

OPERA

PROGRAMME CALENDAR

2016  
17

# A brief history of opera in Hungary

1815–2016

A few months ago marked 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. Although the Hungarian Royal/State Opera has "only" existed since September 1884, when the palace on Andrásy Avenue was opened, it was in a way the successor of the music and dance departments of the Hungarian Theatre of Pest, later renamed the National Theatre, which had been established in 1837: the former section was led for 36 years by Ferenc Erkel, who conducted 5000 performances there, and the latter by Frigyes Campilli. When Franz Josef inaugurated the new Opera House, the National's entire music, voice and ballet departments were brought here wholesale, together with their directors, which ensured smooth continuity. (They even took care to make sure that the first piece played at the theatre's 1837 opening, *The Barber of Seville*, would also be the last to be performed in the old building by the Astoria.) Institutionalised Hungarian opera performance therefore is already in its 180th year as the Opera begins its 133th season – the Hungarian Season focusing on the past – in the great theatre designed by Miklós Ybl.

We follow in the footsteps of legendary personalities: architect Miklós Ybl; project "manager" Frigyes Podmaniczky; 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, 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, Tivadar Márk and Attila Csikós.

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.

Three ensembles, each enormous in its own right: the first symphony orchestra founded in Hungary, currently with 210 members; the first and largest professional chorus in Hungary, which can be enlarged to 200 members with the auxiliary chorus, together with the children’s chorus, which can send a greater number of children on stage more times in a season than any other; and the only Classical ballet company in Hungary with its 125 members are all backed by the 100-strong stage crew, the fifty artists in the collections supporting the work on stage, the large number of supernumeraries and the complete “festival organising offices” of the artistic secretariats. We have a set, costume and prop manufacturing unit with nine workshops employing almost a hundred artists and workers, a real estate management “company” of considerable size and a complete communication “agency”. The life of the institution is managed, planned, accounted for and documented by its own “business centre”, and the two projects with a total value of 32 billion forints and other annual developments and refurbishments are overseen by its own “project management office”.

The team behind this institutional holding, functioning in 12 independent divisions, thus comprises more than 1100 people, and we also collaborate with an additional 250 Hungarian and international singers, conductors, stage directors, choreographers, ballet masters and designers working on the 28 premieres, 64 repertoire productions, 450 performances and concerts and some 2500 other programmes that are aimed, in our belief, at serving the culture of the entire Hungarian nation, and therefore truly amount to something greater than even the 200-year-old tradition of Hungarian opera.



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# Dear Reader,

*"It is only now that the Opera's goal has become to truly win over every audience segment – but not all on the same day!"*

## **Dear Friend, first of all!**

There's no need to beat around the bush as we approach the 133rd year at the Hungarian State Opera, and with it the Hungarian Season. We have many things of beauty in store, including 98 total art productions and countless programmes to educate and grow our public. We are staging our biggest ever themed festival in HungarianFest and are also making great strides in our development through the construction of the Eiffel Art Studios and refurbishment of the Opera House.

## **Enjoy the menu!**

The Hungarian State Opera wishes to maintain the momentum it has built up in recent years, and to give everyone something to talk about, see and listen to every week, not just every two or three months. We should all be grateful that our artistic riches are always greater than our financial resources, so we can continue to bring you the world's richest artistic palette at affordable prices.

## **Take a good look!**

This treasure chest contains a bounty of all shapes and forms: everything from Baroque works to contemporary opuses, from classic opera acts to modern ballet, from monodramas to productions with a cast of 300, from hit pieces to experimental premieres. They hail from America and from Finland, and everywhere in between, and are performed by twenty-something rising starlets and bass-baritone septuagenarians and from up-and-coming stars to world-famous artists, under the direction of masters ranging from Alföldi to Vidnyánszky, from Purcărete to Bechtolf, and from Seregi to Kylián.

## **Choose wisely!**

As our motto suggests, we are counting on everyone, but we know that not everyone's tastes are the same. Our calendar, website, advertising, publications, age restrictions, recommendations, trailers and photo galleries are all designed to help you navigate this grand offering, so you can always find a production that guarantees a memorable evening.

If you enjoy adventure and are consumed by the excitement of trying something new, we are looking to appeal to you first and foremost: whatever you choose, you will encounter outstanding quality, a great show, and fresh inspiration.

**Accept no substitute!**

Opera and ballet are a celebration of being there, with at least 100 artists, but often three times as many, performing the piece just for you and giving their all in a shared space. The audience sitting in the auditorium exists as a community for that evening. They hear and see with their own eyes and ears – there are no microphones, loudspeakers or editors. Anyone who has ever embraced a loved one will know that calling on Skype is not the same thing at all. So accept no substitute in the form of screens, projections or movie theatres.

**Witness the biggest stars in their own reality!**

Productions featuring Domingo, Herlitzius, Kampe and Terfel, and Michieletto and Ponelle, will now be followed by the arrival of Kaufmann, Théorin, Pape and Castronovo, Fleming and Giordani, with Gruberova, Schrott, Magri, Rojas and Nucci all making return visits, Pido, de Marchi, Carignani, Joel and Badea taking the conductor's podium, and Steinberg leading the orchestra through a production directed by Kovalik. All these stars will present us with opera works from other nations, but with our involvement. And the biggest Hungarian names will also be appearing: Ildikó Komlósi, Andrea Rost, Erika Miklósa, Csilla Boross, Gábor Bretz, Levente Molnár, Stefan Soltész, and many others.

**And discover the history of Hungarian opera with us!**

It came 200 years late, but it was 200 years ago that the opera and ballet pieces that are important to us first and foremost as Hungarians started to emerge: Hungarians creating in Hungarian, about Hungarians, and for other Hungarians. Let us warm ourselves from the radiance given off by the 40 pieces that we understand, value, and are able to take in, and let us send those which are or can be important to the world on their way. Hungarian vocal and dance culture is world class and globally renowned, and it is yet to be crushed by globalisation. Let us guard and treasure its unique charms!

Awaiting you in the front row and wishing you truly joyful theatrical experiences.

Szilveszter Ókovács  
General Director

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# Event calendar

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## SEPTEMBER

OPERA DINNER – MEDVECZKY 75

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL<sup>1</sup>

WEST SIDE STORY<sup>1</sup>

THE TELEPHONE; I PAZZI PER PROGETTO; IL CAMPANELLO

OPERA CINEMA (BLUEBEARD/MARIO)

NIGHT OF THEATRES (TWO WOMEN)

RAIN DOGS (KYLING IT – MODERN BALLET GALA)

SEASON OPENER (LA TRAVIATA)

LA TRAVIATA

SIMÁNDY<sup>100</sup> – KAUFMANN GALA

MARTON – GALA

ZSURA<sup>60</sup>

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

OPERA WITHOUT BORDERS (THE SPINNING ROOM)

## OCTOBER

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY

THE SPINNING ROOM

LA BOHÈME 2.0

OPERAADVENTURE 5.1 (LA BOHÈME 2.0)

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL<sup>2</sup>

SPARTACUS

KOLONITS – BEL CANTO RELOADED

LA SERVA PADRONA

CZIFFRA<sup>56</sup> (BPO)

THE MINE; LOVE

PIANO ARIAS

KÁDÁR'S LAST SPEECH

56 DROPS OF BLOOD

VERDI: REQUIEM

# Event calendar

## NOVEMBER

'56 REQUIEM

WEeping OF THE WINTER NIGHT

DIE WALKÜRE

FAUST

TURANDOT

HUNGARIAN OPERA DAY

THE BIG PROJECTION DAY

CINEMA SZINETÁR

STARS IN THE NIGHT (CHANSON NIGHT)

**LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR**

DON QUIXOTE

KING POMADE'S NEW CLOTHES<sub>2</sub>

THE MINE; LOVE (TAMPERE)

RICHTER JÁNOS<sub>200</sub> (BFTZ)

## DECEMBER

**LES DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES**

NUTCRACKER FEST

THE NUTCRACKER

WEST SIDE STORY<sub>2</sub>

LA BOHÈME

GOLDEN SATURDAY (LITTLE MAGIC FLUTE)

LITTLE CHRISTMAS

**DON GIOVANNI**

CHILDREN'S SAFETY CHRISTMAS (NUTCRACKER)

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL<sub>3</sub>

DIE FLEDERMAUS

NEW YEAR'S BAT

# Event calendar

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## JANUARY

NEW YEAR'S AT THE OPERA (BPO)

NEW YEAR'S FROLIC

DAS LIEBESVERBOT

SLY

RENÉE FLEMING'S SONG RECITAL

EUGENE ONEGIN

OPERA FOR DOCTORS (AIDA)

AIDA

DAY OF HUNGARIAN CULTURE – RÁNKI25 (POMADE)

LOVE AND OTHER DEMONS

## FEBRUARY

MADAMA BUTTERFLY

IVÁN NAGY GALA

CARMEN

ANDREA CHÉNIER

IL TRITTICO

HÁRY NIGHT

LIONS CLUB BREADCRUMB BALL (HANSEL AND GRETEL)

# Event calendar

## MARCH

THE QUEEN OF SPADES

ARANY200

PAS DE QUATRES '17

DANCETREND '17

KODÁLY50

HUNYADI

ANNA KARENINA – PÁRTAY75

TOKODY40

PILVAKER

L'ISOLA DISABITATA

SIEGFRIED

OTELLO

DER ZIGEUNERBARON – SZINETÁR85

## APRIL

DISRUPTION IN THE SERAGLIO

YBL203 (BFTZ)

PRIMAVERA '17

MANON

PARSIFAL FOR PROTECTORS

THE DAY OF VERSE

ST. MATTHEW PASSION

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA / PAGLIACCI

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST (FILM)

MESSA DI GLORIA / CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA

GALA DINNER FOR ETERNAL MEMBERS

OPERAFORUM'17

WORLD VOICE DAY

# Event calendar

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KOMISCHE OPER BERLIN (BSF – DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE)

**LE CORSAIRE**

NABUCCO

WERTHER

WORLD DANCE DAY

## MAY

OPERAADVENTURE 5.2 (BÁNK BÁN)

BÁNK BÁN

ELEKTRA

MAMAMATINÉE (WERTHER)

EUROPEAN OPERA DAYS (TWO WOMEN)

WORLD VOICE DAY<sup>17</sup>

HUNGARIANFEST<sup>1</sup> (DER ZIGEUNERBARON)

SEREGI NIGHT; THE WOODEN PRINCE<sup>100</sup>

SWAN LAKE

CHORAL ARTISTS' MINI-FESTIVAL (THE MAGIC CUPBOARD)

SPRING AWAKENING

THE MINE; LOVE (FILM)

HUNYADI (FILM)

PLANET IN TURMOIL; THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

# Event calendar

DIE KÖNIGIN VON SABA

BÉLA' FLIGHT; PRINCE PIKKO

LUDOVICA NIGHT (DIE KÖNIGIN VON SABA)

MAY DIVING (AQUARIUM)

THE SAVED CITY (FILM)

THE BLUE HAT

LE GRAND MACABRE

JOHN THE VALIANT (FILM)

LOVE AND OTHER DEMONS<sup>2</sup>

BLOOD WEDDING

DER TENOR

LEANDER AND LINSEED

THE SPINNING ROOM<sup>2</sup>

DANCE TRIPTYCH

UNICEF-CHILDREN'S DAY'<sup>17</sup> (LEANDER AND LINSEED)

PHARMACY DAY'<sup>17</sup> (DER TENOR)

CZINKA PANNA

MOSES (FILM)

THE LAST WALTZ

# Event calendar

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## JUNE

KING STEPHEN (FILM)

BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE / MARIO AND THE MAGICIAN 2

SNOW WHITE AND THE 7 DWARFS

HÁRY

HUNGARIANLATENIGHT

THE STORK CALIF

PETROVICS NIGHT (C'EST LA GUERRE; LYSISTRATÉ)

THE LAST FIVE SCENES (FILM)

SPIRITISTI

KING POMADE'S NEW CLOTHES

RENÉ PAPE'S ARIA RECITAL

IL TROVATORE

TOSCA

BÁNK BÁN (MISKOLC OPERA FESTIVAL)

INAUGURATION OF THE EIFFEL PARK (L'OCA DEL CAIRO; THE BASSIST)

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

ROBERTO DEVEREUX (GRUBEROVA)

PORGY AND BESS (MARGARET ISLAND SUMMER FESTIVAL)

NIGHT OF STARS

BALLET EXAMINATIONS

OPERA PICNIC (EIFFEL ART STUDIOS)

# Event calendar

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## JULY

BILLY ELLIOT - THE MUSICAL

OPERA FÜRED (BALATONFÜRED)

TOUR D'OPERA (LAKE TISZA)

THE MASTER AND MARGARITA

## AUGUST

OPERASZIGET (SZIGET FESTIVAL)

BILLY ELLIOT - THE MUSICAL<sub>4</sub>





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Premieres



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## Two Women

SCHUSCHANKA (2013, VIENNA) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

Workers of the Brain Centre ▶ **soloists of the Moltopera company**

Conductor ▶ **Samu Gryllus**

Partner ▶ **Moltopera**

Vocal theatre in one act, in German, with Hungarian surtitles

Libretto, based on the novella by Zoltán András Bán

▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

German surtitles ▶ **Anna Bihari**

Set designer ▶ **István Rózsa**

Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Balla**

Director ▶ **Patrícia Horváth**

*17 September 2016 and*

*6 May 2017*

*in various rooms of the Opera House*

Samu Gryllus

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## Two Women

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SCHUSCHANKA (2013, VIENNA) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

Of the generation of composers now in their 40s, **Samu Gryllus** is the figure closest to the theatre in his mentality. In his works, the implementation on stage usually forms a part of the composition, and thus it is not only the voices of the characters that are annotated, but their actions as well. The main character of *Two Women* – a meta-character, because he never appears in person – is himself a theatrical person: the keeper of an opera house's library of music scores and an occasional prompter.

*"Well, in his old age, Uncle Zsigó has gone mad,"* is how the work starts. The Brain Centre's tempestuous employees summon up all of their power trying to put order to Zsigó's cavalcade of feelings, desires and thoughts, so that they can understand the causes. This Babel-like confusion that is the musical structure and polyphonic organisation of **Zoltán András Bán's** novella provides the basis for the atmosphere of Gryllus's work. The playfulness of the polyphony successfully drives the *a capella* piece, termed "vocal theatre" by the composer, which was commissioned by the International Society for Contemporary Music and the Wiener Jeunesse Kammerchor in 2013.

The Opera will perform the work on the Night of Theatres and on European Opera Day in collaboration with the young team from MoltOpera. The Opera's music archivist will be "coming home" in September 2016 to attest to the fact that *"love can really chew someone to the bones; turn him out of his own world and then out of the world itself."*





Johan Inger / Tom Waits

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# Rain Dogs

(2013, BASEL) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Composer ▶ **Tom Waits**

Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Carl Inger**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Lighting designer ▶ **Peter Lundin**

Ballet master ▶ **Angéla Kövessy**

This production will be performed at the *Kyling It* dance galas together with *Walking Mad*, *Falling Angels* and *Sarabande*.

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

*23, 24, 29 September and 1 October 2016*  
*Erkel Theatre*

Johan Inger / Tom Waits

## Rain Dogs

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(2013, BASEL) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

*"It starts to rain. A dog, curious and self-confident. With its sense of smell, moves beyond its usual boundaries, discovering what lives far away. He suddenly can't find his way back, the rain has washed away every trace."* This was the image **Johan Inger** used as a starting point in creating *Rain Dogs*.

The Swedish choreographer gained international fame as an artist with the Dutch Dance Theatre (NDT) from 1995. He was artistic director with the Cullberg Ballet in Sweden for five years, but since 2008 has dealt exclusively with choreography. He is behind such fantastic dance works as *Mellantid*, *I New Then* and *Walking Mad*, the latter of which is also in the repertoire of the Hungarian National Ballet.

He originally created the choreography for *Rain Dogs* for the Basel Ballet. The music for the work consists of songs by **Tom Waits**, and the title was inspired by the composer's 1985 song of the same name: the choreographer was motivated by the complexity and extraordinary atmosphere of the singer's unique voice and of his songs to reveal, sometimes with humour and sometimes dramatically through the movement of five female and five male dancers, the relationships of people stranded outside their comfort zones in the mazes of their own consciousnesses. The unique milieu for this production is enhanced by a stage crowded with radios and changes of clothes, filthy "rain" falling from the sky and clouds passing through the moonlight.





# La traviata

LA TRAVIATA (1853, VENICE)

Violetta Valéry ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Polina Pasztircsák**  
Flora Bervoix ▶ **Krisztina Simon, Melinda Heiter**  
Alfredo Germont ▶ **Attila Fekete, Péter Balczó**  
Giorgio Germont ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Zoltán Kelemen**  
Gastone ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, Gergely Ujvári**  
Barone Douphol ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**  
Marchese d'Obigny ▶ **Máté Fülep**  
Dottore Grenvil ▶ **András Kiss**  
Annina ▶ **Kornélia Bakos, Erika Markovics**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg, Péter Halász,  
Gergely Madaras**

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

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

*24, 28 and 30 September, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 October 2016*  
*Opera House*

Giuseppe Verdi

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## La traviata

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LA TRAVIATA (1853, VENICE)

*La traviata* – The fallen woman. Opera of the 19th century adored corrupted females just as much as the literature of the time did, and this is how Marguerite Gautier – like Emma Bovary, Mimì and Musette, and Carmen and Manon Lescaut – appeared on the opera stage, becoming one of the most famous of Verdi's heroines under the name of Violetta Valéry.

Violetta came from nothing, and she owes no gratitude to anyone else for the name, wealth and position she established for herself in Paris – as a courtesan. Satisfied with her glittering life, she unexpectedly falls in love, but social conventions and illness stand between her and happiness. The 1848 novel *La dame aux Camélias* by **Alexandre Dumas fils** was staged at the Théâtre de Vaudeville in 1852, and immediately garnered enormous success. **Giuseppe Verdi** saw the play in Paris shortly after the premiere, and swooped down on the theme straight away.

Someone once asked the maestro which of his operas was his favourite. Verdi answered: "*It depends. Speaking as a professional, Rigoletto, but as an amateur: Traviata.*"

The 2016/2017 season of the Opera will open with this new production directed by Artistic Director **Ferenc Anger**.





Zoltán Kodály

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# The Spinning Room

SZÉKELY FONÓ (1932, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA)

Housewife ▶ **Erika Gál, Atala Schöck**

Suitor ▶ **Levente Molnár, Zsolt Haja**

Neighbour ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Bernadett Wiedemann**

Young girl ▶ **Andrea Rost, Rita Rác**

Young man ▶ **Adorján Pataki**

Flea ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach, Lajos Geiger**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

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

Singspiel, in Hungarian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Choreographer ▶ **Zsolt Juhász**

Set designer ▶ **Luigi Scoglio**

Costume designer ▶ **Magdalena Dabrowska**

Lighting designer ▶ **Bogumił Palewicz**

Director ▶ **Michał Znaniecki**

*1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 23 October 2016*

*28 May and 3 June 2017*

Zoltán Kodály

## The Spinning Room

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SZÉKELY FONÓ (1932, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA)

*"A people can best be known through their folk songs,"* claimed **Zoltán Kodály**, one of the crucial proponents of Hungarian music, whose main ambition as a composer, collector of folk songs and music teacher was to inculcate a love for Hungarian folk song and to cultivate a knowledgeable audience.

*The Spinning Room* is the epitome of Kodály's efforts: when the first, 15-minute version of it was successfully performed at the Blaha Lujza Theatre as early as 1924, this drew the attention of the Opera's management, who commissioned Kodály to create the full-evening version of the work in 1931. It was after the world premiere of *Háry János* in 1926 when the composer said: *"As far as I know, this is the first time the songs of the Hungarian nation have been sung on the stage of the Opera House."* It wasn't an opera that Kodály had intended to write – instead his aim was to re-discover the Hungarian folk song and relay its dramatic and theatrical power. After consulting with the writer **Zsigmond Móricz**, Kodály wrote the draft of the plot himself and created a story by linking the songs together with mimed scenes between them. A year after the Budapest world premiere, Sergio Failoni conducted the piece at Milan's La Scala. For the new production, however, the Opera has commissioned Polish director **Michał Znaniecki** on the basis that it can be extremely interesting to see how a foreign artist sees Hungary's traditions and history, its heart and soul, and how he perceives and interprets the atmosphere and emotional world that unfold in Kodály's wonderful work.

In the first part, ***István "Szalonna Pál" and his Band*** will get the audience tuned in and keyed up for Hungarian folk melodies.





# The Mine

KAIVOS (2016) WORLD PREMIERE

Simon ▶ **Tommi Hakala**

Ira ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**

Comissar ▶ **Michele Kálmándy**

Priest ▶ **Péter Fried**

Marko ▶ **Zoltán Nyári**

Vanha ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Miner ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **Tibor Bogányi**

Partner ▶ **Tampere Opera, Finnagora,  
1956 Memorial Committee**

Opera in three acts without intermission, in Finnish,  
with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Einojuhani Rautavaara**

Dramaturg ▶ **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set designer ▶ **Antti Mattila**

Costume designer ▶ **Piia Rinne**

Director ▶ **Vilppu Kiljunen**

*The Mine* will be performed together with the production *Love*.

*21, 27, 29 October and 3 November 2016*

Einojuhani Rautavaara

## The Mine

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KAIIVOS (2016) WORLD PREMIERE

*The Mine* is the Finnish composer Rautavaara's first opera, which was first performed in 2010 (in concert format) although it had been composed nearly half a century earlier. What makes this tardiness especially strange is the fact that the contemporary artist is regarded as the most important Finnish composer after **Jean Sibelius**, and *The Mine*, which for all practical purposes has never been performed, is seen as one of the most outstanding works of the nation's operatic literature and, at the same time, an important reflection of the era.

The story of the opera began in 1957 in Switzerland, where **Rautavaara** was studying composition and met Hungarian refugees who told him about the political events of 1956. It was then when he heard the story of the miners who had been trapped in the mine because of a mine collapse. In the play the miners rebel against the dictatorship and go on strike. Being a confined space and a closed community functioning within it, *The Mine* is a powerful metaphor for life and existence.

This first staged production of the opera will come to life with a Finnish creative team, a Finn in the principal role, and in the Finnish language, with the other soloists, chorus and orchestra made up of Hungarians.





Judit Varga

# Love

(2016) WORLD PREMIERE

Old Woman ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Luca, her daughter-in-law ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

János ▶ **Boldizsár László**

Irén ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**

Luca's mother ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Tibor Bogányi**

*Love* will be performed together with the production  
*The Mine*.

Partners ▶ **Tampere Opera, Finnagora,  
1956 Memorial Committee**

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

Libretto, based on short stories by **Tibor Déry** and the script  
of the film of the same title by **Károly Makk** and **Péter**

**Bacsó** ▶ **Judit Varga**

Dramaturg ▶ **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set designer ▶ **Antti Mattila**

Costume designer ▶ **Piia Rinne**

Director ▶ **Vilppu Kiljunen**

*21, 27, 29 October and 3 November 2016*  
*Opera House*

Judit Varga

## Love

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(2016) WORLD PREMIERE

The opera *Love* won the invited competition organised jointly by the Hungarian State Opera and the 1956 Memorial Committee for the 60th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that was sparked on 23 October of that year. The Opera chose an unusual theme for the work to be composed: **Károly Makk's** *Love*. The film, which was premiered 45 years ago and featured **Mari Törőcsik, Iván Darvas** and **Lili Darvas**, was based on two short stories by **Tibor Déry**: *Love* and *Two Women*. Highly successful both in Hungary and abroad when it was issued in 1971, it won several prizes, including the Jury Prize in Cannes.

The story is about a political prisoner's wife who tries to console her imprisoned husband's ill mother by telling her that her son is away because he has been offered a job as a film director in Hollywood. We have no way of knowing whether the woman actually believes her daughter-in-law's elaborate "white" lie or even whether the many stories she tells about her own childhood in Vienna are just the products of her imagination. What is certain, though, is that she dies before her son returns home, when the reunited couple have to rebuild their love.

When including *Love* among the 100 best films of the 20th century, the *The Guardian's* film reviewer had this to say about the film: *"It is, above all, a treatise on how such times affect fidelity, faith, illusion, love. It deals specifically with Hungary but has an absolutely universal appeal."*

*Love* is **Judit Varga's** third opera, but she freely admits that the first two were simply studies intended for the desk drawer.





18

Tamás Novák

# Kádár's Last Speech

(2016) WORLD PREMIERE

János Kádár ► **Dénes Farkas**

Historical cross-fades

Concept ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Visuals, video ► **Sándor Kiss**

Director ► **Tamás Novák**

Partners ► **University of Kaposvár, National Theatre,  
1956 Memorial Committee**

*23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 October, 2, 3 and 4 November 2016  
Opera House, Underground Trapezium Room*

Tamás Novák

18

## Kádár's Last Speech

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(2016) WORLD PREMIERE

**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, is directing 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.





Gaetano Donizetti

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# Lucia di Lammermoor

ORIGINAL VERSION (1835, NAPLES)

Enrico ▶ **Csaba Szegedi, Michele Kálmándy**

Lucia ▶ **Klára Kolonits, Erika Miklósa**

Edgardo ▶ **István Horváth, Péter Balczó**

Arturo ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Raimondo ▶ **Péter Fried, István Kovács**

Alisa ▶ **Ágnes Anna Kun**

Normanno ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár, Máté Hámori**

Opera in three acts, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Salvatore Cammarano**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Cziegler**

Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Tihanyi**

Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

*18, 20, 24, 26, 27 November, 2, 3 and 4 December 2016*

*Erkel Theatre*

Gaetano Donizetti

## Lucia di Lammermoor

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ORIGINAL VERSION (1835, NAPLES)

*Lucia di Lammermoor* is the very model of the Italian style of its era: the perfect embodiment of both the period preceding **Bellini** and **Verdi** and the melodic and sentimental Italian *bel canto* opera. Of **Donizetti's** entire humongous 67-opera oeuvre, this is perhaps the one that occupies the most important position: although it is his comic operas that are played most often, the great humorist distilled into this opera the very best of his dramatic skill.

His music, just like the libretto by **Cammarano**, superbly reflects the passion and unearthly atmosphere of *The Bride of Lammermoor*, the novel that it is based on. In the early 19th century more than sixty operas were inspired by the works of **Sir Walter Scott**, because their atmosphere was especially appropriate for the sensitive and romantic souls of the era.

It took less than six weeks for Donizetti to complete his work, which was extremely successful at its premiere in Naples. *"It has pleased me very much, if I can believe the applause and the compliments I have received. I was called out many times, and a great many times the singers, too. The king's brother Leopoldo, who was present and applauded, paid me the most flattering compliments. The second evening every number was listened to in religious silence and spontaneously hailed with shouts of Evviva!"*

In the 2016/2017 season, the work is returning to the Erkel Theatre in a brand-new production directed by **Máté Szabó**, using the original score, the personal preference of conductor Balázs Kocsár.





Marius Petipa / Alexander Gorsky / Michael Messerer / Ludwig Minkus

## Don Quixote

(1869, MOSCOW)

Don Quixote ▶ **György Szirb, Levente Bajári, Gábor Szigeti,  
Attila Szakács**

Sancho Panza ▶ **Bálint Katona, András Szegő,  
Maksym Kovtun, Vila M. Ricardo**

Kitry ▶ **Tatiana Melnik, Cristina Balaban,  
Eizaveta Cheprasova, Aliya Tanykpayeva**

Basil ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Balázs Majoros,  
Ievgen Lagunov, Dmitry Timofeev**

Espada ▶ **Iurii Kekalo, Dénes Darab, Mikalai Radziush,  
Vladyslav Melnyk**

Mercedes ▶ **Karina Sarkissova, Alexandra Kozmér, Aleszja  
Popova, Jessica Carulla Leon**

Conductor ▶ **András Déri, Imre Kollár**

Ballet in three acts

Libretto based on the novel of the same title by **Miguel de  
Cervantes** ▶ **Marius Petipa**

Choreographers ▶ **Alexander Gorsky, Marius Petipa,  
Michael Messerer**

Composer ▶ **Ludwig Minkus**

Costume designer ▶ **Nóra Romhányi**

Set designer ▶ **István Rózsa**

Lighting designer ▶ **Kirk Bookman**

Ballet masters ▶ **Mária Aradi, Imre Dózsa, Angéla Kövessy,  
Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Solymosi**

*19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 November 2016  
Opera House*

Marius Petipa / Alexander Gorsky / Michael Messerer / Ludwig Minkus

## Don Quixote

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(1869, MOSCOW)

**Marius Petipa** premiered his *Don Quixote* at the Bolshoi Theatre in 1869. Aware of the tastes of the Moscow audience, he included a number of comical elements in the production and put an emphasis on character dances. When he created a new version for Saint Petersburg, he adapted to local requirements and returned to Classical elements. In 1900, **Alexander Gorsky** created his own choreography for the Bolshoi, which was considerably more realistic than the previous version, since Gorsky was greatly influenced by the Moscow Artistic Theatre and **Konstantin Stanislavky's** working methods and stage directing. This impact was apparent in Gorsky's work primarily in the individualised characters of the dancers and the costumes designed to suit their personalities.

An avid and passionate reader of chivalric romances, *Don Quixote* decides that for the sake of his own glory and the common good, he must set out in search of adventures as a knight-errant. He sets for himself an objective no lower than to “*redress grievances, right wrongs and repair injustices.*” The ballet not only evokes the knight's most important adventures, it also recounts a humorous love story which ultimately comes to a happy ending through the intervention of the Don.

*Don Quixote* was the first of a number of jointly crafted ballets that resulted from the collaboration between Marius Petipa and **Ludwig Minkus**, which was followed by a number of ballets. Minkus's music greatly contributed to the fact that *Don Quixote* has become a permanent repertoire piece on the world's ballet stages over the past 150 years: this will be the first time **Michael Messerer's** version is being performed in Hungary.





# Les dialogues des Carmélites

DIALOGUES OF THE CARMELITES (1957, MILAN) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

Marquis de la Force ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov**  
Chevalier de la Force ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**  
Blanche de la Force ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss**  
Madame Lidoine ▶ **Zita Váradi**  
Mother Jeanne ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**  
Sister Mathilde ▶ **Nadin Haris**  
Chaplain ▶ **János Szerekován**  
First Commissioner ▶ **Tivadar Kiss**  
Second Commissioner ▶ **Lajos Geiger**  
Gaoler ▶ **Antal Bakó**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea**

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

Librettist ▶ **Francis Poulenc** (with the permission of Emmet Lavery)  
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**  
Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**  
Costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**  
Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*2, 4, 6, 11 and 15 December 2016*  
*Opera House*

Francis Poulenc

## Les dialogues des Carmélites

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DIALOGUES OF THE CARMELITES (1957, MILAN) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

A member of the famous French "Les Six", **Francis Poulenc** wrote his second opera, *Les dialogues des Carmélites*, as a serious work, to the great surprise of the audience. Poulenc had previously been known as a *farceur* who composed neo-classical works with an ironic and comical tone. In the 1930s, however, the composer lost two close friends, and only faith could help him out of his deep mourning and depression. Therefore it was not surprising that when the Ricordi publishing house commissioned him to compose a new opera, he turned to a story about the strength of faith, the relationship between the state and religion, and death.

The opera was composed to **Georges Bernanos's** play, which in turn was based on German writer **Gertrude von Le Fort's** novella *Die Letzte am Schafott* (*The Last One at the Scaffold*). Le Fort wrote her novella in Germany in 1933, as the fascist hold on power was gaining strength. The source of her work was the true story of the martyrs of Compiègne: during the French Revolution, the *terreur* and the Jacobin dictatorship's antagonism toward the Church resulted in the execution of sixteen Carmelite nuns in Paris on 17 July 1794. Their hair shorn and singing the *Veni, Creator Spiritus*, the sisters each took their places under the guillotine. (The dictatorship came to an end exactly ten days later, with Robespierre himself being decapitated.) At the centre of the story stands a young aristocratic girl, Blanche de la Force, who is driven by fear to flee to the convent. Through her struggles, the composer shows the trial of faith in a work whose finale is perhaps both the most fantastic and the most shocking in the operatic literature.

The work is being staged at the Opera House for the first time by **Ferenc Anger**.





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Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## Don Giovanni

DON JUAN (1787, PRAGUE)

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

Don Giovanni ▶ **Erwin Schrott, Zsolt Haja**  
Donna Anna ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák, Klára Kolonits**  
Don Ottavio ▶ **Tamás Tarjányi, István Horváth**  
Donna Elvira ▶ **Gabriella Fodor, Beatrix Fodor**  
Commendatore ▶ **Péter Fried**  
Leporello ▶ **Miklós Sebestyén, Krisztián Cser**  
Zerlina ▶ **Rita Rác**  
Masetto ▶ **Marcell Bakonyi, Csaba Sándor**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Hungary**

Opera in two acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Lorenzo Da Ponte**  
Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**  
Set designer ▶ **Rolf Glittenberg**  
Lighting designer ▶ **Friedrich Rom**  
Costume designer ▶ **Marianne Glittenberg**  
Director ▶ **Sven-Eric Bechtolf**

*16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22 December 2016*

*Erkel Theatre*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

16

## Don Giovanni

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DON JUAN (1787, PRAGUE)

Don Giovanni, that is, the figure of Don Juan, has for centuries refused to leave the imaginations of artists and art-lovers unmolested. Is he a sex maniac or a romantic fool, this man who lives from escapade to escapade, and from woman to woman? Is he amoral, or does he simply believe that love entitles the vanquisher to everything? And what are we to think of him today, when – as the director writes – *“in our homes, we are only a mouse-click away from the red light district.”*

In his production, **Sven-Eric Bechtolf** tries to find the answer to this very question: What do es the figure of Don Giovanni have to do with us today? *“Paradoxically, in our relatively taboo-free and shame-less times, a theatrical figure like Don Giovanni has an even harder time being understood and being staged. Superficial proximity leads to misunderstandings difficult to resolve. Compared to your average pornographic fornicator of the 21st century, Don Giovanni is a romantic hero of metaphysical dimensions.”*

After earning his drama degree from the Mozarteum in Salzburg and then enjoying a successful career on the stage, Bechtolf went on to become a recognised theatre and opera director. He will be staging the work at the Erkel Theatre, based on his 2014 Salzburg production.





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Péter Eötvös

## Love and Other Demons

(2007, GLYNDEBOURNE), BUDAPEST VERSION (2017) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

Sierva Maria ▶ **Tetiana Zhuravel**  
Don Ygnacio ▶ **István Kovácsházi**  
Dominga ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**  
Abrenuncio ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**  
Don Toribio ▶ **Krisztián Cser**  
Cayetano Delaura ▶ **Zsolt Haja**  
Josefa Miranda ▶ **Andrea Meláth**  
Martina Laborde ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Eötvös**

Partner ▶ **BMW Group Magyarország**

Opera in two acts, in the original languages, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Libretto, based on the novel by **Gabriel García Márquez**

▶ **Kornél Hamvai**

Dramaturg ▶ **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Helmut Stürmer**

Animation designer ▶ **Andu Dumitrescu**

Director ▶ **Silviu Purcărete**

*27, 29 January 2, 5, 8 February 25 and 27 May 2017*  
*Opera House*

Péter Eötvös

18

## Love and Other Demons

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(2007, GLYNDEBOURNE), BUDAPEST VERSION (2017) HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

**Peter Eötvös's** fifth opera was commissioned by the Glyndebourne Festival and composed to **Kornél Hamvai's** multilingual libretto (constructed with elements of Yoruba, Latin and Spanish, in addition to the English) based on **Gabriel García Márquez's** novella of the same title.

*"This fantasy world helps me to concentrate on the music, rather than focus too much on the plot. This is my first opera about love, and also my first quasi-bel canto piece that allows the singers to show off the beauty of their voices,"* said the composer. As the critic from the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* described the world premiere: *"Eötvös's music is so colourful and suggestive that the atmosphere of the proscribed and the demonic and the steamy instinctive world of love and passion captivates us immediately."*

In other words, it has all the makings for an exciting theatrical experience, including a story full of operatic elements (religious intolerance, demonic possession and forbidden love), and Eötvös himself states that this is his most melodic music, while critics have called it magical. And it's all being staged by **Silviu Purcărete**, the Romanian-born French theatre director renowned across Europe, whose productions are characterized by confident handling of the acting and powerful imagery. He is the one who directed the world premiere of the opera in 2008 and now, settling the debt we have owed them for many years now, a production adapted to the stage of the Opera House will at last be presented to the Hungarian audience: with new music composed for it by Eötvös himself, this will be the birth of the opera's Budapest version.





Giacomo Puccini

# Madama Butterfly

(1904, MILAN)

Cio-Ciosan ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Gabriella Létay Kiss**

Suzuki ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Szilvia Vörös**

Kate ▶ **Eszter Zavaros, Erika Markovics**

Pinkerton ▶ **Boldizsár László, Péter Balczó**

Sharpless ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov**

Goro ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, Zoltán Megyesi**

Yamadori ▶ **János Szerekován**

Bonzo ▶ **Sándor Egri, Ferenc Cserhalmi**

The Imperial Commissioner ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in three acts, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettists ▶ **Luigi Illica, Giuseppe Giacosa**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Cziegler**

Costume designer ▶ **Fruzsina Nagy**

Director ▶ **Kriszta Székely**

*3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12 February 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

Giacomo Puccini

# Madama Butterfly

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(1904, MILAN)

An encounter between East and West in **Puccini's** beautiful opera. A 15-year-old geisha gives up her religion and culture for her American fiancé, knowing she will be disowned by her relatives. For the fiancé, on the other hand, the exotic lover is merely a adventure, and a Japanese wedding a game. *"They say that across the sea, if a man catches a butterfly, he pins her on a board."* Before our eyes, Miss Butterfly becomes a woman, whose unflagging love keeps her alive.

