUIXOTE)

RIGOLETTO

FIGARO 2.0₁

OPERADVENTURE 6.1 (FIGARO 2.0)

NIGHT OF THEATRES

OCTOBER

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY

CARPATHIAN HOMELAND OPERA TOUR I – TRANSYLVANIA AND THE PARTIUM₁
(HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ; THE MERRY WIDOW)

FIGARO 2.0₂

GEORG Solti INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION

THE SPINNING ROOM

OPERADVENTURE 6.1 (FIGARO 2.0)

TALES OF MUSIC₁

SPAR MARATHON

NABUCCO

BALLET AT MŰPA BUDAPEST (5 TANGOS, TROIS GNOSSIENNES, BLACK CAKE)

PIANO AREAS

REQUIEM 1956 (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

LES HUGUENOTS₁

Programme Calendar

THE DAY OF 5 (NABUCCO)

REFORMATION500 (STIFFELIO) (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

NOVEMBER

REQUIEM (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

REFORMATION500 (REQUIEM)

THE MAGIC FLUTE FOR CHILDREN

LES HUGUENOTS₂

BIG PROJECTION DAY

HUNGARIAN OPERA DAY

L'ELISIR D'AMORE

BALLET AT MŰPA BUDAPEST (ÉTUDES; THEME AND VARIATIONS)

L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI

LA TRAVIATA₁

Programme Calendar

IPHIGENIA AULIS (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

DECEMBER

THE NUTCRACKER

NUTCRACKER FESTIVAL

LA TRAVIATA₂

HÄNSEL UND GRETEL

INTERCHURCH CHRISTMAS (HÄNSEL UND GRETEL)

LA BOHÈME

LITTLE BOHEMIAN CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS FOR LARGE FAMILIES (HÄNSEL UND GRETEL)

CHILDREN'S SAFETY SILVER SUNDAY (THE NUTCRACKER)

CHRISTMAS OF THE STARRY-EYED

ELIZABETH CHRISTMAS (THE NUTCRACKER)

ANDREA CHÉNIER – WITH ANNA NETREBKO

NEW YEAR'S NUTCRACKER

JANUARY

NEW YEAR'S AT THE ERKEL (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

DER ZIGEUNERBARON

DER VAMPYR (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

OBERON

TOSCA₁

OPERA FOR DOCTORS

KING POMADE'S NEW CLOTHES₁

BALLET AT MŪPA BUDAPEST₂ (5 TANGOS, TROIS GNOSSIENNES, BLACK CAKE)

DAY OF HUNGARIAN CULTURE

PORGY AND BESS₁

TALES OF MUSIC₂

OPERA AT MŪPA BUDAPEST

FEBRUARY

PORGY AND BESS₂

SIMON BOCCANEGRA

DOMINGO₇₇ (SIMON BOCCANEGRA)

CARPATHIAN HOMETOWN OPERA TOUR –
THE "SOUTH COUNTRY" AND BURGENLAND
(HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ; THE MERRY WIDOW)

CARPATHIAN HOMETOWN OPERA TOUR –
SLOVAKIA AND TRANSCARPATIA
(HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ; THE MERRY WIDOW)

RING NIGHT

KING POMADE'S NEW CLOTHES₂

Programme Calendar

TOSCA₂

COSÌ FAN TUTTE

DIE RHEINNIXEN₁

FRICSAY HALL – THE FIRST RECORDINGS
(THE GOLD AND THE WOMAN)

MARCH

DIE RHEINNIXEN₂

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

TALES OF MUSIC₃

DIE TOTE STADT (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ

L'OCA DEL CAIRO OSSIA LO SPOSO DELUSO

INAUGURATION OF THE EIFFEL ART STUDIOS
(L'OCA DEL CAIRO OSSIA LO SPOSO DELUSO)

Programme Calendar

APRIL

GYÖNGYI LUKÁCS₃₀
THE FOUNTAIN OF BAKHCHISARAI
BACH IN THE SUBWAYS
RAMÓN VARGAS SONG RECITAL
CINEMA SZINETÁR
THE KARAMAZOVs
CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA/PAGLIACCI₁

VIGIL WITH THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST
PARSIFAL₁

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA/PAGLIACCI₂
PARSIFAL₂
LA VESTALE (OPERA ORCHESTRA)
TIEFLAND (OPERA ORCHESTRA)
PARSIFAL FOR CHRISTIANS (PARSIFAL)
DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE₁
THE GOLD AND THE WOMAN
THE TÓT FAMILY
BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL
LA FILLE MAL GARDÉE
WORLD VOICE DAY
UN BALLO IN MASCHERA
YBL₂₀₄ – HUBAY AND MAHLER (OPERA ORCHESTRA)
A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE₁

Programme Calendar

MAY

OPERADVENTURE 6.2 (TOTAL DANCE)
WALKING MAD
PETITE MORT
SIX DANCES
A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE₂
MAMAMATINÉE '18 (DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE)
DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE₂
SECULAR CANTATAS
RINGFEST – "AROUND THE RING"
SOCIAL MUSIC LISTENING SESSIONS
SEREGI NIGHT '18
GERMANLATENIGHT (SANCTA SUSANNA; HIN UND ZURÜCK;
THE LONG CHRISTMAS DINNER)
CHORAL DAYS '18 (CARMINA BURANA)

CARMINA BURANA (OPERA ORCHESTRA)
DER CORREGIDOR (OPERA ORCHESTRA)
EUROPEAN OPERA DAYS
SIEGFRIED IDYLL, OR THE END OF A FRIENDSHIP
PRIMAVERA₁₈
CHORAL ARTISTS' MINI-FESTIVAL
DIE OPERNPROBE
DER VIERJÄHRIGE POSTEN
PAS DE QUATRE '18 (INNER SOUNDS – ETUDES TO A THEME;
FOOTSTEPS; LES NOCES; MINUS 16)
DANCETREND '18 (INNER ATTRACTION; COME THE WAY YOU ARE;
MILLION VERSIONS)
OPERA GRAND REOPENING 2018
BLUEBEARD FEST (BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE; PROLOGUE; BARBIE BLUE;
SENZA SANGUE)

Programme Calendar

JUNE

BILLY ELLIOT₂

JÁNOS RICHTER₁₀₂ (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES₁

BEST OF FEST '11-'18

SNOW WHITE AND THE 7 DWARFS

IVÁN NAGY GALA

DIE FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN

DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES₂

GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG

SEASON CLOSING OF THE STARRY-EYED

OPERA ON MARGARET ISLAND (SALOME)

SWAN LAKE

REQUIEM 1956 (OPERA ORCHESTRA)

KÁDÁR'S LAST SPEECH

BALLET EXAMINATIONS

BILLY ELLIOT₃

Programme Calendar

AUGUST

OPERASZIGET

SALOME

ÉVA MARTON₇₅

NIGHT OF STARS

OPERA PICNIC

BEST OF FEST '11-'18

JULY

OPERA ON MARGARET ISLAND (TOSCA)

OPERAFÜRED

OPERA OF THE NATURE



IF ONLY THE HERO
WERE MINE.

IF ONLY I KNEW
WHO WAS MINE.

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Premieres

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14

Ferenc Erkel

Bánk bán

(1861, PEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

Endre II, king of Hungary ▶ **István Kovács, Géza Gábor**

Gertrud, his queen ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi, Gyöngyi Lukács**

Ottó ▶ **Péter Balczó, István Horváth**

Bánk bán ▶ **Levente Molnár**

Melinda ▶ **Zita Szemere, Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser**

Tiborc ▶ **Kolos Kovács, István Rácz**

Petur bán ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen, Zsolt Haja**

Biberach ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Antal Cseh**

Master Sólom ▶ **Gergely Irlanda**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Béni Egressy**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Oleksandr Bilozub**

Costume designer ▶ **Viktória Nagy**

Director ▶ **Attila Vidnyánszky**

9, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 17 September 2017

Erkel Theatre

Ferenc Erkel

Bánk bán

(1861, PEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

14

In 1844, following on the heels of his triumph in the competition to set **Ferenc Kölcsey's** *Himnusz* – today the national anthem of Hungary – to music, **Ferenc Erkel** set about looking at the possibilities for using **József Katona's** much-attacked drama *Bánk bán* as the subject for an opera. History made the period of composition a lengthy one: first came the Hungarian War of Independence of 1848/49, and censorship by the dictatorship that followed meant that the audience would have to wait until 9 March 1861 before the work could be performed in its entirety at Pest's National Theatre.

The unique aspect of the Opera's new production of *Bánk bán* – a work that maintains its popularity as a result of, or perhaps in spite of, well-executed additions and revisions – is now being staged in the baritone version originally created for the persona and voice of **Imre Palló**, an idea supported by **Zoltán Kodály** himself at the time: *"Those who have gone to the Opera House with an image of József Katona's character of Bánk bán already in their minds might have been surprised to find a tenor singing this principal role that would seem much more suited to a sombre and deep-voiced singer. It could be that Ferenc Erkel was influenced by the general view at the time that only tenors could be imagined in the lead role. Or it could be that he had found a tenor of such extraordinary talent that he thought only he would be able to fully bring the character to life. As for myself, I am looking forward to this experiment the Opera is undertaking and believe it possible that, with this choice, the true character of Bánk bán will be made even more striking."* **Attila Vidnyánszky**, managing director of the National Theatre and former chief stage director at the Hungarian State Opera, will be returning to mount his first new production on Andrassy Avenue in ten years.





16

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Figaro 2.0

(1786, VIENNA)

The count ▶ **István Kovács, András Káldi Kiss, Zoltán Nagy**
The countess ▶ **Beatrix Fodor, Tünde Szabóki, Adrienn Miksch**
Figaro ▶ **Krisztián Cser, András Palerdi, Marcell Bakonyi**
Susanna ▶ **Bori Keszei, Eszter Wierdl, Ágnes Molnár**
Marcellina ▶ **Mária Farkasréti, Éva Balatoni, Júlia Vajda**
Bartolo ▶ **László Szvétek, István Rácz, András Kőrösi**
Cherubino ▶ **Anna Kun Ágnes, Viktória Mester, Melinda Heiter**
Basilio, Don Curzio ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, László Beöthy-Kiss,
Ferenc Kristofori**
Barbarina ▶ **Annamária Bucsi, Eszter Zavaros, Nóra Ducza**
Antonio ▶ **Bence Pataki, András Hábetler, András Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász, István Dénes, József Horváth,
Zsolt Jankó**

Comic opera in two parts, in four acts,
in Hungarian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Lorenzo Da Ponte**
Set and costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**
Musical direction ▶ **Géza Köteles**
Librettist (using the translation
by Dezső Vidor) ▶ **András Hábetler**
Director ▶ **András Hábetler**

25 September to 2 October and 8 to 13 October 2017
Erkel Theatre

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

16

Figaro 2.0

(1786, VIENNA)

The revised version of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, conceived by opera singer and stage director **András Hábetler**, toured around the country in the previous seasons as part of the Opera on Wheels series, and now it has arrived at the stage of the Erkel Theatre.

Discussing the piece, the stage director and adapter said, *"What John Lennon and Paul McCartney are to popular music, and Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice are to the musical, this is the position in opera occupied by Mozart and Lorenzo da Ponte (editors' note: not to mention Verdi+Boito and Strauss+Hofmannsthal). The perfect creative pair. The fruit of their encounter with each other was the brilliant Figaro. Its heroes are not indomitable heroes or demigods, but rather a count, a countess, a lady's maid, a valet and a gardener... It is a cathartic experience to recognise ourselves in a creative work – and this production shows us that this is something that is indeed possible on the opera stage. The Marriage of Figaro is about us and the games that we ourselves play every day in every area of life – at work and with our families. This masterpiece is ideal for drawing in young people who are not yet devotees of the genre and showing them that opera is true musical theatre, which even today retains its relevance and message."*

An interesting feature of *Figaro 2.0*, which was staged after the resounding success of *La bohème 2.0*, another adaptation set in the present, is that it is also embellished with some modern musical ideas, implemented by – in contrast to the special, six-member complement of instrumentalists touring with the road show – the full symphony orchestra joining this production, which is naturally every bit as authentic.



16

REFORMATION500

Giacomo Meyerbeer

Les Huguenots

THE HUGUENOTS (1836, PARIS)

- Marguerite de Valois ▶ Klára Kolonits, Orsolya Hajnalka Röser
Urbain ▶ Gabriella Balga, Melinda Heiter
Count Saint-Bris ▶ Antal Cseh, Tamás Busa
Valentine ▶ Gabriella Létay Kiss, Kinga Kriszta
Raoul de Nangis ▶ Gergely Boncsér, Boldizsár László
Marcel ▶ Gábor Bretz, Géza Gábor
Count of Nevers ▶ Zsolt Haja, Károly Szemerédy
Cossé ▶ Tivadar Kiss, József Mukk
Tavannes ▶ Jenő Dékán, Béla Turpinszky-Gippert
Thoré ▶ Ferenc Cserhalmi, András Körösi
De Retz ▶ Máté Füle, Róbert Rezsnyák
Méru ▶ János Szerekován, Péter Kiss
Maurevert ▶ András Kiss, Zsolt Molnár
Bois-Rosé ▶ Ferenc Kristofori, László Beöthy-Kiss
- Opera in five acts, in French, with Hungarian and English surtitles
- Librettist ▶ Eugene Scribe, Émile Deschamps
Dramaturg ▶ Judit Kenesey
Set designer ▶ Balázs Horesnyi
Costume designer ▶ Yvette Alida Kovács
Director ▶ János Szikora
- Conductor ▶ Oliver von Dohnányi

28, 29, 31 October, 5, 9 and 10 November 2017
Erkel Theatre

Giacomo Meyerbeer

Les Huguenots

THE HUGUENOTS (1836, PARIS)

16

REFORMATION500

This story is based on **Prosper Mérimée's** 1829 novel *La Chronique du temps de Charles IX* (revised by the composer's regular librettist **Eugene Scribe**) and one of the most horrible events in the French Wars of Religion: the Saint Bartholomew's Day massacre, when thousands of French Calvinist Protestants (Huguenots) gathered in Paris were butchered with the assent of the king.

Celebrated in German and Italian-speaking lands as well as the Francophone world, composer **Giacomo Meyerbeer** was the ultimate international star of his day. Although he drew on the operatic styles of all three regions, *Les Huguenots*, his *chef d'oeuvre*, is one of the most brilliant examples of French *grand opéra*. With its dramatic storyline clamouring for a spectacular set, it is a superbly scored work of music that requires a high level of virtuosity. It conquered the whole world soon after its world premiere in Paris in 1836 and has been regarded as one of the important rarities among the major Romantic works ever since. It was premiered in Hungary in 1852 at the National Theatre.

Wagner most certainly had a lofty opinion of Meyerbeer and held his ideas about scoring in high esteem. *Les Huguenots*, as conceived by **János Szikora**, will be performed on the stage of the Erkel Theatre in the "Around the Ring" season – which also marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.





18

George Balanchine / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Theme & Variations

(1947, NEW YORK) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Female solo ▶ **Tatiana Melnik, Aliya Tanykpayeva, Kim Minjung**

Male solo ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Gergő Ármin Balácsi, Zoltán Oláh**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian National Ballet and the Hungarian State Opera Orchestra**
(from a recording)

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **George Balanchine**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Original set and costume design ▶ **Woodland Thompson**

Set designer ▶ **István Rózsa**

Costume designer ▶ **Nóra Rományi**

Lighting designer ▶ **Tamás Solymosi**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **John Clifford**

Ballet master ▶ **Mária Aradi, Imre Dózsa, Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei**

This piece will be performed together with Harald Lander's choreography *Études* at the ballet programme titled *Classic*
47°N19°E

15, 16, 17, 25 and 26 November 2017

Müpa Budapest, Festival Theatre

George Balanchine / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

18

Theme & Variations

(1947, NEW YORK) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Most of **Tchaikovsky's** music, not just those works that he composed specifically for the ballet stage, is ideal for use in dance pieces. The art form of ballet was evidently a real source of inspiration for him. Between the periods spent working on *Swan Lake* (1877) and *The Sleeping Beauty* (1890), he composed four orchestral suites which, although not intended as dance music, almost immediately evoked the idea of dance for **George Balanchine**.

Similarly to his work *Ballet Imperial*, Balanchine's choreography *Theme and Variations*, now considered a classic, evokes the golden age of Russian ballet, celebrates its memory and reveals it anew to its contemporaries. The piece was choreographed to the last movement of Tchaikovsky's *Orchestral Suite No. 3* and belongs to the series of symphonic ballet pieces that are intended to communicate with the audience through the form of dance itself, rather than through a narrative. George Balanchine was the first and most outstanding master of symphonic ballet, although he never defined his choreographies as such. The work, set in a ballroom, features solo and *corps de ballet* dances performed by a male and a female principal and the corps. True to its title, they faithfully follow all twelve variations explored in a single movement of one of Tchaikovsky's suites. The whole work contains the graceful elegance and organisational principles of Classical ballet, with each movement of dance responding to the subtle changes in the music and developing along with the musical composition until the final, cathartic chords of the closing polonaise.





12

Gioachino Rossini

L'italiana in Algeri

THE ITALIAN GIRL IN ALGIERS (1813, VENICE) FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

Elvira ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár, Zita Szemere**
Isabella ▶ **Viktória Mester, Szilvia Vörös**
Mustafa ▶ **András Palerdi, László Szvétek**
Lindoro ▶ **N. N.**
Zulma ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Melinda Heiter**
Ali ▶ **Marcell Bakonyi, Attila Dobák**
Taddeo ▶ **Zoltán Nagy, Miklós Sebestyén**

Conductor ▶ **Francesco Lanzillotta**

Opera in two acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Angelo Anelli**
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**
Set designer ▶ **Balázs Cziegler**
Costume designer ▶ **Anni Füzér**
Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

18, 19, 23, 24, 25 and 26 November 2017
Erkel Theatre

Gioachino Rossini

L'italiana in Algeri

THE ITALIAN GIRL IN ALGIERS (1813, VENICE) FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

12

After *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *La Cenerentola*, **Rossini's** third most frequently performed comic opera is *L'italiana in Algeri*, which should not be confused with his other opera *Il turco in Italia*. This titillating tale belongs to the ranks of "rescue operas" – a favourite genre of the era that usually stipulated having a beautiful young woman (or a man, as is the case in *Fidelio*) being captured and awaiting torture or death until her heroic beloved arrives on the scene to rescue her. In this case, a resourceful Italian lass is kidnapped by an Algerian pasha yearning for a new wife, and outwits him herself – to everyone else's great satisfaction.

The title character, Isabella, is one of the smartest and most wonderful female characters in the entire operatic literature, and by the end of the story nobody dares to stand in her way, including her beau, Lindoro. The librettist set the story in exotically romantic North Africa, which despite its geographic proximity to Italy, was famous chiefly for its pirates. It provided a perfect backdrop to the music, in which the composer combined farce and entertainment with virtuoso *bel canto* singing, to wonderful effect.

This work, which has never been performed in Budapest before, is being produced at the Erkel Theatre by **Máté Szabó**.





8

BMW
Art&Culture

Engelbert Humperdinck

Hänsel und Gretel

(1893, WEIMAR)

Hänsel ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Zsófia Kálnay**

Gretel ▶ **Mária Celeng, Ágnes Molnár**

Peter (father) ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Csaba Szegedi**

Gertrud (mother) ▶ **Atala Schöck, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz**

Witch ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann, Judit Németh**

The sleep fairy ▶ **Eszter Zavaros, Kriszta Simon**

The dew fairy ▶ **Ingrid Kertesi, Ildikó Jakab**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Children's opera in two parts, in three acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto after the Grimms' fairy tale by ▶ **Adelheid Wette**
Hungarian text ▶ **Frigyes Róna**

Director ▶ **Rafael R. Villalobos**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 19 December 2017
Erkel Theatre

Engelbert Humperdinck

Hänsel und Gretel

(1893, WEIMAR)

8

*"As long as children continue to believe in witches – they always have and always will, up to the age when they no longer are compelled to give their formless apprehensions humanlike appearance – they need to be told stories in which children, by being ingenious, rid themselves of these persecuting figures of their imagination. By succeeding in doing so, they gain immensely from the experience, as did Hansel and Gretel," Bruno Bettelheim wrote in his famous book *The Uses of Enchantment*.*

The Wagnerian **Engelbert Humperdinck** is one of the most important figures in German fairy-tale opera. The success of a shortish "Märchenoper" composed to a libretto by the composer's own sister, **Adelheid Wette**, convinced him to write a full-evening children's opera based on the famous Brothers Grimm story, with slight departures from the original plot. The piece was immediately declared a masterpiece by Humperdinck's contemporary **Richard Strauss**, who conducted the fairy-tale opera at its Weimar premiere. Greeted with instant and enormous acclaim, the work went on to conquer the world. This production of the piece is being directed by the Spaniard **Rafael R. Villalobos**, winner of Opera Europa's directing competition in Graz.



A dark blue illustration of a forest scene. In the foreground, a deer stands on a small patch of ground. To the left, a small cabin with a chimney and a window is visible. The background is filled with stylized evergreen trees. The overall tone is dark and atmospheric.

12

Carl Maria von Weber

Oberon

(1826, LONDON)

Featuring ▶ soloists of the Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Conductor ▶ Zsolt Jankó

Librettist ▶ James Robinson Planché
Hungarian text, dramaturg ▶ Lajos Csákovics
Set designer ▶ Gyula Lőrincz
Costume designer ▶ Andrea Ledenják
Choreographer ▶ Melinda Jakab
Director ▶ György Selmeczi

Partner ▶ Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca

14 January 2018
Erkel Theatre

Carl Maria von Weber

12

Oberon

(1826, LONDON)

Carl Maria von Weber was commissioned to write a new opera by Covent Garden in 1824, and although his physician warned him that the journey might be too much of a strain for him, Weber felt that his family's financial situation was more important and accepted the invitation. The London intendant offered the composer two subjects: *Faust* and *Oberon*. Weber chose the latter. The premiere enjoyed overwhelming success, but the laboured rehearsal process had taken an even greater toll on his health, preventing him from returning to Germany afterwards, or ever. Despite the difficult circumstances and the lack of time, this opera is considered to contain Weber's loveliest melodies.

The romantic drama in verse *Oberon* written by **Christoph Martin Wieland**, who was recognised as a successful translator of **Shakespeare's** works, was just as much a literary antecedent to the libretto as Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was. Oberon and Titania argue about whether women or men are more steadfast in love. They decide not to reconcile until they have found a couple who will keep the vow of love they made to each other in spite of all trials and tribulations.

It was **Weber's** efforts at reforming opera, as well as **Gluck's**, that **Richard Wagner** regarded as the forerunners to his own work. In 1844, it was Wagner himself who arrange to have the earlier German composer's ashes brought home from England. This co-production promises to be the novelty of the "Around the Ring" season, one that has the Hungarian Opera of Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca) bringing *Oberon* back to Budapest after a long hiatus in a production directed by **György Selmeczi**.



5 Tangos

(1977, AMSTERDAM)

This production will be performed together with *Trois Grossiennes* and *Black Cake* at the ballet programme titled *LOL!*

(Casting was still underway at the time this publication went to press.)

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Hans van Manen**

Composer ▶ **Astor Piazzolla**

Lighting designer ▶ **Jan Hofstra**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Rachel Beaujean, Mea Venema**

20, 21, 26 and 28 January 2018

Müpa Budapest, Festival Theatre

Hans van Manen / Astor Piazzolla

16

5 Tangos

(1977, AMSTERDAM)

Hans van Manen is one of those few choreographers who successfully combined classical ballet with modern dance, as well as other movement techniques, to bring widespread popularity to modern ballet. He is a pioneer among those dance artists, who – particularly starting in the '60s – created this now fully accepted form of expression depicting a synthesis of academic and progressive movement forms.

The choreography of *5 Tangos* was created to the music of **Astor Piazzolla**. The work, a true audience favourite, surges with fiery energy. It is tango with something extra added in. The choreography avoids the usual stereotypical movements: in this elegant work composed for six pairs, the cool formality of classical ballet is merged with elements of the language of modern dance, even as the piece remains deeply rooted in the passion and drama of tango and Piazzolla.





16

Hans van Manen / Various composers

Trois Gnossiennes + Black Cake

(1982, 1989, AMSTERDAM) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Trois Gnossiennes

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Hans van Manen**

Composer ▶ **Erik Satie**

Set designer ▶ **Hans van Manen**

Costume designer ▶ **Joop Stokvis, Hans van Manen**

Lighting designer ▶ **Jan Hofstra**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Igone de Jongh**

This production will be performed together with *5 Tangos* at the ballet programme titled *LOL!*

Black Cake

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Hans van Manen**

Composers ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Leos Janáček, Igor Stravinsky, Pietro Mascagni, Jules Massenet**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Keso Dekker**

Lighting designer ▶ **Joop Caboort**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Mea Venema**

(Casting was still underway at the time this publication went to press.)

20, 21, 26 and 28 January 2018

Műpa Budapest, Festival Theatre

Hans van Manen / Various composers

16

Trois Gnossiennes + Black Cake

(1982, 1989, AMSTERDAM) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Trois Gnossiennes is the third and middle part of **Hans van Manen's** *Piano Variations*, created between 1980 and 1984. Manen crafted a sensitive choreography to **Erik Satie's** magical and melancholy music, which is about resignation, trust and harmony. The work has a Hungarian connection too: the Dutch composer created the female role in the *pas de deux* for the world-famous ballerina **Mária Aradi**, who joined the Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) as a principal soloist in 1972 and later served as a ballet master with the Amsterdam-based company. Since returning to Hungary, she has continued working as a ballet master with the Hungarian National Ballet for many years and will be the one coaching the Hungarian premiere of *Black Cake*.

The NDT was turning 30 years old when **Jiří Kylián** informed **Hans van Manen**, "You're going to do the ballet for the anniversary." Manen replied: "Really? And what should I do?" Kylián replied: "A cake". This is how the festive parody of five movements built around humour – the irresistibly witty *Black Cake* – was conceived. Van Manen imagined a cocktail party on the stage with six couples, a waiter and a great deal of champagne. In the bravura finale the guests, already slightly tipsy, dance to the music of the famous Meditation from **Massenet's** *Thaïs*. The celebratory premiere in 1989 was a dismal failure. After the performance, a posh reception was held on the stage, and, as van Manen's recalled, everybody pretended as if he did not exist. Then, 18 months later, Kylián said to van Manen, "We're going to do *Black Cake* again." Again, all the choreographer could think to reply was, "Really?" It has been performed with huge success all around the world ever since.





16

George Gershwin

Porgy and Bess

(1935, BOSTON)

Porgy ▶ **András Palerdi, László Szvétek**

Bess ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák, Gabriella Létay Kiss**

Sportin' Life ▶ **Boldizsár László**

Crown ▶ **Károly Szemerédy, Csaba Szegedi**

Jake ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Máté Fülep**

Clara ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Röser, Beatrix Fodor**

Robbins ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Serena ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi, Gabriella Fodor**

Maria ▶ **Bernadett Fodor, Atala Schöck**

Mingo ▶ **Tivadar Kiss**

Frazier ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Nelson ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Crab Man ▶ **János Szerekován**

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

Opera in three acts, in English,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **DuBose Heyward, Dorothy Heyward,
Ira Gershwin**

Set designer ▶ **Sebastian Hannak**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztopád**

Choreographer ▶ **Dóra Barta**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

27 and 28 January, 1 and 8 February 2018
Erkel Theatre

George Gershwin

Porgy and Bess

(1935, BOSTON)

16

Ira Gershwin liked to describe his younger brother's creative imagination as a repository of musical ingenuity, inventiveness and knowledge which George was able to draw upon at any time.

Gershwin himself considered the story of *Porgy and Bess* to be a folk tale, its music a series of folk songs and the work as a whole a folk opera. *Porgy and Bess* is without a doubt the composer's magnum opus: before writing it, he spent more than a decade studying African-American music, which always held particularly great significance for him. As early as his teenage years he was attracted to ragtime and was using blues traditions, and after composing *Rhapsody in Blue*, he himself was styled a jazz composer.

After the premiere of *Porgy and Bess*, many questioned the authenticity of Gershwin's music, as neither the author of the novel the libretto was based on nor Gershwin, who lived and worked in New York, was from this particular Southern world. Misunderstandings of the composer's intentions led to many initial attacks on the opera charging that it reinforced prejudices against African-Americans, thus hindering their acceptance in society. It took a few decades for the controversies surrounding the premiere to be resolved completely, but since then the popularity of the opera has not flagged. The various songs in the opera have been reworked and sung by many people: the best known among them is probably *Summertime*, which captivated the world of popular music as well.

The biggest obstacle to the premiere is the requirement for an "all-black cast", which has been compulsory since the 1980s, meaning that the copyright-holders only give permission to mount productions with "authentic black" singers performing the roles. It is the firm intent of the Hungarian State Opera to perform Gershwin's universally work in Hungary again. If we succeed, the production will be directed by **András Almási-Tóth**, director of the opera programme at the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music.





16

Jacques Offenbach

Die Rheinnixen

THE RHINE NIXIES (1864, VIENNA) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Conrad von Wenckheim ▶ **Csaba Szegedi, Zsolt Haja**
Franz Waldung ▶ **Boldizsár László, Gergely Boncsér**
Gottfried ▶ **Krisztián Cser, Géza Gábor**
Hedwig ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Judit Németh**
Armgard ▶ **Rita Rácz, Bori Keszei**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in four acts, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Charles Nutter's French libretto
translated by ▶ **Alfred von Wolzogen**
Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**
Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**
Costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**
Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

24 and 25 February, 1 and 2 March 2018
Erkel Theatre

Jacques Offenbach

Die Rheinnixen

THE RHINE NIXIES (1864, VIENNA) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

16

Offenbach is frequently considered to be a composer merely of operettas and other light musicals who produced only one truly serious piece: *Les contes d'Hoffmann*. The French composer, however, composed more than 650 works altogether, including chamber music, symphonies and church music. His first opera, *Die Rheinnixen*, was commissioned by Vienna's Hofoper. The piece depicts a country shattered by internal warfare through an unusual love story in which poetry and politics combine with dreams and reality, and the supernatural and the realistic.

Offenbach, who made use of his earlier musical output in this first opera of his, also reached back to this very piece when composing his most famous opera: one of the main themes of *Die Rheinnixen* was turned into the famous barcarolle in *Les contes d'Hoffmann*.

At the 1864 premiere, due to the illness of the tenor, the opera was performed in a shortened form that was more truncated than it was abridged. Though a huge success in the Austrian capital, critics in the Wagnerian camp sniffed, and the work fell into oblivion for the next 138 years.

This is the first time *Die Rheinnixen* is being performed at the Opera. It has been included in the "Around the Ring" season on the grounds that **Wagner's** *Das Rheingold* had been completed a decade earlier and would have been familiar (at least in terms of its subject matter) to both Offenbach and the general public. *Die Rheinnixen* is being given its Hungarian premiere in a production by **Ferenc Anger**.





16

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart L'oca del Cairo, ossia Lo sposo deluso

THE GOOSE OF CAIRO OR THE DELUDED BRIDEGROOM (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

Don Pippo ▶ **László Szvétek**
Biondello ▶ **József Mukk**
Calandrino ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**
Celidora ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi**
Lavinia ▶ **Zita Váradi**
Auretta ▶ **Bori Keszei**
Chichibio ▶ **Máté Fülep**
Lionetto ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Pasticcio in two acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giovanni Battista Varesco**
Libretto supplemented by ▶ **Lorenzo Da Ponte,**
Attila Toronykőy

Concept by ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**
Music edited by ▶ **Pál Németh**
Set and costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**
Director ▶ **Attila Toronykőy**

Conductor ▶ **Pál Németh**

10, 11, 17 and 18 March 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

16

L'oca del Cairo, ossia Lo sposo deluso

THE GOOSE OF CAIRO OR THE DELUDED BRIDEGROOM (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

After the success of *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, **Mozart** wanted to compose an Italian opera buffa, but good subjects and good librettists were thin on the ground. In 1783, he began to write two operas, but gave up on both of them. Having composed around 45 minutes of *L'oca del Cairo* ("The Goose of Cairo") (almost the whole of the first of the planned three acts, excluding the overture), Mozart decided to abandon the project due to problems with the libretto. He then set himself to composing *Lo sposo deluso* ("The Deluded Bridegroom"), an opera buffa in two acts, but failed to finish that one too: all we have is a 20-minute-long fragment from the first act, which is, however, perfectly arranged and furnished with a brilliant overture. The composer then turned his attention to *Der Schauspieldirektor* and to *Le nozze di Figaro*, the first opera to be written with **Lorenzo da Ponte**. (Some believe that *Lo sposo deluso* also bears the hallmarks of the encounter with da Ponte, which would make it their first joint work.)

In terms of style, we can regard the two fragmentary comedies *L'oca del Cairo* and *Lo sposo deluso* as precursors to *Figaro* and *Così*, and at times even the world of *Don Giovanni* is discernible. The completed parts were never staged in Mozart's lifetime, but since his death several successful pasticcios have been created. However, none of these attempted to combine these two fragments composed in the same period, even though there are several possible points of connection, and the resemblance their plots bear to *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* is more than a little unusual.

The Opera aims to realise an idea cherished by General Director **Szilveszter Ókovács** for 25 years and present Mozart's thus-far unknown opera as the inaugural performance in the brand-new theatre of the Eiffel Art Studios, under the baton of **Pál Németh** and in a production directed by **Attila Toronykőy**.





16

Jenő Kenessey

The Gold and the Woman

AZ ARANY MEG AZ ASSZONY (1943, BUDAPEST, OPERA HOUSE)

Wolfgang ▶ **István Rácz, István Kovács**

Anna ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi, Zita Váradi**

Mercenary captain ▶ **Atilla Kiss B., Béla Turpinszky Gippert**

Hinkó ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, Gergely Ujvári**

First actor ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss, Ferenc Kristofori**

Second actor ▶ **András Hábetler, Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Commander of the guard ▶ **Antal Bakó, Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ▶ **N. N.**

This production will be performed together with Péter Tóth's *The Tót Family*.

Opera in one act, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Composer ▶ **Jenő Kenessey**

Libretto based on **Gyula Krúdy's** drama
of the same title by ▶ **Jenő Kenessey**

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Anikó Németh**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

7, 8, 14 and 15 April 2018

Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Jenő Kenessey

The Gold and the Woman

AZ ARANY MEG AZ ASSZONY (1943, BUDAPEST, OPERA HOUSE)

16

When the weekly magazine *Theatrical Life* published **Gyula Krúdy's** play in 1918, it was introduced by the author himself: "[This play] is a tiny whistle from the musical scores of long-gone centuries; a lace on a coat; a sound that recalls the sounds of the historical past." The play was premiered at the Apollo Cabaret, to disappear forever from Hungarian stages. Several decades later, **Kálmán Nádasdy** recommended it to **Jenő Kenessey**, who turned the one-act play into an opera that was put on stage at the Opera House in 1943.

The Gold and the Woman relates the story of a parable-like 15th century love triangle. The ageing husband in a rather empty marriage takes his revenge on the young man out to seduce his wife by tempting him in a different way: by offering him counterfeit gold coins made in his alchemist's shop. Not suspecting anything, the elated young man chooses this glittering wealth. The husband, however, alerts the town guard, and the soldiers immediately arrest the greedy owner of counterfeit money. The married couple is left alone once again.

The Gold and the Woman is Jenő Kenessey's sole opera as well as a highly successful Hungarian work from the first half of the 20th century. The opera is being directed by **Csaba Káel** on the Bánffy Stage at the Eiffel Art Studios.





16

Péter Tóth

The Tót Family

TÓTÉK (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

Lajos Tót ▶ **László Szvétek, István Rácz**
Mariska ▶ **Mária Temesi, Júlia Vajda**
Ágika ▶ **Helga Nánási, Zita Szemere**
Major ▶ **Boldizsár László**
Postman ▶ **András Hábetler**
Priest Tomaji ▶ **Tamás Busa**
Water carrier ▶ **Antal Bakó, Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ▶ **N. N.**

This production will be performed together with
Jenő Kenessey's *The Gold and the Woman*

Opera in one act, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto based on **István Örkény's** novella, play and film
script of the same name by ▶

Róbert Bognár, András Schlanger and Szabolcs Várady

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Anikó Németh**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

7, 8, 14 and 15 April 2018

Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Péter Tóth

The Tót Family

TÓTÉK (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

16

"Lajos Tót (...) is just a local firefighter in a mountain village. Meaning that he never offended the gods. What was his sin then? His sin, if he had any, was that he lived in an age when there was only one choice: one could either be a rebel or be Sisyphus. (...) There are happy nations: they are the ones who rebel at the right time. We are the kind of people who rebel at the wrong time," – writes **István Örkény** in the short prologue to the tragicomedy.

Mátraszentanna is a place where only penniless officials and pensioners spend their holidays. For the locals, it seems like a miracle when they get the chance to host a real army major. Yet, one day, Major Varró – at the urging of Gyula Tót, who is serving as an ensign on the Eastern Front – comes on a visit to spend his two-week sick leave with the boy's parents. The Tót couple do everything humanly possible for the sake of their son, and the deeply touched Major gives them his promise: when the cold weather arrives, he will assign the boy to the well-heated battalion office, where his life will not be in danger. The parents do not yet know that all this is in vain: Ensign Gyula Tót has been killed in action.

A few years after the success of his fairy-tale opera *Prince Árgyélus*, composer **Péter Tóth**, who also serves as dean of the University of Szeged's faculty of music, set to work on composing an "adult" one-act piece. *The Tót Family* is one of the most important novellas and plays in Hungarian literature, which now, following the emblematic Fábri-Latinovits film and a slew of theatrical productions still competing with each other to this day, has found a place for itself in the genre of opera in a production being directed by **Csaba Káel**.





14

Giuseppe Verdi

Un ballo in maschera

A MASKED BALL (1859, ROME)

Riccardo ▶ **Attila Fekete**

Renato ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Levente Molnár**

Amelia ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Szilvia Rálik**

Ulrica ▶ **Bernadett Fodor, Bernadett Wiedemann**

Oscar ▶ **Helga Nánási, Yolanda Covacinschi**

Samuel ▶ **Krisztián Cser, Géza Gábor**

Tom ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi, András Kőrösi**

Silvano ▶ **Máté Fülep, Attila Erdős**

Opera in three acts, five scenes, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto after the work by **Eugène Scribe** ▶ **Antonio Somma**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Tiziano Santi**

Costume designer ▶ **Giuseppe Paella**

Director ▶ **Fabio Ceresa**

Conductor ▶ **Massimo Zanetti**

21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29 April 2018

Erkel Theatre

Giuseppe Verdi

Un ballo in maschera

A MASKED BALL (1859, ROME)

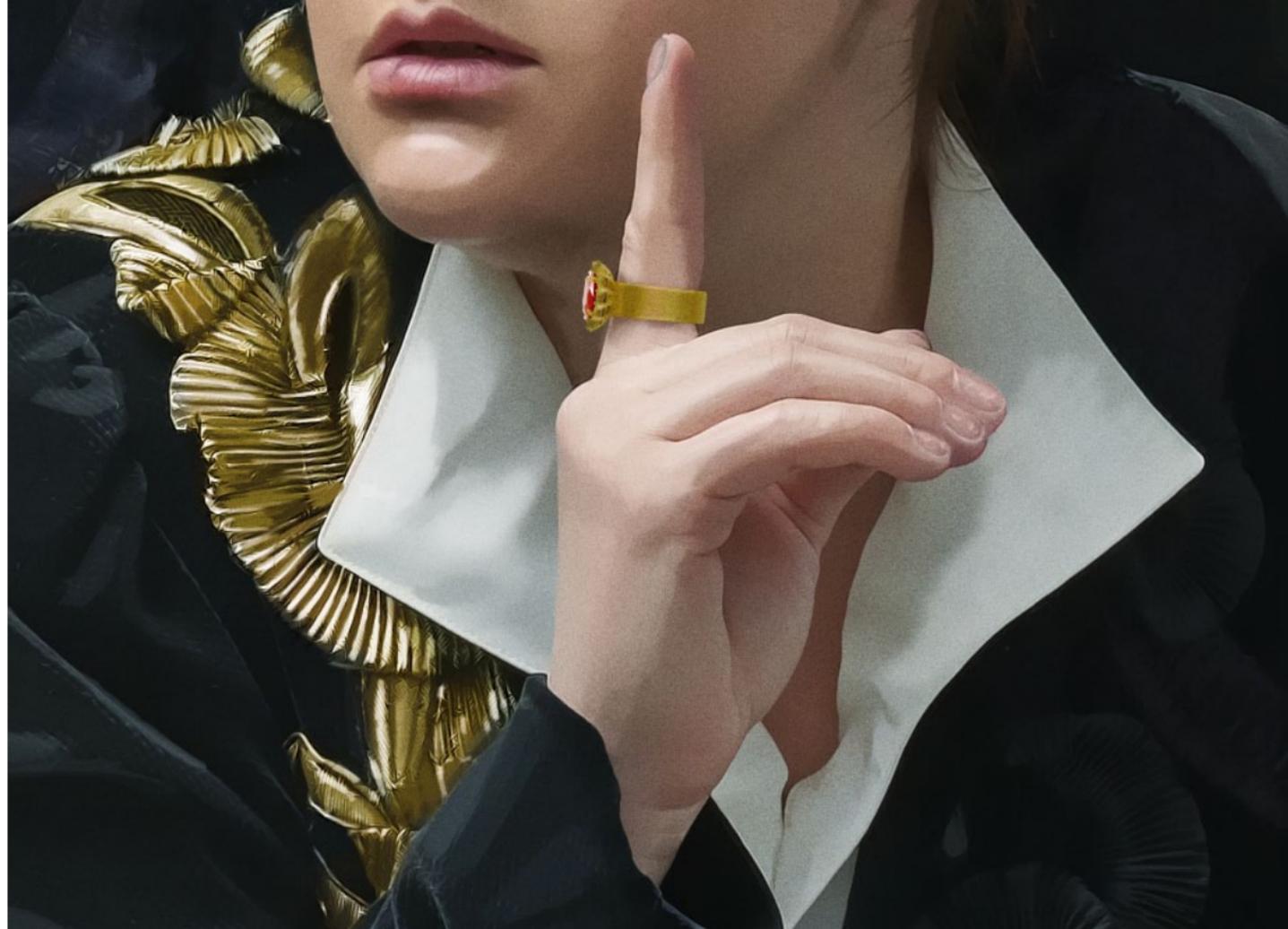
14

The subject of this work sparked **Verdi's** fiercest battle with the censor of Naples and, later on, of Rome. The original libretto treated an actual historical event: the 1792 regicide of a Swedish king. However, this proved too delicate a matter given the political situation of the day, and so in order to curry favour with the censor, the king was converted into an earl and the plot transplanted from Europe to the English North American colonies.

"[The original libretto] consisted of 884 lines: 297 of them have been modified, several others added, and a lot more deleted. Now I am asking what remains in the work that is still mine. The title? No. The time period? No. The characters? No. The situations? No. The dénouement? No. Is there a ball scene? No. (...) An artist's conscience cannot let this happen."

In his desperation, Verdi snatched *Un ballo in maschera* back from the hands of the Neapolitan office. After a few minor alterations, the Roman censor allowed the staging of the work, which when the layer of political assassination is peeled away the plot, reveals a love story. Apart from the political discontent, the real stakes are over a marriage in need of saving. Lurking in the story's background are visceral emotions of unrequited love and blind jealousy that move the plot along.

Un ballo in maschera has not been performed at the Opera for twelve years. Now, it will be returning to the institution's repertoire in an interpretation brought to us by the young Italian director and competition-winner **Fabio Ceresa**.





Johann Sebastian Bach

Secular Cantatas

(2018) FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

Featuring ▶ **Rita Rácz, Zsolt Haja, Krisztián Cser, Nóra Ducza, Zoltán Megyesi** (voice)

Conductor ▶ **Péter Oberfrank**

Partner ▶ **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

Secular cantatas in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Music arranged by ▶ **György Vashegyi**

Director ▶ **Jakab Tarnóczy** (a student from the musical
theatre directing course at the University of
Theatre and Film Arts)

Department heads ▶ **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák,
György Selmeczi**

*11, 13, 14 and 19 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Secular Cantatas

(2018) FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

14

"Notwithstanding the main tendency of his genius to the great and sublime, he sometimes composed and performed something gay and even jocose, his cheerfulness and joking were those of a sage." So wrote **Bach's** early biographer, **Johann Nikolaus Forkel**. Bach composed his secular cantatas – which reveal the composer's originality and unfaltering sense of taste just as well as his larger-scale works do – primarily for prestigious occasions like coronations and other political events, weddings, as well as birthdays and name days.

The pieces were staged in various locations: in hunting castles and country estates, in the halls or gardens of coffee houses, and even in city marketplaces where many members of the audiences arrived from nearby villages. Bach's earliest surviving secular cantata, the mythological *Hunting Cantata* was composed for the birthday of the Duke of Saxe-Weissenfels and was so named because the festivities were held in a hunting lodge. The other well-known secular cantata is the burlesque-like *Peasant Cantata*, which recalls many of the popular melodies of Bach's time. The *Coffee Cantata* is a humorous depiction of people's devotion to coffee.

For **Wagner**, Bach's music was "the birth of the German nation", and although Bach never wrote an opera, he did create works that pry away at the frameworks of the oratorio. Following up on the Opera's two staged productions of his passions of recent years, now it is Bach's profane work that will be taking the spotlight: the *Secular cantatas* are being scenically "associated" by a student enrolled in the theatre directing programme, while Bach's material will be arranged by one of Hungary's leading representatives of the early music world, **György Vashegyi**, and conducted by **Péter Oberfrank**.





GermanLateNight

Paul Hindemith

Sancta Susanna

(1922, FRANKFURT) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Featuring ▶ **voice students from
the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music**

Opera in one act, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

Librettist ▶ **August Stramm**

The productions *Sancta Susanna*, *Hin und zurück* and
Das lange Weihnachtsmahl will be performed together
at the *GermanLateNight* programme.

Director ▶ **Bence Varga** (a student from the musical
theatre directing course at the University of
Theatre and Film Arts)

Department heads ▶ **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák,
György Selmeczi**

Partner ▶ **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

12, 16 and 18 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Paul Hindemith

Sancta Susanna

(1922, FRANKFURT) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

18

GermanLateNight

This programme will present, on a single night, three rarely played pieces by **Paul Hindemith**, one of the most important composers of the 20th century's music literature. Hindemith's pieces have been included in the "Around the Ring" season as representatives of a German musical school that tried to close the chapter on – and move beyond – **Wagner's** influence. His sarcastic depictions are more militant than the anti-Wagnerianism of **Brahms** or **Bruch** – and this is something we will demonstrate by performing one of his sketches as a warm-up: an out-of-tune version of the overture to *Der fliegende Holländer*. Legendary for the rapidity with which he worked, Hindemith took all of 17 days to write *Sancta Susanna*, which was premiered in Frankfurt. **August Stramm** gave the subtitle "A Song at Night in May" to the expressionist libretto, which verged on blasphemy. The premiere stirred up an enormous scandal, which naturally enhanced Hindemith's popularity, since the work broached a rather delicate subject by depicting on the stage the tension between the vows of chastity taken by Roman Catholic nuns and their repressed sexual desires.

No longer considered anti-clerical, *Sancta Susanna* is now interpreted in a more general sense: it explores the problematic nature of total devotion through total self-abnegation.





Paul Hindemith

Hin und zurück

THERE AND BACK (1927, BADEN-BADEN)

Featuring ▶ **voice students from
the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music**

Burlesque in one scene, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

Librettist ▶ **Marcellus Schiffer**

Director ▶ **Bence Varga** (a student from the musical theatre
directing course at the University of Theatre and
Film Arts)

Partner ▶ **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

Department heads ▶ **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák,
György Selmeczi**

The productions *Sancta Susanna*, *Hin und zurück* and
Das lange Weihnachtsmahl will be performed together
at the *GermanLateNight* programme.

12, 16 and 18 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Paul Hindemith

Hin und zurück

THERE AND BACK (1927, BADEN-BADEN)

18

GermanLateNight

Hindemith's youthful pieces from the 1920s were deeply imbued with a sense of the grotesque. A perfect example for this is the parody-like *Hin und zurück*, which places humour at the forefront. Shorter than a quarter-hour in length, this scintillating, lively and at the same time satirically sketch-like scene was premiered in 1927 in Baden-Baden. It tells how a letter from the wife's lover shatters the harmony of an apparently idyllic marriage: the story then goes on to tell us about a jealous murder and a penitent suicide which do an about-face halfway through thanks to some "higher power", allowing everything to be sorted out in the end.





18 RINGFEST

GermanLateNight

Featuring ▶ **voice students from the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music**

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

The productions *Sancta Susanna*, *Hin und zurück* and *Das lange Weihnachtsmahl* will be performed together at the *GermanLateNight* programme.

Partner ▶ **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

Paul Hindemith

Das lange Weihnachtsmahl

THE LONG CHRISTMAS DINNER (1961, MANNHEIM),
FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

Opera in one act, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Thornton Wilder**

Director ▶ **Zsófia Kukk** (a student from the musical theatre directing course at the University of Theatre and Film Arts)

Department heads ▶ **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák, György Selmeczi**

12, 16 and 18 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Paul Hindemith

Das lange Weihnachtsmahl

THE LONG CHRISTMAS DINNER (1961, MANNHEIM),
FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

18

GermanLateNight

The Long Christmas Dinner takes place in the dining room of an American family, the Bayards, and spans 90 years of the clan's existence as it shows each of their family Christmas dinners over that time. Although the characters indicate the passage of years through their acting and the symbolic use of certain props, the cycle of life remains essentially constant. The characters enter the stage through a door of birth and, when their time is up, exit through the door of death.

This piece was first performed in German in Mannheim in 1961, then it was premiered in English at the Juilliard School of Music in 1963, under the baton of **Hindemith** himself. The libretto was translated into German by the composer himself.

The 1931 play by **Thornton Wilder** on which the opera was based was very influential in its era. The famous breakfast scene in the **Orson Welles** film *Citizen Kane*, for example, was inspired by Wilder's play.





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RINGFEST

Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship

Balázs Szálinger

SIEGFRIED-IDILL, AVAGY EGY BARÁTSÁG VÉGE (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

Richard Wagner ▶ **András Kőrösi**
Friedrich Nietzsche ▶ **Balázs Csémy**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Letters and scenes with interludes, in Hungarian

Musical direction ▶ **Géza Köteles**
Concept by ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**
Set designer ▶ **László Székely**
Costume designer ▶ **Gabriella Győri**
Director ▶ **Péter Kálloy Molnár**

13, 19, 20 and 21 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Balázs Szálinger

Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship

16

SIEGFRIED-IDILL, AVAGY EGY BARÁTSÁG VÉGE (2018) WORLD PREMIERE

Thirty years younger than **Wagner, Nietzsche** spent a full decade in thrall to the composer's spell. However, their relationship must be regarded as something considerably more substantial and consequential than that between an idol and his admirer. Their correspondence and other documents reveal a wide-ranging discussion on topics such as generation difference, musical aesthetics, the great philosophical questions of life and even human weaknesses. And it also constantly returns to the subject of the uncannily beautiful music of the *Siegfried Idyll*, which describes – in place of words, and in the gaps between them – a sense of life that, although yearned for, never in fact existed.

Balázs Szálinger is an Attila József Award-winning poet and dramatist. With his time and talent much in demand, he is one of the outstanding authors of his generation.

Conductor and composer **Géza Kőteles** is known for his highly successful "musical adaptations" like *FrenchLateNight* and *The Magic Flute for children*. As part of the Ring season, the Opera has commissioned these two artists to write a piece about the relationship between Nietzsche and Wagner, which **Péter Kálloy Molnár** will then produce on the stage of the Eiffel Art Studios.





Albert Lortzing

Die Opernprobe

THE OPERA REHEARSAL (1851, FRANKFURT), FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

Featuring ► **soloists of the Hungarian State Opera Chorus**

Opera in one act, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Conductor ► **Dániel Erdélyi**

Librettist ► **Albert Lortzing**

Director ► **Judit Szokol** (a student from the musical theatre
directing course at the University of Theatre and
Film Arts)

This production will be performed together with **Schubert's**
Der vierjährige Posten

Department heads ► **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák,
György Selmeczi**

Partner ► **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

17, 20 and 27 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Albert Lortzing

Die Opernprobe

THE OPERA REHEARSAL (1851, FRANKFURT), FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPERA

12

Albert Lortzing lived and worked in the first half of the 19th century. Unlike **Schubert**, he was successful as a composer for the stage; thanks to his parents, who ran a travelling theatre and were giving him roles when he was as young as twelve, he had a deeper understanding of what the requirements of the stage were. Later on, he sang as a tenor before taking up composing. His comic operas were particularly successful during his career, but despite the many commissions, his large family was often destitute. While *Die Opernprobe* was being premiered in Frankfurt, the badly overworked 51-year-old composer was lying on his deathbed at his home in Berlin. He died the following day. His pieces never became classics outside Germany and are rarely presented. Therefore, this brand-new production of *Die Opernprobe, oder Die vornehmen Dilettanten* ("The Opera Rehearsal, or The Distinguished Amateurs") will constitute a special event in the Opera's programme for this season dedicated to exploring **Wagner's** German forerunners and his universal impact.





Franz Schubert

Der vierjährige Posten

THE FOUR-YEAR POST (1896, DRESDEN) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Featuring ► **soloists of the Hungarian State Opera Chorus**

Singspiel in one act, in German and Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Conductor ► **Dániel Erdélyi**

This production will be performed together with
Albert Lortzing's *Die Opernprobe*

Librettist ► **Carl Theodor Körner**

Director ► **Márk Tárnoki** (a student from the musical theatre
directing course at the University of Theatre and
Film Arts)

Department heads ► **Tamás Ascher, Eszter Novák,
György Selmeczi**

Partner ► **University of Theatre and Film Arts**

17, 20 and 27 May 2018
Eiffel Art Studios – Bánffy Stage

Franz Schubert

Der vierjährige Posten

THE FOUR-YEAR POST (1896, DRESDEN) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

12

Although this might be hard to believe now, while **Schubert** was alive, there were only a handful of Viennese music lovers who appreciated his music. This perhaps makes it less surprising that Schubert never had any success during his lifetime with the nearly 20 pieces of music drama he wrote, even though a single opera would have established him both as an artist and financially. Just as the entire *oeuvre* of this early-Romantic composer was discovered by figures – **Mendelssohn**, **Schumann** and **Liszt** – of the next generation, his one-act singspiel *Der vierjährige Posten* ("The Four-Year Post"), which he composed in only 11 days in May 1815, was only staged for the first time in September 1896. In this romantic love story, composed to a libretto by **Theodor Körner**, Duval is a French soldier stationed to keep watch on the German frontier, where he falls in love with the daughter of the judge of the village on the German side of the border. Abandoning his post, he lives a happily married life with her for four years, until one day when his superiors suddenly appear...

Although no documents specifically linking Schubert to **Wagner** have been discovered, the "*Lied an den Abendstern*" in *Tannhäuser*, Siegmund's "*Winterstürme wichen dem Wonnemond*" and even the first part of the Grail narrative all suggest Schubert's German lieder as an unintentional precursor, making them eligible for inclusion in the Opera's "Around the Ring" season. The upcoming season will feature a performance of *Der vierjährige Posten*, which as a chamber opera will be sung – as is now traditional – by singers from the chorus.





14

BLUEBEARD100

Bluebeard ▶ **András Palerdi**

Judith ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Eötvös**

Béla Bartók

Bluebeard's Castle

A KÉKSZAKÁLLÚ HERCEG VÁRA (1918, BUDAPEST, OPERA HOUSE)

Opera in one act in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Béla Balázs**

Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Set designer ▶ **Steffan Aarfing**

Director ▶ **Kasper Holten**

27 May 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Opera House

Béla Bartók

Bluebeard's Castle

A KÉKSZAKÁLLÚ HERCEG VÁRA (1918, BUDAPEST, OPERA HOUSE)

14

BLUEBEARD100

Béla Bartók's one-act opera is an extraordinary and enigmatic work that, in terms of how it is interpreted and staged, poses an exciting challenge for directors, their creative teams and performers alike. Little wonder that it is such a popular work on opera schedules both in Hungary and abroad. Promising to be one of the most thrilling premieres of the "Around the Ring" Season is the new production of *Bluebeard's Castle* by internationally acclaimed director **Kasper Holten**. The popular director has worked on the stages of the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Theater an der Wien, the Finnish National Opera, the Wiener Staatsoper, the Teatro alla Scala in Milan and the Bregenz Festival, among others. He has also been serving as artistic director of London's Royal Opera House, under a contract that extends until the spring of 2017. Although this will be his first time directing on Andrásy Avenue, Budapest is not an unfamiliar city for him, since it was in Budapest where he shot his 2010 opera film of *Don Giovanni*, titled *Juan*. His productions are characterised by simplified, and often monumental, sets and a harmonic balance between tradition and innovative ideas. *"To read, listen think and feel. The important thing is to avoid analysing it according to any preconception or always employing the same artistic style, but rather to develop a relationship with the work so I can completely understand what it is about it that fascinates me so much. Only then can I get started on the aesthetics, the concept and so forth,"* says Holten.

Along with a reconstructed production evoking the 1918 world premiere, this new production is one of the most eagerly awaited events of the *Bluebeard100* festival.





14

BMW
Art&Culture

Siegfried ▶ **István Kovácsházi**
Brünnhilde ▶ **N. N.**
Gunther ▶ **Károly Szemerédy**
Gutrune ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**
Hagen ▶ **Péter Fried**
Alberich ▶ **Péter Kálmán**
Waltraute ▶ **Judit Németh**
First norn ▶ **Andrea Meláth**
Second norn ▶ **Erika Gál**
Third norn ▶ **Gabriella Fodor**
Woglinde ▶ **Zita Váradi**
Wellgunde ▶ **Lilla Horti**
Flosshilde ▶ **Viktória Mester**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Richard Wagner

Götterdämmerung

TWILIGHT OF THE GODS (1876, BAYREUTH)

Opera in three acts, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Richard Wagner**
Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**
Set designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Costume designer ▶ **Ibolya Bárdosi**
Projected scenery ▶ **KEDD Animation Studio**
Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**
Director, visual concept ▶ **Géza M. Tóth**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

10, 13, 17 and 20 June 2018
Opera House

Richard Wagner

Götterdämmerung

TWILIGHT OF THE GODS (1876, BAYREUTH)

14

Through Siegfried, the hero who knows no fear, comes the rule of the free man unhampered by laws, whose final victory, the triumph of humanity, is unstoppable! This was **Wagner's** original train of thought. But with his new-found understanding of the philosophy of **Schopenhauer**, his revolutionary zeal and optimism turned to a view of cosmic darkness: *"Continuing to work on my Nibelung, it came to me (...) that I had recognised the essence of the world in its total and hopeless nothingness. Nevertheless, I had vindicated the final intent, (...) I had found the fitting keystone with which to finish my work, and which truly unveiled the essence of things..."* Brünnhilde's farewell to the world reveals the only lasting thing of value: the sanctity of love united in death. Will mankind truly ever free itself from the attraction of power and gold and instead be led by its own humanity?

In 2018, as the finale for the Ring season, this mammoth four-year joint undertaking between the Opera and **Géza M. Tóth** will reach its conclusion in the newly reopened Opera House, where the premiere of *Götterdämmerung* will conclude the new production of the *Ring* tetralogy, which will be presented as a complete cycle each year starting in the autumn of 2018.





18

Richard Strauss

Salome

(1905, DRESDEN)

Herodes ▶ **Gerhard Siegel**
Herodias ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**
Salome ▶ **Andrea Rost**
Jokanaan ▶ **Krisztián Cser**
Narraboth ▶ **Péter Balczó**
Page ▶ **Anna Kun Ágnes**
First Jew ▶ **István Horváth**
Second Jew ▶ **Péter Kiss**
Third Jew ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**
Fourth Jew ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**
Fifth Jew ▶ **Marcell Bakonyi**
First Nazarene ▶ **Attila Dobák**
Second Nazarene ▶ **Tamás Kóbor**
First soldier ▶ **Sándor Egri**
Second soldier ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**
A Cappadocian ▶ **András Kőrösi**
A slave ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Partner ▶ **Margaret Island Open-Air Stage**

Opera in one act, in German,
with Hungarian surtitles

Libretto after the play of
the same title by **Oscar Wilde** ▶ **Richard Strauss**
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**
Scenic designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**
Set designer/architect ▶ **archaeologist Győző Vörös,**
Tamás Dobrosi
Costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*22 and 24 June 2018. (Rain dates: 26 and 27 June),
Margaret Island
August 2018, Machaerus*

Richard Strauss

Salome

(1905, DRESDEN)

18

Richard Strauss chose a quite divisive subject for his third opera: **Oscar Wilde's** 1894 play *Salome* had provoked great outrage across Europe, and contemporary audiences were astonished that someone would be bold enough to depict the story of John the Baptist and Salome as an erotic and bloody fantasy on the opera stage. Wilde's text is shocking in itself, and its effect is further reinforced by Strauss's even more dramatic music. The role of Salome demands a voice with exceptional qualities, not to mention the ability to execute the famous Dance of the Seven Veils, which opera singers have often refused to perform throughout the opera's long history. Strauss noted that he intended this role for a "16-year-old princess" with the voice of an Isolde. Nevertheless, the work proved a tremendous success at its 1905 Dresden world premiere, where the singers took 38 curtain calls. Although critics sniffed, the entire music world flocked to the premiere of what **Gustav Mahler** later referred to as "*one of the most important works of our time*".

Richard Strauss's operas emerged from the Wagnerian legacy, and his third opera (composed after *Guntram* and *Feuersnot*) will be staged at the end of the "Around the Ring" season. Directed by **Ferenc Anger**, this new production promises to be a fantastic spectacle: the set will be no less than a reproduction of the fortress of Machaerus in Jordan: excavated by Hungarian professor **Győző Vörös**, the ancient palace was Herod's aerie and the site where the story of Salome actually took place.





IF ONLY HE WERE A LORD...

I AM A LORD! A GYPSY BARON!

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

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SO A PHARMACIST CAN'T GET ANY SLEEP?
EVEN ON HIS WEDDING NIGHT?



10

Gaetano Donizetti

Il campanello

THE NIGHT BELL (1836, NAPLES)

Serafina ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**
Don Annibale Pistacchio ▶ **László Szvétek**
Spiridione ▶ **Tamás Kóbor**
Madama Rosa ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**
Enrico ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Gaetano Donizetti**
Hungarian translation ▶ **Tamás Blum**
Visual concept ▶ **Sára Szalai**
Director ▶ **Balázs Benő Fehér**

9, 16, 17, 23 and 24 September 2017
Opera House, Sphinx Terrace



IT'S MADNESS TO STAGE THIS PIECE,
BUT SO IS MISSING OUT ON IT!

10

Gaetano Donizetti

I pazzi per progetto

MAD MEN BY DESIGN (1830, NAPLES)

Darlemont ▶ **László Szvétek**
Norina ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**
Blinval ▶ **Tamás Busa**
Cristina ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**
Venanzio ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**
Eustachio ▶ **Máté Fülep**
Frank ▶ **Antal Bakó**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Domenico Gilardoni**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Lajos Csákovics**

Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Visual concept ▶ **Adrienn Fógel**

Director ▶ **Bálint Szilágyi**

9, 16, 17, 23 and 24 September 2017

Opera House, Sphinx Terrace

Gian Carlo Menotti

The Telephone

(1946, NEW YORK)

Lucy ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Ben ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

The Telephone ▶ **Kristóf Poroszlay**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Kőteles**

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Gian Carlo Menotti**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Klára Huszár**

Set designer ▶ **Nikon One**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztopád**

Choreographer ▶ **Klára Pataky**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

9, 16, 17, 23 and 24 September 2017

Opera House, Sphinx Terrace

10



Giacomo Puccini

Il tabarro

THE CLOAK (1918, NEW YORK)

16

Michele ▶ **Károly Szemerédy**

Giorgetta ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Luigi ▶ **Attila Fekete**

Tinca ▶ **János Szerekován**

Talpa ▶ **Géza Gábor**

La Frugola ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giuseppe Adami**

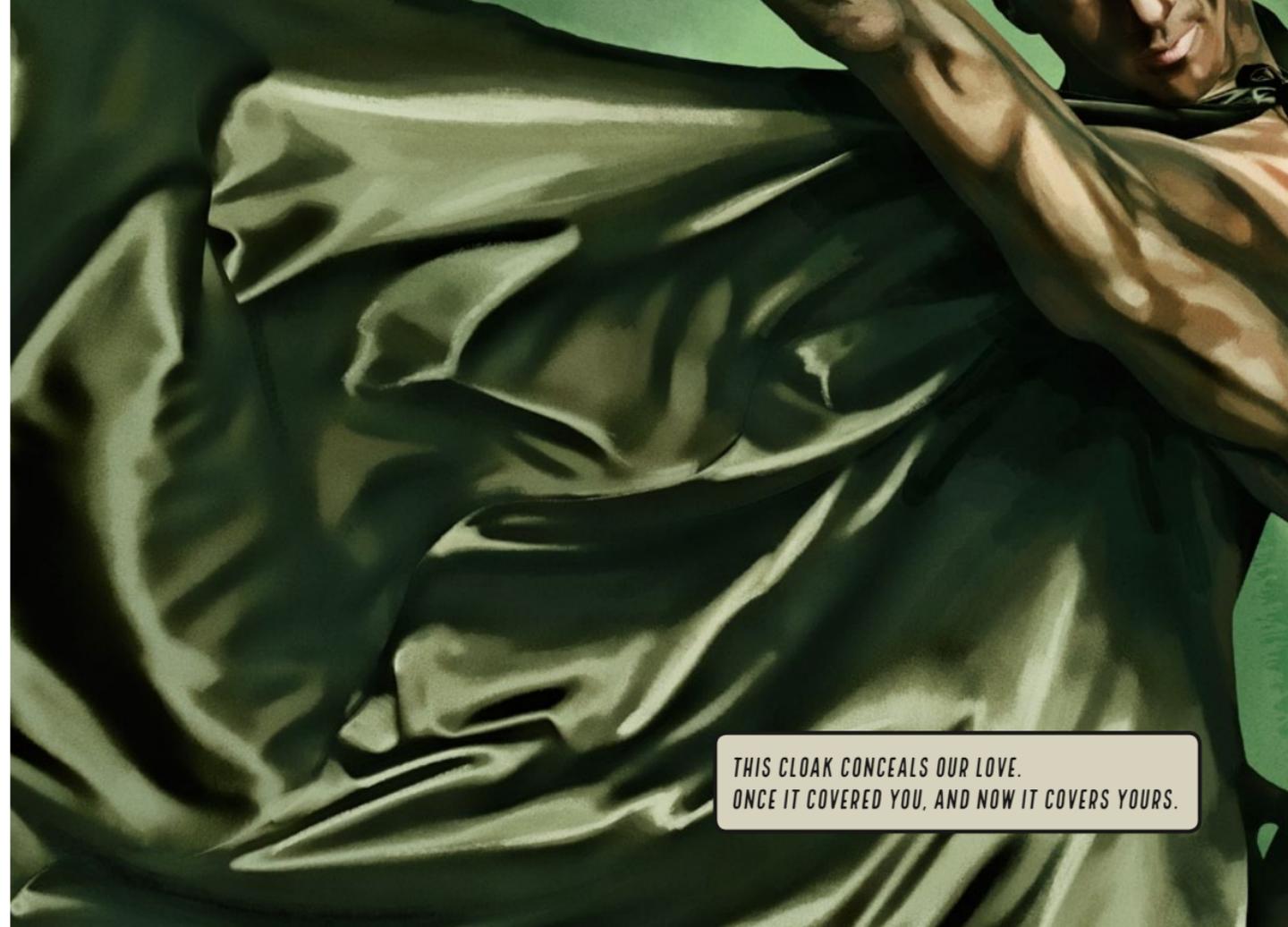
Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

The productions *Il tabarro*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* are parts of *Il trittico* by Puccini.

17 and 22 September 2017

Erkel Theatre



THIS CLOAK CONCEALS OUR LOVE.
ONCE IT COVERED YOU, AND NOW IT COVERS YOURS.



THERE MIGHT BE A GIRL LIVING IN THE CONVENT,
AND A LITTLE BOY OUTSIDE. OR ARE THEY BOTH
DEAD BY NOW?

16

Giacomo Puccini

Suor Angelica

SISTER ANGELICA (1918, NEW YORK)

Sister Angelica ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss**

The princess ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich**

The abbess ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**

The monitoress ▶ **Annamária Kovács**

Sister Genevieve ▶ **Ágnes Molnár**

Sister Osmina ▶ **Márta Kempf**

Sister Dolcina ▶ **Mónika Langermann**

The nursing sister ▶ **Szilvia Vörös**

The alms sisters ▶ **Zsuzsanna Bazsinka, Erika Markovics**

Novices ▶ **Nadin Haris, Eszter Zavaros**

The lay sisters ▶ **Nikoletta Bolya Papp, Júlia Magassy**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian,
with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Gioacchino Forzano**

Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

16, 21 and 24 September 2017

Erkel Theatre

The productions *Il tabarro*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*
are parts of *Il trittico* by Puccini.



OLD BUOSO HAS DIED,
BUT HE'S STILL WRITING HIS WILL?

16

Giacomo Puccini

Gianni Schicchi

(1918, NEW YORK)

Gianni Schicchi ▶ **Péter Kálmán**
Lauretta ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**
Zita ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**
Rinuccio ▶ **Szabolcs Brickner, Péter Balczó**
Gherardo ▶ **János Szerekován**
Nella ▶ **Bori Keszei**
Betto ▶ **András Kiss**
Simone ▶ **Tamás Szüle**
Marco ▶ **Tamás Busa**
La Ciesca ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**
Spinelloccio ▶ **Gábor Németh**
Amantio di Nicolao ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**
Pinellino ▶ **Álmos Gyarmati**
Guccio ▶ **László Szentimrei**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian,
with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giovacchino Forzano**
Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

16, 17, 21, 22 and 24 September 2017
Erkel Theatre

The productions *Il tabarro*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*
are parts of *Il trittico* by Puccini.

Giuseppe Verdi

Rigoletto

(1851, VENICE)

14

Duke of Mantua ▶ **István Horváth, Boldizsár László**

Rigoletto ▶ **Michele Kalmandy, Anatoliy Fokanov**

Gilda ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Zita Szemere**

Sparafucile ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Maddalena ▶ **Andrea Szántó, Viktória Mester**

Count Monterone ▶ **Sándor Egri, András Kőrösi**

Marullo ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Borsa ▶ **Péter Kiss**

Count Ceprano ▶ **Tamás Szüle**

Countess Ceprano ▶ **Krisztina Simon, Ágnes Molnár**

Giovanna ▶ **Kornélia Bakos, Veronika Dobi-Kiss**

A page ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

A court usher ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

Opera in three acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Francesco Maria Piave**

Choreographer ▶ **Jenő Lőcsei**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**

Director ▶ **Mária Harangi, Miklós Szinetár**

23, 24, 28, 29 September and 1 October 2017

Opera House



Zoltán Kodály

The Spinning Room

SZÉKELY FONÓ (1932, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA)

10

Housewife ▶ **Erika Gál, Atala Schöck**

Suitor ▶ **Károly Szemerédy, Zsolt Haja**

Young girl ▶ **Andrea Rost, Orsolya Sáfár**

Young man ▶ **Adorján Pataki, Gergely Ujvári**

Neighbour / the Young man's mother ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich,
Bernadett Wiedemann**

Flea ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach, Lajos Geiger**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Prologue ▶ **István Pál "Szalonna" and his Band**

Folk scenes, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Zsolt Juhász**

Set designer ▶ **Luigi Scoglio**

Costume designer ▶ **Magdalena Dabrowska**

Lighting designer ▶ **Bogumil Palewicz**

Director ▶ **Michał Znaniecki**

8, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 October 2017

Erkel Theatre



WHAT ARE WE SINGING? DID THIS HAPPEN TODAY?
OR PERHAPS A LONG TIME AGO? OR HAS IT BEEN
HAPPENING FOR A LONG TIME?

Giuseppe Verdi

Nabucco

(1836, MILAN)

14

Nabucco ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Michele Kalmandy**

Abigail ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Szilvia Rálik**

Fenena ▶ **Erika Gál, Szilvia Vörös**

Ismaele ▶ **Jenő Dékán**

Zaccaria ▶ **Gábor Bretz, András Pallerdi**

High priest of Baal ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi, András Kiss**

Abdallo ▶ **Ferenc Kristofori**

Anna ▶ **Mónika Langermann, Katalin Töreky**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in three parts, four acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Temistocle Solera**

Set designer ▶ **Edit Zeke**

Costume designer ▶ **Janó Papp**

Director ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

19, 20, 21, 22 and 27 October 2017

Erkel Theatre



I AM GOD! I SMITE PEOPLE
WITH LIGHTNING, NOT HE ME.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart / János Lackfi

The Magic Flute for Children

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE (1791, VIENNA)

4

Sarastro ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Tamino ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

The Queen of the Night ▶ **Ildikó Szakács**

Pamina ▶ **Bori Keszei**

Papageno ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach**

Papagena ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

Monostatos ▶ **Jenő Dékán**

Ringmaster ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Fairy-tale singspiel in two parts with intermission for pretzels, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Emanuel Schikaneder**

Translator ▶ **Zsolt Harsányi / Sándor Fischer**

Music compiled by ▶ **Géza Köteles**

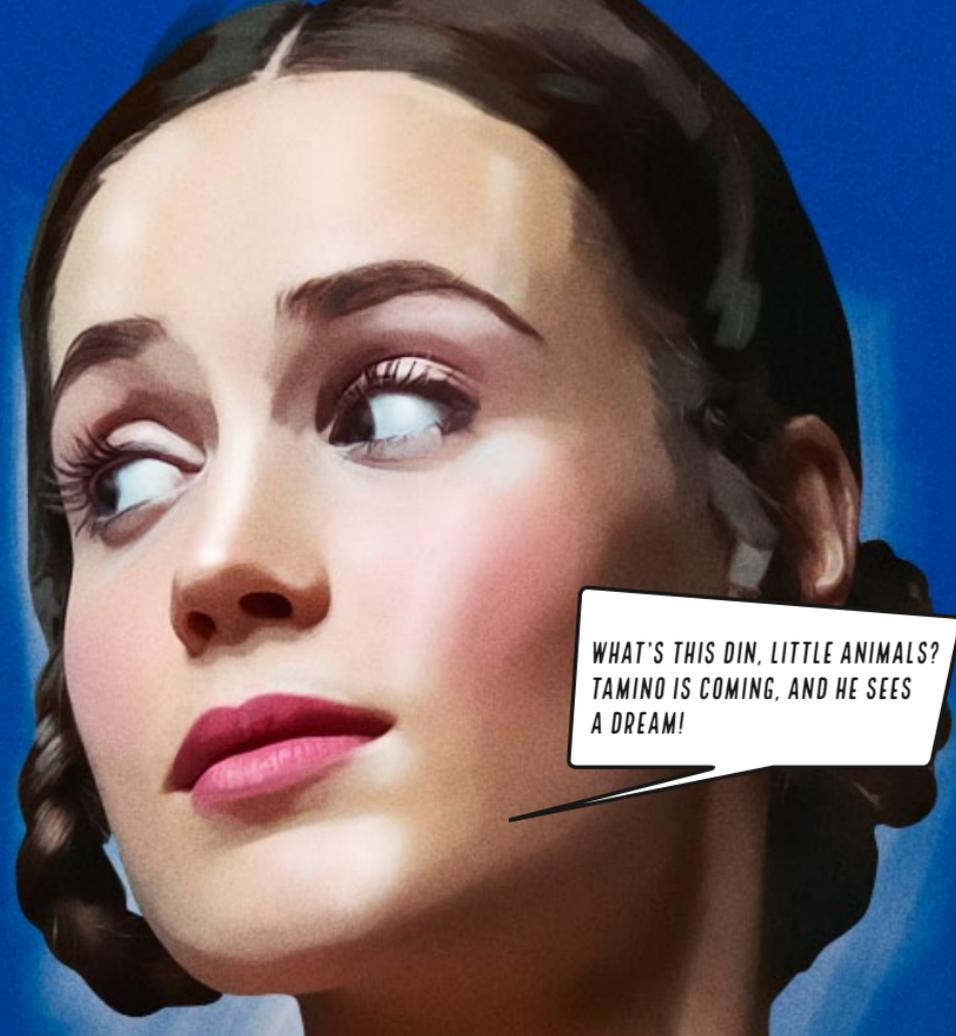
Paraphrased by ▶ **János Lackfi**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**

Director ▶ **Attila Toronykő**

11, 12 and 19 November 2017

Erkel Theatre





DON'T CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR
ABOUT MY ELIXIR,
AND CERTAINLY NOT YOUR
PHARMACIST!

12

Gaetano Donizetti

L'elisir d'amore

L'ELISIR D'AMORE (1832, MILAN)

Adina ▶ **Zita Váradi, Zita Szemere**

Nemorino ▶ **Dániel Pataky, Szabolcs Brickner**

Belcore ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Róbert Rezsnyák**

Dulcamara ▶ **László Szvétek, Tamás Szüle**

Giannetta ▶ **Eszter Zavaros, Ildikó Jakab**

Conductor ▶ **Gábor Káli**

Comic opera in two acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Felice Romani**

Hungarian text ▶ **Tamás Blum**

Choreographer ▶ **Merlo P. Andrea**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Judit Beda**

Director ▶ **Sándor Palcsó**

11, 12, 16 and 17 November 2017

Erkel Theatre

Giuseppe Verdi

La traviata

(1853, VENICE)

16

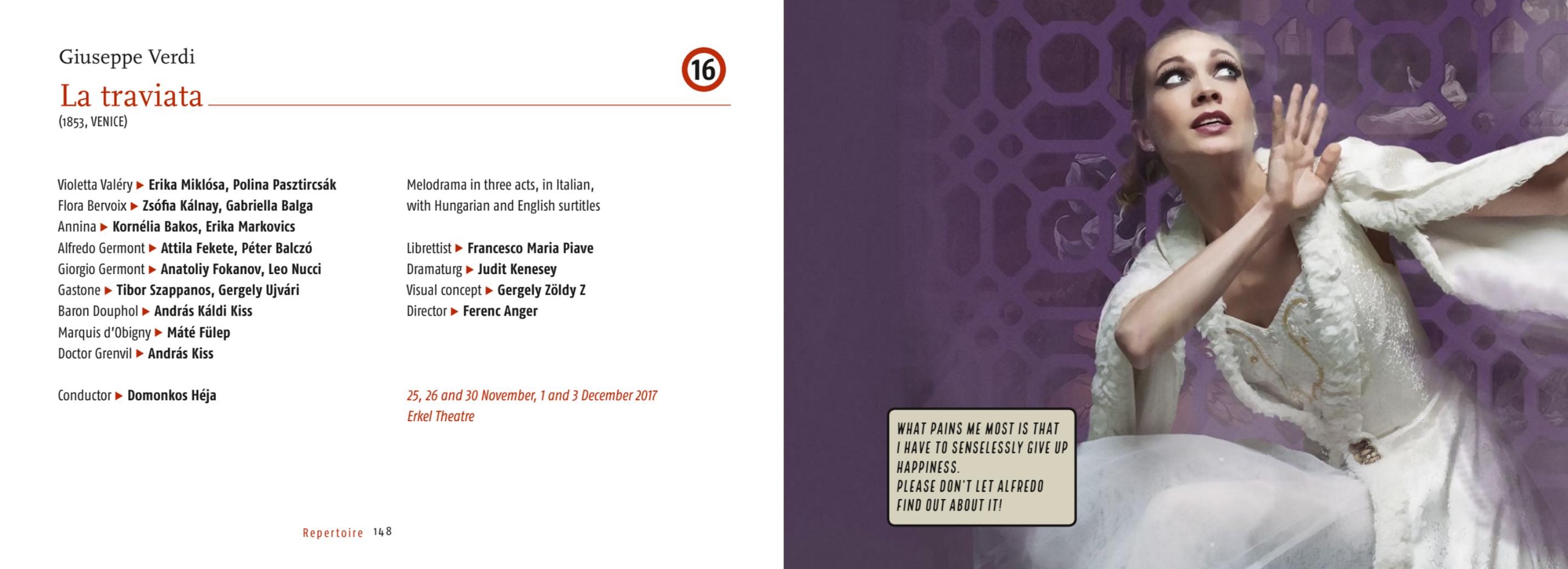
Violetta Valéry ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Polina Pasztircsák**
Flora Bervoix ▶ **Zsófia Kálnay, Gabriella Balga**
Annina ▶ **Kornélia Bakos, Erika Markovics**
Alfredo Germont ▶ **Attila Fekete, Péter Balczó**
Giorgio Germont ▶ **Anatoliy Fokanov, Leo Nucci**
Gastone ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, Gergely Ujvári**
Baron Douphol ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**
Marquis d'Obigny ▶ **Máté Fülep**
Doctor Grenvil ▶ **András Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

Melodrama in three acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Francesco Maria Piave**
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**
Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

25, 26 and 30 November, 1 and 3 December 2017
Erkel Theatre



WHAT PAINS ME MOST IS THAT
I HAVE TO SENSELESSLY GIVE UP
HAPPINESS.
PLEASE DON'T LET ALFREDO
FIND OUT ABOUT IT!

Giacomo Puccini

La bohème

(1896, TURIN)

14

Rodolfo ► **Attila Fekete, Boldizsár László**
Schaunard ► **Csaba Sándor, Attila Dobák**
Marcello ► **Levente Molnár, Csaba Szegedi**
Colline ► **Krisztián Cser, András Palerdi**
Mimi ► **Gabriella Léty Kiss, Polina Pasztircsák**
Musetta ► **Zita Váradi, Orsolya Hajnalka Röser**
Benoît ► **András Hábetler, Gábor Németh**
Alcindor ► **Lajos Geiger, Tamás Szüle**
Parpignol ► **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár, János Kovács**

Opera in two parts, four acts, in Italian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ► **Giuseppe Giacosa, Luigi Illica**
Set designer ► **Gusztáv Oláh**
Costume designer ► **Tivadar Márk**
Staged by ► **Sándor Palcsó**
Director ► **Kálmán Nádasdy**

15, 17, 20, 25 and 27 December 2017

Erkel Theatre



Johann Strauss Jr.

Der Zigeunerbaron

THE GYPSY BARON (1885, VIENNA)

10

Homonnay ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Lajos Geiger**
Sándor Barinkay ▶ **Atilla B. Kiss, Gergely Boncsér**
Szaffi ▶ **Ildikó Szakács, Eszter Zavaros**
Czipra ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann, Andrea Ulbrich**
Kálmán Zsupán ▶ **Géza Gábor, László Szvétek**
Arsena ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Röser, Kinga Kriszta**
Carnero ▶ **Tamás Busa, Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**
Mirabella ▶ **Mária Farkasréti, Éva Balatoni**
Ottokar ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, János Szerekován**
Maria Theresa ▶ **Zsuzsa Csarnóy, Nelli Szűcs**
Town crier ▶ **András Hábetler**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

Grand operetta in three acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto based on Mór Jókai's novella "The Gypsy Baron" ▶

Ignaz Schnitzer

Hungarian lyrics ▶ **Sándor Fischer**

Hungarian text ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Mihályi**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Horesnyi**

Costume designer ▶ **Márta Pilinyi**

Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 January 2018

Erkel Theatre





IF I DON'T SEE WHAT I DON'T SEE,
YOU WON'T SEE ME AS A MINISTER!

6

György Ránki

King Pomade's New Clothes

POMÁDÉ KIRÁLY ÚJ RUHÁJA (1953, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

King Pomade ▶ **András Palerdi**

Dani ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Béni ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Garda Roberto ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Chancellor ▶ **Antal Cseh**

Dzsufi ▶ **Rita Rác**

Captain ▶ **Gábor Farkas**

Corporal ▶ **Zoltán Somogyi**

Conductor ▶ **László Bartal**

Children's opera in two parts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Amy Károlyi**

Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Horváth**

Visual concept ▶ **Katalin Juhász**

Director ▶ **Attila Toronykőy**

20, 21 January, 3, 4 and 11 February 2018

Erkel Theatre

Giacomo Puccini

Tosca

(1900, ROME)

16

Floria Tosca ▶ **Csilla Boross, Gyöngyi Lukács**
Mario Cavaradossi ▶ **Attila Fekete, Atilla Kiss B.**
Scarpia ▶ **Anatolij Fokanov, Alexandru Agache**
Cesare Angelotti ▶ **Antal Cseh, Ferenc Cserhalmi**
Sacristan ▶ **András Hábetler, András Kőrösi**
Spoletta ▶ **László Haramza**
Sciarrone ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in three acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giuseppe Giacosa, Luigi Illica**
Set designer ▶ **Tamás Vayer**
Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**
Director ▶ **Viktor Nagy**

18, 19, 20, 21, 25 and 26 January, 15 and 16 February 2017
Erkel Theatre



Giuseppe Verdi

Simon Boccanegra

(1857, VENICE)

14

Simon Boccanegra ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Plácido Domingo**

Amelia Grimaldi ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák, Andrea Rost**

Jacopo Fiesco ▶ **Gábor Bretz, András Palerdi**

Gabriele Adorno ▶ **Attila Fekete, Arturo Chacón-Cruz**

Paolo Albiani ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**

Pietro ▶ **Attila Dobák, Marcell Bakonyi**

Captain of the crossbowmen ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Opera with a prologue, in two parts, in three acts,
in Italian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Arrigo Boito, Francesco Maria Piave**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Ivan Stefanutti**

Light designer ▶ **Claudio Schmid**

Director ▶ **Ivan Stefanutti**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

2, 3, 4, 6 and 9 February 2018

Erkel Theatre



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Così fan tutte

(1790, VIENNA)

12

Fiordiligi ▶ **Mária Celeng, Klára Kolonits**
Dorabella ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Viktória Mester**
Ferrando ▶ **Gyula Rab**
Guglielmo ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Zoltán Nagy**
Despina ▶ **Zita Szemere, Orsolya Sáfár**
Don Alfonso ▶ **Péter Kálmán, András Palerdi**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Comic opera in two acts, in Italian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Lorenzo Da Ponte**
Choreographer ▶ **Sándor Barkóczy**
Chorus director ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**
Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**
Costume designer ▶ **Judit Schaffer**
Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

17, 18, 22, 23 and 25 February 2018
Erkel Theatre





YOU CAN'T PLACE LOVE ABOVE
THE INTERESTS OF THE FAMILY!

14

Gaetano Donizetti

Lucia di Lammermoor

ORIGINAL VERSION (1835, NAPLES)

Enrico ▶ **Csaba Szegedi, Michele Kalmandy**

Lucia ▶ **Klára Kolonits, Erika Miklósa**

Edgardo ▶ **István Horváth, Péter Balczó**

Arturo ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, Zoltán Megyesi**

Raimondo ▶ **Péter Fried, István Kovács**

Alisa ▶ **Ágnes Anna Kun, Szilvia Vörös**

Normanno ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Opera in three acts, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Salvatore Cammarano**

Choreographer ▶ **Csaba Sebestyén**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Cziegler**

Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Tihanyi**

Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

3, 4, 8 and 9 March 2018

Erkel Theatre



14

JUST DON'T SHED THEIR BLOOD!
BUT IF YOU DO, I'LL PRAY FOR THEM!

Erkel Ferenc

Hunyadi László

(1844, BUDAPEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

László V ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, István Horváth**
Ulrik Cillei ▶ **Géza Gábor, István Rácz**
Erzsébet Szilágyi ▶ **Beatrix Fodor, Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser**
László Hunyadi ▶ **Attila Fekete, Boldizsár László**
Mátyás Hunyadi ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Melinda Heiter**
Miklós Gara ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen, István Kovács**
Mária Gara ▶ **Rita Rácz, Kriszta Kinga**
Mihály Szilágyi ▶ **Sándor Egri**
Rozgonyi ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Béni Egressy**
Choreographer ▶ **Csanád Kováts Gergely**
Set designer ▶ **Katalin Libor**
Costume designer ▶ **Enikő Kárpáti**
Assistant to the director ▶ **Csaba Vasvári**
Director ▶ **Gábor Szűcs**

10, 11, 15 and 16 March 2018
Erkel Theatre

Pietro Mascagni

Cavalleria rusticana

RUSTIC CHIVALRY (1890, ROME)

16

Turiddu ▶ **Boldizsár László, Kamen Chanev**
Santuzza ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi, Gyöngyi Lukács,**
Lucia ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss, Éva Balatoni**
Alfio ▶ **Károly Szemerédy, Alexandru Agache**
Lola ▶ **Zsófia Kálnay, Melinda Heiter**

Conductor ▶ **Marco Comin**

Cavalleria rusticana will be performed together with
the production of *Pagliacci*.

Opera in one act, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto based on the play by Giovanni Verga ▶
Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti, Guido Menasci
Set designer ▶ **Madeleine Schleich**
Costume designer ▶ **Prisca Baumann**
Director ▶ **Georges Delnon**

28 and 31 March, 1 and 2 April 2018
Erkel Theatre



Ruggero Leoncavallo

Pagliacci

CLOWNS (1893, MILAN)

16

Canio ▶ **Attila Fekete, Kamen Chanev**
Nedda ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Zita Váradi**
Tonio ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen, Alexandru Agache**
Beppo ▶ **Péter Balczó, Tibor Szappanos**
Silvio ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Conductor ▶ **Marco Comin**

Opera in one act, in Italian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Ruggero Leoncavallo**
Set designer ▶ **Madeleine Schleich**
Costume designer ▶ **Prisca Baumann**
Director ▶ **Georges Delnon**

Pagliacci will be performed together with the production
Cavalleria rusticana.

28 and 31 March, 1 and 2 April 2018
Erkel Theatre



YOU'RE AN ACTOR. THE SHOW IS UNDERWAY.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, EVEN IF YOU'RE BEING
CHEATED ON AND ARE READY TO KILL,
YOU'LL HAVE TO HIDE IT. FOR A WHILE.

Richard Wagner

Parsifal

(1882, BAYREUTH)

Amfortas ▶ **Tómas Tómasson**
Titirel ▶ **István Kovács**
Gurnemanz ▶ **András Palerdi**
Parsifal ▶ **István Kovásházi**
Klingsor ▶ **Géza Gábor**
Kundry ▶ **Judit Németh**
Grail Knight I ▶ **Péter Kiss**
Grail Knight II ▶ **Lajos Geiger**
Page I ▶ **Erika Markovics**
Page II ▶ **Krisztina Simon**
Page III ▶ **N. N.**
Page IV ▶ **János Szerekován**
Flower Maiden I/1 ▶ **Zita Váradi**
Flower Maiden I/2 ▶ **Ildikó Szakács**
Flower Maiden I/3 ▶ **Krisztina Simon**
Flower Maiden II/1 ▶ **Gabi Gál**
Flower Maiden II/2 ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**
Flower Maiden II/3 ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**
Voice from Above ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

14

Festival play in three acts, in German,
with Hungarian and English subtitles

Librettist ▶ **Richard Wagner**
Choreography after László Seregi ▶ **Péter László**
Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**
Costume designer ▶ **Péter Makai**
Director ▶ **András Mikó**

30 March, 2 and 5 April 2018
Erkel Theatre



THIS IS THE CHALICE FROM WHICH JESUS
DRANK AT THE LAST SUPPER
AND INTO WHICH HIS DIVINE BLOOD FLOWED.
WE GUARD THIS HOLY GRAIL. DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?



IF THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL,
WHY WOULD THEY COVER THEIR FACES?

10

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Die Zauberflöte

THE MAGIC FLUTE (1791, VIENNA)

Sarastro ▶ **András Pallerdi, Péter Fried**
Tamino ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, Gyula Rab**
The Queen of the Night ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Röser, Klára**

Kolonits,

Pamina ▶ **Gabriella Fodor, Orsolya Sáfár**
First Lady ▶ **Éva Bátori, Anikó Bakonyi**
Second Lady ▶ **Andrea Meláth, Gabriella Balga**
Third Lady ▶ **Kornélia Bakos, Gabriella Busa**
Old Priest ▶ **Kolos Kováts, Tamás Szüle**
Young Priest ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, Gergely Ujvári**
Papageno ▶ **Csaba Sándor, Róbert Rezsnyák**
Papagena ▶ **Kinga Kriszta, Eszter Zavaros**
Monostatos ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, Tamás Kóbor**
First Armoured Man ▶ **Péter Kiss**
Second Armoured Man ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi, László Szvétek**

Conductor ▶ **György Vashegyi**

Singspiel in two acts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Emanuel Schikaneder**
Hungarian text compiled based on the translation by Zsolt
Harsányi ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**
Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasdy**
Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**
Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**
Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

6, 7, 12, 13, 25 April and 6 May 2018
Erkel Theatre

Francis Poulenc

Les dialogues des Carmélites

DIALOGUES OF THE CARMELITES (1957, MILAN)

16

Blanche de la Force ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss**

Marquis de la Force ▶ **Anatoliy Fokanov**

Chevalier de la Force ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Madame de Croissy ▶ **Livia Budai**

Sister Constance ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Mother Marie ▶ **Gabriella Balga**

Madame Lidoine ▶ **Zita Váradi**

Mother Jeanne ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**

Sister Mathilde ▶ **Nadin Haris**

Thierry ▶ **Gergely Irlanda**

Javelinot ▶ **Péter Illés**

Chaplain ▶ **János Szerekován**

Gaoler ▶ **Antal Bakó**

First Commissioner ▶ **Tivadar Kiss**

Second Commissioner ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in three acts, in French,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto after the drama of **Georges Bernanos** ▶
Francis Poulenc (with the permission of **Emmet Lavery**)

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

31 May, 5, 9 and 15 June 2018

Opera House

HOW CAN IT BE IN THE CHRISTIAN
COUNTRY OF FRANCE
THAT MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY
ARE BEING HARASSED?

Richard Strauss

Die Frau ohne Schatten

THE WOMAN WITHOUT A SHADOW (1919, VIENNA)

18

The Emperor ▶ **István Kovácsházi**

The empress ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

The Nurse ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**

The Messenger of the Spirits ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

The Guardian of the Threshold ▶ **Ingrid Kertesi**

The Apparition of a Youth ▶ **Péter Balczó**

The Falcon ▶ **Erika Markovics**

A Voice from Above ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Barak ▶ **Johan Reuter**

Barak's wife ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

The one-eyed man ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

The one-armed man ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

The hunchback ▶ **István Horváth**

Six Voices of the Unborn Children ▶ **Ildikó Szakács,**

Ingrid Kertesi, Borbála Keszei, Erika Markovics,

Gabriella Balga, Atala Schöck

Three Watchmen ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Ferenc Cserhalmi, Lajos Geiger**

Three Servants of the Empress ▶ **Ildikó Szakács,**

Borbála Keszei, Gabriella Balga

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Opera in three acts, in German,
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Hugo von Hofmannsthal**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Horesnyi**

Costume designer ▶ **Kati Zoób**

Director ▶ **János Szikora**

30 January 2018

Müpa Budapest

3, 6, 9 and 12 June 2018

Opera House



YOU MARRIED COUPLES, LYING IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS:
YOU ARE THE BRIDGE ACROSS THE GULF,
ON WHICH THE DEAD RETURN AGAIN TO LIFE!
BLESSÉD BE THE WORK OF YOUR LOVE!



I'LL KILL YOU BECAUSE YOU
WANTED TO SEDUCE HIM.

YOU'LL KILL ME BECAUSE HE
WANTED TO SEDUCE ME?

HUNGARIAN NATIONAL BALLET
MAGYAR NEMZETI

BALETT

Repertoire

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WHERE THE HELL?
IN THE ROYAL WHAT?
BALLET INSTITUTE?



The children soloists featured in the Opera's production have been trained and prepared in partnership with the Madách Musical Dance School. This production of Billy Elliot – The Musical has been developed with special permission from Music Theatre International [MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019 – tel.: (1) 212 541 4684, www.mtishows.com], using material it has made available

Billy ▶ **Kamill Kökény-Hámori, Áron Vizlendvai, N. N. Michael** ▶ **Dávid Borka, Zalán Kamarás, Olivér Lukács, Dániel Máté Pál**
Mrs. Wilkinson ▶ **Éva Aukusz, Nikolett Gallusz, Judit Ladinek**
Father ▶ **András Stohl, Kristóf Németh, Sándor Tóth, Csaba Janytik**
Grandmother ▶ **Eszter Csákányi, Ilona Bencze, Ildikó Hűvösvölgyi**
Tony ▶ **Richárd Borbély, Balázs Csémy, Attila Fejlesztés**
Mother ▶ **Renáta Krassy, Boglárka Simon**
Mr. Braithwaite ▶ **Bálint Ekanem, Zoltán Mező, Pál Ömböli**
George ▶ **István Fillár, Zoltán Kiss**
Strike-breaker, Posh Dad ▶ **Attila Barát**
Dancer ▶ **Gábor Jenei, András Nagy**
Big Davey ▶ **András Kőrösi, Zoltán Barabás Kiss**
Woman with notepad ▶ **Gyöngyi Molnár, Vera Foki**
Tall Boy ▶ **András Hrebenár, András Gáspár**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló, Géza Köteles**

*23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 August 2017; 25 and 26 May, 19, 20, 21, 22,
23, 24, 26 and 27 June 2017. Erkel Theatre*

Sir Elton John / Lee Hall

Billy Elliot – the Musical

(2005, LONDON)

Musical in Hungarian, with English surtitles

Composer ▶ **Sir Elton John**
Librettist and lyricist ▶ **Lee Hall**
Director ▶ **Tamás Szirtes**
Hungarian translation ▶ **Ferenc Bárány, István Puller**
Choreographer ▶ **Ákos Tihanyi**
Set designer ▶ **István Szlávik**
Lighting designer ▶ **János Madarász "Madár"**
Scenic artist ▶ **János Szűcsborus**
Costume designer ▶ **Yvette Kovács**
Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Ferenc Molnár**
Assistant to the Director ▶ **Eugénia Vaszielenko**
Songs rehearsed by ▶ **Zsuzsanna Fehér, Brigitta Kovács,
Mária Toldy**

Harald Lander / Carl Czerny / Knudåge Riisager

Études

(1948, COPENHAGEN)

18

Ballerina ▶ **Alexandra Kozmér, Karina Sarkissova,
Cristina Balaban**

Solo 1 ▶ **Zoltán Oláh, Dmitry Timofeev,
Gergő Ármin Balázi**

Solo 2 ▶ **Máté Bakó, Ievgen Lagunov, Gergely Leblanc**

Conductor ▶ **Imre Kollár**

Classical ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Harald Lander**

Composer ▶ **Carl Czerny**

Artistic consultant ▶ **Lise Lander**

Coach ▶ **Johnny Eliassen**

Ballet masters ▶ **Ildikó Pongor, Angéla Kövessy**

The production will be performed together with the premiere of *Theme & Variations* at the ballet night *Classic 47°N19°E*

15, 16, 17, 25 and 26 November 2017

Müpa Budapest



THERE'LL BE NOTHING BUT A BARRE. AND LIGHTS AND THE SHADOWS, BLACK AND WHITE. AND THE QUESTION OF WHETHER YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT PERFECTLY.



NO. THAT SCENE BEGINS IN DARKNESS.
THEN FULL LIGHT, APPLAUSE. AND IN YOU COME.

6

Wayne Eagling / Tamás Solymosi / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The Nutcracker

SHCHELKUNCHIK (1892, ST PETERSBURG)

Prince ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Timofeev Dmitry, Ievgen Lagunov, Gergő Armin Balázi, Yuya Takahashi, Zoltán Oláh**

Princess Mary ▶ **Tatiana Melnik, Aliya Tanykpayeva, Adrienn Papp, Kim Minjung, Eizaveta Cheprasova, Lili Felméry, Cristina Balaban, Karina Sarkissova**

Drosselmeier ▶ **Alexander Komarov, Levente Bajári, Mark James Biocca, Gábor Szigeti**

Mouse King ▶ **Mikalai Radziush, Iurii Kekalo, József Medvecz, Roland Liebich**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász, András Déri, Imre Kollár, Kálmán Szennai**

Fairy-tale ballet in two acts

Choreographer ▶ **Wayne Eagling, Tamás Solymosi**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set designer ▶ **Beáta Vavrincz**

Costume designer ▶ **Nóra Romhányi**

Ballet masters ▶ **Mária Aradi, Imre Dózsa, Angéla Kövessy, Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei, Wayne Eagling**

Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy, the Hungarian National Ballet Institute and the Csillagszemű Dance Ensemble coached by ▶ **Evelyn Janács**

*2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30 and 31
December 2017
Erkel Theatre*



16

Ronald Hynd / Ferenc Lehár

The Merry Widow

(1975, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA)

- Widow / Hanna Glavari ▶ **Aliya Tanykpayeva, Karina Sarkissova, Tatiana Melnik, Alexandra Kozmér, Aleszja Popova, Elizaveta Cheprasova**
- Count Danilo Danilovich ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Iurii Kekalo, Zoltán Oláh, Vladyslav Melnyik**
- Valencienne ▶ **Adrienn Pap, Carulla Jessica Leon, Lili Felméry, Cristina Balaban**
- Camille de Rossillon ▶ **Dmitry Timofeev, Gergő Ármin Balázs, Ievgen Lagunov, Balázs Majoros**
- Conductor ▶ **István Silló, Domonkos Héja, Kálmán Szennai**

Comic ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Ronald Hynd**

Composer ▶ **Ferenc Lehár**

Music revised by ▶ **John Lanchberry, Allen Abbot**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Peter Docherty**

Lighting ▶ **Kirk Bookman**

Ballet masters ▶ **Annette Page, Tamás Solymosi, György Szirb, Marianna Venekei**

Between 4 and 22 September 2017 – Romania

Between 5 and 28 February 2018 – Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Austria, Slovakia

Erkel Theatre



IF THE GREAT TARTAR KHAN FALLS IN LOVE,
MANY OF US WILL FEEL LIKE WE'VE BEEN STABBED.

12

Rostislav Zakharov / Boris Vladimirovich Asafyev

The Fountain of Bakhchisarai

БАХЧИСАРАЙСКИЙ ФОНТАН (1934, LENINGRAD)

Maria ▶ **Tatiana Melnik, Lili Felméry**

Vaslav ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Dmitry Timofeev**

Khan Ghirei ▶ **Bence Apáti, Máté Bakó**

Zarema ▶ **Karina Sarkissova, Aliya Tanykpayeva**

Nurali ▶ **Ievgen Lagunov, Miklós Dávid Kerényi**

Potoczki ▶ **Levente Bajári, Attila Szakács**

Conductor ▶ **N. N.**

16, 18, 22 and 23 March 2018

Erkel Theatre

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Rostislav Zakharov**

Composer ▶ **Boris Vladimirovich Asafyev**

Libretto after the work of the same title by **Pushkin** ▶

Rostislav Zakharov

Set Designer ▶ **Zoltán Fülöp**

Costume Designer ▶ **Tivadar Márk**

Staging ballet master ▶ **Tahir Baltacheyev**

Ballet masters ▶ **Imre Dózsa, Angéla Kövessy,**

Ildikó Pongor, Csaba Sebestyén



SOMEONE HAS KILLED OUR FATHER.
WHICH ONE OF US WAS IT?

Boris Eifman / Sergei Rachmaninov / Modest Mussorgsky / Richard Wagner

The Karamazovs

БРАТЬЯ КАРАМАЗОВЫ (1995, ST. PETERSBURG)

16

Alexei ▶ József Medvecz, Zoltán Oláh

Ivan ▶ Mikalai Radziush, Iurii Kekalo

Dmitri ▶ Roland Liebich, Balázs Majoros

Katerina ▶ Alexandra Kozmér, Aleszja Popova

Grushenka ▶ Karina Sarkissova, Kristina Starostina

Fyodor ▶ Alekszandr Komarov, Maksym Kovtun

Conductor ▶ Gergely Kesselyák

Ballet in two acts

Choreographer ▶ Boris Eifman

Choreographer's assistant ▶ Olga Kalmikova

Composers ▶ Sergei Rachmaninov, Modest Mussorgsky,
Richard Wagner

Set and costume designer ▶ Vyacheslav Okunev

Lighting ▶ Boris Eifman

Ballet masters ▶ György Szirb, Marianna Venekei

24, 25, 27 and 29 March 2018

Erkel Theatre



6

Sir Frederick Ashton / Ferdinand Hérold

La fille mal gardée

THE WAYWARD DAUGHTER (1960, LONDON)

Simone ▶ Mikalai Radziush, Levente Bajári, Iurii Kekalo
Lise ▶ Tatiana Melnik, Cristina Balaban, Lili Felméry
Colas ▶ Gergely Leblanc, Dmitry Timofeev, Zoltán Oláh
Alain ▶ Miklós Dávid Kerényi, András Szegő,
Maksym Kovtun

Conductor ▶ András Déri

Choreographer ▶ Sir Frederick Ashton
Composer ▶ Ferdinand Hérold
Music revised by ▶ John Lanchbery
Set and costume designer ▶ Osbert Lancaster
Original libretto ▶ Jean Dauberval
Ballet masters ▶ Mária Aradi, Imre Dózsa, Ildikó Pongor,
Marianna Venekei

14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 22 April 2018

Erkel Theatre

Marianna Venekei / László Dés

A Streetcar Named Desire

(2017, BUDAPEST)

18

Blanche ▶ **Jessica Carulla Leon, Cristina Balaban**
Stella ▶ **Lea Földi, Anna Krupp**
Stanley ▶ **Balázs Majoros, Roland Liebich**
Mitch ▶ **Mark James Biocca, Levente Bajári**
Allan ▶ **Iurii Kekalo, Mikalai Radziush**

28 and 29 April, 5 and 6 May 2018
Erkel Theatre

Ballet version of the play of the same title by
Tennessee Williams

(Copyright © 1947, 1953 renewed 1975, 1981 by The University of the South)

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**
Composer ▶ **László Dés**
Librettist ▶ **Marianna Venekei, László Dés**
Set designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**
Lighting designer ▶ **Balázs Csontos**
Assistant to the choreographer ▶ **Ágnes Sárközy-Holler**



*WHOEVER YOU ARE ... I HAVE ALWAYS DEPENDED
ON THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS!*

12

Johan Inger / Maurice Ravel / Arvo Pärt

Walking Mad

(2001, THE HAGUE)

I CAN SEE THE MYSTERIOUS WALL,
I CAN HEAR BOLERO PULSING IN MY BRAIN.
WHEN WILL ALINA GET HERE?

Featuring ▶ **Barbara Kerényi, Jessica Carulla Leon, Cristina Balaban, Dmitry Timofeev, Balázs Krajczár, Ricardo Vila, Gergely Leblanc, Dénes Darab, Balázs Majoros; Ágnes Kelemen, Rita Hangya, Karina Sarkissova, Carlos Taravillo, Pierpaolo D'Amico, Kristóf Morvai, Boris Myasnikov, Iurii Kekalo, Dmitry Timofeev**

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Composer ▶ **Maurice Ravel, Arvo Pärt**

Lighting designer ▶ **Erik Berglund**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Yvan Dubreuil**

Ballet master ▶ **Angéla Kövessy**

The production will be performed at the *Total Dance* dance programmes together with *Petite Mort* and *Six Dances*.

2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 May 2018
Erkel Theatre

Jiří Kylián / Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Petite Mort

(1991, SALZBURG)

12

Featuring ▶ Ildikó Boros – Miklós Dávid Kerényi,
Lili Felméry – Vladyslav Melnyk, Artemisz Bakó-Pisla –
Máté Bakó, Karina Sarkissova – Gergő Ármin Balázs,
Adrienn Pap – Boris Myasnikov, Yuliya Golovyna –
Dmitry Timofeev; Yuka Asai – Kristóf Morvai,
Anna Krupp – Balázs Majoros, Aliya Tanykpayeva –
Gergely Leblanc, Leon Jessica Carulla – Gergő Balázs,
Tatiana Menik – Zoltán Oláh, Kristina Starostina –
Mikalai Radziush

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ Jiří Kylián
Composer ▶ Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Set designer ▶ Jiří Kylián
Costume designer ▶ Joke Visser
Lighting designer ▶ Jiří Kylián, Joop Caboort
Lighting and technical adaptation ▶ Kees Tjebbes
Coaching ballet masters ▶ Cora Bos-Kroese, Elke Schepers
Ballet master ▶ Angéla Kövessy

The production will be performed at the *Total Dance* dance programmes together with *Walking Mad* and *Six Dances*.