Puccini saw **David Belasco's** one-act play *Madame Butterfly: A Japanese Tragedy*, inspired by an American short story and a French novel, in London in 1900. The world premiere of *Madama Butterfly* was held at Milan's La Scala, where it was a fiasco – probably due to insufficient rehearsal. Puccini revised the opera, which was performed again in May – this time with great success. The composer continued working on it though: he prepared three more versions, the fifth and final of which is the one performed worldwide today.

The young director **Kriszta Székely** graduated last year and first gained attention with her opera production *La princesse jaune*; *Madama Butterfly* will be her first time directing a full-length opera.





# La putain respectueuse

HUNGARIANLATENIGHT THE RESPECTFUL PROSTITUTE (1978, BUDAPEST, MTV) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

Lizie ► **Bori Keszei**

Fred ► **Péter Balczó**

The negro ► **Krisztián Cser**

Senator Clark ► **Csaba Sándor**

First policeman ► **N. N.**

Second policeman ► **N. N.**

Conductor ► **János Selmeczi**

The productions *La putain respectueuse* and *Opposite the Catafalque* will be shown as part of the *HungarianLateNight* programme

Partner ► **Liszt Academy of Music**

Opera in one act, in Hungarian

Libretto based on the drama of the same title by

**Jean-Paul Sartre** ► **Kamilló Lendvay**

Dramaturg ► **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set designer ► **Virág Pázmány**

Costume designer ► **Lili Pázmány**

Director ► **Balázs Sipos**

*3, 4, 10, 11, March and 1 June 2017*

*Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music, Georg Solti Hall*

Kamilló Lendvay

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## La putain respectueuse

THE RESPECTFUL PROSTITUTE (1978, BUDAPEST, MTV) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME **HUNGARIANLATENIGHT**

*"When it comes to subjects for opera, for me it is not a requirement that it comply with one school of thought or another. It's much more important – perhaps the most important thing – for the subject I've chosen to include a social background for man's fate; for the dramatic material to carry an emotional and affective charge so that the music, in close partnership with it, can convey what human words cannot say,"* wrote **Kamilló Lendvay** of his opera.

Lizzie is a typical Sartrean protagonist, forced to decide over the life of an innocent person, with her own existence at stake all the while. She selects her fate, thereby exercising the freedom to choose.

Kamilló Lendvay's opera – originally composed for television, with the Opera's soprano **Júlia Pászthy** singing the title role early in her career – is now being included on the Opera's programme for the first time.





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*dolgozhatnak.*  
IDEGENNEK A GÉPHEZ NYÚLNI  
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FELELŐSÉGEKHEZ VÁR

18

HUNGARIANLATENIGHT

Gábor Péter Mezei

## Opposite the Catafalque

A RAVATALLAL SZEMBEN (2016) WORLD PREMIERE

Rita ▶ **Rita Rácz**

Dóra ▶ **N. N.**

The man ▶ **Csaba Sándor**

Conductor ▶ **János Selmeczi**

The productions *La putain respectueuse* and *Opposite the Catafalque* will be shown as part of the *HungarianLateNight* programme.

Partner ▶ **Liszt Academy of Music**

Opera in two acts, without an intermission, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

Dramaturg ▶ **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set designer ▶ **Virág Pázmány**

Costume designer ▶ **Lili Pázmány**

Director ▶ **Balázs Sipos**

*3, 4, 10, 11, March and 1 June 2017*

*Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music, Georg Solti Hall*

Gábor Péter Mezei

18

## Opposite the Catafalque

A RAVATALLAL SZEMBEN (2016) WORLD PREMIERE HUNGARIANLATENIGHT

HUNGARIANLATENIGHT

*Opposite the Catafalque* addresses our conscious and subconscious attractions and familial and romantic attachments, which we sometimes fall victim to and sometimes use in manipulative fashion against others. The piece presses the question of whether it is possible to attain genuine happiness and prosperity purchased at the price of the sacrifice of others.

Dóra and Rita, the daughters of a respected and influential businessman, arrive home from their father's funeral. This period of mourning evokes the past, which brings a tragic turn for one of them, but opens up the future for the other daughter: at the funeral she noticed a man with eyes only for her.

**Gábor Péter Mezei** studied composition at the University of Music and Performing Arts Munich and the Mozarteum in Salzburg. This is the young composer's first opera.





# Siegfried

(1876, BAYREUTH)

Siegfried ▶ **István Kovácsházi**

Mime ▶ **Jürgen Sacher**

The Wanderer ▶ **Egils Silins**

Alberich ▶ **Marcus Jupither**

Fafner ▶ **István Rácz**

Erda ▶ **Erika Gál**

Brünnhilde ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Waldvogel ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Music drama 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**

Director ▶ **Géza M. Tóth**

*19, 23, 26 March and 2 April 2017*  
*Opera House*

Richard Wagner

## Siegfried

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(1876, BAYREUTH)

*"For the sake of that most beautiful of my life-dreams Young Siegfried I shall have to finish the Nibelungen pieces after all; the Valkyrie has taken so much out of me that I must indulge in this pleasure; I have got as far as the second half of the last act. The whole will not be finished till 1856; and in 1858, the tenth year of my Hegira, the performance may take place, if at all. As I have never in life felt the real bliss of love, I must erect a monument to the most beautiful of all my dreams, in which, from beginning to end, that love shall be thoroughly satiated,"* wrote **Wagner** to **Ferenc Liszt** in 1854, but then he gave up on finishing *Siegfried* for many years and returned to the *Ring* only after composing *Tristan* and *Meistersinger*.

The work was premiered in Bayreuth in August of 1876, when the entire tetralogy was first performed under the baton of the Hungarian **János Richter**. 140 years later, the next instalment of **Géza M. Tóth's** new production of the *Ring* cycle will again be on the Opera's programme to tell the tale of the hero who knows no fear.





Johann Strauss Jr.

# Der Zigeunerbaron

THE GYPSY BARON (1885, VIENNA)

Count Péter Homonnay ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Zoltán Nagy**  
Sándor Barinkay ▶ **Atilla Kiss B., Boldizsár László**  
Saffi ▶ **Ildikó Szakács, Eszter Zavaros**  
Czipra ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann, Annamária Kovács**  
Kálmán Zsupán ▶ **Géza Gábor, László Szvétek**  
Arsena ▶ **Rita Rácz, Kinga Kriszta**  
Count Carnero ▶ **Tamás Busa, Zoltán Bártki Fazekas**  
Mirabella ▶ **Mária Farkasréti, Éva Balatoni**  
Ottokar ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, János Szerekován**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

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

Libretto, based on **Mór Jókai's** novella ▶ **Ignaz Schnitzer**  
Hungarian translation ▶ **Sándor Fischer, Miklós Szinetár**  
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**  
Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Mihályi**  
Set designer ▶ **Balázs Horesnyi**  
Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Balla**  
Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

*24, 25, 26, 30, 31 March, 1 and 2 April 2017*  
*Erkel Theatre*

Johann Strauss Jr.

## Der Zigeunerbaron

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THE GYPSY BARON (1885, VIENNA)

On one of his visits to Budapest, **Johann Strauss Jr.** formed an acquaintanceship with the Hungarian writer **Mór Jókai**. The fruit of their association turned out to be one of the “Waltz King’s” finest operettas: *Der Zigeunerbaron*, or *The Gypsy Baron*, which was based on Jókai’s novella, itself inspired by a true story, and which came into being with active collaboration on the part of the author. The libretto was written by Budapest-born **Ignaz Schnitzer**, who later published the most comprehensive German-language edition of the poems of Sándor Petőfi. It is no coincidence, then, that if we translate the original German verses of *Die Zigeunerbaron* into Hungarian, hints of Petőfi’s works appear in many places...

A year and a half later, on Strauss’s 60th birthday on 24 October 1885, the Theater an der Wien performed the world premiere of the grand operetta; Emperor **Francis Joseph** watched the entire work, even though he usually left theatre performances during the first intermission (for example at the inauguration night of the Opera House in Pest in 1884). 11 years after the great success of *Die Fledermaus*, the composer conquered Vienna again, and then the whole world: *Der Zigeunerbaron* turned out to be a huge success. One of the work’s virtues is that its music lends itself to the opera stage, with the sounds of the Hungarian *csárdás*, Gypsy music, the Viennese waltz and weightier melodies all rubbing along together marvellously.

And what is a bald pig dealer doing in an operetta? And who is the heir to the pasha of Temesvár? And how will the son of a country gentleman become the baron of the Gypsies? All will be made clear in this production by **Miklós Szinetár** at the Erkel Theatre, the venue of many successful performances of this work in the past decades.





Anna-Marie Holmes / Tamás Solymosi / Adolphe Adam

## Le corsaire

THE CORSAIR (1856, PARIS) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

Conrad's slave ► **Ievgen Lagunov, Gergely Leblanc,**  
**Balázs Majoros**

Conrad ► **Dmitry Timofeev, Zoltán Oláh, Gergő Balácsi**

Gulnare ► **Karina Sarkissova, Eizaveta Cheprasova,**  
**Lili Felméry**

Lankendem ► **Balázs Majoros, Iurii Kekalo,**  
**Takahashi Yuya**

Medora ► **Tatiana Melnik, Aliya Tanykpayeva,**  
**Cristina Balaban**

Berbanto ► **Dávid Kerényi, Boris Myasnikov,**  
**Pierpaolo D'amico**

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák, István Silló**

Ballet in three acts

Choreography after **Marius Petipa** and **Konstantin Sergeyev**  
► **Anna-Marie Holmes, Tamás Solymosi**

Composers ► **Adolphe Adam, Cesare Pugni, Léo Delibes,**  
**Riccardo Drigo, Piotr Oldenburg**

Libretto by **Jules-Henri de Saint Georges** and **Joseph Mazilier**  
revised by ► **Anna-Marie Holmes**

Set designer ► **István Rózsa**

Costume designer ► **Nóra Romhányi**

Lighting designer ► **Kirk Bookman**

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

*21, 22, 23, 27, 29 and 30 April 2017*

*Opera House*

Anna-Marie Holmes / Tamás Solymosi / Adolphe Adam

## Le corsaire

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THE CORSAIR (1856, PARIS) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

This ballet's plot is inspired by *The Corsair*, a famous verse written in 1814 by **Lord Byron**, who towered over an entire generation of English Romantic poets. The protagonist of the verse is Conrad, the "fateful man", whom Hungarian literary critic **Antal Szerb** described as follows: *"His face is handsome, but contains dark expressions, it is attractive and repulsive at the same time. When he enters a place, people fall silent in surprise. Some grim secret surrounds him, the shadow of some serious crime, but he endures loneliness and secret suffering with pride. When he loves, he brings misfortune to the beloved, to that faithful and pure soul, and when he dies, he proudly looks his fate in the eye even in the last minute."*

The thrilling story, full of adventure, also leaves plenty of room for love, betrayal, life-threatening danger, a shipwreck, and ultimately, escape. Byron's work was so successful that ballet masters were staging it as early as the 1820s, soon after it appeared. The 1856 Paris production caused a sensation with the stagecraft used in it to depict the shipwreck.

**Anna-Marie Holmes** choreographed her own version for the Boston Ballet in 1997, which is now being shown to the Budapest audience for the first time in a new version created in collaboration with Ballet Director Tamás Solymosi and performed by the artists of the Hungarian National Ballet.





Ferenc Farkas

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# The Magic Cupboard

A BŰVÖS SZEKRÉNY (1942, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA)

Zuleyka ▶ **Eszter Magyar**

Hassan ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Cadi ▶ **Antal Bakó**

Mufti ▶ **Attila Fenyvesi**

Three odalisques ▶ **Diána Hajdu, Eszter Heresznyei,  
Mónika Németh**

First servant ▶ **Zsombor Haraszti**

Second servant ▶ **Zoltán Somogyi**

Pianist ▶ **Krisztina Andrásy-Neuenstein**

Conductor ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**

The production will be performed at the Choral Artists' Mini-Festival.

Fairy-tale opera in two acts, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Gyula Kunszery**

Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasy**

Set designer ▶ **Renátó Cseh**

Costume designer ▶ **Márk Lakatos**

Director ▶ **András Aczél**

*12 and 14 May 2017*

*Eiffel Art Studios*

Ferenc Farkas

## The Magic Cupboard

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A BŰVÖS SZEKRÉNY (1942, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA)

Along with **György Ránki**, **Ferenc Farkas**, who died in 2000, was one of his generation's most important representatives of Hungarian comic opera. He was not only an excellent musician, conductor and composer, but also an outstanding music teacher, whose students included such prominent artists as **György Ligeti**, **Emil Petrovics** and **Sándor Szokolay**. Musical pieces composed for the stage played a very important role in his musical oeuvre. *The Magic Cupboard*, inspired by one of the stories in *The Arabian Nights*, was the composer's first opera.

The work follows the traditions of classical *opera buffa*. Its light, playful and irresistibly humorous music and the bold use of tempos create a perfectly Oriental atmosphere. The world premiere of this comic opera was held at the Opera House during the Second World War, on 22 April 1942, and since then it has been revived several times, with stagings in Cluj-Napoca and various cities in Germany, but in recent decades it has been neglected. Now a chamber-opera version created by the composer himself is being included in this year's instalment of the annual programme showcasing the Opera's chorus singers.

We get to watch the vicissitudes of the lovely Zuleyka unfold in the fabulous Orient, as she works to free her husband from prison. What might be the price for her husband's freedom? What is the purpose of a cabinet big enough to fit four people? Will the wicked demons be incinerated in the fire at the end? One thing is clear: *"Pure love will be blessed by Heaven!"*





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Pál Frenák / Béla Bartók

# The Wooden Prince

(1917, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

Princess ▶ **Alexandra Kozmér**

The Wooden Prince ▶ **Miklós Dávid Kerényi**

Prince ▶ **Zoltán Oláh**

Choreographer ▶ **Pál Frenák**

Composer ▶ **Béla Bartók**

Librettist ▶ **Béla Balázs**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

The production is part of the *Bartók DanceTriptych* programme and will be performed together with *Dance Suite* and *The Miraculous Mandarin* between 26 May and 4 June.

Partner ▶ **Compagnie Pal Frenak**

12, 26, 28, 31 May, 1 and 4 June 2017  
Opera House

Pál Frenák / Béla Bartók

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## The Wooden Prince

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(1917, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

*"Music projects the tiniest detail of the text and the smallest resonance of the plot in a monumentally augmented way. This music not only illustrates, supplements and explains. In some places it explodes the established frameworks, floods from its riverbed and flows towards dimensions that disappear into infinity. We almost suffer under the pressure of the tension. It wails, roars and speaks in place of the characters: living words and human sighs fly from the instruments."*  
Thus critic **Aladár Bálint** described *The Wooden Prince* in the periodical *The West*.

On the 100th anniversary of the premiere of **Bartók's** first dramatic work, composed to a libretto by Béla Balázs, a brand-new choreography of *The Wooden Prince* will be returning to the stage of the Opera on 12 May 2017, following in the tradition of **Ottó Zöbisch** (1917), János Cieplinsky (1935) and **Gyula Harangozó**, whose 1939 version already featured more modern elements. Each new interpretation attempts to take a step in the direction of modernity, to resolve or even emphasise the contradiction straining between the childlike tale and the sophisticated music. This is the task undertaken by internationally recognised dancer and choreographer **Pál Frenák**, who at the helm of his own ensemble occupies a position on the world's cutting edge. *The Wooden Prince* will be his first project for the Hungarian National Ballet.





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Zsolt Juhász / Béla Bartók

## Dance Suite

TÁNCZVIT (1923, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

**Ildikó Boros – József Cserta**  
**Snezana Gikovski – Gábor Szigeti**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

Choreographer ▶ **Zsolt Juhász**

Composer ▶ **Béla Bartók**

Set designer ▶ **Erzsébet Túri**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Furik**

Lighting designer ▶ **Károly Lendvai**

The production is part of the *Bartók DanceTriptych* programme and will be performed together with *The Wooden Prince* and *The Miraculous Mandarin*.

Partner ▶ **Duna Art Ensemble**

*26, 28, 31 May, 1 and 4 June 2017*  
*Opera House*

Zsolt Juhász / Béla Bartók

## Dance Suite

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TÁNCSZVIT (1923, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

*"Bartók's Dance Suite is perhaps his liveliest and most magnificent orchestral work. Bartók was a revolutionary explorer of ancient primitive passions, a genius revealing the most profound dynamics of life, who here with sparkling playfulness weaves together folk-like (his own, not actual folk songs) themes into five dances, which are linked by a subtly melancholic ritornello and finished with a wild and unbridled finale. From the mystical and heavy rhythms of subterranean dark forces a wonderfully colourful world develops: this harmonious 'joy in playing', in such a coherent form, is a new voice in Bartók's poetry. This harmonic play also draws into its spell the incredible rich scoring of the fantasy itself, with everything flowing smoothly, and even the most whimsical turns balanced with a glittering lap of waves,"* wrote **Aladár Tóth** in the *Pest Journal* on 20 November 1923, the day after the orchestral work premiered.

The work, composed for the 50th anniversary of the unification of Pest, Buda and Óbuda and premiered by the Budapest Philharmonic Society Orchestra, which then, as now, was made up of musicians from the Opera, was inspired by dance themes, as the title shows. Now a new choreography has been created, which follows the special features of the music and combines the power of ballet and folk dance, for a co-production of the Hungarian National Ballet and the Duna Art Ensemble – for the first time in the history of performing the ballet, as conceptualised by Harangozó Prize-winner **Zsolt Juhász**.





József Ruzitska

# Béla's Flight

BÉLA FUTÁSA (1822, KOLOZSVÁR)

Featuring ▶ **soloists of the Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca**

Opera in two acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Conductor ▶ **György Selmeczi**

Libretto based on the play of the same title by **August von**

**Kotzebue ▶ János Kótsi Patkó**

Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

Partner ▶ **Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca**

*19 and 21 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

József Ruzitska

## Béla's Flight

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BÉLA FUTÁSA (1822, KOLOZSVÁR)

Originating a little over two decades after the premiere of the original *Prince Pikkó* by József Chudy, the lost first Hungarian opera, József Ruzitska's *Béla's Flight* is the earliest such work for which both music and libretto remain, which is why certain sources consider it to be the first Hungarian opera. The piece was based on the play *Belas Flucht* by **August von Kotzebue**, a highly influential writer of the time, and was transplanted to the opera stage by **János Kótsi Patkó**, the leading actor of the ensemble in Kolozsvár, today known as Cluj-Napoca.

The opera contains a hymn beginning with the words "Downtrodden Hunnia groans", about the Mongol invasion, which was known and sung around the country. The opera was played with great success in almost every Hungarian town, and **Ferenc Erkel** was said to be inspired to compose historical operas by a performance in Kolozsvár.

The production, evoking the roots of Hungarian operatic literature, will be performed in the most important centre of the heyday of Hungarian-language operas, today's Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca, in collaboration with the Hungarian State Opera. *Béla's Flight* will be performed together with **György Orbán's** opera *Prince Pikkó*, and will be a leading event at the 2017 HungarianFest.





György Orbán

# Prince Pikkó

PIKKÓ HERTZEG (2000, BUDAPEST, CASTLE THEATRE) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

The Khan ▶ **Árpád Sándor**

Jutka Perzsi ▶ **Zselyke Székely**

Prince Pikkó ▶ **Adorján Pataki, István Horváth**

Sibuk ▶ **Róbert V. Laczkó**

Envoy ▶ **Sándor Balla**

The garaboncid ▶ **Áron Dimény**

Conductor ▶ **György Selmeczi**

Partner ▶ **State Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca**

Opera fantasy in two acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Libretto based on the libretto of the same title  
by **Antal Szalkay** ▶ **György Orbán**

Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*19 and 21 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

György Orbán

## Prince Pikkó

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PIKKÓ HERTZEG (2000, BUDAPEST, CASTLE THEATRE) ON THE OPERA'S PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST TIME

**József Chudy** was a Hungarian composer and conductor living in Vienna. His 1793 work *Prince Pikkó and Jutka Perzsi* (1793) was the first Hungarian opera, although the music has been entirely lost. The original libretto was a translation of the play *Evakathel und Schnudi* by contemporary German author Philipp Hafner, and may have been a parody of singspiel. Presenting the piece was **László Kelemen's** Hungarian National Playing Troupe, the first company to perform works in Hungarian.

**György Orbán** composed his work at the request of **Domonkos Moldován**, head of the Budapest Chamber Opera, and in addition to the new musical material, he also wrote a new libretto for *Prince Pikkó*, which is actually a *Romeo and Juliet* paraphrase. In the story, Perzsi, daughter of the Tartar khan, falls in love with the Kalmyk prince, but the khan rejects the marriage and thus war between the Tartars and the Kalmyks becomes unavoidable. With the exception of the ending, the composer faithfully followed the plot of the original work, while leaving out the parodic elements to instead conclude the story with a grim tragedy.

The production *Prince Pikkó* will be performed together with **Béla Ruzitska's** opera *Béla's Flight*; both works are being directed by the Opera's artistic director, **Ferenc Anger**, for the Cluj-Napoca company.





Marianna Venekei / László Dés

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# A Streetcar Named Desire

(2017) WORLD PREMIERE

Blanche ▶ **Jessica Carulla Leon, Cristina Balaban**Stella ▶ **Lea Földi, Anna Krupp**Stanley ▶ **Balázs Majoros, Roland Liebich**Mitch ▶ **Mark James Biocca, Levente Bajári**Elen ▶ **Iurii Kekalo, Mikalai Radziush**Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**Composer ▶ **László Dés**Librettist ▶ **Marianna Venekei**Set designer ▶ **Róbert Menczel**Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**Lighting designer ▶ **Balázs Csontos**Animation designer ▶ **Géza M. Tóth***17, 23, 24 and 25 June 2017**Erkel Theatre*

Marianna Venekei / László Dés

18

## A Streetcar Named Desire

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(2017) WORLD PREMIERE

*A Streetcar Named Desire* is principal ballet master **Marianna Venekei**'s first full-length choreography. The project, lovingly nurtured for many years, is a collaboration between her and composer-saxophonist **László Dés**. Using the means of modern ballet, its creators evoke the atmosphere, sights and music of the New Orleans of the 1940s, the time and setting of **Tennessee Williams**'s original work, in a production driven by the sheer variety of the musical and dance motifs, and the unique personalities of the characters. The story of the fall of Blanche DuBois is a drama of family bonds, unrequited love, acceptance and physical force that never loses its relevance.

*"Any of us can become Blanche,"* Venekei states, meaning that we can find ourselves in a hopeless situation from which it is impossible to get out. A single bad decision that seems necessary can make everything around us fall apart.

*A Streetcar Named Desire* is a shockingly dramatic story because each character wishes to do right in their own way, but in most cases only succeed in ruining each other's lives.

The world premiere will be held at the Erkel Theatre as part of the Opera's Hungarian Season.





Ferenc Erkel

# Bánk bán

(1861, BUDAPEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

Andrew II ▶ **István Kovács**

Gertrud ▶ **Judit Németh**

Ottó ▶ **Péter Balczó**

Bánk bán ▶ **Boldizsár László**

Melinda ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Tiborc ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen**

Petur bán ▶ **Michele Kálmándy**

Biberach ▶ **Máté Fülep**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Partner ▶ **Bartók Plus Opera Festival**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Béni Egressy**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Set designer ▶ **Alexander Belozub**

Costume designer ▶ **Viktória Nagy**

Director ▶ **Attila Vidnyánszky**

*17 June 2017*

*Miskolc, Ice Hall*

Ferenc Erkel

## Bánk bán

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(1861, BUDAPEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

After winning the competition to set **Ferenc Kölcsey's** *Himnusz*, the national anthem, to music in 1844, **Ferenc Erkel** began to consider József Katona's widely attacked play as a potential subject for an opera. History made the time required to compose it very long: the war of independence against Austria and the censors of the dictatorship that followed meant that the audience would have to wait until 9 March 1861 for the complete work to be performed at the National Theatre.

*Bánk bán* has become synonymous with Hungarian national opera. Erkel lived and worked in an era when art was a major area where Hungarian people's yearning for independence and their expression of national feeling were manifesting themselves. After the success of his operas *Bátori Mária* and *Hunyadi László*, the composer was at the peak of his artistic powers: combining the rhapsodic feeling of Hungarian song and the Magyar soul with influences from Italian and German opera, he crafted a national drama of grandiosity. With his stunning music, Erkel took József Katona's play, already Shakespearean in its ambition, to an entirely new level. "My country, my country, thou art all I have..." Just like in the *Himnusz*, the unity and power of words and music in this work goes straight to the heart.

The Opera's new production will first be shown at the Miskolc Ice Hall in the summer of 2017, and then in the autumn of that year will be on the programme at the *Erkel Theatre*, with **Attila Vidnyánszky**, the Hungarian State Opera's one-time resident director, and current managing director of the National Theatre, returning to do artistic work at the institution after an absence of ten years.





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Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso

THE GOOSE OF CAIRO OR THE DELUDED BRIDEGROOM (2017) WORLD PREMIERE

Don Pippo ▶ **László Szvétek**

Biondello ▶ **József Mukk**

Calandrino ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Celidora ▶ **Kinga Kriszta**

Auretta ▶ **Bori Keszei**

Lavinia ▶ **Zita Váradi**

Chicchierello ▶ **Máté Fülep**

Conductor ▶ **Pál Németh**

Pasticcio in two acts, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giovanni Battista Varesco**, amended by  
**Lorenzo Da Ponte**

Concept ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Music arranged by ▶ **Pál Németh**

Set and Costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**

Director ▶ **Attila Toronykő**

*18, 20, 22 and 24 June 2017*

*Eiffel Art Studios*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

16

## L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso

THE GOOSE OF CAIRO OR THE DELUDED BRIDEGROOM (2017) WORLD PREMIERE

After the success of *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, **Mozart** wanted to compose an Italian comic opera, but it was not easy to find either a good subject or a good librettist. In 1783 he set himself to composing two new operas, but gave up on both of them. *L'oca del Cairo* was intended to have three acts, and (except for the overture) the whole first act was completed with almost 45 minutes of music, but Mozart eventually dropped the undertaking due to problems with the text. Then he set out to compose a two-act *opera buffa* entitled *Lo sposo deluso ossia La rivalità di tre donne per un solo amante* (*The Deluded Bridegroom, or The Rivalry of Three Women for One Lover*), but did not finish this work either: only a 20-minute-long fragment survived from the first act of the comedy, including a masterful overture. The composer's attention then turned to *Der Schauspieldirektor* and then on to his first operatic collaboration with **Lorenzo Da Ponte**: *Le nozze di Figaro*.

We can regard the two fragmentary comedies as precursors to *Figaro* and *Così*, and at times even the world of *Don Giovanni* is discernable. The completed parts were never staged in Mozart's lifetime, but since his death, however, several successful *pasticcios*, meaning performances sewn together from excerpts from multiple musical works, have been made. None of these, however, attempted to merge only these two fragments, which were composed during the same period, in spite of their interconnectedness and the fact that their plots, which resemble *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, are wonderful.

As the fulfilment of an idea nurtured by **Szilveszter Ókovács** for twenty years, the Opera intends to present these so-far unknown Mozart operas under the musical direction of **Pál Németh**, with its premiere doubling as the opening performance for the Eiffel Art Studios, the Opera's new rehearsal, construction and warehouse complex and its Bánffy Stage.





# Porgy and Bess

(1935, BOSTON)

Porgy ▶ **András Palerdi**

Bess ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák**

Sportin' Life ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Crown ▶ **Károly Szemerédy**

Jake ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Clara ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser**

Robbins ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Serena ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi**

Maria ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

Featuring ▶ **Handspring Puppet Company**

Partner ▶ **Szabad Tér Theatre**

Opera in three acts, in English, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettists ▶ **DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin**

Dramaturg ▶ **Kinga Keszthelyi**

Set designer ▶ **Sebastian Hannak**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztópád**

Choreographer ▶ **Noémi Kulcsár**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

*23 and 25 June 2017*

*Margaret Island*

George Gershwin

16

## Porgy and Bess

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(1935, BOSTON)

**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 nor Gershwin, who lived and worked in New York, was from the South. 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 Hungarian State Opera is now including *Porgy and Bess* in its programme for the second time since 1970.





16

Levente Gyöngyösi

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# The Master and Margarita

(2017) WORLD PREMIERE

Conductor ▶ **Gábor Hollerung**

Musical in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Szabolcs Várady**

Partners ▶ **Dohnányi Orchestra Budafok,  
Budapest Academic Choral Society**

*22 and 23 July 2017  
Erkel Theatre*

Levente Gyöngyösi

16

# The Master and Margarita

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(2017) WORLD PREMIERE

One of today's most talented composers, **Levente Gyöngyösi** may already be familiar to the audience from his work in opera: in 2005 the Opera premiered his first work in the genre: *The Stork Calif. The Master and Margarita* is one of the most important novels of the 20th century. A story with multiple threads which explores universal themes and problems, it poses a real challenge to theatre artists. Still, **Mikhail Bulgakov's** work is a very popular theme for theatres and films, and several musical versions have also been created.

As a source for his most recent work, the composer has taken one of the most important novels of 20th century literature, which he composed into a vocal-symphonic musical for soloists and chorus and employing instruments used in popular music.

Levente Gyöngyösi composed a vocal-symphonic musical for soloists and chorus to the story, approaching from the world of pop music and using its characteristic instruments. *"In principal, this genre works when it entertains. But I have also chosen a weighty literary subject. On the popular side, I am 'making the piece work', while at the same time putting all of my skill and craftsmanship into the symphonic and electronic arrangement."* The authors tried to focus on the main thread of the complex story. *"I intended for the supernatural characters (Woland and his team) to be played by opera singers and the regular humans by singers of musical theatre, with many of them playing more than one role. I 'manage' the piece from a more popular angle, but I also use all my skill in the symphonic and electronic orchestration."*

The production will be implemented with the contribution of one of the great Hungarian music "gurus" **Gábor Hollerung** and his ensembles and the Opera.







# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Repertoire



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Leonard Bernstein

# West Side Story

(1957, NEW YORK)

Musical in two acts, in English, with Hungarian prose and Hungarian surtitles

Riff ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, András Káldi Kiss**

Tony ▶ **Gergely Boncsér, Tamás Tarjányi**

Maria ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Rita Rác**

Anita ▶ **Lúcia Megyesi Schwart, Zsófia Kálnay**

Bernardo ▶ **András Káldi Kiss, András Kőrösi**

Papa-Doc ▶ **Barnabás Szabó-Sipos, Gábor Szirtes**

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

*16, 17, 18 September, 8, 9, 10 and 11 December 2016*

*Erkel Theatre*

Playwright ▶ **Arthur Laurents**

Lyrics ▶ **Stephen Sondheim**

Director and choreographer of the original production

▶ **Jerome Robbins**

Original Broadway production in collaboration with

**Roger L. Stevens ▶ Robert E. Griffith, Harold S. Prince**

Hungarian translation, Dramaturg ▶ **Enikő Leányvári**

Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**

Costume designer ▶ **Mónika Szelei**

Choreographer ▶ **Molnár Éva, Attila Bordás**

Ballet master ▶ **Edit Rujsz**

Coordinator of the students of the Hungarian Dance Academy

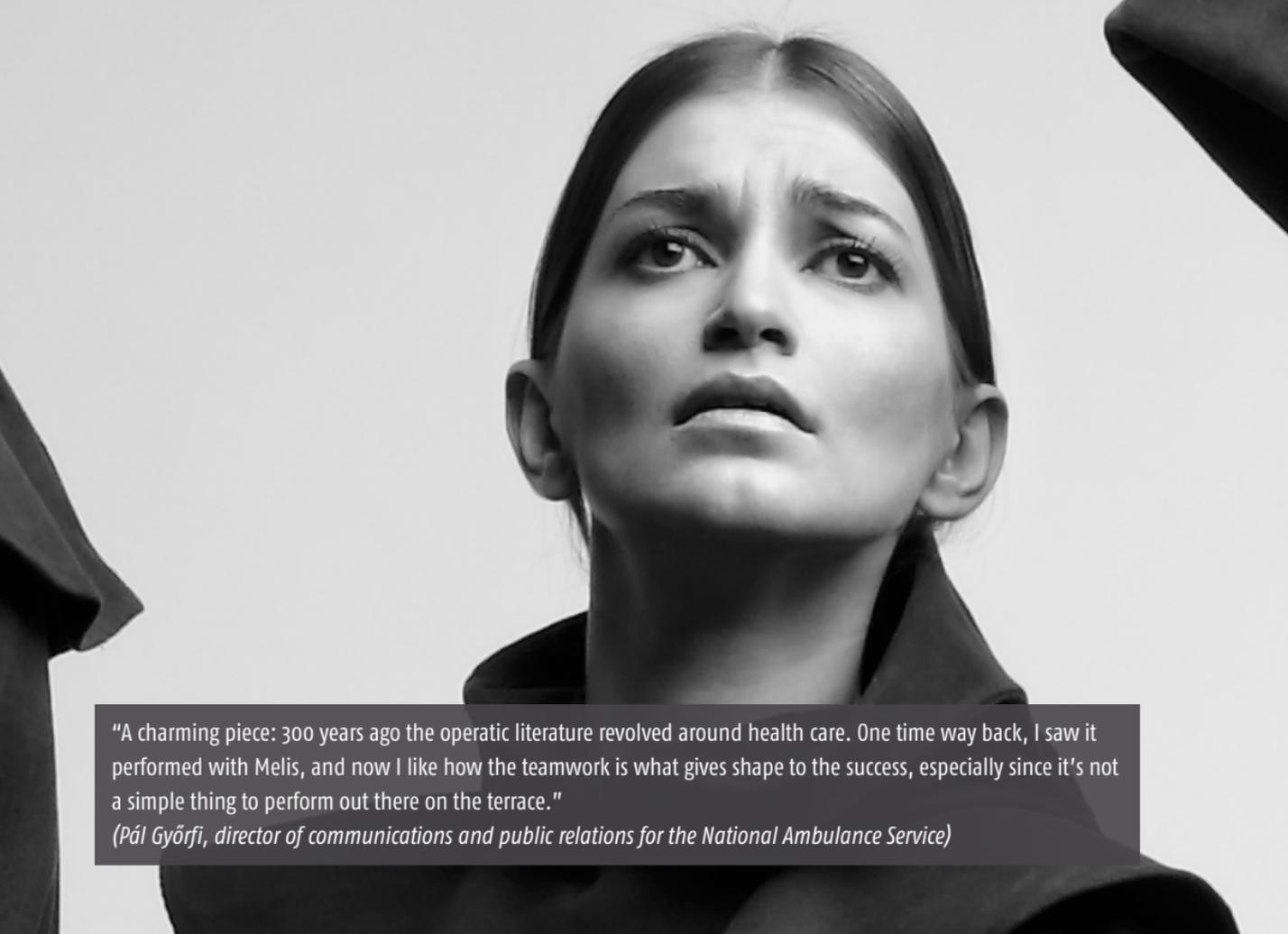
▶ **Evelyn Janács**

Animation designer ▶ **László Braun**

Director and choreographer ▶ **Péter Novák**



"I was a bit worried what would happen with this impossible assignment, since Bernstein had ended up practically making an opera out of this piece of his requiring professional dancers and actors, but this multiple-portrayal format won me over, and I'll be going again in the future."  
*(Péter Kálloy Molnár, actor and director)*



"A charming piece: 300 years ago the operatic literature revolved around health care. One time way back, I saw it performed with Melis, and now I like how the teamwork is what gives shape to the success, especially since it's not a simple thing to perform out there on the terrace."

*(Pál Györfi, director of communications and public relations for the National Ambulance Service)*

10

Gaetano Donizetti

## Il campanello

THE NIGHT BELL (1836, NAPLES)

Serafina ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser**  
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**

*17, 18 and 24 September 2016*  
*Opera House, Sphinx Terrace*



"I had never heard of this one, but I know that half of Donizetti's oeuvre is completely obscure. I wasn't familiar with the Sphinx Terrace either, but I was so transfixed there that next September I will have to come back."  
*(Dr. Ernő Görgényi, mayor of the city of Gyula)*

10

Gaetano Donizetti

## I pazzi per progetto

MADMEN BY DESIGN (1830, NAPLES)

Darlemont ▶ **László Szvétek**  
Norina ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser**  
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**

*17, 18 and 24 September 2016*  
*Opera House, Sphinx Terrace*

Gian Carlo Menotti

# The Telephone

(1946, NEW YORK)

10

Lucy ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Ben ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

The Telephone ▶ **Kristóf Poroszlay**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Gian Carlo Menotti**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Klára Huszár**

Set designer ▶ **Nikon One**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztópád**

Choreographer ▶ **Klára Pataky**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

*17, 18 and 24 September 2016*

*Opera House, Sphinx Terrace*



"Well, if Menotti were alive now, what an opera he'd write about mobile phones! This one-act is wise and easy to understand, gets straight to the points, and is also full of rapid chatter. A superb piece and a sparkling performance!"

*(Dr. Lajos Kemecsi, director-general of the Museum of Ethnology)*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

16

## Figaro 2.0

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO (1786, VIENNA)

Count Almaviva ▶ **István Kovács**  
Countess Rosina Almaviva ▶ **Beatrix Fodor**  
Figaro ▶ **Krisztián Cser**  
Susanna ▶ **Bori Keszei**  
Marcellina ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**  
Bartolo ▶ **László Szvétek**  
Cherubino ▶ **Ágnes Anna Kun, Viktória Mester**  
Basilio, Don Curzio ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**  
Barbarina ▶ **Annamária Bucsi**  
Antonio ▶ **Bence Pataki, András Hábetler**  
  
Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic opera with four acts in two parts, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Lorenzo Da Ponte**  
Libretto based on the translation by **Dezső Vidor**  
▶ **András Hábetler**  
Visual concept ▶ **Katalin Juhász**  
Musical director ▶ **Géza Köteles**  
Director ▶ **András Hábetler**

*On the Opera on Wheels programme in theatres around Hungary from the autumn of 2016*

"Necessity is the mother of invention, but creativity is boundless. Although opera performances outside of Budapest sometimes have to take place on postage stamp-sized stages and in even smaller orchestra pits, and often nearly everything has to be rethought, fortunately one element remains constant: the enjoyment! I hope as many people as possible can experience it!"