2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 May 2018
Erkel Theatre



Jiří Kylián / Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Six Dances

(1986, AMSTERDAM)

12

Featuring ▶ **Kristina Starostina, Barbara Kerényi, Emi Uehara, Ágnes Kelemen, German Borsai, Maksym Kovtun, Miklós Dávid Kerényi, András Rónai; Bianka Rotter, Lilla Purszki, Karina Tarasova, Réka Szilágyi-Sári, Benjamin Babácsi, András Szegő, József Medvecz, Carlos Taravillo**

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Composer ▶ **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Lighting designers ▶ **Jiří Kylián, Joop Caboort**

Lighting and technical adaptation ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

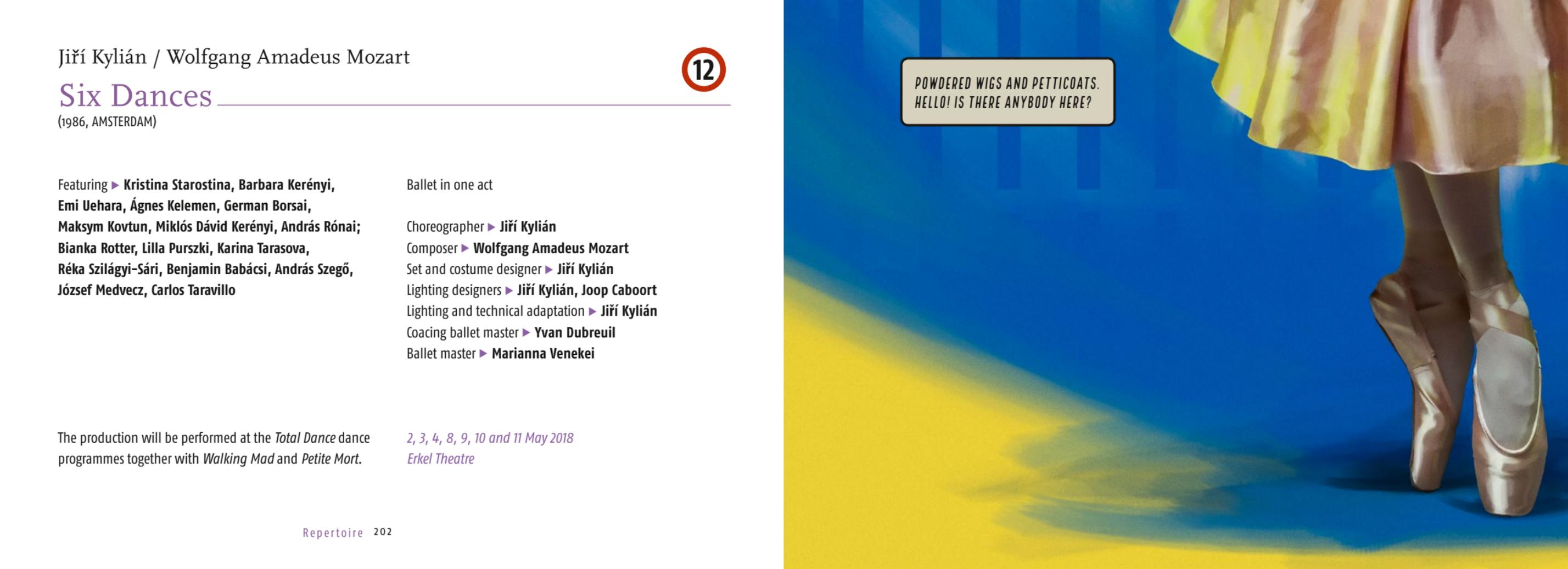
Coaching ballet master ▶ **Yvan Dubreuil**

Ballet master ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

The production will be performed at the *Total Dance* dance programmes together with *Walking Mad* and *Petite Mort*.

2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 May 2018

Erkel Theatre



POWDERED WIGS AND PETTICOATS.
HELLO! IS THERE ANYBODY HERE?

Gyula Harangozó Jr. / Tibor Kocsák

Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs

(2004, BUDAPEST, ERKEL THEATRE)

4

Snow White ► **Adrienn Papp, Lili Felméry, Ildikó Boros**

Queen ► **Alexandra Kozmér, Karina Sarkissova, Eizaveta Cheprasova**

Prince ► **Zoltán Oláh, Gergő Ármin Balácsi, Dmitry Timofeev**

Huntsman ► **Vladislyav Melnyk, Mikalai Radziush, Roland Liebich**

Witch ► **Bence Apáti, Máthé Bakó, Levente Bajári**

Doc ► **Attila Szakács, Boris Myashnikov**

Happy ► **Kristóf Morvai, Dávid Molnár**

Bashful ► **István Kohári, Bálint Katona**

Sleepy ► **Maksym Kovtun, Alexander Komarov**

Sneezy ► **Umberto Aragno, Gábor Szigeti**

Grumpy ► **Ievgen Lagunov, Ricardo Vila**

Dopey ► **Miklós Dávid Kerényi, Balázs Majoros, András Szegő**

Conductor ► **Imre Kollár, Kálmán Szennai, Máté Hámori**

Fairy-tale dance in two acts

Choreographer ► **Gyula Harangozó Jr.**

Composer ► **Tibor Kocsák**

Orchestrated by ► **Rudolf Bíró, Gábor Kemény**

Libretto based on the fairytale by the **Brothers Grimm** ► **Gyula Harangozó Jr.**

Set designer ► **Kentaur**

Costume designer ► **Rita Velich**

Choreographer's assistant ► **Edit Rujsz**

Ballet master ► **Blanka Fajth**

1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 June 2018

Erkel Theatre



AND THEN SHE DANCED
INTO OUR LITTLE LIVES! OH!



12

Rudi van Dantzig / Toer van Schayk / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Swan Lake

ЛЕБЕДИНОЕ ОЗЕРО (1877, MOSCOW)

Odette ► **Tatiana Melnik, Kim Minjung, Aliya Tanykpayeva, Eizaveta Cheprasova**
Siegfried ► **Gergely Leblanc, Gergő Ármin Balácsi, Dmitry Timofeev, Zoltán Oláh**
Rothbart ► **Mikalai Radziush, Roland Liebich, Iurii Kekalo, Vladyslav Melnyk**
Alexander ► **Ievgen Lagunov, Máté Bakó, Boris Myasnikov, András Rónai**

Pas de trois girls ► **Adrienn Pap, Lili Felméry, Lea Földi, Jessica Carulla Leon, Yuliya Golovyna, Cristina Balaban, Olga Chernakova, Rita Hangya**

Conductor ► **András Déri, N. N.**

Classical ballet in three acts

Choreography after **Marius Petipa** and **Lev Ivanov** ► **Rudi van Dantzig**
Composer ► **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**
Choreography of character dances (Act III) ► **Toer van Schayk**
Set and costume designer ► **Toer van Schayk**
Lighting designer ► **Jan Hofstra**
Set and costume assistant ► **Ruud Lutgens**
Coaching ballet masters ► **Caroline Iura, Eleonora Demichelis**
Ballet masters ► **Mária Aradi, Angéla Kövessy, Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei**

14, 16, 19, 21, 22 and 23 June 2018
Opera House

207 Repertoire

HAVE YOU SEEN BILLY ELLIOT?
WITH THE SWAN LAKE FINALE?
WELL THEN, HERE'S THE ORIGINAL.



AND NOW MY FAIR ELVIRA, LEAVE
MY HOUSE AND LET ME BE.

OH, NO, MY DEAR MUSTAFA,
YOU'LL NEVER GET RID OF ME.

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Programme series

Tuning Series

PREMIERE PRIMERS

There could hardly be a more worthwhile initiative for the Opera than to attempt to provide a clearer understanding of the essence of its latest productions with these special, illustrated presentations on each of the new works entering its repertoire. The Tuning Series of 45-minute programmes for each of the season's premieres continues into the new season too, in Hungarian, in the Opera House's Red Salon or in the Bernáth Buffet at the Erkel Theatre an hour prior to the start of the given opera or ballet production.

Our presenters will include ballet mistresses ► **Ildikó Pongor**, **Angéla Kövessy** and **Marianna Venekei**, chorusmaster **Gáspár Krasznai**, music historians **Máté Mesterházi** and **Szabolcs Molnár**, and writer **Ferenc László**.

Registration ► hangolo@opera.hu

Venue ► *Erkel Theatre – Bernáth Buffet*

Dates:

9 September 2017 (Sat) 6 pm – Bánk bán
28 October 2017 (Sat) 5 pm – Les Huguenots
18 November 2017 (Sat) 6 pm – L'italiana in Algeri
9 December 2017 (Sat) 5 pm – Hänsel und Gretel
24 February 2018 (Sat) 6 pm – Die Rheinnixen
21 April 2018 (Sat) 6 pm – Un ballo in maschera
10 June 2018 (Sun) 4 pm – Götterdämmerung

Questions, Questions

WHY LIKE THIS AND NOT SOME OTHER WAY?

This series that started at the Opera in 2013 can be seen in numerous opera houses worldwide: our ten séances explore the driving forces behind the most exciting productions to premiere at the Opera House. These public events, taking place as part of each premiere, run one hour prior to the performance on the given evening. Entry to the seating area is free to representatives of the press and hard-core opera fans holding a ticket to one of the performances for the given work. The creative team behind the opera production explain the concept behind the set design and field questions from the floor. The events will be recorded, edited and made available on the Opera House's social media pages and OpeRadio.

Moderator ► **Dávid Zsoldos** music historian

Dates:

14 September 2017 (Thu) 6 pm – Bánk bán
31 October 2017 (Tue) 5 pm – Les Huguenots
23 November 2017 (Thu) 6 pm – L'italiana in Algeri
14 December 2017 (Thu) 5 pm – Hänsel und Gretel
1 March 2018 (Thu) 5 pm – Die Rheinnixen
26 April 2018 (Thu) 6 pm – Un ballo in maschera
13 June 2018 (Wed) 4 pm – Götterdämmerung

Registration ► hangolo@opera.hu

Venue ► *Erkel Theatre – Auditorium*

7 Days Programme

SPECIAL DAYS IN THE HOME OF HUNGARIAN OPERA

As the nation's largest cultural institution, the Hungarian State Opera feels an obligation to the entire Hungarian nation and its culture. For this reason, since January 2013, we have been showing artistically realised étude films prior to the evening's performance on seven of the nation and the Opera's most important days of mourning and memorial, all accompanied by the orchestra playing excerpts of music fitting for the occasion, since in the turbulence of everyday life and work, many visitors do not even realise when these dates have arrived on the calendar. The animated series is the work of film director **Géza M. Tóth**, with musical accompaniment provided by composer **Géza Kőteles**, who is also the Opera's conducting répétiteur. The étude films of the 7 Days Programme can also be watched on our website.

6 October 2017 – Day of memorial for the Martyrs of Arad – national day of memorial (Erkel: **Hunyadi László** – Funeral March)

4 November 2017 – Day of memorial for the crushing of the 1956 Revolution – national day of memorial (Beethoven: **Egmont Overture**)

7 November 2017 – Hungarian Opera Day – Ferenc Erkel's birthday (Erkel: **Bánk bán** – Hazám, hazám)

22 January 2018 – Day of Hungarian Culture (Kodály: **Song** from the **Háry János Suite**)

25 February 2018 – Day of memorial for Victims of Communist Dictatorships (Dohnányi: **Stabat Mater**, 1953)

16 April 2018 – Day of memorial for Victims of the Holocaust (Mahler: **Ruckert Lieder**, No. 3)

4 June 2018 – Trianon Memorial Day – Day of National Solidarity (Bartók: **Hungarian Sketches** – Evening with Szeklers)



IT'S A SMALL COUNTRY,
BUT I'M ITS DIPLOMAT:
SO WHY WOULDN'T WE
MAKE GOOD WITH THAT?

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Special events

Contents, Special events

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Aida Tour with Plácido Domingo

RETURN VICTORIOUS!

When **Plácido Domingo** and his managers invited the Opera to join him on his massive stadium tour as his partner in the greatest Aida project of the new millennium in, we initially found the idea unfeasible. We were in the middle of the previous year's Hungarian Season, and even with our sizeable orchestra, chorus and ballet, it seemed impossible to support a production of such a high standard while smoothly presenting all the performances scheduled in both of our two theatres at the same time. And then we solved the problem...

Aida ▶ **Kristin Lewis, Liudmyla Monastyrskya**

Radamès ▶ **Fabio Sartori, Jorge de León**

Amneris ▶ **Ekaterina Gubanova, Violeta Urmana,
Daniela Barcellona, Marina Prudenskaya**

Amonasro ▶ **Ambrogio Maestri, George Gagnidze,
Luca Salsi**

Ramfis ▶ **Erwin Schrott**

Costume designer ▶ **Prof. Manfred Waba**

Set designer ▶ **Nuria Carrasco Dominguez**

Director ▶ **Plácido Domingo**

Producer ▶ **Stefano Trespidi**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian State Opera Orchestra and Chorus,
Hungarian National Ballet**

Conductor ▶ **Plácido Domingo**

*27 May 2017 (Gelsenkirchen), 4 June (Hamburg),
18 June (Vienna), 24 June (Basel), 15 July (Amsterdam),
5 August (Munich), 2 September (Frankfurt), 23 September (Paris)*

At Berlin's Waldbühne with Anna Netrebko

FOREST MURMURS

Since its construction in 1936, and especially since the 1980s, the famous Waldbühne concert venue in the forest near Berlin's Olympic Park has been amenable to hosting pop music while still preserving its classical traditions. Upholding the latter as a frequent guest on the summer stage is the Berlin Philharmonic, one of the top orchestras in the world. And now, the Hungarian State Opera's philharmonic orchestra has been invited to play in the woodland arena with a capacity of over 22,000 together with the top opera singer in the world today, **Anna Netrebko**.

31 August 2017 (Thu) 7 pm, Berlin – Waldbühne

Carpathian Homeland Opera Tour I

– Transylvania and the Partium

GREAT HUNGARIAN ENCOUNTERS I

The aim of the project is to present major performances in every region in the neighbouring countries for the Hungarian community living there and, since art is for everyone, with members of the local ethnic majority population welcome too.

We would never be able to set off on such a long journey in such large numbers and with so much luggage if it weren't for the closure of the Opera House for modernisation. Therefore, the Carpathian Homeland Opera Tour provides a unique opportunity for both the audience, which can attend the performances free of charge, and the company of the Opera. While we would like to help Hungarians living in the diaspora feel an increased awareness of – and sense of solidarity with – a mother country that acknowledges and stands behind them, it will also mean a great deal to us to play in distant sports stadiums for remote communities of Hungarians. (The "caravan" will spend two days at each location, performing both an opera and a ballet there.)

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** – Director ▶ **Gábor Szűcs** (see ▶ p. 165)

Lehár/Hynd ▶ **The Merry Widow** – ballet (see ▶ p. 189)

Destinations ▶ **Szatmárnémeti (Satu Mare), Nagyvárad (Oradea), Arad, Temesvár (Timișoara), Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfântu Gheorghe), Székelyudvarhely (Odorheiu Secuiesc), Csíkszereda (Miercurea Ciuc)**

Sponsored by ▶ **the Government of Hungary**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja, Ádám Medveczky, István Silló**

4 to 20 September 2017

Special events 224

Season opener

THE 134TH BEGINS!

BMW
Art&Culture

Attila Vidnyánszky, the present director of the Hungarian National Theatre and former principal stage director of the Hungarian State Opera, will be staging **Ferenc Erkel's** emblematic *Bánk bán* for the first time. Although the Opera House will be under renovation at the time, the opera and ballet stars will be returning to their second home after the long summer break in a spectacular convoy. On this Saturday, as previously, we will be setting up 600 chairs on the street so that visitors can enjoy the premiere on the giant screen erected outside. Prior to that, the audience will get to see a special fashion show on the stage erected outside the entrance of the Opera House and organised by the Municipality of Budapest District 6 (Terézváros) and the Association of Hungarian Fine and Applied Artists.

(For the cast and details see ▶ p. 23)

During the intermission, video installations – the work of the Association of Hungarian Fine and Applied Artists – will be projected on the façade of the Opera House. On the afternoon of the Season opener – true to our traditions – our *commedia dell'arte* productions will be performed on the Sphinx Terrace, along with a production of the Hungarian National Ballet. The audience of the outdoor programme will be greeted by **Dr Zsófia Hassay**, mayor of Budapest District 6 (Terézváros) and **Szilveszter Ókovács**, general director of the Opera.

Partners ▶ **Government of Terézváros, Association of Hungarian Fine and Applied Artists, BMW Group Hungary**

225 Special events

Season Opener

THE 134TH BEGINS!

12 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Donizetti ► **Il campanello** (see ► p. 127)

4 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Donizetti ► **I pazzi per progetto** (see ► p. 129)

6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Menotti ► **The Telephone** (see ► p. 130)

6:30 pm, Andrásy Avenue stage – **Greetings**

6:30 pm, Andrásy Avenue stage – **Fashion show – featuring the Hungarian National Ballet**

7 pm, Andrásy Avenue screen – Erkel ► **Bánk bán – Act I** (see ► p. 23)

8:30 pm, Andrásy Avenue screen – **Video installation on the façade of the Opera House**

9 pm, Andrásy Avenue screen – Erkel ► **Bánk bán – Act II**

Conductor ► **Michael Schonwandt**

Director ► **András Aczél**

Curator ► **Márta Simonffy, vice mayor, president of the AHFAA**

9 September 2017 (Sat) Andrásy Avenue

Opera without Borders

ON FIRST HEARING

For many years now, Hungarians living abroad have been invited to an opening performance at the Opera House, an institution always looking to enhance its role in Hungarian culture. For the launch of the new season, we are revisiting the theme of national unity, and paying our respects to our forefathers who 134 years ago collected material, technology and expertise from across Greater Hungary to build the new Opera House. Just as the Parliament building is the grandest building of a great country, the second grandest representative structure was also created to symbolise ancient glory. At the beginning of each new season, it has become customary for us, as a kind of invocation, to ask the mayor of Gyula, **Dr. Ernő Görgényi** to lay a wreath at the feet of his town's most famous son, **Ferenc Erkel**, the father of Hungarian opera and the first principal music director of the Opera, whose statue stands to the left of the building. (Due to the refurbishment of the Opera House, the festive performance will be held at the Erkel Theatre.)

This year, the now traditional taking of the citizen's oath prior to the overture will be arranged by the Józsefváros district of Budapest, in which district the Opera House is located.

Erkel ► **Bánk bán**

Partners ► **Government of Józsefváros, Government of Gyula**

2 pm – wreath-laying

2:30 pm – citizen's oath

3 pm – *Bánk bán*

10 September 2017 (Sun) Erkel Theatre

Opera134 - The Earthly Wagner

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LOHENGRIN

As an institution, the Hungarian State Opera dates its birth to September of 1884. That's when the palace on Andrásy Avenue, newly inaugurated by Franz Josef, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, hosted its first performance. It consisted of works by Wagner. A Hungarian-made statue of the German genius was also already being sculpted at the time of his death in 1883. And so, in keeping with the current season, the institution's 134th, dedicated thematically to Wagner and his impact – the opening concert will consist of music by Wagner. And specifically, pieces surrounding the genesis of the Ring tetralogy. Collaborating will be the Hungarian State Opera Orchestra, some of our superb singers and a marvellous Wagnerian conductor.

Wagner ▶ **Columbus Overture**
Wesendonck Lieder
Siegfried Idyll

Lohengrin Prelude
Elsa's dream
Telramund and Ortrud's duet
In fernem Land (Grail narration)
Bridal Chorus
Lohengrin's farewell and finale

Featuring ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák, Eszter Sümegi,**
Boldizsár László, Ildikó Komlósi, Michele Kalmány,
Péter Fried (voice)

Conductor ▶ **Stefan Soltész**

11 September 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Car-Free Weekend

BANISHING BOREDOM OUTSIDE THE OPERA HOUSE

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In 2017, the Opera House will once again be participating in the worldwide Car-Free Weekend series with commedia dell'arte performances on the Sphinx Terrace on the Hajós Street corner of the building on Saturday and Sunday, to use the noise-free environment and the much better air on Andrásy Avenue. Cultural and culinary delights await our guests outside. There to open the Saturday evening event will be the mayor of Budapest, István Tarlós, and the general director of the Hungarian State Opera, Szilveszter Ókovács.

(The free performances may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.)

2 pm – Donizetti ▶ **Il campanello** (see ▶ p. 127)

4 pm – Donizetti ▶ **I pazzi per progetto** (see ▶ p. 129)

6 pm – Menotti ▶ **The Telephone** (see ▶ p. 130)

Partners ▶ **Mayor's Office Budapest, Budapest Transport Centre, BMW Group Hungary**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

16 and 17 September 2017 (Sat-Sun) Opera House – Sphinx Terrace

OperaCinema

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE – AGAIN

Car-free weekends on the tarmac of Andrásy Avenue embolden us to try turn the thousands of locals and tourists in Budapest who are walking, eating and having fun into potential opera-goers. That is why we welcome everyone with an enormous LED wall, where we will be screening opera films and two full performances as the main programme on two nights.

(The screenings may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.)

16 September (Sat) 7 pm – Wagner ▶ **Der fliegende Holländer**

Donald ▶ **András Pallerdi**

Senta ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács**

Georg ▶ **Cory Bix**

Mary ▶ **Annamária Kovács**

Steersman ▶ **István Horváth**

The Dutchman ▶ **Thomas Gazheli**

Conductor ▶ **Ralf Weikert**

17 September (Sun) 7 pm – Minkus/Messerer ▶ **Don Quixote**

(**Tatiana Melnik, Gergely Leblanc, Mikalai Radziush,**

Leon Jessica Carulla, Bence Apáti, Maksym Kovtun)

Partner ▶ **MTVA**

16 and 17 September 2017 (Sat-Sun) 7 pm,

Andrásy Avenue – open air

Night of Theatres

PHANTOMS IN THE OPERA HOUSE

Have you ever seen the Royal Staircase, which is clad in six different types of marble? Have you ever been shown the strange booby traps waiting on the path from the painting workshop to the stage? Would you ever have believed that you would one day live to see a chamber opera performance in the Martian space of the “chandelier loft” (the area high above the auditorium where the winch used to raise and lower the giant lamp is housed)? If not, then register at the address provided before the deadline, and you may be one of the 134 lucky winners to participate in the unique 90-minute journey through this wonderful building inaugurated 134 years ago. Not to mention the fact that, since the building will be closed for modernisation, the adventurers on this tour will need helmets!

Tour guide ▶ **András Hábetler**

16 September 2017 (Sat) Opera House

International Music Day

BIG BAND AT THE OPERA

Initiated by **Yehudi Menuhin**, International Music Day has been celebrated since 1975. To honour this red-letter occasion, we are holding an open day on which the Opera's Big Band, which was established four years ago, will entertain passers-by in front of the building on Andrassy Avenue with interpretations of popular operatic arias played exclusively by our brass players, seeing as several Hungarian composers have rearranged the works specifically for them. An unusual feature of the Opera's brass ensemble is that French horns take the place of the saxophones which are found in traditional big-band line-ups, but are not used at the Opera.

The leader of the Opera Big Band is trumpeter **Tibor Király**.

1 October 2017 (Sun) 6 pm, Opera House – Sphinx Terrace

Georg Solti International Conducting Competition

GET CONDUCTING!

The world-famous Hungarian conductor **Sir Georg Solti** (György Solti) worked as a répétiteur at the Opera before – albeit, only for a few nights – conducting performances on Andrassy Avenue. Filharmonia Hungary is organising a conducting competition in his memory, and the Opera's orchestra will be playing not only at the opening concert, but also at the two-day opera overture assignment constituting the first round of the competition. A field of 45 qualifying young conductors will be leading the orchestra in performances of overtures that have been randomly chosen in front of the television cameras and the audience, with viewers voting to decide who will go on to the final. Among the conductors of the opening concert will be a famous previous winner, Japan's **Ken-Ichiro Kobayashi**.

PROGRAMME

Kodály ▶ **Dances of Galánta**

Liszt ▶ **Piano Concerto in A Major**

Beethoven ▶ **Symphony No. 9**

Featuring ▶ **Gergely Bogányi** (piano)

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár, Tibor Bogányi,
Ken-Ichiro Kobayashi**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian State Opera Orchestra**

3 October 2017 (Tue) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre – opening concert

4–5 October 2017 (Wed–Thu) 10 am – 1 pm, 2 – 5 pm, 6 – 10 pm – overtures

32nd Spar Budapest Marathon®

RUN, OR LET YOUR VOICE LOOSE!

In 2011, a team from the Opera took part for the first time in Budapest's biggest marathon. In the years since, the number of those running has progressively increased, and impressive results have also been achieved: not only has the Opera managed to muster the most teams of all the city's theatres, its runners have also produced the best times. Doubtless contributing to this success are (in addition to the times recorded by **Erika Miklósa** and the similarly professional lads from the supernumerary corps) the efforts of the Chorus and the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera, which eases the passage along the section of road along Andrásy Avenue by regaling runners from in front of the main entrance with choral and orchestral pieces, at the same time providing entertainment for marathon fans.

15 October 2017 (Sun) 9:30, Andrásy Avenue

Ballet at Müpa Budapest I

LOL!

During the renovation of the Opera House, the reduced number of venues means that the Hungarian National Ballet will finally get its chance to make its debut at other locations in Budapest. Firstly, we've accepted the invitation to premiere two modern pieces at the autumn CAFe Budapest festival, which will be performed later on in January as well. The name for this two-work programme is familiar from American slang: LOL!

Hans van Manen / Astor Piazzolla ▶ **5 Tangos** (see ▶ p. 51)

Hans van Manen ▶ **Trois Gnossiennes** (see ▶ p. 55)

Hans van Manen ▶ **Black Cake** (see ▶ p. 55)

Partner ▶ **Budapest Autumn Festival (CAFe Budapest)**

20–22 October 2017 (Fri–Sun) CAFe Budapest – Müpa Budapest

Japanese Tour I

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR AND DIE FLEDERMAUS

It will be a “smaller” touring group of 150 artists setting off this time as the Hungarian State Opera sets off for Japan for the tenth time, after having already given 200 performances and 20 concerts in the island country. This year, the institution's Japanese patron, **Masayuki Kobayashi** has set his eye on two different productions, and this is why the set of *Lucia di Lammermoor 2.0* (to put it simply, not the one with the tubular frames) will be shipped over, with *Die Fledermaus* also returning to Japan after 16 years. These productions – one directed by the youthful **Máté Szabó**, and the other by the veteran **Miklós Szinetár**) will feature stars joining the opera's own forces, with **Edita Gruberova** in the role of Lucia, **Eszter Sümegi** as Rosalinda, **Erika Miklósa** singing Lucia and Adele and **Andrea Rost** as both Lucia and Rosalinda.

J. Strauss Jr. ► **Die Fledermaus**
Donizetti ► **Lucia di Lammermoor**

Destinations ► **Mito, Nerima, Omiya-ku, Niigata, Morioka, Aomori, Maebashi, Fuchu, Yokosuka, Musashino, Matsudo, Tokyo, Kanazava, Tsu, Fukuoka, Nagoya**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár, János Kovács**

Partner ► **Open Doors Japan**

21 October to 16 November 2017

Piano Arias

FERENC LISZT'S BIRTHDAY AT THE OPERA

BMW
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Ferenc Liszt lived through the construction of the Opera House and modelled for **Alajos Stróbl** – his statue is right there by the main entrance. Each year, to the sound of the fanfare from *Les Préludes*, we lay a wreath at this spot. Liszt not only conducted opera, but would also often rework beloved music from operatic literature in his piano pieces. Charity and public-spiritedness were key aspects of Liszt's life and it is in this spirit that this piano concert is a joint production with the Őrzők Foundation. The official charity of the Túzoltó Street Children's Clinic will donate income from the event to improving treatment conditions for children suffering with tumours or leukaemia. Returning for this concert will be **Gergely Bogányi**, here to inaugurate his “wonder piano”. The Erkel Theatre's new so-called “long model” will be making its debut on this evening.

The chief patron of the gala will be **Anita Herczeg**, the wife of the President of the Republic.
Programme ► **works by Ferenc Liszt**

Featuring ► **Gergely Bogányi** (piano), **Zita Váradi** (voice)

Partners ► **Őrzők Foundation, BMW Group Hungary**

22 October 2017 (Sun) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

The Day of §

JUSTIFIABLE ENJOYMENT OF OPERA

Lawyers have traditionally been considered by all and sundry to be admirers of high culture. On top of that, judges, prosecutors and solicitors appear in countless dramatic works. Two year ago we presented *Tosca* to the legal experts, and last year they got to see our production of *La bohème*, which changed the way the Budapest audience perceives the work. This year, Verdi's opera *Nabucco* will be performed for lawyers. Due to the reconstruction of the Opera House, we are inviting key staff from the justice system to the auditorium of the Erkel Theatre, irrespective of their position or role at the conference table.

Chief patron of the event ► **Péter Darák**, President of the Curia

Verdi ► **Nabucco** (see ► p. 142)

27 October 2017 (Fri) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Reformation500 – Verdi: Stiffelio

CONCERT PERFORMANCES I

Verdi's choice for a subject – the story of a pastor who offers his unfaithful wife a divorce, only to have her return to him just as, on the verge of forgiveness and a happy ending, her father murders her seducer – is a product of his own time. Why would a Catholic Italian composer be interested in a story that takes place in Austria? And what does he have to do with Protestantism at all? These questions weighed on both Verdi and the work itself, to the point that he revised it with the title of *Aroldo*. In any case, neither version of the work receives the attention it deserves. The Opera is performing the work for the first time since 2013, this time in honour of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation – and as a prototype for the staged premiere planned for 2019.

Stiffelio ► **Boldizsár László**

Lina ► **Anikó Bakonyi**

Stankar ► **Anatoliy Fokanov**

Raffaele ► **Gergely Boncsér**

Jorg ► **Krisztián Cser**

Federico ► **János Szerekován**

Dorotea ► **Melinda Heiter**

30 October 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Conductor ► **Christian Badae**

Partner ► **Reformation500 Memorial Committee**

Verdi: Requiem

A CONCERT BY THE OPERA'S ENSEMBLES

One of the Opera's loveliest traditions is its musical observation of the All Saints/Day of the Dead holiday period with the funeral mass that has been described as an "opera of mourning". Consequently, we might be the ones who are able to perform this monumental work at the highest possible level of quality. **Giuseppe Verdi's** grandiose Requiem is the heartfelt music of an opera composer, written in memory of **Rossini** and **Manzoni**. It blends tragedy, pain, hope and consolation in the operatic style and language characteristic of Verdi, expressed in moments of heart-wrenching intimacy and astounding choral tableaux.

Verdi ▶ **Requiem**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian National Opera Orchestra and Chorus** (chorus director ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**)

Soprano ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák**

Contralto ▶ **Andrea Szántó**

Tenor ▶ **Mykhailo Malafii**

Bass ▶ **Alexander Roslavets** (winner of the grand prize and the audience award at the Second International Éva Marton Singing Competition)

Conductor ▶ **Pier Giorgio Morandi**

2 November 2017 (Thu) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Reformation500 – Requiem

FOR THE VICTIMS OF SECTARIAN CONFLICTS AMONG CHRISTIANS

It was to the great disgrace of Christianity, so they say, that instead of conducting dialogues between the Roman Catholic Church, which was in need of fundamental renewal, and the believers in reform, the two sides engaged in wars that often lasted for decades or even centuries. Although it is impossible to undo history, it is possible to return to Christ's basic principles, which connect the numerous Christian churches. This requiem – on the national day of memorial – will be performed in memory of the victims of sectarian conflicts among Christians.

Verdi ▶ **Requiem**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian National Opera Orchestra and Chorus** (chorus director ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**)

Szoprano ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák**

Contralto ▶ **Andrea Szántó**

Tenor ▶ **Mykhailo Malafii**

Bass ▶ **Alexander Roslavets** (winner of the grand prize and the audience award at the Second International Éva Marton Singing Competition)

Conductor ▶ **Pier Giorgio Morandi**

Partner ▶ **Reformation500 Memorial Committee**

4 November 2017 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Big Projection Day

SLIDES WITH PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT

Children growing up in Hungary will remember the unique and perhaps lost joy of watching slide projections, usually at home with family. This was an age when films didn't race through jump cuts every two seconds, and there was time for someone to explain what was in the picture and to read the accompanying story. For us to say, with all the wisdom of a nursery school kid, exactly what the writing up there said. It is the importance of this shared experience with its power to bring families together that the national Big Projection Day, which is holding one of its main events in the Erkel Theatre, wishes to draw attention to. We invite local nursery school groups from District VIII and children of our colleagues alike: like last year, a popular television presenter, the father of four children, will be narrating the stories, as we watch the classic slides with a musical backdrop.

Featuring ► **Gergő Süveges** (presenter), **Miklós Harazdy** (piano)

Partner ► **Diafilmgyártó Ltd.**

7 November 2019 (Tue) 10 am and 11 am, Erkel Theatre – Bernáth Buffet

Hungarian Opera Day

THE BIRTHDAY OF FERENC ERKEL

On 7 November 1810, **Ferenc Erkel** was born the son of a teacher in the eastern town of Gyula. Since 2013, the birthday of the father of Hungary's Romantic national opera is celebrated on Hungarian Opera Day. This day saw the reopening of the Opera House's legendary second venue, the Erkel Theatre on Pope John Paul II Square, the largest seated auditorium in Central Europe. On this day in autumn 2014, we also remembered another brilliant Hungarian composer, who – like Erkel – also made significant contributions as a teacher: **Sándor Szokolay**, whose *Blood Wedding* we performed on the 50th anniversary of its premiere. In 2015, we celebrated with another world-famous Hungarian work: the colossal oriental opera, *Die Königin von Saba (The Queen of Sheba)* by **Karl Goldmark**, who died 100 years ago. Last year a concert performance of Ferenc Erkel's first opera, *Bátori Mária* was in the programme, and the studio recording of the opera, based on the critical edition of the score, was issued on the same day.

This year we are releasing the massive OperaVault series of nearly 50 CDs to the general public. The series will be sent to public libraries and the music collections of universities, colleges and secondary schools, and will also be available for purchase. The internal awards of the opera, the jubilee golden rings, will be awarded before the performance, and the new Eternal Members and Master Artists will also be inaugurated. Of course, we will not forget to lay a wreath at the Erkel statue in the foyer of the theatre.

Director ► **András Aczél**

*7 November 2017 (Tue), 11 am, Erkel Theatre
(11 am – wreath-laying)*

Ballet at Müpa Budapest II

CLASSIC 47°N19°E

At the invitation of the National Dance Theatre, the Hungarian National Ballet will perform the famous **Balanchine** piece that has been missing from the Classical repertoire of the company for such a long time and which will be performed together with *Études* at Müpa Budapest. The name of the two-part dance performance is the geographic position of Müpa Budapest.

Balanchine / Tchaikovsky ▶ **Theme and Variations** (see ▶ p. 35)

Lander / Czerny / Riisager ▶ **Études** (see ▶ p. 184)

13 to 18 November 2017, Müpa Budapest

Japanese Tour II

ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

At the end of the Hungarian State Opera's 18-performance tour, additional musicians – as is now customary – will be joining the rest of the ensemble in Japan for four symphonic concerts in different cities around the country.

Destinations ▶ **Matsudo, Niigata, Tokyo, Akita**

Featuring ▶ **Fujiko Hemming** (piano), **Yasuko Otani** (violin)

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács, Mario Košik**

Partner ▶ **Open Doors Japan**

18 October to 23 November 2017

Gluck–Wagner: Iphigenia in Aulis

CONCERT PERFORMANCES II

Richard Wagner's entire life – at least according to one reading – was about reforming opera. While in his youth – and surrounded by his existential difficulties – he would teach and conduct, arranging some of them, numerous pieces of importance to him by one of his less widely respected predecessors, **Christoph Willibald Gluck** – the developer of his own early opera reforms. Wagner's admiration for Gluck was so great that in 1847 he created a revision of the composer's early *Iphigénie en Aulide* for the Dresden theatre, and then himself taught and conducted the work's premiere. Although this version, Wagnerian in both its dramaturgy and arrangement, has since fallen into obscurity, we will be performing it in our desire to get a sharper image and a better understanding of the genius who created the *Ring* tetralogy.

Agamemnon ▶ **N.N.**

Achilles ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**

Calchas ▶ **András Pallerdi**

Clytemnestra ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**

Iphigenia ▶ **Gabriella Fodor**

A Greek woman ▶ **Katalin Töreky**

Arcas ▶ **András Kőrösi**

Patroclos ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Conductor ▶ **Philippe Auguin**

Featuring ▶ **Győr Philharmonic Orchestra**

27 November 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Nutcracker Festival

ADVENT AT THE OPERA

On the first Sunday of Advent, we not only decorate an enormous tree befitting of the wonder of Andrásy Avenue, but also invite adults and children who love yuletide treats to gather round the Erkel Theatre. Once again, there will be choral performances each evening outside the Erkel Theatre. With charity in mind, wine will be mulled once again, chestnuts will be freshly roasted, the OperaShop will move out onto the street, and many audio recordings and music-themed books will also be available. All proceeds from the performances will go to Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA). Leading artists from the Opera will be serving and selling the products in the huts, while anyone will be able to have their photo taken with the enormous Nutcracker doll. Our legendary ballet production, unchanged since 1950, was renewed two years ago, and has been performed a total of 25 times in 2017 due to its huge success.

Opened by ▶ **László Lehel**, president of Hungarian Interchurch Aid

Partners ▶ **A'Capella Winery, Piarista Bor, Skrabski Winery, Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

3 December 2017 (Sun) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre

Interchurch Christmas

HÄNSEL UND GRETEL – AND *WOMEN'S JOURNAL*

Back in 2015, the storied weekly journal *Women's Journal*, Hungary's largest, set a precedent by partnering with Hungarian Interchurch Aid and the Hungarian State Opera for its own anniversary celebration. This is happening again this year too: with help from the magazine and from the Opera, this charity organisation that has given away 26 billion forints to those in need since its foundation in 1991 will receive tickets and revenues. This time around the vehicle will be a brand-new production of Wagnerian composer **Engelbert Humperdinck's** famous fairy-tale opera *Hänsel und Gretel*.

Humperdinck ► **Hänsel und Gretel** (see ► p. 43)

Partner ► **Women's Journal** (Nők Lapja), **Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

10 December 2017 (Sun) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre

Little Bohemian Christmas

OPERA TALES FROM THE GARRET

The loveliest and most uplifting tradition undertaken by the Opera's artists is the special charity performance that takes place in the Christmas salon of the *The Nutcracker*, conjuring up a holiday mood with games, musical interludes and opera excerpts. Starting in 2016, the Little Christmas programme has been updated based on the designs of our director **András Aczél**, and now unfolds in a different magical winter setting: the garret from the legendary 1937 production of *La bohème*.

The event will be attended by physically disabled and socially disadvantaged children otherwise unlikely to ever see an opera production on their own. Each year, our artists waive their fees to perform at these Little Christmas shows.

Doctor ► **László Szvétek**

Conductor ► **Géza Köteles**

Christmas fairy ► **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser, Zita Szemere**

Dashing hussar ► **Zsolt Molnár**

Director ► **András Aczél**

Pugnacious princess ► **Eszter Zavaros**

Featuring ► **the Chamber Orchestra of the Opera, soloists of the Hungarian National Ballet, the Children's Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** (chorusmaster ► **Nikolett Hajzer**)

15 December 2017 (Fri) 11 am and 1 pm, Erkel Theatre

Christmas for Large Families

FAMILY CHRISTMAS AT THE ERKEL THEATRE

Year after year, the Erkel Theatre provides a venue for the Christmas event of the National Association of Large Families. This year, instead of *King Pomade's New Clothes* or *John the Valiant*, it will be a performance of *The Nutcracker*, choreographed by **Wayne Eagling** and **Tamás Solymosi**, that will serve as an opportunity for one of the largest non-governmental organisations in Hungary to evaluate the year and entertain the members' children.

Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 187)

Partner ► **National Association of Large Families (NOE)**

16 December 2017 (Sat) 11 pm, Erkel Theatre

Children's Safety Silver Sunday

NOW IN THE ERKEL

This is the ninth year that the MKB Bank and the International Children's Safety Service have put on a joint event at the Opera House. Once again, the music and spectacle of **Tchaikovsky's** *The Nutcracker* will conjure up a festive atmosphere for 1100 disadvantaged children from around the country and beyond. This year the opportunities are even greater as the reconstruction of the Opera House means that we are moving the programme to the Erkel Theatre, where as many as 1800 children will get to see it.

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 187)

Dr. Péter Edvi, President of the Children's Safety Service, will greet the audience.

(The Service is also organising a second event hosted jointly with the Opera for disadvantaged children entitled *Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs* at the Erkel Theatre on 6 June 2018, 11 am.)

17 December 2017 (Sun), 11 am, Erkel Theatre

Christmas of the Starry-Eyed – Advent Tidings

WHEN EVERYONE REALLY IS DANCING

The Hungarian dance scene and the younger and older members of the Csillagszeműek (“Starry-Eyed”) Dance Ensemble celebrated the 85th birthday of the founder, **Sándor Timár**, at an intimate and yet grand event at the Erkel Theatre in the autumn of 2015. Following their 2016 advent programme and the 2017 season-closing show, now we'll be welcoming the thousand-strong Starry-Eyed back to the Erkel Theatre. Like at the previous colourful and captivating concerts demonstrating the achievements of the uniquely organised and instructed Starry Eyed groups, we'll have a chance to celebrate together with these several hundred dancers: with Christmas right around the corner, the theme will again be one of Advent tidings.

Chief patron ► **Dalma Mádl**

Choreographer ► **Sándor Timár**

Director ► **Böske Timár**

Hostess ► **Júlia Kudlik**

Accompaniment ► **the Tündök Band**

18 December 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Elizabeth Christmas

LOTS AND LOTS OF NUTCRACKERS

It was during Advent in 2016 that the Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Programme first brought children to the Opera House, where the disadvantaged children got to see *The Nutcracker* together with their parents. Now it is the turn of the Erkel Theatre to host performances of the world-famous ballet.

In his speech on the first occasion of this event, Cabinet Minister **Zoltán Balog** recalled a unique game played at Advent time: together with three other teachers, he deliberately created a big mess in a darkened room. When called inside, the children could not find anything in its place and simply stumbled around the room among the objects. Then candles were lit in the corners one by one. Light illuminated the night, and the feeling of safety triggered an internal urge to create order: this is Advent...

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 187)

21 December 2017 (Thu) 11 am, Erkel Theatre

Hungarian Christmas

CHARITY CHRISTMAS WITH THE HUNGARIAN MILITARY

Those with less to smile about mustn't be left out of the Advent preparations. Attention, care and relaxation are perhaps even more important for them, especially at the time of the holiday of love. The National Event Organisation Department of the Ministry of Defence traditionally arranges a theatre visit for children living in disadvantaged conditions. More than a thousand children will be invited during this period as part of the Hungarian Christmas programme, one of the series of national holidays and other important events. This year, the Hungarian State Opera is once again welcoming these children, who will get to enjoy the fairy-tale world of *The Nutcracker* in the Erkel Theatre.

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 187)

22 December 2017 (Fri) 11 am, Erkel Theatre

Andrea Chénier – with Anna Netrebko

BMW
Art&Culture

CONCERT PERFORMANCES III

There are few moments in opera more heroic than when the poet Andrea Chénier and his beloved Maddalena de Coigny approach the guillotine together proclaiming the triumph of their love in their shared death. The Erkel Theatre will be packed to the rafters with 2000 Hungarian opera fans there to witness a glorious performance of **Umberto Giordano's** opera by **Anna Netrebko**, probably the greatest soprano in the world, and her husband, **Yusif Eyvazov**. Naturally, it will be Hungarian artists and the Opera's ensembles accompanying the two principals on stage, promising for a special experience. This will be Netrebko's second appearance in Budapest, and her first time performing an entire opera!

Andrea Chénier ► **Yusif Eyvazov**

Carlo Gérard ► **Elchin Azizov**

Maddalena di Coigny ► **Anna Netrebko**

Bersi ► **Szilvia Vörös**

Countess of Coigny ► **Mária Farkasréti**

Madelon ► **Éva Balatoni**

Roucher ► **Antal Cseh**

Pierre Fléville ► **Lajos Geiger**

Fouquier-Tinville ► **László Szvétek**

Matthieu ► **Tamás Busa**

The abbé ► **László Beöthy-Kiss**

A spy ► **Tamás Kóbor**

Dumas ► **Antal Bakó**

Schmidt ► **Tamás Szüle**

Master of the Household ► **Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ► **Jader Bignamini**

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

29 December 2017 (Fri) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

New Year's Nutcracker

THE MOUSE KING SIPS CHAMPAGNE

A special night when, departing from our usual custom, we say goodbye to the year with *The Nutcracker*. The late-night show will be supplemented with a surprise gala featuring well-known Hungarian artists – on this night only! There will be champagne, fireworks and group singing on Pope John Paul II Square: together with the audience, our artists and staff, almost 1500 of us will greet the New Year with the drinking song from Erkel's *Bánk bán* on the street outside the Erkel Theatre right after the show. A joyful New Year's programme for the whole family – *nomen est omen*, with the recommendation of the general director!

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 187)

31 December 2017 (Sun) 9:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

New Year's at the Erkel

CONCERT OF THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA OF THE OPERA

The New Year's invocation at the Erkel Theatre will feature a newly commissioned work from poet **Roland Tóth**, **Karina Sarkissova**'s new ballet choreographed to an excerpt from **Wagner**'s youthful *Symphony in C major*, Wagnerian architect **Gábor Zoboki** representing the scientific world with his New Year's address and a new overture written for the occasion by composer **Attila Pacsay**, as the entire company of the Hungarian State Opera sends its greetings to the audience and, through the M5 channel, Hungarians living abroad. Wagner thought very highly of **Beethoven**'s *Ninth Symphony*, even going so far as to create a piano transcription of the work, used quotes from it, and even conducted it. The work's Hungarian premiere was conducted by **Ferenc Erkel**, at the helm of the predecessors to the Opera's modern ensembles.

Pacsay ► **Overture 2018**

Sarkissova/Wagner ► **Ballet interlude**

Roland Tóth ► **Poem for New Year's**

Beethoven ► **Symphony No. 9**

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

Hosts ► **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA), **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Director ► **András Aczél**

Featuring ► **Hungarian National Ballet, István Kovács, Lúcia Megyesi-Schwartz, Tibor Szappanos, Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser** (voice)

1 January 2018 (Sun), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Marschner: Der Vampyr

CONCERT PERFORMANCES IV

The protagonist in **John Polidori's** short story *The Vampire* is Lord Ruthven, the charming vampire who snatches girls from illustrious families. In 1822, **Heinrich Ludwig Ritter** adapted the short story for the stage under the title *The Vampire, or The Dead Bride* – and six years later it served as the basis for the eighth opera to be written by **Heinrich Marschner**, one of the finest composers of German Romanticism. The work constitutes a bridge spanning the gap between **Carl Maria von Weber's** *Die Freischütz* and **Richard Wagner's** *Der fliegende Holländer*. In this undeservedly seldom-played piece, the composer creates a hair-raising atmosphere and superb characters while speaking, through irresistible music, of love, passion and the struggle against dark forces.

The version revised by Wagner – to include a tenor interlude he wrote for his own brother – will be staged in a concert-format performance at the Erkel Theatre.

Ruthven ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Janthe ▶ **Bori Keszei**

Malwina ▶ **Klára Kolonits**

Berkeley ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Aubrey ▶ **Péter Balczó**

Davenant ▶ **István Rácz**

Georg ▶ **János Szerekován**

Emmy ▶ **Gabriella Balga**

Pub Scene quintet ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, Gergely Ujvári,**

Róbert Rezsnyák, Zsolt Molnár, Melinda Heiter

Conductor ▶ **Zsolt Jankó**

Partner ▶ **Miskolc National Theatre**

14 January 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Opera for Doctors

ARS LONGA, VITA BREVIS

On 17 January 1858, the newly launched *Hungarian Medical Journal* published the first part of a series of articles on the subject of puerperal fever containing the observations and recommendations of a certain Hungarian doctor named **Ignác Semmelweis**. In 2016, on this date of exceptional importance to Hungarian medical history, we invited to the Erkel Theatre representatives of the various medical associations in order to fill the giant auditorium with members of a highly educated group that is well known for its traditionally close connections to the world of music – and we plan to invite them on or around this day in future years as well. To kick off the new tradition, the doctors were treated to **Balázs Kovalik's** now legendary production of *Turandot*, which was followed last year by another grand production, this time of *Aida*. This year a classic production will be on offer: **Puccini's** *Tosca*.

Puccini ▶ **Tosca** (see ▶ p. 156)

Partners ▶ **Association of Hungarian Medical Societies, Hungarian Medical Chamber**

18 January 2018 (Thu) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Day of Hungarian Culture

TO CELEBRATE HUNGARIAN PERFORMING ARTS

In 2013, the Opera celebrated the birthday of the *Himnusz* – the national anthem – by presenting a run of a brand new Hungarian opera, *Spiritisti*, by **György Selmeczi**. In January of 2014, the focus was on an aspect of performed art that forms an equally important part of Hungarian culture: on this day, we were proud to celebrate the talent and dedication of our musicians, singers, dancers, craftsmen and mechanics, stagehands, and technical and administrative colleagues engaged in presenting works by **Verdi** and **Stravinsky** in our two theatres on this very day and who, through their perseverance and hard work, uphold and enrich Hungarian culture day after day. In 2015, we made the day into a commemoration of **László Seregi**, the moderniser of Hungarian dance performance, with a staging of his adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. Last year we focused our attention on **György Ránki**, the “polyglot” composer, fluent in several different (musical) languages, who died 25 years ago, by performing his charming and bold fairy-tale opera *King Pomade's New Clothes*; this work was also recorded in the spring of the same year. Our series of monographs will expand in 2018, adding to volumes on **Ferenc Fricsay**, **Sergio Failoni** and **Miklós Radnai** a new one dedicated to the memory of the outstanding Hungarian music critic **Aladár Tóth**, who was born 120 years ago and died 50 years ago.

In the foyer of the Erkel Theatre we will display archival material to pay tribute to the centenary of the premiere of *Bluebeard's Castle* at the Opera.

22 January 2018 (Mon), Erkel Theatre

Opera at Müpa Budapest

THREE NIGHTS AND THREE DAYS

Because of the modernisation of the Opera House, the Hungarian State Opera cannot stage many large-scale productions for the “Around the Ring” season. An offer from Müpa Budapest helped us out in this situation, permitting each of the three music directors who have, in succession, led the Opera's musical ensembles between 2011 and 2018 to conduct three masterpieces by three excellent composers on three consecutive nights. In the leading role of all three productions are true international stars: **Aleksandrs Antonenko** (*Otello*), **Johan Reuter** (*Die Frau ohne Schatten*) and **Stuart Neill** (*Turandot*).

Verdi ► **Otello** (Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**, principal music director)

29 January 2018 (Mon) 7 pm

R. Strauss ► **Die Frau ohne Schatten** (Conductor ► **Péter Halász**, former principal music director)

30 January 2018 (Tue) 6 pm

Puccini ► **Turandot** (Conductor ► **Domonkos Héja**, former principal music director)

31 January 2018 (Wed) 7 pm

29–31 January 2018, Müpa Budapest

Domingo77

SIMON BOCCANEGRA

BMW
Art&Culture

The best-known active singer in the world today is undoubtedly the Spanish artist **Plácido Domingo**. Best known for his impressive career as a tenor, he now performs as a conductor and a baritone. He will be celebrating his 77th birthday in Budapest by taking the stage in the costume of a baritone protagonist, the first time since 1983 that the Hungarian audience will get to see him in a complete opera production – and only the third or fourth time altogether.

To be released in honour of Domingo's birthday will be a CD featuring a selection from his Budapest appearances, while a complete recording of the 1986 production of *Aida* at the Erkel Theatre will be published as part of the OperaVault series.

Verdi ▶ **Simon Boccanegra** (see ▶ p. 158)

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

3 and 6 February 2018 (Sat, Tue) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Carpathian Homeland Opera Tour II – the “South Country” and Burgenland

GREAT HUNGARIAN ENCOUNTERS II

We will continue to regions with Hungarian populations across the borders, with the 300-strong caravan now turning south to spend two days in each of several towns and cities in today's Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Austria. They will create a special Hungarian presence there by performing **Erkel's** opera *Hunyadi László* and the ballet version of **Lehár's** *The Merry Widow*.

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (see ▶ p. 165)

Lehár / Hynd ▶ **The Merry Widow – ballet** (see ▶ p. 189)

Destinations ▶ **Szabadka** (Subotica), **Eszék** (Osijek), **Zágráb** (Zagreb) (Croatian National Theatre), **Lendva** (Lendava), **Felsőőr** (Oberwart)

Sponsored by ▶ **the Government of Hungary**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja, Gergely Kesselyák, János Kovács, Ádám Medveczky**

5–28 February 2018

Ring Night

REVELRY WITH WAGNER AND BEYOND

BMW
Art&Culture

We dedicated 2014's Silver Rose Ball to **Richard Strauss** in tribute to him and his opera *Der Rosenkavalier* on the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth. The following years brought us events based around the themes for the seasons – Faust in 2015, and **Shakespeare** in 2016. In 2017, it was Háy János who took centre stage as the standard-bearer for the Hungarian Season's gala night. This year, in the spirit of the "Around the Ring" Season – Wagner's masterpiece will naturally play a big part, but as always, it won't be the only thing. Joining our list of illustrious past guests **Vessalina Kassarova**, **Angela Gheorghiu**, **Plácido Domingo**, **Kristian Benedikt** and **Ildebrando d'Arcangelo** will be a musical couple making our carnival season complete by taking the stage of the Hungarian State Opera for the first time: **Robert Alagna**, one of the world's most celebrated tenors, and his wife, the Polish soprano **Aleksandra Kurzak**.

Our gala event this year will remain focused on its philanthropic aim with its usual charity auction dedicated to purchasing vehicles for Hungary's ambulance fleet, while the next morning we will host 1800 disadvantaged children at the Breadcrumb Ball and treat them to a performance of **György Ránki's** fairy-tale opera *King Pomade's New Clothes* with the sponsorship of the **Klauzál Lions Club**.

Featuring ► **Hungarian National Ballet, Hungarian State Opera Orchestra and Chorus**

Hosts ► **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA)
Szilveszter Ókovács, general director

Director ► **Ferenc Anger**, artistic director
Tamás Solymosi, ballet director

Co-director ► **András Aczél**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

10 February 2018 (Sat) 8 pm, Erkel Theatre

Breadcrumb Ball

A SECOND DAY FOR CHARITY AT THE OPERA

The morning after the Ring Night, children from disadvantaged backgrounds or those living with disabilities will be taking their places again in the Erkel Theatre's auditorium and will also receive a gift after the performance. Charity has always been part of the 133-year-long history of the Opera. We follow our predecessors' example, and do even more: the programmes organised to raise funds for the National Ambulance Service will be followed by another charity event – and not even for the first time.

King Pomade ► **András Palerdi**

Dani ► **Gergely Ujvári**

Béni ► **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Garda Roberto ► **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Chancellor ► **Antal Cseh**

Dzsufi ► **Rita Rácz**

Captain ► **Gábor Farkas**

Corporal ► **Zoltán Somogyi**

Conductor ► **László Bartal**

György Ránki ► **King Pomade's New Clothes**

Children's opera in two parts, in Hungarian,
with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ► **Amy Károlyi**

Choreographer ► **Gábor Horváth**

Visual concept ► **Katalin Juhász**

Director ► **Attila Toronykőy**

11 February 2018 (Sun) 11 am, Erkel Theatre

Carpathian Homeland Opera Tour III – Slovakia and Transcarpathia

GREAT HUNGARIAN ENCOUNTERS III

The fourth grand tour of the 2017/18 season will be the third visit to territories beyond Hungary's borders. The circle will now be closed: the grand tour with 33 stops that began in the Partium and Transylvania in September will now reach its final destination. In large sports facilities in the larger Hungarian towns of Southern Slovakia and Transcarpathia, we will be playing **Erkel's** opera *Hunyadi László* and the ballet version of **Lehár's** *The Merry Widow* as complete productions, spending two days in each city.

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (see ▶ p. 165)

Lehár / Hynd ▶ **The Merry Widow – ballet** (see ▶ p. 189)

Destinations ▶ **Pozsony** (Bratislava), **Érsekújvár** (Nové Zámky), **Kassa** (Košice), **Beregszász** (Berehove)

Sponsored by ▶ **the Government of Hungary**

5–28 February 2018

Fricsay Hall – The First Recordings

THE GOLD AND THE WOMAN

An important facility at the newly-opened Eiffel Art Studios is the orchestra studio, whose built-in audio technology and painstaking acoustic design make it a suitable venue for recording sessions in addition to rehearsals. Each year we make a point of creating new recordings of important pieces from Hungarian operatic history. This year, the OperaVault series will be adding two one-act works: **Ede Poldini's** classic hit *Wedding at Carnival* and **Jenő Kenessey's** opera *The Gold and the Woman*.

Kenessey ▶ **The Gold and the Woman** (see ▶ p. 71)

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

Previous studio recordings:

Erkel ▶ **Bánk bán** (2011)

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (2012)

Kodály ▶ **Háry János** (2013)

Dohnányi ▶ **The Tenor** (2014)

Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room** (2016)

Poldini ▶ **Wedding at Carnival**

Péter ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**

The lady ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Zsuzsika ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Kálmán ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

The countess ▶ **Erika Gál**

Zoltán ▶ **Gábor Bretz**

Mrs. Bükky ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**

Stanci ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Domokos ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Mrs. Domokos ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Andris ▶ **András Kőrösi**

Pawnbroker ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Conductor ▶ **N. N.**

February 2018, Eiffel Art Studios –
Fricsay Hall

Korngold: Die tote Stadt

CONCERT PERFORMANCES V

In our ongoing series related to the "Around the Ring" theme, we are performing unique and rarely – or never – heard pieces that either were important to **Richard Wagner** himself or were composed by contemporaries and successors inspired by the celebrated composer.

The seminal composer of 20th century film music and two-time Oscar winner **Erich Wolfgang Korngold** was born in Brno in 1897. Considered a wunderkind, he grew up in Vienna and by the age of 13 was premiering his first ballet at the Wiener Hofoper. His first two operas, *Der Ring des Polykrates* and *Violanta*, would then soon be premiered in Munich by **Bruno Walter**, in 1916. A few years later, around the time of the 1920 premiere of *Die tote Stadt*, **Giacomo Puccini** dubbed the then 23-year-old Korngold the "greatest hope of German music".

Paul ▶ **N. N.**
Ghost of Marietta/ Marien ▶ **Éva Bátor**
Frank/Fritz ▶ **Levente Molnár**
Brigitta ▶ **Andrea Meláth**
Juliette ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**
Lucienne ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**
Victorin ▶ **János Szerekován**
Graf Albert ▶ **Botond Ódor**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

5 March 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Inauguration of the Eiffel Art Studios

BMW
Art&Culture

THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

When the designs for the Eiffel Art Studios were being drawn up, we happily examined the ways for having green spaces take the place of so many demolished ruins. Three hectares in the centre of Budapest and a large industrial (now cultural!) centre! Perfect for spending intermissions close to nature, taking some fresh air after rehearsals, waiting for children at music lessons, playing on the swing with the younger children – and even holding special performances (such as on this particular evening, when the garden scene from *Poppea* will be moved outside for this special occasion!), planting rows of grapevines and growing roses. The Eiffel Art Studios, the only green space among the Opera's properties will be all this and, we believe, much more. With the inauguration, the only major development project by the largest cultural institution of the country since 1984, the Eiffel project will come to an end...

7 pm – Mozart ▶ *L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso* (see ▶ p. 67)

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

10 March 2018 (Sat) Eiffel Art Studios

Gyöngyi Lukács

WITH HIGHLIGHTS FROM LA GIOCONDA

"Could you please tell me the way to the Erkel Theatre?" asked a girl at the Keleti Railway Station one day in January 1988. **Gyöngyi Lukács** was studying in Moscow at the time, but happened to be at home in Győr for the holidays when she was called to jump in to sing in a performance of *Il trovatore* at the Erkel. She was 20 years old at the time, and this dramatic-spinto soprano role marked the – dazzlingly early – start of her career. Now, to summarise the 30 years that have passed since then, which have also brought her acclaimed engagements all over the world, a Kossuth Prize and even a published autobiography, the artist has chosen her own programme for a gala concert that will also feature other world-famous singers like **Marcello Giordani** and **Alexandru Agache**.

The evening will feature excerpts from **Bellini's** *Norma*, **Verdi's** *Aida* and *Un ballo in maschera* and **Ponchiella's** *La Gioconda*.

Conductor ► **Dániel Dinyés**

12 March 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Bach in the Subways

COFFEE CANTATA

Johann Sebastian Bach is one of the paragons of music history, respected by all musicians, and it's no coincidence that the global "Bach in the Subways" event was organised around his birthday. The Opera will also be joining in this year, although it's not easy to find something out of Bach's universal oeuvre that is particular suited to us and our mission. So... our solution is to play one of his secular cantatas, which can be regarded as a sort of stab at opera. Prior to our dramatic production *Secular cantatas*, which will make its debut at RingFest, we'll be performing the Coffee Cantata in a concert format on the Opera House's Sphinx Terrace on Hajós Street, as our partners from the Zsidai Group serve the finest coffees to the audience.

(The programme will be held in the foyer of the Opera House in the event of inclement weather.)

17 and 18 March 2018 (Sat-Sun) Opera House – Sphinx Terrace

Ramón Vargas Song Recital

POETRY DEMANDS A VOICE

BMW
Art&Culture

Ramón Vargas is one of those rare tenors who places great importance on that most intimate and lyrical of musical genres: the art song. Although he gives concerts from time to time, he is yet to perform a song recital at the Erkel Theatre, even though the venue's spirit – going back as far as **Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau**, in spite of the vast space – aids the muse of poetry. In March, Vargas will join the likes of **Andrea Rost**, **Gyula Orendt**, **Edita Gruberová** and **Renée Fleming** on the list of artists to give song recitals at the theatre in the "modern era", featuring the music of star piano accompanist **Charles Spencer**, just as Fleming's concert included that of **Hartmut Höll**.

Liszt ▶ **Tre Sonetti del Petrarca** S. 270
Benedetto sia il giorno
Pace non trovo
l' vidi in terra angelici costumi

Montsalvatge ▶ **Cinco canciones negras**
Cuba dentro de un piano
Punto de habanera
Chévere
Canción de cuna para dormir a un negrito
Canto negro

Leoncavallo ▶ **Lasciati amar**
Cilea ▶ **Nel ridestarmi**

Respighi ▶ **Nebbie**
Mascagni ▶ **Serenata**
Denza ▶ **Torna!**
Tosti ▶ **Ideale**
Leoncavallo ▶ **Aprile**
Rossini ▶ **La danza – Tarantella napoletana**

Featuring ▶ **Charles Spencer** (piano)

19 March 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

Cinema Szinetár III

THE THEATRE ACCORDING TO SZINETÁR

Miklós Szinetár, who served two stints as general director of the Opera, is one of the doyens of the Hungarian art scene. He is still active, and in his long career has made important contributions to television, operetta, film-making, books, opera productions and opera management. In his first Cinema Szinetár programme, he spoke about his 12 opera films and in the second series about his productions in theatre, drama and operetta, showing excerpts from them; the inclusion of legendary singers made the event unforgettable.

To conclude the three-year series, now he is preparing another combined programme and one-man-show, this time about his favourite composers, works, productions and artists, in two theatrical acts and featuring an armchair and a screen.

Director ▶ **András Aczél**

21 March 2018 (Wed) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre

Vigil with The Passion of the Christ

THE LONGEST NIGHT AT THE ERKEL

Australian actor and director **Mel Gibson**'s monumental film *The Passion of the Christ* was shown in cinemas worldwide during Lent in 2004. Although it divided viewers, there seemed to be agreement that it was the most important passion film ever made. The Erkel, which also functioned as a cinema for an extended time, will resume its old role as the world's largest film theatre on Good Friday.

Mel Gibson ▶ **The Passion of the Christ** (2003, 140', American film with Hungarian subtitles)

Jesus ▶ **James Caviezel**

The Virgin Mary ▶ **Maia Morgenstern**

Mary Magdalene ▶ **Monica Bellucci**

Satan ▶ **Rosalinda Celentano**

Pontius Pilate ▶ **Hristo Naumov Sopov**

Partner ▶ **Budapest Film**

29 March 2018 (Thu) 9 pm, Erkel Theatre

Spontini: La vestale

CONCERT PERFORMANCES VI

In our ongoing series related to the "Around the Ring" theme, we are performing unique and rarely – or never – heard pieces that either were important to **Richard Wagner** himself or were composed by contemporaries and successors inspired by the celebrated composer.

The Italian composer **Gaspare Spontini** launched his career in France in 1803 and had soon won the patronage of the country's leading luminaries, including **Napoleon** himself and **Empress Josephine**. He composed his first French grand opera, *La vestale*, for the Opéra de Paris, and although the directors initially loathed Spontini's colourful orchestration, grandiose melodies and novel harmonies, the opera enjoyed a huge success at its 1807 Paris premiere and soon gained so much popularity that it eventually formed what is to this day considered one of French opera's most important links between the work of **Gluck** and **Meyerbeer**.

Licinius ▶ **Francesco Pio Galasso**

Conductor ▶ **Eugene Kohn**

Cinna ▶ **Michele Kalmandy**

Pontifex Maximus ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Julia ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

The Great Vestal ▶ **Erika Gál**

A consul ▶ **Géza Zsigmond**

3 April 2018 (Tue) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

d'Albert: Tiefland

CONCERT PERFORMANCES VII

In our ongoing series related to the "Around the Ring" theme, we are performing unique and rarely – or never – heard pieces that either were important to **Richard Wagner** himself or were composed by contemporaries and successors inspired by the celebrated composer.

Eugen d'Albert was born in Scotland in 1864 to an English mother and a German-born musician father. As Albert considered himself to be German, he moved at an early age to Austria, and then later to other German-speaking territories. He met **Brahms** and **Liszt**, and studied under the latter in Weimar. One of the most pre-eminent piano virtuosos of his time, he filled several important musical posts, including succeeding **Richard Strauss** as director of the Weimar opera house. Turning his focus to composing later on, he wrote a total of 22 operas. *Tiefland* ("The Lowlands") was premiered in Prague in 1903 and is considered to be the first attempt at *verismo* in German opera history.

Marta ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**
Pedro ▶ **Attila Fekete**
Sebastiano ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**
Tommaso ▶ **Géza Gábor**
Nuri ▶ **Gabriella Balga**
Pepa ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi**
Antonia ▶ **Erika Gál**

Rosalia ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**
Moruccio ▶ **László Szvétek**
Nando ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Conductor ▶ **Stefan Soltész**

4 April 2018 (Wed) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Parsifal for Christians

GOODBYE TO 1983

The three traditional performances of **Wagner's** "festival play for the consecration of the stage" during Holy Week and Easter Monday also constitute a goodbye to the 1983 version of *Parsifal* conceived by **András Mikó**, who was chief stage director at the time, and conducted by **János Ferencsik**, the already gravely ill principal music director. We will say goodbye at the place where the premiere took place: the Erkel Theatre. At the same time, we will also be paying tribute to the memory of **Frigyes "Fritz" Reiner** and his fellow artists, who in the wee hours of 1 January 1914, immediately after Bayreuth's 30-year copyright on *Parsifal* had lapsed, were courageous enough to set about staging the first performance of the work outside of its official Bavarian sanctuary.

Just as we did in 2013, the 88th, and final, performance of Mikó and Ferencsik's 35-year-old joint production will be dedicated to the Christian churches, with the discounted tickets distributed among the members of the five major denominations.

Wagner ▶ **Parsifal** (see ▶ p. 170)

5 April 2018 (Thu) 5 pm, Erkel Theatre

World Voice Day

SING OUT

World Voice Day is a programme of events organised every year since 1999 and dedicated to demonstrating what an important role the voice, as one of the key tools of communication, plays in our everyday lives, something that is the subject of a great deal of scientific material. On 16 April, those interested can participate in hundreds of concerts, scientific presentations and other programmes around the world.

Producer ▶ **Éva Bátor**

Director ▶ **András Aczél**

Featuring ▶ **the Hungarian State Opera Orchestra**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

16 April 2018 (Mon) Eiffel Art Studios

Ybl204 – Mahler and His Era

CONCERT BY THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA OF THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERAE

Some years ago we celebrated the bicentenary of the birth of a great admirer of Italian Renaissance, the legendary Hungarian architect **Miklós Ybl**, who left behind not only his masterpiece, the Opera House but also such timeless works as the Castle Bazaar, St. Stephen's Basilica and the Danubius Fountain on Erzsébet Square. The concert was attended by an audience of engineers and architects, and since then we have been trying to make the Ybl Concert a celebration of the architectural profession. Several days before the concert, the Ybl Prizes, the highest accolades in Hungarian architecture, will be presented: the audience at the concert will get the chance to applaud the winners. Before the concert, representatives of both the Opera and the Ybl Society will lay a wreath at the memorial tablet on the side wall of the Neo-Renaissance Opera House, accompanied by Italian Renaissance brass music.

Bartók ▶ **Two Sketches**

Hubay ▶ **Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Minor**

Mahler ▶ **Symphony No. 1**

Featuring ▶ **Ernő Kállai** (violin)

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Hostess ▶ **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA)

Partner ▶ **Chamber of Hungarian Architects**

*23 April 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre
(7 pm: wreath-laying)*

MamaMatinée '18

CONCERT FOR MOTHERS-TO-BE

If we take **Zoltán Kodály** at his word, musical education commences not in the womb, but even before the child's own mother is born. Once again on Mother's Day, the Opera House extends a special invitation to young mothers: by showing a medical certification of pregnancy, expectant mothers will be able to receive two 300-forint tickets for the matiné performance of *Die Zauberflöte*, and those who already have children will be welcome to bring them along too. 2018 will be the fifth time we've held the MamaMatinée, and encouraged by the results of previous years, we will now be welcoming 500 young couples and families to the orchestra level of the Erkel Theatre. During the first interval, we'll take a collective high-resolution photograph of all of the expectant mothers in front of the theatre and put it up for downloading on the Opera's social media site, while the medical certificates will be entered into a prize draw, with one lucky mother winning enough nappies to last until toilet training. (This year, the National Association of Large Families will be holding its "Baby Shower" programme at the Erkel Theatre for the first time.)

The audience will be welcomed by State Secretary **Katalin Novák**.

Mozart ► **Die Zauberflöte** (see ► p. 173)

Partners ► **State Secretariat for Family and Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Human Capacities,
National Association of Large Families**

5 May 2018 (Sat), 11 am, Erkel Theatre

Seregi Night '18

THE SEREGI PRIZE FINDS A NEW OWNER

With this decoration, the Hungarian State Opera honours the memory of one of the most influential figures of Hungarian ballet, the internationally respected and Kossuth Prize-winning **László Seregi**, who passed away in 2012. The purpose of the award is to preserve and pass on his lifetime achievements and workmanship to future generations: the prize serves to recognise creative talent among the current generation of active choreographers. Each year, it is given to a single active choreographer deemed most adept at creating timeless works and artistic value with their own individual style. The recognition – which is permanent and does not pass to next year's winner – may also be awarded to artists working outside the realm of classical ballet for example, to contemporary and theatrical dance choreographers.

Jury ► **Teodóra Bán, Eszter Kollár, Gábor Mihályi, Szilveszter Ókovács, Tamás Solymosi**

The prize is handed over with a statuette designed by **János Krasznai** to symbolise the workmanship of László Seregi, and also comes with a commission from the Opera House for the creation of a new piece of choreography for the following season.

Former winners ► **András Lukács, Tamás Juronics, Jiří Kylián, Gábor Mihályi**

11 May 2018 (Fri) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

The award ceremony will be held before the Total Dance dance programme.

RingFest – “Around the Ring”

11–21 MAY 2018



Our 2018 Mayfest will find the Hungarian State Opera in a complicated situation. The building on Andrásy Avenue will be either still closed or, at best, undergoing a test period, while the Erkel Theatre must be reserved for hosting the ninth series of the OperaAdventure programme. But June will bring us what we have been awaiting for so many years: the final part of the *Ring* tetralogy, four years in the making.

Although the *Ring*, made complete with the addition of *Götterdämmerung*, can only be performed in its entirety from November 2018, we wanted to premiere it this spring – the “spring of the year of completion” – in order to show where **Richard Wagner**, the total artist of the *Gesamtkunstwerk*, came from and how his legacy branched out into different forms: this is how we organised the season – and the *Mayfest* – of performances and concerts that surround *The Ring*. Also being inaugurated as a venue for two screenings and one introductory performance each day will be a new and comfortable auditorium: the Zoboki Hall on the fifth-floor attic level of the Opera House.



RingFest – Programme

RINGFEST 2018 – AN OVERVIEW

Wagner ▶ **Songs** (see ▶ p. 284)

10 May 2018 (Thu) 7:30 pm, Eiffel Art Studios

Bach ▶ **Secular Cantatas** (see ▶ p. 83)

11, 13, 14 and 19 May 2018, Eiffel Art Studios

GermanLateNight (see ▶ p. 87)

12, 16 and 18 May 2018, Eiffel Art Studios

Orff ▶ **Carmina Burana** (see ▶ p. 288)

13 May 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Szálinger ▶ **Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship**

(see ▶ p. 99)

13, 19, 20 and 21 May 2018, Eiffel Art Studios

Wolf ▶ **Der Corregidor** (see ▶ p. 289)

14 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Lortzing ▶ **Die Opernprobe** (see ▶ p. 103)

17, 20 and 27 May 2018, Eiffel Art Studios

Schubert ▶ **Der vierjährige Posten** (see ▶ p. 107)

17, 20 and 27 May 2018, Eiffel Art Studios

Richter102 – **The Sacred Wagner** (see ▶ p. 292)

21 May 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House

Wagner the Songwriter

O DU, MEIN HOLDER ABENDSTERN



Richard Wagner's work abounds with artistic creations on a massive scale. These, the ten grand operas (with *Rienzi*, *Das Liebesverbot* and *Die Feen* also sometimes included) remain a favourite spectacle for posterity. But there was also a lyrical side – one thinking in terms of smaller forms – to Wagner, who composed altogether 20 songs with piano accompaniment, either because the mood struck him or because fate brought him the task, as well as choral transcriptions, piano pieces, cantatas and concert arias. On the “zero” day of RingFest, we will be presenting this vocally oriented Wagner who readily composed music to text written by others – welcoming inspiration from both **Goethe** and his beloved **Mathilde Wesendonck** – and even writing a *Flohlied* (“Song of the Flea”) and a lullaby.

Wagner ▶ **Songs**

Featuring ▶ **Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz**, **Beatrix Fodor**, **Bori Keszei**, **Tibor Szappanos**, **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas** (voice), **Bálint Zsoldos** (piano)

10 May 2018 (Thu) 7:30 pm, Eiffel Art Studios



Social Music Listening Sessions

WAGNERIAN SCREENINGS

Richard Wagner's artistic work is a unique solar system within the Milky Way of music. It would obviously be impossible to organise a *RingFest* without performing, in some form or another, his magnum opus, the tetralogy *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. However, the reconstruction of the Opera House makes it impossible to perform the entire cycle in May 2018. (Even though the June premiere of *Götterdämmerung* will mean the completion of four years of work, the entire cycle will be performed on the stage of the Opera House in November.) It would also be a shame if we were unable to present those works that either inspired Wagner or were inspired by him. In our Valhalla – the function room on the fifth floor of the newly reopened Opera House – we will be holding 21 social music listening sessions over the course of 10 days, with expert presenters discussing the following works:

Beethoven ▶ **Symphony No. 9**

Wagner ▶ **Das Liebesverbot**

Spontini ▶ **La vestale**

Wagner ▶ **Das Rheingold**

Strauss ▶ **Die Frau ohne Schatten**

Wagner ▶ **Die Walküre**

D'Albert ▶ **Tiefland**

Wagner ▶ **Siegfried**

Marschner ▶ **Der Vampyr**

Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung**

Offenbach ▶ **Die Rheinnixen**

Wagner ▶ **Parsifal**

Busoni ▶ **Doktor Faust**

Wagner ▶ **Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg**

Weber ▶ **Oberon**

Wagner ▶ **Der fliegende Holländer**

Gluck–Wagner ▶ **Iphigenia**

Wagner ▶ **Tannhäuser**

Gluck–Strauss ▶ **Iphigenia**

Wagner ▶ **Lohengrin**

Wagner ▶ **Tristan und Isolde**

11–21 May 2018, Opera House, Zoboki Hall

European Opera Days

NESSUN DORMA

Every year since the spring of 2015, on the weekend closest to Europe Day (May 9), the Hungarian State Opera, taking up the practice of its Opera Europa partners, has been opening its doors to a university student, an opera fan and an intrepid member of the press, all drawn at random. After the evening's performance, those selected could enter into the now darkened building and test their opera mettle in a night-time quiz tour – dressed in a costume from one of the productions. After a whole night of torture, they had to prove on stage what they had learned about the art of making theatre. This year the only change will be that they can be the first to enter the newly opened Eiffel Art Studios. There will be thrills, fear, enjoyment, music and dance – as well as food and drink for the exhausted travellers.

Director ► **András Aczél**

Partner ► **Opera Europa**

12 May 2018 (Sat) Eiffel Art Studios

Choral Days '18

THE OPERA'S MEETING OF CHORUSES

Ferenc Erkel, the Opera's first and eternal principal music director was for ten years the national chorumaster of the budding Hungarian choral movement – at the time, this primarily meant four-part, all-male ensembles. He even composed for them and participated in their national meetings. Something similar will also be happening at the theatre that bears his name, now for the third time: in 2018, we are organising a meeting of amateur choruses again, for which each must prepare a single choral piece. The choruses will truly have the Erkel Theatre to themselves for the two-day jamboree: they'll be able to listen to each other, form connections, and simply enjoy themselves as singers who like combining their family and community life with their love of music. The final programme will be the Opera's gift to them: in the Sunday afternoon performance we plan for the entire auditorium to join in with the Opera Chorus as it sings excerpts from the famous *Carmina Burana* on the stage. The conductor will again be State Secretary for Culture **Dr Péter Hoppál**, a qualified chorumaster.

13 May 2018 – Orff ► **Carmina Burana** (see ► p. 288)

Producer ► **Kálmán Strausz**, chorus director

Host ► **András Aczél**

Partner ► **KÓTA**

info ► dalarunnep@opera.hu

12 and 13 May 2018 (Sat-Sun) Erkel Theatre

Orff: Carmina Burana

CONCERT PERFORMANCES VIII



Carl Orff cannot be regarded as a Wagnerian *par excellence*, although when he saw *Der fliegende Holländer* at the age of fourteen, the work impressed him so deeply that he immediately began to write a piano reduction of it. As Orff's artistic work revolved around rhythm and pedagogy, the music drama of Romanticism was far removed from him. But *gesamtkunst* definitely was not: his works are almost exclusively for the stage, and he treated the text similarly to **Wagner** – and he felt just as much at home in Bavaria as Wagner did. Moreover, just like his great predecessor, his interest was drawn to the past, and often to the world of myths and legends. This is why the picture will be made more perfect if Orff's artistic work is included in the palette of the "Around the Ring" season as one of the new trends which followed Wagner.

Featuring ▶ **Kinga Kriszta, István Horváth, Csaba Szegedi** (voice)

Conductor ▶ **Tibor Bogányi**

13 May 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre



Wolf: Der Corregidor

CONCERT PERFORMANCES IX (HUNGARIAN PREMIERE)

There is no greater adherent of **Wagner's** to be found than **Hugo Wolf**. He even had the opportunity to meet him, and it was not only for the *Ring* that he exhibited an undying affection: the immense attraction also extended to the Master's more youthful Romantic operas. And to some degree to **Liszt** as well, whom he held in high esteem, as he did **Bruckner**. The composer of more than 300 songs, Wolf wrote only one opera. With our Hungarian premiere of *Der Corregidor*, an essentially light-hearted work that revels in highly diverse colourings, we will be further enriching our portrait of German composers working in the footsteps of Wagner.

Don Eugenio de Zuniga ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**

Conductor ▶ **N.N.**

Juan Lopez ▶ **András Kőrösi**

Tonuelo ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Repela ▶ **András Palerdi**

Tio Lukas ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

A neighbour ▶ **János Szerekován**

Donna Mercedes ▶ **Zita Váradi**

Frasquita ▶ **Szilvia Vörös**

14 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Duenna ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**

Manuela ▶ **Gabriella Balga**

Primavera '18

PANORAMA OF PREMIERES FROM HUNGARIAN OPERA COMPANIES

It is the obligation of the Hungarian State Opera, by virtue of its rank and status as a national institution, to support the performance of opera around the country and across the borders. It was this recognition that in 2013 gave rise to the week-long Primavera series, in which each of the companies from Hungary and abroad that are invited to participate will feature their latest pieces at the Erkel Theatre every spring.

Csokonai National Theatre – Debrecen

Győr National Theatre

Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca

Miskolc National Theatre

Pécs National Theatre

Szeged National Theatre

15 to 20 May 2018 (Tue to Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Choral Artists' Mini-Festival

COMING TO LIGHT

The oldest and largest professional chorus in Hungary is the Hungarian State Opera Chorus. The chorus, consisting of nearly 150 artists, is often supplemented with the Honvéd Male Choir and the Budapest Studio Chorus; the chorus director of all three ensembles is **Kálmán Strausz**, a major figure in the Hungarian choral scene. The Hungarian State Opera Children's Chorus is led by **Nikolett Hajzer**: on this special day of the long and difficult season both the young and the more experienced artists of the chorus will be playing the main role.

PROGRAMOK:

12 pm ▶ Hungarian prayer service at St. Stephen's Basilica

4 pm ▶ titular soloists' lied and aria recital

7 pm ▶ Lortzing ▶ Die Opernprobe (see ▶ p. 103)

Schubert ▶ Der vierjährige Posten (see ▶ p. 107)

20 May 2018 (Sun), Eiffel Art Studios

János Richter 102

THE SACRED WAGNER



BMW
Art&Culture

We Hungarians are used to seeing a compatriot of ours in the focus of every important event, or if not exactly there then at least somewhere on the periphery. Well, who else could have been the one to premiere the most important piece of 19th century music other than the Hungarian **János Richter**, who was born in Győr? The artist, who was a friend of **Wagner** and **Liszt's**, later often turned up at the Opera House, and was also linked to the establishment of the London Symphony Orchestra: we are remembering him on his birthday with an orchestral concert.

Wagner ▶ **Das Liebesmahl der Apostel**

Rienzi – Rienzi's prayer

Tannhäuser – Elisabeth's prayer

Palestrina/Wagner ▶ **Stabat Mater**

Wagner ▶ **Parsifal** – excerpts

Conductor ▶ **N. N.**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

Featuring ▶ **the Opera's philharmonic orchestra, István Kovácsházi, Eszter Sümegi, Judit Németh, Levente Molnár, András Pálardi (voice), Hungarian State Opera Chorus, Honvéd Male Choir, Male Choir of the Hungarian Radio Choir, Male Choir of the Hungarian National Choir**

21 May 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House

Pas de Quatre '18

PANORAMA OF HUNGARIAN DANCE ENSEMBLES

We brought this panorama of Hungarian dance ensembles to life in 2013 with the name Pas de trois '13. Under the aegis of this original initiative, the Ballet Company of Győr and Ballet Pécs made guest appearances in the home of the Opera's ballet ensemble. Then, in 2014, the Szeged Contemporary Dance Company also joined the event, with the programme appropriately renamed Pas de quatre '14, starting a tradition in which the country's four greatest ballet companies can all be seen on one night.

Ballet Company of Győr

Inner Sounds – etudes to a theme

Choreographer ▶ **László Velekei**

Music ▶ **montage**

Assistant ▶ **Zsuzsanna Kara**

Dramaturg ▶ **Alexandra Csepí**

Costume designer ▶ **Gabriella Győri**

Lighting designer ▶ **Péter Hécz**

Ballet Pécs

Footsteps – premiere

Choreographer ▶ **Béla Földi**

Béla Földi has created his first choreography, *Footsteps*, for Ballet Pécs, which will be premiering it at the Erkel Theatre as part of *Pas de Quatre '18*.

Pas de Quatre '18

PANORAMA OF HUNGARIAN DANCE ENSEMBLES

A joint production of the Szeged Contemporary Dance Company and the National Dance Theatre

Morelli / Stravinsky: Les noces

Choreographer ▶ **Enrico Morelli**

Music ▶ **Igor Stravinsky**

Set designer ▶ **Enrico Morelli**

Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**

Lighting designer ▶ **Ferenc Stadler**

Dancers ▶ **Zsófia Takács, Gergely Czár, Szandra Szigyártó, Róbert Kiss, Petra Bocsi, Anna Bujdosó, Vencel Csetényi, Tamás Hegedűs, Brigitta Hortobágyi, Gergő Horváth M., Mai Matsuki, Kata Stáry, Lotár Vincze, Flóra Zsador**

Hungarian National Ballet

Ohad Naharin: Minus 16 (see ▶ p. 55)

Choreographer ▶ **Ohad Naharin**

Music by ▶ **various composers**

Costume designer ▶ **Ohad Naharin**

Lighting designer ▶ **Avi Yona Bueno** (Bambi)

Staged by ▶ **Danielle Agami**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Edit Rujsz**

21 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

DanceTrend '18

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES IN DANCE

Once again, the traditional Pas de Quatre night will be followed by a presentation of the DanceTrend programme, in which contemporary dancers, choreographers and other creative artists, and even entire independent companies get a chance to introduce themselves. In the second half of the programme, the audience will get to know the work of one of the Hungarian National Ballet's young choreographers.

Ballet Pécs

Inner Attraction

Choreographer ▶ **Zsolt Kecsó Molnár**

Composer ▶ **Béla Bartók**

Costume designer ▶ **Péter Fenyő**

Dancers ▶ **Mónika Kócsy, Katalin Ujvári, Soma Lőrinc Kerekes, Péter Koncz, Márton Szabó, Szilárd Tuboly**

It was the music of Bartók that inspired choreographer Zsolt Molnár's look at human relationships. Our appearances, habits, ways of life, thoughts and emotions and values systems all vary. The first impression at an encounter is always determined by the surface, the outside appearance, but our personality transforms and deepens the relationship later on. But what really determines whether a rapport is established immediately or whether a longer time is needed for emotional bonds to form, or indeed whether we just pass each other by? How does fellowship develop between people, and how long does it take before they can turn to each other with straightforwardness and unconditional trust free of all superficiality? It is very exciting to see how we shed our learned forms of behaviour and reveal our true selves to one another.

DanceTrend '18

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES IN DANCE

DART

Come The Way You Are

Choreographer ► **Kristóf Várnagy**

Stylist ► **Orsolya Vitárius**

"Let's jump right in! I've been dealing with movement for 21 years, from ballet to contemporary dance and circus. This is where I am at now. Free and without conventions. And my accomplices are the DART team." (Kristóf Várnagy)

Hungarian National Ballet

Million Versions

Choreographer ► **Karina Sarkissova**

Composer ► **Ludwig van Beethoven**

22 May 2018 (Tue) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Bluebeard Fest

"THE" HUNGARIAN OPERA

BLUEBEARD100

The conception of **Béla Bartók's** first and only one-act opera was an arduous process. It spent seven years in the drawer of his desk after the competition it was written for had ended, and it was exactly a hundred years ago when it was finally premiered at the Opera House. But it was only the 1936 revival that brought real success to the unique and unrepeatable masterpiece, which has been performed around the world starting in the second half of the 20th century. The early literal readings and interpretations as a mystery play were soon replaced by the projection of the internal message: two people in love struggling with each other and their eventual disappointment. This perspective makes *Bluebeard's Castle* one of the most important works to focus on psychology, and one that can be performed anywhere – nowadays, fortunately, mainly in Hungarian.

There cannot be a date more important for the Hungarian State Opera than the reopening of the Opera House and the centenary of *Bluebeard*, the only Hungarian opera performed worldwide. The year 2018 is a special one because these two events coincide in it: it will be with the first, retrospective concert of *Bluebeard Fest* that we reopen and celebrate the modernised building after nine months of closure. The beautiful Red Salon will host the *Bluebeard100* exhibition, curated by **Nóra Wellmann**.

24 May 2018 (Thu) 7 pm – Bluebeard100 / Miklós Bánffy's **Bluebeard** (D: M. Szinetár)

25 May (Fri) 7 pm – Iván Madarász ► **Prologue** (world premiere) / Bartók ► **Bluebeard** (D: V. Nagy)

26 May (Sat) 7 pm – Gergely Vajda ► **Barbie Blue** / Bartók ► **Bluebeard** (D: P. Galambos)

27 May (Sun) 7 pm – Péter Eötvös ► **Senza sangue** / Bartók ► **Bluebeard** (D: K. Holten)

24–27 May 2018 (Thu–Sun) Opera House

Bluebeard100 / Bánffy

LOOK, THIS IS MY EMPIRE

BLUEBEARD100

On 24 May 1918, seven years after the work was written – and following tortuously prolonged orchestral rehearsals paid for out of the pocket of Count **Miklós Bánffy**, the intendant at the time – the Royal Hungarian Opera House premiered **Béla Bartók's** first dramatic work, *Bluebeard's Castle*. The count himself designed the set and costumes for the one-act, and jointly with Bartók selected the Italian music director **Egisto Tango** to conduct the work. The title role was sung by **Oszkár Kálmán**, with **Olga Haselback** singing Judith and the young **Imre Palló** reading the Prologue. The production was directed by **Dezső Zádor**. The opera was removed from the programme after eight nights, although it probably would have been performed again had Count Bánffy – who resigned in the autumn – remained the intendant. The gate of Bluebeard's castle remained closed for almost twenty years until the revival staged by **Miklós Radnai** under the baton of another Italian, **Sergio Failoni**, and starring **Mihály Székely** and **Ella Némethy**, launched the piece on the way to the international success it still enjoys today.

On this night exactly a century later, a new (and at the same time, old) production of *Bluebeard's Castle* paying homage to Bánffy with a reconstruction of his work by **Miklós Szinetár** will be presented, this time in celebration of the opening of the newly modernised Opera House. The first half of the programme will include a commemoration of every documented production of *Bluebeard* from the past century.

Bartók ► **Bluebeard's Castle**
Bluebeard ► **István Kovács**
Judith ► **Erika Gál**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

24 May 2018 (Thu) 7 pm, Opera House

Special events 298

Iván Madarász: Prologue

BLUEBEARD100

BLUEBEARD100 / MAKOVECZ

Béla Bartók's sole opera starts with a prose prologue, which the score calls for a character designated as the "Minstrel" to narrate. **Iván Madarász's** fifth opera, commissioned by the Hungarian State Opera, uses the text of **Béla Balázs's** unique introduction as its basis. On the second night of the **Bluebeard100** programme series, **Viktor Nagy's** 1993 production of *Bluebeard's Castle* will be prefaced with the world premiere of the Kossuth Prize- and Ferenc Erkel Award-winning composer's newest work.

Featuring ► **István Kovács**

Conductor ► **Ádám Medveczky**

Prologue will be performed together with **Viktor Nagy's** production of *Bluebeard's Castle* as part of the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

25 May 2018 (Fri) 7 pm, Opera House

299 Special events

Bluebeard100 / Makovecz

+ MADARÁSZ: PROLOGUE BLUEBEARD100

BLUEBEARD100

Bluebeard has been staged at the Opera in 13 different productions, which have been performed on more than 530 occasions. To celebrate its centenary, the visual world of the ninth revival, markedly different from all others, will be recalled. The organic set designed by the world-famous architect **Imre Makovecz** – the only opera set design work of his rich oeuvre – surrounded **Victor Nagy's** directing, and it will return to the Opera House in its original form.

Bartók ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle**

Viktor Nagy's production of *Bluebeard's Castle* will be performed together with **Iván Madarász's** *Prologue* as part of the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

Bluebeard ▶ **Péter Fried**

Judith ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

25 May 2018 (Fri) 7 pm, Opera House

Partner ▶ **Makovecz Foundation**

Gergely Vajda: Barbie Blue

+ BLUEBEARD '13

BLUEBEARD100

This work was conceived from the beginning to be performed before *Bluebeard*, with the same singers, and this is why the vocal parts and the orchestral scoring are similar to those in Bartók's piece. The opera continuously, albeit cryptically, refers to its dramatic counterpart in its major formal characteristics and at the level of fundamental musical solutions. Its dramaturgy, however, flows in the reverse direction: whereas Bartók's piece proceeds from darkness to light and then to the fifth door of Bluebeard's castle, where it closes in darkness again, this "tragicomic satyr play" is slightly melancholic in the middle and ends in tragicomic fashion, all the while showing the seven colours of Barbie – that is, of the feminine soul – as reflected in the mirror of an empty marriage. The concert performance will be followed by an intermission and then the 2013 **Péter Galambos** production of Béla Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*.

Barbie ▶ **Andrea Szántó**

Bernard ▶ **Levente Molnár**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

Barbie Blue will be performed together with **Péter Galambos's** production of *Bluebeard's Castle* at the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

26 May 2018 (Sat) 7 pm, Opera House

Bluebeard '13

+ VAJDA: BARBIE BLUE

BLUEBEARD100

The Erkel Theatre was reopened in November 2013 with the 13th version of *Bluebeard's Castle*, the first premiere to be shown there. **Péter Galambos's** production attempted to explore the driving forces in **Bartók's** own emotional life, bringing it onto the same platform as his previous successful work for two protagonists, János Vajda's one-act *Mario and the Magician*. We will be saying goodbye to the five-year-old production for an extended period tonight, but before we do so, an unusual work will be making its debut on the stage of the Opera House: composer/conductor **Gergely Vajda's** parody *Barbie Blue*.

Bluebeard ► **Levente Molnár**

Judith ► **Andrea Szántó**

Bartók ► **Bluebeard's Castle**

Bluebeard ► **Krisztián Cser**

Judith ► **Viktória Mester**

Conductor ► **Gergely Vajda**

Péter Galambos's production of *Bluebeard's Castle* will be performed together with **Gergely Vajda's** *Barbie Blue* at the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

26 May 2018 (Sat) 7 pm, Opera House

Péter Eötvös: Senza sangue (Vértelenül)

BLUEBEARD100

BLUEBEARD '18

Péter Eötvös intended this work as a companion piece to **Béla Bartók's** *Bluebeard's Castle*. The composer's tenth opera was premiered in Cologne in 2015 and has since been performed in Gothenburg, New York, Avignon and once in Budapest, as part of the Armel Festival. As part of the *Bluebeard100* programme series, Eötvös's *Senza sangue* will be performed together with the premiere of the new production of *Bluebeard's Castle*, as the first piece for the evening, in a concert format based on **Kasper Holten's** directing of the work.

Libretto based on **Alessandro Baricco's** novella of the same title by ► **Mari Mezei**

The man ► **Csaba Szegedi**

The woman ► **Andrea Meláth**

Conductor ► **Gergely Vajda**

Senza sangue will be performed together with **Kasper Holten's** production of *Bluebeard's Castle* at the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

27 May 2018 (Sun), 1 and 8 June (Fri) 7 pm, Opera House

We cannot let the 100th anniversary of the world premiere of *Bluebeard's Castle* pass without taking the opportunity to give some indication of its future here in Budapest. Although the Opera obtained perpetual rights to perform it in the "capital city" in 1918 and, consequently, the right to deny permission for others to perform it elsewhere here, we have never, naturally, exercised this right. The one-act ballet has been performed in concert halls several times, as well as on the stages of other Budapest institutions as semi-staged productions. Nonetheless, our *Bluebeard Fest* would not be complete without a new production at the Opera House: this time it will be the outstanding Danish stage director **Kasper Holten**, who served as artistic director at Covent Garden until 2017, coming to stage the work, taking advantage of the Opera House's brand-new stage machinery, no less.

Bartók ► **Bluebeard's Castle**

Bluebeard ► **András Palerdi**

Judith ► **Ildikó Komlósi**

Conductor ► **Péter Eötvös**

Kasper Holten's production of *Bluebeard's Castle* will be performed together with Péter Eötvös's *Senza sangue* at the *Bluebeard100* mini-festival.

27 May 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Opera House

The new management cycle that began in 2011 marked the beginning of the rapid restructuring of the repertoire, aimed at renewing the Hungarian State Opera's artistic programme by the spring of 2018, in time for the completion of the infrastructural developments. Older productions, many of them 20 or even 30 years old ones, were replaced by new ones of works that had not been performed for 30, 50 or 80 years, or ever. Premieres of 75 full-evening and chamber opera productions and 15 grand ballets and contemporary dance productions have been created over the past seven seasons. This Mayfest will feature five new productions, each of them extremely important. Two will be the large-scale Hungarian premieres of the work in question (one of the two being a thus-far largely ignored gem of the French operatic repertoire). Another of the five will be "the" Hungarian opera, as interpreted by an international star director after 13 productions over the past hundred years. Rounding out the festival are the closing part of the *Ring*, which has been missing for many years, and the uncrowned queen of classical ballet, now clad in brand-new attire.

Bartók ► **Bluebeard's Castle** (*25, 26, 27 May, 1 and 8 June*)

Poulenc ► **Dialogues des Carmélites** (*31 May, 5, 9 and 15 June*)

4th Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala (*2 June*)

R. Strauss ► **Die Frau ohne Schatten** (*3, 6, 9 and 12 June*)

Wagner ► **Götterdämmerung** (*10, 13, 17 and 20 June*)

Tchaikovsky ► **Swan Lake** (*14, 16, 19, 21, 22 and 23 June*)

25 May – 23 June May 2018, Opera House

4th Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala

IN HONOUR OF THE LATE BALLET STAR

Internationally renowned ballet dancer and several-time ballet director **Iván Nagy** passed away in 2014. After returning to Hungary, he had committed himself to the service of his homeland and worked with us again as a consultant to the Hungarian State Opera. He imparted a wide range of professional knowledge, enhancing the Hungarian National Ballet's work and leaving a great empty space in our ensemble's ranks with his demise. In his memory, we each year organise an international ballet gala night, in which soloists from the greatest ballet companies in the world – including the Royal Ballet, the English National Ballet, the Bolshoi, the Paris Opera and the Dutch National Ballet – join the artists of the Opera's ballet ensemble to pay tribute to Iván Nagy's knowledge and humanity.

On the same day we will award an artist of the Hungarian National Ballet with the Solymosi Award, which is given to the best dancer from the December run of the *The Nutcracker*.

Organiser, director ▶ **Tamás Solymosi**

Conductor ▶ **András Déri**

2 June 2018 (Sat) 7 pm, Opera House

Starry-Eyed 25

SEASON CLOSER OF THE STARRY-EYED

On 11 June 2018, we will be celebrating the 25 anniversary of the founding of the Starry-Eyed with a major gala event. This will be the closing programme in a celebratory series spanning the entire first half of the year. The series will feature the most outstanding productions of the past 25 years, enlivened with film clips of fond memories, key shows and trips. Joining the company – now one thousand strong – will be the ensemble's founding members, as everyone from three-year-olds to adult professionals come together to show off the achievements of the past 25 years.

Choreographer ▶ **Sándor Timár**

Director ▶ **Böske Timár**

Hostess ▶ **Júlia Kudlik**

Accompaniment ▶ **Tündök Band**

11 June 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Kádár's Last Speech

IN MEMORY OF IMRE NAGY

Mihály Kornis's book of the same title, which was published more than ten years ago, contains the script, sound material and analysis of Kádár's last speech in May 1989 together with a second publication of the records of his interrogation in 1949. The main character of both texts is the General Party Secretary, whose rambling, often nearly incoherent speech hangs heavy with the weight of crimes of thirty–forty years before, and between the many silences and equivocations, the truth creeps in, with all of its horror. Two Shakespearean chamber dramas were merged here: that of a dictator unable to truly repent at the end of his life, a few weeks before his death, and that of the rising young Communist, who attacks in a group and has the "internal enemy" executed with the same cruel showiness and cynicism with which he would be unable to account for his deeds later on. Historian and documentary filmmaker **Tamás Novák**, who became well-known with his work on Béla Biszku, directed his first play for the stage on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the 1956 revolution in a special venue: underneath the auditorium where communist dictator **Mátyás Rákosi's** 60th birthday was also celebrated. On the 60th anniversary of the execution of the leaders of the Hungarian Revolution on 16 June 1958, the piece will be performed again at the Erkel Theatre, a building that bore witness to the events of the revolution taking place on what was then called "Republic" Square.

János Kádár ► **András Kőrösi**

László Rajk ► **Tamás Fülöp**

Imre Nagy ► **Dénes Farkas**

Doctor, Security guard ► **István Stefánszky**

Concept ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Visuals, video ► **Sándor Kiss**

Director ► **Tamás Novák**

16 June 2018 (Sat) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre

Ballet Examinations

WHICH ONES WILL GROW UP TO BE SWANS?

This Programme Calendar contains several novelties, but these are heavily outnumbered by more traditional elements: belonging to the latter category is the annual public examination of the students of the Hungarian Dance Academy (formerly known as the Ballet Institute). The dancers and ballet stars of the future will be given the opportunity to challenge themselves on the huge stage of the beautiful building in a genuine performance environment – and their teachers and the management of the Hungarian National Ballet getting the chance to see them under real-life conditions.

Featuring ► **Hungarian State Opera Orchestra**

Partner ► **Hungarian Dance Academy**

17 June 2018 (Sun), 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Opera on Margaret Island

THE VERY GREATEST OPERA PRODUCTIONS

One of the Hungarian State Opera's beautiful traditions takes place at Budapest's greatest performance venue for summer performances: the Margaret Island Open-Air Stage. Recently restored to its former glory in its scenic setting, the building complex today plays host to performances of the most popular operas. Performing on the largest stage in the capital city, in front of three thousand audience members is a huge responsibility, but we undertake it gladly, year after year.

R. Strauss ► **Salome** (See > p. 119)

22 and 24 June 2018 (Fri, Sun) 9 pm

Rain days: 26 and 27 (Tue-Wed)

Puccini ► **Tosca** (See > p. 156)

13 and 15 July 2018 (Fri, Sun) 9 pm

Rain days: 17 and 18 (Tue-Wed)

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár, István Dénes**

Partner ► **Szabad Tér Theatre**

22 and 24 June, 13 and 15 July 2018, Margaret Island

Guest Performance in Veszprém

VERDI: RIGOLETTO

Is it possible to assign a more beautiful and worthy task or challenge for a theatre working in the heart of Transdanubia than providing a venue for the theatrical genre that is possibly the most brilliant of all: the opera, and creating a new location for opera performances, and, hopefully, a mini opera festival in the region north of Lake Balaton, in the city of Veszprém? After the performances of *Carmen* in 2016 and *La bohème 2.0* in 2017, the Veszprém Arena will house **Verdi's Rigoletto** in June 2018, organised by the Petőfi Theatre of Veszprém. This series of opera performances, which has now become a tradition, is organised in cooperation with the Hungarian State Opera and has become an important event in the cultural programme on offer in Veszprém. It could also be an important step towards Veszprém potentially becoming a major centre of opera performance in Hungary. This is our wish, and we are working hard to prove worthy of our great predecessors.

Verdi ► **Rigoletto**

Duke of Mantua ► **István Horváth**

Rigoletto ► **Michele Kalmány**

Gilda ► **Erika Miklósa**

Sparafucile ► **Géza Gábor**

Maddalena ► **Andrea Szántó**

Count Monterone ► **Sándor Egri**

Marullo ► **András Káldi Kiss**

Borsa ► **Péter Kiss**

Count Ceprano ► **Tamás Szüle**

Countess Ceprano ► **Krisztina Simon**

Giovanna ► **Kornélia Bakos**

A page ► **Eszter Zavaros**

A court usher ► **Gábor Németh**

23 June 2018 (Sat) 7 pm, Veszprém Arena

Night of Stars

GALA FOR THE SEASON'S FINEST

The season cannot be allowed to pass without a spectacular gala to celebrate the best moments from the several hundred performances and events staged by the Hungarian State Opera. On this special evening, the stage will be graced by the greatest of the great, as well as the most promising young performers. And we will be handing out decorations too as we reveal who will take charge next season of the three Chamber Singer positions and of the sole Étoile Award as well as the Chamber Artist of the Opera award for a musician of the orchestra. The audience will be populated with artists and employees of the Opera together with the Opera's special guests. A collection will be made by employees of Hungarian Interchurch Aid to assist disaster victims in Hungary. Last year, it was with a similar gala that we said goodbye to the Opera House for long months, and now, after the modernisation of the building is completed, it will be hosting the next gala.

Host ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**, general director

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**, principal music director

Choreographer ► **Tamás Solymosi**, ballet director

Director ► **Ferenc Anger**, artistic director

24 June 2018 (Sun) 4 pm, Opera House

Saaremaa Opera Days 2018

PRINCIPAL GUEST: THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

On an enchanting Estonian island, there lies a castle. The festival, for which the organisers erect a huge tent for 2000 persons along the castle walls, has featured a principal guest each year since its establishment in 1999. In July 2018, that honour will go to the Hungarian State Opera: we will perform three operas, a ballet production and a joint Scandinavian-Hungarian gala at a venue that can only be compared to Savonlinna in Finland (an island we last visited in 2011). The year 2018 will be an especially important one for Estonia because it will be celebrating the centenary of its declaration of independence from the Russian Empire. After years of discussions, the following programme was agreed:

J. Strauss Jr. ► **Der Zigeunerbaron**

Kyling It – Walking Mad, Rain Dogs, Petite Mort, Six Dances

Verdi ► **Nabucco**

Verdi ► **La traviata**

Scandinavian-Hungarian opera and ballet gala

July 2018, Saaremaa – Estonia

OperaFüred

SUMMER, BALATON, OPERA...

Among the most majestic events of the Hungarian social calendar and with an unbroken history stretching back nearly 200 years, the Anna Ball held in Balatonfüred owes its success in part to the contributions of the Hungarian State Opera. We have found a location for a summertime gala night on Balatonfüred's Gyógy Square, which will no doubt prove a worthy venue for the popularisation of opera in the dignified setting that the genre deserves. This is now our Waldbühne! This year the chorus will be giving a choral concert, there will be an opera gala with an orchestra, the ballet will be dancing in the ball garden of the Anna Grand Hotel, and the film of the season-opener Bánk bán production will be screened as part of the OperaCinema programme.

26 July (Thu) 8 pm – Choral gala

Featuring ► **Hungarian State Opera Chorus**

Conductor ► **Kálmán Strausz**

27 July (Fri) 8 pm – Orchestral Opera Gala

Featuring ► **Bori Keszei, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz, István Horváth, András Palerdi**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

28 July (Sat) 8 pm – Anna Ball, Palotás

Choreographer ► **Csaba Sebestyén**

Featuring ► **the Hungarian National Ballet**

29 July (Sun) 7 pm – OperaCinema ► Das Rheingold

Partner ► **Government of Balatonfüred**

26 to 29 July 2018 (Thu–Sun), Balatonfüred, Gyógy Square

Opera of the Nature

LAKE TISZA FESTIVAL

An excellent initiative at Lake Tisza! When high-quality culture and the love of movement and nature meets: cycle tour around the lake, sailing on the lake, yoga at the lakeside, jogging amidst nature, and all this with classical musical accompaniment. The festival offers exclusive experience to the participants as they can see the well-known artists not in their usual environment on an artificial set, but with the beautiful background provided by Lake Tisza. The programme is organised this year for the third time with excellent singers of the Hungarian State Opera. The audience can meet many of them during the three-day event.

info ► www.operaofthenature.com

28 to 30 July 2018, Lake Tisza

Salome in Machaerus

BIBLICAL OPERA BY THE DEAD SEA

The first Christian saint was beheaded by Herod Antipas, also known as the Tetrarch, on his daughter Salome's birthday. Mount Machaerus, located in today's Jordan, rises over the Dead Sea opposite Jerusalem. The mountain is bare. Professor **Győző Vörös** and the Hungarian Academy of Arts were granted a concession to make excavations there for 20 years – because the palace where this sensuous and gruesome feast took place once stood on the mountain. At the request of the Jordanian and based on ideas and designs from Professor Vörös, Artistic Director **Ferenc Anger** and his team will stage **Salome** in its original setting – not exactly on the mountain, but quite close by – by augmenting the new production being performed on Margaret Island. The weather is hot and dry in late August, and the full moon ascends above the Dead Sea just as it did then, two thousand years ago...

R. Strauss ► **Salome** (see ► p. 119)

August 2018, Machaerus – Jordan

OperaSziget

LET ISLAND LIFE BEGIN!