*(Szabolcs Szamosi, organist and managing director of Philharmonia Hungary)*



Giacomo Puccini

# La bohème 2.0

LA BOHÈME (1896, TURIN)

14

Rodolfo ▶ **Gergely Boncsér, Boldizsár László,  
István Horváth**

Schaunard ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Csaba Sándor**

Marcello ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Csaba Szegedi**

Colline ▶ **András Kiss, Marcell Bakonyi, Krisztián Cser**

Mimi ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár, Gabriella Létay Kiss,  
Anikó Bakonyi**

Musetta ▶ **Ildikó Szakács, Rita Rácz, Zita Szemere**

Benoît ▶ **Tamás Szüle, András Hábetler, Gábor Németh**

Alcindor ▶ **Zsolt Molnár, Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Parpignol ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss, Péter Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár, István Dénes,  
Kálmán Szennai**

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

Composer ▶ **Giacomo Puccini**

Librettist ▶ **Giuseppe Giacosa, Luigi Illica**

Set designer ▶ **Paolo Fantin**

Costume designer ▶ **Carla Tetti**

Director ▶ **Damiano Michieletto**

*2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 28, 29 and 30 October 2016  
Erkel Theatre*

The performances of *La Bohème 2.0* scheduled between 4 and 19 October will be offered to secondary school students as part of the OperaAdventure programme.



"Whenever we feel that opera is an art form from a bygone, perhaps much happier, era, we forget these types of productions by the Michielettos of the world. These always show that situations and emotions are independent of time and space. This *La bohème* was touching and shocking, with not a tiny bit of the idyllic in it."

*(Géza Kovács, general director of the Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra, Choir, and Music Library)*

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

# La serva padrona

THE SERVANT TURNED MISTRESS (1733, NAPLES)

8

Serpina ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Uberto ▶ **András Kiss**

Vespone ▶ **Domokos Kovács**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Intermezzo one part, two acts, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Gennaro Antonio Federico**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Visual concept ▶ **Ágnes Bobor**

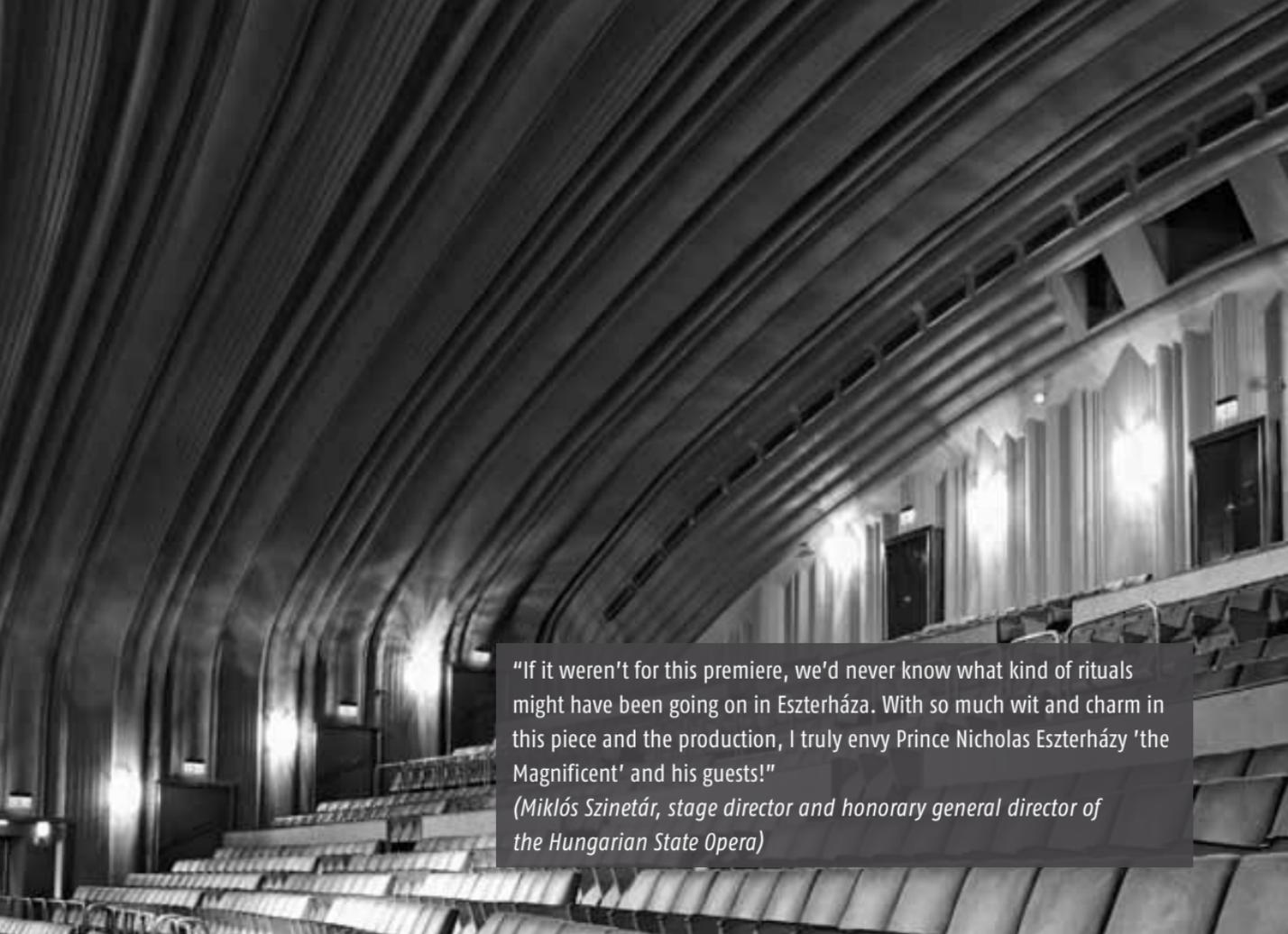
Director ▶ **Péter Varsányi**

*15, 22 October and 5 November 2016*

*Opera House, Royal Staircase*



"I think this is what they call true chamber opera. We actors also have trouble with two-character pieces, although the opportunities it affords are great if two actors are well suited to each other. In any case, I'm going to see the spring production!"  
*(Éva Auksz, actress)*



"If it weren't for this premiere, we'd never know what kind of rituals might have been going on in Eszterháza. With so much wit and charm in this piece and the production, I truly envy Prince Nicholas Eszterházy 'the Magnificent' and his guests!"

*(Miklós Szinetár, stage director and honorary general director of the Hungarian State Opera)*

16

Joseph Haydn

## Il mondo della luna

THE WORLD ON THE MOON (1777, ESZTERHÁZA)

Ecclectico ▶ **Tivadar Kiss**  
Ernesto ▶ **Zoltán Daragó**  
Buonafede ▶ **András Kiss**  
Clarice ▶ **Dóra Ducza**  
Flaminia ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**  
Lisetta ▶ **Nadin Haris**  
Cecco ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **László Bartal**

Opera in three acts in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Carlo Goldoni**  
Hungarian translation ▶ **Lajos Csákovics**  
Set and costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**  
Director ▶ **Attila Toronykő**

*4, 5 November 2016,*

*17 and 18 April 2017*

*Gödöllő Royal Palace Baroque Theatre*

Charles Gounod

# Faust

(1859, PARIS)

16

Faust ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**  
Méphistophélès ▶ **Evgeny Stavinsky, András Palerdi**  
Marguerite ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Orsolya Sáfár**  
Valentin ▶ **Zsolt Haja**  
Wagner ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Máté Fülep**  
Siebel ▶ **Szilvia Vörös, Gabriella Balga**  
Marthe ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann, Judit Németh**

Conductor ▶ **Philippe Auguin**

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

Librettist ▶ **Jules Barbier, Michel Carré**  
Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**  
Set designer ▶ **Luigi Scoglio**  
Assistant to the set designer ▶ **Alejandro Contreras Cortés**  
Costume designer ▶ **Ana Ramos Aguayo**  
Lighting and projection designer ▶ **Bogumił Palewicz**  
Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**  
Director ▶ **Michał Znaniecki**

*5, 10, 13, 16 and 20 November 2016*  
*Opera House*



"*Faust* was spectacular. First, there was Andrea Rost, and then there was also the set design, which included a tub for which we and our friends figured out five different meanings: there was the baptismal font, the lifeboat, a crypt of the undead, and a devil's jacuzzi as well. I really have to go see it again!"

*(Dr. János Áder, President of Hungary)*

Giacomo Puccini

# Tosca

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(1900, ROME)

16

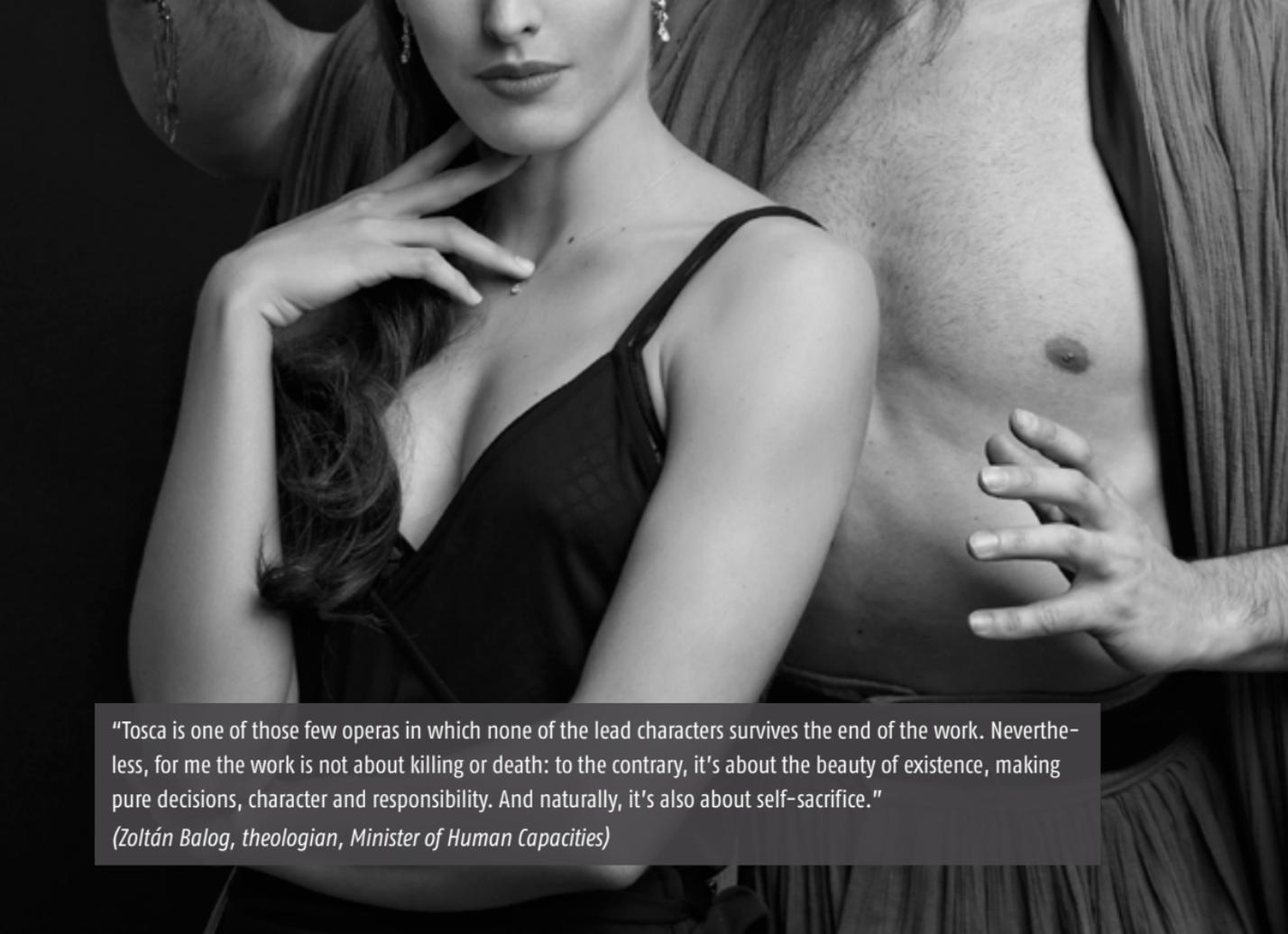
Floria Tosca ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács, Csilla Boross**  
Mario Cavaradossi ▶ **Attila Fekete, Marcello Giordani**  
Baron Scarpia ▶ **Alexandru Agache**  
Cesare Angelotti ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi, Antal Cseh**  
Sacristan ▶ **András Hábetler**  
Spoletta ▶ **László Haramza**  
Sciarrone ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in three acts, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

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

*5, 11, 12, 17, 19 and 25 November 2016*  
*Erkel Theatre*

A black and white photograph featuring a woman in the foreground on the left, wearing a black spaghetti-strap dress and a necklace. Her hand is raised to her neck. To her right, the bare chest and hand of a man are visible, with his hand resting on his abdomen. The background is dark and indistinct.

"Tosca is one of those few operas in which none of the lead characters survives the end of the work. Nevertheless, for me the work is not about killing or death: to the contrary, it's about the beauty of existence, making pure decisions, character and responsibility. And naturally, it's also about self-sacrifice."

*(Zoltán Balog, theologian, Minister of Human Capacities)*

Richard Wagner

# Die Walküre

THE VALKYRIE (1870, MUNICH)

16

Siegmond ▶ **István Kováčsházi**

Hunding ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Wotan ▶ **Michael Kupfer**

Sieglinde ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Brünnhilde ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

Fricka ▶ **Judit Németh**

Helmwige ▶ **Gertrúd Wittinger**

Gerhilde ▶ **Éva Bátori**

Ortlinde ▶ **Beatrix Fodor**

Waltraute ▶ **Szilvia Vörös**

Siegrune ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**

Rossweiße ▶ **Zsófia Kálnay**

Grimgerde ▶ **Erika Gál**

Schwertleite ▶ **Bernadett Fodor**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Music drama in three acts, in German, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Richard Wagner**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

Set designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Costume designer ▶ **Ibolya Bárdosi**

Director ▶ **Géza M. Tóth**

*6, 9, 12 and 17 November 2016*

*Opera House*



"It was a great pleasure to be present at the birth of this innovative *Ring*. The orchestra sounded quite nuanced, and I enjoyed the three-dimensional graphics on the stage, feeling that I understood the modern resonances. It was an exciting evening, and one worth repeating."

*(Zoltán Rockenbauer, art historian and former culture minister)*



"If one hopes to develop a knowledgeable opera audience, then one should think about what's being offered to the children. By setting the story of King Pomádé to music, György Ránki put something of important value into the hands of decision-makers. It's not complicated, but it's still a very demanding piece, which in addition to all its other virtues, abounds in humour."

*(Péter Eötvös, composer and conductor)*

György Ránki

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# King Pomade's New Clothes

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

King Pomade ▶ **László Szvétek, Krisztián Cser**  
Dani ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, László Beöthy-Kiss**  
Béni ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák, Lajos Geiger**  
Garda Roberto ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, Zoltán Gradsach**  
Nyársatnyelt Tóbiás ▶ **András Kiss, Géza Gábor**  
Dzsufi ▶ **Ingrid Kertesi, Orsolya Sáfár**

Conductor ▶ **László Bartal**

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

Librettist ▶ **Amy Károlyi**  
Visual concept ▶ **Katalin Juhász**  
Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Horváth**  
Director ▶ **Attila Toronykőy**

*19, 20, 26, 27 November, 4, 11 December 2016*  
*22 January 2017, Erkel Theatre*  
*9 June 2017, Eiffel Art Studios*

Giacomo Puccini

# La bohème

(1896, TURIN)

14

Rodolfo ▶ **Attila Fekete, Charles Castronovo**  
Schaunard ▶ **Zoltán Nagy, Csaba Sándor**  
Marcello ▶ **Csaba Szegedi, Levente Molnár**  
Colline ▶ **István Kovács, Gábor Bretz**  
Mimì ▶ **Andrea Rost, Karine Babayanian**  
Musetta ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser, Zita Váradi**  
Benoît ▶ **András Hábetler, Gábor Gárday**  
Alcindor ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi, Tamás Szüle**  
Parpignol ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea, Péter Halász**

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

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

*9, 11, 13, 17, 23, 25, 28 December 2016*  
*5 and 7 January 2017*  
*Opera House*



"This is a thrilling, and emotionally bohemian dramatic work! I fully understand the contemporary person who comes here in order to escape from themselves and see for the thousandth time Nádasdy and Oláh's production of *La bohème*, which despite being somewhat unrealistic, still resonates in our souls."

*(Tibor Szervátiusz, sculptor)*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart / János Lackfi

4

## Little Magic Flute

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DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE (1791, VIENNA)

Sarastro ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Tamino ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

The Queen of the Night ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**

Pamina ▶ **Bori Keszei**

Papageno ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach**

Papagena ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

Monostatos ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Ringmaster ▶ **Tamás Busa**

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

Music compiled by ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Libretto revised by ▶ **János Lackfi**

Visual concept ▶ **Katalin Juhász**

Director ▶ **Attila Toronykőy**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

*18, 22 and 25 December 2016*

*Erkel Theatre*



"We didn't even understand the title, and then the thousands of glowing pens gave the answer. We'd grateful that they didn't dumb it down, and even though it is for children, we got a complete reading, and the circus elements also worked."

*(Péter Fekete, Jászai Prize-winning director, ministerial commissioner and theatre director)*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

# Die Zauberflöte

THE MAGIC FLUTE (1791, VIENNA)

10

Sarastro ► **András Palerdi, Péter Fried**  
Tamino ► **Dániel Pataki Potyók**  
The Queen of the Night ► **Klára Kolonits, Orsolya Hajnalka Röser**  
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**  
First Armoured Man ► **Péter Kiss**  
Second Armoured Man ► **László Szvétek, Ferenc Cserhalmi**  
Papageno ► **Csaba Sándor**  
Papagena ► **Kriszta Kinga, Eszter Zavaros**  
Monostatos ► **Tivadar Kiss, Tamás Kóbor**

Conductor ► **János Kovács**

Singspiel in two acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ► **Emanuel Schikaneder**  
Hungarian translation based on Zsolt Harsányi's work ►  
**Miklós Szinetár**  
Choreographer ► **András Nádasdy**  
Set designer ► **Péter Horgas**  
Costume designer ► **Rita Velich**  
Director ► **Miklós Szinetár**

*23, 24 December 2016*

*5, 6 and 8 January 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"This Tamino escapes from reality, and I think that many of us would go with him. This fairy-tale world isn't without its dangers either, but the scenery is wonderful. We've never had such an experience of space at the Erkel before. And if you can come back to life while drinking beer, why not?"

*(Dr. József Hámori, brain researcher, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and former cultural minister)*



"It evokes the pleasures of childhood, singing together with my mother and father, and Kálmán Latabár's *Frosch*, which never gets old, on the screen. I've seen it many times at the Opera House too, enjoying Strauss's familiar melodies, the changing casts, the grandiose ballroom scenery and the New Year's surprise productions."  
*(Gábor Borókai, editor in chief)*

# Die Fledermaus

THE BAT (1874, VIENNA)

Eisenstein ▶ **István Kováčsházi, Zoltán Nyári**

Rosalinda ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Klára Kolonits**

Frank ▶ **Sándor Egri, Tamás Szüle**

Orlofsky ▶ **Viktória Mester, Éva Várhelyi**

Alfred ▶ **Szabolcs Brickner, Tamás Tarjányi**

Falke ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Blind ▶ **József Mukk**

Adele ▶ **Rita Rác, Ildikó Szakács**

Yvan ▶ **Balázs Hantos**

Frosch ▶ **Péter Vida, Gábor Szirtes**

Ida ▶ **Andrea Tallós**

Melanie ▶ **Zsuzsa Fülöp**

Conductor ▶ **Stefan Soltész**

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

Composer ▶ **Johann Strauss**

Librettist ▶ **Richard Genée, Carl Haffner**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Sándor Fischer, Ágnes Romhányi**

Choreographer ▶ **Jenő Lócsei**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**

Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

*31 December 2016*

*4, 6, 7 and 8 January 2017*

*Opera House*

"One surprise came after another. Did Wagner really write such an opera? Opening with castanets and a tambourine? And a comedy? Based on Shakespeare? But the composer, the work, the production and the cast all won me over... bravo!"

*(Dr. Balázs Gulyás, neurobiologist and co-founder of the World Science Forum)*



14

Richard Wagner

# Das Liebesverbot

THE BAN ON LOVE (1836, MAGDEBURG)

Friedrich ▶ **Sándor Balla**

Luzio ▶ **Levente Szabó**

Claudio ▶ **Adorján Pataki**

Isabella ▶ **Apollónia Egyed, Borbála Balázs**

Mariana ▶ **Zsuzsa Barabás, Tímea Fülöp**

Brighella ▶ **Árpád Sándor, János Szilágyi**

Danieli ▶ **Csaba Sándor**

Ponzio Pilato ▶ **Zsombor Rétyi**

Conductor ▶ **György Selmeczi**

Partner ▶ **Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca**

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

Librettist ▶ **Richard Wagner**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Lajos Csákovics**

Choreographer ▶ **Melinda Jakab**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Cziegler**

Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Tihanyi**

Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

*12 and 14 January 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari

16

## Sly

(1927, MILAN)

Christopher Sly ▶ **Boldizsár László**  
Count Westmoreland ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen**  
Dolly ▶ **Krisztina Kónya**  
John Plake ▶ **Antal Cseh**  
Landlady ▶ **Boglárka Laczák**  
Snare ▶ **Kristóf Koczor**  
Rosalina ▶ **Éva Kovács**  
Country judge ▶ **István Bocskai**  
Soldier ▶ **Milán Taletovics**  
Carter ▶ **Attila Major**  
Cook ▶ **Péter Tóth**  
Servant boy ▶ **Péter Szondi**

Conductor ▶ **Sándor Gyüdi**

Partner ▶ **Szeged National Theatre**

Opera in three acts, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Composer ▶ **Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari**  
Librettist ▶ **Giovacchino Forzano**  
Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**  
Costume designer ▶ **Nóra Bujdosó**  
Director ▶ **Pál Göttinger**

*13 and 15 January 2017*  
*Erkel Theatre*



“With a title like this, the ladies and gentlemen of the audience might think that Stallone was trying his luck with a new genre, which wouldn’t be such a bad marketing ploy either, but “unfortunately” this surprise was not to be. Instead we get to take part in a fine little post-Romantic piece and, in addition to the joy of discovery, be enriched by some hummable melodies. Let’s all join together to honour the creators with a toast during the interval... I’m certainly not going to miss it!”

*(Zsolt Urban, President of the Hungarian Advertising Association)*

Giuseppe Verdi

# Aida

(1871, CAIRO)

16

The King of Egypt ▶ **István Kovács, Krisztián Cser**

Amneris ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi, Erika Gál**

Aida ▶ **Csilla Boross, Eszter Sümegi**

Radamès ▶ **Attila Fekete, Atilla Kiss B.**

Ramfis ▶ **András Palerdi, Géza Gábor**

Amonasro ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Anatoly Fokanov**

The High Priestess ▶ **Melinda Heiter, Szilvia Vörös**

Messenger ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **Marco Comin**

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

Librettist ▶ **Antonio Ghislanzoni**

Dramaturg ▶ **Enikő Perczel**

Choreographer ▶ **Johanna Bodor**

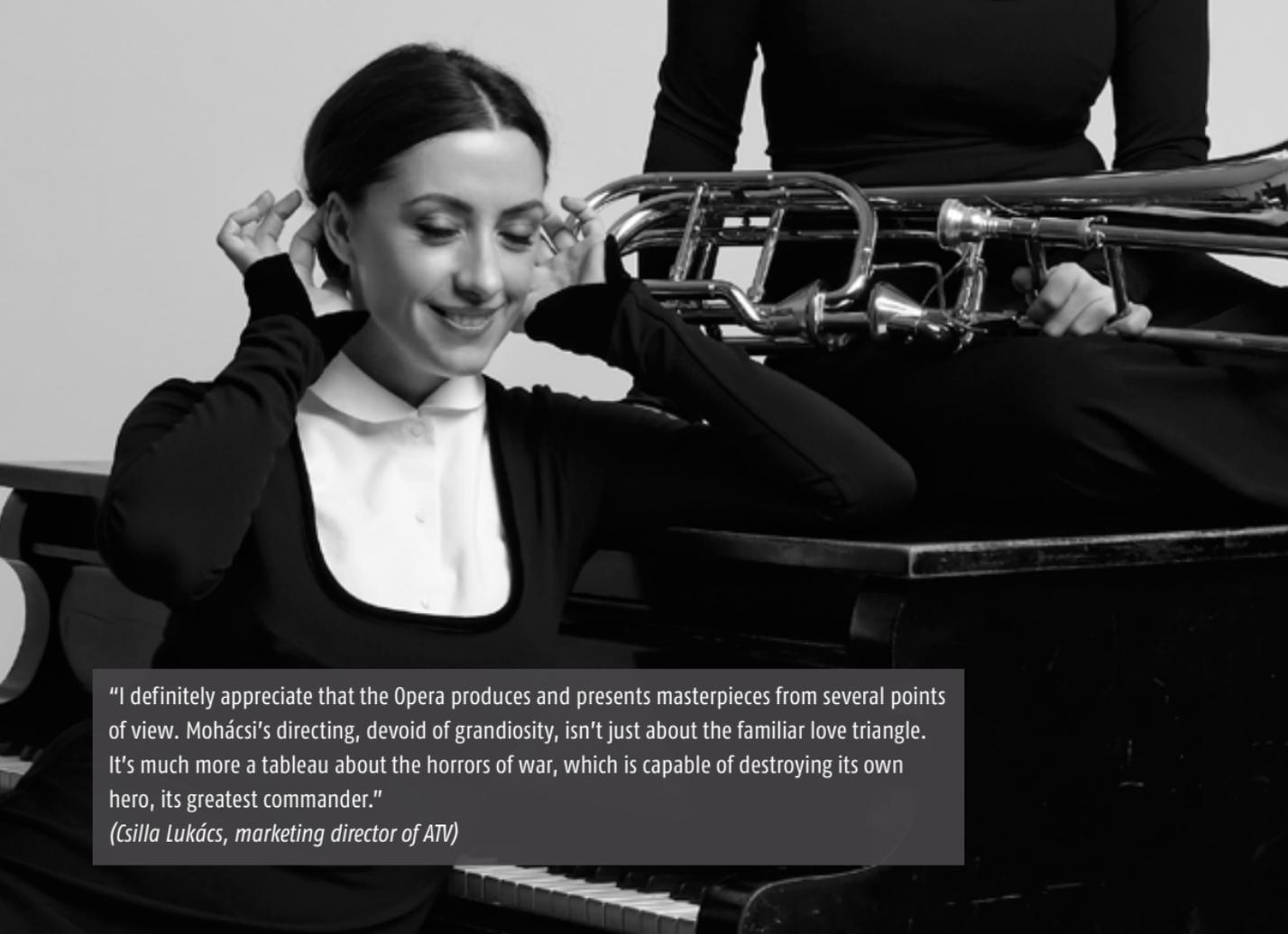
Set designer ▶ **Zsolt Khell**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Remete**

Director ▶ **János Mohácsi**

*20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29 January 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"I definitely appreciate that the Opera produces and presents masterpieces from several points of view. Mohácsi's directing, devoid of grandiosity, isn't just about the familiar love triangle. It's much more a tableau about the horrors of war, which is capable of destroying its own hero, its greatest commander."

*(Csilla Lukács, marketing director of ATV)*

Georges Bizet

# Carmen

(1875, PARIS)

16

Don José ▶ **Atilla Kiss B., Zoltán Nyári**  
Escamillo ▶ **Károly Szemerédy, Gábor Bretz**  
Remendado ▶ **József Mukk**  
Dancaïre ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**  
Zuniga ▶ **István Rácz, Sándor Egri**  
Moralès ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák, András Káldi Kiss**  
Carmen ▶ **Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz, Atala Schöck,  
Viktória Mester**  
Micaëla ▶ **Zita Váradi, Polina Pasztircsák**  
Frasquita ▶ **Ildikó Szakács**  
Mercédès ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**

Conductor ▶ **Joseph Caballe Domenech**

\* Performances at the Opera House will be shown with both English and Hungarian surtitles

Opera in two parts, four acts, in French, with Hungarian prose and surtitles\*

Libretto based on the short story by Prosper Mérimée

▶ **Henri Meilhac, Ludovic Halévy**  
Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**  
Set designer ▶ **László Székely**  
Costume designer ▶ **Márta Pilinyi**  
Director ▶ **Pál Oberfrank**

*5 and 11 February 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

*16, 17, 18 and 19 February 2017*

*Opera House*



"Resolving the staging of *Carmen* with five mirrors: that's something you have to respect. I was surprised at the Hungarian prose, but, well, that was also part of Bizet's original idea, and the two parts of the four-act opera really do whiz by at crazy speed like this. And I realised that all of the austerity serves the title character: This production always makes *Carmen* its centrepiece and ornament."

*(Zsuzsa Hegedűs, sociologist)*



"In my student days, I was very fond of André Chénier's love poems, it always warms my heart when I see him played as a character on the opera stage. The beauty of the aria in the first act was on a par with that of the poems themselves."  
*(Nóra Horváth Magyary, executive director of communications at the K&H Group)*



Gaetano Donizetti

# Don Pasquale

(1843, PARIS)

16

Doctor Malatesta ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen, András Káldi Kiss**

Don Pasquale ▶ **Tamás Szüle, László Szvétek**

Norina ▶ **Zita Szemere, Mária Celeng**

Ernesto ▶ **Tamás Tarjányi, István Horváth**

Notary ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Gerard Korsten**

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

Composer ▶ **Gaetano Donizetti**

Librettist ▶ **Gaetano Donizetti, Giovanni Ruffini**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Sándor Fischer**

Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasdy**

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Anikó Németh**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

*12, 16, 18, 19, 25 and 26 February 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"We grew up on the old classic Pasquale, and that big pipe seems strange now. But we made "peace" with the pipe, because we also discovered Zita Szemere, a singer with all the talent in the world, and in such an entertaining production, no less."  
*(Rita Rubovszky, executive director of Patrona Hungariae Catholic Schools)*

Giacomo Puccini

## Il tabarro

THE CLOAK (1918, NEW YORK)

16

Michele ▶ **Michele Kálmándy, Károly Szemerédy**

Giorgetta ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Luigi ▶ **Attila Fekete**

Tinca ▶ **János Szerekován**

Talpa ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Frugola ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giuseppe Adami**

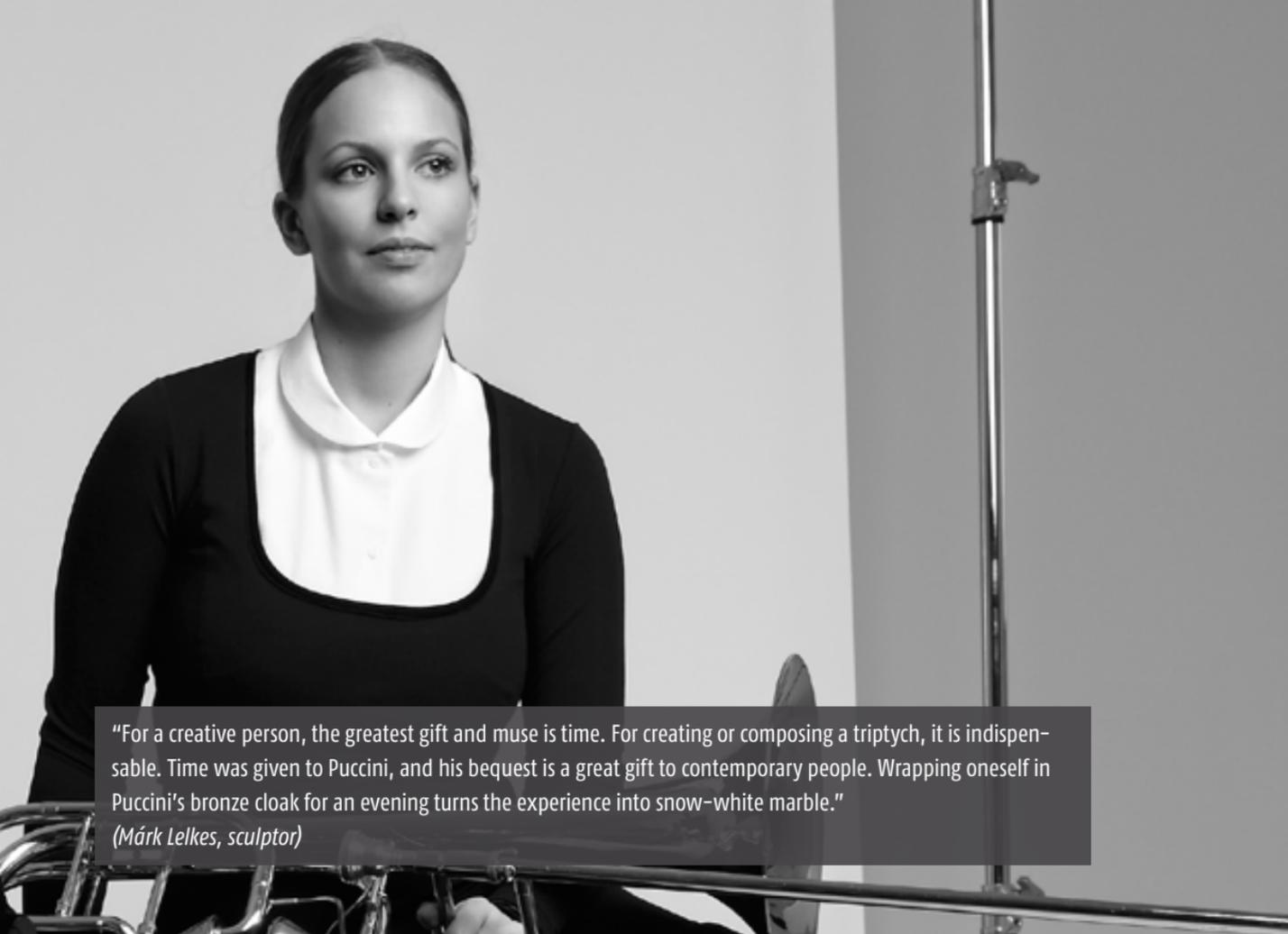
Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*17, 19, 24, 25, 26 February and 5 March 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

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



"For a creative person, the greatest gift and muse is time. For creating or composing a triptych, it is indispensable. Time was given to Puccini, and his bequest is a great gift to contemporary people. Wrapping oneself in Puccini's bronze cloak for an evening turns the experience into snow-white marble."

*(Márk Lelkes, sculptor)*



"Many people condemned Puccini for being excessively worldly and for not respecting people of faith. Anyone who meets the 17th century Angelica will be entranced by the dramatic situation suffused with powerful emotions, the lyrical force so typical of the composer and, at the same time, his devotion to the sacred."  
*(Judit Juhász, MMA press chief and former government spokeswoman)*

**Suor Angelica**

SISTER ANGELICA (1918, NEW YORK)

Sister Angelica ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Csilla Boross**The Princess ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**The Abbess ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**The Mistress of the novices ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**The Monitress ▶ **Annamária Kovács**Sister Genovieffa ▶ **Ágnes Molnár**Sister Osmina ▶ **Márta Kempf**Sister Dolcina ▶ **Mónika Budai-Langermann**The nursing sister ▶ **Szilvia Vörös**The alms sisters ▶ **Zsuzsanna Bazsinka, Erika Markovics**Novice ▶ **Nadin Haris**The lay sisters ▶ **Nikoletta Bolya Papp, Júlia Magassy**Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giovacchino Forzano**Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger***17, 19, 24, 25, 26 February and 5 March 2017**Erkel Theatre*The productions *Il tabarro*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* are parts of *Il trittico*, by Puccini.