Day after day, and with unflagging enthusiasm, we must struggle on every front to popularise opera and ballet and put paid to preconceptions. This is one of the reasons why the young singers of the Hungarian State Opera must make their stand at the largest summer event in Europe, the Sziget Festival. This will not be our first visit, and as usual we will achieve no little success with our choice of popular arias and duets – mellow material for a mellow place.

Featuring ► **Beatrix Fodor, Bori Keszei, Lúcia Megyesi-Schwartz, Orsolya Hajnalka Róser, Eszter Zavaros, Péter Balczó, Gergely Boncsér, András Hábetler, István Horváth, László Szvétek, the ensemble of the Opera**

Director ► **András Aczél**

August 2018, Budapest, Hajógyári Island – Classical, jazz and opera stage

OperaPicnic & Park Inauguration

A GREEN MEADOW INSTEAD OF A GREEN HILL

When the designs for the Eiffel Art Studios were being drawn up, we happily examined the ways for having green spaces take the place of so many demolished ruins. Three hectares in the centre of Budapest and a large industrial (now cultural!) centre! Perfect for spending intermissions close to nature, taking some fresh air after rehearsals, waiting for children at music lessons, playing on the swing with the younger children – and even holding special performances, planting rows of grapevines and growing roses. The Eiffel Art Studios, the only green space among the Opera's properties will be all this, and we believe, much more. With the inauguration, the only major development project by the largest cultural institution of the country since 1984, the Eiffel project will come to an end. In September, the park – and the aforementioned vineyard and roses – will be in full splendour and at last ready for visitors.

The Hungarian State Opera is responsible not only for Hungarian culture, but also for its many artists and employees, who make the greatest cultural institution in Hungary run. At the end of the season with a new one around the corner, we invite each and every one of them and their families to some fun. Now for the sixth year, some 1,500 families involved with the Opera on a regular professional basis will be able to enjoy children's programmes, a footrace, an open-air stage, informal chatter, as well as a buffet and a film screening. The evening's delights will include short films made of the season's activities, with the main course a showing of **István Szabó's** masterpiece *Meeting Venus*, which revolves around a fictional production of *Tannhäuser* and features Oscar-winning actress **Glenn Close** in the lead role.

OperaPicnic & Park Inauguration

A GREEN MEADOW INSTEAD OF A GREEN HILL

Programme:

4 pm – Inauguration of the playground

5 pm – Opera Vinery, Opera Wine Tasting, The Roses of the Opera

6 pm – Litkai/Boldoghy ► **The Bass Player, or Sad Reflections on Süsskin's comedy *The Double Bass, and sometimes the other way around***

Featuring ► **Péter Boldoghy Kummert** (double bass, monologue)
Zita Szemere (coloratura soprano)
the String Quartet of the Budapest Chamber Orchestra

Director ► **András Aczél**

7 pm – **Meeting Venus** – American-Hungarian film (1991)

8 September 2018 (Sat) Eiffel Art Studios, Opera Park



HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA ORCHESTRA
OPERA

ZENEKAR

Concerts

Opera Orchestra vs Philharmonic Society

THE VERY FIRST HUNGARIAN ORCHESTRA

Any way you look at it, the story begins with **Ferenc Erkel**. He is the Alpha and point of origin of institutionalised opera performance in Hungary – and to fulfil this task requires a large and permanent orchestra. The young pianist/conductor/composer was only 25 years old in 1835 when he signed a contract with the Hungarian Theatrical Society in Buda, which operated in the former Carmelite monastery in Buda Castle. Erkel would get to conduct there Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* – a work with recurring significance in this story. Owing to the theatre's swift bankruptcy, he would spend a year as the music director at the German Theatre of Pest, which had been flourishing for 25 years and had a huge auditorium with a capacity of 3,200. His nationalistic feelings, however, prevented him from remaining there, even though they performed *bel canto* operas (like Rossini's *Barber*): as soon as the Hungarian Theatre of Pest opened and his contract expired, he signed with them. As early as 1838, he was organising the first Hungarian orchestra, the ensemble that played the operas, and, of course, a chorus too, because from this point on, for the next 70 years, to compensate for the long German decades, everything would be sung in Hungarian. Today it is impossible to imagine that Erkel spent 46 and a half years in this position and conducted operas on 5,000 nights. The only reason why these performances did not all happen in this building was the fact that in 1840 the institution was renamed the National Theatre by resolution of the Hungarian Parliament – in the same year when Erkel's first opera, *Bátori Mária*, was premiered. And it can be no surprise that – since the opera to inaugurate the building that once stood near today's Astoria had been *The Barber of Seville* – the orchestra, chorus, dancers and soloists would choose the same work to say goodbye to the building before moving to the new one on what is now Andrásy Avenue in the early summer of 1884.

Opera Orchestra vs Philharmonic Society

THE VERY FIRST HUNGARIAN ORCHESTRA

In the meantime, many important events took place. After quashing the Hungarian War of Independence, the oppressive Austrian regime did not recognise any freedom of association. This meant that even though Erkel and his opera-playing orchestra had begun giving concerts in the National Museum in 1853, it was only in 1867, after the compromise between Austria and Hungary had been reached, that the Philharmonic Society was allowed to officially register itself as an entity. During its history of 164 years, the Society, which was established on the model of its counterpart in Vienna, has been presided over by only ten president-conductors: Ferenc Erkel (1853–1871), Sándor Erkel (1875–1900) István Kerner (1900–1918), Ernő Dohnányi (1918–1960), János Ferencsik (1960–1967), András Kórodi (1967–1986), Erich Bergel (1989–1994), Rico Sacconi (1997–2005), György Győriványi Ráth (2011–2014), and from February 2014 to 2017 Pinchas Steinberg. The orchestra can boast the world premieres of more than a hundred works, including such curiosities as the original 1889 premiere of Mahler's Symphony No. 1. In the spirit of its constitution, the Philharmonic Society pays special attention to new Hungarian musical pieces: Ferenc Erkel, Ferenc Liszt, Károly Goldmark, Ernő Dohnányi, Béla Bartók, Zoltán Kodály, Leo Weiner, Pál Kadosa and Sándor Szokolay dedicated or composed several works for the orchestra; and renowned foreign composers – including Brahms, Dvořák, Mahler, Mascagni, Prokofiev, Ravel, Respighi, Richard Strauss and Stravinsky – have often conducted their works with the Budapest Philharmonics. Besides the president-conductors, several outstanding conductors have played an important part in the life of the orchestra including János Richter, Artur Nikisch, Sergio Failoni, Ferenc Fricsay and Otto Klemperer, and it would almost be impossible to list all the famous conductors, instrumental and vocal soloists who have appeared at the concerts of the orchestra with the longest history in Hungary. For more than a century, the Opera's orchestra, while also functioning as a symphonic concert ensemble, operated as the only professional philharmonic orchestra in Hungary.

Opera Orchestra vs Philharmonic Society

THE VERY FIRST HUNGARIAN ORCHESTRA

The Opera, as the employer of the musicians of the Philharmonic Society and, at the same time, the first institution in Hungary that has, since 1838, been continuously capable of performing symphonic music, preserves the name of the Philharmonic Society in its concerts: both the name of the concert season ticket and the chamber music series refer to it. The Society itself also lives on. Just a few years younger than the Opera's 180-year-old orchestra, it curates items related to the rich history of the orchestra and cooperates with the Opera on a contractual basis. When the artists of the orchestra are not engaged with operatic assignments, it organises concerts under the ensemble's old name.

info ► www.bftz.hu

Of the more than 100 works composed for and premiered by the Opera's philharmonic orchestra, these are some of the most important:

Bartók ► **The Miraculous Mandarin** (suite)

Bartók ► **Five Hungarian Folk Songs**

Bartók ► **Dance Suite**

Dohnányi ► **Symphonic Minutes**

Dohnányi ► **Festive Overture**

Goldmark ► **Zrínyi – symphonic poem**

Kodály ► **Dances of Galánta**

Kodály ► **Psalmus Hungaricus**

Liszt ► **The Legend of St. Elizabeth**

Liszt ► **Mephisto Waltz No. 2**

Mahler ► **Symphony No. 1**

Weiner ► **Concertino**

Symphonic Concerts

THE 2017/18 CONCERT PROGRAMME FOR THE OPERA'S PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

11 September 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

OPERA134 – THE EARTHLY WAGNER (see ► p. 228)

Wagner ► **Columbus Overture**

Wesendonck Lieder

Siegfried Idyll

Lohengrin Prelude

Elsa's dream

Telramund and Ortrud's duet

In fernem Land (Grail narration)

Bridal Chorus

Lohengrin's farewell and finale

Featuring ► **Polina Pasztircsák, Eszter Sümegi, Boldizsár László, Ildikó Komlósi, Michele Kalmady, Péter Fried** (voice)

Conductor ► **Stefan Soltész**

2 (Thu) and 4 (Sat) November 2017 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

VERDI: REQUIEM (see ► p. 240)

Featuring ► **Polina Pasztircsák, Andrea Szántó, Mykhailo Malafi, Alexander Roslavets** (winner of the grand prize at the Second International Éva Marton Singing Competition), **the Hungarian State Opera Chorus** (chorus director: **Kálmán Strausz**)

Conductor ► **Pier Giorgio Morandi**

Symphonic Concerts

THE 2017/18 CONCERT PROGRAMME FOR THE OPERA'S PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

1 January 2018 (Sun), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

NEW YEAR'S AT THE ERKEL (see ► p. 257)

Pacsay ► **Overture 2018**

Sarkissova/Wagner ► **Ballet interlude**

Beethoven ► **Symphony No. 9**

Featuring ► **Hungarian National Ballet, István Kovács,
Lúcia Megyesi-Schwartz, Tibor Szappanos,
Orsolya Hajnalka Röser** (voice)

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

23 April 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

YBL204 – MAHLER AND HIS ERA (see ► p. 279)

Bartók ► **Two Images**

Hubay ► **Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Minor**

Mahler ► **Symphony No. 1**

Featuring ► **Ernő Kállai** (violin)

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

Concerts 326

21 May 2018 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House

RICHTER JÁNOS102 – THE SACRED WAGNER (see ► p. 292)

Wagner ► **Das Liebesmahl der Apostel**

Rienzi – Rienzi's prayer

Tannhäuser – Elisabeth's prayer

Palestrina/Wagner ► **Stabat Mater**

Wagner ► **Parsifal** – excerpts

Featuring ► **István Kovácsházi, Eszter Sümegi, Judit
Németh, Levente Molnár, András Pallerdi** (voice),
**Hungarian State Opera Chorus, Honvéd Male Choir, male
choir of the Hungarian Radio Choir, male choir of the
Hungarian National Choir**

Conductor ► **Sebastian Weigle**

Symphonic Concerts

CONCERT PERFORMANCES – 2017/2018

30 October 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

VERDI: STIFFELIO (see ► p. 239)

Stiffelio ► **Boldizsár László**

Lina ► **Anikó Bakonyi**

Stankar ► **Anatoliy Fokanov**

Raffaele ► **Gergely Boncsér**

Jorg ► **Krisztián Cser**

Federico ► **János Szerekován**

Dorotea ► **Melinda Heiter**

Conductor ► **Christian Badea**

27 November 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

GLUCK: IPHIGENIA IN AULIS (see ► p. 246)

Agamemnon ► **N.N.**

Achilles ► **Tibor Szappanos**

Calchas ► **András Pallerdi**

Clytemnestra ► **Ildikó Komlósi**

Iphigenia ► **Gabriella Fodor**

A Greek woman ► **Katalin Töreky**

Arcas ► **András Kőrösi**

Patroclus ► **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Featuring ► **Győr Philharmonic Orchestra**

Conductor ► **Philippe Auguin**

327 Concerts

Symphonic Concerts

CONCERT PERFORMANCES – 2017/2018

12 January 2018 (Fri), 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

MARSCHNER: DER VAMPYR (see ► p. 258)

Ruthven ► **Krisztián Cser**

Janthe ► **Bori Keszei**

Malwina ► **Klára Kolonits**

Berkeley ► **Tamás Busa**

Aubrey ► **Péter Balczó**

Davenant ► **István Rác**

Georg ► **János Szerekován**

Emmy ► **Gabriella Balga**

Pub scene quintet ► **Tivadar Kiss, Gergely Ujvári,**

Róbert Rezsnyák, Zsolt Molnár, Melinda Heiter

Conductor ► **Zsolt Jankó**

5 March 2018 (Mon), 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

KORNGOLD: DIE TOTE STADT (see ► p. 268)

Paul ► **N. N.**

Ghost of Marietta/ Marien ► **Éva Bátori**

Frank/Fritz ► **Levente Molnár**

Brigitta ► **Andrea Meláth**

Juliette ► **Eszter Zavaros**

Lucienne ► **Éva Várhelyi**

Victorin ► **János Szerekován**

Graf Albert ► **Botond Ódor**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

Symphonic Concerts

CONCERT PERFORMANCES – 2017/2018

3 April 2018 (Tue) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

SPONTINI ► **LA VESTALE** (see ► p. 275)

Licinius ► **Francesco Pio Galasso**

Cinna ► **Michele Kalmandy**

Pontifex Maximus ► **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Julia ► **Szilvia Rálik**

The Great Vestal ► **Erika Gál**

A consul ► **Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ► **Eugene Kohn**

3 April 2018 (Wed) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

D'ALBERT: TIEFLAND (see ► p. 276)

Marta ► **Eszter Sümegi**

Pedro ► **Attila Fekete**

Sebastiano ► **Csaba Szegedi**

Tommaso ► **Géza Gábor**

Nuri ► **Gabriella Balga**

Pepa ► **Anikó Bakonyi**

Antonia ► **Erika Gál**

Rosalia ► **Bernadett Fodor**

Moruccio ► **László Szvétek**

Nando ► **Gergely Boncsér**

Conductor ► **Soltész Stefan**

Symphonic Concerts

CONCERT PERFORMANCES – 2017/2018

13 May 2018 (Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

ORFF: CARMINA BURANA (see ► p. 288)

Featuring ► **Kinga Kriszta, István Horváth, Csaba Szegedi** (voice)

Conductor ► **Tibor Bogányi**

14 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

WOLF: DER CORREGIDOR (see ► p. 289)

Don Eugenio de Zuniga ► **Tibor Szappanos**

Juan Lopez ► **András Kőrösi**

Tonuelo ► **Gergely Ujvári**

Repela ► **András Palerdi**

Tio Lukas ► **Zsolt Haja**

A neighbour ► **János Szerekován**

Donna Mercedes ► **Zita Váradi**

Frasquita ► **Szilvia Vörös**

Duenna ► **Bernadett Fodor**

Manuela ► **Gabriella Balga**

Conductor ► **Gábor Káli**

First Taste

CHAMBER MUSIC AS HORS D'OEUVRES

On three occasions during the "Around the Ring" season – when a Monday orchestra concert is preceded on Saturday by a chamber concert, and the two programmes fit into each other thematically – we will be experimenting with giving a brief summary of the chamber programme an hour before the Monday concert, as a sort of first taste. Either a given work or certain excerpts will be played as an introduction for the audience preparing to hear the orchestral concert, and this will also be expanded with a fine arts angle. We'll be living up to our total-art mission by inviting young up-and-coming graphic designers, painters and ceramicists to create miniature exhibitions using the imagery and impressions they get from the given work, so that the viewers can get some multifaceted stimulus before the given concert, and they will also get a chance to take in the exhibition during the interval or at the end of the performance.

Partner ► **Hungarian Academy of Arts**

Host ► **Dávid Zsoldos** music historian

11 September 2017 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre – Bernáth Buffet

23 April 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre – Bernáth Buffet

21 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm, Opera House – Red Salon

Symphonic Concerts

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS – 2017/2018

9 September 2017 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

IN WAGNER'S WAKE I

Mahler ▶ Piano Quartet in A minor

Berg ▶ Four Pieces for Clarinet and Piano

Schönberg ▶ Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

9 December 2017 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

CHAMBER MUSIC TALES – HÄNSEL UND GRETEL

Schumann ▶ Märchenbilder (Fairy Tale Pictures)

Milhaud ▶ La cheminée du roi René (The Stroll of King René)

Prokofiev ▶ The Ugly Duckling

Zoltán Kovács ▶ Tale No. 8 (Nyolcadik mese)

27 January 2018 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

JAZZ CLASSICS – PORGY AND BESS

Gershwin ▶ Lullaby for String Quartet

Ravel ▶ Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano

Gershwin–Heifetz ▶ Selections from Porgy and Bess

Shostakovich ▶ Jazz Suite No. 1 – arrangement

Stravinsky ▶ Ragtime for 11 Instruments

Stravinsky ▶ Ebony Concerto

24 February 2018 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

IN WAGNER'S WAKE II

Bruckner ▶ String Quintet in F Major – Adagio

Schönberg ▶ Songs – selection

Schönberg ▶ Chamber Symphony

Symphonic Concerts

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS – 2017/2018

10 March 2018 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

MOZART AFTERNOON – L'OCA DEL CAIRO

Mozart ▶ Flute Quartet in D major

Mozart ▶ Adagio and Fugue for Strings in C minor

Mozart ▶ Serenade in E-flat major

Mozart ▶ Serenata notturna (Serenade in D major)

21 April 2018 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

MINI-OPERAS AND CHAMBER OPERAS – DIE OPERNPROBE;

DER VIERJÄHRIGE POSTEN

Mahler ▶ Rückert-Lieder – selection

Schubert–Mahler ▶ String Quartet in D minor

19 May 2018 (Sat) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre

IN WAGNER'S WAKE III

Strauss ▶ Capriccio (string sextet) – introduction

Strauss ▶ Serenade

Strauss ▶ Metamorphosen

The host of the chamber music concerts ▶ Szilvia Becze (MTVA)

Producer ▶ Bálint Zsoldos



AND NOW I'LL
SHOW YOU
HOW TO SIT ON THE
BAKER'S PADDLE!

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Children's and Youth Programmes

Children's and Youth Programmes

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Opera Tour with Papageno

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Even backstage, the Opera House is a magical place. Participating children will get a glimpse into this mysterious world, which they will get to know, along with the hidden secrets of both the House and the art of opera performance, under the guidance of Papageno, the clucking bird-man from *The Magic Flute*. From the cellar decorated with portraits to the catwalks above the stage, and from the costume warehouse to the painters' workshop, some big surprises await. And by the time the singing starts, every little secret will be revealed.

The programme will commence at 3 pm on each date.

Papageno ► **András Hábetler**

Director ► **Attila Toronykőy**

Dates:

15 October 2017

12, 19, 26 November 2017

3 December 2017

21, 28 January 2018

11, 25 February 2018

4, 18, 25 March 2018

22, 29 April 2018

6 May 2018

OperaAdventure 6.0 – with the Virtuosi

YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE ERKEL

The 2017–2018 school year brings the sixth season of OperaAdventure, the largest theatrical education programme in Hungary. Tens of thousands of students have come from all over Hungary, using discounted tickets for train and public transport, to take part in an opera experience of a lifetime at the Erkel Theatre. In spring of 2014, the programme expanded even further as several public collections opened their doors to the participants of OperaAdventure. Thus, the initiative matured into a full-scale cultural adventure.

If the school's curriculum does not preclude learning off-site, then the programmes outlined in the informational pack are eligible to qualify as teaching hours according to the given school's local teaching programme. So far, we've hosted 220 towns, 750 schools, and 175,000 students. In the 2017/18 season, the performances of the OperaAdventure series will be organised in cooperation with the Hungarian Virtuosos Production. Before each performance, a young virtuoso will play a movement of classic music accompanied by the Opera's philharmonic orchestra – for their own peers.

Sponsored by ► **MÁV-START Zrt., GYSEV Zrt., BKK Zrt.,
EMMI State Secretariat for Culture,
State Secretariat for Education**

info ► OperaAdventure@opera.hu

OperaAdventure 6.1 – 25 September to 13 October 2017, Mozart ► **Figaro 2.0**

OperaAdventure 6.2 – 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 May 2018, **Total Dance** (Walking Mad, Petite Mort, Six Dances)

Sing-along Baby

MUSICAL FUN WITH LITTLE ONES

At these sessions at the Erkel Theatre, parents will receive guidance on the musical upbringing of the youngest age groups based on the world-famous Kodály method. We warmly welcome children as young as a few months and all mothers, fathers and grandparents who love to sing and play music with their little ones in a relaxed and affectionate environment, those who believe that it is critical to raise children using the arts as tools, those who enjoy singing and learning new songs, and even those who are themselves intimidated by the idea of singing and seek a community to support in overcoming their inhibitions and would like to expand their repertoire of songs. We recommend sessions from birth to the age of three and also welcome expectant mothers.

Sessions held by ► **Klára Újvári**

Location ► **Erkel Theatre, Kodály Hall**

Sessions ► *Thursday from 11 am (30 min. each)*

First session ► *7 September 2017*

Final session ► *14 June 2018*

Price ► **1000 Ft | family**

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets at the main entrance of the Erkel Theatre.

Enchanting Instruments

A PLAYFUL DEMONSTRATION OF THE ORCHESTRA'S INSTRUMENTAL SECTIONS – RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 9

We offer a step-by-step course to teach our audience the customs and habits associated with going to the theatre and listening to music. With the help of interactive games they will get closer to the indispensable foundation of opera and ballet performances: music and the orchestral instruments that produce it.

Hostess ► **Mária Nagy**

Location ► **Erkel Theatre – Bernáth Buffet**

Hangjegy (Musical note) season pass (on Sundays, 9–10 am)

29 October 2017 – Strings

5 November 2017 – Woodwinds

14 January 2018 – Brass

4 February 2018 – Percussion

Hangvilla (Tuning Fork) season pass (on Sundays, 9–10 am)

18 February 2018 – Strings

11 March 2018 – Woodwinds

1 April 2018 – Brass

13 May 2018 – Percussion

Season pass ► **4000 Ft | pass | person**

After 1 July, individual tickets are available for 1200 Ft per session.

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets 15 minutes prior to the beginning and use the main entrance of the Erkel Theatre.

Afternoon Jam

RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7

In all afternoon sessions participants can better acquaint themselves with a musical instrument together with its younger and older siblings. The layout of the Bernáth Buffet makes it possible that this interactive programme takes place at just an arm's length from the young guests. The performance uses language that children can understand, but even adults can discover a lot of novelties about the world of musical instruments

Hostess ► **Mária Nagy**

Location ► **Erkel Theatre, Bernáth Buffet**

Tücsök (Cricket) season pass (on Sundays, 3–4 pm)

29 October 2017 – Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass

5 November 2017 – Flute and Bassoon

14 January 2018 – Trumpet and Trombone

4 February 2018 – Percussion

Fakopáncs (Woodpecker) season pass (on Sundays, 3–4 pm)

18 February 2018 – Guitar and Harp

11 March 2018 – Clarinet and Oboe

1 April 2018 – French Horn and Tuba

13 May 2018 – Piano

Season pass ► **4000 Ft | pass | person**

After 1 July, individual tickets are available for 1200 Ft per session.

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets 15 minutes prior to the beginning and use the main entrance of the Erkel Theatre.

Tales of Music

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN

There are so many possible encounters with music: one of these that can't be missed is a meeting between the child and the giant musical instrument in its full pomp: the symphony orchestra. The musicians can reveal many secrets while playing on the stages of the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre and this is just one step away from children falling in love with music and unable to wait for the curtain to go up or even sit in the orchestra pit themselves...

14 October 2017 (Sat) 10:30 am, Erkel Theatre

28 January 2018 (Sun) 10:30 am, Erkel Theatre

4 March 2018 (Sun) 10:30 am, Erkel Theatre

Featuring ► **Hungarian State Opera Orchestra**

Partner ► **Philharmonia Hungary**

info ► filharmonia.hu

OperaCommando

A VOCAL RAPID REACTION FORCE

The four-strong commando visits schools around the country: they sing arias, duets, trios and quartets and talk about the world of opera and the institutions associated with the Hungarian State Opera – in 45 minutes. Some costumes and props, and, of course, a piano: that's all that's needed for the magic of the moment, even in a school gymnasium. It is only effective, though, if the experience is enhanced later in music lessons and then with the Opera Ambassador programme and culminates at the OperaAdventure performances for 15-year-olds at the Erkel Theatre. So, a lot depends on the quasi "clown doctors", the artists who often do several performances a day, week after week.

Featuring ► **András Hábetler**

Partner ► **Philharmonia Hungary**

50 performances in 10 counties in the 2017/18 season

Overview

THEATRE PERFORMANCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Hungarian State Opera welcomes children and, of course, young people, together with their families not only with special series but also with full-evening (or full-morning) performances. We recommend the following events:

- | | | | |
|---|----|--|----|
| John / Hall ► Billy Elliot – The Musical (see ► p. 183)
<i>23, 24, 25, 26, 27 August 2017</i>
<i>25, 26 May, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 27 June 2018</i> | 14 | Humperdinck ► Hänsel und Gretel (see ► p. 43)
<i>9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 19 December 2017</i> | 8 |
| Mozart ► Figaro 2.0 (see ► p. 27)
<i>25 September – 2, 8–13 October 2017</i> | 16 | Ránki ► King Pomade's New Clothes (see ► p. 155)
<i>20, 21 January, 3, 4 and 11 February 2018</i> | 6 |
| Mozart / Lackfi ► The Magic Flute for children
(see ► p. 144)
<i>11, 12 and 19 November 2017</i> | 4 | Mozart ► Die Zauberflöte (see ► p. 173)
<i>6, 7, 12, 13, 15 April and 6 May 2018</i> | 10 |
| Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► The Nutcracker
(see ► p. 187)
<i>2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30 and 31 December 2017</i> | 6 | Harangozó / Kocsák ► Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs
(see ► p. 204)
<i>1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 June 2018</i> | 4 |



AM I PREDICTING
WHAT WILL HAPPEN,
OR DOES WHAT HAPPENS HAPPEN
BECAUSE I PREDICTED IT?

I INTENTIONALLY PROTECT YOU
AND UNINTENTIONALLY BETRAY HIM.

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

OperaBonus

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Name That Tune

10 MINUTES OF QUIZ AND OPERA

All Hungarians remember the iconic radio series, the quiz programme conceived by **György Czigány** that educated the whole country on a daily basis. Well, since 1 October 2016, the operatic revival of the old series has been resumed on public media's new cultural television channel and on Bartók Radio. We work with a special weekly guest, a current or former artist of our theatre, who tests his or her lexical and musical knowledge, embedded in a five-part interview, so that the students from a class involved in the OperAdventure programme can get to see an opera or ballet performance at the Erkel Theatre. The game still remains a game, of course, but the prize is serious, and so is the venue: the renowned Bertalan Székely Hall at the Opera House. The programmes are broadcast by Bartók Radio and Echo TV each weekday.

Presenters bi-weekly ▶ **Szilvia Becze** and **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Quizzes prepared by ▶ **Dániel Mona**

Partner ▶ **MTVA**

From 5 September 2016 (Mon) between 12 and 14 pm every Monday – OperaCafé

OperaCafé Magazine

THE TELEVISION JOURNAL

Since 1 October 2016, the Hungarian State Opera has broadcast a weekly magazine on the M5 cultural channel. The programmes, deliberately designed to be youthful and fast-paced, with polished photography, take a look at the performances for the given week and the rehearsal process of the productions in progress while also introducing the most important Hungarian artists of our times through mini-portraits and presenting the plot and other features of a single work each week. OperaCafé is meant to be simultaneously both a multimedia edition of the printed *Opera Magazine* and its own new platform, taking advantages of opportunities to be even bolder, with the televised material also increasingly appearing on social media.

Presenter ▶ **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA)

Editor-in-chief ▶ **Kata Ruttner**

Reporter ▶ **Violetta Dóczy**

Producer ▶ **Zoltán Amin**

Partner ▶ **Optimum Solution Enterprise, MTVA, ATV**

OperaBox

SUMMER PORTRAITS

The summer series of OperaCafé programmes are aimed at paying tribute to the Eternal Members of the Hungarian State Opera: each year, while the theatre world is on its summer break, it will feature ten portraits of some of the most important personalities from the institution's recent past. The 26-minute-long portraits will debut on the M5 cultural television channel, and will later appear on commercial and local television channels too.

SUMMER 2017

Zsuzsa Barlay

István Berczelly

Imre Dózsa

Zsuzsa Kun

Ádám Medveczky

Lajos Miller

Adél Orosz

Lilla Pártay

Sándor Palcsó

Miklós Szinetár

SUMMER 2018

János Berkes

Magda Kalmár

Ildikó Kaszás

Péter Kelen

Gábor Keveházi

Veronika Kincses

Kolos Kováts

Zsuzsa Misura

Sándor Sólyom Nagy

György Szakály

Interviewers ► **Aleszja Popova** (ballet), **Szilveszter Ókovács** (opera)

Daily Opera

MUSICAL CALENDAR

Each morning and evening since 1 October 2016, a one-minute-long programme that serves as a calendar of the history of the Hungarian State Opera and operatic and ballet history in general has been broadcast by Kossuth Radio, Hungary most popular radio station. The series is followed by hundreds of thousands of listeners. The music, based on the motif of Bánk's aria, was composed by **Róbert Gulya** and played by the Opera's orchestra under the baton of **Géza Köteles**. **Szilveszter Ókovács** writes and presents the text for the 365 episodes.

Sound engineer ► **Ferenc Kondás**

Producer ► **Zoltán Amin**

Partners ► **Optimum Solution Enterprise, MTVA**

As a result of the cooperation between the Hungarian State Opera and the M5 cultural television channel, there has been a television broadcast of an opera or ballet performance, or an opera or ballet film, opera/ballet gala or sometimes a concert by the Opera's ensembles on every Monday evening since 19 September 2016. Our institution helps the work of the MTVA with 22 to 24 professional on-site recordings every year, and the television channels of the public media record six to eight performances a year (with Bartók Radio recording audio material in another 15 to 20 instances). The Opera's own recordings will also be broadcast on the ATV and Echo TV channels later on.

Producer ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Schedule for television broadcasts in 2016/2017/2018

1. Purcell ► **The Fairy Queen** (2016)
2. Mascagni ► **Cavalleria rusticana** / Leoncavallo ► **Pagliacci** (2014)
3. **Simándy100** – tenor gala (2016)
4. Verdi ► **La traviata** (2016)
5. **Hour of Stars** – award ceremony gala at the Opera House (2016)
6. **Constitution Gala** (2012)
7. **In memoriam '56** – opera gala at the Headquarters of the UN in New York (2016)
8. Erkel ► **Hunyadi László** (2012)
9. **Cziffra56** – historical concert reprise at the Erkel Theatre (2016)
10. Rautavaara ► **The Mine / Varga > Love** (2016)
11. Puccini ► **La bohème 2.0** (2016)
12. Donizetti ► **Lucia di Lammermoor** (2016)
13. Petipa ► **Don Quixote** (2016)
14. **Miklósa25** – jubilee opera gala at the Erkel Theatre (2016)

15. Tchaikovsky ► **Swan Lake** (2015)
16. **Beatles50** – symphonic rarities from the Opera House (2012)
17. Reimann ► **Lear** (2016)
18. **Erkel Night** (2012)
19. Strauss ► **Die Frau ohne Schatten** (2014)
20. Wagner ► **Der fliegende Holländer** (2013)
21. **Divas on the Catwalk** or Pentatonia and Button It Again At the Opera! (2012)
22. **Gyula Orendt's Song Recital** (2016)
23. **Háry Gala** – with Benedikt and D'Arcangelo (2017)
24. **Silver Rose Ball** – with Vesselina Kassarova (2014)
25. **Shakespeare Gala** – with Plácido Domingo (2016)
26. **Faust Ball** – with Angela Gheorghiu (2015)
27. **Marton70** – jubilee gala with Éva Marton and Jonas Kaufmann (2013)
28. **Stravinsky** – The Rake's Progress (2016)
29. Vivaldi ► **Farnace** (2015)
30. Wagner ► **Das Rheingold** (2015)
31. Wagner ► **Die Walküre** (2016)
32. Dohnányi ► **Der Tenor** (2015)
33. Bartók ► **Bluebeard's Castle / Vajda ► Mario and the Magician** (2013)
34. **Rost25** – jubilee gala at the Erkel Theatre (2014)
35. Gounod ► **Faust** (2015)
36. Verdi ► **Otello** (2015)
37. **Hour of Stars** – award ceremony gala at the Opera House (2015)
38. **Hour of Stars** – award ceremony gala at the Opera House (2013)
39. Rameau ► **Hippolyte et Aricie** (2013)
40. **New Year's at the Opera** (2013)
41. Strauss ► **Ariadne auf Naxos** (2013)

42. **BFTZ160** (2013)
43. **ErkelFest** (2013)
44. Selmeczi ▶ **Spiritisti** (2014)
45. Hynd–Lehár ▶ **The Merry Widow** (2014)
46. Mozart–Lackfi ▶ **The Magic Flute for Children** (2014)
47. Bizet ▶ **Carmen** (2014)
48. Tallér ▶ **Leander and Linseed** (2015)
49. Goldmark ▶ **Die Königin von Saba** (2015)
50. Weber ▶ **Der Freischütz** (2016)
51. Verdi ▶ **Falstaff** (2013)
52. Mozart ▶ **Così fan tutte** (2014)
53. Wagner ▶ **Siegfried** (2017)
54. Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room** (2016)
55. Erkel ▶ **Bánk bán** (2017)
56. Mozart ▶ **Figaro 2.0** (2017)
57. **Opera134** (2017)
58. Meyerbeer ▶ **Les Huguenots** (2017)
59. **Tokody40** – jubilee gala at the Opera House (2017)
60. Rossini ▶ **L'italiana in Algeri** (2017)
61. Humperdinck ▶ **Hänsel und Gretel** (2017)
62. Giordano ▶ **Andrea Chénier** (2017)
63. Verdi ▶ **Nabucco** (2017)
64. Donizetti ▶ **L'elisir d'amore** (2017)
65. **New Year's at the Opera** (2018)
66. Weber ▶ **Oberon** (2018)
67. Gershwin ▶ **Porgy and Bess** (2018)
68. Verdi ▶ **Otello** (2018)
69. Strauss ▶ **Die Frau ohne Schatten** (2018)
70. Puccini ▶ **Turandot** (2018)
71. Verdi ▶ **Simon Boccanegra** (2018)
72. Offenbach ▶ **Die Rheinnixen** (2018)
73. **Lukács30** – jubilee gala at the Erkel Theatre (2018)

74. Asafiev ▶ **The Fountain of Bakhchisarai** (2018)
75. Eifmann ▶ **The Karamazovs** (2018)
76. Mozart ▶ **L'oca del Cairo** – opening performance at the Eiffel Art Studios (2018)
77. Kenessey ▶ **The Gold and the Woman** / Tóth ▶ **The Tót Family** (2018)
78. Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung** (2018)
79. Bartók ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** – season opener at the Opera House (2018)
80. Madarász ▶ **Prologue** / Bartók ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** (2018)
81. Vajda ▶ **Barbie Blue** / Bartók ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** (2018)
82. Eötvös ▶ **Senza sangue** / Bartók ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** (2018)
83. **GermanLateNight** (works by Hindemith, 2018)
84. Bach ▶ **Secular Cantatas** (2018)
85. Verdi ▶ **Un ballo in maschera** (2018)
86. **Ring Night** – with Roberto Alagna (2018)
87. Harangozó ▶ **Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs** (2018)

In 2015, we had more than 1000 followers on our Youtube channel, where we registered 300,000 views, with our videos running for a total of half a million minutes, which included more than 140,000 views of our image video alone.

The number of "likes" on our Facebook has exceeded 50,000 this year – the fan page launched in 2011 took off with astonishing speed, similarly to our official web page (www.opera.hu) revamped in 2014.

The number of followers of our pages in new social media platforms launched in the 2015/16 season – Twitter, primarily to address our visitors from abroad as well as our Instagram page for sharing images – exceeds 1500. These interfaces will provide enquirers with a look behind the wings of the Opera in addition to an official source of information. One of most important Google Streetview projects in Hungary in 2014 was to render the interior of the opera house: the platform now offers an excellent virtual tour of the building. In 2015, via Google Art, high-resolution photos appeared on the internet as free content. If you have ever wanted to examine Károly Lotz's secco on the ceiling from a very short distance with a magnifying glass, now you have the opportunity to do so.

www.opera.hu

While the concept of the exhibition and demonstration area of the Memorial Collection will soon be finished as part of the refurbishment of the Opera House, the archiving process of the objects related to the history of the institution continues: the material in the OperaDigiTheca is increasing daily in the new "Around the Ring" Season. Presently more than 21,000 performances, 4000 artists' biographies, almost 2500 photos, set and costume designs can be researched as a result of the work of collection manager **Márton Karczag** and museologists **Nóra Wellman** and **Jozefa Iványi**.

The following types of performances are freely available to researchers in the continuously expanding OperaDigiTheca on the internet:

- ▶ works of Mozart
- ▶ works of Wagner
- ▶ works of Richard Strauss
- ▶ German Romantic operas
- ▶ French operas
- ▶ Slavic operas
- ▶ 133 years of Hungarian operas
- ▶ Preclassical operas
- ▶ 20th century operas
- ▶ Shakespeare adaptations
- ▶ Operettas

OperaAcademy

ACCREDITED FURTHER TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

The Opera House feels an intense sense of responsibility to those teachers who have found their calling in public education here in Hungary, so it provides them with an opportunity to complete 30 hours of accredited further training. The programme first provides participants with a thorough working knowledge of a theatre's daily operations, and then leads them into the world of opera and ballet, all in a series of colourful, inspiring, and, at the same time, enjoyable sessions – in the unconcealed hope that, as a result of their experiences, the teachers will be able to transmit their new knowledge and enthusiasm to their students, thus ensuring the continuous success of OperaAdventure.

The further training includes observing two performances and the teachers will then receive theoretical and practical training, which includes both plenary and group sessions. Also included are discussion forums, workshops and rehearsal visits, a presentation on music history, advice on planning cultural programmes, a tour of the building, and personal meetings with artists, producers and theatre professionals. This year, like previously, the most important presentations will be delivered by the Opera's managers.

The performances are at the Erkel Theatre. Programme manager ► **Dr Noémi Kiszely**

info ► operakademia@opera.hu

Orchestra Academy

THE ANTECHAMBER TO OPERA MEMBERSHIP

As early as the 2015/16 Faust Season, the Opera decided to take into its own hands the training of those fine musicians who are thinking about a career with Hungary's oldest philharmonic orchestra (which performs both theatrical productions and symphonic concerts). After having their applications accepted and auditioning, 8-12 musicians will be able to take part in the two-year training session under the guidance of the Opera, with a personal mentor assigned to assist with the education of the given instrumental part. The students will also be invited to play at various special performances, as well as participate in section rehearsals and other professional activities. They can also receive a scholarship for the duration of their studies.

The vocational director of the Orchestra Academy is the principal music director of the Opera.

Partner ► **Liszt Academy of Music**

info ► zenekariakademia@opera.hu

Opera on Wheels

SOMETIMES THE MOUNTAIN MUST GO...

After the Second World War, the artists of the opera resumed their activity with *Don Pasquale* – and three years ago we resumed ours with the same production. After several decades, Opera on Wheels returned to the road in 2014! The aim of the programme series is for a production to appear in theatre auditoriums of Hungarian cities where no opera company operates, but where the theatre's attributes (orchestra pit, wire system, lighting, acoustics, etc.) make it suitable for chamber opera productions. The travellers are on a mission: to popularise the Opera's productions and the genre of opera, in Hungarian. It's not a simplified version of a repertoire piece that the Opera is sending forth, but a production created specifically for this purpose, and that takes account in every respect of the capabilities of the theatre and desires of the audience by delivering fresh, youthful, and inspiring ideas and artistically devised technical solutions.

The production of *Don Pasquale* developed for the Opera on Wheels programme by **Csaba Káel** was so successful that we brought it to the Erkel Theatre, while in 2015 and 2016 we continued the series around Hungary and outside of its borders with a bold, new and humorous production: *Figaro 2.0*, with a libretto rewritten by its director, **András Hábetler**. In this season Figaro will be setting off again for every theatre in the country that is equipped with an orchestra pit and is yet to be visited – altogether 10 times in the season.

Mozart ▶ **Figaro 2.0** (see ▶ p. 27)

Coordinator ▶ **Dr Noémi Kiszely**

info ▶ www.opera.hu

BMW OperaClub

PATRONS, ADVOCATES, SPONSORS, PARTNERS

BMW
Art&Culture

Opera Houses, wherever they may be, are among the world's most expensive cultural institutions to finance (with the exception of the film industry, although this generates enormous revenues internationally). So the time has come for our Opera to be surrounded by a circle of supporters worthy of its glorious 133-year history, and this exclusive club will also henceforth have its own seat.

We invite the Club's members to become strategic partners. The Opera provides access and networking opportunities to A-list managers, meaning that our partners can meet potential clients and take advantage of exclusive services and other benefits of club membership. On weekdays, the private OperaClub receives benefactors of the Hungarian State Opera in the corridors around the Feszty Bar on the first floor or the cigar balcony of the boxes on the second floor: in an intimate, salon-type setting, where a selection of coffee house specialities, a smoking terrace and private events. Club members are provided with a card for making use our services, subject to advance registration, daily from 10 am to 5 pm.

The operation of OperaClub, which received more than 1.1 billion forints in donations in 2016, is made possible by large-scale sponsorship from BMW. This year our goal is to collect 1.5 billion forints, the maximum amount allowed by law.

Club manager ▶ **Melitta Gyüdi** (gyudimelitta@opera.hu)

Friends of the Opera

THE MOST FAITHFUL

The Association of Friends of the Opera is a special organisation with a membership that spans the globe. At the centre of their interest is a unique and extraordinarily complex world which for many people is incomprehensible and strange. But these friends of the opera adore this incomparably regal and theatrical genre. Across the world, they gather in groups in order that they might not only enjoy the object of their passion, but support it as well. Because the opera and the ballet are truly royal genres that depend on the kings of today, that is, the support of the state and society. Without this support, they cannot survive. But this support more than pays for itself with fine performances. We welcome both lovers of opera and ballet and those people who are ready to support us with their generosity!

In our case, it is not the association that supports the institution, but it is the latter that provides special discounts to the members because of their special relationship with it. We encourage you to apply for one of the limited number of memberships in the association.

Miklós Szinetár Director and Professor Emeritus
President of the Budapest Association of Friends of the Opera
Honorary General Director of the Hungarian State Opera

Contact Information:

Postal address, office ► *1062 Budapest, Andrássy út 126.*

Office building, ground floor No. 13

Szilvia Gémes Opera singer, General Secretary of
the Budapest Association of Friends of the Opera

Customer service in person and by telephone ► Mondays
between 10 am and 2 pm

Telephone, programme information ► (+36 1) 269-02-78

E-mail ► operabaratok@operabaratok.hu

www.operabaratok.hu

OpeRadio

EASY LISTENINGS

Today's rich selection of radio stations was lacking one that exclusively broadcasts operatic and ballet music. Since January 2016, through this virtual channel, we have been sending news from our institution out to cyberspace, with records and our own recordings, as well as – on special occasions – broadcasts of performances from the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre.

Our plans include having tapes of the Opera's productions made by Hungarian Radio digitised and released, as well as to share discs featuring our artists recorded by Hungaroton and other record companies.

Chief Editor ► **Dávid Zsoldos**

www.opera.hu/radio

Total Artist

EXCHANGING IDEAS AT THE TABLE OF MIKLÓS BÁNFFY

There are many secrets hidden in the former office in the Opera House of the great nobleman Miklós Bánffy, the last of Hungary's great polymaths. To sit there and share experiences and ideas with representatives of all of the other disciplines of the arts and to frankly discuss matters of great importance would be a truly remarkable opportunity. We are planning a late-evening weekly round-up to include a relatively stable group of guests, with leaders and artists from important Hungarian institutions placing their own unique and artistic imprint on the passing time. Total Artist will be a presentation by five artists.

Host ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**, general director

Producer ▶ **Zoltán Amin**

Partner ▶ **Optimum Solution Enterprise, Echo TV**

Opera Magazine

WHERE THE NEWS UNFOLDS

In the past, the biggest Hungarian cultural institution's primary use for its own magazine was to provide its partners and supporters with an exclusive advertising platform – and also to provide some information to fans. The bi-monthly periodical summoned into life five years ago in 2012 has taken on a good bit more of a challenge than that. By keeping marketing considerations at arm's length, it has aspired to be a cultural magazine of quality and profundity that is worthy of the entire range of the Opera House's programmes, as it seeks to be much more than simply an opera magazine.

Issues: September – November – January – March – May

Shortly after the change in regime in Hungary in 1989, the once-vibrant flame of the domestic record industry all but flickered out and the recording of operas, which requires unusually extensive resources, fell by the wayside. It is not so much the lack of the 23rd recording of Tosca that is so painful, since this is not terribly important from an international perspective, but rather the fact that we are deprived of recordings of the important Hungarian works of the past 30 years, and an entire generation of artists has also been almost entirely robbed of the chance to achieve some measure of immortality via sound recordings.

The OperaVault brand, launched in 2011, aims to end both deficiencies. The Opera, thanks to its incredible artistic talent pool, has agreed each year to record and release an entire Hungarian opus in a series of its own while simultaneously producing the work itself on stage. We will make a live recording of another Hungarian opera as a concert performance and another as a live staged production, release one of our archived radio materials and issue a memorable collection of recordings of an artist and a volume about the history of the institution. Our latest three-year undertaking is to conduct interviews with the Eternal Members, in which the members of the "living Pantheon" will discuss their careers and help us select photos for the 30 publications we will be compiling; we will also publish illustrated books about each of the departed Eternal Members, with reviews and biographies.

All the publications listed below are available for sale at the OperaShop at the Opera House (at the Dalszínház Street entrance) and can be purchased online from the Opera's webshop.

Kiadványaink:

- Erkel ▶ **Bánk bán** (Bándi, Lukács, Kertesi / Héja; 2011, original version, studio recording, 2 CDs)
- Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (Fekete, Miklósa, Fodor / Héja; 2012, original version, studio recording, 2 CDs)
- Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (Fekete, Miklósa, Fodor / Héja; 2012, original version, excerpts + making-of, 1 CD)
- Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (Simándy, Kincses, Horváth / Medveczky; 1977, condensed version, archive, 1 CD)
- Erkel ▶ **Dózsa György** (Fekete, Miks, Kelemen / Kocsár; 2014, condensed version, live recording, 1 CD)
- Kodály ▶ **Háry János** (Szegedi, Gál, Szvétek / Héja; 2013, studio recording, 2 CD's)
- Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room** (Gál, Molnár L., Rost / Kocsár; 2016, studio recording, 1 CD)
- Dohnányi ▶ **Der Tenor** (Fekete, Miks, Haja / Vajda; 2014, studio recording, 2 CD's)
- Goldmark ▶ **Die Königin von Saba** (Gál, Sümegi, Thammathi / Kovács; 2015, condensed version, live recording, 1 CD)
- Donizetti ▶ **Anna Bolena** (Szűcs, Komlósi, Gulyás / Erdélyi; 1986, archive, live recording, 1 CD)
- Verdi ▶ **La forza del destino** (Tokody, Kelen, Polgár / Gardelli; 1990, archive, live recording, 3 CD's)
- ▶ **Fischer-Dieskau at the Erkel Theatre** (Wolf-Lieder, Richter; 1973, archive, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Erkel Theatre102** (Pavarotti, Domingo, Kovács et al., archive, excerpts, 2 CD's)
- ▶ **Mária Gyrkovics100** (unpublished recordings, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Tibor Udvardy100** (unpublished recordings, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Fricsay100** (archive, excerpts, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Simándy100** (unpublished live recordings, 1 CD)
- ▶ **From the Opera Recordings of Mária Sudlik** (archive, excerpts, 1 CD)

- ▶ **Ella Fitzgerald at the Erkel Theatre** (1973, archive, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Cziffra56** (1956, archive, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Stars of the Opera House I-II** (archive, excerpts, 2 CD's – Hungaroton)
- ▶ **Where the World Unfolds – Opera130** (book and 1 DVD)
- ▶ **His Life was Music – Fricsay100** (book)
- ▶ **Failoni125 – The Hungarian Failoni** (book)
- ▶ **Miklós Radnai125 – The Right Person at the Right Place** (book)
- ▶ **BFTZ160** (live recording of the jubilee concert)
Géza Fodor ▶ **What's Playing on the Record?** (book trilogy)
- ▶ **For the Road 2013** (Constitution Gala, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2014** (Eschenbach, Steinberg, Segerstam, orchestral excerpts, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2015** (Magic Flute for Children – Szemere, Megyesi, Cser / Köteles; 2014, live recording, 1 DVD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2016** (Leander and Linseed DVD – Bakonyi, Molnár Á., Gradsach / Bogányi; 2015, live recording, 1 DVD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2015** (Magic Flute for Children – Szemere, Megyesi, Cser / Köteles; 2014, live recording, 1 DVD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2016** (Leander and Linseed DVD – Bakonyi, Molnár Á., Gradsach / Bogányi; 2015, live recording, 1 DVD)
- ▶ **For the Road 2017** (Miller, Székely, Joviczky et al., archive, excerpts, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Ádám Medveczky – The Sound of the Silent Baton** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Simándy100** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Lilla Pártay** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Miklós Szinetár** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Sándor Sólyom Nagy** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Imre Dózsa** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Ilona Tokody** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)

The large-scale thematic festival of the Hungarian Season provided an opportunity for the Opera to create a frame for its voluminous CD series, which had been launched in 2011. Here's the project, which contains recordings of 40 operas by 20 Hungarian composers. As a bonus, the box set also includes DVDs of four dance productions and a Strauss operetta with a Hungarian theme: *Der Zigeunerbaron*. (A supplement will be published in a few years' time with new recordings.)

1. BALASSA ▶ **The Man Outside**
2. BARTÓK ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** (2013, live recording)
3. BELLA ▶ **Spring Awakening** (2017, live recording)
4. BOZZAY ▶ **The Last Five Scenes** (live recording)
5. DOHNÁNYI ▶ **Der Tenor** (2014, studio recording)
6. DURKÓ ▶ **Moses** (live recording)
7. EÖTVÖS ▶ **Love and Other Demons** (2017, live recording)
8. ERKEL ▶ **Bánk bán** (2011, studio recording, original version)
9. ERKEL ▶ **Bátori Mária** (2016, original version, condensed version, live recording)
10. ERKEL ▶ **Dózsa György** (2014, condensed version, live recording)
11. ERKEL ▶ **Hunyadi László** (2012, studio recording, original version)
12. ERKEL ▶ **King Stephen** (2013, live recording)
13. FEKETE ▶ **The Saved City** (2003, live recording)
14. GOLDMARK ▶ **Die Königin von Saba** (2015, condensed version, live recording)
15. GRYLLUS ▶ **Two Women** (2017, live recording)
16. GYÖNGYÖSI ▶ **The Stork Calif** (2017, live recording)
17. KODÁLY ▶ **Czinka Panna** (2017, live recording)
18. KODÁLY ▶ **Háry János** (2013, studio recording)
19. KODÁLY ▶ **The Spinning Room** (2016, studio recording)
20. LAJTHA ▶ **The Blue Hat** (2017, live recording)
21. LENDVAY ▶ **La putain respectueuse** (2017, live recording)
22. LIGETI ▶ **Le grand macabre** (2017, live recording)
23. MADARÁSZ ▶ **The Last Waltz** (2017, live recording)
24. MEZEI ▶ **Opposite the Catafalque** (2017, live recording)
25. ORBÁN ▶ **Prince Pikkó** (2017, live recording)
26. PETROVICS ▶ **C'est la guerre** (2017, live recording)

- 27. PETROVICS ▶ **Lysistrate** (2017, live recording)
- 28. RAUTAVAARA ▶ **The Mine** (2016, live recording)
- 29. RÁNKI ▶ **King Pomade's New Clothes** (2017, live recording)
- 30. RUZITSKA ▶ **Béla's Flight** (2017, live recording)
- 31. SÁRI ▶ **Solar Eclipse** (2010, live recording)
- 32. SELMECZI ▶ **Spiritisti** (2017, live recording)
- 33. SOLTI ▶ **La Violetta** (2017, live recording)
- 34. SZOKOLAY ▶ **Blood Wedding** (late version, 2017, live recording)
- 35. SZOKOLAY ▶ **Hamlet** (2015, live recording)
- 36. SZÓNYI ▶ **The Stubborn Princess** (2017, live recording)
- 37. TALLÉR ▶ **Leander and Linseed** (2014, live recording)
- 38. VAJDA ▶ **Mario and the Magician** (2013, live recording)
- 39. VAJDA ▶ **Mrs. Karnyó** (2009, live recording)
- 40. VARGA ▶ **Love** (2016, live recording)

Bonus:

- ▶ **Overtures** (Beischer-Matyó, Tallér, Varga, Madarász, Karosi – live recordings)
- TALLÉR ▶ **Leander and Linseed** (DVD, 2014, live recording)
- Gulya ▶ **Piano Concerto**
- Strauss, J. Jr. ▶ **Der Zigeunerbaron** (DVD, in Hungarian, 2017, live recording)
- Pártay–Liszt ▶ **The Golden Brush** (DVD, 2014, live recording)
- Venekei–Dés ▶ **A Streetcar Names Desire** (DVD, 2017, live recording)
- seregi–Goldmark ▶ **The Taming of the Shrew** (DVD, live recording)
- Bartók–seregi ▶ **The Miraculous Mandarin** (DVD, 2017, live recording)
- Bartók–Juhász ▶ **Dance Suite** (DVD, 2017, live recording)
- Bartók–Frenák ▶ **The Wooden Prince** (DVD, 2017, live recording)

- Poldini ▶ **Wedding at Carnival** (2017, studio recording, 2 CD's)
- Ránki ▶ **The Tragedy of Man** (1970, archive, live recording, 2 CD's)
- Kenessey ▶ **The Gold and the Woman** (2018, live recording, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Duke Ellington at the Erkel Theatre** (1971, archive, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Oscar Peterson at the Erkel Theatre** (1972, archive, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Útravaló 2018** (children's chorus recordings, 1 CD)
- ▶ **Zsuzsa Kun** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **István Berczelly** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Attila Csikós** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Katalin Kasza** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Margit László** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Sándor Palcsó** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Adél Orosz** (Eternal Members of the Opera series)
- ▶ **Aladár Tóth50+** (monography)
- ▶ **Miklós Bánffy** (monography)
- ▶ **Joviczky100** (archive, excerpts, 1 CD)

In the first half of October 2017 we will be recording **Ferenc Erkel's** opera *Erzsébet* ("Elizabeth"), which has survived in fragments and has never been recorded. The opera was conceived after the Constitution of Olmütz as Austro-Hungarian relations were thawing – it is impossible not to notice that it was all but dedicated to another Elizabeth – the beloved empress "Sissi". Erkel composed the second act of this three-act opera relating the story of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, descendant of the Árpád dynasty and wife of Louis IV of Thuringia, with the other two written by the **Doppler** brothers. We plan to release the record on St. Elizabeth's Day: 19 November 2017.