Giacomo Puccini

# Gianni Schicchi

(1918, NEW YORK)

16

Gianni Schicchi ▶ **Péter Kálmán**

Lauretta ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Zita ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Rinuccio ▶ **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**

Gherardino ▶ **Botond Takács, József Karczagi**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Giovacchino Forzano**

Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*17, 19, 24, 25, 26 February and 5 March 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

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



"This is one of the wittiest pieces in the world, and the Opera's production is full of colourful jokes. The arias of the young lovers recall the young Puccini, and, of course, our own younger days..."  
*(Professor Emeritus János Devich, member of the Hungarian Academy of Arts)*

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

# The Queen of Spades

PIKOVAYA DAMA (1890, ST. PETERSBURG)

14

Hermann ▶ **Kristian Benedikt**  
Count Tomsky ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov, Zoltán Kelemen**  
Prince Yeletsy ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Károly Szemerédy**  
Chekalinsky ▶ **Tivadar Kiss, Tibor Szappanos**  
Surin ▶ **István Kovács, Ferenc Cserhalmi**  
Chaplitsky ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**  
Narumov ▶ **Lajos Geiger**  
Countess ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann, Lívia Budai**  
Liza ▶ **Csilla Boross, Szilvia Rálik**  
Polina ▶ **Viktória Mester, Erika Gál**  
Governess ▶ **Kornélia Bakos**  
Masha ▶ **Erika Markovics**  
Chloë ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**  
Master of Ceremonies ▶ **Árpád Szűcs**

Conductor ▶ **Pedro Halffter**

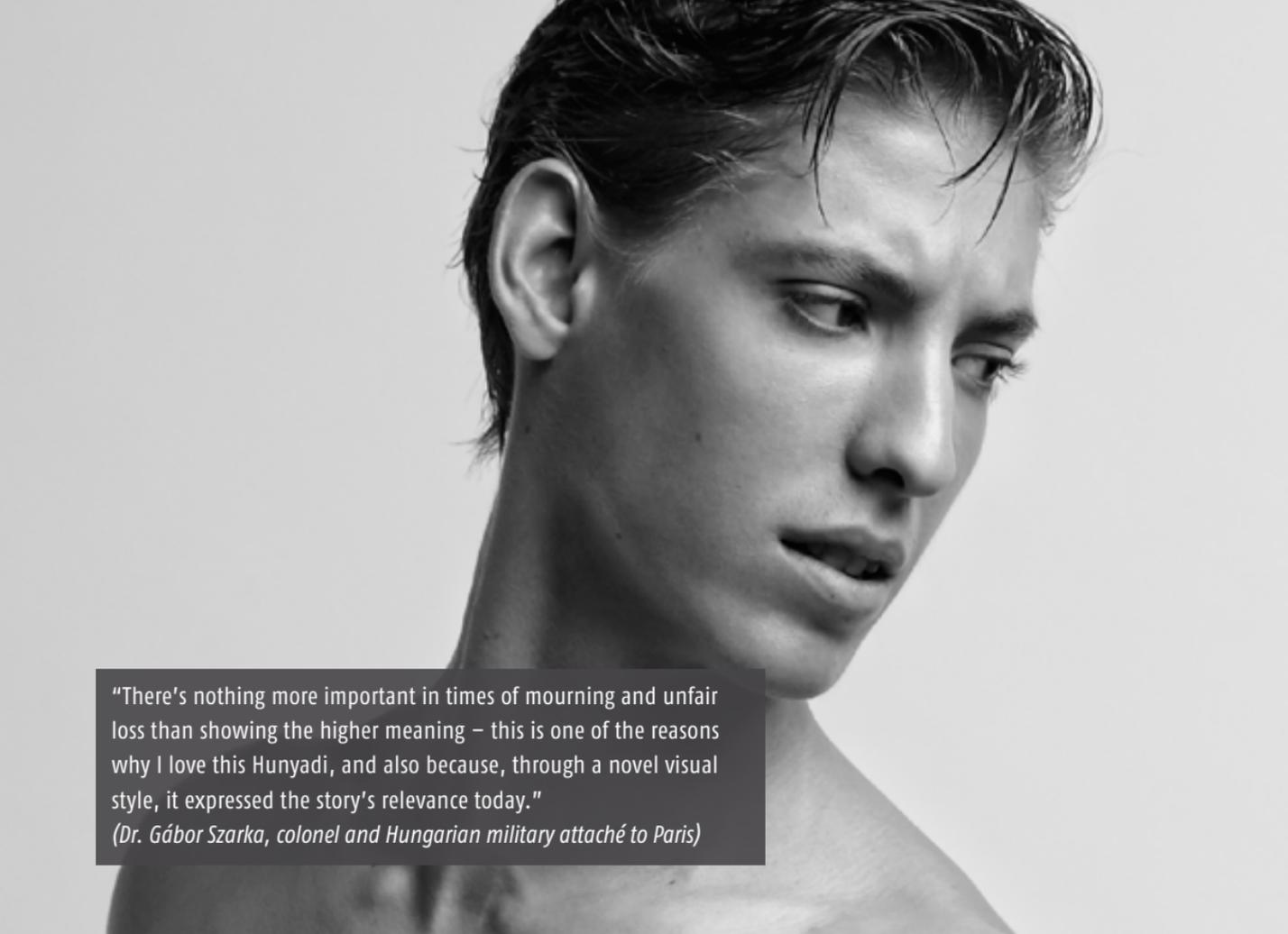
Opera in three acts, in Russian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Modest Tchaikovsky**  
Choreographer ▶ **György Szakály**  
Set designer ▶ **Victor Volsky**  
Costume designer ▶ **Rafael Volsky**  
Director ▶ **Vadim Milkov**

*2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 March 2017*  
*Opera House*



"How much we needed to have this piece alongside the ballets and *Eugene Onegin*! The disturbed but extremely powerful heroic tenor is my favourite, while I also enjoy the uniquely exalted music and the strange plot twist. Finally, they've brought it out again!"  
(Attila Vidnyánszky, director and managing director of the National Theatre)



"There's nothing more important in times of mourning and unfair loss than showing the higher meaning – this is one of the reasons why I love this Hunyadi, and also because, through a novel visual style, it expressed the story's relevance today."

*(Dr. Gábor Szarka, colonel and Hungarian military attaché to Paris)*

14

Erkel Ferenc

# Hunyadi László

(1844, BUDAPEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

László V ▶ **Tibor Szappanos, István Horváth**  
Ulrik Cillei ▶ **Krisztián Cser, Marcell Bakonyi**  
Erzsébet Szilágyi ▶ **Klára Kolonits, Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**  
László Hunyadi ▶ **Atilla Kiss B., Attila Fekete**  
Mátyás Hunyadi ▶ **Melinda Heiter, Gabriella Balga**  
Miklós Gara ▶ **István Kovács, Zoltán Kelemen**  
Mária Gara ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Kriszta Kinga**  
Mihály Szilágyi ▶ **Sándor Egri**  
Rozgonyi ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky, Dániel Erdélyi**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

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

*10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19 March 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"These youngsters show us that opera can be performed on a few light panels, even if one is doing it in an exquisitely beautiful reception hall while the viewers sit on a marble staircase that Franz Josef once climbed."

*(Márk Lakatos, stylist)*

10

Joseph Haydn

## L'isola disabitata

THE DESERT ISLAND (1779, ESZTERHÁZA)

Silvia ▶ **Renáta Göncz**  
Costanza ▶ **Eszter Balogh**  
Enrico ▶ **László Ágoston**  
Gernando ▶ **József Csapó**

Conductor ▶ **Csaba Tőri**

Comic opera for young viewers, in one part, two acts, in Hungarian

Librettist ▶ **Pietro Metastasio**  
Hungarian translation ▶ **László Ágoston**  
Set designer ▶ **Virág Pázmány**  
Costume designer ▶ **Szilvia Nagy**  
Director ▶ **Zsófi Geréb**

Partner ▶ **Moltopera**

*18, 19, 25 and 26 March 2017*  
*Opera House, Royal Staircase*

Giuseppe Verdi

# Otello

(1887, MILAN)

16

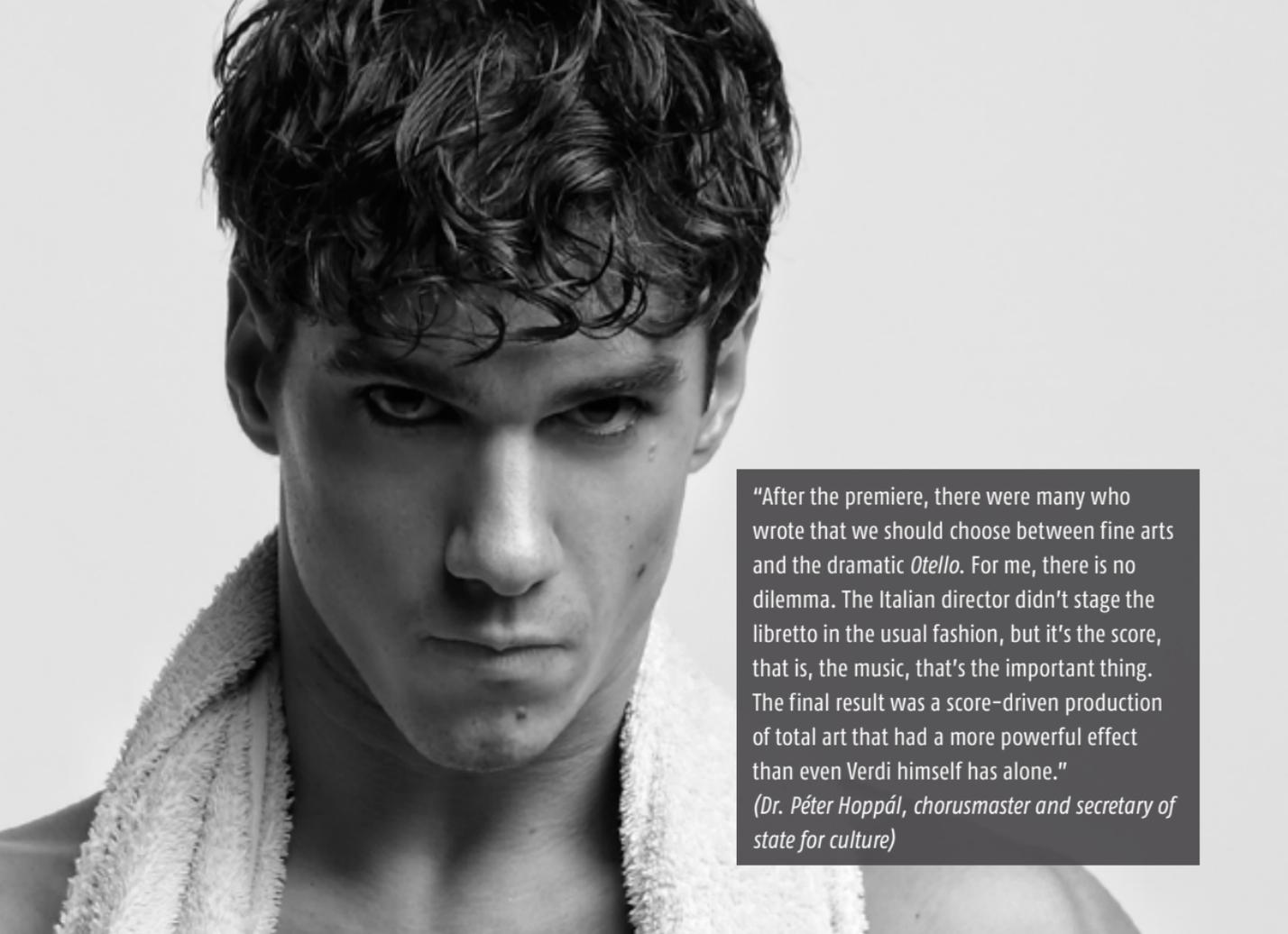
Otello ► **Rafael Rojas, Kristian Benedikt**  
Desdemona ► **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Andrea Rost**  
Jago ► **Michele Kálmándy**  
Emilia ► **Judit Németh, Melinda Heiter**  
Cassio ► **Gergely Boncsér, Péter Balczó**  
Roderigo ► **Gergely Ujvári**  
Montano ► **Sándor Egri**  
Lodovico ► **Ferenc Cserhalmi**  
Herold ► **Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ► **Paolo Carignani, Gergely Madaras**

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

Librettist ► **Arrigo Boito**  
Assistant to the director ► **Paolo Giani Cei**  
Director, set, costume and lighting designer  
► **Stefano Poda**

*22, 24, 25, 30, 31 March and 1 April 2017*  
*Opera House*



"After the premiere, there were many who wrote that we should choose between fine arts and the dramatic *Otello*. For me, there is no dilemma. The Italian director didn't stage the libretto in the usual fashion, but it's the score, that is, the music, that's the important thing. The final result was a score-driven production of total art that had a more powerful effect than even Verdi himself has alone."

*(Dr. Péter Hoppál, chorusmaster and secretary of state for culture)*

*"Disruption is a model for how we can bring opera closer to children. They don't care about faithfulness to the score, just about the enjoyment. And this, thanks to János Novák's puppets, we felt to the utmost."*  
*(Emese Danks, executive director of the Hungarian National Committee for UNICEF and former government spokeswoman)*



14

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart / János Novák

## Disruption in the Seraglio

DISRUPTION IN THE SERAGLIO

Konstanze ▶ **Cecília Széll**

Blonde ▶ **Eszter Zemlényi**

Belmonte ▶ **Béla Turpinszky Gippert**

Pedrillo ▶ **András Decsi**

Ozmin ▶ **Dániel Kelemen**

Bassa Selim ▶ **László Ágoston**

Puppet artists ▶ **Ágnes Török, Károly Szívós**

Conductor ▶ **Csaba Tóri**

Partner ▶ **Moltopera Company, Kolibri Theatre**

Comic opera for children, in Hungarian

Visual concept ▶ **Kludia Orosz**

Reviser and Director ▶ **János Novák**

*1 and 2 April 2017*

*Opera House, Royal Staircase*



"A universal cultural masterpiece, with unusual and attractive sets and costumes and a flavouring of kinetic theatre."

*(Károly Eperjes, actor and director)*

14

Johann Sebastian Bach / Félix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

## Matthäus Passion

ST MATTHEW PASSION (1727, LEIPZIG)

Evangelist ▶ **Dávid Szigetvári**

Jesus ▶ **István Kovács**

Soprano ▶ **Gabriella Fodor**

Alto ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Tenor ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Bass ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Conductor ▶ **Alessandro de Marchi**

Oratorio in two parts, in German

Visual concept and animation ▶ **Géza M. Tóth, Balázs Fekti, Antonin Krizsanics, Miklós Gerdelics, Tibor Nagy**

Consultant ▶ **Zsolt Czakó**

Director ▶ **Géza M. Tóth**

*13 and 15 April 2017*

*Opera House*



"Sometimes I think of the afterlife of one or another of our car models... But what does the afterlife of an artistic work depend on? If I watch *Cavalleria rusticana*, it occurs to me that the composer himself conducted the work in this opera house, and who knows whether it would have become a successful work, played all over today, if its success in Budapest had not been so great at that time. "  
(Denis Baudouin, managing director of BMW Group Hungary)

16

Pietro Mascagni

## Cavalleria rusticana

RUSTIC CHIVALRY (1890, ROME)

Turiddu ► **Atilla Kiss B., Stuart Neill\***

Santuzza ► **Gyöngyi Lukács, Ildikó Komlósi\***

Lucia ► **Éva Balatoni, Judit Németh\***

Alfio ► **Csaba Szegedi, Zoltán Kelemen\***

Lola ► **Zsófia Kálnay, Melinda Heiter\***

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Libretto, based on the play by **Giovanni Verga** ► **Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti, Guido Menasci**

Set designer ► **Madeleine Schleich**

Costume designer ► **Prisca Baumann**

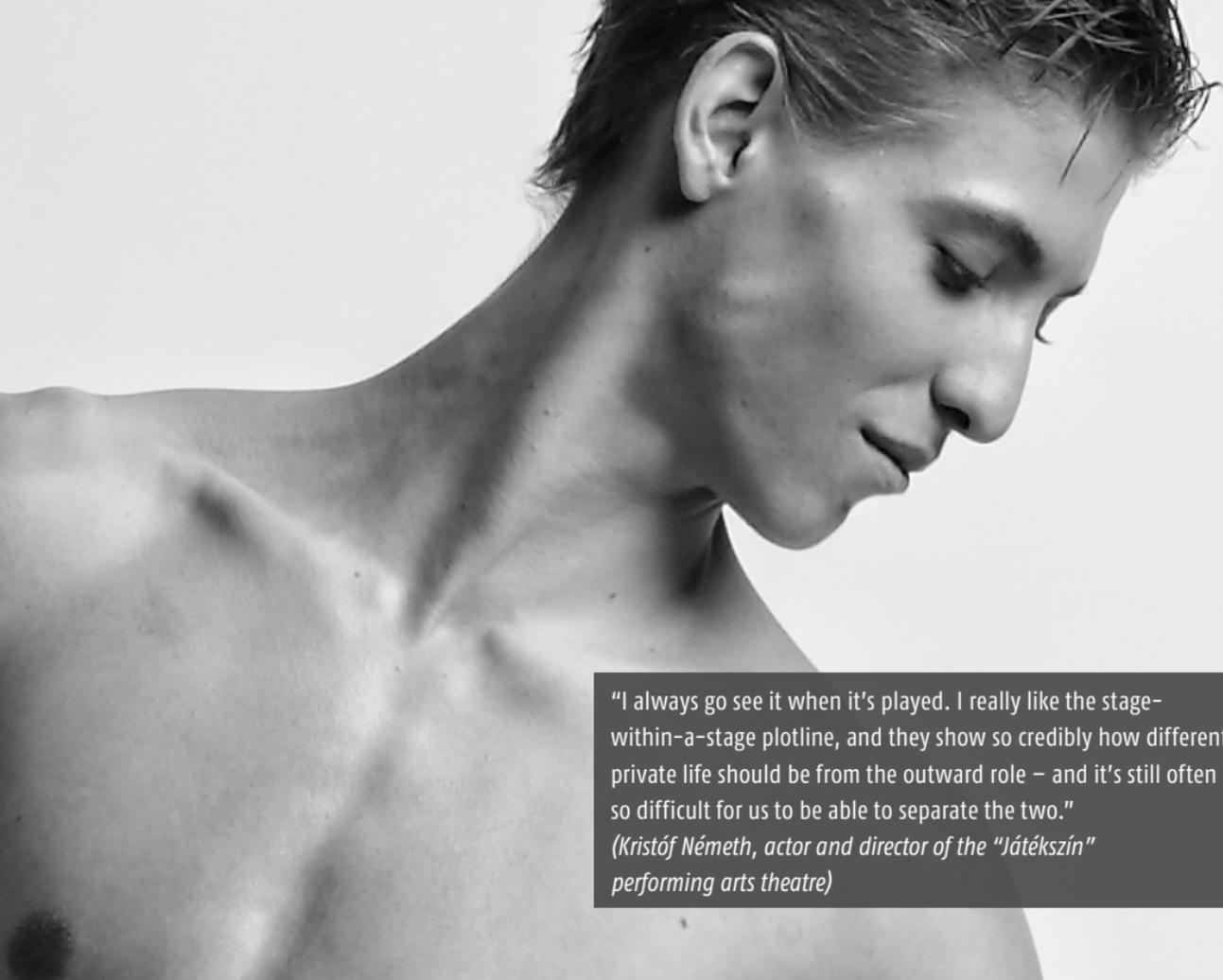
Director ► **Georges Delnon**

*13, 15 and 17 April 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

*\*16 April 2017 (concert performance)*

*Opera House*



"I always go see it when it's played. I really like the stage-within-a-stage plotline, and they show so credibly how different private life should be from the outward role – and it's still often so difficult for us to be able to separate the two."

*(Kristóf Németh, actor and director of the "Játékszín" performing arts theatre)*

16

Ruggero Leoncavallo

# Pagliacci

CLOWNS (1893, MILAN)

Canio ▶ **Attila Fekete**

Nedda ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák**

Tonio ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**

Beppo ▶ **Péter Balczó**

Silvio ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in one act, in Italian, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Ruggero Leoncavallo**

Set designer ▶ **Madeleine Schleich**

Costume designer ▶ **Prisca Baumann**

Director ▶ **Georges Delnon**

*13, 15 and 17 April 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"Although it is probably one of the oldest productions at the Opera, I could never get bored with it. Over time, it has become so pure and conducive to meditation that it is a pleasure to watch every year how this framework, which was created with taste and inspiration, is filled with wonderful content by visiting guest singers."

*(Pál Schmitt, former president of Hungary)*

# Parsifal

(1882, BAYREUTH)

Amfortas ▶ **N. N.**

Tituel ▶ **István Kovács**

Gurnemanz ▶ **Gábor Bretz**

Parsifal ▶ **István Kováčsházi**

Klingsor ▶ **N. N.**

Kundry ▶ **Judit Németh**

Grail Knight I ▶ **Péter Kiss**

Grail Knight II ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Page I ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Page II ▶ **Krisztina Simon**

Page III ▶ **István Horváth**

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 ▶ **Gab Gál**

Flower Maiden II/2 ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

Flower Maiden II/3 ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**

Voice from Above ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

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

Librettist ▶ **Richard Wagner**

Choreography, based on the work by **László Seregi**

▶ **Péter László**

Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**

Costume designer ▶ **Péter Makai**

Director ▶ **András Mikó**

*14 and 17 April 2017 Opera House*

"I think lots of people have no idea what fine music there is in *Nabucco*! Not only the famous *Va pensiero!* chorus, but the overture, the arias, and the ensemble-pieces in the grand tableaux! Power and dedication flow out of every second of the work, which is why it's so full of passion."  
(Mária Schmidt, historian and general director of the House of Terror museum)



14

Giuseppe Verdi

# Nabucco

(1836, MILAN)

Nabucco ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Michele Kálmándy**

Ismaele ▶ **István Horváth, Péter Balczó**

Zaccaria ▶ **Gábor Bretz, András Palerdi**

Abigail ▶ **Csilla Boross, Szilvia Rálik**

Fenena ▶ **Erika Gál, Szilvia Vörös**

High Priest of Baal ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Abdallo ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Anna ▶ **Ágnes Molnár**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

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

Librettist ▶ **Temistocle Solera**

Set designer ▶ **Edit Zeke**

Costume designer ▶ **Janó Papp**

Director ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

*21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 April 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

Jules Massenet

# Werther

(1892, VIENNA)

16

Werther ▶ **Ivan Magri, Szabolcs Brickner**

Albert ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Le Bailli ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Schmidt ▶ **János Szerekován**

Johann ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Charlotte ▶ **Atala Schöck, Viktória Mester**

Sophie ▶ **Mária Celeng, Zita Szemere**

Käthchen ▶ **Nadin Haris**

Brühlmann ▶ **Gergely Irlanda**

Conductor ▶ **Leo Hussain, Kálmán Szennai**

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

Librettists ▶ **Édouard Blau, Paul Milliet, Georges Hartmann**

Dramaturg ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Horesnyi**

Costume designer ▶ **Yvette Alida Kovács**

Director ▶ **János Szikora**

*28, 30, April 4 and 6 May 2017*

*Opera House*



"I was eagerly awaiting *Werther*, because the lyricism of Romantic French opera is only rarely heard at the Opera House. Only profound and mature maestros like Michel Plasseur are capable of conveying the score so fluidly and mixing in the chamber music colourings. But the real pleasure was given by Atala Schöck's Charlotte: the velvety warmth of her voice and her musicality were amazing, as if Massenet had written the work specifically for her..."  
(Gábor Zoboki, architect)



"It's the production's sincerity and humility that I like the best. It reveals the work rather than enshrouding it. The feverish curiosity of the directing from a decade ago quite naturally captivates people today as well. During this time, it has brought true pleasure to many thousands of viewers and many performers as well."

*(András Berecz, singer)*

**Bánk bán**

(1861, BUDAPEST, NATIONAL THEATRE)

- Endre II ► **István Kovács, István Rácz,  
Ferenc Cserhalmi, Géza Gábor**
- Gertrud ► **Gyöngyi Lukács, Bernadett Wiedemann,  
Judit Németh, Andrea Ulbrich**
- Ottó ► **Gergely Boncsér, Dániel Pataki Potyók,  
Tibor Szappanos, Tivadar Kiss**
- Bánk bán ► **Boldizsár László, Atilla Kiss B.**
- Melinda ► **Orsolya Hajnalka Rőser, Erika Miklósa,  
Ingrid Kertesi, Kriszta Kinga**
- Tiborc ► **Antal Cseh, Gábor Németh, Sándor Egri,  
Tamás Busa**
- Petur bán ► **Zoltán Kelemen, Csaba Szegedi,  
Levente Molnár, Károly Szemerédy**
- Biberach ► **Lajos Geiger, Máté Fülep, Zoltán Gradsach,  
Róbert Rezsnyák**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

- Librettist ► **Béni Egressy**
- Choreographer ► **Zoltán "Batyú" Farkas**
- Set designer ► **Attila Csikós**
- Costume designer ► **Rita Velich**
- Director ► **Csaba Káel**

Conductor ► **István Dénes, Ádám Medveczky***2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 May 2017**Erkel Theatre*

*Bánk bán* will be performed for secondary school students as part of OperaAdventure, the Opera's theatrical education programme

Richard Strauss

18

# Elektra

(1909, DRESDEN)

Klytaemnestra ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**

Elektra ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

Chrysothemis ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**

Aegisthus ▶ **Zoltán Nyári**

Orest ▶ **Gábor Bretz**

Orest's tutor ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Confidante ▶ **Katalin Töreky**

Trainbearer ▶ **Nadin Haris**

A young servant ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

An old servant ▶ **Antal Bakó**

An overseer ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**

Maids ▶ **Kornélia Bakos, Krisztina Simon,  
Szilvia Vörös, Beatrix Fodor,  
Eszter Zavaros**

Conductor ▶ **Michael Boder**

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

Librettist ▶ **Hugo von Hofmannsthal**

Set designer ▶ **Csaba Antal**

Costume designer ▶ **Mari Benedek**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

*5, 7, 10 and 14 May 2017*

*Opera House*



"One of the most severe mythological tales, and to the music of Richard Strauss, no less. But that's not the reason I'm looking forward to it. It's because I've always missed it in the past. I'm very curious about this production that places the story of Elektra in an empty swimming pool, and depicts the emotions without artifice. Kovalik is a creative artist known across Europe, and one whose works people should get to know."

*(András Hajós, musician, television personality and founder of operaportal.hu)*



"I admit to being one of those who come here for the classic total effect of opera. This genre is synonymous with the world of decorativeness and spectacular images, vast crowds of supernumeraries, dancing, majestic overtures and choral finalés."

*(Menyhért Dobos, CEO of  
Duna Médiaszolgáltató Zrt.)*

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Károly Goldmark

# Die Königin von Saba

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA (1875, VIENNA)

King Solomon ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen**

High Priest ▶ **Péter Fried**

Sulamith ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Assad ▶ **Boldizsár László**

Baal-Hanan ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Queen of Sheba ▶ **Erika Gál**

Astaroth ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

Temple Watchman ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in two parts, four acts, in German, with Hungarian surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Salomon Hermann Mosenthal**

Dramaturg ▶ **Eszter Orbán**

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

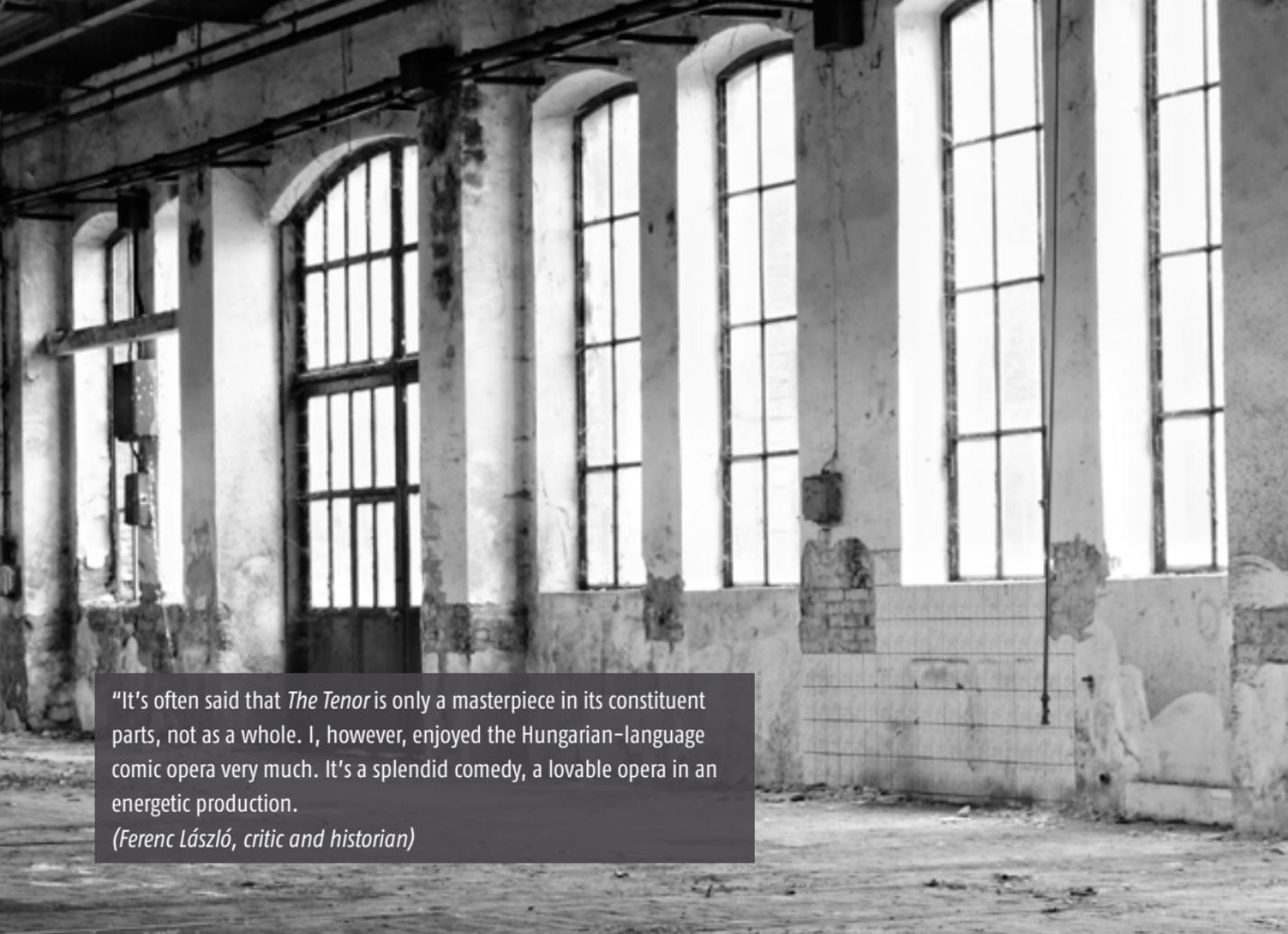
Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Anikó Németh**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

*18 and 20 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"It's often said that *The Tenor* is only a masterpiece in its constituent parts, not as a whole. I, however, enjoyed the Hungarian-language comic opera very much. It's a splendid comedy, a lovable opera in an energetic production.

*(Ferenc László, critic and historian)*

# Der Tenor

THE TENOR (1929, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

The Duke ▶ **Lajos Geiger**  
Hicketier ▶ **László Szvétek**  
Jenny ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**  
Thekla ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**  
Krey ▶ **János Szerekován**  
Wolke ▶ **András Kiss**  
Schippel ▶ **Attila Fekete**  
Müller ▶ **Gábor Csiki**  
Schultze ▶ **Zsolt Molnár**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

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

Libretto, based on the comedy *Bürger Schippel* by

**Carl Sternheim** ▶ **Ernő Góth**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Lajos Csákovics**

Choreographer ▶ **Noémi Kulcsár**

Set designer ▶ **István Rózsa**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztopád**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

*25 and 27 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*

Sándor Szokolay

# Blood Wedding

VÉRNÁSZ (1964, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

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The Mother ▶ **Annamária Kovács**

The Groom ▶ **Dániel Vadász**

The Neighbour ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Leonardo ▶ **Károly Szemerédy**

The Wife ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

The Mother-in-law ▶ **Mariann Bódi**

The Bride ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

The Maid ▶ **Júlia Vajda**

The Father ▶ **László Szvétek**

The Best Man ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

First woodcutter ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Second woodcutter ▶ **András Hábetler**

Third woodcutter ▶ **Balázs Hantos**

The Moon ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Death ▶ **Annamária Kovács**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian, in Hungarian surtitles

Libretto based on the play by **Federico García Lorca**

▶ **Sándor Szokolay**

Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Horváth**

Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**

Costume designer ▶ **Márta Jánoskuti**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

*26 and 28 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"Lorca found a place on the opera stage as well, and this adaptation by the late Sándor Szokolay is the second most performed Hungarian opera in the world, after *Bluebeard*. We can all be truly proud of him, and this version was endorsed by the composer himself."

*(Dr. Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport)*

Zsófia Tallér / Andor Szilágyi / Barnabás Szöllősi

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## Leander and Linseed

LEÁNDER ÉS LENSZIROM (2015, BUDAPEST, ERKEL THEATRE)

Leander ▶ **Csaba Sándor**

Linseed ▶ **Ágnes Molnár**

Prince Biting ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Chickbeak ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

King Baldemar ▶ **András Hábetler**

Queen Baldemar ▶ **Andrea Meláth**

Honeycoat Fairy ▶ **Ildikó Cserna**

Blindleech ▶ **Zoltán Daragó**

Berry ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach**

Clacking bat ▶ **Júlia Vajda**

Clucking bat ▶ **István Rozsos**

Sleepwarder I ▶ **Ferenc Herczeg**

Sleepwarder II ▶ **János Fátrai**

Conductor ▶ **Tibor Bogányi**

Fairy-tale opera in two acts, in Hungarian, with Hungarian surtitles

Composer ▶ **Zsófia Tallér**

Libretto, based on the tale by **Andor Szilágyi**

▶ **Barnabás Szöllősi**

Choreographer ▶ **Andrea Ladányi**

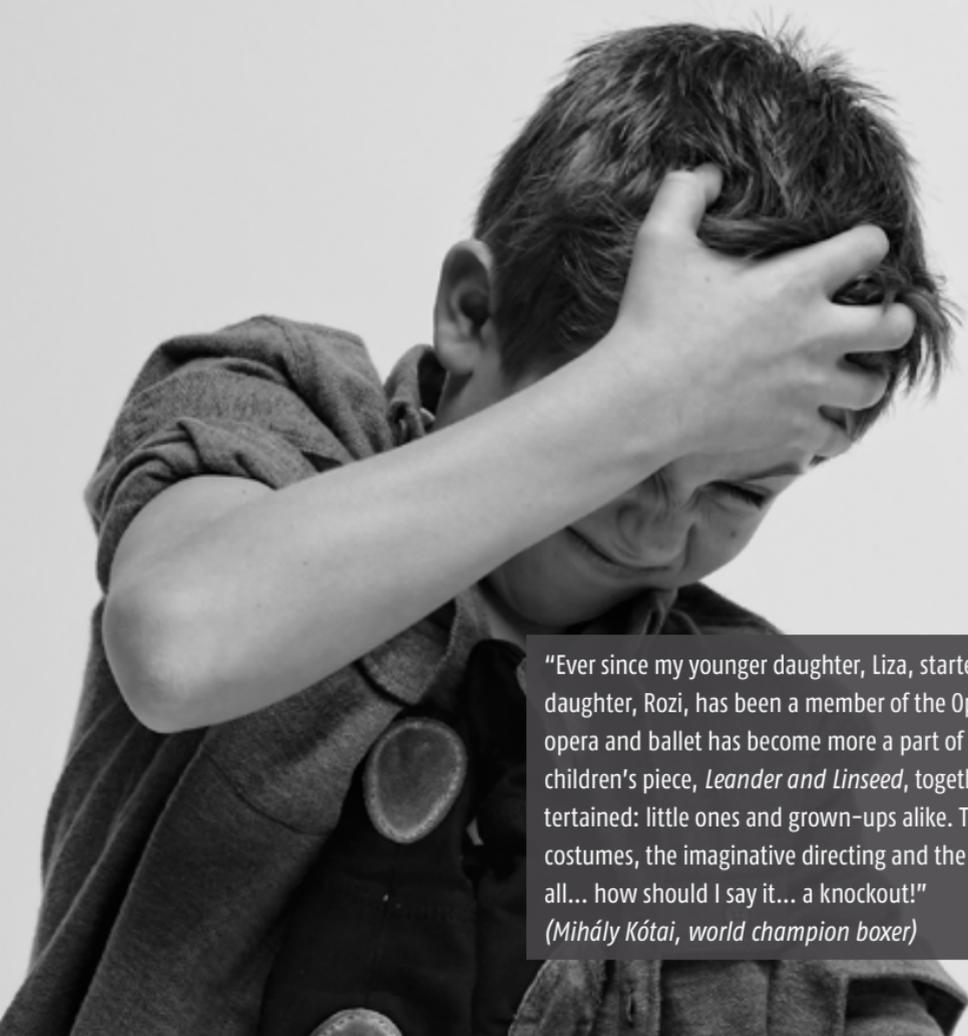
Set designer ▶ **Mária Ambrus**

Costume designer ▶ **Mari Benedek**

Director ▶ **Sándor Zsótér**

*27 and 28 May 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*



"Ever since my younger daughter, Liza, started dancing ballet and my older daughter, Rozi, has been a member of the Opera's Children's Chorus, the world of opera and ballet has become more a part of my life. And when we saw the new children's piece, *Leander and Linseed*, together, the entire family was highly entertained: little ones and grown-ups alike. The entire performance, the splendid costumes, the imaginative directing and the easy-to-listen-to music, they were all... how should I say it... a knockout!"

*(Mihály Kótai, world champion boxer)*



"Thank you, they were epic performances, and I sat through three of them. I hope they made recordings of them and these will be released. Maybe we should show them off abroad, since I think people might not be familiar with it outside of Hungary. Thank you to everyone: the sets were beautiful, the two singers were excellent, and of course once again, János Kovács and the orchestra were magnificent! Nobody had ever been able to show me how beautiful the music is before."

*(Márta Varga, viewer)*

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Béla Bartók

# Bluebeard's Castle

A KÉKSZAKÁLLÚ HERCEG VÁRA (1918, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

Bluebeard ▶ **András Palerdi**

Judith ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

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

Librettist ▶ **Béla Balázs**

Choreographer ▶ **Csaba Solti**

Costume designer ▶ **Enikő Kárpáti**

Director and set designer ▶ **Péter Galambos**

The production will be performed together with  
*Mario and the Magician*.

*2 and 9 June 2017*

*Opera House*

János Vajda

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# Mario and the Magician

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(1988, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

Cipolla ▶ **András Palerdi**

Mario ▶ **Balázs Csémy**

The Woollen-shirted One ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Mrs. Angiolieri ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**

Roman gentleman ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Mr. Angiolieri ▶ **András Hábetler**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

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

Librettist ▶ **Gábor Bókkon**

Costume designer ▶ **Enikő Kárpáti**

Choreographer ▶ **Csaba Solti**

Director and set designer ▶ **Péter Galambos**

*2 and 9 June 2017*

*Opera House*

The production will be performed together with *Bluebeard's Castle*.



"It's no coincidence that *Mario and the Magician* is one of the most popular contemporary Hungarian operas. In a congenial fashion, the music contributes to turning the well-known short story into a true experience for audiences: as the tension grows, the audience is practically drawn into the whirlwind on stage. Although Vajda's ending differs from that in the original work, it is nevertheless brilliant, since it deals with the greatest danger of our era: indifference."

(Gergely Pröhle, deputy state secretary for international and European affairs, EMMI)



"I remember how attentively 1800 teenagers were listening to *Háry János* at the Erkel, before the renovation was fully complete, it must have been three years ago. While the Vidnyánszky production stylises it, everybody still understands exactly what it is about. The master, Zoltán Kodály, can look down and enjoy it with us from up there."  
*(Csaba Ember, president of the Hungarian Association of Music Schools)*

## Háry János

(1926, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN ROYAL OPERA HOUSE)

Háry János ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**Old Háry ▶ **László Csurka**Őrzse ▶ **Erika Gál**Emperor Franz/Judge ▶ **Tamás Szalma**The Empress ▶ **Mária Farkasréti**Napoleon / The innkeeper ▶ **András Hábetler**Marie Louise ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**Baron Ebelasztin ▶ **János Szerekován**Old Marci ▶ **Gábor Németh**A student ▶ **Balázs Csémy**Burkus, a guard ▶ **Tamás Zoltán Vas**General Krucifix ▶ **András Kőrösi**A Hungarian guard ▶ **Tamás Szmerék**Conductor ▶ **Máté Hámori**

Singspiel in four adventures with prologue and epilogue, in Hungarian, with Hungarian and English surtitles

Librettist ▶ **Béla Paulini, Zsolt Harsányi**Dramaturg ▶ **Zsolt Szász**Choreographer ▶ **Péter Gemza**Set designer ▶ **Olexander Bilozub**Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**Director ▶ **Attila Vidnyánszky***4, 6, 7 and 11 June 2017**Opera House*

Giuseppe Verdi

# Rigoletto

(1851, VENICE)

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Duke of Mantua ▶ **István Horváth**

Rigoletto ▶ **Leo Nucci, Michele Kálmándy**

Gilda ▶ **Rita Rácz**

Sparafucile ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Maddalena ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Count Monterone ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Marullo ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Borsa ▶ **Péter Kiss**

Count Ceprano ▶ **Tamás Szüle**

Countess Ceprano ▶ **Ágnes Molnár**

Giovanna ▶ **Kornélia Bakos**

A Page ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

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

Librettist ▶ **Francesco Maria Piave**

Choreographer ▶ **Jenő Lócsei**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**

Director ▶ **Mária Harangi, Miklós Szinetár**

*15, 17, 21 and 23 June 2017*

*Opera House*



"A story that never gets old with arias that themselves never get old. On top of that, I've read that Verdi himself considered this to be the work of his that hit the target most closely. And of course, it's never the same at home, played on a record, as it is at the Opera!"

*(József Michl, mayor of the city of Tata)*



"Black-belt opera aficionados tend to roast directors of popular operas when they dare deviate from the hundred-year-old tradition. Somehow, though, I feel that they won't be sipping on director blood this time around: *Il trovatore* remained affecting, and thus came closer to us."  
(Sándor Fábry, humorist)

16

Giuseppe Verdi

## Il trovatore

THE TROUBADOUR (1853, ROME)

Count di Luna ▶ **Michele Kálmándy**

Leonora ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi**

Inez ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Manrico ▶ **Kamen Chanev**

Azucena ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Ildikó Komlósi**

Ferrando ▶ **András Palerdi, István Kovács**

Ruiz ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea**

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

Librettist ▶ **Salvatore Cammarano, Leone Emanuele Bardare**

Visual concept ▶ **Katalin Juhász**

Lighting designer ▶ **Ferenc Stadler**

Choreographer ▶ **Attila Kozma**

Director ▶ **Judit Galgóczy**

*16, 18, 22 and 24 June 2017*

*Opera House*



"This classical staging is spectacular in that it makes no special use of technical stunts. As the Opera bids them farewell, the virtues of this production directed by the masterful László Vámos will again stand out under the trees and starry sky of Margaret Island."  
*(Teodóra Bán, ballet dancer and director of the Open-Air Theatre)*

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Giuseppe Verdi

## Il trovatore

THE TROUBADOUR (1853, ROME)

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

Librettist ► **Salvatore Cammarano, Leone Emanuele Bardare**

Costume designer ► **Nelly Vágó**

Staged by ► **Sándor Palcsó**

Director ► **László Vámos**

*7 and 9 July 2017*

*Margaret Island*



HUNGARIAN NATIONAL BALLET  
MAGYAR NEMZETI

# BALETT

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"I greatly love both the film and the London production at the Victoria Palace Theatre, and have seen both several times. It's about faith, talent, feeling a calling, and the importance of continuous work. We must never give up on our dreams! I am really looking forward to the Budapest performances – I can hardly imagine a better director than Tamás Szirtes for this musical drama!"

*(Katalin Bogyay, Hungary's ambassador to the United Nations, and former president of the UNESCO General Conference)*

# Billy Elliot – The Musical

(2005, LONDON)

The children 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 was made possible by special permission from Music Theatre International (MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019 – Tel.: (1) 212 541 4684, www.mtishows.com) for the use of the material specially issued by it.

**Billy ▶ Dávid Borka, Zalán Kamarás, Olivér Lukács,  
John McAllister, Dániel Pál, Áron Vizlendvai,  
Bercel Tóth**

**Michael ▶ Sámuel Gáspár, András Hrebenár,  
Kamill Kökény Hámori, Dániel Pál, Bercel Tóth**

**Mrs. Wilkinson ▶ Éva Auksz, Nikolett Gallusz, Judit Ladinek**

**Father ▶ Kristóf Németh, András Stohl, Sándor Tóth**

**Mother ▶ Eszter Balla, Renáta Krassy, Boglárka Simon**

**Grandmother ▶ Ilona Bencze, Eszter Csákányi,  
Ildikó Hűvösvölgyi**

**Tony ▶ Richárd Borbély, Balázs Csémy, Attila Fejlesztés**

**Mr. Braithwaite ▶ Bálint Ekanem, Zoltán Mező, Pál Önböli**

**Conductor ▶ Géza Köteles, István Silló**

*6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 September, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 October, 27, 28, 29,  
30, 31 December 2016, 29, 30, June, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12,  
13, 14, 15 and 16 July 2017*  
*Erkel Theatre*

Musical in Hungarian, with English surtitles

**Composer ▶ Sir Elton John**

**Librettist and lyricist ▶ Lee Hall**

**Director ▶ Tamás Szirtes**

**Hungarian translation ▶ Ferenc Bárány, István Puller**

**Set designer ▶ István Szlávik**

**Lighting designer ▶ János Madarász „Madár”**

**Scenic artist ▶ János Szűcsborus**

**Costume designer ▶ Yvette Kovács**

**Choreographer ▶ Ákos Tihanyi**

**Choreographer's assistant ▶ Ferenc Molnár**

**Assistant to the Director ▶ Eugénia Vaszilenko**

**Songs rehearsed by ▶ Zsuzsanna Fehér,  
Brigitta Kovács, Mária Toldy**

Johan Inger / Maurice Ravel / Arvo Pärt

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## Walking Mad

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(2001, THE HAGUE)

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Composer ▶ **Arvo Pärt, Maurice Ravel**

Lighting designer ▶ **Erik Berglund**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Yvan Dubreuil**

Ballet master ▶ **Angéla Kövessy**

The production will be performed at the *Kylling It* dance galas together with *Rain Dogs*, *Falling Angels* and *Sarabande*.

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

*23, 24, 29 September 2016 and 1 October*  
*Erkel Theatre*

*Between 12 and 19 February 2017*  
*Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged, Debrecen*  
*(Ballet on Wheels)*



"We spend all of our lives running into walls: we want to get through, and others want to get through to us. The living fine artwork that is *Walking Mad* is, in its own lack of artifice, a mobile installation, a piece of performance art – about the possibilities and lack thereof when it comes to breaking through."

(Dr. László Baán, director general of the Museum of Fine Arts)



"I very much enjoyed watching this work by the famous Czech-Dutch choreographer. Those ballets dancers must be made out of rubber – and they didn't even seem to need any help from us..."  
*(Lee Sang Il, managing director of Hankook Tire Hungary)*

## Sarabande

(1990, THE HAGUE)

The production will be performed at the *Kylling It* dance galas together with *Rain Dogs*, *Falling Angels* and *Walking Mad*.

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

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Composer ▶ **Johann Sebastian Bach**

Orchestrated by ▶ **Dick Heuff**

Set designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Lighting designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

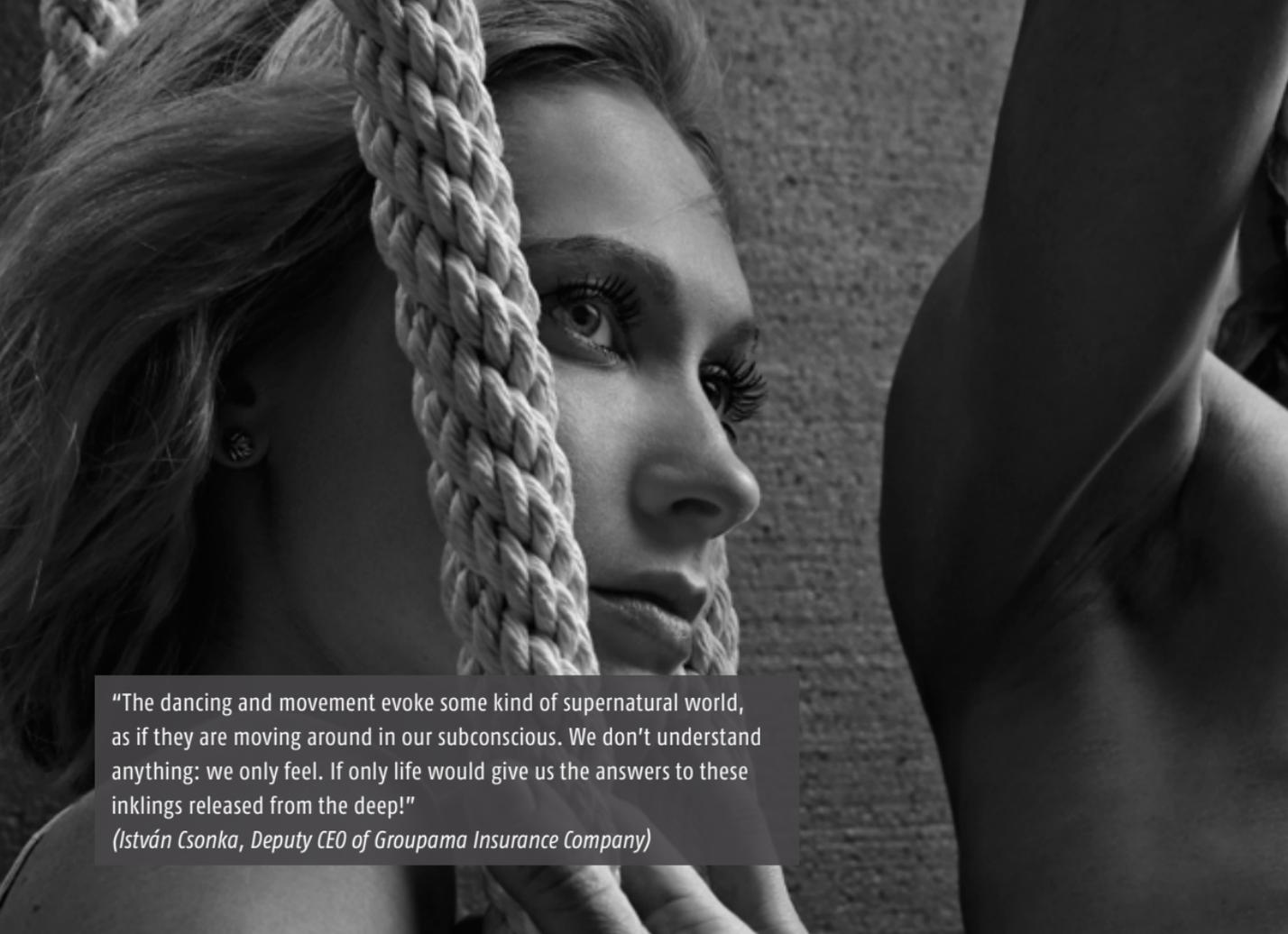
Costume designer ▶ **Joke Visser**

Technical adaptation ▶ **Joost Biegelaar**

Ballet master ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

*23, 24, 29 September and 1 October 2016*  
*Erkel Theatre*

*Between 12 and 19 February 2017*  
*Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged, Debrecen*  
*(Ballet on Wheels)*



"The dancing and movement evoke some kind of supernatural world, as if they are moving around in our subconscious. We don't understand anything: we only feel. If only life would give us the answers to these inklings released from the deep!"

*(István Csonka, Deputy CEO of Groupama Insurance Company)*

Jiří Kylián / Steve Reich

# Falling Angels

(1989, THE HAGUE)

The production will be performed at the *Kylling It* dance gala together with *Rain Dogs*, *Walking Mad* and *Sarabande*.

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

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Set designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Composer ▶ **Steve Reich**

Costume designer ▶ **Joke Visser**

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

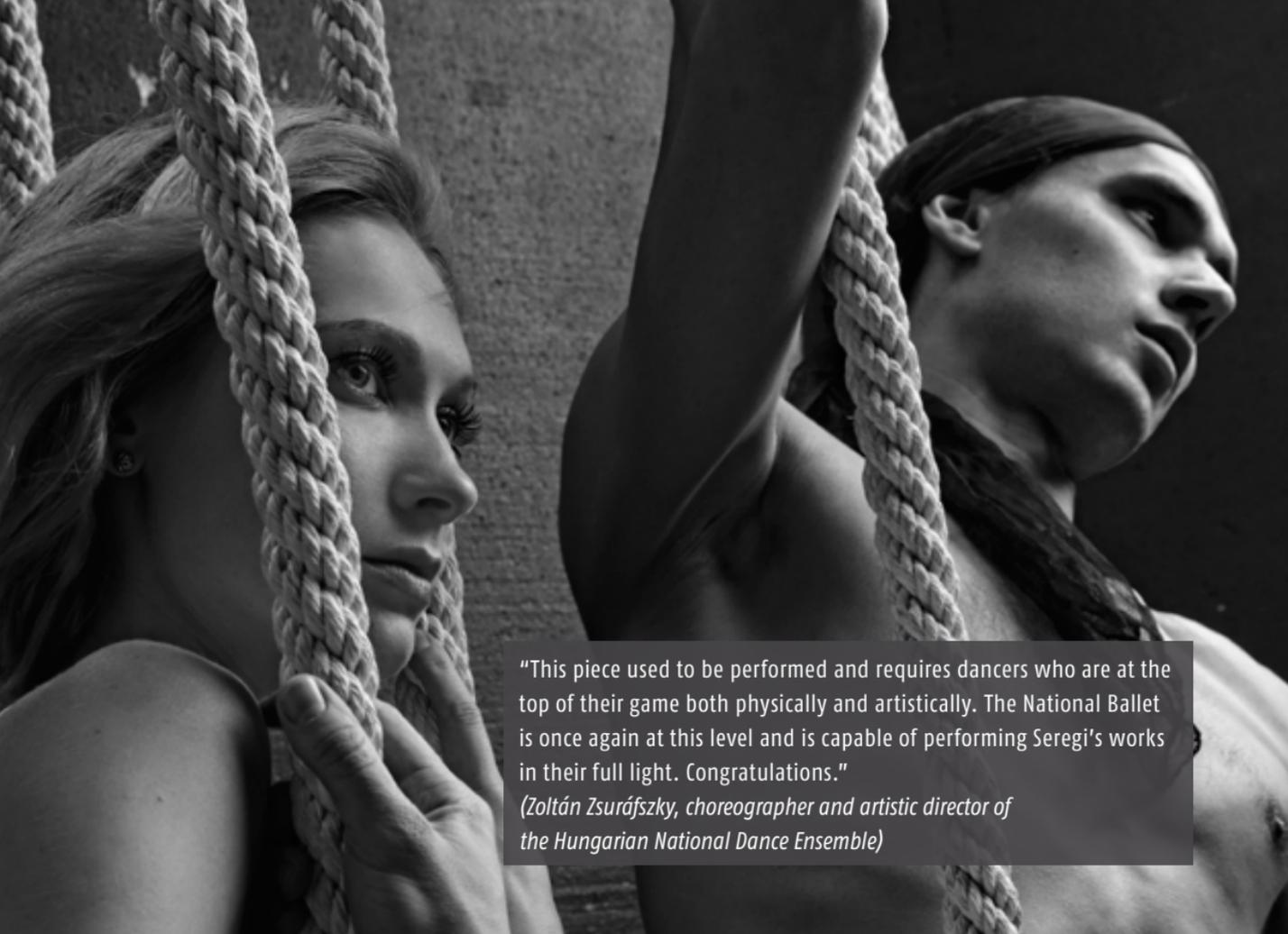
Technical adaptation ▶ **Kees Tjebbes**

Ballet masters ▶ **Tamás Tengler, Edit Rujsz**

Coaching and staging ballet master ▶ **Roslyn Anderson**

*23, 24, 29 September and 1 October 2016*

*Erkel Theatre*



“This piece used to be performed and requires dancers who are at the top of their game both physically and artistically. The National Ballet is once again at this level and is capable of performing Seregi’s works in their full light. Congratulations.”

*(Zoltán Zsuráfszky, choreographer and artistic director of the Hungarian National Dance Ensemble)*

## Spartacus

(1968, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

Spartacus ► **Gergely Leblanc, Iurii Kekalo, Máté Bakó**  
 Flavia ► **Tatiana Melnik, Alexandra Kozmér, Aliya Tanykpayeva**  
 Crassus ► **Dmitry Timofeev, Zoltán Oláh, Gergő Balázi**  
 Gad ► **Ievgen Lagunov, Balázs Majoros, András Szegő**  
 Crixus ► **Bálint Katona, Balázs Majoros, Dávid Molnár**  
 The African ► **Mikalai Radziush, Bence Apáti, Roland Liebich**  
 Batiatus ► **Levente Bajári, József Cserta, György Szirb**  
 Dancer ► **Eizaveta Cheprasova, Zsófi Gyarmati, Obengül Polen Gezmis**  
 Claudia ► **Lili Felméry, Radina Dace, Cristina Balaban**  
 Julia ► **Karina Sarkissova, Jessica Carulla Leon, Kristina Starostina**  
 Canus ► **Roland Vékes, Gábor Lajti, Lloyd Petchey**

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ► **László Seregi**  
 Composer ► **Aram Ilyich Khachaturian**  
 Set designer ► **Gábor Forray**  
 Costume designer ► **Tivadar Márk**  
 Choreographer's assistant ► **Ildikó Kaszás**  
 Ballet masters ► **Ildikó Pongor, Marianna Venekei**  
 Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy coached by  
 ► **Evelyn Janács**

*14, 16, 19, 20, 22, 28, 29 and 30 October 2016*  
*Opera House*



"Well! At times like these it's impossible to decide whether it's better to play ballet music solos on the violin or to fly and spin around on the stage with such grace! Instead, I look at our children, and it makes me happy that they are seeing so much beauty here!"

*(Katalin Kokas, violinist)*

Wayne Eagling / Tamás Solymosi / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

## The Nutcracker

SHCHELKUNCHIK (1892, ST PETERSBURG)

The Prince ▶ **Máté Bakó, Gergely Leblanc, Zoltán Oláh,  
Gergő Balácsi, Dmitry Timofeev,  
Ievgen Lagunov, Gergely Leblanc,  
Yuya Takahashi, Benjamin Babácsi**

Princess Maria ▶ **Aleszja Popova, Aliya Tanykpayeva,  
Alexandra Kozmér, Eizaveta Cheprasova,  
Tatiana Melnik, Lili Felméry,  
Cristina Balaban, Adrienn Papp,  
Olga Chernakova**

Drosselmeier ▶ **Levente Bajári, Alexander Komarov,  
Mark Biocca, Mikalai Radziush,  
Gábor Szigeti, György Szirb**

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

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

Fairy-tale ballet in two acts

Choreographer ▶ **Wayne Eagling, Tamás Solymosi**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set designer ▶ **Beáta Vavrincez**

Costume designer ▶ **Nóra Romhányi**

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

Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy coached by

▶ **Evelyn Janács**

*3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29  
and 30 December 2016  
Opera House*



"The new sets and costumes in this version are clearly more polished, and for me, extremely tasteful. I envy and admire the Opera's company for being able to mount a ballet of this scale at such a level of quality, with so many different casts."  
*(János Kiss, ballet dancer and director of the Ballet Company of Győr)*

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John Cranko / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky / Kurt-Heinz Stolze

## Onegin

ONEGIN (1965, STUTTGART)

Onegin ▶ **Zoltán Oláh, Iurii Kekalo, Gergely Leblanc,  
Roland Liebich**

Tatiana ▶ **Lili Felméry, Aliya Tanykpayeva,  
Tatiana Melnik, Aleszja Popova**

Olga ▶ **Adrienn Papp, Cristina Balaban,  
Eizaveta Cheprasova, Radina Dace**

Levin ▶ **Dmitry Diachkov, Dmitry Timofeev,  
Gergő Balázi, Ievgen Lagunov**

Gremin ▶ **Bence Apáti, György Szirb, Mark Biocca,  
József Cserta**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

*19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 28 and 29 January 2017*  
*Opera House*

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **John Cranko**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Orchestrated by ▶ **Kurt-Heinz Stolze**

Staging ballet master ▶ **Agnetta Stjernlöf-Valcu**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Victor Valcu**

Set designer ▶ **Thomas Mika**

Costume designers ▶ **Thomas Mika, Maren Fischer**

Assistant to the costume designers ▶ **Diana Eckmann**

Lighting designer ▶ **Steen Bjarke**

Ballet masters ▶ **Mária Aradi, Angéla Kövessy,  
Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Solymosi,  
Marianna Venekei**

Jiří Kylián / Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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## Six Dances

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(1986, AMSTERDAM)

Ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Composer ▶ **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Set designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Costume designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

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

Lighting and technical adaptation ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Ballet masters ▶ **Yvan Dubreuil, Marianna Venekei**

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

*Between 12 and 19 February 2017*

*Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged, Debrecen*

*(Ballet on Wheels)*



"I thank you for the light-hearted minutes this zany dance work gave me. Perhaps everyone should end their day with an experience like this so that we don't take ourselves so seriously, just our tasks. The dancers did a fine job!"

*(István Tarlós, mayor of Budapest)*



"Kylían's piece is a memorable experience. We had originally been seeking something to do with our athletic friends, people with degrees in sport, but we were quickly made to realise that the épées here were just auxiliary characters, design elements next to the brilliance of the National Ballet."  
*(Gergely Böszörményi-Nagy, general director of Design Terminal)*

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# Petite Mort

(1991, SALZBURG)

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**

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

*Between 12 and 19 February 2017*

*Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged, Debrecen*

*(Ballet on Wheels)*

Lilla Pártay / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky / Zoltán Rác

## Anna Karenina

(1991, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

Anna ▶ **Aleszja Popova, Alexandra Kozmér,  
Aliya Tanykpayeva, Tatiana Melnik**

Vronsky ▶ **Ievgen Lagunov, Zoltán Oláh, Gergely Leblanc**

Levin ▶ **Gergő Balácsi, Máté Bakó, Dmitry Timofeev**

Kitty ▶ **Cristina Balaban, Adrienn Papp, Lili Felméry**

Karenin ▶ **Iurii Kekalo, József Cserta, Mikalai Radziush**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló**

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Lilla Pártay**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set designer ▶ **Lóránt Kézdy**

Costume designer ▶ **Judit Schäffer**

Music compiled by ▶ **Gyula Jármai**

Musical interludes composed by ▶ **Zoltán Rác**

Ballet masters ▶ **Márta Metzger, Lilla Pártay**

Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy coached by

▶ **Evelyn Janács**

*11, 12, 17 and 18 March 2017*

*Opera House*



"A tearful and profound Russian story; the choreography wonderfully reveals the mix of passion and desire. The music, too, is eloquent: sometimes one doesn't know if one will be capable of taking in so much art at once."

*(András Doncsev, Editor-in-Chief, Cultural Programmes, MTVA)*

## Manon

(1974, LONDON)

Manon ▶ **Aliya Tanykpayeva, Tatiana Melnik,  
Lili Felméry**

Des Grieux ▶ **Dmitry Timifeev, Gergely Leblanc,  
Gergő Balázi**

Lescaut ▶ **Balázs Majoros, Iurii Kekalo, Ievgen Lagunov**

Lescaut's mistress ▶ **Cristina Balaban, Alexandra Kozmér,  
Izaveta Cheprasova**

Monsieur G.M. ▶ **Bence Apáti, György Szirb,  
Levente Bajári**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló, Imre Kollár**

*5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 April 2017*

*Opera House*

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Sir Kenneth MacMillan**

Composer ▶ **Jules Massenet**

Music orchestrated and revised by ▶ **Martin Yates**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Nicholas Georgiadis**

Lighting designer ▶ **John B. Read**

Based on Benesh notation, rehearsed and staged by  
▶ **Gary Harris**

Staged by ▶ **Maina Gielgud**

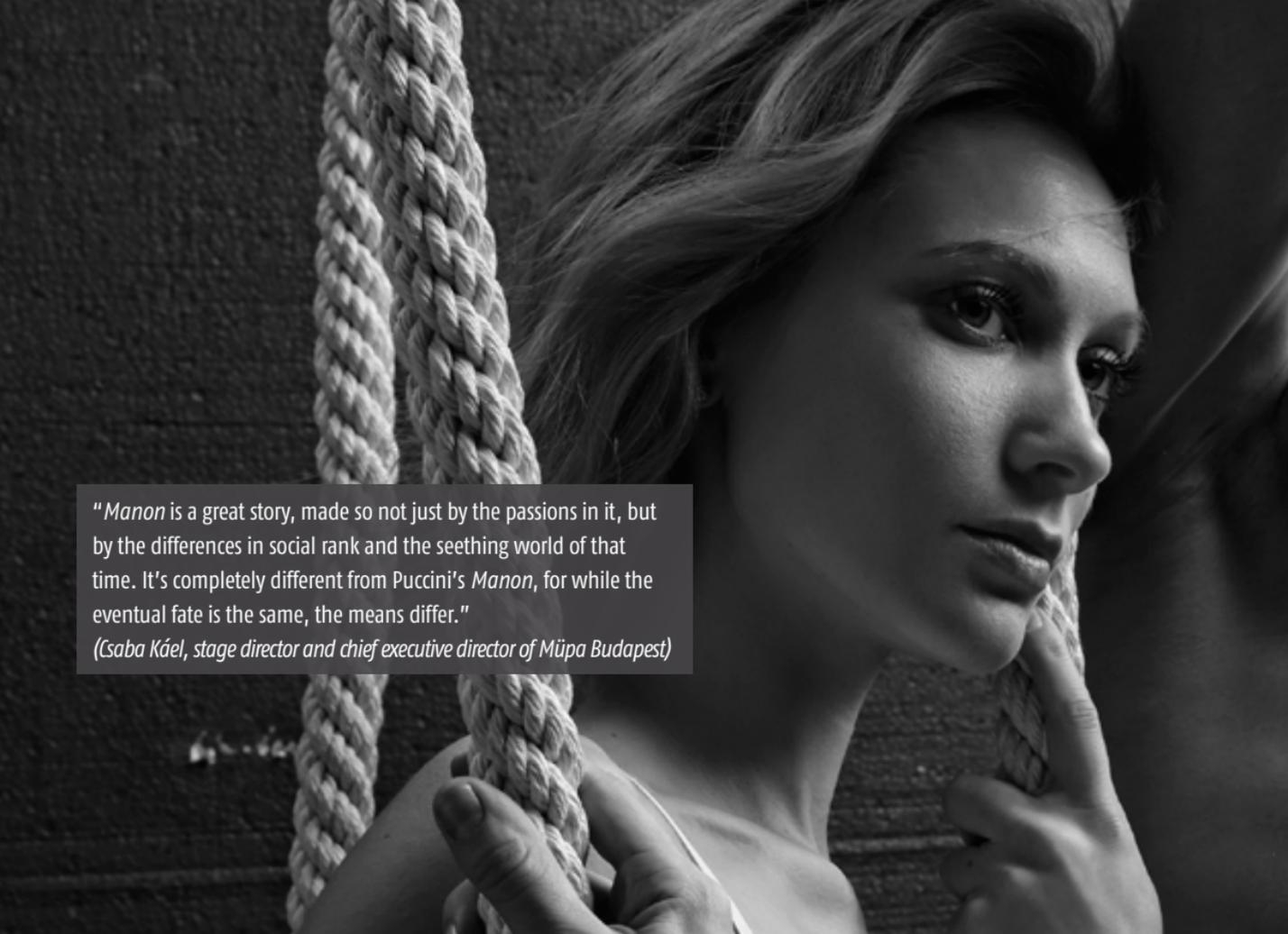
Set supervisor ▶ **Andrew Jameson**

Costume supervisor ▶ **Michael Brown**

Ballet masters ▶ **Maina Gielgud, Angéla Kövessy,  
Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei**

Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy coached by

▶ **Evelyn Janács**



*"Manon is a great story, made so not just by the passions in it, but by the differences in social rank and the seething world of that time. It's completely different from Puccini's *Manon*, for while the eventual fate is the same, the means differ."*

*(Csaba Káel, stage director and chief executive director of Müpa Budapest)*

Rudi van Dantzig / Toer van Schayk / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

## Swan Lake

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LEBEDINOYE OZERO (1877, MOSCOW)

Odette ▶ **Tatiana Melnik, Eizaveta Cheprasova, Aliya Tanykpayeva, Kim Minjung**  
Siegfried ▶ **Gergely Leblanc, Gergő Balázs, Dmitry Timofeev, Zoltán Oláh**  
Rothbart ▶ **Mikalai Radziush, Iurii Kekalo, Roland Liebich, József Cserta**  
Alexander ▶ **Dmitry Diachkov, Ievgen Lagunov, Yuya Takahashi, Máté Bakó**  
Conductor ▶ **Imre Kollár, Kálmán Szennai**

*13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 24 May 2017*

*Opera House*

Classical ballet in three parts, four acts

Choreography, based on work of **Marius Petipa** and **Lev Ivanov** ▶ **Rudi van Dantzig**

Choreography of character dances ▶ **Toer van Schayk**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set designer ▶ **Toer van Schayk**

Costume designer ▶ **Toer van Schayk**

Lighting designer ▶ **Jan Hofstra**

Coaching ballet masters ▶ **Caroline Iura, Eleonora Demichelis, Toer van Schayk**

Set and costume assistant ▶ **Ruud Lutgens**

Ballet masters ▶ **Mária Aradi, Angéla Kövessy, Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Tengler, Marianna Venekei**

Students of the Hungarian Dance Academy coached by ▶ **Evelyn Janács**



*"Tchaikovsky finished his music for *Swan Lake* in 1876. The music, however, proved to be eternally valid, just like the story itself, which is capable of moving us toward the world of fairy-tales and away from the everyday. It is important for us to experience these moments – and this production is a feast for the senses."  
(Dr. Péter Darák, president of the Curia of Hungary)*



"Way back it was our favourite, the film by Reggio, which has at least as much to do with the breaking and robotisation of man as it does about the exploitation of the environment. I'm curious how it will come across on the dance stage."

*(András Schiffer, lawyer and co-president of the Politics Can Be Different (LMP) political party)*

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Dóra Barta

## Planet in Turmoil

(2016, BUDAPEST, ERKEL THEATRE)

SPACE FANTASY

Dance performance in one act

Choreographer, visual designer ▶ **Dóra Barta**

Composer ▶ **Philip Glass**

Lighting designer ▶ **Zoltán Katonka**

Animation designer ▶ **Péter Bárány**

Dramaturg ▶ **Tamás Szabó**

Ballet master ▶ **Edit Rujsz**

This production will be performed at the *Space Fantasy* programme of one-act dance pieces together with *The Martian Chronicles*.

Koyaanisqatsi by Philip Glass

© 1982 Dunvagen Music Publishers Inc. Used by Permission.

*17 and 21 May 2017*

*Eiffel Art Studios*

Béla Földi / Solaris

# The Martian Chronicles

(2016, BUDAPEST, ERKEL THEATRE)

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SPACE FANTASY

This production will be performed at the *Space Fantasy* programme of one-act dance pieces together with *Planet in Turmoil*.

The *Martian Chronicles* will be performed by permission of Ray Bradbury Literary Works LLC.

© 1959, revived by Ray Bradbury in 1977

*The Martian Chronicles* was published in Hungarian by Agave Kiadó and in English by Harper Voyager, HarperCollins and Simon and Schuster.

Dance performance in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Béla Földi**

Music by ▶ **Solaris**

Set designer ▶ **Tamás Sáfárik**

Costume designer ▶ **Dalma Závodszky**

Projected scenery ▶ **Ready By Wednesday**

Dramaturg ▶ **Anna Vécsei**

Ballet master ▶ **Edit Marosi**

*17 and 21 May 2017*

*Eiffel Art Studios*



"These days we get news from Mars practically every day. Bradbury's book was frightfully prescient back in its day, and the music by Solaris was enchanting. I'm very much hoping that these will be successfully integrated and then raised to the third power by dance!"  
*(Dr. Attila Simon, chief executive officer of Herend Porcelain Manufactory)*

László Seregi / Béla Bartók

# The Miraculous Mandarin

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(1981, BUDAPEST, HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA)

The girl ▶ **Aleszja Popova**

The Mandarin ▶ **Bence Apáti**

The old rake ▶ **Alexander Komarov**

The young man ▶ **Benjamin Babácsi**

The three tramps ▶ **József Medvecz, Dániel Fodor,  
Attila Szakács**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

The production is part of the Bartók *DanceTriptych* programme and will be performed together with *The Wooden Prince* and *The Miraculous Mandarin* between 26 May and 4 June.