OperaExhibition

EXHIBITIONS 2017/2018

Red Salon:

Bluebeard100 *(from 24 May 2018)*

Erkel Theatre – Kodály Room:

Mozart at the Opera *(25 September 2017 – 27 October 2017)*

French Grand Operas in Pest *(28 October 2017 – 17 November 2017)*

Rossini at the Opera *(18 November 2017 – 8 December 2017)*

Fairy-Tale Operas *(9 December 2017 – 17 March 2018)*

Soviet Ballet in Hungary *(17 March 2018 – 30 June 2018)*

Opera Shop

THE LARGEST OPERA STORE IN HUNGARY

The 133-year-old Opera House's former ticket office on Dalszínház Street is now the home of a record shop with the largest opera and ballet music selection in Hungary, with CDs, DVDs, and vinyl and gramophone records not only available for purchase, but also to listen to in store. Not to mention that this will be the only place in the world where you can purchase those special souvenirs and mementos that are unique to the Opera, for example, the Opera's carefully selected drinks assortment and all of our publications, including records, books, programmes, posters, yearbooks and photos with autographs as well as attractive and practical accessories: jewellery and opera glasses. Product development and production is in progress.

Entrance from Dalszínház Street.

Opening hours: Every day between 10 am and 8 pm

The Opera Shop will remain open during the modernisation of the Opera House, but our guests and other customers will also be able to purchase our products at the Erkel Theatre during the 2017/18 season. Another piece of good news: we will launch our webshop in 2017, so our souvenirs will be available online too.

OperaAssortment

THE ART OF DRINKING

As the greatest theatre in Hungary, the Hungarian State Opera House is now seeking to match the elegance of its 130 years of history by offering premium drinks to its guests. The discretely yet uniquely labelled bottles contain craft red and white wines, a delightful rosé, a rare sparkling wine, a pálinka fruit brandy made from Tokaj grapes and bitters made from Transylvanian herbs.

Under production ► **Opera House sweet liquor**

Red ► **Cabernet Sauvignon** (Piarista Bor)

White ► **Badacsony Welschriesling** (A' cappelle Pincészet)

Rosé ► **Pinot gris "nemrozé"** (Skrabski Pincészet)

Sparkling Wine ► **Csopak Welschriesling (raw)** (Szent Donát)

Pálinka ► **Brandy made from the pomace of Tokaj aszú grapes** (Vámosújfalú)

Bitters ► **Salvator** (Csíksomlyó)

Opera Yearbook

RECORD THE PAST

The Opera seeks to reinstate the century-long tradition of publishing yearbooks for each season, and at the same time to revamp the format. This is why it is releasing, in limited numbers, a series of album books comprising illustrated reports of not only the most recent season, but also the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 seasons.

The publication includes the five Opera Magazines appearing during that season, the season's Programme Calendar, and the separately produced inserts. The freshly printed summaries of the year's events are released at the time of the company's general meeting at the opening of the season. Collectors can purchase or order the print version of the volume at the OperaShop. The digital version of the content will continue to be made available on the Opera's official website.

You shall go to the Ball!

BECAUSE AT THE BALL, CLOTHES DO MAKE THE PERSON

The Opera House takes pride in not only its own ball, but also in those of others. That's why it gives (primarily) high school students and non-profit organisations – on a first-come, first-served basis and between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday, 6 January and 14 February 2018 – the chance to borrow costumes from our collection of 400,000. These pieces, no longer used but kept in storage, might still be serviceable for the occasional ball, simply to be worn or just used as decoration or for a photo opportunity. The Opera does not charge a rental fee, only a preparation fee to cover expenses (Ft 2,750 per costume for cleaning), but it does request of the given institution or organisation that it set up a display stand offering publications and advertising material from the Opera House at the location of the ball.

As partner to the event, the Opera House will also provide admission tickets (a box for 6 persons) to the Erkel Theatre – to a performance of the Opera House's choosing – as the grand prize for the ball's raffle or other competition.

From 6 January 2016 to 11 February

info ► viddesviseld@opera.hu

Útravaló (For the Road) 2018

MUSIC FOR BABIES AND MOTHERS

On 1 January 2013, the General Director of the Hungarian State Opera presented to the first child born in Hungary in the New Year the first copy of the Útravaló (For the Road) CD, which was also received by the family of every Hungarian new-born (whether in Hungary or abroad) in the so-called Promobox package. The programme has been a huge success to date and is set to continue. The recording, reproduced in 80,000 copies, will be followed by a new edition featuring brand new recordings from the ensembles and soloists of the Opera.

While we made our selections for 2013 from among the most popular Hungarian operas and symphonic orchestral works, the 2014 edition of Útravaló was composed of recent radio broadcasts of the Opera's Philharmonic Orchestra. Útravaló 2015 was a DVD of the children's opera staged at the Erkel Theatre: *The Magic Flute for Children*. For the 2016 edition we selected the television recording of *Leander and Linseed*, the fairy-tale piece commissioned by the Opera from Zsófia Tallér, and in 2017 we chose a selection of popular opera excerpts with a dedication written by clinical psychologist **Dr Emőke Bagdy** – who follows in the footsteps of **Ákos Kovács**, **Katalin Kokas**, **Barnabás Kelemen** and **Mihály Kótai**. The 2018 edition will contain recordings from the Children's Chorus and the Chorus of the Opera with brief comments from Gergely Litkai.

Partners ► **Promobox Kft.**, **Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

Open Days

WITH OPEN HEARTS AND MINDS

The theatre world is full of mysteries, and the reality behind the illusion is known only to a few. We have numerous children's programmes built on this premise: this one, however, is aimed at adults. As the Opera House simultaneously provides a home to every area of the arts, it truly is a place brimming with secrets, and our open days allow visitors a unique peek behind the scenes. From ten in the morning to two in the afternoon, and during the morning rehearsal session, experienced guides will be taking visitors through all the practice rooms, as well as into some of the Opera House's offices.

1 October 2017 ▶ **World Music Day**

26 November 2017 ▶ **Open Ballet Day**

29 April 2018 ▶ **World Dance Day**

27 May 2018 ▶ **Open Ballet Day**

www.opera.hu

OperaCafé

SITTING DOWN WITH TOTAL ART

We had long yearned for an Opera House café worthy of the name that anyone can visit and enjoy a coffee and a slice of cake. While fine-tuning the functions of the main opera building designed by Miklós Ybl, we came to the idea of building a coffee shop in the former ticket office on Hajós Street in the summer of 2015.

Here the finest cakes and drinks await those meeting by the Opera, whether there for a performance, or to simply stand on the Sphinx Terrace with an ice cream in summer. The interior corridor housing the portraits of the Opera's eternal members from the past century will also be visible for all to see. (To best accompany this moment to savour, we recommend our selected drinks from the OperAssortment package.)

Partner ▶ **Zsidai Gastronomy**

OperaVisit

TOURS OF THE OPERA IN SEVEN LANGUAGES

Tours of the Opera House building, built 133 years ago by **Miklós Ybl**, whose 203rd anniversary is currently being celebrated, are conducted – under a long-term contract signed in 2009 – by an outside company. Guided tours in English, German, Spanish, Italian and French depart every day at 3 pm and 4 pm, with Japanese-language tours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays and tours in Russian on Tuesdays and Fridays. Hungarian-language tours may be requested for Sundays, but may also be set up for other days by prior arrangement. Dates and times may vary.

Groups of children and pensioners are entitled to discounted tour prices.

The tours of the public areas of the Opera House will continue throughout the modernisation project.

For more information on opening hours and further details please visit our continuously updated website ► www.operavisit.hu

Our Heroes and Heroines

ETERNAL MEMBERS AND MASTER ARTISTS

It is the eternal members of the Hungarian State Opera House themselves who always choose, by secret ballot, new “eternals”. Those eternal members who receive the Kossuth Prize and reach an age prescribed by government decree then become Master Artists. The Opera can currently boast 20 Master Artists, all of whom – along with the other eternal members – the Opera’s management invites to a dinner in their honour each year on the Tuesday following Easter Monday. The doyen of the Eternal members is **Miklós Szinetár**.

Eternal members (as at February 2017) ► **Zsuzsa Barlay, István Berczelly, János Berkes, Imre Dózsa, Katalin Hágai, Magda Kalmár, Katalin Kasza, Ildikó Kaszás, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, János Kovács, Kolos Kovács, Zsuzsa Kun, Margit László, Gyöngyi Lukács, Ádám Medveczky, Lajos Miller, Zsuzsa Misura, András Molnár, Adél Orosz, Sándor Palcsó, Lilla Pártay, Ildikó Pongor, Sándor Sólyom-Nagy, György Szakály, Miklós Szinetár, Ilona Tokody, Katalin Volf.**

Master Artists (as at February 2017) ► **Imre Dózsa, Katalin Hágai, Magda Kalmár, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, János Kovács, Kolos Kovács, Zsuzsa Kun, Ádám Medveczky, Lajos Miller, András Molnár, Adél Orosz, Lilla Pártay, Ildikó Pongor, Sándor Sólyom-Nagy, György Szakály, Miklós Szinetár, Ilona Tokody, Katalin Volf.**

Our Heroes and Heroines

DECEASED ETERNAL MEMBERS

Deceased Eternal Members (February 2017) ► **Karola Ágai, Kálmán Alszeghy, Éva Andor, Ágoston Balogh, Alfonz Bartha, Mária Basilides, Anna Báthy, Ferenc Begányi, András Békés, Zsolt Bende, György Bordás, Bella Bordy, Mária Budanovits, Attila Csikós, Andor Dárday, Rózsi Delly, Erzsébet Dénes, Gabriella Déry, Miklós Erdélyi, Sándor Erkel, András Faragó, Sándor Farkas, János Ferencsik, János Fodor, József Forgách, Gábor Forray, Viktor Fülöp, Zoltán Fülöp, Mária Gyurkovics, Gitta Halász, Irén Hamala, Gyula Harangozó, Olga Haselbeck, Ferenc Havas, Erzsébet Házy, Ferenc Hegedűs, Róbert Ilosfalvy, László Jámbar, József Járay, József Joviczky, Oszkár Kálmán, Béla Karizs, János Kerekes, István Kerner, Árpád Kishegyi, Valéria Koltay, Pál Komáromy, Erzsébet Komlóssy, Endre Koréh, András Kórodi, György Korondi, Béla Környei, István Laczó, Gabriella Lakatos, György Losonczy, Ervin Lukács, Miklós Lukács, Pál Lukács, Albert Madarassy, Rezső Mader, Oszkár Maleczky, Tivadar Márk, László Márkus, Mária Mátyás, Anna Medek, Béla Melis, György Melis, Jacqueline Menyhárt, Imre Mészáros, Ferenc Mihályi, András Mikó, Kálmán Nádasdy, Ferenc Nádaszi, János B. Nagy, Mária Németh, Ella Némethy, Géza Oberfrank, Gusztáv Oláh, Júlia Orosz, Júlia Osváth, Melinda Ottrubay, Klára Palánkay, Imre Palló, László Palócz, Vera Pásztor, Kálmán Pataky, József Patkó, László Pless, László Polgár, Miklós Radnai, Magda Raskó, Gabriella Relle, József Réti, Magda Rigó, Viktor Róna, Endre Rösler, Zoltán Sallay, Erzsébet Sándor, Judit Sándor, Sára Sebeök, László Seregi, Failoni Sergio, József Simándy, Mária Sudlik, Sándor Svéd, Karola Szalay, Irén Szecsődi, Mihály Székely, Ferenc Székelyhidny, Ferenc Szende, Margit Szilvássy, György Szirtes, Olga Szőnyi, Paula Takács, Magda Tiszay, Aladár Tóth, Tibor Udvardy, Klotild Ugray, Nelly Vágó, Pál Varga, Italia Vasquez, Béla Venczell, Rózsi Walter, Lívia Wurga, Zoltán Závodszy.**

The Opera's Ambassadors

SERVICE AND PERSONAL EXAMPLE

In autumn of 2013, the Hungarian State Opera launched the "Opera Ambassador" programme, in which it dispatches to all parts of Hungary those artists who have found their calling in, and who know and love the genre and the Opera House, to introduce young people to this marvellous art form. The aim of the programme is to help inculcate a young generation of opera-goers with a wider perspective and cultural understanding, addressing these children and young people in their own element.

The Ambassadors conduct high-quality presentations and courses as part of sessions held either inside or outside regular class time, based on a schedule and format arranged specifically for that institution, for any level from kindergarten through to high school. Our ambassadors are also happy to visit retirement homes, cultural centres and nonprofit organisations, and their functions also include the nurturing of talent and popularising the OperaAdventure series: all this in more than 1000 presentations a year.

Our ambassadors (as of February 2017) ► **Ákos Ambrus, Mária Ardó, Jutta Bokor, Tamás Clementis, Zsuzsanna Csonka, Erzsébet Erdélyi, László Haramza, Anikó Kórodi, Márta Kozák, András Laczó, Katalin Pitti, Jolán Sánta, Dr Mária Temesi, Andrea Ujvárosi, Ferenc Valter and Attila Wendler**, opera singers; **Katalin Kőszegi, Kornélia Mráz, Edit Rujsz, György Szirb, Zoltán Várkonyi** and **Krisztina Végh**, ballet dancers; **György Käfer**, clarinetist; **Mária Nagy**, viola player and **Etelka Szebenyi**, stage manager.

Professional director ► **Éva Bátor**, opera singer

Programme manager ► **Dr Noémi Kiszely**

info ► nagykovet@opera.hu



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

The Artists

Soloists

OPERA

Alexandru Agache – *Un ballo in maschera, Pagliacci, Nabucco, Cavalleria rusticana, Simon Boccanegra, Tosca*

Aleksandrs Antonenko – *Otello*

Elchin Azizov – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko

Antal Bakó – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *The Gold and the Woman, I pazzi per progetto, Les dialogues des Carmélites, The Tót Family*

Anikó Bakonyi – *The Gold and the Woman, Tiefland, L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso, Porgy and Bess, Stiffelio, Die Zauberflöte*

Marcell Bakonyi – *Figaro 2.o, L'italiana in Algeri, Salome, Simon Boccanegra*

Kornélia Bakos – *Rigoletto, La traviata, Die Zauberflöte*

Éva Balatoni – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *Der Zigeunerbaron, Figaro 2.o, Cavalleria rusticana*

Péter Balczó – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Pagliacci, Bánk bán, Japanese tour, Gianni Schicchi, Lucia di Lammermoor, Otello, Salome, La traviata, Der Vampyr*

Gabriella Balga – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Così fan tutte, Tiefland, Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László, Hänsel und Gretel, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Der Corregidor, L'italiana in Algeri, La traviata, Die Zauberflöte, Der Vampyr*

Zsuzsanna Bazsinka – *Il tritico*

Zoltán Bárti Fazekas – *Der Zigeunerbaron, King Pomade's New Clothes, The Telephone, Il tritico*

Éva Bátori – *Die tote Stadt, Die Zauberflöte*

László Beöthy Kiss – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *King Pomade's New Clothes, The Telephone, Il tritico*

Nikoletta Bolya Papp – *Suor Angelica*

Gergely Boncsér – *Der Zigeunerbaron, Tiefland, Les Huguenots, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Operalsland, The Magic Flute for Children, Die Rheinnixen, Salome, Stiffelio*

Csilla Boross – *Tosca*

Gábor Bretz – *Les Huguenots, Nabucco, Simon Boccanegra*

Szabolcs Brickner – *Japanese tour, L'elisir d'amore, La bohème, Il tritico*

Soloists

OPERA

Annamária Bucsi – *Figaro 2.o*

Lívía Budai – *Les dialogues des Carmélites*

Gabriella Busa – *Die Zauberflöte*

Tamás Busa – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *Der Zigeunerbaron, I pazzi per progetto, Les Huguenots, Little Magic Flute, Tosca, The Tót Family, Il tritico, Der Vampyr*

Mária Celeng – *Così fan tutte, Hänsel und Gretel*

Arturo Chacón-Cruz – *Simon Boccanegra*

Kamen Chanév – *Cavalleria rusticana, Pagliacci*

Yolanda Covacinschi – *Un ballo in maschera*

Zsuzsa Csarnóy – *Der Zigeunerbaron*

Antal Cseh – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *Bánk bán, Les Huguenots, King Pomade's New Clothes, Tosca*

Krisztián Cser – *Un ballo in maschera, La bohème, Figaro 2.o, Bluebeard's Castle, The Magic Flute for Children, Die Rheinnixen, Salome, Stiffelio, Der Vampyr, Secular cantatas*

Ferenc Cserhalmi – *The Gold and the Woman, Un ballo in maschera, Die Frau ohne Schatten, I pazzi per progetto, Les Huguenots, Nabucco, Otello, Tosca, Die Zauberflöte, La vestala*

Balázs Csémy – *Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship*

Gábor Csiki – *L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso, Porgy and Bess, Salome, Simon Boccanegra*

Jenő Dékán – *Les Huguenots, Nabucco, The Magic Flute for Children*

Attila Dobák – *La bohème, L'italiana in Algeri, Salome, Simon Boccanegra*

Veronika Dobi Kiss – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, Cavalleria rusticana, Rigoletto, Il tritico*

Plácido Domingo – *Simon Boccanegra*

Nóra Ducza – *Figaro 2.o, Secular cantatas*

Sándor Egri – *Hunyadi László, Japanese tour, Otello, Rigoletto, Salome*

Attila Erdős – *Un ballo in maschera*

Yusif Eyvazov – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko

Gábor Farkas – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

Soloists

OPERA

Mária Farkasréti – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko,
Der Zigeunerbaron, Il campanello, Figaro 2.0, Il tritico

Attila Fekete – *Un ballo in maschera, Pagliacci, La bohème, Tiefland,*
Hunyadi László, Simon Boccanegra, Tosca, La traviata, Il tritico

Beatrix Fodor – *Figaro 2.0, Hunyadi László, Operalsland, Porgy and Bess*

Bernadett Fodor – *Un ballo in maschera, Tiefland, Der Corregidor,*
Porgy and Bess

Gabriella Fodor – *Iphigenia in Aulis, Götterdämmerung,*
Porgy and Bess, Die Zauberflöte

Anatolij Fokanov – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, Rigoletto, Stiffelio,*
Tosca, La traviata

Péter Fried – *Götterdämmerung, Japanese Tour, Bluebeard's Castle,*
Lucia di Lammermoor, Opera134, Turandot, Die Zauberflöte

Máté Fülep – *Un ballo in maschera, I pazzi per progetto, Les*
Huguenots, L'oca del Cairo ossia lo sposo deluso, Porgy and Bess,
La traviata

Francesco Pio Galasso – *La vestala*

Géza Gábor – *Un ballo in maschera, Bánk bán, Der Zigeunerbaron,*
Tiefland, Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László, Parsifal, Die Rheinnixen,
Rigoletto, Il tritico

Erika Gál – *Tiefland, Götterdämmerung, Bluebeard's Castle,*
Nabucco, The Spinning Room, La vestala

Gabi Gál – *Parsifal*

Lajos Geiger – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko,
Die Frau ohne Schatten, Bánk bán, La bohème, Der Zigeunerbaron,
Il campanello, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Parsifal, Porgy and Bess,
The Spinning Room, L'elisir d'amore

Zoltán Gradsach – *The Magic Flute for Children,*
The Spinning Room

Edita Gruberova – *Japanese tour*

Álmos Gyarmati – *Il tritico*

András Hábetler – *The Gold and the Woman, La bohème,*
Der Zigeunerbaron, Figaro 2.0, OperaCommando, OperaSziget,
Papageno, Tosca, The Tót Family

Soloists

OPERA

Zsolt Haja – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Pagliacci, Bánk bán,*
Der Zigeunerbaron, Così fan tutte, Les Huguenots, Hänsel und Gretel,
Der Corregidor, Porgy and Bess, Die Rheinnixen, The Spinning Room,
Secular cantatas

László Haramza – *Tosca*

Melinda Heiter – *Figaro 2.0, Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László,*
L'italiana in Algeri, Cavalleria rusticana, Stiffelio, Der Vampyr

Lilla Horti – *Götterdämmerung*

István Horváth – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Bánk bán,*
Carmina Burana, Hunyadi László, Japanese tour,
Lucia di Lammermoor, OperaFüred, OperaSziget, Rigoletto, Salome

Péter Illés – *Les dialogues des Carmélites*

Gergely Irlanda – *Bánk bán, Les dialogues des Carmélites*

Ildikó Jakab – *Hänsel und Gretel, L'elisir d'amore*

András Káldi Kiss – *Figaro 2.0, Hunyadi László, Rigoletto,*
La traviata

Péter Kálmán – *Götterdämmerung, Così fan tutte, Il tritico*

Michele Kalmány – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Opera134, Otello,*
Nabucco, Rigoletto, La vestala

Zsófia Kálnay – *Hänsel und Gretel, Cavalleria rusticana, La traviata*
Zoltán Kelemen – *Pagliacci, Bánk bán, Hunyadi László, Japanese tour,*
Turandot

Márta Kempf – *Suor Angelica*

Ingrid Kertesi – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Hänsel und Gretel*

Bori Keszei – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Figaro 2.0,*
L'oca del Cairo ossia lo sposo deluso, OperaFüred, OperaSziget,
The Magic Flute for Children, Die Rheinnixen, Il tritico, Der Vampyr

András Kiss – *Figaro 2.0, Les Huguenots, Nabucco, La traviata, Il tritico*

Atilla Kiss B. – *The Gold and the Woman, Der Zigeunerbaron, Tosca,*
Péter Kiss – *Les Huguenots, Parsifal, Rigoletto, Salome, Turandot,*
Die Zauberflöte

Kiss Tivadar – *The Gold and the Woman, Der Zigeunerbaron,*
Les Huguenots, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Porgy and Bess,
Die Zauberflöte, Der Vampyr

Soloists

OPERA

Tamás Kóbor – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko,
Il campanello, Salome, Die Zauberflöte

Klára Kolonits – *Così fan tutte, Les Huguenots, Lucia di Lammermoor,*
Die Zauberflöte, Der Vampyr

Ildikó Komlósi – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Bánk bán,*
Iphigenia in Aulis, Bluebeard's Castle, Operai34, Cavalleria rusticana,
Salome

Kovachinski, Yolanda – *Un ballo in maschera*

Annamária Kovács – *Suor Angelica*

István Kovács – *The Gold and the Woman, Die Frau ohne Schatten,*
Bánk bán, Figaro 2.0, Hunyadi László, Iphigenia in Aulis, Japanese tour,
Bluebeard's Castle, Lucia di Lammermoor, Parsifal, Prologue,
New Year's at the Erkel

István Kováčsházi – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Götterdämmerung,*
Parsifal, Richter102

Kolos Kováts – *Bánk bán,*
Die Zauberflöte

András Körösi – *Un ballo in maschera, Figaro 2.0, Les Huguenots,*
Iphigenia in Aulis, Kádár's Last Speech, Der Corregidor, Rigoletto,
Salome, Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship, Tosca,
Turandot

Kinga Kriszta – *Carmina Burana, Der Zigeunerbaron,*
Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László, Die Zauberflöte

Ágnes Anna Kun – *Figaro 2.0, Lucia di Lammermoor, Salome*

Mónika Langermann – *Suor Angelica, Nabucco*

Boldizsár László – *La bohème, Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László,*
Operai34, Cavalleria rusticana, Porgy and Bess, Die Rheinnixen,
Rigoletto, Stiffelio, The Tót Family

Gabriella Léty Kiss – *Suor Angelica, Pagliacci, La bohème,*
Les Huguenots, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Porgy and Bess

Gyöngyi Lukács – *Bánk bán, Bluebeard's Castle, Cavalleria*
rusticana, Tosca

Júlia Magassy – *Suor Angelica*

Mykhailo Malafi – *Requiem*

Soloists

OPERA

Erika Markovics – *Suor Angelica, Die Frau ohne Schatten, Parsifal,*
La traviata

Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz – *Hänsel und Gretel, OperaFüred,*
OperaSziget, New Year's at the Erkel

Zoltán Megyesi – *Figaro 2.0, Japanese tour,*
L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso, Lucia di Lammermoor, Salome,
Turandot, Die Zauberflöte, Secular cantatas

Andrea Meláth – *Die tote Stadt, Götterdämmerung, Die Zauberflöte,*
Senza sangue

Viktória Mester – *Così fan tutte, Figaro 2.0, Götterdämmerung,*
Japanese tour, Bluebeard's Castle, L'italiana in Algeri, Rigoletto

Erika Miklósa – *Japanese tour, Lucia di Lammermoor, Rigoletto,*
La traviata

Adrienn Miksch – *Figaro 2.0, Götterdämmerung, Japanese tour,*
Bluebeard's Castle

Ágnes Molnár – *Suor Angelica, Figaro 2.0, Hänsel und Gretel,*
Rigoletto

Levente Molnár – *Un ballo in maschera, Bánk bán,*
Barbie Blue, La bohème, Die tote Stadt, Bluebeard's Castle,
Richter102

Zsolt Molnár – *Little Bohemian Christmas, Les Huguenots,*
Der Vampyr

József Mukk – *Les Huguenots,*
L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso

Haris Nadin – *Suor Angelica, Les dialogues des Carmélites*

Zoltán Nagy – *Così fan tutte, Figaro 2.0, L'italiana in Algeri*

Helga Nánási – *Un ballo in maschera*

Stuart Neill – *Turandot*

Anna Netrebko – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko

Gábor Németh – *La bohème, Rigoletto, Il trittico*

Judit Németh – *Götterdämmerung, Hänsel und Gretel, Otello,*
Parsifal, Die Rheinnixen, Richter102

Leo Nucci – *La traviata*

Botond Ódor – *Die tote Stadt*

Soloists

OPERA

András Palerdi – *La bohème, Così fan tutte, Figaro 2.0, Iphigenia in Aulis, Bluebeard's Castle, Der Corregidor, Nabucco, L'italiana in Algeri, OperaFüred, Parsifal, King Pomade's New Clothes, Porgy and Bess, Richter102, Simon Boccanegra, Die Zauberflöte*

Polina Pasztircsák – *La bohème, Opera134, Porgy and Bess, Requiem, Simon Boccanegra, La traviata*

Adorján Pataki – *The Spinning Room*

Bence Pataki – *Figaro 2.0*

Dániel Pataky – *L'elisir d'amore*

Erika Pádárné Kiss – *The Spinning Room*

Kristóf Poroszlay – *The Telephone*

Gyula Rab – *Così fan tutte, Japanese tour, Die Zauberflöte*

István Rácz – *The Gold and the Woman, Bánk bán, Figaro 2.0, Hunyadi László, OperaFüred, The Tót Family, Der Vampyr*

Rita Rácz – *Hunyadi László, King Pomade's New Clothes, Die Rheinnixen, Secular cantatas*

Szilvia Rálik – *Un ballo in maschera, Die Frau ohne Schatten, Nabucco, Turandot, La vestala*

Róbert Rezsnyák – *Les Huguenots, Iphigenia in Aulis, King Pomade's New Clothes, L'elisir d'amore, Die Zauberflöte, Der Vampyr*

Rafael Rojas – *Otello*

István Róka – *Turandot*

Alexander Roslavets – *Requiem*

Andrea Rost – *Japanese tour, Otello, Salome, Simon Boccanegra, The Spinning Room*

Orsolya Hajnalka Röser – *Bánk bán, La bohème, Little Bohemian Christmas, I pazzi per progetto, Der Zigeunerbaron, Il campanello, Les Huguenots, Hunyadi László, OperaSziget, Porgy and Bess, New Year's at the Erkel, Die Zauberflöte*

Orsolya Sáfár – *Così fan tutte, L'italiana in Algeri, The Spinning Room, The Telephone, Il trittico, Die Zauberflöte*

Csaba Sándor – *La bohème, Die Zauberflöte*

Soloists

OPERA

Atala Schöck – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Hänsel und Gretel, Japanese tour, Porgy and Bess, The Spinning Room*

Miklós Sebestyén – *L'italiana in Algeri*

Gerhard Siegel – *Salome*

Krisztina Simon – *Hänsel und Gretel, Parsifal, Rigoletto*

Zoltán Somogyi – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

Eszter Sümegi – *Un ballo in maschera, Die Frau ohne Schatten, Tiefland, Japanese tour, Opera134, Nabucco, Richter102, Turandot, Il trittico*

Tünde Szabóki – *Figaro 2.0*

Ildikó Szakács – *Die Frau ohne Schatten, Der Zigeunerbaron, Japanese tour, The Magic Flute for Children, Parsifal*

Andrea Szántó – *Bluebeard's Castle, Barbie Blue, Requiem, Rigoletto*

Tibor Szappanos – *Pagliacci, Hunyadi László, Iphigenia in Aulis, Japanese tour, Der Corregidor, Lucia di Lammermoor, La traviata, New Year's at the Erkel, Die Zauberflöte*

Csaba Szegedi – *La bohème, Carmina Burana, Tiefland, Hänsel und Gretel, Japanese tour, Der Corregidor, Lucia di Lammermoor, Porgy and Bess, Die Rheinnixen, Simon Boccanegra, Senza sangue*

Zita Szemere – *Bánk bán, Little Bohemian Christmas, Così fan tutte, Les dialogues des Carmélites, L'italiana in Algeri, Rigoletto, L'elisir d'amore, The Tót Family*

Károly Szemerédy – *Les Huguenots, Götterdämmerung, Bluebeard's Castle, Cavalleria rusticana, Porgy and Bess, Senza Sangue, The Spinning Room, Il trittico*

László Szentimrei – *Il trittico*

János Szerekován – *Der Zigeunerbaron, Die tote Stadt, Les Huguenots, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Der Corregidor, Parsifal, Porgy and Bess, Stiffelio, Il trittico, Der Vampyr*

Gábor Szirtes – *Japanese tour*

Nelli Szűcs – *Der Zigeunerbaron*

Tamás Szüle – *Andrea Chénier – with Anna Netrebko, La bohème, Japanese tour, Rigoletto, L'elisir d'amore, Il trittico, Die Zauberflöte*

Soloists

OPERA

László Szvétek – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *Il campanello*, *Little Bohemian Christmas*, *I pazzi per progetto*, *Der Zigeunerbaron*,
Il campanello, *Figaro 2.0*, *Tiefland*, *L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso*,
L'italiana in Algeri, *OperaSziget*, *Porgy and Bess*, *L'elisir d'amore*,
The Tót Family, *Die Zauberflöte*
Rita Tallós – *Japanese tour*
Tamás Tarjányi – *L'italiana in Algeri*
Mária Temesi – *The Tót Family*
Tómas Tómasson – *Parsifal*
Katalin Töreky – *Iphigenia in Aulis*, *Nabucco*
Béla Turpinszky-Gippert – *The Gold and the Woman*, *Les Huguenots*
Gergely Ujvári – *The Gold and the Woman*, *Japanese tour*, *Der Corregidor*,
Lucia di Lammermoor, *Otello*, *King Pomade's New Clothes*, *Porgy and Bess*,
The Spinning Room, *La traviata*, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Der Vampyr*
Andrea Ulbrich – *Der Zigeunerbaron*, *Die Rheinnixen*,
The Spinning Room, *Il trittico*

Júlia Vajda – *Figaro 2.0*, *The Tót Family*
Zita Váradi – *The Gold and the Woman*, *Pagliacci*, *La bohème*,
Götterdämmerung, *L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso*, *Les dialogues*
des Carmélites, *Der Corregidor*, *Parsifal*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Piano Arias*
Éva Várhelyi – *I pazzi per progetto*, *Die tote Stadt*, *Japanese tour*, *Parsifal*
Péter Vida – *Japanese tour*
Michael Volle – *Die Frau ohne Schatten*
Szilvia Vörös – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko, *Suor Angelica*,
Der Corregidor, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Nabucco*, *L'italiana in Algeri*, *Parsifal*
Bernadett Wiedemann – *Un ballo in maschera*, *Der Zigeunerbaron*,
Hänsel und Gretel, *The Spinning Room*, *Il trittico*
Eszter Wierdl – *Figaro 2.0*, *Parsifal*
Eszter Zavaros – *Suor Angelica*, *Little Bohemian Christmas*,
Der Zigeunerbaron, *Figaro 2.0*, *Die tote Stadt*, *Hänsel und Gretel*,
OperaSziget, *The Magic Flute for Children*, *Rigoletto*, *L'elisir d'amore*,
Die Zauberflöte
Géza Zsigmond – *The Gold and the Woman*,

Soloists

BALLET

Alexandra Kozmér – *Principal*
Tatiana Melnik – *Principal*
Aleszja Popova – *Principal*
Aliya Tanykpayeva – *Principal*
Máté Bakó – *Principal*
József Cserta – *Principal*
Gergely Leblanc – *Principal*
Zoltán Oláh – *Principal*
Dmitry Timofeev – *Principal*
Karina Sarkissova Rudroff – *Character Soloist*
Levente Bajári – *Character Soloist*
Miklós Dávid Kerényi – *Character Soloist*
Cristina Balaban – *Soloist*
Boros Ildikó – *Soloist*
Jessica Carulla Leon – *Soloist*
Lili Felméry – *Soloist*

Krisztina Gonzáles (née Keveházi) – *Soloist*
Adrienn Pap – *Soloist*
Dace Radina – *Soloist*
Bence Apáti – *Soloist*
Lurii Kekalo – *Soloist*
Ievgen Lagunov – *Soloist*
Roland Liebich – *Soloist*
Artemisz Bakó-Pisla – *Demi Soloist*
Elizaveta Cheprasova – *Demi Soloist*
Olga Chernakova – *Demi Soloist*
Andrea Erdős – *Demi Soloist*
Zsófia Gyarmati – *Demi Soloist*
Kim Minjung – *Demi Soloist*
Krisztina Pazár – *Demi Soloist*
Enikő Somorjai – *Demi Soloist*
Kristina Starostina – *Demi Soloist*

Soloists

BALLET

Gergő Ármin Balázi – Demi Soloist

Balázs Majoros – Demi Soloist

József Medvecz – Demi Soloist

Boris Myasnikov – Demi Soloist

Mikalai Radziush – Demi Soloist

Attila Szakács – Demi Soloist

András Szegő – Demi Soloist

Gábor Szigeti – Demi Soloist

Carlos Taravillo Mahillo – Demi Soloist

Sznezsana Gikovszki – Demi Character Soloist

Sára Weisz – Demi Character Soloist

Bálint Katona – Demi Character Soloist

Alekszandr Komarov – Demi Character Soloist

Csaba Solti – Demi Character Soloist

Conductors

OPERA, BALLET AND CONCERT CONDUCTORS

Philippe Auguin – *Iphigenia in Aulis*

Christian Badea – *Stiffelio, New Year's Concert*

László Bartal – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

Jader Bignamini – *Andrea Chénier* – with Anna Netrebko

Tibor Bogányi – *Carmina Burana, Solti International*

Conducting Competition

Marco Comin – *Cavalleria rusticana, Pagliacci*

István Dénes – *Bánk bán, Figaro 2.0, GermanLateNight,*

Opera on the Margaret Island, Porgy and Bess

András Déri – *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, La fille mal gardée,*

Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala

Dániel Dinnyés – *Lukács Gyöngyözo,*

Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship

Oliver von Dohnányi – *Les Huguenots*

Plácido Domingo – *Aida Tour with Plácido Domingo*

Dániel Erdélyi – *Der vierjährige Posten, Die Opernprobe*

Ádám Fischer – *Tristan und Isolde*

Péter Halász – *Così fan tutte, The Nutcracker, Figaro 2.0,*

Opera at Müpa Budapest

Máté Hátori – *Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs*

Domonkos Héja – *Der Zigeunerbaron, Carpathian Opera Tour,*

Opera at Müpa Budapest, Turandot

József Horváth – *Figaro 2.0*

Zsolt Jankó – *Figaro 2.0, Oberon, Der Vampyr*

Gábor Káli – *L'elisir d'amore*

Ken-Ichiro Kobayashi – *Solti International Conducting Competition*

Gergely Kesselyák – *The Karamazovs, Nabucco, Die Rheinnixen,*

Tosca, Il trittico, New Year's at the Erkel

Balázs Kocsár – *Bánk bán, La bohème, Night of Stars, Die tote Stadt,*

Götterdämmerung, Japanese tour, Bluebeard's Castle, Lucia di Lammermoor,

Opera at Müpa Budapest, Operafüred, Otello, Parsifal, Ring Night,

Salome, Simon Boccanegra, Solti International Conducting Competition,

The Spinning Room, Tosca, YBL204, World Voice Day

Eugene Kohn – *La vestala*

Conductors

OPERA, BALLET AND CONCERT CONDUCTORS

Imre Kollár – *The Nutcracker, Etudes, Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs*

Mario Kosik – *Japanese tour*

János Kovács – *La bohème, Hänsel und Gretel, Japanese tour,*

Les dialogues des Carmélites, Lukács Gyöngyöző

Géza Köteles – *Il campanello, The Telephone, I pazzi per progetto,*

Billy Elliot, Little Bohemian Christmas,

Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship, The Magic Flute for Children

Francesco Lanzillotta – *L'italiana in Algeri*

Ádám Medveczky – *Carpathian Opera Tour, Rigoletto, Hunyadi László,*

Bluebeard's Castle, Prologue

Pier Giorgio Morandi – *Requiem*

Pál Németh – *L'oca del cairo ossia lo sposo deluso*

Péter Oberfrank – *Secular cantatas*

Michael Schönwandt – *New Year's at the Erkel*

György Selmeczi – *Béla's Flight, Prince Pikkó*

István Silló – *Billy Elliot, Carpathian Opera Tour*

Stefan Soltész – *Tiefeland, Opera134*

Kálmán Strausz – *OperaFüred*

Kálmán Szennai – *The Nutcracker, Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs,*

Carpathian Opera Tour

Gergely Vajda – *Barbie Blue, Bluebeard's Castle, Senza sangue*

György Vashegyi – *Die Zauberflöte*

Rafael R. Villalobos – *Hänsel und Gretel*

Ralf Weikert – *OperaCinema*

Massimo Zanetti – *Un ballo in maschera, Simon Boccanegra*

Directors

CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

András Aczél – *Little Bohemian Christmas, Cinema*

Szinetár, European Opera Days, Hungarian Opera

Day, Opera134, OperaPicnic, OperaSziget, Ring

Night, New Year's at the Erkel, World Voice Day

András Almási-Tóth – *The Telephone,*

Porgy and Bess

Ferenc Anger – *Night of Stars, Les dialogues*

des Carmélites, Die Rheinixen, Ring Night,

Salome, La traviata, Il trittico

Miklós Bánffy – *Bluebeard's Castle*

Fabio Ceresa – *Un ballo in maschera*

Georges Delnon – *Cavalleria rusticana, Pagliacci*

Plácido Domingo – *Aida Tour with Plácido*

Domingo

Balázs Benő Fehér – *Il campanello*

Pál Göttinger – *Secular cantatas*

András Hábetler – *Figaro 2.0*

Mária Harangi – *Rigoletto*

Kasper Holten – *Bluebeard's Castle*

Patricia Horváth – *Siegfried Idyll, or The End of*

a Friendship

Csaba Káel – *The Gold and the Woman,*

The Tót Family

Péter Kálloy Molnár – *Siegfried Idyll,*

or The End of a Friendship

Gergely Kesselyák – *Nabucco*

András Mikó – *Parsifal*

Géza M. Tóth – *Götterdämmerung*

Viktor Nagy – *Bluebeard's Castle*

Kálmán Nádasy – *La bohème*

Tamás Novák – *Kádár's Last Speech*

Sándor Palcsó – *L'elisir d'amore*

Ivan Stefanutti – *Simon Boccanegra*

Máté Szabó – *Lucia di Lammermoor,*

L'italiana in Algeri

György Selmeczi – *Oberon*

Tamás Solymosi – *Iván Nagy International*

Ballet Gala, Ring Night

János Szikora – *Les Huguenots,*

Die Frau ohne Schatten

Bálint Szilágyi – *I pazzi per progetto*

Miklós Szinetár – *Così fan tutte, Bluebeard's*

Castle, Rigoletto, Die Zauberflöte

Tamás Szirtes – *Billy Elliot*

Gábor Szücs – *Hunyadi László*

Attila Toronykőy – *L'oca del cairo ossia lo*

sposo deluso, Papageno, The Magic Flute for

Children, King Pomade's New Clothes

Attila Vidnyánszky – *Bánk bán*

Rafael R. Villalobos – *Hänsel und Gretel*

Michał Znaniecki – *The Spinning Room*

Choreographers

CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

Frederick Ashton – *La fille mal gardée*

George Balanchine – *Etudes, Theme and Variations*

Sándor Barkóczy – *Così fan tutte*

Dóra Barta – *Porgy and Bess*

Wayne Eagling – *The Nutcracker*

Boris Eifman – *The Karamazovs*

Béla Földi – *Footsteps*

Gyula Harangozó Jr. – *Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs*

Ronald Hynd – *Carpathian Opera Tour*

Gábor Horváth – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

Johan Inger – *Walking Mad*

Melinda Jakab – *Oberon*

Zsolt Juhász – *The Spinning Room*

Gergely Csanád Kovács – *Hunyadi László*

Jiří Kylián – *Six Dances, Petite Mort*

Harald Lander – *Etudes*

László Péter – *Parsifal*

Jenő Lőcsei – *Rigoletto*

Hans van Manen – *5 Tangos, Trois Gnossiennes, Black Cake*

Andrea Merlo P. – *L'elisir d'amore*

Gábor Mihályi – *Der Zigeunerbaron*

Zsolt Kecsó Molnár – *Inner Attraction*

Enrico Morelli – *Les noces*

András Nádasdy – *Die Zauberflöte*

Klára Pataky – *The Telephone*

Rudi van Dantzig – *Swan Lake*

Karina Sarkissova – *Million versions*

Csaba Sebestyén – *Lucia di Lammermoor, OperaFüred*

Tamás Solymosi – *The Nutcracker, Night of Stars*

Ákos Tihanyi – *Billy Elliot*

Kristóf Várnagy – *Come the way you are*

László Velekei – *Inner voice*

Marianna Venekei – *Götterdämmerung, Die Rheinnixen, A Streetcar Named Desire, La traviata*

Rostislav Zakharov – *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*

Dimcevski Alexandre Anatolii – *Concertmaster*

Ernő Kállai – *Concertmaster*

Nagao Haruka – *Concertmaster*

Galina Danyilova – *Violin Concertmaster*

Ágnes Kovács (née Soltész) – *Violin Concertmaster*

Anikó Ecseki – *First Principal violin*

Éva Mihályi – *First Principal violin*

Imola Rajka – *First Principal violin*

Tomsics Magdolna (née Závodszyk) – *First Principal violin*

Anna Bánfalvi – *First violin tutti*

Tamás Biró – *First violin tutti*

Beatrix Bugony – *First violin tutti*

Hajnalka Csikós – *First violin tutti*

Péter Folkolos – *First violin tutti*

Károly Gál – *First violin tutti*

Andrea Haffner – *First violin tutti*

Éva Hartenstein – *First violin tutti*

Noémi Huszár – *First violin tutti*

Erzsébet Zsuzsanna Hutás – *First violin tutti*

Márta Kisfaludy – *First violin tutti*

Ibolya Kiss (née Igaz) – *First violin tutti*

Judit Krisztina Kovács – *First violin tutti*

Zsuzsa Laskay-Monoki – *First violin tutti*

Ágnes Ligeti (née Beke) – *First violin tutti*

Zsófia Maros (née Molnár) – *First violin tutti*

Sándor Molnár – *First violin tutti*

Zita Novák – *First violin tutti*

László Nyuli – *First violin tutti*

Éva Paul – *First violin tutti*

József Rácz – *First violin tutti*

Ljudmila Romanovszkaja – *First violin tutti*

Manuéla Simon – *First violin tutti*

Orchestra

Orchestra

Nóra Stankowsky – *First violin tutti*

Johanna Márta Szántó (née Tóth-Kiss) – *First violin tutti*

Viktória Szilvási – *First violin tutti*

Gabriella Ürmösi Farkas – *First violin tutti*

Áron Dóczy – *Second Principal violin*

Patrícia Fahidi – *Second Principal violin*

Dávid Pintér – *Second Principal violin*

Enikő Tury – *Second Principal violin*

Zsuzsanna Bákó – *Second violin tutti*

Anna Bereczky – *Second violin tutti*

Sára Katalin Deák – *Second violin tutti*

Katalin Fenyő – *Second violin tutti*

Ferenc Gazdag – *Second violin tutti*

Lilla Haraszti (née Gulyás Nagy) – *Second violin tutti*

Dóra Hargitai – *Second violin tutti*

István Horváth – *Second violin tutti*

Ádám Kiss – *Second violin tutti*

Éva Kozári (née Terman) – *Second violin tutti*

Orsolya Márton – *Second violin tutti*

Mónika Müller – *Second violin tutti*

Ágnes Nagy – *Second violin tutti*

Tícia Puskás – *Second violin tutti*

Tamás Rigó – *Second violin tutti*

Béla Sárközi – *Second violin tutti*

Anna Mária Svantek – *Second violin tutti*

Géza Szajkó – *Second violin tutti*

András Tallián – *Second violin tutti*

Ágnes Tamás (née Feitt) – *Second violin tutti*

Veronika Botos – *Solo viola*

Anita Inhoff – *Principal viola*

Péter Kondor – *Principal viola*

Dénes Ludmány – *Principal viola*

Orchestra

Csaba Babácsi – *Viola tutti*

Mónika Bán (née Bódi), Dr. – *Viola tutti*

Gabriella Orsolya Bartis-Gémesi – *Viola tutti*

Zsuzsanna Belényi – *Viola tutti*

Blanka Bozzay – *Viola tutti*

Gyula Cseresznyés – *Viola tutti*

Éva Kóra – *Viola tutti*

Attila Kovács – *Viola tutti*

Szilvia Kovács – *Viola tutti*

Attila Lukács – *Viola tutti*

Balázs Mészáros – *Viola tutti*

Antal Molnár – *Viola tutti*

Kornélia Sidló – *Viola tutti*

Jenő Sörös – *Viola tutti*

Balázs Tóth – *Viola tutti*

Mátyás Török – *Viola tutti*

Zsófia Winkler – *Viola tutti*

Balázs Kántor – *Solo cello*

László Pólus – *Solo cello*

Endre Balog – *Principal cello*

Richárd László Rózsa – *Principal cello*

Gyöngyi Erzsébet Újházi – *Principal cello*

István Balázs – *Cello tutti*

Eszter Baráti – *Cello tutti*

Csaba Bartos – *Cello tutti*

Chung Hosung – *Cello tutti*

Czeglédiné Ágnes Andrea (née Fodor) – *Cello tutti*

Péter Dóczy – *Cello tutti*

János Fehérvári – *Cello tutti*

Béla Gál – *Cello tutti*

Erika Kádi – *Cello tutti*

Dénes Karasszon – *Cello tutti*

Orchestra

Gábor Magyar – *Cello tutti*

Anita Miskolczi – *Cello tutti*

Domonkos Nagy – *Cello tutti*

Ildikó Rönkös – *Cello tutti*

Anikó Sabján – *Cello tutti*

Tibor Wambach – *Cello tutti*

Péter Boldoghy Kummert – *Principal double Bass*

Péter Bucherna – *Principal double Bass*

Alajos H. Zováthi – *Principal double Bass*

Dávid Hornyák – *Principal double Bass*

Hew Sin Ying Dinah – *Principal tutti*

Péter Kőszegi – *Double Bass tutti*

Csaba Magyar – *Double Bass tutti*

Laura McCreery – *Double Bass tutti*

Attila Miklós – *Double Bass tutti*

Zoltán Miklós – *Double Bass tutti*

László Nyári – *Double Bass tutti*

Lóránt Patay – *Double Bass tutti*

István Rácz – *Double Bass tutti*

Gábor Szántó – *Double Bass tutti*

Evelin Balog – *First flute*

Zsófia Katalin Biró – *First flute*

Zsuzsanna Menyhárt – *First flute*

János Rácz – *First flute*

Dóra Ács (née Gjorgjevic) – *Second flute*

Zsuzsanna Ittész – *Second flute*

Márta Kunszeri – *Second flute*

Bernadett Nagy – *Second flute*

Csilla Somodi (née Somogyvári), Dr. – *Second flute*

Gábor Dienes – *First oboe*

Fruzsina Káli-Fonyódi – *First oboe*

Ottó Rácz – *First oboe*

Orchestra

Nóra Salvi – *First oboe*

Krisztina Szélpál – *First oboe*

Nóra Baráth – *Second oboe*

József Erős – *Second oboe*

Eszter Horváth – *Second oboe*

Csenge László – *Second oboe*

Kata Lilla Pintér – *Second oboe*

Gábor Galavics – *First clarinet*

Sándor Kiss – *First clarinet*

Balázs Rummy – *First clarinet*

Beáta Várnai – *First clarinet*

Péter Csongár – *Second clarinet*

Zsolt Mersei – *Second clarinet*

András Péter Novák – *Second clarinet*

Gergely Parlagi – *Second clarinet*

Csaba Pálfi – *Second clarinet*

István Hartenstein – *First Bassoon*

Zoltán László Kovács – *First Bassoon*

Bálint Döme Mohai – *First Bassoon*

Judit Polonkai – *First Bassoon*

József Bánfi – *Second Bassoon*

Bálint Fábry – *Second Bassoon*

László Hunyadi – *Second Bassoon*

Ágnes Jandácsik (née Breszka) – *Second Bassoon*

Aladár Tüske – *Second Bassoon*

Péter Lakatos – *First French horn*

Zoltán Szőke – *First French horn*

Bálint Tóth – *First French horn*

Gábor Tóth – *First French horn*

András Balogh – *Second French horn*

Tamás Gáspár – *Second French horn*

Lehel Béla Rónai – *Second French horn*

Orchestra

Gábor Szabó – *Second French horn*

János Pál Benyus – *Third French horn*

Sándor Endrődy, Dr. – *Third French horn*

István Flammer – *Third French horn*

András Kovalcsik – *Third French horn*

Máté Hamar – *Fourth French horn*

Tamás Melega – *Fourth French horn*

Zsolt Végh – *Fourth French horn*

Zsolt Czeglédi – *First trumpet*

Bence László Horváth, Dr. – *First trumpet*

Tibor Péter Király – *First trumpet*

Csaba Nagy – *First trumpet*

Balázs Winkler – *First trumpet*

Ferenc Ács – *Second trumpet*

Tamás János Dávida – *Second trumpet*

Bence Kirsch – *Second trumpet*

Mihály Könyves-Tóth – *Second trumpet*

Tamás Póti – *Second trumpet*

István Sztán – *Second trumpet*

Csaba Bencze – *First trombone*

Sándor Szabó – *First trombone*

Tibor Ujj – *First trombone*

Balázs Kovács – *Second trombone*

Róbert Lugosi – *Second trombone*

Barnabás Brindás – *Third trombone*

Lajos Fülöp – *Third trombone*

Mariann Szakszon – *Third trombone*

Gábor Adamik – *Tuba*

Miklós Wrchovszky – *Tuba*

Emese Virág Bajtala – *Harp*

Júlia Boros (née Szilvásy) – *Harp*

Ágnes Juhász (née Peták) – *Harp*

Orchestra

Beáta Klára Simon – *Harp*

Attila Csige – *Timpani*

László Béla Juhász – *Timpani*

Miklós Kovács – *Timpani*

Ádám Balázs Maros – *Timpani*

Sándor Godán – *Percussion*

András Császár – *Percussion*

Gusztáv Péter Cser – *Percussion*

Attila László – *Percussion*

Gáspár Szente – *Percussion*

János Tóth – *Percussion*

Zoltán Vámosi – *Percussion*

Chorus

Krisztina Andrassy-Neuenstein – *Soprano I*
Györgyi Erika Avvakumovits – *Soprano I*
Katalin Balogh – *Soprano II*
Eszter Bartha – *Soprano I*
Gabriella Baukó – *Soprano I*
Zsuzsanna Bazsinka – *Soprano II*
Edina Bernáth-Kersák – *Soprano I*
Tünde Bognár – *Soprano II*
Nikoletta Éva Bolya-Pap – *Soprano II*
Mónika Budai-Langermann – *Soprano I*
Éva Dunai – *Soprano I*
Gabriella Érdi – *Soprano I*
Erdősi Ilona (née Piszter) – *Soprano II*
Szilvia Fehér (née Szentidai, Dr.) – *Soprano I*
Irma Háberl – *Soprano I*
Magdolna Halász (née Adamovits) – *Soprano II*

Nadin Haris – *Soprano II*
Rita Hertelendy – *Soprano I*
Erika Horváth – *Soprano II*
Zsuzsanna Horváth – *Soprano II*
Katalin Kákay – *Soprano II*
Linda Karácsonyi – *Soprano II*
Márta Kempf – *Soprano II*
Emese Kovács – *Soprano I*
Györgyi Kovács – *Soprano I*
Andrea Kozári – *Soprano I*
Tünde Ágnes László – *Soprano I*
Monika Leblanc – *Soprano I*
Katalin Lénárd – *Soprano I*
Csilla Mária Lengyel – *Soprano II*
Eszter Magyarai – *Soprano II*
Györgyi Murár – *Soprano I*

Chorus

Ildikó Nagy – *Soprano II*
Mónika Németh – *Soprano II*
Filoretti Óhegyi – *Soprano I*
Anikó Péter – *Soprano II*
Márta Stefanik – *Soprano I*
Beáta Szepessy – *Soprano II*
Gabriella Márta Szili – *Soprano II*
Katalin Töreky – *Soprano I*
Ágnes Turpinszky – *Soprano I*
Klára Zsuzsanna Vajda – *Soprano I*
Éva Varga (née Tőke) – *Soprano II*
Viktória Terézia Avedikián – *Contralto II*
Annamária Bócz – *Contralto I*
Mrs. Péter Borsányi Péterné – *Contralto I*
Gabriella Busa – *Contralto I*
Nóra Csádi – *Contralto I*