Choreographer ▶ **László Seregi**

Composer ▶ **Béla Bartók**

Librettist ▶ **Menyhért Lengyel**

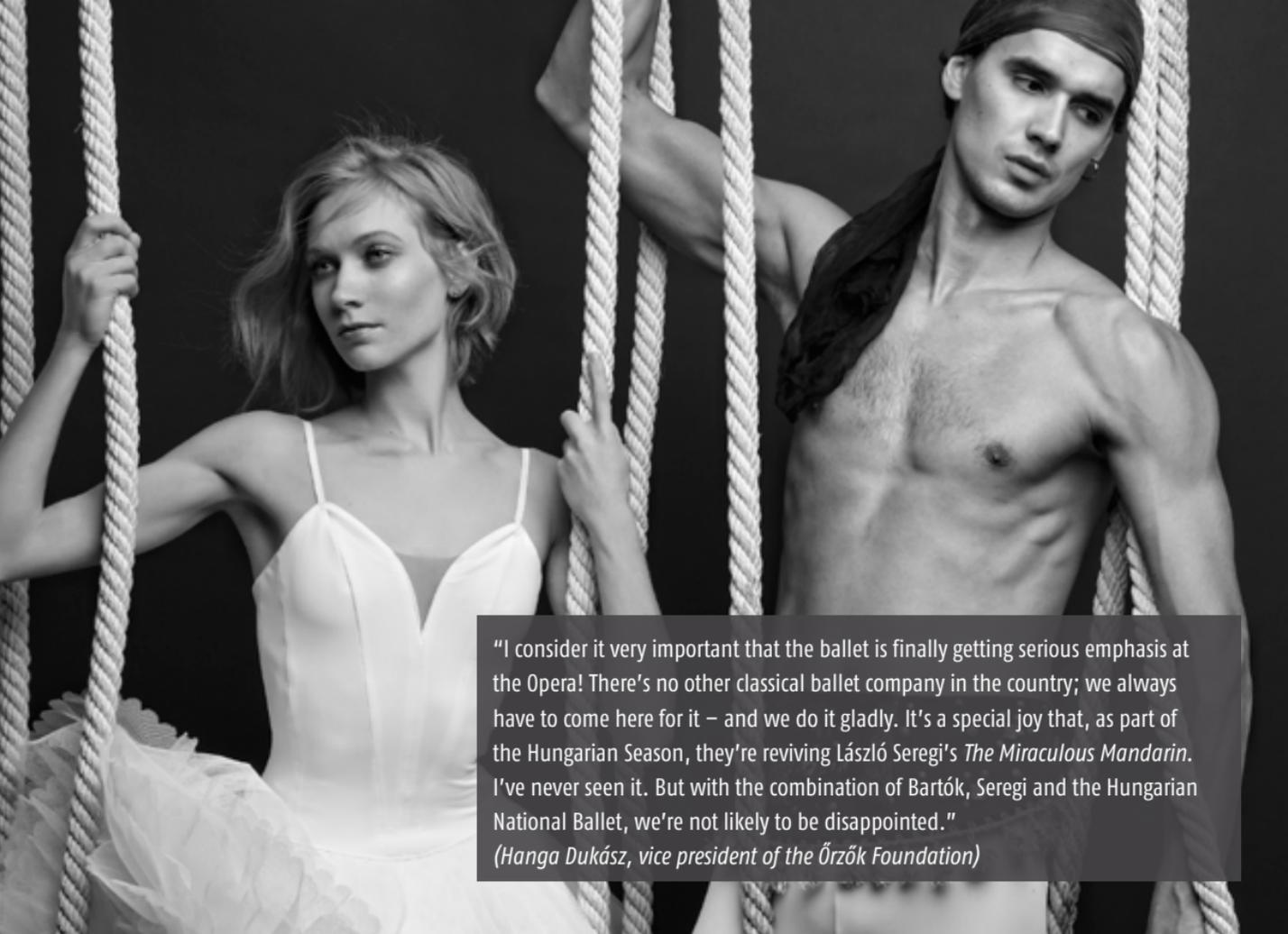
Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**

Costume designer ▶ **László Seregi**

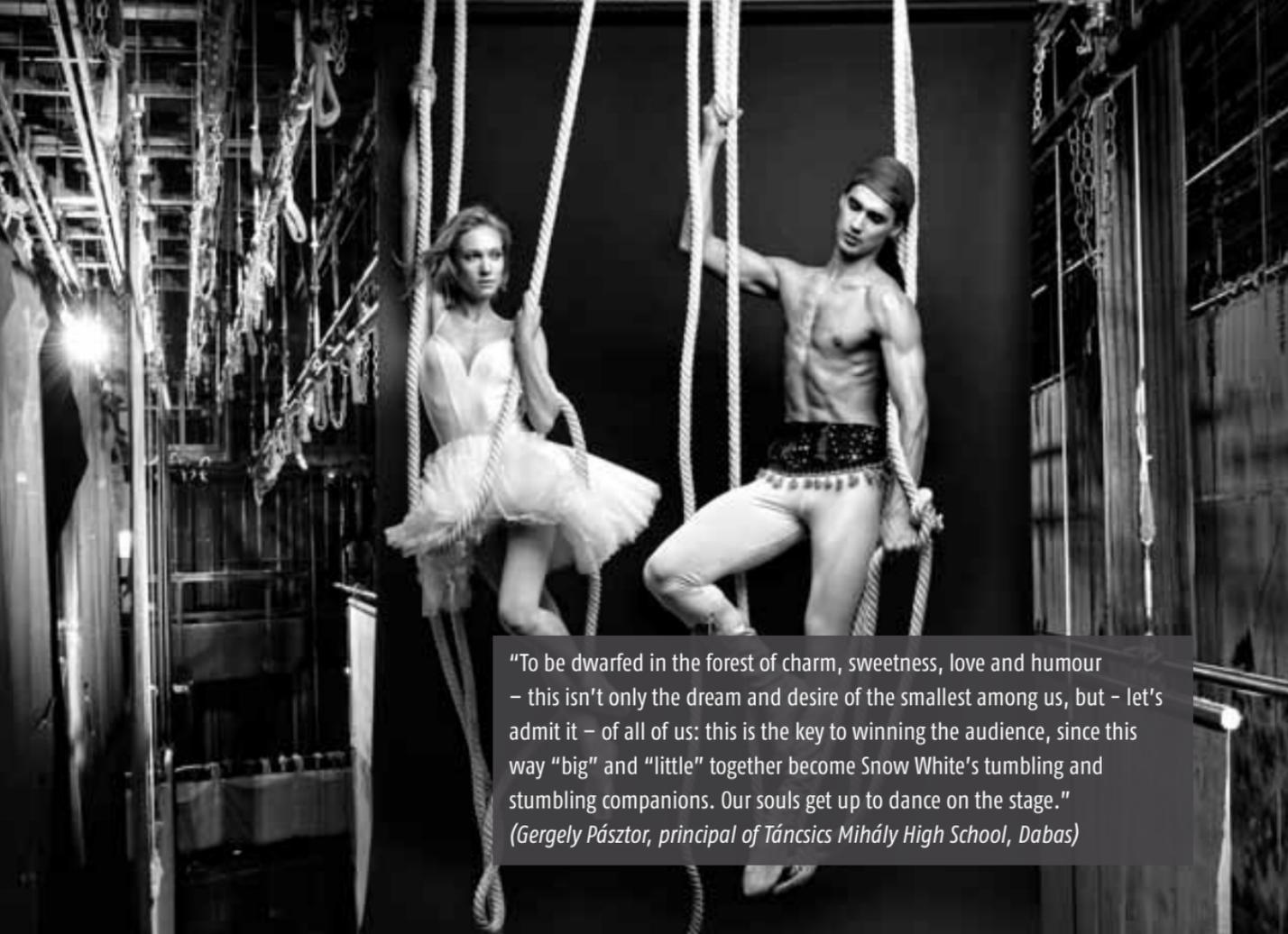
Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Ildikó Kaszás**

*26, 28, 31 May, 1 and 4 June 2017*

*Opera House*



"I consider it very important that the ballet is finally getting serious emphasis at the Opera! There's no other classical ballet company in the country; we always have to come here for it – and we do it gladly. It's a special joy that, as part of the Hungarian Season, they're reviving László Seregi's *The Miraculous Mandarin*. I've never seen it. But with the combination of Bartók, Seregi and the Hungarian National Ballet, we're not likely to be disappointed."  
*(Hanga Dukász, vice president of the Őrzők Foundation)*



"To be dwarfed in the forest of charm, sweetness, love and humour – this isn't only the dream and desire of the smallest among us, but – let's admit it – of all of us: this is the key to winning the audience, since this way "big" and "little" together become Snow White's tumbling and stumbling companions. Our souls get up to dance on the stage."  
*(Gergely Pásztor, principal of Táncsics Mihály High School, Dabas)*

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Gyula Harangozó Jr. / Tibor Kocsák

## Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs

(2004, BUDAPEST, ERKEL THEATRE)

Snow White ▶ **Lili Felméry, Ildikó Boros, Adrienn Papp,  
Tatiana Melnik**

Queen ▶ **Karina Sarkissova, Alexandra Kozmér,  
Aleszja Popova, Eizaveta Cheprasova**

Huntsman ▶ **József Medvecz, József Cserta**

Prince ▶ **Gergő Balácsi, Máté Bakó, Zoltán Oláh,  
Gergely Leblanc**

Witch ▶ **György Szirb, Bence Apáti**

Doc ▶ **Boris Myashnikov, Attila Szakács**

Happy ▶ **Dávid Molnár**

Bashful ▶ **István Kohári**

Sleepy ▶ **Lloyd Petchey, Alexander Komarov**

Sneezy ▶ **Gábor Szigeti, Umberto Aragno**

Grumpy ▶ **Ievgen Lagunov**

Dopey ▶ **Dávid Kerényi, András Szegő**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló, András Déri**

Fairy-tale dance in two acts

Choreographer ▶ **Gyula Harangozó Jr.**

Composer ▶ **Tibor Kocsák**

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

Libretto based on the fairy-tale by the Brothers Grimm

▶ **Gyula Harangozó Jr.**

Set designer ▶ **Kentaur**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**

Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Edit Rujsz**

Ballet master ▶ **Blanka Fajth**

*2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 June 2017*

*Erkel Theatre*





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

HungarianFest 2017



# Our Creed and Mission

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HUNGARIANFEST 2017

On the bicentenary of the world premiere of the play which would serve as the basis of the first surviving Hungarian opera, the 50th anniversary of **Zoltán Kodály's** death and the 100th anniversary of the world premiere of **Béla Bartók's** *The Wooden Prince*, the Opera has announced a Hungarian-themed season. To crown this, over the course of a few weeks two centuries of Hungarian opera will be presented in a grand series that includes works by composers as early as József Ruzitska, as recent as Judit Varga and Levente Gyöngyösi, and all major Hungarian opera composers in between, as well as several indispensable choreographic works. The operatic events of HungarianFest, predominantly made up of fully-staged dramatic performances, along with a smaller number of concert performances and a few film screenings of opera performances, will be recorded: the CD series will be bound together with an essay written by András Batta, professor of musicology and former rector of the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music, and sent to public libraries and collections.

This season will also be about remembering the Hungarian Revolution of 1956: HungarianFest will include exactly 56 works created by Hungarian composers and choreographers.

Balassa: The Man Outside

Barta: Planet in Turmoil

Bartók: Bluebeard's Castle

Bella: Spring Awakening

Bozay: The Last Five Scenes

Dohnányi: Der Tenor

Durkó: Moses

Eötvös: Love and Other Demons

Erkel: Bánk bán

Erkel: Bátori Mária

Erkel: Dózsa György

Erkel: Hunyadi László

Erkel: King Stephen

Farkas: The Magic Cupboard

Fekete: The Saved City

Földi/Solaris: The Martian Chronicles

Frenák/Bartók: The Wooden Prince

Goldmark: Die Königin von Saba / The Queen of Sheba

Gryllus: Two Women

Gyöngyösi: The Stork Calif

Gyöngyösi: The Master and Margarita

Harangozó/Delibes: Coppélia

Harangozó/Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs

Juhász/Bartók: Dance Suite

Kacsóh: John the Valiant

Kenessey: Gold and the Woman

Kodály: Czinka Panna

Kodály: The Spinning Room

Lajtha: The Blue Hat

Lendvai: La putain respectueuse / The Respectful Prostitute

# Works

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HUNGARIANFEST 2017

Ligeti: *Le grande macabre*

Liszt: *Don Sanche*

Liszt: *Three Gypsies*

Madarász: *The Last Waltz*

Mezey: *Opposite the Catafalque*

Orbán: *Prince Pikko*

Pártay/Tchaikovsky/Rácz: *Anna Karenina*

Petrovics: *C'est la guerre*

Petrovics: *Lysistrate*

Poldini: *Wedding at Carnival*

Ránki: *King Pomade's New Clothes*

Rautavaara: *The Mine*

Ruzitska: *Béla's Flight*

Selmeczi: *Spiritisti*

Seregi/Bartók: *The Miraculous Mandarin*

Seregi/Khachaturian: *Spartacus*

Seregi/Mendelssohn: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Solti: *La Violetta*

Strauss/Jókai: *Der Zigeunerbaron / The Gypsy Baron*

Szokolay: *Blood Wedding*

Szőnyi: *The Golden-Winged Bee*

Tallér: *Leander and Linseed*

Vajda: *Mrs. Karnyó*

Vajda: *Mario and the Magician*

Varga: *Love*

Venekei / Dés: *A Streetcar Named Desire*

# HungarianFestMarathon

HUNGARIANFEST 2017

10 May – Strauss / Jókai: Der Zigeunerbaron (0) B , #

**11 May – Erkel: Bánk bán (I) E**

**12 May – Farkas: The Magic Cupboard (II) B**

13 May – Durkó: Moses (III) OSZ, x

*13 May – Seregi: Spartacus\* (IV) B*

14 May – Balassa: The Man Outside (V) OSZ, x

*14 May – Pártay: Anna Karenina\* (VI) B*

15 May – Rautavaara: The Mine\* + Varga: Love\* (VII) B

16 May – Erkel: Hunyadi László\* (VIII) B

**17 May – Barta: Planet ... + Földi: The Martian... (IX) B**

**18 May – Goldmark: Die Königin von Saba (X) E**

**19 May – Ruzitska: Béla's Flight+Orbán: Pikkó... (XI) E**

20 May – Fekete: The Saved City (XII) OSZ, x

20 May – Seregi: A Midsummer Night's Dream\* (XIII) B

21 May – Vajda: Mrs. Karnyó (XIV) OSZ, x

**21 May – Bella: Spring ...+ Solti: Violetta**

**+ Gryllus: Two Women (XV) Z**

22 May – Lajtha: The Blue Hat (XVI) B, @

23 May – Ligeti: Le grande macabre (XVII) B, @

24 May – Kacsóh: John the Valiant (XVIII) B, x

**25 May – Dohnányi: Der Tenor (XIX) E**

**26 May – Szokolay: Blood Wedding (XX) E**

**27 May – Tallér: Leander and Linseed (XXI) E, m**

27 May – Erkel: Dózsa György (XXII) OSZ, x

**27 May – Eötvös: Love and Other Demons (XXIII) O**

28 May – Szőnyi: The Golden-Winged Bee (XXIV) B, m, @

28 May – Erkel: Bátori Mária (XXV) OSZ, x

*28 May – Juhász/Frenák/Seregi: Bartók DanceTriptych (XXVI) O*

29 May – Gyöngyösi: The Stork Calif (XXVII) B, @

30 May – Harangozó: Coppélia\* (XXVIII) B

# HungarianFestMarathon

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HUNGARIANFEST 2017

31 May – Madarász: The Last Waltz (XXIX) B, @

**1 June – Lendvay: La putain ... + Mezey: Catafalque ... (XXX) B**

**2 June – Bartók: Bluebeard... + Vajda: Mario... (XXXI) O**

3 June – Poldini: Wedding... + Kenessey: Gold... (XXXII) OSZ, x

**3 June – Kodály: The Spinning Room (XXXIII) O**

4 June – Liszt: Don Sanche (XXXIV) OSZ, x

4 June – Selmeczi: Spiritisti (XXXV) B, @

5 June – Gyöngyösi: Master and Margarita (XXXVI) OSZ, #

5 June – Kodály: Czinka Panna (XXXVII) O, June 6

– Erkel: King Stephen\* (XXXVIII) B @

7 June – Bozzay: The Last Five Scenes \* (XXXIX) B

8 June – Petrovics: C'est la guerre; Lysistrata (XL) B, @

9 June – Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes (XLI) B, @

**10 June – Harangozó: Snow White (XLII) E, m**

10 June – Venekei: A Streetcar Named Desire (XLIII) B, #

10 June – René Pape's aria recital (XLIV) O, @

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# HungarianFestMarathon

HUNGARIANFEST 2017

Tickets for the performances of HungarianFestMarathon are offered to students for 500 forints and to other guests for 1000 forints.

## Legend

*red letters: premiere* (2)

**bold letters: fully staged dramatic performance** (15)

*italics: dance performance* (8)

underlined letters: public recording session (16)

@: concert performance (10)

\*: film shows of previous performances of the Opera (8)

#: unstaged excerpts (3)

x: social music listening session (9)

m: matinée performance for children (3)

O: Opera House (6)

OSZ: Opera House Székely Bertalan Hall (9)

E: Erkel Theatre (6)

B: Bánffy Stage (22)

Z: Liszt Academy Solti Hall (1)





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Programme Series



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# Tuning Series

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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**.

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# Tuning Series

PREMIERE PRIMERS

- 23 September 2016 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Rain Dogs**
- 24 September 2016 6 pm, Opera House – **La traviata**
- 1 October 2016 6 pm, Opera House – **The Spinning Room**
- 21 October 2016 6 pm, Opera House – **The Mine / Love**
- 18 November 2016 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Lucia di Lammermoor**
- 19 November 2016 6 pm, Opera House – **Don Quixote**
- 2 December 2016 6 pm, Opera House – **Les dialogues des Carmélites**
- 16 December 2016 5 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Don Giovanni**
- 27 January 2017 6 pm, Opera House – **Love and Other Demons**
- 3 February 2017 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Madama Butterfly**
- 19 March 2017 4 pm, Opera House – **Siegfried**
- 24 March 2017 5 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Der Zigeunerbaron**
- 21 April 2017 6 pm, Opera House – **Le corsaire**
- 19 May 2017 5 pm, Erkel Theatre – **Béla's Flight**
- 28 May 2017 5 pm, Opera House – **DanceTriptych**
- 17 June 2017 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – **A Streetcar Named Desire**

# Questions, Questions

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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

*29 September 2016 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – Rain Dogs*

*30 September 2016 6 pm, Opera House – La traviata*

*6 October 2016 6 pm, Opera House – The Spinning Room*

*29 October 2016 6 pm, Opera House – The Mine / Love*

*23 November 2016 6 pm, Opera House – Don Quixote*

*24 November 2016 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – Lucia di Lammermoor*

*6 December 2016 6 pm, Opera House – Les dialogues  
des Carmélites*

*20 December 2016 5 pm, Erkel Theatre – Don Giovanni*

*2 February 2017 6 pm, Opera House – Love and Other Demons*

*10 February 2017 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – Madama Butterfly*

*26 March 2017 4 pm, Opera House – Siegfried*

*30 March 2017 5 pm, Erkel Theatre – Der Zigeunerbaron*

*27 April 2017 6 pm, Opera House – Le corsaire*

*1 June 2017 6 pm, Opera House – Bartók DanceTriptych*

*24 June 2017 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – A Streetcar Named Desire*

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# 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 Köteles**, 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 2016* – Day of memorial for the Martyrs of Arad – national day of memorial (Erkel: Hunyadi László – Funeral March)
- 4 November 2016* – Day of memorial for the crushing of the 1956 Revolution – national day of memorial (Beethoven: Egmont Overture)
- 7 November 2016* – Hungarian Opera Day – Ferenc Erkel's birthday (Erkel: Bánk bán – Hazám, hazám) 22 January 2017
- 22 January 2017* – Day of Hungarian Culture (Kodály: Song from the Hány János Suite)
- 25 February 2017* – Day of memorial for Victims of Communist Dictatorships (Dohnányi: Stabat Mater, 1953)
- 16 April 2017* – Day of memorial for Victims of the Holocaust (Mahler: Ruckert Lieder, No. 3)
- 4 June 2017* – Trianon Memorial Day – Day of National Solidarity (Bartók: Hungarian Sketches – Evening with Szeklers)

# Royal Music Hall

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WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

The series of chamber concerts put on by the Hungarian State Opera and members of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra continues. Within the intimate setting that chamber music provides, these concerts feature musicians whose work we generally only hear from the orchestra pit or the concert stage. Few people are aware that a significant number of Hungary's oldest and largest symphony orchestra are internationally known and acclaimed musicians in their own right, including many winners of music competitions both at home and abroad.

We hope that, besides the musical experience itself, we will be able to convey the joy of recognising these artistic achievements to our guests.

Presenter ► **Gábor Eckhardt**

Programme producer ► **Csaba Bartos**

Venue ► **Opera House, Székely Bertalan Hall**

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# Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

*21 October 2016 (Sat) 4 pm*

Schubert ► **Octet in F Major D. 803**

(Gergely Parlagi – clarinet, Bálint Tóth – French horn,  
István Hartenstein – bassoon, Dávid Pintér,  
Zsuzsanna Laskay Monoki – violin, Dénes Ludmány – viola,  
László Pólus – cello, Alajos H. Zováthi – double bass)

*12 November 2016 (Sat) 4 pm*

Mercadante–Dénes I. ► **Theme and Variations on a  
Theme from Don Giovanni for Piccolo and Tuba**

Tchaikovsky ► **String Quartet in E-flat Minor Op. 30**  
(Csilla Somogyvári – piccolo, Miklós Wrchovszky – tuba,  
József Rácz, Tamás Bíró – violin, Gabriella Bartis  
–Gémesi – viola, Ágnes Fodor – cello)

*10 December 2016 (Sat) 4 pm*

Muczynski ► **Duos for Flute and Clarinet**

Stravinsky ► **Octet**

Gould ► **Benny's Gig**

(Evelin Balog – flute, Balázs Rummy – clarinet,  
Bálint Mohai, József Bánfi – bassoon, Bence Horváth,  
Tamás Póti – trumpet, Róbert Stürzenbaum, Barnabás Brindás  
– trombone, Péter Boldoghy–Kummert – double bass)

*14 January 2017 (Sat) 4 pm*

Kodály ► **Duo for Violin and Cello Op. 7**

Gliere ► **Octet for Strings in D Major, Op. 5**

(Rodrigo Puskás, Imola Rajka, Tícia Puskás – violin,  
Péter Kondor, Balázs Tóth, Balázs Mészáros – viola,  
Erika Kádi, Chung Hosung – cello)

# Royal Music Hall

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WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

*11 February 2017 (Sat) 4 pm*

## **Carnival Cavalcade with Horns**

Handel ▶ **Music for the Royal Fireworks**

(arrangement for eight French horns)

Hübler ▶ **Concerto for Four French Horns**

Beethoven ▶ **Symphony No. 7. Movement 1**

(arrangement for eight French horns)

Turner ▶ **Casbah of Tetouan Op. 21**

(Gábor Tóth, András Balogh, Tamás Gáspár, János Benyus, István Flammer, Máté Hamar, Zsolt Végh, Péter Lakatos – French horn)

*11 March 2017 (Sat) 4 pm*

Debussy ▶ **First Rhapsody for Clarinet, Harp and String Quartet (arrangement by Béla Kovács)**

Ravel ▶ **Introduction and Allegro for String Quartet, Harp, Flute and Clarinet**

Françaix ▶ **Flute Quintet**

(Zsófia Bíró – flute, András Novák – clarinet, Júlia Szilvásy – harp, Zita Novák, Károly Gál – violin, Csaba Babácsi – viola, Endre Balog – cello)

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# Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

*29 April 2017 (Sat) 4 pm*

Poulenc ▶ **Sonata for Two Clarinets**

Mendelssohn-Bartholdy ▶ **String Octet in E-flat Major Op. 20**

(Sándor Kiss, Péter Csongár – clarinet, Enikő Tury, Dávid Pintér,  
Mónika Müller, András Tallián – violin, Csaba Babácsi,  
Zsófia Winkler – viola, Endre Balog, Gábor Magyar – cello)

*13 May 2017 (Sat) 4 pm*

Györe ▶ **Variations on a Flower Song from the 16th Century**

Ránki ▶ **Serenata all'antiqua**

Ravel ▶ **String Quartet in F Major**

(Magdolna Závodszy, Katalin Fenyő – violin, Veronika Botos  
– viola d'amour, Attila Lukács – viola, Tibor Wambach – cello,  
Viktória Herencsár – cimbalom)

# Revel at the Erkel!

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WHERE WE HAVE ENOUGH SPACE TO CELEBRATE

The Erkel Theatre boasts the highest-capacity auditorium of any theatre building in Central Europe – and is exceptionally well suited to institutions, schools and other organisations wishing to celebrate their important anniversaries in connection with a series of performances by the Opera. It is also possible to arrange for the opera or ballet to be a closed performance and to hold a short speech, awards-ceremony or commemoration beforehand, or even to show a short film on the enormous projection screen of 100 m<sup>2</sup>.

The Erkel's enormous interior spaces (foyer and upstairs foyer) are ideal for holding receptions before or after the performance or during the intermission, while the Aurél Bernáth Hall on the second level provides space for a separate VIP section with an excellent view out onto the foyer and the two large Bernáth frescoes. In the case of group bookings, tickets are offered at a reduced price, and it is also possible to book an entire performance at special prices. Once per month – ten times over the season – we can offer an entire performance for 1,000 Ft per attendee and on a first come first-served basis, ensuring any celebration is guaranteed to be a memorable one.

To apply ► [jubilalj@opera.hu](mailto:jubilalj@opera.hu)

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# Revel at the Erkel!

WHERE WE HAVE ENOUGH SPACE TO CELEBRATE

Available performances:

*11 October 2016, 7 pm* – Hall / John: **Billy Elliot – The Musical**

*12 November 2016, 7 pm* – Puccini: **Tosca**

*9 December 2016, 7 pm* – Leonard Bernstein: **West Side Story**

*8 January 2017, 6 pm* – Mozart: **Die Zauberflöte**

*18 February 2017, 7 pm* – Donizetti: **Don Pasquale**

*12 March 2017, 6 pm* – Erkel: **Hunyadi**

*30 April 2017, 7 pm* – Verdi: **Nabucco**

*27 May 2017, 7 pm* – Dohnányi: **Der Tenor**

*3 June 2017, 6 pm* – Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: **Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs**





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Special Events



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# OperaSupper – Medveczky75

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THE PRIDE OF THE NATION, A NATION OF PRIDE

Starting in 2016 and at the Opera's invitation, those artists and sports figures who have distinguished themselves in various ways will be assembling once each year in the Ybl palace. Joining us will be the Artists of the Nation, the Actors of the Nation, the Masters of Film, the Sportspeople of the Nation, and naturally the Opera's own Master Artists, in order that they might bask in the glow of that most exalted of palaces, the ornamental hall of total art on Andrásy Avenue, where, as the pride of the nation, they now belong.

Receiving invitations will be the leaders of the City of Budapest and of the districts in which the Opera's buildings are located, the officers of the ministry that maintains the institution itself, as well as the executives of other major Hungarian cities, since both smooth and fruitful collaboration and involvement at the regional level are crucial for our national mission. The special guest for 2016 will be the city of Gyula.

On this festive night, we will also be paying tribute to 75-year-old **Ádám Medveczky**, Kossuth Prize-winning conductor and former general director of the Opera, with a new edition of an old recording of *Hunyadi László*.

Set designer ► **Attila Csikós**

Master of ceremonies ► **Sándor Fábry**

Partner ► **Zsidai Gastronomy Group**

*3 September 2016 (Sat) 7 pm, on the stage of the Opera House*

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# From and for the homeland

CREATING A CULTURAL HOME

Every Hungarian has the desire and the right to feel that he or she belongs to the nation. It is especially important for those who, as a result of a historical decision, are forced to preserve their national identity in a different country and different cultural environment. And it is even more relevant in the case of those who live in the diaspora and have to remain Hungarians in that environment. The aim of the project to make Hungarians living in the diaspora in Transylvania aware and ensure that they have a mother country that acknowledges and stands behind them and helps them in their efforts to remain Hungarians.

Based on the initiatives of opera singer **Levente Molnár**, who was born in Gyergyóremete (Remetea, Romania), we offer a programme rich in cultural experience and national values to those who can influence public opinion (teachers, cultural organisers, representatives of civil organisations) and have done considerable work for the Hungarian community in the diaspora. We plan to invite a thousand people to Budapest for a three-day experience of undeniable proportion that will invigorate and inspire their enthusiasm for a long time to come.

Conductor ► **Sándor Jankó (Cluj-Napoca)**  
Featuring ► **the Orchestra of the Hungarian State  
Opera, Hungarian soloists from abroad**

Partner ► **ARTSTART4U Society**

*4 September 2016 (Sun) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

# Car-Free Weekend

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BANISHING BOREDOM OUTSIDE THE OPERA HOUSE

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

In 2016, 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, **Szilvester Ókovács**. (The performances may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather.)

*2 pm* ▶ Donizetti ▶ **Il campanello** (see ▶ p. 141)

*4 pm* ▶ Donizetti ▶ **I pazzi per progetto** (see ▶ p. 143)

*6 pm* ▶ Menotti ▶ **The Telephone** (see ▶ p. 144)

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

*17 and 18 September 2016 (Sat-Sun), Opera House, Sphinx Terrace*

Car-free weekends on the tarmac of Andrásy Avenue emboldens 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.)

*17 September (Sat) 7 pm* – Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László (Attila Fekete, Erika Miklósa, Beatrix Fodor, Michele Kálmándy, Dániel Pataki Potyók, the Chorus and the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera)**  
Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**, Director ▶ **Gábor Szűcs**

*18 September (Sun) 7 pm* – Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky ▶ **Swan Lake (Shoko Nakamura, Iurii Kekalo, Mikhailai Radziush, Máté Bakó, Lili Felméry, Adrienn Pap)**

Partner ▶ **MTVA**

*17 and 18 September 2016 (Sat-Sun) 7 pm, Andrásy Avenue*

# Night of Theatres

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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 133 lucky winners to participate in the unique 90-minute journey through this wonderful building inaugurated 133 years ago. The world premiere of **Samu Gryllus**'s chamber opera *Two Women* will also be performed somewhere along the journey... (see ► p. 21)

Tour guide ► **Patrícia Horváth**

*17 September 2017 (Sat), Opera House*

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# Flying Start

ON THE CUSP OF WORLD FAME

**Gyula Orendt** is one of Hungary's most talented singers. Born in Transylvania exactly 30 years ago, the lyric baritone graduated from Budapest's Music Academy and is currently a member of Daniel Barenboim's Staatsoper Unter den Linden in Berlin, while also performing as a guest artist at London's Royal Opera House and at the Budapest Opera, among other top venues. In recent years, he has made appearances on Andrásy Avenue with world-class song recitals, which is why we have joined him to launch a series aimed at better displaying his talent. The Erkel Theatre, the venue of Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and Sviatoslav Richter's unforgettable 1971 recital, will be hosting a programme of Schumann, Mahler and Kodály, with a television recording appearing – with support from the Opera – in the catalogue of a global music label as well. The concert film will be directed by a true television legend: Brian Large.

Schumann ▶ **Dichterliebe, Opus 48**

Mahler ▶ **Songs of a Wayfarer**

Kodály ▶ **Two Songs, Opus 5**

Featuring ▶ **Hartmut Höll - piano**

*19 September 2016 (Mon), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# István Széchenyi225

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SONG RECITAL FROM SZÉCHENYI'S AND LISZT'S WORKS

István Széchenyi – called “the greatest Hungarian” by his great rival Lajos Kossuth – was born 225 years ago. His nephew Imre Széchényi was a diplomat of grand style, a good friend of Franz Josef, Bismarck and many other heads of state, and who, being a composer, also championed the cause of Hungarian culture. Together with Ödön Mihalovich, he was responsible for the international recognition received by many Hungarian musicians: those who turned up in the great patron's salons in Vienna, Budapest, Sopron or Horpács were sure to become world-famous. This concert will be held in the Royal Salon, decorated with seccos by the Széchenyis' contemporary, Bertalan Székely, on István Széchenyi's birthday.

Featuring ► **Orsolya Sáfár, Bernadett Wiedemann** (voice), **Emese Virág** (piano).

Presenter ► **Sándor Kovács**, music historian (Liszt Academy)

*21 September 2016 (Wed) 7:30 pm, Opera House, Székely Bertalan Hall*

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# Season opener

THE 133RD BEGINS!

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

The Hungarian State Opera's artistic director, **Ferenc Anger**, will be staging one of **Giuseppe Verdi**'s most popular works, the story of the fallen woman Violetta. The pre-premiere of the production was held at the Open-Air Stage on Margaret Island in the summer of 2016, and now it will be moving into a theatre – together with all the stars of the Opera and Ballet, who are returning to their second home after a long summer vacation in a spectacular convoy. There will be 1200 chairs on the street this Saturday again so that the same number of people can enjoy the premiere on the giant screen erected outside just as if they were inside the Opera House – and probably many more at home as well, as the programme is broadcast on radio and television by MTVA. The conductor will be **Pinchas Steinberg**, the world-famous president and conductor of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, consisting of the musicians of the Opera.

During the intermission **Géza M Tóth**'s film "Opera 130 – Where the World Unfolds" will be screened, which was commissioned by the Opera in 2014. In the afternoon of the Season opener – faithful to our traditions – our *commedia dell'arte* productions will be performed on the Sphinx Terrace, and the audience can see a special ballet production and video installation too based on artist **Márta Simonffy**'s concept. The audience of the more than 8-hour-long outdoor programme will be greeted by **Dr Zsófia Hassay**, mayor of the district Terézváros and **Szilveszter Ókovács**, general director of the Opera.

Partner ► **Government of Terézváros, Association of Hungarian Fine and Applied Artists, BMW Group Hungary**

# Season opener

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THE 133RD BEGINS!

1 pm *Opera House, Sphinx Terrace* – Donizetti ► **I pazzi per progetto** (see ► p. 143)

3 pm *Opera House, Sphinx Terrace* – Donizetti ► **Il campanello** (see ► p. 141)

5 pm *Opera House, Sphinx Terrace* – Menotti ► **The Telephone** (see ► p. 144)

5:45 pm *Andrássy Avenue stage* – **Greetings**

6 pm *Andrássy Avenue stage* – **Between the Balance** – featuring artists of the Hungarian National Ballet

6:20 pm *Andrássy Avenue stage* – **Artists' entry in the special cars of BMW**

7 pm *Andrássy Avenue screen* – Verdi ► **La traviata, Act 1** (see ► p. 29)

8:30 pm *Andrássy Avenue screen* – **Opera130 – The Palace on Andrássy Avenue** (film screening)

9 pm *Andrássy Avenue screen* – Verdi ► **La traviata, Act 2**

10 pm *Andrássy Avenue stage* – **Video installation on the façade of the Opera House**

24 September 2016 (Sat) *Andrássy Avenue*

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# Simándy100 – with Kaufmann

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

A GRAND TENOR SHOW ON THE GREAT TENOR'S BIRTHDAY

Tenors are, of course, the luckiest singers. Their job is also probably the most difficult, and it is no coincidence that only a few of them become privileged with world fame or that composers set aside their most beautiful melodies for them. Now, the 100th anniversary of the birth of towering and legendary Hungarian tenor **József Simándy** is bringing the best Hungarian singers and the greatest active tenor stars of our era to the stage of the Erkel Theatre. **Jonas Kaufmann** will join eight Hungarian singers to pay homage to Simándy's truly pivotal life's work, which remains a model even today, and at the end of the night the artist himself, who is most closely identified with the role of Bánk bán, will appear via state-of-the-art technology to sing his legendary aria about his, and his character's, Hungarian homeland.

Featuring ► **Jonas Kaufmann, Péter Balczó, Szabolcs Brickner, Attila Fekete, István Horváth, István Kovácsházi, Boldizsár László, Adorján Pataki, Zoltán Nyári, the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **János Kovács**

3D graphics ► **Géza M. Tóth**

Director ► **András Aczél**

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*25 September 2016 (Sun) 3 pm, Erkel Theatre (2:30 pm, Erkel Theatre, foyer – wreath-laying)*

# Marton Gala

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SECOND ÉVA MARTON INTERNATIONAL SINGING COMPETITION

Visit any major opera house anywhere in the world, and you'll find that they know the name "**Éva Marton**". Our institution considers it a great honour to be the place where the famous Hungarian dramatic soprano both started her career and festively celebrated her retirement four and a half decades later; and now we are proud to again host the gala night of the prestigious singing competition organised by the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music.

Jury ▶ **Éva Marton** (chair), **Christina Scheppelmann**, **Miguel Lerín**, **Vittorio Terranova**, **Sung Biu Kim**,  
**Anatoli Goussev**, **Honghai Ma**, **Andrea Meláth**, **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian Radio Symphonic Orchestra and the finalists of the competition**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

*25 September 2016 (Sun) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

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# Zsura60

UNCONVENTIONAL BIRTHDAY WITH A LOT OF DANCE

**Zoltán Zsuráfszky**, one of Hungary's most highly acclaimed choreographers, a winner of the Kossuth Prize and an Artist of Excellence, will celebrate his 60th birthday at the Erkel Theatre. The programme will feature a festive selection from the innumerable choreographies from his career, spanning over 40 years so far, as well as from his major dance theatre productions.

Zsuráfszky (or "Zsura", as everyone calls him) has always regarded authentic Hungarian folk culture and the folk art of the peoples of the Carpathian Basin to be the foundation and "mother tongue" of his creative works, using them as a starting point to create his unique and individual artistic world.

Featuring ► **Hungarian National Dance Ensemble**

*26 September 2016 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Opera without Borders

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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 132 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, whose statue stands to the left of the building.

The now traditional taking of the citizen's oath prior to the open dress rehearsal will be led by the mayor of the Terézváros district of Budapest, **Dr. Zsófia Hassay**.

Kodály ► **The Spinning Room**

Partners ► **Government of Terézváros, Government of Gyula**

*5 pm, Andrásy Avenue: wreath-laying*

*5:30 pm, Opera House: citizen's oath*

*6 pm, Opera House: Kodály: The Spinning Room*

*29 September 2016 (Thu), Opera House*

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# London Philharmonic Orchestra

SPECIAL CONCERTS SURROUNDED BY THE ACOUSTICS OF THE ERKEL THEATRE

The first concert after the re-opening of the theatre featured the Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra with a full programme of Wagner. A little more than a year later, the Russian National Orchestra gave a guest performance with a Slavic theme under the baton of **Mikhail Pletnev**, and in the autumn of 2015 the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, which consists of musicians from the Opera, could experience the special – because they precise and pure – acoustics of the Erkel from the concert stage – this time with an Italian “programme” consisting of Verdi’s Requiem. In September 2016, one of the most prestigious orchestras in the world will also visit the Erkel, where Toscanini, Furtwängler and Bernstein all conducted with great success in the past.

Mendelssohn-Bartholdy ► **Hebrides Overture Op. 26**  
Mendelssohn-Bartholdy ► **Violin Concerto in E Minor Op. 64**  
Bruckner ► **Symphony No. 4 in E-flat major (“Romantic”)**

Featuring ► **Kristóf Baráti – violin**

Conductor ► **Vladimir Jurowski**

Partner ► **Philharmonics Hungary**

*30 September 2016 (Fri) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# International Music Day

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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 two 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 2016 (Sat) 6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace*

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# 31st 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 Hungarian State Opera Chorus, which eases the passage along the section of road along Andrásy Avenue by regaling runners from in front of the main entrance with choral pieces, at the same time providing entertainment for marathon fans.

*9 October 2016 (Sun) 9:30, Andrásy Avenue*

# Bel Canto Reloaded

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KLÁRA KOLONITS'S RECITAL

*Bel canto*, or beautiful singing is the absolute respect for the aesthetics of melody and musical forms as well as the art of maximising one's exploitation of technical skill. Looking back at this unique, clearly definable Italo–French style after two hundred years, we can see that besides the great Italian triad (Bellini, Donizetti and Rossini), Meyerbeer, Auber and a few other composers who are less well-known today approached the human voice with special sensitivity; outstanding soprano **Klára Kolonits**, who is deeply committed to this style, provides some insight into these works – based on her CD of the same title, which was released recently.

Featuring ► **the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **Dániel Dinyés**

*16 October 2016 (Mon), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# Cziffra 1956

CONCERT OF THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

As it happened, even though the invited Chinese guest pianist had been able to learn the complete works of Chairman Mao by heart in eight days, he still declined to perform the notorious Bartók piano concerto. So a delegation visited the Kedves Bar to ask the ex-forced labourer, ex-POW and ex-émigré **György Cziffra**, who was working there, if he could do it. The frenetic virtuoso of Liszt and Chopin had never played Bartók before, and yet, in a month's time, there he was sitting at the Erkel Theatre – without sheet music! And the enthusiastic audience thronged in, there to listen after so many years to the “difficult” Bartók, whose works had previously been under political disfavour, and they left in a state of euphoria. All this happened on the night of 22 October 1956, and the rest is world history, just like the bloody battle that took place a few days later on Republic Square in the shadows of the Erkel Theatre. Exactly 60 years later, it's not only that night, that piece and that pianist we will be recalling in the exact same spot: there will also be a winner of a Cziffra Competition sitting at the piano.

Beethoven ► **Egmont Overture**

Bartók ► **Piano Concerto No. 2**

Brahms ► **Symphony No. 2**

Partner ► **1956 Memorial Committee**

Featuring ► **János Balázs** (piano)

Conductor ► **Pinchas Steinberg**

Director ► **András Aczél**

*22 October 2016 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Tuned to Freedom

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OPEN DAY ON THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY

A joyful and meaningful family programme on the national holiday; thousands of visitors gratefully participated in previous years, with queues reaching from the foyer to the artists' entrance of the Opera House.

Admiring the chief work of the greatest Hungarian architect, **Miklós Ybl**, is a special privilege that everyone may now enjoy. Admission is free for every programme.

Featuring ► **Ákom-Bákom Puppet Group, Katáng Band**

*23 October 2016 (Sun) 10 am to 2 pm, Opera House*

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# 56 Drops of Blood

THE REVOLUTIONARY MUSICAL

Scarcely 25 years have passed since Hungarians were first allowed to speak freely about the causes, aftermath, memory and victims of 1956. Works that elevate this revolution that played such an important part in the nation's history to the world of Hungarian music theatre are created only very gradually. The first musical written about 1956 can be heard again now as part of the jubilee and, at last, in a real theatre – at the Erkel, which is located on the corner of the former Köztársaság (Republic) Square: the building itself and its immediate surroundings became emblematic first-hand witnesses of the freedom fight. The work was composed by **Tamás Mihály**, bass guitarist for the band Omega and son of the composer, conductor, and former Opera general director **Mihály András**.

Director ► **János Szikora**

Partner ► **Székesfehérvár Vörösmarty Theatre**

*23 (Sun) and 31 (Mon) October 2016, 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Citizens of Kassa

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GUEST PERFORMANCE IN KASSA (KOŠICE)

23 October 1956 brought an earthquake to the entire Hungarian nation, and the shockwaves rocked – and not merely in a seismological sense – the Hungarians living in the territories Hungary had lost after the First World War too. Vengeance was exacted there too, and numerous death sentences were carried out. We will be remembering the revolutionaries and the victims in Kassa (Košice), where the Hungarians of Slovakia will be renting the theatre building for this important occasion, while the Opera will bring the same representative Hungarian gala programme that was performed to mark the entry into force of the new Fundamental Law of Hungary on 1 January 2012.

Featuring ► **Kinga Kriszta, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz, István Horváth, Csaba Szegedi**

Conductor ► **Ádám Medveczky**

Director ► **András Aczél**

*23 October 2016 (Sun) 7 pm, Kassa (Košice), Grand Theatre*

# Piano Arias

THE BIRTHDAY OF FERENC LISZT AT THE OPERA



**BMW**  
Art&Culture

**Ferenc Liszt** lived through the construction of the Opera House and modelled for Zsigmond 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 Órzk Foundation. The official charity of the Tűzoltó Street Children's Clinic will donate income from the event to improving treatment conditions for children suffering with tumours or leukaemia. This year's concert will be a recital by two young Hungarian talents joined by a star soprano. The patroness of the event will be **Anita Herczeg**, wife of the President of the Republic.

On the programme ► **works of Liszt and Bartók**

Featuring ► **Ivett Gyöngyössi, Mihály Berecz** (piano), **Erika Miklósa** (voice)

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

*24 October 2016 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

# The Day of §

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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. Last year we presented *Tosca* to the legal experts, and this year they will get to see our production of *La bohème*, which changed the way the Budapest audience perceives the work. On the European Day of Civil Justice, we are inviting key staff from the justice system to the ornate auditorium of the Opera House, irrespective of their position or role at the conference table.

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

Puccini ► **La bohème 2.0** (see ► p . 148)

*28 October 2016 (Fri) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# Verdi: Requiem

CONCERT OF THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

One of the Opera's loveliest traditions is its musical observation of the the All Saints/Day of the Dead holiday period with the funeral mass that has been described as "an opera in ecclesiastical robes". **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 ▶ **the Orchestra and Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** (chorus director ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**)

Soprano ▶ **Klára Kolonits**

Alto ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Tenor ▶ **Stuart Neill**

Bass ▶ **András Pallerdi**

Conductor ▶ **Daniele Rustioni**

*31 October 2016 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

# Weeping of the Winter Night

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MUSICAL HISTORY LESSON ABOUT THE REVENGE TAKEN AFTER 1956

In 2012, two singers, a married couple, from the Opera's Chorus composed a singspiel that depicts the depressing atmosphere of the months after the suppression of the revolution. The revival being presented in this commemorative year, with the participation of a number of artists from the chorus and the orchestra, preserves the atmosphere of the 1950s with its set, furniture and costumes: the song-like music composed to the story movingly intensifies the feelings of love, patriotism, fear and pain from those years.

Composer ► **Frigyes Andrásy**

Director ► **János Tóth**

Conductor ► **János Kovács**

Partner ► **1956 Memorial Committee**

*3 (Thu) and 4 (Fri) November 2016, 7 pm, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre*

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# 1956 Requiem

DIES IRAE, DIES ILLA

The Requiem will be played on the same square 60 years later, but not only in memory of the siege of the Communist Party Headquarters on Köztársaság Square and the many who were killed then and there. The struggle for freedom fought against the Hungarian and Soviet representatives of Stalinist terror took the lives of at least 4,000 people. On the same day, the anniversary of the Soviet intervention, we mourn the loss of those 200,000 emigrants whose departure entailed a huge loss to Hungary, which had been overwhelmed yet again.

Patroness ► **Mária Wittner**

Verdi ► **Requiem**

Featuring ► **the Orchestra and Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** (chorus director ► **Kálmán Strausz**)

Soprano ► **Klára Kolonits**

Alto ► **Atala Schöck**

Tenor ► **Stuart Neill**

Bass ► **András Palerdi**

Conductor ► **Daniele Rustioni**

Partner ► **1956 Memorial Committee**

*4 November 2016 (Fri) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Hungarian Opera Day

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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. This year a concert performance of Ferenc Erkel's first opera will be in the programme, and the studio recording of the opera, based on the critical edition of the score, will be issued on the same day. 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.

Erkel ► **Bátori Mária**

6 November 2016 (Sun), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre

(5:30 pm – award ceremony, 7:15 pm – wreath-laying)

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

Director ► **András Aczél**

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# 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 2016 (Mon) 10 am and 11 am, Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet*

# Cinema Szinetár

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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. Last year, during his Cinema Szinetár programme, he spoke about his 12 opera films and showed excerpts from them; the inclusion of legendary singers made the event unforgettable.

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, a screen and a piano.

Director ► **András Aczél**

*13 November 2016 (Sun) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# Destination Tampere!

GUEST PERFORMANCE OF WORKS ABOUT 1956

It is extremely significant in the life of every artistic institution if it can introduce itself at guest performances in distant countries and see how it measures up. Organising a tour is the most difficult in the case of an opera house, as the travelling company, consisting of the orchestra, the chorus, the supernumeraries, the technical staff and the soloists, can range in size from 150 people up to as many as 300, and the transportation of the large quantities of sets, costumes, props and lighting equipment is another problem. In the past few years the artists of the Opera have toured in Savonlinna, Oman, Paris, Qatar, China, Milan and New York, in addition to completing two tours of Japan. The performance of *Così fan tutte* in Prague in the spring of 2016 will be the 50th foreign guest performance in the series that began in 2011.

Now the destination is again Finland, namely Tampere, where our opera programme dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the revolution and war of independence of 1956 will be performed at the city's arts centre, which is similar to the Műpa Budapest. (Interestingly, the recording of *Kaivos* by the Tampere Philharmonics was nominated for a Grammy Award, and they are the only orchestra that has performed this work by Rautavaara, although in concert version. Now the Hungarian State Opera will have the opportunity to perform a staged production.)

E. Rautavaara ► **The Mine** (see ► p. 37)

Judit Varga ► **Love** (see ► p. 41)

22 November 2016 (Tue) 7 pm, Tampere Hall

# Richter János100

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CONCERT OF THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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 the bicentenary of his birth – with a concert broadcast live from Richter Hall in Győr.

Wagner ▶ **Columbus Overture**

Wagner ▶ **Der fliegende Holländer** – overture

Wagner ▶ **Tannhäuser** – overture

Wagner ▶ **Tristan und Isolde** – Prelude and Isolde's Liebestod

Wagner ▶ **Das Rheingold** – Entry of the gods into Valhalla

Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung** – Siegfried's Rhine Journey  
and Funeral March, finale

Featuring ▶ **Irène Theorin** (singer)

Laudation ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Partner ▶ **Győr Philharmonic Orchestra**

*5 December 2016 (Mon), 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# Christmas of the Starry-Eyed

WHEN REALLY EVERYBODY DANCES

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 Tímár**, at an intimate and yet grand event at the Erkel Theatre in the autumn of 2015. Now their aim is to show the results of 2016, and the audience can expect another colourful and enchanting event performed by hundreds of young dancers of the specially organised and trained Csillagszemű groups – in the spirit of Advent before Christmas...

Choreographer ► **Sándor Tímár**

Director ► **Böske Tímár**

Hostess ► **Júlia Kudlik**

*19 December 2016 (Mon) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# New Year's Bat

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BECAUSE THE BAT IS A NOCTURNAL ANIMAL

A remarkable evening, in which Strauss's *Die Fledermaus* – as a nocturnal creature – has a remarkably good time! The second act of our production, starting at 8:30 pm, will incorporate a surprise gala of celebrated Hungarian artists – for one night only! There will also be champagne and, outside on Andrassy Avenue, fireworks and group singing as audience members, artists, and colleagues – some 1500 of us in total – herald in the New Year with the drinking song from *Bánk bán* on the section of Andrassy Avenue in front of the Opera House directly after the performance. A cheery New Year's Eve outing for the entire family – as guaranteed by the general director.

Strauss ► **Die Fledermaus** (see ► p. 169)

*31 December 2016 (Sat) 8:30 pm, Opera House*

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# New Year's at the Opera

CONCERT OF THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The audience will be greeted by the entire company of the Hungarian State Opera with a New Year's invocation at the Opera House, a newly commissioned verse by poet **Anna Szabó T.**, a new ballet interlude choreographed by **János Kiss** and **László Velekei** (to an excerpt from ballet music composed by legendary intendant and composer **Miklós Radnai**), a New Year's address from historian **Balázs Ablonczy** representing the world of science, as well as an overture newly written for the occasion by composer **Bálint Karosi**. The greeting will also go out to Hungarians living abroad by way of Duna Television. The young students of the Ballet Institute of the Opera will also step out on the stage for the first time.

Karosi ▶ **Overture 2017**

Radnai ▶ **The Infanta's Birthday** (excerpt)

Anna Szabó T. ▶ **Poem for New Year's**

Beethoven ▶ **Symphony No. 9**

Featuring ▶ **Hungarian National Ballet, István Kovács, Lúcia Megyesi-Schwartz, Dániel Pataki Potyók,**  
**Orsolya Hajnalka Róser** (voice)

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Hostess ▶ **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA)

*1 January 2017 (Sun), 7 pm, Opera House*

# New Year's Frolic

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A WHIRL OF FOLK DANCE GROUPS

Hungarian folk tradition has some treasure for every major holiday: on the Epiphany we select from worthy productions of the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble and the best Hungarian amateur dance groups, with special attention to our guests from the neighbouring countries as well.

Featuring ► **National Folk Ensemble, Duna Art Ensemble, Hungarian State Folk Ensemble**

Producer ► **Zoltán "Batyú" Farkas**

Host ► **András Berecz**

*7 January 2017 (Sat) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# 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 connection to this date, one of exceptional importance to Hungarian – and world – medical history, we have invited to the Erkel Theatre – as we plan to do on or around this day in future years as well – 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. To kick off the new tradition, the doctors were treated to **Balázs Kovalik**'s now legendary production of *Turandot*; this year another grand production, *Aida*, will be on offer.

Verdi ► **Aida** (see ► p. 174)

Partner ► **Association of Hungarian Medical Societies, Hungarian Medical Chamber**

*20 January 2017 (Fri) 6 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Renée Fleming's Song Recital

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A DIVA WITHOUT TOOLS

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

The classic song recital with piano accompaniment – two artists' communal loneliness – requires more bravery than any other vocal form. A great personality of our era, Renée Fleming will continue to confront intellectual challenges at her second recital in Budapest: after her orchestral song and aria recital at the Opera House in 2011, now she will be reaching her fans in the purest artistic way possible, this time at the Erkel Theatre. At the place where, in spite of the huge space, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau had huge success with Svyatoslav Richter "on his side". And there is another connection: Fleming's seasoned partner also served as Fischer-Dieskau's loyal pianist in his final years.

Featuring ► **Hartmut Höll** (piano)

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*21 January 2017 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# Day of Hungarian Culture

GYÖRGY RÁNKI 25

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, and despite every problem that comes up, 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 adaption of *Romeo and Juliet*. This year we will be focusing 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; this work will be recorded as well in the spring of the same year.

In the Opera House, we will be displaying relics of Ferenc Erkel relating to the *Himnusz*, penned by Ferenc Kölcsey, on the landing of the grand staircase. On the same day, we will issue a historical recording of Ránki’s work based on Imre Madách’s **The Tragedy of Man** and made at the Opera House together with the audio material from the 1953 world premiere featuring Mihály Székely.

Ránki ► **King Pomade’s New Clothes** (see ► p. 161)

22 January 2017 (Sun) 11 am, Erkel Theatre

# 3rd 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 ► **Imre Kollár**

4 February 2017 (Sat) 7 pm, Opera House

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# Chanson Chance

CLASSIC SONGS FROM BUDAPEST NIGHTS

Nights in Budapest once unfolded in a musical medium that could not be compared to anything else: the world of Hungarian couplets and chansons. We have not forgotten them, they are just hiding deep in our subconscious. The finest actors in Hungary will be unearthing and evoking this hidden treasure, creating sheer decadence in the huge space of the Erkel Theatre – which used to be a home for this genre too. (Not to mention that it will be on the 13th, a gloomy November Sunday...)

Presenter ► **Péter Rudolf**

Featuring ► **Gyula Bodrogi, Péter Haumann, Erzs Galambos, Marika Oszvald, György Korda, László Aradszky, János Koós, Enikő Détár, István Hirtling, Sándor Lukács, András Csonka, Gábor Gabriel Farkas, Csaba and Tamás Vastag, Dénes Pál, Bálint Gájer and Zséda**

Producer ► **Tibor Kalmár**

Director ► **András Aczél**

*23 February 2016 (Thu) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Háry Night

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A NIGHT FOR PROTECTORS AND ARTISTS

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

2014's Silver Rose Ball featured a performance of **Richard Strauss's** *Der Rosenkavalier* to mark the sesquicentenary of the composer's birth. The 2015 carnival season was likewise crowned by a ball at the Opera House, this time as part of the Faust season, and last year the event was dominated by Shakespeare's works and themes. Just as two years ago we highlighted the theme of sport, then that of science, and last year the world of commerce, this year it is the turn of those who protect us with arms. We'll be inviting Hungary's grandest personalities from this realm, along with our guest artists and Opera supporters. As part of the Hungarian Season, *Háry* will dress the festive programme in a partly combative and partly fairy-tale-like world, and it will also retain its charitable aim: we will be continuing our ambulance project, and through the Dalszínház Street Ball will also once again invite the public to make donations in the space outside the Opera House, where we'll also be projecting the festival programme from the Háry Night. The next morning, we will once again host disadvantaged children for the "Breadcrumb Ball", where they'll be able to watch Engelbert Humperdinck's fairy-tale opera *Hansel and Gretel*, all brought to them by the Klauzál Lions Club. After **Vesselina Kasarova**, **Angela Gheorghiu** and **Plácido Domingo**, the name of the ball's guest of honour this year will be announced in due course.

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

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

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

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*25 February 2017 (Sat) 8 pm, Opera House*

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# Arany200

THE BARDS OF WALES FESTIVAL WITH KARL JENKINS

A pillar of Hungarian culture, **János Arany** still ranks near the top in importance even 200 years after his birth. We celebrate his poetry, his ballads, his Toldy trilogy, his patriotism, his thoughtful reading of his contemporaries' works, and himself as a president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; and we can rejoice if an artist living far away is inspired by Arany's poetry.

**Karl Jenkins** is one of those famous contemporary composers who composes in a language that is easy to understand, and is also active in film music. The ballad *The Bards of Wales* deeply impressed the Welsh-born composer whose oratorio of the same title has been performed at Carnegie Hall in New York. On the bicentenary of János Arany's birth, this work will be performed in a festive production, and we will be conjuring up a real *Bard of Wales* festival around it.

Featuring ► **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, András Káldi Kiss, Ingrid Kertesi, Boldizsár László, MÁV Symphony Orchestra, Dénes Farkas** – actor, **Kaláka Band**

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

Partner ► **Hungarian Academy of Sciences**

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

# DanceTrend '17

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ALTERNATIVE ROUTES IN DANCE

This year the traditional *Pas de quatre* night will be preceded by a presentation of the DanceTrend programme, in which contemporary dancers, arrangers, choreographers and independent companies get a chance to introduce themselves. In the second half of the programme, audiences will get to know the work of one of the Hungarian National Ballet's young choreographers.

Yvette Bozsik / Christoph Willibald Gluck  
*Orfeo ed Euridice* dance show (excerpt)

Choreographer ► **Yvette Bozsik**  
Choreographer's assistant ► **Szilveszter Székely**  
Costume designer ► **Mara Bozóki**  
Visual concept ► **József Pető**  
Film ► **Marcell Iványi, Kristóf Becsey**  
Creative producer ► **Marcell Iványi**

The work dissects the essential questions of life, death, love, perseverance and faith from the perspective of individual responsibility. Keeping faith with our word, our pledges and ourselves, practising what we preach, despite all difficulties, and an allegory of hope.

*Orfeo ed Euridice* has also been staged by **Yvette Bozsik's** two great role models, and thus her choreography is a tribute to them: a homage to and remembrance of the work of Pina Bausch and Mary Wigman.

## Budapest Dance Theatre SEC

Choreographer ► **Lóránd Zachár**

The Soul ► **Dzenifer Vattai**

The Body ► **Alexandra Sághy**

The mystery of birth and death raises eternal and unanswerable questions for us. We are part of death from the moment of our conception, and we proceed towards our fate stuck in the unavoidable vortex of time. Under normal conditions, there is no cause that could explain these processes, and no will that could influence them. We are not the ones who decide about our life and death.

Therefore, there might exist a huge collection of knowledge, an infinite thought that organises the physical necessity or superfluity of our existence in a world that it has created. We, human beings can only be fragments of an incomprehensibly huge intelligence, carriers of thoughts, who can expand the boundaries of the Universe with more and more new experience.

At the end of our physical existence, the film of our lives rolls before our eyes. For our Creator, the immense knowledge, perhaps this is the moment that is really important because it is then that we shoot toward it the experience of our entire lives in the spark of our final thought.

*3 March 2017 (Fri) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Pas de quatre '17

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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

Choreographer ▶ **László Velekei**

Music ▶ **montage**

Lighting designer ▶ **Attila Szabó**

Assistant ▶ **Zsuzsanna Kara**

Costume designers ▶ **László Velekei, Gabriella Győri**

Ballet Pécs

Balázs Vincze / Béla Bartók:

## The Miraculous Mandarin

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# Pas de quatre '17

PANORAMA OF HUNGARIAN DANCE ENSEMBLES

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

Enrico Morelli:

## Moderato Cantabile

Choreographer ▶ **Enrico Morelli**

Music ▶ **montage**

Lighting designer ▶ **Ferenc Stadler**

Set production ▶ **Scabello**

Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**

Hungarian National Ballet

Johan Inger / Tom Waits:

## Rain Dogs

Choreographer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Coaching ballet master ▶ **Carl Inger**

Composer ▶ **Tom Waits**

Set and Costume designer ▶ **Johan Inger**

Lighting designer ▶ **Peter Lundin**

Ballet master ▶ **Angéla Kövessy**

*4 March 2017 (Sat) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Kodály50+

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CONCERT BY THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

If in 19th century Hungary it was Ferenc Deák who deserved to be called by the epithet ornans the “wise man of the nation”, then the same title should be given to Zoltán Kodály in the 20th century. His academic qualifications and the fact that he worked as a composer writing music only reveals a small fraction about this man who possessed wisdom on a biblical scale from a very young age. In addition to his knowledge of literature and languages, his academic devotion to folk music, his professorship at the Academy of Music and his desire to familiarise the entire Hungarian nation and especially the young with the world of music – which would have been a complete life's work just by itself – his activity in public life must be mentioned too: he was the president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Regardless of which regime was in power, he protected the downtrodden and supported the talented, and when it was necessary, he stood up against tyranny, trusting in the protective shield of the international renown he had gained through several decades of exhibiting human greatness. On the 50th anniversary of his death, the morning will begin at the Opera House where Kodály and his family survived the siege of Budapest in the winter of 1944/45. We will be remembering at the same place where his *Missa brevis* was premiered, conducted by himself: the ground floor cloakroom.

Kodály ► **Dances of Galánta**

Kodály ► **Two Songs**

Kodály ► **Te Deum**

Featuring ► **Gábor Bretz, Beatrix Fodor, Krisztina Simon,**

**Szabolcs Brickner, the Hungarian State Opera Chorus**

(chorusmaster: **Kálmán Strausz**)

Laudation ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Conductor ► **Ion Marin**

*6 March 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

*(9 am, Opera House cloakroom ► Missa Brevis)*

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# Pártay75

WITH ANNA KARENINA

The Hungarian Season also brings a significant birthday for our internationally-renowned ballet dancer and choreographer, which will be a true celebration of Hungarian classical ballet. **Lilla Pártay's** career as a ballerina and the appealing choreographic work that grew out of it always remained faithful to classical foundations, gave Hungarian dance of the past few decades its second – alongside **László Seregi** – great creative artist. After her active career as an internationally successful prima ballerina and the winner of several competitions, she created more than three dozen choreographies, and her full-length productions were also performed at the Opera: first *Anna Karenina* (1991), then *Amadeus*, *Gone with the Wind*, and most recently *The Golden Brush* (2013), about the life of the painter Mihály Munkácsy.

Lilla Pártay was decorated with the Liszt Prize in 1972, the Artist of Merit award in 1977 and the Artist of Excellence award in 1981, which was followed by the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary in 1993. She was awarded the Kossuth Prize in 1994, and later became an eternal member of the Opera; since 2009 she has been an eternal member of the Society of Immortals. She is a master artist of the Hungarian State Opera and was elected an Artist of the Nation in 2014. On her 75th birthday, we will be relaunching a run of her first two-act ballet, *Anna Karenina*, and before the first performance, the Hungarian National Ballet will be saluting the master choreographer, while the Opera celebrates with a brand-new illustrated publication about Lilla Pártay's career.

11 March 2017 (Sat) 7 pm, Opera House

Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rác ► **Anna Karenina**

# Tokody40

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CELEBRATING THE GREAT LYRIC SOPRANO

In the last third of the 20th century, there was a Hungarian lyric soprano whose talent, diligence and enchanting personality enabled to win acclaim all over the world. Ilona Tokody was a paragon in every single Italian role, a great figure of sophisticated and artistic singing. On the 40th anniversary of the beginning of her career, she will be compiling the programme of the night and selecting the participants, and of course she herself will be appearing before her fans – and the Opera will be celebrating this outstanding artist who has always remained faithful to it with an illustrated publication about her career.

Featuring ► **the Orchestra, Chorus and soloists of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **János Kovács**

Director ► **András Aczél**

*13 March 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

When this Programme Calendar went to press, the 2016 Pilvaker had not yet taken place, and we cannot be certain about the 2017 event – as it is through generous donations that this programme comes together each year. We still think that there is a good chance of booking the auditorium for the Pilvaker slam poetry team, because the Opera likes this freestyle, daring and peculiar but definitely patriotic programme very much, and performers and viewers alike clearly have a good time at the Erkel. We do this kind of thing only rarely – but for them, it's worth it!

*15 March 2017 (Wed) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Ybl203

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CONCERT BY THE BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Some years ago we celebrated the bicentenary of the birth of a great admirer of Italy, 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.

Mahler ► **Symphony No. 2**

Partner ► **Chamber of Hungarian Architects**

Featuring ► **Ezter Sümegi, Atala Schöck** (voice),  
**the Hungarian State Opera Chorus** (chorus director  
► **Kálmán Strausz**)

Hostess ► **Noémi Morvai** (MTVA)

Conductor ► **Pinchas Steinberg**

*3 April 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House (7 pm: wreath-laying)*

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# Primavera '17

PANORAMA OF PREMIERES FROM HUNGARIAN OPERA COMPANIES

It is the obligation of the Hungarian State Opera House, by virtue of its rank and status as a national institution, to support the performance of opera around the country. 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**

*4 to 9 April 2017 (Tue to Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Parsifal for Protectors

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HOLY WEEK MYSTERY AT THE OPERA

The special Holy Tuesday evening performance in 2013's Opera for Everyone open dress rehearsal series was expressly for the benefit of historical Christian churches: we invited applications from Roman Catholic, Calvinist, Lutheran, Baptist and Unitarian priests and ministers, as well as their assistants, to all experience together and absorb the mystery of Parsifal's Good Friday Magic at the start of Holy Week. For Holy Week 2014, doctors and other representative of the medical profession came out to the Opera House, while in the Faust Season Hungarian scientists and in the Shakespeare Season leaders from the business world were invited to the Opera House. In the spring of 2017 we will be inviting members of the government bureaus that protect our lives, possessions and safety to immerse themselves in this Holy Week experience in the sincere belief that Wagner's final work touches everybody.

Wagner ► **Parsifal** (open dress rehearsal, see ► p. 205)

*11 April 2017 (Tue) 5 pm, Opera House*

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# The Day of Verse

MUSIC AND PROSE

For the Opera, with its genuine sense of responsibility for Hungary's vocal culture, **Attila József's** birthday is an appropriate time to set poems to music. With this in mind, the building will play host to an afternoon of Hungarian poems and songs starting prior to the dress rehearsal of *Parsifal*. With the participation of students of theatre arts and soloists of the Opera, musical works by Kodály and other composers set to Hungarian poems will be heard.

Producer ► **Frigyes Andrásy**

Partner ► **Academy of Drama and Film**

*11 April 2017 (Tue) 3 pm, Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet*

# The Passion of the Christ

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KEEPING VIGIL WITH AN EVANGELISING FILM

Australian actor and director **Mel Gibson**'s film, the monumental *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)

Partner ► **Budapest Film, VisualPower**

*14 April 2017 (Fri) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

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# 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 in learning more about the voice participate in hundreds of concerts, scientific presentations and other programmes around the world. The Opera first joined the event in 2014, but in 2016 – because of Easter Sunday – we will be celebrating a day earlier, and thus become the first in the world!

Producer ► **Éva Bátor**

Director ► **András Aczél**

*info: [dalarnap@opera.hu](mailto:dalarnap@opera.hu)*

Partner ► **KÓTA**

*15 April 2017 (Sat) Erkel Theatre*

# Easter with Mascagni

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ITALIAN NIGHT WITH A MASS AND AN OPERA

Those who have seen Mascagni's famous one-act *Cavalleria rusticana* will never forget the *Easter Hymn*. The tragic story taking place at Easter is a perfect match for *Messa di Gloria*, which exudes the euphoria of resurrection, but which is above all a Southern Italian mass of innocent faith. The artists of the Hungarian State Opera will be preparing for the Easter Sunday event with a concert performance with a unique atmosphere.

It is also of no little relevance that Mascagni himself rehearsed and conducted his opera in Budapest, and as rumour has it, its success here ignited it like a rocket on its way to becoming a worldwide sensation.

Mascagni ► **Cavalleria rusticana**

Soloists ► **Stuart Neill, Ildikó Komlósi, Judit Németh, Zoltán Kelemen, Melinda Heiter**

Mascagni ► **Messa di gloria**

Soloists ► **Stuart Neill, Zoltán Kelemen**

Featuring ► **the Chorus and the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

*16 April 2017 (Sun) 7 pm, Opera House*

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# Komische Oper Berlin

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE GUEST PERFORMANCE

Did you know that the majority of the world's theatres that regularly perform operas can be found in Germany? And that Berlin is the only city in the world where three great companies play operas in three different opera houses independently from one another? After the fall of the Berlin Wall, all three institutions remained, and now the Komische Oper, which has been an iconic studio of Regietheater opera performance since Felsenstein's era and which presently has a Hungarian music director, will be coming to Budapest for a guest performance.

Mozart ► **Die Zauberflöte**

Conductor ► **Henrik Nánási**

Director ► **Barrie Kosky**

Partner ► **Budapest Spring Festival**

*19 (Wed) and 20 (Thu) April 2016, 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# OperaForum '17

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LISTENING AND UNDERSTANDING

Every year since 2011, on the Friday after Easter, the heads of all opera-performing organisations in Hungary have gathered at the Opera, where they relate their own situations with respect to their activities, companies and theatres in a private and informal setting. We then invite theatre directors, music directors, and dance-programme heads to lunch, followed by a visit to the evening's performance this time, the premiere of the ballet production *Le corsaire*.

*21 April 2017 (Fri) 11 am, Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet*

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# Choral Days '17

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: in 2017, we are organising a meeting of amateur choruses again, for which each must prepare a work by Erkel, as well as an operatic choral passage. 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 Saturday afternoon performance we plan for the entire auditorium to join in with the Opera Chorus as it sings *Va, pensiero!*, the chorus of the Hebrew slaves from *Nabucco* on the stage. The conductor of the famous choral interlude will be State Secretary for Culture **Dr. Péter Hoppál**, a qualified chorumaster.

Verdi ► **Nabucco** (see ► p. 207)

Producer ► **Kálmán Strausz, Director of  
the Hungarian Opera Chorus**

Partner ► **KÓTA**

*22 and 23 April 2017 (Sat and Sun) 4 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# European Opera Days

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RETURN VICTORIOUS

In 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, will be 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 will 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. The night will be full of thrills, fear, enjoyment, music and dance – as well as food and drink for the exhausted travellers, and even a full contemporary opera will be performed. Sleeping bags are required, because the Opera's Chandelier Loft is not only haunted, it's cold as well. Release from the demons occurs at six in the morning, with the arrival of the stage crew.

Massenet ► **Werther** (see ► p. 208)

Gryllus ► **Two Women** (see ► p. 21)

Director ► **András Aczél**

Partner ► **Opera Europa**

*6 May 2017 (Sat) night, Opera House*

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# Seregi Night '17

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**

*12 May 2017 (Fri) Opera House – Bartók ► The Wooden Prince*

# Choral Artists' Mini-Festival

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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 Hungarian Army Male Chorus 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 **Gyöngyvér Gupcsó**: 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. The Choral Artists' Mini-Festival 2017 begins in our sister building, St. Stephen's Basilica, designed by Miklós Ybl and built simultaneously with the Opera House, with a mass at midday on Sunday, followed by a prayer service with liturgical music, continues later in the brand-new auditorium of the Eiffel Art Studios with an afternoon programme of arias and finishes at the same place with the performance of *The Magic Cupboard* in the evening – in the spirit of Hungarian themes matching the season.

**12 pm, St. Stephen's Basilica – service and Hungarian prayer service with liturgical music**

**4 pm, Bánffy Stage – Hungarian opera afternoon**

**7 pm, Bánffy Stage – Farkas ▶ *The Magic Cupboard* (see ▶ p. 93)**

*14 May 2017 (Sun) St. Stephen Basilica, Eiffel Art Studios*

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# Feketeházy János Memorial Room

IN MEMORY OF AN EPOCH-MAKING ENGINEER

What is the hidden link between the following three buildings: the Opera House, the Erkel Theatre and the Eiffel Art Studios? The Erkel was built in 1911 – now on display at the Eiffel, railway engine No. 006 of the legendary 301 series was made in the MÁVAG factories in the same year. And where was the engineer who designed the ironwork of the Eiffel building when he was not planning the hall? On the ironwork of the roof above the stage of the Opera House... It is not only this secret relationship that requires the inauguration of a separate memorial room for **János Feketeházy**, but so does the period of thirty years that the talented Hungarian, who had contacts with the Eiffel Company in France, dedicated to Hungarian Railways. The hall has been called by this usurped name for a century now, but we owe the real designer a memorial plaque on his 175th birthday and present his artistic ironwork in the room named after him – together with the 120-year-long history of the “Eiffel” related to the railway industry.

Opens ► **Ilona Dávid**, CEO of the Hungarian Railways (MÁV)

Sculptor ► **Márk Lelkes**

*16 May 2017 (Tue) 11 am, Eiffel Art Studios*

# Czinka Panna

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THE THIRD MUSICAL PIECE FOR STAGE

On 15 March 1948, the great Hungarian centenary day, the world premiere of emblematic composer **Zoltán Kodály**'s third musical piece for the stage was cancelled under circumstances that have been impossible to reconstruct ever since. But we do know that the performance turned out to be controversial, as only half of the piece was performed, even though the communist euphoria over the "year of the turning point" and its terror just starting to operate at full speed should have been enough to make the party elite, including secretary general **Mátyás Rákosi**, be able to behave in a cultured manner at the Opera House. (The comrades were said to have grown too drunk during the intermission, and this is why the performance was never completed.) Of course, we cannot exclude the possibility that *Czinka Panna*, with its run of only a night and a half, and based on **Béla Balázs**'s story of the Gypsy violinist girl and the brigadier Ocskay during the era of the Rákóczi war of independence, might have been compared to the standards of *Háry János* and *The Spinning Room*. Nevertheless, it seems impossible not to find Kodály's genius in the solo and choral movements. On the 50th anniversary of the composer's death and as part of the Opera's Hungarian Season, it is obligatory, and even seems like a source of historical satisfaction to resurrect the score to this abruptly discarded *singspiel* and record it.

Kodály ▶ **Symphon**

Kodály ▶ **Summer Evening**

Kodály ▶ **Czinka Panna** (excerpt)

Featuring ▶ **the Chorus, Orchestra and soloists  
of the Hungarian State Opera**

5 June 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House

Special Events 364

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# René Pape's Aria Recital

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HUNGARY

No true opera fan or critic could possibly deny the fact that German-born **René Pape** is one of the leading bass singers in the world today. A multifaceted singer who is at home in various styles and languages, René Pape will be coming to his first recital in Hungary at the Hungarian State Opera at the zenith of his career. He selected the programme for his aria recital himself, but was glad to accommodate our request to include works related to Hungary, from his repertoire of **Ferenc Liszt's** works, for the final concert of HungarianFest, this year's May Festival.

Featuring ► **the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **Jonas Alber**

Director ► **András Aczél**

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*10 June 2017 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

# Inauguration of the Opera Park

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A GREEN SPACE WHERE A WEEDY PILE OF RUBBLE HAD BEEN

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

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 chamber opera *The Bassist* will be performed), planting rows of grapevines and growing roses. The Opera Park, the only green space among the Opera's properties will be all this, and we believe, much more. With the inauguration of the park, the only major development project by the largest cultural institution of the country since 1984, the Eiffel project will come to an end...

**4 pm: Inauguration of the playground**

**5 pm: Opera Vinery, Opera Wine Tasting**

**6 pm: The Roses of the Opera**

**7 pm: Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso** (see ► p. 121)

**10 pm: Szálinger: The Bassist** – premiere

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*18 June 2017 (Sun) 7 pm, Bánffy Stage, Opera Park*

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# Season-Closing Gala of the Starry-Eyed

SENSATIONAL VACATION

Similarly to previous years, the Starry-Eyed, consisting of almost 1000 dancers, are planning a festive season-closing programme. The children's and adult ensembles from chapters from Budapest, other parts of Hungary and abroad will be celebrating together the closing of a period that can be expected to have been filled with work, performances and travel. The programme will be a selection from the current repertoire and the most successful and popular numbers on the programme. Everybody from kindergarten-age children to professional adult dancers will be turning up at this colourful and sensational gala.

Choreographer ► **Sándor Timár**

Director ► **Böske Timár**

Presenter ► **Júlia Kudlik**

Featuring the **Tündök Band**

*18 June 2017 (Sun) 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

# Ballet Examinations

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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 ► **the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

*22 June 2017 (Thu), 7 pm, Erkel Theatre*

One of the Hungarian State Opera's beautiful traditions takes place at Budapest's greatest performance venue for summer performances: the now-reopened 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 Hungary, in front of seating for three thousand audience members is a huge responsibility, but we undertake it gladly, year after year!

*23 (Fri) and 25 (Sun) June 2017, 8 pm* – Gershwin ▶ **Porgy and Bess** – premiere (see ▶ p. 125) rain date ▶ 26 (Mon)

*7 (Fri) and 9 (Sun) July 2017, 8 pm* – Verdi ▶ **Il trovatore** (see ▶ p. 233) rain date ▶ 10 (Mon)

Partner ▶ **Szabad Tér Theatre**

# Gruberova

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THE EIFFEL INAUGURATED BY A WORLD STAR

**BMW**  
Art&Culture

**Edita Gruberová**, born to a Hungarian mother and an Austrian father in Bratislava (and therefore a citizen of Slovakia) has been a celebrated soprano star for almost 50 years. Her exceptional career has brought about the renaissance of bel canto style and in the wake of her invitations to the Opera over the past years, she is always welcomed with passionate affection in Hungary.

This time, she and her companions will be performing Donizetti's *Roberto Devereux*, on the programme of the Opera for the first time, with room for hundreds of people in the park as well, where they can follow the performance in an opera-picnic atmosphere.

Donizetti ► **Roberto Devereux**

Featuring ► **Edita Gruberova, Boldizsár László, Atala Schöck, Csaba Szegedi, Péter Fried** (voice),  
**the Chorus and the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera**

Conductor ► **Peter Valentovic**

Partner ► **BMW Group Hungary**

*24 June 2017 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Eiffel Art Studios, Bánffy Stage, Opera Park*

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# 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 from both the ballet and the opera. 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. The event will be broadcast later on public media, after being screened live at St. Stephen's Basilica in front of several thousand people in what is one of the summer's top free events. A collection will be made by employees of Hungarian Interchurch Aid to assist disaster victims in Hungary.

And let's not forget: our plans call for this gala to be a farewell to the Opera House for nine long months; the next performance there is scheduled only for May 2018, after the modernisation of the building is completed.

Host ► **Szilveszter Ókovács**, general director  
Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**, acting music director  
Choreographer ► **Tamás Solymosi**, ballet director

Director ► **Ferenc Anger**, artistic director  
Partner ► **Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

*25 June 2017 (Sun) Opera House*

# Opera Picnic

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FAMILY PROGRAMME IN THE OPERA PARK

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. On the final Saturday afternoon of the season in June, we invite each and every one of them and their families to some fun. Now for the fifth 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.