Diána Döbörhegyi – *Contralto I*
Anna Viola Farkas – *Contralto II*
Éva Fülöp – *Contralto I*
Diána Hajdú – *Contralto I*
Mrs. Ferenc Halász – *Contralto I*
Ágnes Hanuska – *Contralto II*
Eszter Heresznyei – *Contralto II*
Andrea Illés – *Contralto II*
Ágota Kádár – *Contralto I*
Beáta Kovács – *Contralto II*
Szabina Kristóf – *Contralto II*
Veronika Kaskovicz (née Kuzder) – *Contralto I*
Éva Leszkovszki-Tóth – *Contralto II*
Júlia Magassy – *Contralto II*
Kata Mátrai Edit – *Contralto I*
Ildikó Mónus – *Contralto II*

Chorus

Gabriella Nagy – *Contralto II*

Erika Pádár (née Kiss) – *Contralto II*

Mónika Pastyik – *Contralto II*

Ágnes Pataki – *Contralto II*

Katalin Réder – *Contralto I*

Júlia Scheili – *Contralto I*

Henrietta Skrabán – *Contralto I*

Csilla Sziklás – *Contralto I*

Tünde Sziklás – *Contralto II*

Szilvia Szőnyi – *Contralto II*

Zsuzsanna Takács – *Contralto I*

Katalin Mária Takáts (née Hajdu) – *Contralto I*

Orsolya Uitz – *Contralto II*

Judit Wiedemann – *Contralto I*

Imre Ambrus – *Tenor I*

Gábor Andrónyi – *Tenor II*

Imre Bedics – *Tenor II*

Gábor Csiki – *Tenor I*

József Csobolya – *Tenor II*

András Farkas – *Tenor I*

János Gál – *Tenor I*

Zoltán Pál Garamvölgyi – *Tenor I*

Zsombor Haraszti – *Tenor I*

Ferenc Herczeg – *Tenor II*

Gábor Jenny – *Tenor II*

István Kéring – *Tenor I*

Gyula Kovács – *Tenor I*

Zoltán Kovács – *Tenor I*

András Kozári – *Tenor I*

Krisztián Gergely Kuthi – *Tenor I*

György Mann – *Tenor I*

Márió Matyó – *Tenor I*

Chorus

Ferenc Molnár – *Tenor II*

György Tamás Nótás – *Tenor II*

János Novák – *Tenor I*

Illés Rácz – *Tenor I*

Miklós Reményi – *Tenor II*

Richárd Rest – *Tenor II*

Adrián Dániel Roska – *Tenor I*

Attila Sebők – *Tenor I*

Péter Simándi – *Tenor II*

Balázs Somogyi – *Tenor II*

Zoltán Szabó – *Tenor I*

András Gyula Takács – *Tenor II*

János Tandari – *Tenor I*

Atilla Tillai – *Tenor I*

Árpád Tóth – *Tenor II*

Gergely Ujvári – *Tenor I*

Antal Bakó – *Baritone*

Sándor Csaba Bartus – *Baritone*

Oreszt Bodnár Sutka – *Baritone*

Attila Búra – *Baritone*

Sándor Dobos – *Baritone*

Károly Fekete – *Baritone*

Álmos Gyarmati – *Baritone*

Péter Illés – *Baritone*

Gergely Irlanda – *Baritone*

Pál József Kovács – *Baritone*

István Kristóf – *Baritone*

Attila Sándor Ollé – *Baritone*

Zoltán Somogyi – *Bass*

Dávid Tarnai – *Baritone*

Gábor Tóth Czifra – *Baritone*

Zsolt Trócsányi – *Baritone*

Chorus

Géza Ferenc Zsigmond – *Baritone*

Péter Balás – *Bass*

István Beregszászi – *Bass*

Csaba Deák – *Bass*

Gábor Farkas – *Bass*

János Fátrai – *Bass*

Péter Sándor Fekete – *Bass*

Attila Fenyvesi – *Bass*

György Gogolyák – *Bass*

Dávid Nagy – *Bass*

Árpád Levente Olcsvári – *Bass*

Jenő Schild – *Bass*

László Szentimrei – *Bass*

Béla Tóth – *Bass*

Csaba Tóth – *Bass*

Zoltán Tóth G. – *Bass*

Corps de ballet

Yuiko Adachi

Csilla Arany

Yuka Asai

Dorisz Bedő

Jiyoun Chung

Nika Kristina Crni

Vivien Csokán

Edit Darab–Fehér

Lea Földi

Obengül Polen Gezmis

Yuliya Golovyna

Danielle Gould

Rita Edit Hangya

Adrienn Horányi

Orsolya Jungwirth–Gáspár

Eszter Kazinczy

Ágnes Kelemen

Anna Krupp

Kseniia Kulikova

Yourim Lee

Eszter Lovisek

Atinay Dorottya Medveczné

Angela Mingardo

Liudmilla Mizinova

Anri Okada

Adema Omarova

Zsuzsanna Papp

Eszter Pataki–Tóth

Anita Tiffany Pesel

Rosa Pierro

Eszter Pócze

Lilla Purszki

Ágnes Riedl

Viktória Rohoncz

Bianka Rotter

Adrienn Szekeres

Zsófia Szeregnyi

Ilona Szigeti Scanlon Kelsey

Réka Szilágyi–Sári

Kateryna Tarasova

Barbara Tóth

Emi Uehara

Judit Varga

Tatiana Vdovicheva

Gabriella Vontszemű

Ilana Werner

Umberto Aragno

Benjamin Zoltán Babácsi

Corps de ballet

Mark James Biocca
German Borsai
Gaetano Cottonaro
Pierpaolo D'Amico
Dénes János Darab
Dániel Fodor
Balázs Gefferth
Mario Genovese
Marco Giombelli
Péter András Hajdu
Csaba Hommer
Dmitrij Kirejko
István Kohári
Maksym Kovtun
Balázs Krajczár
Gábor Lajti

Vladyslav Melnyk
Dávid Molnár
Ryosuke Morimoto
Kristóf Morvai
Gábor Németh
Takaaki Okajima
Valerio Antonio Palumbo
Lloyd Perchey
András Rónai
Yuya Takahashi
Roland Vékes
Manzares Ricardo Vila

Children's Chorus

Anna Katalin Abonyi
Míra Ábrahám
Aletta Borbála Babai
Izabella Bakos
Olívia Bakos
Anna Bali
Vivien Petra Balogh
Lilla Csenge Baráth
Enikő Barcs
Richárd Márk Bede
Csenge Besenyei
Barbara Daniella Bódi
Eszter Panna Bodnár
Hanna Liza Borbás
Vanessa Chamfrault
Borbála Csalog

Jázmin Csorba
Kata Csörgeő
Luca Csörgeő
Krisztina Csubrikova
Emma Dakó
Nelli Dakó
Dorina Dankay
Márton Dávida
Panni Dávida
Andrea Roxána Deák
András Deim
Zoltán Deim
Edina Dénes
Patrícia Dénes
Antónia Éliás
Csipke Emesz

Children's Chorus

Daniela Engel
Zsófia Lilla Ercsey
Zsuzsanna Júlia Ercsey
Osayi Rebekah Ero
Attila Antónió Farkas
Sarolta Fekete
Bettina Dzenifer Foskolos
Diána Foskolos
Ramóna Foskolos
Cecilia Briana Földessy Stiegemeier
Mária Anna Földessy Stiegemeier
Eszter Róza Haraszti
Júlia Haraszti
Violetta Haraszti
Tibor Hornyák
Lídia Huiber

Berta Júlia Ittzés
Klára Zsófia Ittzés
Georgina Jenei
Dominik Jobbágy
Ramóna Jobbágy
Fanni Mária Juhos
Lili Kalmár
Kitti Kaltenecker
Laura Kamarás
Máté Gergő Kamarás
Anna Karácsonyi
Patricia Kinga Karádi
József Karczagi
Rebeka Borbála Kécza
Hanna Killeen
Lilian Killeen

Jázmin Kirsch-Veszeli
Artúr András Kiss
Dorottya Kiss
Helga Kiss
Anna Kiss-Leizer
Nikolett Kleineizl
Rozi Panna Kótai
Polína Kozlova
Lenke Kun
Virág Vivien Lázók
Zsombor Ádám Lendvai
Lili Majercsik
Lucrezia Marcotulli
Anna Martinovics Csoma
Réka Medveczki
Orsolya Kinga Melis

Lívía Eszter Mester
Benjámín Minar Bacsó
Viktória Mohácsi
Boglárka Tünde Nagy
Hajnalka Eszter Nagy
Júlia Boglárka Nagy
Sarolta Nagy
Bernadette Júlia Oppitz
Laura Edina Oppitz
Márton Sebestyén Osztovits
Laura Őrfi
Áron Papp
Lilla Papp
Petra Papp
Sára Pigniczki
Dorottya Pintér

Csenge Pocsai
Tünde Tímea Pocsik
Nikolett Rácz
Petra Boglárka Rácz
Gréta Virág Rákóczi
Orsolya Richter
Elina Rohonczy
Szilvia Diána Sárkány-Vieira
Laura Terézia Siefert
Robin Stefan Siefert
Melinda Lilla Simondán
Zsófia Söreg
Dávid Márton Szabó
Veronika Noémi Szabó
Fanni Szalai
Zsolt Székely

Children's Chorus

Domonkos Szilvágyné
Fanni Szalaukó
Botond Márton Takács
Anna Talabér
Tímár Laura
Dániel Dezső Tógyer
Viktor Tóth
Vivien Tóth
Hanga Anna Vallejos
Dzenifer Szilvia Vane
Kamilla Beatrix Vane
Virág Napsugár Varga

General Directorate

Szilveszter Ókovács – General Director

Virág Zsuzsanna Főző, Dr. – Deputy General Director

Xénia Katona–Pecze, Dr. – Assistant to the Director

Rita Pál, Dr. – Assistant to the Director

Enikő Tőkési – Assistant to the Director

Réka Anna Pávó – Directorate Assistant

Renáta Trajter – Directorate Assistant

Annamária Csonkaréti – Artist Coordinator

István Kákay – Artist Coordinator

Emőke Nyáguly – Artist Coordinator

Beáta Kuczka – Head of Event Organisation Department

Katalin Fehérváry – Event Organiser

Lilla Kuczka – Event Organiser

Viktória Anna Sándor-Sípos – Event Organiser

Éva Mikos-Tekker – Ticket Distribution Department Manager

Zsófia Nemes – Ticket Distribution Department Deputy Manager

Noémi Kiszely, Dr. – Erkel Programme Office Manager

Barbara Bogdány – Ticket Distributor

Csilla Kun – Ticket Distributor

Alexandra Markovics – Ticket Distributor

Júlia Menyhárt – Ticket Distributor

Réka Tarnóczy–Harsányi – Ticket Distributor

Krisztina Koncz – Organising Coordinator

Noémi Vörös-Bak, Dr. – International Coordinator

Gábor Miklós – Production Coordinator

Anett Molnár – Production Coordinator

Lejla Török – Production Assistant

Dalma Závodszyk – Production Assistant

Mónika Farkas – Human Resources Management Department Manager

Krisztina Böröczki – HR Facilitator

Erika Tóth (née Zubán) – HR Facilitator

Mónika Kalmár – HR Coordinator

Zsófia Mendelényi – HR Coordinator

Márton Karczag – Archive Manager

Dorina Anett Bognár – Office Administrator

Ágota Hegedűs – Office Administrator

Franciska Vecsei (née Hajas Dr.) – Personal Assistant

Péter István Horváth – Head Internal Auditor

General Directorate

Enikő Imreh – Internal Auditor

Tamás Lisznai – Copyright Administrator

Diána Vadász-Mile, Dr. – Chief Legal Counsel (Head of Legal Department)

Tímea Bögös, Dr. – Legal Counsel

Zsófia Kovács, Dr. – Legal Counsel

Attila Béres, Dr. – Legal Specialist

Anikó Körmendi, Dr. – Legal Specialist

Klára Reiniger Lami, Dr. – Legal Specialist

Olga Szabó, Dr. – Legal Specialist

Péter Manninger, Dr. – Occupational Health and Safety Physician

Rita Márta Fejes-Lucás – Medical Assistant

Barbara Fejér – Medical Assistant

József Baráth – Box Office Cashier

Dóra Kinga Goitein (née Dezséri) – Box Office Cashier

Zsuzsanna Horváth – Box Office Cashier

Emese Zsófia Kurcz – Box Office Cashier

Zsuzsanna Sebők (néé Tóth) – Box Office Cashier

Marina Szabó (née Tamási) – Box Office Cashier

Krisztina Szarencsev–Dimitrov – Box Office Cashier

Dóra Kiss, Dr. – Procurement Department Manager

Mrs. Sándor Tóth – Procurement Facilitator

Krisztina Mária Bordás – Procurement Specialist

Albert Imreh – Procurement Specialist

Bettina Angeli – Box Office Sales Consultant

Ágnes Bagi – Box Office Sales Consultant

Zsuzsanna Mermeze – Box Office Sales Consultant

Tibor Fazekas – Warehouse Supervisor

József Vincze – Warehouse Clerk

Miklós Nagyszentpéteri – Head Usher

Béla Szilágyi – Head Usher

Róbert Ádám Nagy – Vehicle Fleet/Material Procurement Manager

András Szomolányi – Vehicle Fleet/Material Procurement Manager

ADVISERS TO THE GENERAL DIRECTOR

Éva Marton – Senior Adviser

Miklós Szinetár (Opera)

Maina Gielgud (Ballet)

Tamás Bátor (International Affairs)

Dávid Zsoldos (Media)

Artistic Directorate

Ferenc Anger – Artistic Director

Ilma Dóra Császár – Assistant to the Director

Emese Soós – Head Artistic Secretary

Dóra Borbély (née Szanyi) – Artist Coordinator

Andrea Dávid – Artist Coordinator

Jerne Horváth – Artist Coordinator

Dóra Szanka – Artist Coordinator

Edit Somogyi – Artist Coordination Secretary

Csilla Lenhardt (née Zsilavec) – International Specialist

Ágnes Nyilassy – International Specialist

Márta Pölös – International Specialist

Judit Nóra Kenesey – Dramaturg

Kinga Krisztina Keszthelyi – Dramaturg

Eszter Orbán – Dramaturg

Beáta Pintér – Dramaturg

Kálmán Szennai – Principal Répétiteur

László Bartal – Répétiteur

Erika Dallos – Répétiteur

Katalin Doman – Répétiteur

Andrea Joy Fernandes – Répétiteur

Miklós Harazdy – Répétiteur

Pálma Hidegkuti – Répétiteur

Balázs Dénes Kálvin – Répétiteur

Géza Köteles – Répétiteur

Szilvia Mikó – Répétiteur

Péter József Oberfrank – Répétiteur

Gyula Pfeifer – Répétiteur

Sámuel Csaba Tóth – Répétiteur

Andrea Judit Kováts – Head Artistic Assistant

András Aczél – Artistic Assistant

Tibor Gusztáv Frigyesi – Artistic Assistant

Szilvia Gábor – Artistic Assistant

Artistic Directorate

Mária Harangi – Artistic Assistant

Katalin Kovács – Assistant Director

Krisztián Attila Kovács – Assistant Director

Mária Anna Kovács – Assistant Director

Katalin Lázár – Assistant Director

Orsolya Magyar – Assistant Director

Albert Mányik – Assistant Director

Judit Niklai – Assistant Director

Erika Tóth – Assistant Director

Krisztián Nagy – Head Supernumeraries Organiser

Tamás Herzog – Supernumeraries Organiser

Zsuzsanna Szeőke – Supernumeraries Organiser

Rita Bányai – Head Prompter

Dóra Érsek – Prompter

Gábor Lengyel – Prompter

Magdolna Mészáros – Prompter

Anna Szilágyi (née Barcsák) – Prompter

Judit Török (née Komódi) – Prompter

Vilmos Szabó – Head Stage Manager

László Csányi – Stage Manager

Balázs Fehér – Stage Manager

Gábor Fias – Stage Manager

Lóránt Gázsik – Stage Manager

Márton Magyar – Stage Manager

Richárd Pál Sipos – Stage Manager

Ágnes Vághelyi (née Szóka) – Stage Manager

Bence Vasdinnyey – Stage Manager

Mihály Zemlényi – Stage Manager

Principal Music Directorate

Balázs Kocsár – *Principal Music Director*

Orsolya Imre – *Assistant to the Director*

Gábor Devich – *Orchestra Director*

Gergely Kesselyák – *Principal Conductor*

Kálmán Strausz – *Chorus director*

Nikolett Hajzer – *Chorusmaster of the Children's Chorus*

Natasa Janklovics – *Artist Coordinator*

Boglárka Kalmus – *Artist Coordinator*

Kinga Mónika Király – *Artist Coordinator*

Krisztina Kiss – *Artist Coordinator*

Beáta Trečskó – *Artist Coordinator*

Erika Vasvári – *Artist Coordinator*

Amelie Weidinger – *Artist Coordinator*

Margit Dóra (née Bátki) – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

Dóra Zech – *Music Archive Manager*

Valéria Anna Csányi – *Music Archive Musical Consultant*

Melinda Csongár (née Bódi) – *Music Archive Musical Consultant*

Julianna Egrossy – *Music Archivist*

Julianna Martin – *Music Archivist*

Mrs. Iván Benedek – *Bookbinder*

Iván Benedek – *Music and Instrument Handler*

Balázs Bessenyei – *Music and Instrument Handler*

Károly Gjorgjevic – *Music and Instrument Handler*

Zoltán Szabó – *Music and Instrument Handler*

Attila Szász – *Music and Instrument Handler*

Dániel Erdélyi – *Musical Assistant to the Chorusmaster*

Richárd Szilárd Riederauer – *Musical Assistant to the Chorusmaster*

Hedvig Ildikó Károly – *Chorus Secretary*

Attila Péter Kopasz – *Masseur*

Valéria Domány (née Szebellédi) – *Children's Chorus Répétiteur*

Boldizsár Kiss – *Children's Chorus Répétiteur*

Ágnes Kovács – *Répétiteur*

László Adrián Nagy – *Répétiteur*

Adrienn Szekeres – *Children's Chorus Répétiteur*

Katalin Anna Szirtes – *Répétiteur*

Ballet Directorate

Tamás Solymosi – *Ballet Director*

Marianna Venekei – *Principal Ballet Master*

Angéla Kövessy – *Ballet Master*

Edit Marosi – *Ballet Master*

Éva Gabriella Füzi (née Baranya) – *Artist Coordinator*

Zsófia Szabó – *Artist Coordinator*

Roland Csonka – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

Ágnes Katalin Sárközy-Holler – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

Gabriella Milkovic – *International Cultural Manager*

Anna Eszter Zeller – *International Cultural Manager*

Szonja Ilona Stella – *Cultural Manger*

György Leányvári – *Audio and Video Technician*

László Schnitzler – *Audio and Video Technician*

Károly Schnitzler – *Audio and Video Technician*

Éva Hajnal – *Répétiteur*

György Lázár – *Répétiteur*

Nagyezsda Ronavári – *Répétiteur*

Zsanna Vaszilenkó – *Répétiteur*

Technical Directorate

Péter Virág – *Technical Director*

Anna Ildikó Józsa – *Architect*

Judit Molnár – *Assistant to the Director*

Andrea Noszkó-Horváth – *Directorate Assistant*

Nóra Biró – *Scenic Administrator*

Mrs. Árpád Nyerges – *Scenic Administrator*

Zita Ágota Szeredi – *Scenic Administrator*

Miklós Resz – *Scenic Artist*

Zénó Zenovitz – *Head Painter*

Péter Tamás Báró – *Painter*

Tamás Bertha – *Painter*

Vilmos Dibusz – *Painter*

László Fericián – *Painter*

László Doru – *Painter*

Bálint Miksa – *Painter*

Zoltán Juhász – *Painter*

Andor Veres – *Painter*

Annamária Kéri (née Székely) – *Painter, Ornamental Painter*

Mária Kovács – *Painter, Ornamental Painter*

Gabriella Bukovinszky (née Miskolczy) – *Sculptor*

Pál Szinvai – *Sculptor*

Andrea Dezső – *Set Seamstress*

Ildikó Fresli (née Szabó) – *Set Seamstress*

Erika Ilyés – *Set Seamstress*

Brigitta Erzsébet Marin – *Set Seamstress*

Annamária Mezőfi – *Set Seamstress*

Kinga Schmidt-Kámán – *Set Seamstress*

Zsuzsanna Stári – *Set Seamstress*

Mrs. József Szász – *Set Seamstress*

Ádám Fejes – *Technician*

György Fejes – *Technician*

János Szick – *Head Set Carpenter*

Attila Selyem – *Head Set Locksmith*

András Bálint – *Set Carpenter*

Zoltán Borics – *Set Carpenter*

Péter Fodor – *Set Carpenter*

János Fresli – *Set Carpenter*

Imre Horváth – *Set Carpenter*

János Kiss – *Set Carpenter*

Nándor Pungor – *Set Carpenter*

Péter Rápich – *Set Carpenter*

János Gábor Szuda – *Set Carpenter*

János Topor – *Set Carpenter*

Gábor Viszok – *Set Carpenter*

Imre Tóth – *Set Carpenter*

József Benus – *Set Locksmith*

Géza Galyas – *Set Locksmith*

Antal Laudisz – *Set Locksmith*

Technical Directorate

Ferenc Molnár – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

József Molnár – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

András György Nagy-Eiben – *Set Locksmith*

Attila Siági – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

Ferenc Rekenei – *Costume Fabrication Workshops
Manager*

Nikolett Bati – *Costume Fabricator*

Lilla Csukás (née Huszár) – *Costume Administrator*

László Földvári – *Costume Painter*

Ágnes Klára Gál (née Hugyecz) – *Costume Fabricator*

Rita Gáspár (née Gaál) – *Costume Administrator*

Magdolna Kelemen – *Costume Administrator*

Gábor Fintor – *Costume Fitter*

Tünde Király (née Bozóki) – *Costume Fabricator*

Franciska Kump (née Kis) – *Costume Fabricator*

Julianna Major – *Costume Fabricator*

Technical Directorate

Ágnes Mittelholcz – *Costume Fabricator*

Erika Erzsébet Muschici – *Costume Fabricator*

Tünde Naszvadi (née Vasadi) – *Costume Fabricator*

Zsuzsanna Vadászi – *Costume Fabricator*

Zoltán Verécsi – *Costume Administrator*

Attila Benedek – *Head Men's Costume Fitter*

Richárd János Alexa – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Mária Benkő (née Micheller) – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Andrea Bóna – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Andrea Kinga Cucer – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Katalin Darányi – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. Csaba Erdei – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. János Fábián – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Zsuzsanna Beatrix Greiner (née Teési-Vass) – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Zsolt Győr – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Brigitta Zsófia Illés – *Men's Costume Fitter*

Ildikó Andrea Kapalyag-Princz – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Károly Major – *Men's Costume Fitter*

János Oláh – *Men's Costume Fitter*

Zsófia Orlóci – *Men's Costume Fitter*

Sándor Szabó – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Beáta Veres (née Jakubovics) – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

Gyöngyi Csilla Cs. Tóth – *Head Women's Costume Fitter*

Erzsébet Ildikó Bányai – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Sára Krisztina Bíró – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Anasztázia Hataier – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. Tibor Ferenc Kuhár – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Ilona Kul – *Women's Costume Fitter*

Katalin Molnár (née Jenes) – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. József Mravik – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Katalin Nagy – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. József Német – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Technical Directorate

Mrs. László Palágyi – *Women's Costume Fitter*

Katalin Ildikó Récsi – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Emese Seregi – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Mrs. András Szászi – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Éva Szemerei – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Hedvig Tölgyszéki-Pap – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

Mónika Tóth – *Head Milliner*

Flóra Csépanyi – *Milliner*

Zsófia Farkas – *Milliner*

Éva Fazekas – *Milliner*

Erika Sugta – *Milliner*

Anna Mária Villányi (née Szántó) – *Head Wigmaker*

Éva Báró – *Wigmaker*

Andrea Ilona Biró – *Wigmaker*

Bernadett Széplaki – *Wigmaker*

Gyula Pauscher – *Head Shoemaker*

Brigitta Benkucs (née Kántor) – *Shoe Upper Fabricator*

László Bokros – *Shoemaker*

Zoltán Keserű – *Shoemaker*

Éva Libor – *Shoemaker*

Mihály Pákai – *Shoemaker*

Szilvia Tuba – *Shoemaker*

Tamás Faragó – *Maintenance Department Manager*

Erzsébet Jacsó – *Operational Secretary*

László Lombay – *Technical Engineer*

Gábor Vad – *Technical Engineer*

Edit Luka – *Financial and Materials Manager*

László Czigner – *Head Caretaker*

László Bertók – *Caretaker*

Ferenc Domozi – *Caretaker*

Zoltán Fokta – *Caretaker*

Attila Göblyös – *Deputy Caretaker*

Technical Directorate

István László Lázár – Deputy Caretaker

Piroska Lengyel (née Bari) – Deputy Caretaker

József Teklovics – Resort Caretaker

Erzsébet Auer – Maintenance Technician

Csaba Sándor Bányai – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

Zsuzsanna Ecet – Maintenance Technician

Ferenc Fácán – Maintenance Technician

László István Gulyás-Szabó – Maintenance Technician Painter

Csaba István Horváth – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

Sándor Ivády – Maintenance Technician Locksmith

László Karácsi – Maintenance Technician Painter

Sándor Kató – Maintenance Technician Plasterer, Carpenter

István Kiss – Maintenance Technician

Zoltán György Marczy – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

Ferenc Sági – Maintenance Technician Locksmith

Péter Szabó – Maintenance Technician

István Tamás – Maintenance Technician

Balázs Péter Zeke – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

Endre Mészáros – Upholsterer

József Kovács – Head Mechanic

Demeter András Bálint – Mechanic

János Döbrey – Stoker (Mechanic)

János Sándor Franzoni – Stoker (Mechanic)

János Freiburger – Stoker (Mechanic)

Attila Gáspár – Plumber

Sándor Iván – Stoker (Mechanic)

László Laukó – Stoker (Mechanic)

Zsolt Mészáros – Mechanic

Jenő Molnár – Stoker (Mechanic)

Dániel Nagy – Stoker (Mechanic)

Zoltán Szatmári – Stoker (Mechanic)

Ferenc Tamás – Stoker (Mechanic)

Technical Directorate

Gábor Valek – Mechanic

István József Varga – Plumber

Sándor Zöldi – Maintenance Technician Locksmith

Ferenc Sáránszki – Head Electrician

János Daróczy – Electrician

Tibor Hárshegyi – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Péter Géza Jutasi – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Zoltán Osztolykán – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Károly Péntek – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Gábor Sáfrán – Electrician

József Somogyi – Maintenance Technician Electrician

István Ferenc Süle – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Attila Tóth – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Sándor Zsolt Vincze – Maintenance Technician Electrician

Zoltán Gál – Stage Engineer

Tamás Martini – Stage Engineer

József Pyka – Stage and Electrical Maintenance Technician

Tamás Lugosi – Receptionist/Switchboard Operator

József Kőműves – Set Warehouse Manager

László Abonyi – Decorator

Tamás Alexa – Decorator

Ferenc Balla – Decorator

Balázs Péter Balog – Decorator

József Balogh – Decorator

Róbert Sándor Bánházi – Decorator

István Bánrévi – Decorator

Gergely Bódis – Decorator

Sándor Bodzsár – Decorator

Tamás Borda – Decorator

Attila Brindza – Decorator/Control System Manager

Zsolt Csapó – Decorator/Fly Master

Béla Tamás Csizmázia – Decorator/Flyman

Technical Directorate

Győző Duba – Decorator/Flyman

Gergely Fábrián – Decorator

Dénes Faragó – Decorator

Sándor Fenesi – Decorator

Zoltán Gergely – Decorator

Tamás Gorzó – Decorator

Zoltán Horváth – Decorator

János Jolsvai – Decorator

Gábor Juhász – Decorator

Zsolt Kálmán Kapás – Decorator

László Kerepesi – Decorator

László Kertész – Decorator

Gyula Kiss – Decorator

Mihály Kósa – Decorator

Attila Kovács – Decorator/Control

System Manager

István Kovács – Decorator

Norbert Kovács – Decorator

Zsolt László – Decorator

Károly Lengyel – Decorator

Dániel Lokár – Decorator

Richárd Meixler – Decorator

András Nagy – Decorator

Ferenc Nagy – Decorator

Vitold Nagy – Decorator/Flyman

Sándor Nemes – Decorator

Balázs Neruda – Decorator/Control

System Manager

István Ősz – Decorator

Adorján Pentz – Decorator

Marianna Petke – Decorator/Control

System Manager

Attila Potyka – Decorator

Csaba Sándor Rácz – Decorator

Donát Rajnai – Decorator

Roland András Sárosi – Decorator

Olivér Szakál – Decorator

László Szebenzski – Decorator

Zoltán Szikszai – Decorator

Zoltán Tóth – Decorator

András Vágó – Decorator

József Vajda – Decorator

Zoltán Varga – Decorator

Ferenc Krisztián Veréb – Decorator

Ottó Zeffer – Decorator

Imre Schaul – Decorator/Flyman

András Balogh – Assistant Decorator

Bence Borda – Assistant Decorator

Szabolcs Csillik – Assistant Decorator

István Galántai – Assistant Decorator

Pál Gábor Gilicza – Assistant Decorator

Ferenc Guzván – Assistant Decorator

Zsolt Jócsik – Assistant Decorator

Tamás Kálóczi – Assistant Decorator

László Kiss – Assistant Decorator

Viktor Kolyvek – Assistant Decorator

Vilibald Kun – Stage Master

József Mandl – Assistant Decorator

András Martincsák – Assistant Decorator

József Nagy – Assistant Decorator

Lajos Nagy – Assistant Decorator

József Papp – Assistant Decorator

József Papp – Assistant Decorator

Zsolt Pasa – Assistant Decorator

Zoltán András Pérk – Assistant Decorator

Gábor Réthy – Assistant Decorator

Gábor Révész – Assistant Decorator

Dániel Schnitzler – Assistant Decorator

Gyula Szigethy – Assistant Decorator

András Trepák – Assistant Decorator

Gergely Várda – Assistant Decorator

Zoltán Vass – Assistant Decorator

Béla Horváth – Stage Master

István Sárkány – Stage Master

Antal Végh – Stage Master

András Both – Lighting and Audio

Warehouse Manager

Antal Hajdu – Head Lighting Technician

Gábor Hüttl – Head Audio Technician

Miklós Mucsi – Head Lighting Technician

Sándor Rzezác – Head Lighting Technician

Gábor Áprily – Lighting Technician

Mihály Bandi – Lighting Technician

Szabolcs Berei – Lighting Technician

Péter Mihály Erdős – Audio Technician

Tamás Filák – Lighting Technician

Balázs Göncöl – Lighting Technician

Szabolcs Herfert – Light Control Technician

János Horváth – Lighting Technician

Andrea Hronyán – Lighting Technician

Bence Kertész – Audio Technician

Tibor Lénárd – Light Control Technician

Gábor Lukács – Lighting Technician

János Matuz – Audio Technician

György Tamás Nagypál – Lighting Technician

István Németh – Audio Technician

Technical Directorate

Technical Directorate

István József Olácsi – *Lighting Technician*
Tóth Lilla Panyik – *Light Control Technician*
István Papp – *Lighting Technician*
Tibor Pataky – *Audio Technician*
József Poszt – *Lighting Technician*
Zoltán Rab – *Lighting Technician*
István Senkó – *Lighting Technician*
Ivett Szilágyi – *Lighting Technician*
János Tamási – *Lighting Technician*
Zsolt Zsindely – *Lighting Technician*
Ákos István Bodor – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Gusztáv András Jancsó – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Zsolt Kelemen – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Ferenc Kerekes – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Attila Károly Kernács – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Gábor Kutasi – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

Zoltán Pál – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Dániel Pergel – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Tamás Pillinger – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Péter Szász – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Marcell Vörösmarty-Stefán – *Assistant Lighting Technician*
Anna Emőke Nagy – *Surtitles*
Sándor Bóné – *Props Warehouse Manager*
Gábor Skultéti – *Head Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Tamás Bácskai – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Gergely Csonka – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Botond Hegedüs – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
András Jäger – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Ferenc Kemerle – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Péter Kónya – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Ferenc Kovács – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Attila Lukácsi – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*

Technical Directorate

László Markos – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Tamás Nánási – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
András Petelen – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Norbert Szarvas – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Gábor Szekeres – *Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Attila Erdős – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Katalin Huszti – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Krisztián Gábor Kovács – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Emil Lucsik – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
István Varga – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Kornél Varga – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Róbert Varga – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Elek Válóczy – *Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands*
Szabolcs Joel Klein – *Costume Warehouse Manager*
Judit Beáta Ábrahám (née Bojtár) – *Dresser*
Ágnes Ambrus (née Rálik) – *Dresser*

Izabella Barabás – *Dresser*
Szilvia Barna – *Dresser*
Tibor Kaltenecker – *Dresser*
Mrs. Gábor Attila Kása – *Dresser*
Henrietta Kemerle – *Dresser*
Barnabás Kocserha – *Dresser*
Fanni Viktória Koller – *Dresser*
Klaudia Kovács – *Dresser*
Mária Kovics – *Dresser*
Viktória Kőműves – *Dresser*
Mária Erika Krisán – *Dresser*
Edit Gabriella Leéb – *Dresser*
Zsigmond Leidl – *Dresser/Maintenance Technician*
Mónika Lovas (née Kótai) – *Dresser*
Katalin Lovász – *Dresser*
Mrs. Árpád Lőrincz – *Dresser*

Technical Directorate

Renáta Mán – Dresser

Mária Medve – Dresser

Tibor Mészáros – Dresser

Ilona Mészáros (née Gyenes) – Dresser

Gyula Mórocz – Dresser

Mária Antónia Mucsi (née Kovács) – Dresser

József Muladi – Dresser

Gábor Nagy – Dresser

Tímea Németh – Dresser

György Róbert Petrányi – Dresser

Szilvia Podhorszki – Dresser

Mrs. László Radnai – Dresser/Maintenance Technician

Nóra Somlai – Dresser

Erika Király-Szabady – Dresser

Veronika Erzsébet Szabó – Dresser/Maintenance Technician

Veronika Szakács – Dresser

László Szoták – Dresser

Nóra Tordai – Dresser

Gabriella Turtegin – Dresser

Mrs. Imre Tibor Ujj – Assistant Dresser/Maintenance Technician

Gábor Zoltán (née Zaicsek) – Dresser

János Ambrus – Assistant Dresser

Bernadett Balogh – Assistant Dresser

Gabriella Balogh – Assistant Dresser

Eszter Benkő – Assistant Dresser

Tímea Erzsébet Fábián (néé Budai) – Assistant Dresser

Krisztina Géryni – Assistant Dresser

Vivien Harmati – Assistant Dresser

Zsuzsanna Klára Karsay – Assistant Dresser

Noémi Kovács (née Benedek) – Assistant Dresser

Ilona Julianna Kovács (née Szedlár) – Assistant Dresser

Dávid László – Assistant Dresser

Technical Directorate

Krisztina Molnár – Assistant Dresser

Barbara Irma Morzsa – Assistant Dresser

Bence Mucsi – Assistant Dresser

Béla Nagy – Assistant Dresser

Naómi Ibolya Nyiri – Assistant Dresser

Enikő Rostás – Assistant Dresser

Erzsébet Spanyol – Assistant Dresser

Iván Szubin – Assistant Dresser

Mariann Maklár – Hairdressing Supply Manager

Jennifer Gyenes – Hairdresser

Pál Hlovoska – Hairdresser

Mrs. Árpád Horváth – Hairdresser

Zsófia Jámbor (née Tirbusz) – Hairdresser

Gyöngyi Valéria Kiss – Hairdresser

Erika Kovács – Hairdresser

Katalin Lukács (née Fürtös, Dr.) – Hairdresser

Dóra Ritz (née Simkó) – Hairdresser

Szilvia Suga – Hairdresser

Mrs. Zoltán Szabó – Hairdresser

Ágnes Szilvási – Hairdresser

Barbara Gosztony – Assistant Hairdresser

Réka Homolyová – Assistant Hairdresser

Barbara Kósa – Assistant Hairdresser

Nikolett Kató – Assistant Hairdresser

János Bartha – IT Departmental Head

Péter Bekő – IT Technician

Péter Hipszki – IT Technician

Gábor Lencsés – IT Technician

Kolos Kovács – IT Technician

Marketing and Communication Directorate

Monika Turkovics, Dr. – Director of Marketing and Communication

Boglárka Erdei – Marketing and Communication Project Manager

Zoltán Ficsor – Event Marketing Project Manager

Zsanett Gerliczki – Marketing Manager

Melitta Gyüdi – Protocol Officer, Club Manager

Jozefa Iványi – Museologist, Archive Manager

György Jávorszky – International Communication Project Manager

Dániel Mona – Communication Manager

Orsolya Nagyhegyesi – Online Marketing Project Manager

András Oláh – Communication Project Manager

Viktória Szedresi (née Filip) – Copywriter, Communication Manager

László Tóth – Marketing Production Manager

Business Directorate

Balázs Ivacs – Business Director

Andrea Gyöngyi Balogh, Dr. – Assistant to the Director

Krisztina Éva Tóth (née Pogrányi) – Controller

Géza József Nagy – Office Assistant

Éva Mária Varga, Dr. – Registrar

Szilvia Szilágyi – Registrar

András Bojtor – Accounting Department Manager

Klára Simon (née Gebri) – Head Accounting Facilitator

Tünde Éva Fodor (née Szabó) – Accounting Facilitator

Nikolett Szabó – Accounting Facilitator

Anna Vogyerák (née Reményi) – Accounting Facilitator

Mrs. János Moldován – Accounting Administrator

Mrs. József Szatmári – Accounting Administrator

Mária Apkó – Organisational Bookkeeper

Krisztina Funtha – Head Stocktaker

Anikó Egyed – Stocktaker

Mrs. László Kovács – Auditing Bookkeeper

Tibor Pap – Business Specialist

Szilvia Zsuzsanna Tóth – Invoice Account Clerk

Orsolya Dér – Financial Department Manager

Krisztina Herczeg (née Kovács) – Head Financial Facilitator

Mrs. Sándor Bende – Financial Administrator

Krisztina Cziráki (née Mátrai) – Financial Facilitator

Katalin Egri – Financial Facilitator

Katalin Grosz (née Kovács) – Financial Facilitator

Rita Kelemen (née Surányi) – Financial Administrator

Éva Kovács (née Mihályi) – Financial Facilitator

Klára Mária Tóth (née Bajnóczi) – Financial Facilitator

Ildikó Gyöngyi Trégel (née Vincze) – Financial Facilitator

Orsolya Katalin Várhelyi – Financial Facilitator

Ilona Zajacz – Financial Facilitator

Alexandra Éva Száraz – Human Resources

Management Department Manager

Balázs Husztik – Payroll Specialist

Mrs. Tibor István Csik – Payroll Administrator

Edit Gulyás – Payroll Administrator

Erika Halász (née Szmola) – Payroll Administrator

Rita Liebhauser – Payroll Administrator

Ágnes Proszammer – Payroll Administrator



...HAPPY WE'LL
FOREVER BE!

THEY COULDN'T HANDLE ME...

ERKEL

SZÍNHÁZ
THEATRE

Calendar

Erkel calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	PERFORMANCE AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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AUGUST

23	Wed	6 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
24	Thu	6 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
25	Fri	6 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot	42. Visszanézó bérlet		A
26	Sat	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot	26. Alberich		M
26	Sat	6 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot	35. Sebastiano		A
27	Sun	6 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot	43. Visszanézó bérlet		A

SEPTEMBER

9	Sat	7 pm	ERKEL: BÁNK BÁN (premiere)	1. Siegfried, Premiere		P
10	Sun	3 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán	Opera without borders - Invitation only		

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 442 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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11	Mon	7:30 pm	Opera134		38. Malwina	H
13	Wed	7 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		3. Tio Lukas	A
14	Thu	7 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		5. Tommaso	A
15	Fri	7 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		41. Nők Lapja season ticket	A
16	Sat	7 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		22. Zuniga Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi	A
17	Sun	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		30. Gunther	M
17	Sun	7 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		15. Tante Emma Il tabarro/Gianni Schicchi	A
21	Thu	7 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		44. Corvinus bérlet Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi	A
22	Fri	7 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		9. Helene Il tabarro/Gianni Schicchi	A
23	Sat	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		10. Tata	A
24	Sun	11 am	Puccini: Il trittico		24. Brünnhilde Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi	M
24	Sun	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		16. Lord Ruthven	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 443 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
25	Mon	11 am	MOZART: FIGARO 2.0 (premiere)		OperAdventure	0
25	Mon	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
26	Tue	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
26	Tue	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
27	Wed	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
27	Wed	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
28	Thu	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
28	Thu	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		4. Achilleus	A
29	Fri	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
29	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		7. Íphigeneia	A
30	Sat	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
30	Sat	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
OCTOBER						
1	Sun	11 am	Verdi: Rigoletto		25. Hagen	M
1	Sun	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
2	Mon	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
2	Mon	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
8	Sun	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
8	Sun	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		42. Visszanézó bérlet	A
9	Mon	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
9	Mon	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
10	Tue	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
10	Tue	4 pm	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
11	Wed	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0
11	Wed	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		3. Tio Lukas	A
12	Thu	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	0

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
12	Thu	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		40. Operabarát	A
13	Fri	11 am	Mozart: Figaro 2.0		OperAdventure	O
13	Fri	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		41. Nők Lapja bérlet 43. Visszanéző bérlet	A
14	Sat	10:30 pm	Tales of Music			
14	Sat	5 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Invitation only	
15	Sun	11 am	Kodály: The Spinning Room		30. Gunther	M
15	Sun	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		15. Tante Emma	A
19	Thu	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		4. Achilleus	A
20	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		7. Iphigeneia	A
21	Sat	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		12. Paul	A
22	Sun	11 am	Verdi: Nabucco		23. Gyula	M
22	Sun	7:30 pm	Piano Arias – Liszt206		19. Kapitány	H
27	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		The day of §	A
28	Sat	6 pm	MEYERBEER: Les Huguenots (premiere)		1. Siegfried, Premiere	P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 446 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
29	Sun	6 pm	Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots		21. Puck	A
30	Mon	7 pm	Verdi: Stiffelio		39. Professor	H
31	Tue	6 pm	Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots		44. Corvinus bérlet	A
NOVEMBER						
2	Thu	7:30 pm	Verdi: Requiem		4. Achilleus	H
4	Sat	7:30 pm	Verdi: Requiem		38. Malwina	H
5	Sun	6 pm	Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots		18. Marietta	A
7	Tue	10 am	Big Projection Day		Invitation only	
7	Tue	11 am	Big Projection Day		Invitation only	
9	Thu	6 pm	Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots			A
10	Fri	6 pm	Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots		20. Fatima	A
11	Sat	11 am	Mozart: The Magic Flute for Children		27. Schlendrian	M
11	Sat	7 pm	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		10. Tata	A
12	Sun	11 am	Mozart: The Magic Flute for Children		28. Boszi	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 447 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2017. NOVEMBER	Season ticket / Notes	Price
12	Sun	7 pm	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		17. Sir Humphrei	A
16	Thu	7 pm	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		6. Oberon	A
17	Fri	7 pm	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore			A
18	Sat	7 pm	ROSSINI: L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI (premiere)		1. Siegfried, Premiere	P
19	Sun	11 am	Mozart: The Magic Flute for Children			M
19	Sun	7 pm	L'italiana in Algeri		17. Sir Humphrei	A
23	Thu	7 pm	L'italiana in Algeri		6. Oberon	A
24	Fri	7 pm	L'italiana in Algeri		41. Nők Lapja bérlet	A
25	Sat	11 am	L'italiana in Algeri			M
25	Sat	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		11. Hedwig	A
26	Sun	11 am	L'italiana in Algeri		24. Brünnhilde	M
26	Sun	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		14. Nietzsche	A
27	Mon	7 pm	Iphigenia in Aulis		39. Professzor	H
30	Thu	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata			A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 448 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2017. DECEMBER	Season ticket / Notes	Price
DECEMBER						
1	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		44. Corvinus bérlet	A
2	Sat	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		32. Ginna	E
3	Sun	11 am	Verdi: La traviata		25. Hagen	M
3	Sun	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		31. Grófné	E
6	Wed	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		33. Márta	E
7	Thu	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
8	Fri	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
9	Sat	6 pm	HUMPERDINCK: HÄNSEL UND GRETEL (premiere)		1. Siegfried Premiere	P
10	Sun	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		23. Gyula	P
10	Sun	6 pm	Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel		Interchurch Christmas - Invitation only	
12	Tue	6 pm	Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel		2. Artemis	A
13	Wed	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		34. Licinius	E
14	Thu	6 pm	Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel		29. Robert	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 449 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2017. DECEMBER	Season ticket / Notes	Price
15	Fri	11 am	Bohemian Christmas		Invitation only	
15	Fri	1 pm	Bohemian Christmas		Invitation only	
15	Fri	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		22. Zuniga A	A
16	Sat	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	
16	Sat	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
17	Sun	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	
17	Sun	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		14. Nietzsche	A
19	Tue	11 am	Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel			A
19	Tue	6 pm	Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel			A
20	Wed	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			A
21	Thu	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	
21	Thu	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	
22	Fri	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	
22	Fri	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2017. DECEMBER	Season ticket / Notes	Price
23	Sat	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			P
23	Sat	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
24	Sun	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
25	Mon	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
25	Mon	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			E
26	Tue	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
26	Tue	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
27	Wed	11 am	Puccini: La bohème			E
27	Wed	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			E
28	Thu	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
28	Thu	7 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
29	Fri	7 pm	Andrea Chénier concert with Anna Netrebko			
30	Sat	11 am	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
30	Sat	6 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2017 / JANUARY 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
31	Sun	3 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E
31	Sun	9:30 pm	Eagling/Solymosi/Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			E

JANUARY

1	Mon	7:30 pm	New Year's at the Erkel	38. Malwina		P
3	Wed	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron	3. Tio Lukas		A
4	Thu	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron			A
5	Fri	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron	8. Jászberény		A
6	Sat	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron	12. Paul		A
7	Sun	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron	15. Tante Emma		A
12	Fri	7 pm	Marschner: Der Vampyr	21. Puck		H
13	Sat	7 pm	Ruzitska/Orbán: Béla's Flight/Prince Pikkó	13. Von Wenckheim		H
14	Sun	7 pm	WEBER: OBERON (premiere)	18. Marietta		H
18	Thu	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca	5. Tommaso		A
19	Fri	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca	Opera for Doctors		A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
20	Sat	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			M
20	Sat	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		11. Hedwig	A
21	Sun	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			M
21	Sun	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		14. Nietzsche	A
25	Thu	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		29. Robert	A
26	Fri	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		22. Zuniga	A
27	Sat	7 pm	GERSHWIN: PORGY AND BESS (premiere)		1. Siegfried, Premiere	P
28	Sun	10:30 am	Tales of Music			
28	Sun	7 pm	Gershwin: Porgy and Bess			A

FEBRUARY

1	Thu	7 pm	Gershwin: Porgy and Bess			A
2	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Simon Boccanegra		9. Helene	A
3	Sat	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		27. Schlendrian	M
3	Sat	7 pm	Verdi: Simon Boccanegra (Domingo)			E

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
4	Sun	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		28. Boszi	M
4	Sun	7 pm	Verdi: Simon Boccanegra		15. Tante Emma	A
6	Tue	7 pm	Verdi: Simon Boccanegra (Domingo)			E
8	Thu	7 pm	Gershwin: Porgy and Bess			A
9	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Simon Boccanegra		7. Íphigeneia	A
10	Sat	8 pm	Ring Night			
11	Sun	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			M
15	Thu	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		42. Visszanézó bérlet	A
16	Fri	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		43. Visszanézó bérlet	A
17	Sat	7 pm	Mozart: Così fan tutte		10. Tata	A
28	Sun	7 pm	Mozart: Così fan tutte		16. Lord Ruthven	A
22	Thu	7 pm	Mozart: Così fan tutte		21. Puck	A
23	Fri	7 pm	Mozart: Così fan tutte		8. Jászberény	A
24	Sat	6 pm	OFFENBACH: DIE RHEINNIXEN (premiere)		1. Siegfried Premiere	P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 454 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY / MARCH 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
25	Sun	11 am	Mozart: Così fan tutte		24. Brünnhilde	M
25	Sun	6 pm	Offenbach: Die Rheinnixen		18. Marietta	A
MARCH						
1	Thu	6 pm	Offenbach: Die Rheinnixen		20. Fatima	A
2	Fri	6 pm	Offenbach: Die Rheinnixen		21. Puck	A
3	Sat	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		12. Paul	A
4	Sun	10:30 am	Tales of Music			
4	Sun	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		17. Sir Humphrei	A
5	Mon	7 pm	Korngold: Die tote Stadt		39. Professzor	H
8	Thu	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		6. Oberon	A
9	Fri	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor			A
10	Sat	7 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László		13. Von Wenckheim	A
11	Sun	7 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László		19. Kapitány	A
12	Mon	7:30 pm	Gyöngyi Lukács jubilee concert		40. Operabarát	H

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 455 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
15	Thu	7 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László			A
16	Fri	7 pm	Asafiev/Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai			A
17	Sat	7 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László		11. Hedwig	A
18	Sun	11 am	Asafiev/Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai		24. Brünnhilde	M
18	Sun	7 pm	Asafiev/Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai		36. Julia	A
19	Mon	7:30 pm	Ramón Vargas Song Recital			E
21	Wed	6 pm	Cinema Szinetár III		40. Operabarát	H
22	Thu	7 pm	Asafiev/Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai		5. Tommaso	A
23	Fri	7 pm	Asafiev/Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai		37. Pedro	A
24	Sat	7 pm	Eifman/Rachmaninov: The Karamazovs		35. Sebastiano	A
25	Sun	11 am	Eifman/Rachmaninov: The Karamazovs		26. Alberich	M
25	Sun	7 pm	Eifman/Rachmaninov: The Karamazovs		31. Grófné	A
27	Tue	7 pm	Eifman/Rachmaninov: The Karamazovs		2. Arthemis	A
28	Wed	7 pm	Mascagni/Leoncavallo: Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci		3. Tio Lukas	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 456 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH / APRIL 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
29	Thu	7 pm	Eifman/Rachmaninov: The Karamazovs		34. Licinius	A
29	Thu	9 pm	Gibson: The Passion of the Christ		Film screening	V
30	Fri	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal		20. Fatima	A
31	Sat	11 am	Mascagni/Leoncavallo: Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci			M
31	Sat	7 pm	Mascagni/Leoncavallo: Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci		10. Tata	A
APRIL						
1	Sun	7 pm	Mascagni/Leoncavallo: Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci		16. Lord Ruthven	A
2	Mon	11 am	Mascagni/Leoncavallo: Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci			M
2	Mon	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal			A
3	Tue	7 pm	Spontini: La vestale		40. Operabarát	H
4	Wed	7 pm	d'Albert: Tiefland		20. Fatima	H
5	Thu	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal		Christians' Parsifal	
6	Fri	7 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		8. Jászberény	A
7	Sat	11 am	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		23. Gyula	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 457 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
7	Sat	7 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		11. Hedwig	A
8	Sun		BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL			
9	Mon		BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL			
12	Thu	7 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		29. Robert	A
13	Fri	7 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		9. Helene	A
14	Sat	7 pm	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		35. Sebastiano	A
15	Sun	11 am	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		26. Alberich	M
15	Sun	7 pm	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		36. Julia	A
18	Wed	7 pm	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		33. Márta	A
19	Thu	7 pm	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		42. Visszanézó bérlet	A
20	Fri	7 pm	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		43. Visszanézó bérlet	A
21	Sat	7 pm	VERDI: UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (premiere)		1. Siegfried Premiere	P
22	Sun	11 am	Ashton/Hérold: La fille mal gardée		28. Boszi	M
22	Sun	7 pm	Verdi: Un ballo in maschera		14. Nietzsche	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 458 Erkel Theatre

Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL / MAY 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
23	Mon	7:30 pm	Ybl204		38. Malwina	H
25	Wed	7:30 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte			A
26	Thu	7 pm	Verdi: Un ballo in maschera		4. Achilleus	A
27	Fri	7 pm	Verdi: Un ballo in maschera		7. Iphigeneia	A
28	Sat	11 am	Verdi: Un ballo in maschera		25. Hagen	M
28	Sat	7 pm	Venekei/Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		37. Pedro	A
29	Sun	11 am	Verdi: Un ballo in maschera		30. Gunther	M
29	Sun	7 pm	Venekei/Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		19. Kapitány	A
MAY						
2	Wed	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
2	Wed	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
3	Thu	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
3	Thu	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
4	Fri	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Erkel Theatre 459 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
4	Fri	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
5	Sat	11 am	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		MamaMatiné	M
5	Sat	7 pm	Venekei/Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		32. Cinna	A
6	Sun	11 am	Venekei/Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		40. Operabarád	M
6	Sun	7 pm	Venekei/Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		31. Grófné	A
8	Tue	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
8	Tue	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
9	Wed	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
9	Wed	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
10	Thu	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
10	Thu	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
11	Fri	11 am	Total Dance		OperAdventure	0
11	Fri	4 pm	Total Dance		OperAdventure+Seregi Night '18	0
12	Sat		Choral Days		Choral Days – Invitation only	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY / JUNE 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
13	Sun	3 pm	Orff: Carmina Burana		Choral Days – Invitation only	
14	Mon	7 pm	Wolf: Der Corregidor		39. Professor	H
16	Wed		Primavera			H
17	Thu		Primavera			H
18	Fri		Primavera			H
19	Sat		Primavera			H
20	Sun		Primavera			H
21	Mon	7 pm	Pas de quatre '18		33. Márta	H
22	Tue	7 pm	DanceTrend '18		34. Licinius	H

JUNE

1	Fri	7 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		37. Pedro	A
2	Sat	7 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		13. Von Wenckheim	A
3	Sun	11 am	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			M
3	Sun	7 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		36. Julia	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
6	Wed	11 am	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		International Children's Safety – Invitation only	M
7	Thu	7 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			A
8	Fri	7 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			A
9	Sat	11 am	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		27. Schlendrian	M
9	Sat	6 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		32. Cinna	A
10	Sun	6 pm	Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		31. Grófné	A
16	Sat	6 pm	Novák: Kádár's Last Speech			A
19	Tue	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
19	Tue	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot		2. Arthemis	A
20	Wed	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
20	Wed	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
21	Thu	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
21	Thu	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
22	Fri	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
22	Fri	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
23	Sat	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
23	Sat	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
24	Sun	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot		23. Gyula	M
24	Sun	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
26	Tue	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
26	Tue	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A
27	Wed	11 am	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			M
27	Wed	7 pm	Sir Elton John/Lee Hall: Billy Elliot			A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Opera calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2017-2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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SEPTEMBER

16	Sat		Car-Free Weekend			
17	Sun		Car-Free Weekend			

OCTOBER

1	Sun	6 pm	International Music Day			
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MAY 2018

21	Mon	7:30 pm	Richter102			
24	Thu	7 pm	Bartók: Bluebeard's Castle			
25	Fri	7 pm	Madarász/Bartók: Prologue/Bluebeard's Castle			
26	Sat	7 pm	Vajda/Bartók: Barbie Blue/Bluebeard's Castle			
27	Sun	7 pm	Eötvös/Bartók: Senza Sangue/ BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE (premiere)			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 464 **Hungarian State Opera**

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
31	Thu	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			

JUNE

1	Fri	7 pm	Eötvös/Bartók: Senza Sangue/Bluebeard's Castle			
2	Sat	7 pm	Iván Nagy Ballet Gala			
3	Sun	6 pm	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten			
5	Tue	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			
6	Wed	6 pm	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten			
7	Thu	5 pm	Wagner: Götterdämmerung (open dress rehearsal)			
8	Fri	7 pm	Eötvös/Bartók: Senza Sangue/Bluebeard's Castle			
9	Sat	11 am	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			
9	Sat	6 pm	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten			
10	Sun	5 pm	WAGNER: GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG			
12	Tue	6 pm	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten			
13	Wed	5 pm	Wagner: Götterdämmerung			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Hungarian State Opera 465 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2018	Season ticket / Notes	Price
14	Thu	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
15	Fri	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			
16	Sat	11 am	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
16	Sat	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
17	Sun	5 pm	Wagner: Götterdämmerung			
18	Mon	7:30 pm	Éva Marton75 – surprise gala			
19	Tue	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
20	Wed	5 pm	Wagner: Götterdämmerung			
21	Thu	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
22	Fri	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
23	Sat	11 am	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
23	Sat	6 pm	Dantzig/Schayk/Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			
24	Sun	4 pm	Starry-Eyed Season Closing Gala			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 466 **Hungarian State Opera**

Other venues

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2017	Performance	Season ticket	Price
SEPTEMBER							
7	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
9	Sat	2 pm	Opera House, Sphinx Terrace		Donizetti/Menotti: Il campanello/I pazzi per progetto/ The Telephone		
14	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
16	Sat	2 pm	Opera House, Sphinx Terrace		Donizetti/Menotti: Il campanello/I pazzi per progetto/ The Telephone		
17	Sun	2 pm	Opera House, Sphinx Terrace		Donizetti/Menotti: Il campanello/I pazzi per progetto/ The Telephone		
21	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
28	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert

Other venues 467 **Calendar**

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2017	Performance	Season ticket	Price
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OCTOBER

5	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
12	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
19	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		
20	Fri	7 pm	MÜPA		Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake		
21	Sat	7 pm	MÜPA		Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake		
22	Sun	7 pm	MÜPA		Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake		
26	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
29	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet		Enchanting Instruments – Strings	Hangjegy bérlet	1200
29	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet		Afternoon Jam – Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass	Tücsök bérlet	1200

NOVEMBER

2	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
5	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet		Enchanting Instruments – Woodwinds	Hangjegy bérlet	1200
7	Tue		Bernáth Buffet		Hungarian Opera Day		

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 468 **Other venues**

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2017	Performance	Season ticket	Price
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9	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
13	Mon	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
14	Tue	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
15	Wed	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
16	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
16	Thu	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
17	Fri	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
18	Sat	7 pm	MÜPA		Balanchine/Tchaikovsky/Lander/Czerny/Riisager: Theme and Variations/Etudes		
23	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
30	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000

DECEMBER

7	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall		Sing-along Baby		1000
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■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert

Other venues 469 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2017-2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
21	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000

JANUARY

4	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
11	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
14	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Brass	Hangjegy bérlet		1200
14	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – Trumpet and Trombone	Tücsök bérlet		1200
18	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
20	Sat	7 pm	MÜPA	Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake			
21	Sun	7 pm	MÜPA	Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake			
25	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
26	Fri	7 pm	MÜPA	Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake			
28	Sun	7 pm	MÜPA	Van Manen: 5 Tangos/Trois Gnossiennes/Black Cake			
29	Mon	7 pm	MÜPA	Otello (concert performance)			
30	Tue	6 pm	MÜPA	Die Frau ohne Schatten (concert performance)			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 470 Other venues

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
31	Wed	7 pm	MÜPA	Turandot (concert performance)			

FEBRUARY

1	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
4	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Percussion	Hangjegy bérlet		1200
4	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – Percussion	Tücsök bérlet		1200
8	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
15	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
18	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Strings	Hangvilla bérlet		1200
18	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – Guitar and Harp	Fakopáncs bérlet		1200
22	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000

MARCH

1	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
8	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
10	Sat			Eiffel Art Studios Inauguration			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

Other venues 471 Calendar

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
10	Sat	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	MOZART: L'OCA DEL CAIRO OSSIA LO SPOSO DELUSO (premiere)			
11	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Woodwinds		Hangvilla bérlet	1200
11	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – Clarinet and Oboe		Fakopáncs bérlet	1200
11	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			
17	Sat	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			
18	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			
22	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
29	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000

APRIL

1	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Brass		Hangvilla bérlet	1200
1	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – French horn and Tuba		Fakopáncs bérlet	1200
5	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
7	Sat	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	KENESSEY/TÓTH: THE GOLD AND THE WOMAN/ THE TÓT FAMILY (premiere)			
8	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Kenessey/Tóth: The Gold and the Woman/The Tót Family			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 472 Other venues

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
12	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
14	Sat	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Kenessey/Tóth: The Gold and the Woman/The Tót Family			
15	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Kenessey/Tóth: The Gold and the Woman/The Tót Family			
16	Mon		Eiffel Art Studios	World Voice Day			
19	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
26	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000

MAY

3	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
6	Sun		Zoboki Hall	Parsifal			
7	Mon		Zoboki Hall	Die Frau ohne Schatten			
10	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
10	Thu		Zoboki Hall	Ring			
11	Fri	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	BACH: SECULAR CANTATAS (premiere)			
12	Sat		Eiffel Art Studios	European Opera Days			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

Other venues 473 Calendar

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
12	Sat	9 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	GERMANLATENIGHT (premiere)			
13	Sun	9 am	Bernáth Buffet	Enchanting Instruments – Percussion		Hangvilla bérlet	1200
13	Sun	3 pm	Bernáth Buffet	Afternoon Jam – Piano		Fakopáncs bérlet	1200
13	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	SIEGFRIED IDYLL, OR THE END OF A FRIENDSHIP (PREMIERE)			
15	Tue	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Bach: Secular Cantatas			
16	Wed	9 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	GermanLateNight			
17	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
17	Thu	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	LORTZING/SCHUBERT: DIE OPERNPROBE / DER VIERJÄHRIGE POSTEN (PREMIERE)			
18	Fri	9 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	GermanLateNight			
19	Sat	11 am	Eiffel Art Studios	Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship			
19	Sat	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Bach: Secular Cantatas			
20	Sun	11 am	Eiffel Art Studios	Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship			
20	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Lortzing/Schubert: Die Opernprobe/Der vierjährige Posten			
21	Mon		Eiffel Art Studios	Siegfried Idyll, or The End of a Friendship			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Calendar 474 Other venues

Date	Day	Time	Venue	2018	Performance	Season ticket	Price
24	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
27	Sun	7 pm	Eiffel Art Studios	Lortzing/Schubert: Die Opernprobe/Der vierjährige Posten			
31	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000

JUNE

7	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
14	Thu	11 am	Kodály Hall	Sing-along Baby			1000
22	Fri	9 pm	Margaret Island	Strauss: Salome			
24	Sun	9 pm	Margaret Island	Strauss: Salome			

JULY

13	Fri	8 pm	Margaret Island	Puccini: Tosca			
15	Sun	8 pm	Margaret Island	Puccini: Tosca			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera
 ■ Programme for children under 10

Other venues 475 Calendar

■ Opera
 ■ Ballet
 ■ Concert



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

[Ticket Information, Season Passes and Discounts](#)

Season Passes and Bonuses

In the 2017/2018 season the Hungarian State Opera offers a choice of different season passes for old and new customers. In this season our institution issues twelve different collectible **plastic cards** of unique design and bearing the holder's name, which mainly help returning Hungarian guests to obtain substantial discounts.

BONUS – All purchasers of season passes with a card that includes a code providing a **30% discount** for the same number of individual opera performances as the number of performances on their season pass. (For example, by using the card, the purchaser of a four-performance season pass for the Opera House may buy discounted tickets for four performances at the **Opera House**.) The bonuses can be used at the Opera House, which will reopen in the spring of 2018.

BONUS+ – We've linked each of the season pass options to a single special opera event, which the holder of the given pass can register to attend at half price. This means **we've supplemented each season pass series with a 50% discount for each of our season pass**. (One pass may be used for only one bonus ticket.. Tickets are available in limited numbers: requests will be processed according to the time of booking; for further information on the booking system and the conditions of card use

visit www.opera.hu/vasarloiaszf. Tickets may be purchased after 1 July 2017.)

Season Passes and Bonuses

PERFORMANCES AT THE ERKEL THEATRE ELIGIBLE FOR BONUS+

30 October 2017 (Mon) 7 pm – Verdi ► **Stiffelio**

27 November 2017 (Mon) 7 pm – Gluck ► **Iphigenia in Aulis**

12 January 2018 (Fri) 7 pm – Marschner ► **Der Vampyr**

13 January 2018 (Sat) 7 pm – József Ruzitska / György Orbán ►
Béla's Flight / Prince Pikkó

14 January 2018 (Sun) 7 pm – Weber ► **Oberon**

5 March 2018 (Mon) 7 pm – Korngold ► **Die tote Stadt**

3 April 2018 (Tue) 7 pm – Spontini ► **La vestale**

4 April 2018 (Wed) 7 pm – d'Albert ► **Tiefland**

14 May 2018 (Mon) 7 pm – Wolf ► **Der Corregidor**

16 May 2018. (Wed) – **Primavera**

17 May 2018. (Thu) – **Primavera**

18 May 2018. (Fri) – **Primavera**

19 May 2018. (Sat) – **Primavera**

20 May 2018. (Sun) – **Primavera**

21 May 2018. (Mon) 7 pm – **Pas de Quatre '18**

22 May 2018. (Tue) 7 pm – **Dance Trend '18**

Season Passes and Bonuses

FLEXIBLE SEASON PASS – In the previous season our guests could try **Flexible Season Passes**, which turned out to be very popular. After the close of the several-month-long period of purchasing season passes, our guests can purchase Flexible Season Passes for remaining seats at the **Erkel Theatre for six performances** of their choosing. We will provide a total **discount of 15%** for the six tickets, which must be paid for in a single sum in advance. Perhaps more importantly, we also reward Flexible Passholders with the 30% discount from the list price on **six additional individual tickets to six different performances at the Opera House (Bonus)**.

SIX-PERFORMANCE CARD – Last but not least, the **Six-Performance Card** will be available for sale starting on 1 July 2017. This will be of interest to those of our guests who missed the season pass deadline for any reason or who only occasionally visit the Opera House. Anyone who collects **six full-priced performances at either the Opera House or Erkel Theatre**, may also purchase an additional individual ticket for each of six Opera House productions at a **30% discount** on their Six-Performance Card. (Since the Six-Performance Card is linked to an individual name, the owner only becomes eligible for the discount after attending six productions.)

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CARD USE – Each card bearing the holder's name entitles the purchaser to one ticket for one performance. (Family members, friends, students and accompanying guests can take out a card free of charge and they can collect points on it or pay with it.)

Pre-purchased tickets can be given to anyone as we cannot and do not want to check guests' identities before performances.

Season Passes and Bonuses

This year, except for a few that were named after cities, most of our season passes were given the names of characters from operas that are important to the "Around the Ring" season. If you know which opera each of them belongs to, then you are a hard-core opera fan. For everyone else, here is some help that might help with making a selection. Details regarding the content of the season passes can be found in the information booklet.

1. Siegfried (Wagner ▶ **Ring**)
2. Artemis (Gluck ▶ **Iphigenia in Aulis**)
3. Tio Lukas (Wolf ▶ **Der Corregidor**)
4. Achilles (Gluck ▶ **Iphigenia in Aulis**)
5. Tommaso (d'Albert ▶ **Tiefland**)
6. Oberon (Weber ▶ **Oberon**)
7. Íphigeneia (Gluck ▶ **Iphigenia in Aulis**)
8. Jászberény
9. Helene (Hindemith ▶ **Hin und zurück**)
10. Tata
11. Hedwig (Offenbach ▶ **Die Rheinnixen**)
12. Paul (Korngold ▶ **Die tote Stadt**)
13. Von Wenckheim (Offenbach ▶ **Die Rheinnixen**)
14. Nietzsche (Szálinger ▶ **Siegfried Idyll**)
15. Tante Emma (Hindemith ▶ **Hin und zurück**)
16. Lord Ruthven (Marschner ▶ **Der Vampyr**)
17. Sir Humphrei (Marschner ▶ **Der Vampyr**)
18. Marietta (Korngold ▶ **Die tote Stadt**)
19. Kapitány (Schubert ▶ **Der vierjährige Posten**)
20. Fatima (Weber ▶ **Oberon**)
21. Puck (Weber ▶ **Oberon**)
22. Zuniga (Wolf ▶ **Der Corregidor**)
23. Gyula
24. Brünnhilde (Wagner ▶ **Ring**)
25. Hagen (Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung**)
26. Alberich (Wagner ▶ **Ring**)
27. Schlendrian (Bach ▶ **Coffee Cantata**)
28. Boszi (Humperdinck ▶ **Hänsel und Gretel**)
29. Robert (Hindemith ▶ **Hin und zurück**)
30. Gunther (Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung**)
31. Grófné (Wolf ▶ **Der Corregidor**)
32. Cinna (Spontini ▶ **La vestale**)
33. Márta (d'Albert ▶ **Tiefland**)
34. Licinius (Spontini ▶ **La vestale**)
35. Sebastiano (d'Albert ▶ **Tiefland**)
36. Julia (Spontini ▶ **La vestale**)
37. Pedro (Wolf ▶ **Der Corregidor**)
38. Malwina (Marschner ▶ **Der Vampyr**)
39. Professzor (Hindemith ▶ **Hin und zurück**)

Opera for Everyone

SEE IT AGAIN SERIES

The Opera is a huge but diverse institution, which regards its almost 1200 employees as authorities on the topic of opera no matter what position they work in. A new programme, the See It Again series, gives an artist or employee of the Opera the opportunity to watch 4 performances regularly and thus they can assess their own work – of course, this is part of their professional activities and is regarded as work time. And let everyone bring a person from their family or friends, to be able to bond with the Opera! The employee can buy these 4x2 tickets with the coupons given by the Opera as part of their monthly remuneration, so these are not complimentary tickets.

SELECTED PERFORMANCES AT THE ERKEL THEATRE:

25 August 2017 (Fri) 6 pm – Sir Elton John / Lee Hall ► **Billy Elliot** (see ► p. 183)

27 August 2017 (Sun) 6 pm – Sir Elton John / Lee Hall ► **Billy Elliot**

October 2017 8. (Sun) 7 pm – Kodály ► **The Spinning Room** (see ► p. 140)

October 2017 13. (Fri) 7 pm – Kodály ► **The Spinning Room**

February 2018 15. (Thu) 7 pm – Puccini ► **Tosca** (see ► p. 156)

February 2018 16. (Fri) 7 pm – Puccini ► **Tosca**

April 2018 19. (Thu) 7 pm – Hérolf / Ashton ► **La fille mal gardée** (see ► p. 195)

April 2018 20. (Fri) 7 pm – Hérolf / Ashton ► **La fille mal gardée**

Opera for Everyone

COME ON IN!

Performances at the Opera House have been easily accessible for young audience members and students since March 2012. Student tickets are, of course, available this year too during the modernisation of the building – this time at the Erkel Theatre. The tickets, which are available in limited numbers, cost 300 forints (or 1 euro for international visitors) and are valid for seats at the top of the balcony and the wing boxes. Thanks to the shoebox-like shape of the auditorium, it is not a negligible fact that the acoustics of the Erkel Theatre is the best from these seats. Student tickets can be purchased either personally at any of the box offices of our theatres or via the Internet two hours prior to the beginning of the performances.

Opera for Everyone

HELP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The surtitle screens suspended above the stages of the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre is a great help in understanding the works for those who can hear, but especially important for the hearing impaired. Our visually impaired guests arriving in groups can enjoy opera performances too: they will be informed about the events on the stage with commentary through in-ear monitors while being able to enjoy the music unimpaired. The venue of this experimental project is the Erkel Theatre and is led by **Ervin Bonecz**. There are 40 available spots for each performance.

NARRATED, BARRIER-FREE PERFORMANCES FOR THE SEASON:

17 September 2017 (Sun) 11 am – Erkel ▶ **Bánk Bán** (see ▶ p. 23)

24 September 2017 (Sun) 11 am – Puccini ▶ **Il trittico** (see ▶ p. 132)

1 October 2017 (Sun) 11 am – Verdi ▶ **Rigoletto** (see ▶ p. 138)

15 October 2017 (Sun) 11 am – Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room** (see ▶ p. 140)

26 November 2017 (Sun) 11 am – Rossini ▶ **L'italiana in Algeri** (see ▶ p. 39)

31 March 2018 (Sat) 11 am – Mascagni / Leoncavallo ▶ **Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci** (see ▶ p. 166)

7 April 2018 (Sat) 11 am – Mozart ▶ **Die Zauberflöte** (see ▶ p. 173)

29 April 2018 (Sun) 11 am – Verdi ▶ **Un ballo in maschera** (see ▶ p. 79)

23 June 2018 (Sat) 11 am – Sir Elton John / Lee Hall ▶ **Billy Elliot** (see ▶ p. 183)

Opera for Everyone

A BOX FOR THE DISABLED

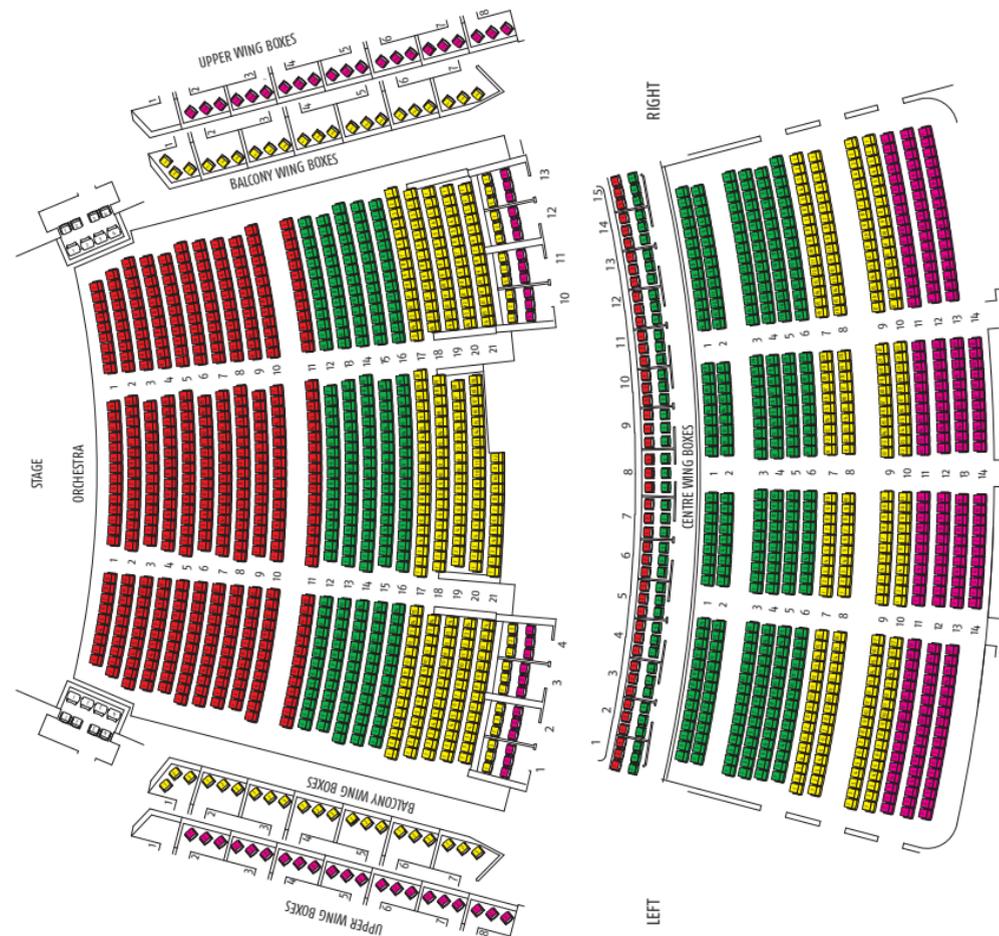
Our institution tries to make it easier for those living with disabilities to access our performances. Since the refurbishment, a special lift has been installed at the main entrance of the Erkel Theatre, and in the newly modernised Opera House, accessing the seats will no longer be a problem.

After the modernisation is completed, our disabled guests will be able to use the lifts located in the staircases at the Hajós Street and the Dalszínház Street entrances to reach the gallery on the third floor. The elevators installed in the rooms next to the two entrances will help our guests to enter the auditorium, where the special seats with a good view of the stage, designated for them and their companions, are located. Disabled lavatory facilities will also be available on the balcony level.

TICKET PRICES AT THE ERKEL THEATRE 2017/2018

Seats	Rows	A	M	E	H	P
PRICE CATEGORY I						
Orchestra level	Rows 1-11	7 200 Ft	3 600 Ft	14 400 Ft	5 700 Ft	8 600 Ft
Centre balcony box	Row 1					
PRICE CATEGORY II						
Orchestra level	Rows 12-16	5 800 Ft	2 900 Ft	11 600 Ft	4 600 Ft	6 900 Ft
Balcony seat	Rows 1-6					
Centre balcony box	Row 2					
PRICE CATEGORY III						
Orchestra-level seats	Rows 17-21	3 000 Ft	1 500 Ft	6 000 Ft	2 400 Ft	3 600 Ft
Balcony seat	Rows 7-10					
Balcony wing box	Rows 1					
Centre orchestra box	Rows 1					
PRICE CATEGORY IV						
Balcony seat Rows	Rows 11-14	1 500 Ft	500 Ft	3 000 Ft	1 200 Ft	1 800 Ft
Level I wingbox	Rows 1					
Centre orchestra box	Row 2					

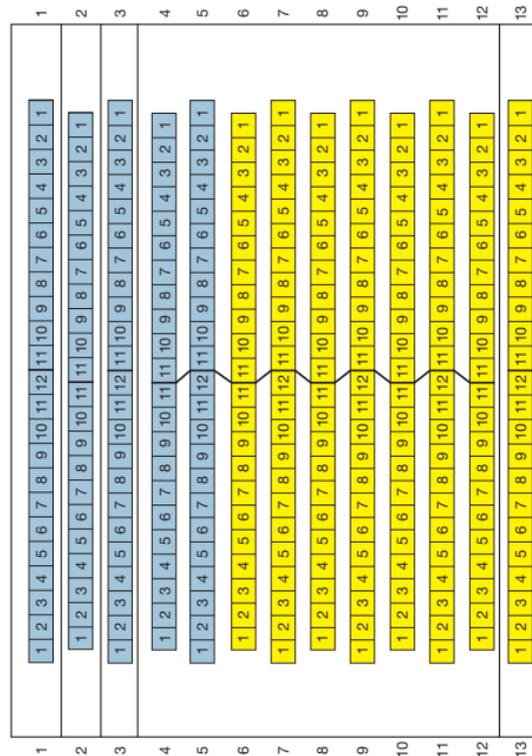
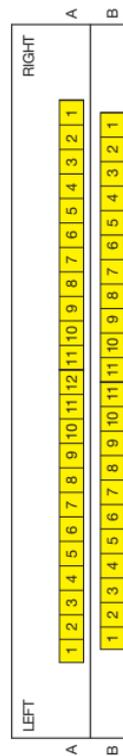
ERKEL THEATRE SEATING CHART



TICKET PRICES AT THE BÁNFFY STAGE 2017/2018

Seats	"B" BÁNFFY	"EB" PREMIUM BÁNFFY
PRICE CATEGORY I		
Rows 1-5	1000	10000
PRICE CATEGORY II		
Rows A, B; 6-13	700	7000

BÁNFFY STAGE



TICKET INFORMATION 2017 | 2018

HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Address: 1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22
Postal address: 1373 Budapest, Pf. 513

ERKEL THEATRE

Address: 1087 Budapest, II. János Pál pápa tér 30.

TICKETS:

OPERA SALES POINT

1061 Budapest, Hajós utca 13 15/ Ground Floor, Door 1 (buzzer 90)
Phone: +36 1 332 7914
Opening hours: weekdays, 10 am to 5 pm
E-mail | jegy@opera.hu

Opera House Box Offices

Address: 1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22
Phone: +36 1 353 0170
For our current opening hours, please visit www.opera.hu.

For half an hour prior to a performance, advance sales are suspended and only visitors arriving for the day's performance are served.
We appreciate your understanding.



Erkel Theatre - box office

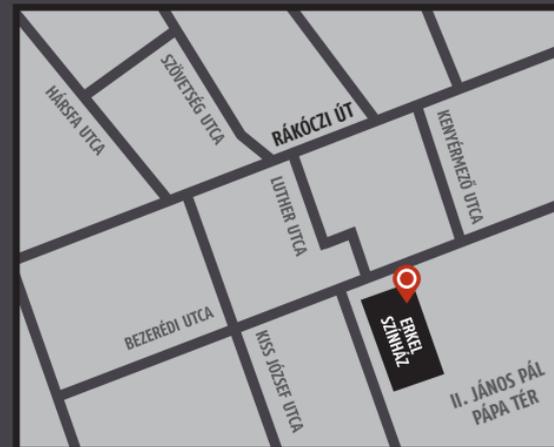
Address: 1087 Budapest, II. János Pál pápa tér 30
Phone: +36 1 33 26 150
Opening hours: Monday to Sunday, 10 am to 8 pm, or until the end of the first intermission

For half an hour prior to a performance, advance sales are suspended and only visitors arriving for the day's performance are served.
We appreciate your understanding.

Group bookings can be made for all performances across the entire season by sending an e mail to jegy@opera.hu.
All our box offices accept payments by bank card.
Online ticket sales | www.opera.hu | www.jegymester.hu
Central telephone number: +36 1 81 47 100
E-mail | info@opera.hu
Website | www.opera.hu

**The Hungarian State Opera is under no obligation to refund tickets and season passes.
The Hungarian State Opera reserves the right to make changes to the programme.**

TICKET INFORMATION 2017 | 2018



A man with a beard and a black cape stands in a blue hallway, looking intensely at a woman in a pink dress who is whispering into his ear. A speech bubble points to the man.

I'M GIVING YOU THREE KEYS.
YOU'LL SEE THINGS, BUT DON'T ASK ABOUT THEM.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SEE, DON'T ASK!

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Operatic Empire



Opera House

ANDRÁSSY AVENUE

The first Opera House in Hungary, and the only one to be built ever since, was inaugurated on 27 September 1884, after almost fifteen years of construction. Only Hungarian artisans were allowed to work on its construction, using Hungarian technology and Hungarian materials – with a few exceptions – according to the patriotic regulations of the Board of Public Works of the Capital City. **Miklós Ybl**'s Neo-Renaissance building immediately became a landmark of Budapest, and it is still the second most visited and the second most important representative public building after Parliament. With its auditorium, with a capacity of 1236, it is in the premier league of Opera Houses. The largest secco in Hungary can be seen here: **Károly Lotz** painted the apotheosis of music in a painting of 45 metres in perimeter on the ceiling, with excellent Hungarian artists simultaneously working in other rooms, including **Bertalan Székely**, **Mór Than**, **Árpád Feszty** and **György Vastagh**. The most famous guest artist was Enrico Caruso and several world premieres of Hungarian works were held inside these historic walls (*Bluebeard's Castle*, *Háry János*, *The Spinning Room*, *The Wooden Prince*, *King Pomade's New Clothes*, *Blood Wedding*, *C'est la guerre*, *Mario and the Magician*).

The Opera House was last refurbished between 1980 and 1984. We plan to begin modernisation works lasting nine months beginning in the summer of 2017 and restoration works will be completed too. All the stage machinery and the mechanical and electrical systems will be replaced, several rooms will be given new functions, the acoustics will be improved, and the orchestra pit expanded. In the auditorium, the floor sections of the stalls level will be made adjustable to various angles, making it more comfortable, and the seats will be refurbished both there and elsewhere. Low-voltage wiring will be installed, and the limestone façade will also be renewed.



Erkel Theatre

II. JÁNOS PÁL PÁPA SQUARE

The theatre with the largest number of seats in Hungary and even in Central Europe, formerly named the Népopera (People's Opera), was built in less than 9 months on a plot donated by Budapest in 1911. During the colourful history of the private enterprises that ran the business, they played operas, concerts, operettas, ballets, jazz concerts, dramatic plays, cabarets and musicals in it, but boxing matches, fashion shows and party congresses were also organised here, and it even operated as a cinema and entertainment venue. Initially it had 3400 seats but due to the stricter fire prevention regulations and a more comfortable seating arrangement, the capacity has since dwindled to 1819, but it still preserves its leading position and legendary acoustics, and with extra chairs it can be enlarged to comfortably fit 2000. The Városi (City) Theatre, which was named Erkel Theatre in 1951, has been operated by the Opera since 1949. Reiner, Toscanini, Furtwängler, Fricsay, Gardelli, Ferencsik and Bernstein have conducted here and the greatest tenors, di Stéfano, Aragall, Carreras, Gedda, Pavarotti and Domingo have sung on its stage as have Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington and Oscar Peterson. The theatre was closed down in 2007, but reopened in 2013 after a few months of refurbishment works. Ever since, it has been operating as an affordable theatre for Hungarian opera and ballet lovers, and this is the place where we nurture our future audiences. Folk dance and high-quality pop music productions appear here, too, as do opera and ballet productions from other companies. The almost one million guests who have been registered since the reopening can now come to the theatre by underground too. During the renovation of the Opera House, the Erkel Theatre will host most of the productions of the "Around the Ring" season and many other special events.



Eiffel Art Studios

KŐBÁNYAI ROAD

The largest indoor complex in Hungarian railway history, a system of vast covered spaces unique in Europe, the Northern Railway Maintenance and Engineering works was built between 1884 and 1886. As operation on the 22 hectare site ceased in 2009, the government offered 6.7 hectares of the area to the Opera together with the five-nave core repair complex of 22,000 square metres, named after Gustave Eiffel, two auxiliary buildings, and a complete train station. The rehearsal, production and storage centre for the opera is being built here where the Bánffy Stage, with an auditorium with 400 seats, will be constructed to include a rehearsal stage of the same size as the stage of the Opera House and a music studio suitable for recordings. In addition to moving all of its nine production workshops, all of its sets and its costumes and props here, the institution will also create a memorial room for János Feketeházy, the designer of both this building and the Opera House's iron skeleton.

The Eiffel Hall, which was large enough to repair up to 96 huge steam locomotives at a time, will house a restaurant (in a vintage railway car made of teak), where guests can marvel at the legendary No. 327.141 Hungarian steam locomotive in the atrium and the No. 006 "Biatorbágy" steam locomotive of the 301 series in the park. There will also be a costume rental shop and a visitor centre. The training centre for the Opera will be established here too: the Opera Studio, the Opera Music School and the Opera Ballet Institute. The production studios will also function as a practical training centre, as we would like to train future generations of professionals in the ways of theatre production ourselves. A car park with a capacity for 200 vehicles will be built next to a park of three hectares where the famous viticulturist Károly Bakonyi's grapes will grow together with Gergely Márk's roses. A playground will be built surrounded by the halls, which will operate in a spirit of environmental awareness.

The Eiffel Art Studios project will be completed, and the whole complex inaugurated, in the autumn of 2018.



Orchestral Centre

JÓKAI STREET

The centre where the triple-sized orchestra of the Opera, the first and largest philharmonic ensemble in Hungary, rehearses for performances, galas and its own concerts, is located in Jókai Street near the Oktogon, not far from the Opera House. The building, which used to function as the headquarters of a trade union, has been managed by our institution since 2004 and is scheduled for refurbishment in the 2018/19 season. According to the Opera Development Programme, in addition to the spacious Ferencsik Hall in the building, the Failoni Chamber Hall will also be operated by the orchestra. The building houses the offices and archives of the Budapest Philharmonic Society, and – according to further acquisition plans – rehearsal rooms of several hundreds of square metres will also be built on the premises.



Administration Building

HAJÓS STREET

Before the refurbishment of the Opera House in 1980, an 11-storeyed building was constructed opposite the artists' entrance in Hajós Street. The building, with its more than 4,000 square metres, was built in place of a demolished tenement, and it houses several offices, dressing rooms and rehearsal rooms of the institution. The chorus rooms of the Hungarian State Opera Chorus and the Children's Chorus can be found here, and the Opera House is heated from the boilers located on the top floor of the Administration Building. The heating and cooling systems of the building, constructed in 1979, are extremely poor, the equipment is outdated and its refurbishment, the renewal of its façade and the change of function of some of its rooms are important parts of the Opera's modernisation programme. A special feature of the Administration Building is its connection to the Opera House by a tunnel under Hajós Street, which provides a safer route for transporting musical instruments and, in rainy and cold weather, a more comfortable way to reach the other building. Fireworks to celebrate the New Year are let off from its more than 30-metre-high roof every year.

When this publication went to press, the Hungarian State Opera was forced to rent property for its shoe workshop (Révai Street), one of the dressmaker's shops (Kenyérmező Street), the prop storeroom (Lázár Street) and all the set storerooms (6 different premises in Budapest and Pest county, 10 buildings). In addition, we also regularly rehearse in the Tivoli Theatre buildings, the Bárka Theatre, the old Duna Television building, Hungexpo and a rapid-response police building – and will continue to do so until the Eiffel Art Studios are opened.



Opera Sales Point

HAJÓS STREET

Opposite the side entrance in Hajós Street, there is a block of flats designed by Miklós Ybl and with Károly Lotz's frescos under the entrance. The opera has been renting spaces in the building for a while, and in the autumn of 2014 we opened our modern Sales Point, which is charged with the highly responsible job of organising audiences and selling single and season tickets. Moving the locksmith's workshop from this building to the Eiffel Art Studios will allow us to move other functions here, and the sales offices will be connected directly to Hajós Street.



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Reviews from all over the world



Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Where else in the world would an event like this [a season opener] call for the closing of a one-kilometre section of a four-lane avenue to traffic between noon and midnight and even shutting down an entire metro station? Where else can people watch three one-act operas outside the Opera House for free on such a day? And the fact that there are also ballet dancers performing excerpts from various productions on a podium in front of a video wall seems to go without saying.”

Wolfgang Kutzschbach (*Das Opernglas*, Germany)

“One can find many excellent voices amongst the singers, including members of the Opera Chorus and the Children's Chorus – and the latter impressed us with its outstanding quality. (...) Musicians of the Hungarian State Opera Orchestra undoubtedly deserve their fine reputation: every single member plays perfectly.”

Bertrand Bolognesi (*Anaclase*, France)

“In the person of Ildikó Komlósi, we got to encounter a singer so remarkable that, based on her brilliant performance, this opera [*Aida*] might just as well be titled ‘*Amneris*’.”

Harald Lacina (*Der Opernfreund*, Germany)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Another great credit to this production [of *The Tempest*] is the fact that the less spectacular set design is very well suited to transplanting the interpretation to the present time while remaining just as consistent as it was in Shakespeare's day. The artists played entirely according to these rules – in a modern way and dispensing with traditional operatic gestures.”

Wolfgang Kutzschbach (*Das Opernglas*, Németország)

“It is not easy to find a good solution for the scenic design of *The Tempest*, but the German creative team devised the stage visuals in a splendid way: we really are in an area struck by a storm, on the borderline of myth and reality – and this is perfectly represented by the set, the ever-changing character of Ariel and the way she dangles from the ceiling.”

Pavel Unger (*Opera Plus*, Czech Republic)

“This piece, one which is not easy to fundamentally comprehend, closes not with Prospero's monologue, but with Caliban's metaphoric solitude after being left alone on the island forever. It received a huge ovation from the audience.”

Livia Bidoli (*Gothic Network*, Italy)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Directed by Ludger Engels, the production contains clever visual and musical metaphors that refer to the titular storm. That, and a cast of superb singers who were up to the daunting task of mastering Adès’ challenging score, made an evening to remember for its magical ingenuity... Despite the score’s lack of tunes that one can whistle, Adès’ musical language makes intuitive sense. By the third act, all ears in the house had been retuned to it, and the sold-out audience of all ages gave this *Tempest* a vociferous storm of approval.”

Alexandra Ivanoff (*Bachtrack*, United Kingdom)

“With this thought-provoking production [of *The Tempest*], the Hungarian State Opera has finally made it into the 21st century. At last, modern productions have replaced older ones that clung to antiquated aesthetic tastes. I had the impression that a multitude of young people were once again attending the opera in order to personally take part in the experience of the theatre.”

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker*, Austria)

“Another indispensable part of the [Shakespeare400+] Festival was *Falstaff*, presented to a full house at the Erkel Theatre. Although a modern production, it loses not one bit of the piece’s original message. Playing under the baton of Balázs Kocsár, the orchestra performed nearly flawlessly and with technical precision. Both temperamentally and vocally, Amrogio Maestri was a perfect choice for the leading role.”

Pavel Unger (*Opera Plus*, Czech Republic)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“The production of [*Sly*], jointly created with the National Theatre of Szeged, transported the piece from Shakespeare’s time to the era of the opera’s own genesis, and thus it takes place amongst a mix of historical styles ranging from the 1870 to the 1920s, for which Dolly’s Charleston costume (designed by Nóra Bujdosó) was a perfect fit. Amidst Péter Horgas’s art nouveau cast iron ceiling, industrial architecture and London pub, Pál Göttinger transformed this short, three-act piece into an engrossing thriller.”

Rolf Fath (*Opera Lounge*, Germany)

“With no weak links in the [*Lear*] cast, which was complemented by the first-rate all-male chorus, the big roles all received strong performances. Éva Bátorfi as Goneril was a fruity-voiced witch and Szilvia Rálik sensationally out-of-control as Regan. Everything about her was frighteningly spiky, from her bodkin-prick coloratura to her razor-sharp nails... In a work with so many dramatic peaks it is easy to give in to excess, but Stefan Soltesz and his orchestra reserved their full sonic terror for the most horrific moments. Staying on top of the difficult writing, which challenges musicians with microtones and meshed rhythms, they also found a myriad shades within the blackness of the piece. Even without its historical significance, its high musical values would be enough to justify this revival.”

Jenny Camilleri (*Bachtrack*, United Kingdom)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Stefan Soltész had already conducted *Lear* in Essen. This is why he was capable of implementing the extreme acoustic world of Reimann’s score as he switched between its fervent and escalating musical climaxes, its darkest tones and its subtle and melodious, and at the same time, reassuring, passages intended to soften the horror of the story. (...) Although I estimated that about 5 to 10 percent of the audience left the theatre, those who remained rewarded the music, which is still unusual in Hungary, and the artists with hearty applause. The composer was visibly moved when he came out to take his bows, and the audience greeted him with an ovation.”

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

“The last time I saw this company, at this theatre, was in 2007, when both the ensemble and the venue seemed in dire need of renovation. Since then, the Erkel has undergone a major transformation to become an attractive modern theatre (twinned with Budapest’s elegant nineteenth-century opera house) with a sumptuous box-like proscenium and unimpaired visibility throughout the auditorium. It seems clear that Solymosi is the architect of a similarly effective metamorphosis of Hungary’s national (and only) ballet company. Back in 2007, it was a stale, stereotypical, central European purveyor of atrophying classical productions; now, here is a company that is clearly aspiring to – and achieving – a true international standard with a diverse repertoire to match.”

Graham Watts (*Bachtrack, United Kingdom*)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Looking at the proficiency of the *corps de ballet* of the Hungarian State Opera as a whole, it is quite adequate and of a high professional level. The extremely harmonious pairing of Manon and des Grieux stands out from the entire company. (...) Aliya Tanykpayeva’s performance is vulnerable and fragile, open but not recklessly daring. We can believe her heroine – even in this “fairy tale in dance” – until the last minute of the tragic finale. The romantically noble, elegant and sophisticated Dmitry Timofeev furnishes his hero with the needed psychological depth and boundless righteousness, a feeling which is replaced by a genuine universal despair in the finale. Balázs Majoros exhibits real courage in his role, and Kristina Starostina is both highly spectacular and attractive. (...) The impressive interpreter of the music is conductor Gergely Kesselyák. Thanks to him, the listener’s attention – even if it might be ready to stray in certain moments – does not flag for a second.”

Igor Koryabin (*Belcanto, Russia*)

“It is deeply realistic and almost theatrical *Manon*, performed by the Hungarian National Ballet, with MacMillan’s original scenery and costumes; well played both by music that chases, waits, underlines the dancers’ movements, and by dancers who play their roles far more than dance technique requires, drawing the audience attention to a deep understanding of the various characters’ emotions, from the easy-going beginning to the final heartrending scene.”

Lara Crippa (*Parole di Danza, Italy*)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Everything was perfect in this production [of *Billy Elliot*] – rarely do we see a musical which is so well-planned in every respect: after holding the audience at a fever pitch, the whole company and especially the child actors were rewarded with resounding cheers, unflagging applause and a standing ovation. It is worth watching!”

Ira Werbowisky (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

“The staging of the concert was a pleasant surprise. Stage director András Aczél and the Kedd studio led by Géza M. Tóth provided excellent presentations for each number. Fading into each other, the series of photos from Simándy's appearances, the original playbills and posters merged with the arias that were played, thus commemorating the great tenor. The finale was also stylish: instead of Brindisi or an encore, a recording was played with József Simándy singing the aria “Hazám, hazám” (‘My homeland, my homeland’) from Ferenc Erkel's *Bánk bán*.”

Wolfgang Kutzschbach (*Das Opernglas, Germany*)

“The Budapest première of his new production design triumphs over many obstacles, which includes a long-entrenched attachment to a more sentimental approach since 1932, by refashioning such a sequence with enlightened cleverness and dramatic intelligence... The orchestra, under the direction of Balázs Kocsár, superbly brought out Kodály's clever tone painting – from mournful to exhilarating – as it wove a fascinating musical fabric that used folk melodies as its golden threads... The Polish team and Scoglio and his assistant Alejandro Cortés achieved a minor miracle with this ‘opera,’ turning it into a radiant vehicle that creates cohesion and visual delight while still respecting its traditional roots.”

Alexandra Ivanoff (*Bachtrack, United Kingdom*)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“The piece [*The Spinning Room*] was staged by the celebrated Polish director Michał Znaniecki. He made the first scene of the ballad opera – unfolding in the spinning room where the young village girls work in the long winter evenings – a somewhat complex one. Into this carefree situation, the director injects a tragic tone. Death and birth – integral parts of human life – are present from the very first moment. (...) The performance is conducted by the Opera's seasoned and masterfully capable principal music director, Balázs Kocsár. The significance of the musical action never diminishes for a moment, emphasising very well both Kodály's colourful scoring and the clockwork precision of the rhythm of folk dance; it switches cleverly between emotions and, in the end, wins genuine empathy from the audience.”

Gyulara Sadykh-zade (*Vedomosti, Russia*)

“Znaniecki can be one of those directors who bring an over-packed suitcase of ideas, yet here his imagination never overpowered the work. Making the parting something even more tragic—and surreal when the man returned as a vision—he underlined both the profundity and innocence of the piece.”

John Allison (*Opera, United Kingdom*)

“Under the baton of Péter Halász, the orchestra played with gripping intensity, never letting the music drag and the audience's attention wander. Halász drew an incredibly lush sound from the strings and bright blazing from the brass, but payed great attention that the orchestra would not overpower the singers.”

Orsolya Gyárfás (*Bachtrack, United Kingdom*)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“Outstanding Hungarian singers Eszter Sümegi and István Kovácsházi performed the roles of Sieglinde and Siegmund. Both of them have long deserved to be invited to the Wiener Staatsoper. This applies in particular to Sümegi, who has sung the role of Tosca in a manner that promises a great deal. The appealing soprano seems to be at the peak of her career. Her voice is balanced and powerful in every range and is characterised by an unmistakable tone that can be distinguished immediately. István Kovácsházi successfully delivered both crucial “Wälse” cries... revealing a truly wonderful heldentenor voice that should recommend him to the attention of the greatest opera houses.”

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

“Musically, it is a genuine sensation, and it is a spectacular experience visually too: stage director and video artist Géza M. Tóth makes *Die Walküre* glitter, shimmer and blaze on the stage of the Hungarian State Opera. (...) Péter Halász attends to the multi-layered and colourfully diverse sound on the podium before the orchestra of the Opera. Every part of the score is in its place, and the orchestra sometimes intentionally plays in a harsh and rigid manner. In summary, one could say that even though the stage is somewhat excessively ornate, *Die Walküre* is still a sensation in musical terms.”

Jörn Florian Fuchs (*Deutschlandfunk, Germany*)

Reviews from all over the world

THEY COME, THEY SEE – AND THEY ARE CONQUERED

“As with last year, the production was conducted splendidly by Péter Halász. István Kovácsházi was an impressive Siegmund, blasting out ringing tones, but with an affecting nasality in quieter moments. Eszter Sümegi, as Sieglinde, equalled him in power and lyricism.”

Craig Nobles (*Wagner Notes, USA*)

“Tomasz Konieczny portrayed the king of the gods in a credible way: he was superb from the first note to the last. With her impressive mezzo-soprano voice, Judit Németh excelled as the goddess Fricka. Linda Watson was practised and technically perfect in the middle and upper registers, although some felt the latter to be slightly sharp. The Hungarian singers Eszter Sümegi and István Kovácsházi, in the roles of Sieglinde and Siegmund, were amazing: the wonderful timbre of the former and the latter's heldentenor outshined everything.”

Dieter Topp (*Orpheus, Germany*)

“I have rarely heard such a moving performance of this work [Verdi's *Requiem*]. Perhaps the context contributed to this. Excellent artists on every front: the orchestra, the chorus and the soloists. Under the baton of the young Italian conductor, Daniele Rustioni, the Opera's orchestra – even though we have heard them a thousand times, and they have nothing left to prove – seemed to provide even more dedicated musicianship than usual this evening. The sound was pure: even though the large number of performers could have made it too heavy, this did not happen here.”

Pierre Waline (*Journal Francophone de Budapest*)



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Partners



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BMW Hungary as the strategic partner of Opera.

“Being a devoted patron of performing arts and a long-term partner of the Hungarian State Opera, we are continuing our collaboration with this outstanding cultural institution with our joint operative programmes. As a responsible corporation, through these programmes we contribute to the present and future lives of society in full. We pay special attention to those living in the most disadvantaged sub-regions of the country, especially children. In connection with the especially rich offering of the Opera’s children’s programmes, we would like to give the opportunity to find hope and joy in the arts of opera and ballet for as many children living in difficult circumstances as possible. Our wish is for many such performances in the coming season, not only for children but all guests.”

Nóra Horváth Magyary, executive director of communications, K&H Group

“The Opera, which will be almost reborn after the long and successful modernisation project, is one of the most important cultural institutions in Hungary. Our strategic cooperation includes the recording of certain works as well as promoting the Opera among the culture-consuming public. We will be counting on the Opera in the new season just as the Opera can count on each channel of the public media.”

Miklós Vaszily, CEO of MTVA

As the harmony of body and soul merges in the artist, there is a spark and something valuable is born. Day by day, they leave behind signs to others and to the future. They are the artists! A sound, a melody, a movement, a colour, a prop, the soft beauty that the painter’s brush leaves on the glittering white porcelain change, refine and develop us, and we will be different after the encounter from what we were before. Body and soul, if they have been separated so far, will now find each other again in us. This is the power of art! The parallel lives of artist and art traverse each other, and where this intersection is, there is the Workshop that Creates Value! Those who shake hands due to their devotion to creating things of value, then there will be wings growing out of the roots, and they will be strategic partners. Herend and the Opera...

On behalf of the Herend community, CEO Dr Attila Simon greets the guests visiting the Opera in the next, value-creating season.”

Herend Porcelain Manufactory

“The Opera has been a partner of BMW Group Hungary for two years and, as such, is the most important cornerstone of our brand’s Art & Culture programme. With the new season, a very exciting and busy period begins for the Opera with outstandingly fresh and innovative communication, which BMW, as one of the most innovative brands and one continuously supporting renewal, is proud to join.”

Baudouin Denis, CEO of BMW Hungary

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Artist / Works:

Judit Németh (*Witch*)

Polina Kozlova (*Gretel*)

Benjámín Minar-Bacsó (*Hänsel*) – *Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel*

Szilvia Rálik (*Brünnhilde*)

Polina Pasztircsák (*Gufrune*) – *Wagner: Götterdämmerung*

Boldizsár László (*Raoul*) – *Meyerbeer: Les Huguenots*

Levente Molnár (*Bluebeard*)

Viktória Mester (*Judith*) – *Bartók: Bluebeard's Castle*

András Palerdi (*Mustafa*)

Orsolya Sáfár (*Elvira*) – *Rossini: L'italiana in Algeri*

Zita Szemere (*Oscar*)

Bernadett Wiedemann (*Ulrica*) – *Verdi: Un ballo in maschera*

Gergely Boncsér (*Barinkay*)

Rita Rác (*Arzéna*) – *Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron*

Gergely Leblanc (*Prince*) – *Bartók–Frenák: The Wooden Prince (Dance Triptych)*

Zoltán Oláh (*Danilo*)

Rita Hangya (*Hanna*) – *Lehár–Hynd: The Merry Widow*

Aliya Tanykpayeva (*Zarema*)

Tatjana Melnik (*Maria*) – *Asafiev–Zakharov: The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*

Kristina Starostina (*Lise*)

Iurii Kekalo (*Colas*) – *Hérold–Ashton: La fille mal gardée*

Diána Döbörhegyi, Oreszt Bodnár S. (*chorus*)

Erzsébet Hutás, Mihály Könyves Tóth (*orchestra*) – *Tour (orchestra, chorus)*

*Original lyrics: * Anna Adamis, ** Dusán Sztevanovity*

MANY THANKS TO ALL THE ARTISTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERA CAMPAIGN!

More than Opera!

Major development trends during the 2011–2018 management cycle:

1. state subsidies and self-generated revenues restored to 2001 levels in real terms over several phases by 2018
2. changing the foundation charter and the structure of the institution
3. changing the inflexible public employee status of soloists and conductors
4. creating 500 new positions, software-based work-time planning
5. hiring younger singers, conductors and managers
6. raising remuneration and fees collaboration fees, minimum wages for Opera employees and higher wages for employees with degrees
7. planning of thematic seasons, thematic festivals, new programme policy
8. increasing the number of performances, a shift towards the stagione system
9. systematic and performance-based assessment of artists as public employees health assessments
10. setting framework for financial planning centralised procurement
11. refurbishment of the Erkel Theatre, reopening, new programme and pricing policy
12. modernisation of the Opera House's acoustics and technology, changing functions of various rooms, restoration
13. construction of a workshop, rehearsal and storage facility with its own theatre space and a park (Eiffel Art Studios)
14. purchasing instruments in cooperation with the Hungarian National Bank
15. new communication and marketing techniques, online and electronic media presence launching a branded magazine
16. multimedia programme development, archiving, launching a web radio station
17. new concepts, partners and investments in catering
18. new sales centre and sales policy for season tickets and discount system (cultural basic care)
19. Opera to embrace the whole community with new programmes, charity and family events, including street presence
20. organising a high-quality carnival-season ball featuring stars for the benefit of supporters and for charity purposes
21. establishing a lively and functioning supporters' club, maximising income from corporate tax breaks without commission
22. developing a new opera and ballet repertoire with improved turnover
23. strengthening the classical aspect and raising the standards of the technical level of the Hungarian National Ballet
24. launching the Opera's own ballet institute for children;
25. digitising the history of the Opera (OperaDigiTheca), publishing books and archive records, establishing a new Memorial Collection;
26. recording and publishing Hungarian operas, Erkel series of records;
27. acquainting all 9th grade students and their teachers with the opera (OperAdventure);
28. including Richard Strauss and French music in the repertoire;
29. widening the repertoire with pre-classical operas for the connoisseur, 20th century and contemporary works;
30. building a new, unconventional Ring;
31. organising new types of concerts, orchestral chamber concerts and a choral mini-festival;
32. negotiating and signing a new collective agreement, drafting a law on opera;
33. regular contracting of leading international artists (stage directors, designers, choreographers, conductors, singers);
34. contact with the theatres around Hungary (Opera and Ballet on Wheels), festivals and the Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca;
35. more activities abroad, tours and guest performances;
36. creating chamber productions, expanding the number of venues for performances ;
37. strategic partnerships (Müpa Budapest, the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music, the Philharmonia Hungary, Hungarian Academy of Arts), co-production;
38. launching the Opera's own training centre and visitor centre;
39. new children's programmes; fairy-tale operas, introduction to musical instruments and ballet;
40. commissioning and performing new Hungarian works (operas, ballets, symphonic works and concertos);
41. a new internal award system, re-introducing the jubilee ring;
42. launching the Opera Ambassador programme with special attention to the Eternal Members;
43. establishing an OperaShop, designing and manufacturing own-branded products;
44. purchasing property to improve the efficiency of the institution (warehouses, offices, apartments);
45. the modernisation of the heating and cooling systems of the Administration Building, asbestos abatement, new façade;
46. purchasing mobile stage and lighting system, the development of the built-in lighting and PA systems;
47. refurbishment of the dressing rooms of the orchestra and the ballet (Opera House), rebuilding the chorus rehearsal rooms (Administration Building);
48. launching the Orchestral Academy;
49. reorganising the Children's Chorus of the Opera.

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