Director ► **András Aczél**

*27 June 2017 (Tue), 5 pm, Eiffel Art Studios, Opera Park*

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# Tour d'Opera

OPERA AROUND LAKE TISZA

In 2017, The Opera will be joining **Ildikó Debreceni**'s charming initiative: running, cycling, rowing and sailing around Lake Tisza should be enlivened by the sounds of singing and music. The artists from our institution's chorus and orchestra have responded to the concept of cultural tourism in a literal sense, and they will be present at every lap and station. The chief patron of the programme is **János Áder**, President of the Republic of Hungary.

*14 to 16 July 2017 (Fri to Sun), Lake Tisza*

# OperaFüred

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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 *La traviata* production will be screened as part of the OperaCinema programme.

*20 July (Thu) 8 pm* – Choral night with popular excerpts  
from operas

Featuring ► **the Hungarian State Opera Chorus**

Conductor ► **Kálmán Strausz**

*21 July (Fri) 8 pm* – Opera Gala

Featuring ► **Péter Balczó, Gabriella Balga,  
Beatrix Fodor, István Rác**

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

*22 July (Sat) 8 pm* – Palotás

Featuring ► **Hungarian National Ballet**

Choreographer ► **Edit Rujsz**

*23 July (Sun) 7 pm* – OperaCinema ► **La traviata** (see ► p. 29)

Partner ► **Government of Balatonfüred**

*20 to 23 July 2017 (Thu to Sun) Balatonfüred, Gyógy tér*

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# OperaSziget 2

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.

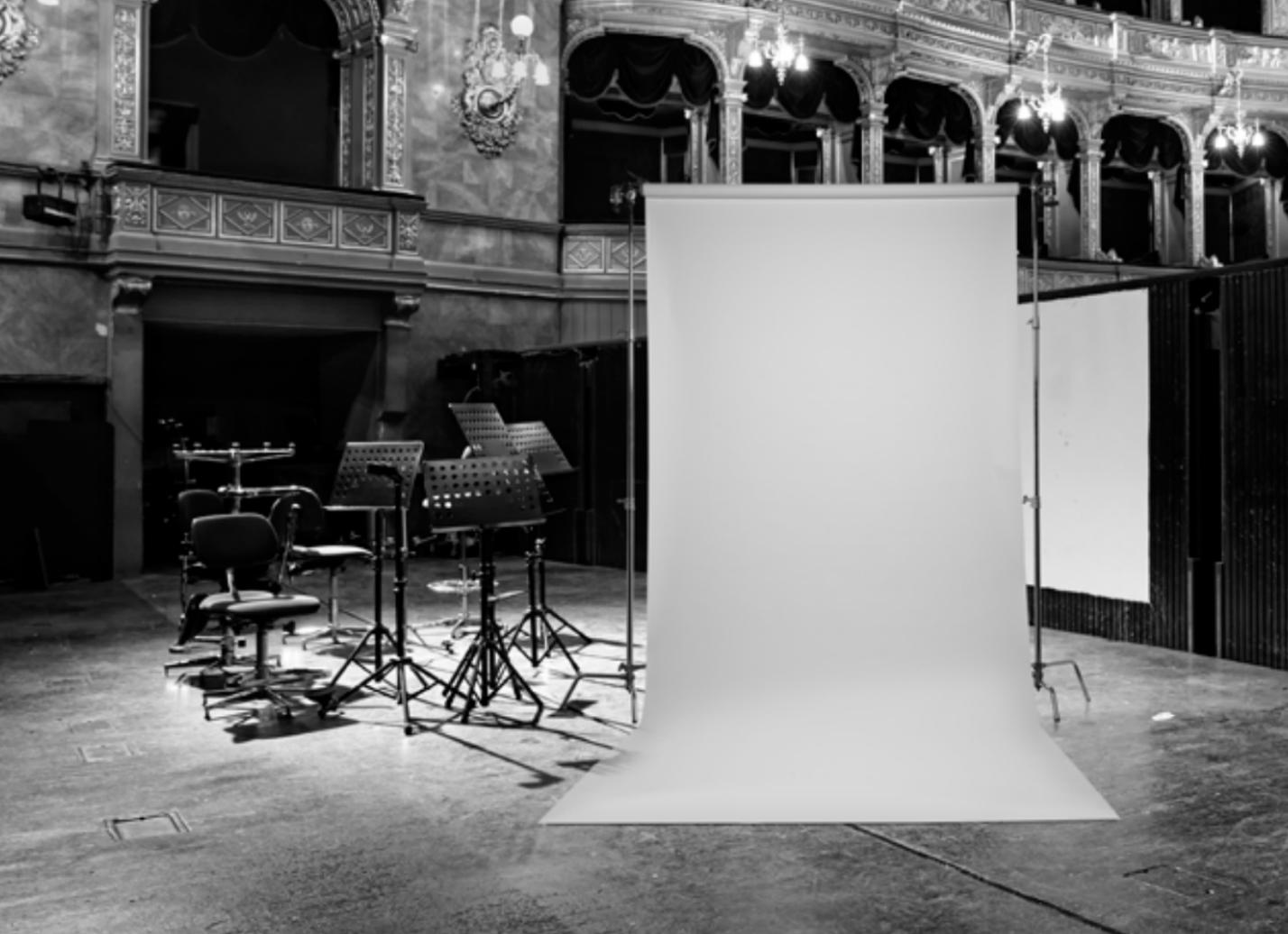
Let the Sziget Festival begin!

Presenter ► **András Hábetler**

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

Director ► **András Aczél**

*7 to 13 August 2017 (Mon to Sun), Budapest, Hajógyári Island, Fidelio Stage*



BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
A BUDAPESTI FILHARMÓNIAI TÁRSASÁG

ZENEKARA



Concerts

# History of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra

THE VERY FIRST ORCHESTRA IN HUNGARY

With a history stretching back more than a century and a half, the Budapest Philharmonic is Hungary's oldest functioning orchestra. Its first concert on 20 November 1853 was conducted by **Ferenc Erkel** – and so were sixty more concerts to follow. The Philharmonic Society, comprising of musicians of the National Theatre and after the inauguration of the building on Andrásy Avenue in 1884 those of the Opera, was established on the model of its counterpart in Vienna as an independent organisation led by the president-conductor and the committee. During its history of 163 years, the Society 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 Saccani** (1997–2005), **György Győriványi Ráth** (2011–2014), and since February 2014 **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

# — History of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra

THE VERY FIRST ORCHESTRA IN HUNGARY

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. The close collaboration of the Philharmonic Society and the Hungarian State Opera ensures the conditions for artistic advancement. To continue the “golden age”, the aim of the Orchestra is nothing less than to retain its rank among the top concert orchestras in Hungary, capitalising on the special and unique musical skills, flexibility, endurance and an extensive knowledge of musical works gained from performing opera on a daily basis.

The most important works composed for and premiered by the BPO:

Bartók ▶ **Five Hungarian Folk Songs**

Bartók ▶ **Dance Suite**

Dohnányi ▶ **Symphonic Minutes**

Dohnányi ▶ **Festive Overture**

Goldmark ▶ **Zrínyi – symphonic poem**

Kodály ▶ **Galánta Dances**

Kodály ▶ **Psalmus Hungaricus**

Liszt ▶ **The Legend of St. Elisabeth**

Liszt ▶ **Mephisto Waltz No. 2**

Mahler ▶ **Symphony No. 1**

Weiner ▶ **Concertino**

# Symphonic Concerts

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THE PROGRAMME OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY IN 2016/2017

*22 October 2016 (Sat) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

## **CZIFFRA1956**

Beethoven ▶ **Egmont Overture**

Bartók ▶ **Piano Concerto No. 2**

Brahms ▶ **Symphony No. 2**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **János Balázs** (piano)

*31 October 2016 (Mon), 7:30 Opera House*

## **VERDI: REQUIEM**

Conductor ▶ **Daniele Rustioni**

Featuring ▶ **Klára Kolonits, Atala Schöck, Stuart Neill, Andrés Palerdi, the Orchestra and the Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** (chorus director ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**)

*5 December 2016 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

## **RICHTER100**

Wagner ▶ **Columbus Overture**

Wagner ▶ **Der Fliegende Holländer – overture**

Wagner ▶ **Tannhäuser – overture**

Wagner ▶ **Tristan und Isolde**

– **Prelude and Isolde's Liebestod**

Wagner ▶ **Das Rheingold**

– **Entry of the gods into Valhalla**

Wagner ▶ **Götterdämmerung – Siegfried's Journey to the Rhine, Funeral March, Finale**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **Iréne Theorin** (voice)

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# Symphonic Concerts

THE PROGRAMME OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY IN 2016/2017

*1 January 2017 (Sun), 7:00 pm, Opera House*

## **NEW YEAR'S AT THE OPERA**

Karosi ► **Overture 2017**

Beethoven ► **Symphony No. 9**

Conductor ► **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ► **István Kovács, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz,  
Dániel Pataki Potyók,  
Orsolya Hajnalka Róser (voice)**

*6 March 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Erkel Theatre*

## **KODÁLY50**

Kodály ► **Dances of Galánta**

Kodály ► **Two Songs**

Kodály ► **Te Deum**

Conductor ► **Ion Marin**

Featuring ► **Gábor Bretz, Beatrix Fodor, Krisztina Simon,  
Szabolcs Brickner, the Chorus of the Hungarian  
State Opera (chorus director ► Kálmán Strausz)**

*3 April 2017 (Mon) 7:30 pm, Opera House*

## **YBL203**

Mahler ► **Symphony No. 2**

Conductor ► **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ► **the Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera  
(chorus director ► Kálmán Strausz),  
Eszter Sűmegi – soprano, Atala Schöck – alto**





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Children's and Youth Programmes



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# Tutu!

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A VISIT TO THE THEATRE, WITH BALLERINAS FOR KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Hungarian National Ballet's children's programme is awaiting applications from kindergarten and primary school classes. As part of their trip to the theatre, the children will take a tour around the Opera House, where they will get a peek behind the scenes of the preparations being made in various workshops, as well as getting a feel for what an average day is like at the Hungarian State Ballet. The children will also get the chance to try on some costumes and experience a short ballet demonstration in the confectionary on the third floor of the Opera House. The programme will commence at 9:30 am on each date.

Entry is 1000 Ft/child,  
free for accompanying teachers.

*Information ► [balerina@opera.hu](mailto:balerina@opera.hu)*

*14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 29 and 30 September 2016*

*4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26 and 28 October 2016*

*8, 9, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23 and 24 November 2016*

*1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15 and 16 December 2016*

*12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 28 January 2017*

*1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18 and 28 February 2017*

*2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 30 March 2017*

*5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 20, 21, 22, 27 and 28 April 2017*

*2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26 and 27 May 2017*

*1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15 and 17 June 2017*

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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**

*9 and 16 October 2016*

*13 and 20 November 2016*

*4 December 2016*

*22 January 2017*

*12 and 19 February 2017*

*5 and 12 March 2017*

*23 and 30 April 2017*

# Magical Opera

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RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7

Nursery and primary school-age children with their parents or in school groups come to learn about the genre of opera, and meet singers and orchestral musicians with their instruments. Following the interactive musical programme, the children will be invited into the finest rooms that the music theatre has to offer as they hear fascinating stories about the history of the Opera House – a temple of arts with its gates wide open.

Hostess ► **Mária Nagy**

Venue ► **Opera House, confectionary on the third floor**

*On Sundays from 9 am*

*13 November 2016*

*27 November 2016*

*11 December 2016*

*8 January 2017*

*29 January 2017*

*5 February 2017*

Ticket price: 1200 Ft

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets 15–30 minutes prior to the beginning and use the Opera House main entrance.

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# OperaAdventure 5.0

YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE ERKEL

The 2016–2017 school year brings the fourth 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 have joined the initiative, maturing into a full-scale cultural adventure.

(We will be publishing the names of museums, libraries and archives providing discounts to Adventurers in our information pack.) 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 150,000 students.

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

*Information ► [operakaland@opera.hu](mailto:operakaland@opera.hu)*

*OperaAdventure 5.1 – 4–19 October 2016, Puccini ► **La bohème***

*OperaAdventure 5.2 – 2–12 May 2017, Erkel ► **Bánk bán***

# Afternoon Jam

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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 exceptionally beautiful Székely Bertalan Hall 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 ► **Opera House, confectionary on the third floor**

Tücsök (**Cricket**) **season pass** (Sundays from 3:30 pm)

*13 November 2016: Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon*

*11 December 2016: Harp*

*29 January 2017: Double Bass, Violin*

Pacsirta (**Skylark**) **season pass** (Sundays from 3:30 pm)

*27 November 2016: Piano*

*8 January 2017: Guitar*

*5 February 2017: Trumpet, Tuba*

Season pass ► 3.000 Ft | pass | person

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

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets 15–30 minutes prior to the beginning and use the Opera House main entrance.

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# 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 ► **Opera House, confectionary on the third floor**

Hangvilla (**Tuning Fork**) **season pass** (on Sundays from 10:30 am):

*13 November 2016: Strings*

*11 December 2016: Woodwinds*

*29 January 2017: Brass*

Metronóm (**Metronome**) **season pass** (on Sundays from 10:30 am):

*27 November 2016: Strings*

*8 January 2017: Woodwinds*

*5 February 2017: Brass*

Season pass ► 3.000 Ft | pass | person

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

Arrive with pre-purchased tickets 15–30 minutes prior to the beginning and use the Opera House main entrance.

# Sing-along Baby

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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. On Thursdays from 11 am (30 min. each), Erkel Theatre, Kodály Hall

Sessions held by ► **Klára Újvári**

Location ► **Erkel Theatre, Kodály Hall**

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

*First session ► 8 September 2016*

*Final session ► 29 June 2017*

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

Price: 1000 Ft / family

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# OperaCommando

A RAPID REACTION FORCE

The four-strong commando visits schools around the country: they sing arias, duets, trios and quartets and talks 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 performances of Opera Adventure at the Erkel Theatre for 15-year-olds. 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 2016/2017 season*

# Tales of Music series

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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...

*17 December 2016 (Sat) 11 am, Erkel Theatre*

*25 March 2017 (Sat) 11 am, Opera House*

*22 April 2017 (Sat) 11 am, Opera House*

Featuring ► **Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra**

Partner ► **Philharmonia Hungary**

The Hungarian State Opera announced a new public education programme in 2014, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Miklós Ybl. This year, too, the Opera House's interior spaces will be opened up for the purposes of learning, discovery, and inspiring creative activity. Our aim is for children to discover both the magic of the Opera House building and the unique characteristics of opera as a genre. During the programme, they will expand their knowledge of art history along with their drawing skills, and will be enriched with information that fits neatly into their regular studies.

The sessions are led by qualified experts in art history and museum pedagogy (staff from the Hungarian National Gallery) in collaboration with accompanying drawing teachers. The programme includes a tour of the Opera House's public spaces, along with a morning snack. We invite applications for the drawing classes from primary school groups (years 1-8) and can accommodate one class at a time, up to a total of 30 children (plus accompanying teachers).

The drawing classes take place on designated days between 8 and 11 am. We start by taking our guests through the Opera House's public areas, where students can collect ideas for the soon-to-be-created masterpiece.

*Information ► [operajz@opera.hu](mailto:operajz@opera.hu)*

# Overview

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## 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:

### *Opera House, Royal Staircase*

- Pergolesi ► **La serva padrona** (see ► p. 150)
- Haydn ► **L'isola disabitata** (see ► p. 193)
- Mozart / Novák ► **Disruption in the Seraglio** (see ► p. 197)

### *Erkel Theatre*

- Ránki ► **King Pomade's New Clothes** (see ► 161. o.)
- Tallér ► **Leander and Linseed** (see ► 220. o.)
- Mozart / Lackfi ► **Little Magic Flute** (see ► 164. o.)
- Mozart ► **Die Zauberflöte** (see ► 166. o.)
- John / Hall ► **Billy Elliot – The Musical** (see ► 239. o.)
- Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák ► **Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs**  
(see ► 269. o.)

### *Bánffy Stage*

- Kacsóh ► **John the Valiant** (film screening)
- Szőnyi ► **The Stubborn Princess**
- Ránki ► **King Pomade's New Clothes** (concert performance)







# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

OperaBonus



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# Name That Tune

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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, now's the time again for telephone operators of incredible ears and diligent students of music history, but probably for others too who are at home in the world of opera – or just smart and lucky. The award is different too: now it is not 300 forints anymore, but popular opera and ballet tickets will be finding their way to owners instead. The programme will be broadcast by Kossuth Radio at 1:05 pm on weekdays.

Presenters bi-weekly: **Szilvia Becze** and **Szilveszter Ókovács**

Partner ► **MTVA**

*From 5 September 2016 (Mon) between 12 and 14 pm every Monday – OperaCafé*

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 page is almost 40,000 at the time of publication – the fan page launched in 2011 took off with astonishing speed, similarly to our official web page ([www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu)) revamped in 2014. The number of followers of our pages in new social media platforms launched in the 2015/2016 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](http://www.opera.hu)

# OperaDigiTheca

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THE OPERA HOUSE'S HISTORY, FROM YOUR OWN HOME

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 Hungarian Season. Presently more than 12,000 performances, 3000 artists' biographies, almost 2500 photos, set and costume designs can be researched as a result of the work of museologist **Nóra Wellman**, collection manager **Márton Karczag** and archive manager **Jozefa Iványi**.

From February 2016, information on the following types of performances will be freely available to researchers on the internet:

- ▶ all performances of the works of Richard Strauss;
- ▶ all performances of the works of Slavic composers;
- ▶ all performances of works from the 20th century;
- ▶ all performances based on adaptations from Shakespeare;
- ▶ 132 years of Hungarian operas.

Partner ▶ **MTVA**

[www.opera.hu/digitalar](http://www.opera.hu/digitalar)

*From 5 September 2016 (Mon) every Monday from 12 to 2pm  
– OperaCafé*

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.)

The performances are at the Erkel Theatre.

*Information ► [operakademia@opera.hu](mailto:operakademia@opera.hu)*

# Orchestra Academy

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In the 2015/16 Faust Season, the Opera intended 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 will 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**

*Information* ► [zenekariakademia@opera.hu](mailto:zenekariakademia@opera.hu)

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# 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 two 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 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 for every theatre in the country, yet to be visited, that is equipped with an orchestra pit – altogether 10 times in the season.

Mozart ► **Figaro 2.0** (see ► p. 146)

Information ► [www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu)

# Ballet on Wheels

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THE OPERA STEPS OVER TO YOU

Stimulated by regular invitations to the dance festivals in Győr, a guest performance at the Kodály Centre in Pécs and the inauguration of a concert hall in Gyula in 2015, we began to consider taking modern one-act ballets and classical galas performed by the Hungarian National Ballet to towns which have larger, 10×10 m stages on a few occasions every year. Musical accompaniment is possible there from recordings only, but the above examples have shown that a classical ensemble that takes its mission seriously is capable of creating a huge effect even in such conditions – otherwise these towns would never have the chance to experience classical ballet live.

Kylián ▶ **Petite mort** (see ▶ p. 255)

**Six Dances** (see ▶ p. 252)

**Sarabande** (see ▶ p. 243)

Inger ▶ **Rain Dogs** (see ▶ p. 25)

**Walking Mad** (see ▶ p. 240)

*Information* ▶ [www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu)

*Between 12 and 19 February 2017 in Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged and Debrecen*

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# BMW OperaClub

**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 132-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, private events, and the so-called guards' box where the rehearsals and the performances can be followed and have now been made available to Club members. Club members are provided with a card that they can use at the main entrance and use our services daily from 10 am to 5 pm. The operation of OperaClub, which received more than 1.1 billion forints in donations in 2015, is made possible by large-scale sponsorship from BMW.

Club manager ► **Melitta Gyüdi** ([gyudimelitta@opera.hu](mailto:gyudimelitta@opera.hu))

# Friends of the Opera

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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 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!

**Miklós Szinetár** Director and Professor Emeritus  
President of the Budapest Association of Friends of the Opera  
Honorary General Director of the Hungarian State Opera

**Szilvia Gémes** Opera singer, General Secretary of the  
Budapest Association of Friends of the Opera

## Contact Information

Postal address, office ► *1062 Budapest, Andrásy út 126. Office building, ground floor No. 13*

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](mailto:operabaratok@operabaratok.hu)

[www.operabaratok.hu](http://www.operabaratok.hu)

Today's rich selection of radio stations was lacking one that exclusively broadcasts operatic and ballet music. Since 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 for the not-so-distant future 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](http://www.opera.hu/radio)*

# Total Artist

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EXCHANGING IDEAS AT THE TABLE OF MIKLÓS BÁNFFY

There are many secrets hidden in the former office in the Opera House of the great noblemen 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

Partner ► **Duna Televízió, MTVA**

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 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. We operate a special policy for distributing the high-quality magazine, such that anyone purchasing Opera season tickets receives it automatically by post.

*Issues: September – November – January – March – May*

# OperaVault

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SAVE AS

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. As a result, we are not only deprived of recordings of the important Hungarian works of the past 30 years, but 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 aims to end both deficiencies. The Opera, thanks to its incredible artistic talent pool, has agreed each year to record and release an entire opus in a series of its own while simultaneously producing the work itself on stage. We will make a live recording of another opera, 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.

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (original version, studio recording)

Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (original version, excerpts + making-of)

Erkel ▶ **Dózsa György** (condensed version, live recording)

Kodály ▶ **Háry János** (studio recording)

▶ **Stars of the Opera House I-II** (archive)

▶ **Erkel102** (archive, 2 cd's)

▶ **Gyurkovics Mária100** (archive excerpts)

▶ **From the Opera Recordings of Mária Sudlik**  
(archive excerpts)

▶ **Ella Fitzgerald at the Erkel Theatre**  
(archive, live recording)

▶ **Útravaló 2013** (Constitution Gala, live recording)

▶ **Útravaló 2014** (orchestral excerpts, live recording)

▶ **Útravaló 2015** (Little Magic Flute DVD, live recording)

▶ **Útravaló 2016** (Leander and Linseed DVD, live recording)

▶ **What's Playing on the Record?**  
(book trilogy by Géza Fodor)

▶ **BFTZ160** (live recording of the jubilee concert)

- ▶ **Fricsay100** (archive, excerpts)
- ▶ **Where the World Unfolds – Opera130** (book and DVD)
- Dohnányi ▶ **Der Tenor** (studio recording)
- Goldmark ▶ **Die Königin von Saba**  
(condensed version, live recording)
- Donizetti ▶ **Anna Bolena** (archive, live recording)

# OperaVault

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CD COLLECTION FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND PRIVATE COLLECTORS

The large-scale thematic festival of the Hungarian Season provides an opportunity for the Opera to create a frame for its voluminous CD series. Here's the project, which is being implemented with the financial support of the Hungarian Cultural Fund and the Hungarian Academy of Arts, containing new recordings of 32 operas by 25 Hungarian composers. (A supplement will be published in a few years' time.)

1. BALASSA ▶ **The Man Outside** (Hungaroton)
2. BARTÓK ▶ **Bluebeard's Castle** (2013, live recording)
3. BOZZAY ▶ **The Last Five Scenes** (live recording)
4. DURKÓ ▶ **Moses** (live recording)
5. EÖTVÖS ▶ **Love and Other Demons** (2017, live recording)
6. ERKEL ▶ **Bánk bán** (original version)
7. ERKEL ▶ **Bátori Mária** (original version)
8. ERKEL ▶ **Dózsa György** (2014, condensed version, live recording)
9. ERKEL ▶ **Hunyadi** (original version)
10. ERKEL ▶ **King Stephen** (2013, live recording)
11. FEKETE ▶ **The Saved City** (live recording)
12. GOLDMARK ▶ **Die Königin von Saba**  
(2015, condensed version, live recording)
13. GRYLLUS ▶ **Two Women | BELLA: Spring Awakening | SOLTÍ: La Violetta** (2017, live recording)
14. GYÖNGYÖSI ▶ **The Stork Calif** (2017, live recording)
15. KODÁLY ▶ **Czinka Panna** (2017, live recording)
16. KODÁLY ▶ **Háry János** (studio recording)
17. KODÁLY ▶ **The Spinning Room** (studio recording)
18. LAJTHA ▶ **The Blue Hat** (2017, live recording)
19. LENDVAY ▶ **La putain respectueuse** (2017, live recording)
20. LIGETI ▶ **Le grand macabre** (2017, live recording)

21. MADARÁSZ ▶ **The Last Waltz** (2017, live recording)
22. MEZEI ▶ **Opposite the Catafalque** (2017, live recording)
23. VARGA ▶ **Love** (2016, live recording)
24. ORBÁN ▶ **Prince Pikkó** (2017, live recording)
25. PETROVICS ▶ **C'est la guerre | Lysistrata**  
(2017, live recording)
26. RÁNKI ▶ **King Pomade's New Clothes**  
(2017, live recording)
27. RUZITSKA ▶ **Béla's Flight** (2017, live recording)
28. SELMECZI ▶ **Spiritisti** (2017, live recording)
29. STRAUSS ▶ **Der Zigeunerbaron**  
(in Hungarian, 2017, live recording)
30. SZOKOLAY ▶ **Blood Wedding**  
(late version, 2017, live recording)
31. SZŐNYI ▶ **The Stubborn Princess** (2017, live recording)
32. VAJDA ▶ **Mario and the Magician** (2013, live recording)

## BONUS: OVERTURES

(Beischer-Matyó, Tallér, Varga, Madarász,  
Karosi - live recordings)

TALLÉR ▶ **Leander and Linseed** (DVD, live recording)

# OperaVault – DVD

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SAVE PERFORMANCES

The performances of the Opera are of material and spiritual value. Archiving them is more than just useful: it is also our obligation. That is why we have to record our premieres or – in other cases – our productions that are to be removed from the repertoire with the help of our partner MTVA or sometimes using our own resources. Professional television recordings from the past 5 years are the following:

**Charity Gala for the Victims of the Flood** (5 March 2011, MTVA)

**Constitution Gala** (2 January 2012, MTVA)

**Arabella** (17 March 2012)

**Divas on the Catwalk** (15 September 2012, MTVA)

**Hunyadi László** (29 September 2012, MTVA)

**Der fliegende Holländer** (19 January 2013, MTVA)

**Beatles50** (25 March 2013, MTVA)

**Ariadne auf Naxos** (23 May 2013)

**Hour of Stars Gala 2013** (2 June 2013, MTVA)

**Marton70 Gala Concert** (16 June 2013, MTVA)

**Hippolyte et Aricie** (30 June 2013, MTVA)

**Falstaff** (21 September 2013, MTVA)

**ErkelFest** (7 November 2013, MTVA)

**BFTZ 160** (18 November 2013, MTVA)

**Bluebeard / Mario** (23 November 2013, MTVA)

**New Year's at the Opera 2014** (1 January 2014, MTVA)

**Silver Rose Ball** (1 March 2014, MTVA)

**Die Frau ohne Schatten** (23 May 2014, MTVA)

**Hour of Stars Gala 2014** (30 June 2014)

**Freedom Opera Gala** (6 September 2014)

**Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci** (13 September 2014, MTVA)

**Troy Game / La Sylphide** (20 September 2014)

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# OperaVault – DVD

SAVE PERFORMANCES

**Éva Marton Singing Competition Gala** *(21 September 2014)*

**Opera130 Gala** *(27 September 2014)*

**Rost25** *(10 November 2014, MTVA)*

**Carmen** *(31 October 2014, MTVA)*

**New Year's at the Opera 2015** *(1 January 2015, MTVA)*

**Faust Ball** *(14 February 2015, MTVA)*

**Swan Lake** *(25 April 2015, MTVA)*

**Leander and Linseed** *(11 April 2015, MTVA)*

**Faust** *(17 June 2015, MTVA)*

**Otello** *(3 October 2015, MTVA)*

**Die Königin von Saba** *(31 November 2015, MTVA)*

**Farnace** *(13 December 2015, MTVA)*

**Miklósa25** *(21 January 2016, MTVA)*

**Shakespeare Ball** *(6 February 2016, MTVA)*

**Lear** *(13 February 2016)*

**La bohème 2.0** *(19 February 2016, MTVA)*

**Die Walküre** *(6 March 2016, MTVA)*

# OperaVault – DVD

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## PLANNED RELEASES

- Erkel ▶ **Bátori Mária** (studio recording)
- Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room** (studio recording)
- Szokolay ▶ **Hamlet** (live recording)
- ▶ **Útravaló2017** (children's and chorus recordings)
- ▶ **Gyula Orendt's Song Recital** (DVD, live recording)
- ▶ **Pártay75** (interview collection)
- Ránki ▶ **Operas** (archive)
- ▶ **Udvardy100** (archive selection)
- ▶ **Simándy100** (photo album)
- ▶ **Once there was a Celebration – Opera130** (DVD)
- ▶ **György Cziffra at the Erkel Theatre** (archive, live recording)
- ▶ **Fischer–Dieskau and Richter at the Erkel** (archive, live recording)
- ▶ **Duke Ellington at the Erkel Theatre** (archive, live recording)
- ▶ **Medveczky75** (2 CDs, live recording)
- ▶ **Tokody40** (photo album)

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# Museum Corner

ETHNOGRAPHY ALL YEAR ROUND

In the interests of finding areas of convergence in the different spheres of culture, we have established a close relationship with the Museum of Ethnography and its enormous and varied collections. Throughout the 2016/2017 season, miniature exhibitions depicting the worlds of many of our higher profile productions and their atmosphere will be set up in one of the Erkel Theatre's newly fitted glass showcase, the Bartók Hall.

Editor ► **Dr. Lajos Kemecsei**, General Director of the Museum of Ethnography

**"East Side Story" – love without borders – Chapters from a research study into migration** *(19 September – 14 December 2016)*

**"Come to My Garden, My Rose..." – Amorous Gifts from the Museum of Ethnography** *(19 December 2016 – 1 February 2017)*

**Tea and Fan – The Japanese Collection** *(3 February – 21 March 2017)*

**"Gypsies in the Arts, and the Depiction of Gypsies in Music History"** *(from 24 March 2017)*

# Exhibitions 2016/17

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## **130 years of Hungarian operas and ballets** *(for the whole season)*

An overview of outstanding Hungarian productions in the last 130 years at the Opera

### **Red Salon:**

#### **Simándy100** *(25 September 2016 – 4 November 2016)*

To mark the centenary of the birth of one of the greatest Hungarian tenors of the 20th century

#### **Spanish temperament** *(18 November 2016 – 20 February 2017)*

A selection from operas and ballets with Spanish themes performed at the Opera

#### **The 50th anniversary of the death of Zoltán Kodály** *(6 March 2017 – 25 June 2017)*

A colourful exhibition about the history of performances of Zoltán Kodály's musical pieces for stage at the Opera

### **Erkel Theatre – Kodály Hall**

**Simándy100** *(25 September 2016 – 20 October 2016)* – an exhibition of the Hungarian Theatre Museum and Institute

**Revolution in black-and-white – József Ferenc memorial exhibition** *(23 October 2016 – 18 November 2016)*

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# Exhibitions 2016/17

## Exhibitions of photos of productions at the Opera

**Lucia di Lammermoor** *(18 November 2016 – 17 December 2016)*

**Don Giovanni** *(17 December 2016 – 3 February 2017)*

**Madama Butterfly** *(3 February 2017 – 24 March 2017)*

**Der Zigeunerbaron** *(24 March 2017 – 2 May 2017)*

**Bánk bán** *(2 May 2017 – 15 June 2017)*

# OperaShop

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THE FINEST 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. Product development and production is in progress.

Entrance from Dalszínház Street.

*Opening hours: Every day between 10 am and 8 pm*

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# Opera Assortiment

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 ► **Szekszárd Merlot** (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

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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.

Editor ► **Márton Karczag, Archive Manager**

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# Opera Ambassador Programme

SETTING A PERSONAL EXAMPLE THROUGH SERVICE

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 2016) ► **Ákos Ambrus, Mária Ardó, Jutta Bokor, Tamás Clementis, Zsuzsanna Csonka, Tamás Daróczi, Zsolt Derecskei, Erzsébet Erdélyi, László Haramza, Márta Kozák, Katalin Pitti, Jolán Sánta, Mária Temesi, Andrea Ujvárosi, Ferenc Valter and Attila Wendler**, opera singers; **András Nádasdy, Edit Rujsz, Zoltán Várkonyi** and **Krisztina Végh**, ballet dancers; **Éva Mohai**, violinist; **György Käfer**, clarinetist; and **Etelka Szebenyi**, stage manager.

Professional director ► **Éva Bátori**

# You shall go to the Ball!

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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 10 February 2016 – 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*

*Information ► [viddesviseld@opera.hu](mailto:viddesviseld@opera.hu)*

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# Útravaló (For the Road) 2017

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 100,000 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 Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra. Útravaló 2015 was a DVD of the children's opera staged at the Erkel Theatre: *The Little Magic Flute*. For the 2016 edition we selected the television recording of *Leander and Linseed*, the fairy-tale piece commissioned by the Opera from Zsófia Tallér, with a dedication written by world boxing champion **Mihály Kótai** – who follows in the footsteps of **Ákos Kovács**, **Katalin Kokas** and **Barnabás Kelemen**. The 2017 edition will contain recordings from the Children's Chorus and the Chorus of the Opera with brief comments from **Gergely Litkai**.

Partners ► **Promobox Kft.**, **Foreign Ministry**

# Open Days

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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 2016 – World Music Day*

*26 November 2016 – Open Ballet Day*

*29 April 2017 – World Dance Day*

*27 May 2017 – Open Ballet Day*

*[www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu)*

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.

Part of the space will be equipped with audio equipment, where an upbeat weekly quiz programme with the title of “Name That Tune: 10 Minutes of Quiz and Opera” is being developed for Bartók Rádió. The interior corridor housing the portraits of the Opera’s eternal members 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

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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.

For more information on opening hours and further details please visit our continuously updated website ► [www.operavisit.hu](http://www.operavisit.hu)

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# 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 19 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 2016): **Zsuzsa Barlay, István Berczelly, János Berkes, Attila Csikós, Imre Dózsa, Katalin Hágai, Magda Kalmár, Katalin Kasza, Ildikó Kaszás, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, János Kovács, Kolos Kováts, 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 2016): **Attila Csikós, Imre Dózsa, Magda Kalmár, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, Kolos Kováts, Zsuzsa Kun, Ádám Medveczky, Lajos Miller, András Molnár, Adél Orosz, Lilla Pártay, Ildikó Pongor, Sándor Sólyom-Nagy, György Szakály, Miklós Szinetár, Ilona Tokody.**



# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Soloists

# Soloists

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## OPERA

**Alexandru Agache** – *Tosca, Aida, Andrea Chénier, Nabucco, La traviata*

**László Ágoston** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Karine Babayanian** – *La bohème*

**Antal Bakó** – *I pazzi per progetto, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Elektra, C'est la guerre*

**Anikó Bakonyi** – *La bohème 2.0, Die Zauberflöte, Il trovatore, Porgy and Bess*

**Marcell Bakonyi** – *La bohème 2.0, Don Giovanni, Hunyadi László*

**Kornélia Bakos** – *Die Zauberflöte, The Queen of Spades, Elektra, The Stork Calif, Rigoletto, La traviata*

**Éva Balatoni** – *Love, Love and Other Demons, Andrea Chénier, Der Zigeunerbaron, Cavalleria rusticana, Blood Wedding*

**Péter Balczó** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Madama Butterfly, Gianni Schicchi, La putain respectueuse, Otello, Pagliacci, Nabucco, Bánk bán (Miskolc), La traviata*

**Gabriella Balga** – *Faust, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Die Zauberflöte, Hunyadi László*

**Zoltán Bátki Fazekas** – *West Side Story, The Telephone, Die Fledermaus, King Pomade's New Clothes, Carmen, Gianni Schicchi, Der Zigeunerbaron, Blood Wedding, Mario and the Magician*

**Éva Bátori** – *Die Walküre, Die Zauberflöte*

**Zsuzsanna Bazsinka** – *Suor Angelica*

**Kristian Benedikt** – *The Queen of Spades, Otello*

**László Beöthy-Kiss** – *King Pomade's New Clothes, La bohème 2.0, La bohème, Andrea Chénier, Don Pasquale, The Queen of Spades, Mario and the Magician*

**István Bocskai** – *Sly*

**Mariann Bódi** – *Blood Wedding*

**Nikoletta Bolya Papp** – *Suor Angelica*

**Gergely Boncsér** – *West Side Story, La bohème 2.0, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Love and Other Demons, Otello, Bánk bán, Blood Wedding, The Last Waltz, Porgy and Bess, Faust*

**Csilla Boross** – *Tosca, Aida, Il tabarro, Suor Angelica, The Queen of Spades, Nabucco*

**Péter Bozsó** – *West Side Story*

# Soloists

OPERA

**Gábor Bretz** – *La bohème, Carmen, Parsifal, Nabucco, Elektra*

**Szabolcs Brickner** – *Die Fledermaus, Werther*

**Lívía Budai** – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, The Queen of Spades*

**Gabriella Busa** – *West Side Story, Die Zauberflöte*

**Tamás Busa** – *I pazzi per progetto, Little Magic Flute, Andrea Chénier, Gianni Schicchi, Der Zigeunerbaron, Werther, Bánk bán*

**Charles Castronovo** – *La bohème*

**Mária Celeng** – *Don Pasquale, Werther*

**Kamen Chanev** – *Andrea Chénier, Il trovatore*

**József Csapó** – *The Stork Calif*

**Antal Cseh** – *Tosca, Andrea Chénier, Bánk bán, Sly*

**Balázs Csémy** – *Mario and the Magician, Háy János*

**Krisztián Cser** – *La bohème 2.0, King Pomade's New Clothes, Don Giovanni, Little Magic Flute, Love and Other Demons, La putain respectueuse, Hunyadi László, Matthäus-Passion, Spiritisti*

**Ferenc Cserhalmi** – *I pazzi per progetto, La bohème 2.0, The Mine, Tosca, Die Zauberflöte, Aida, Madama Butterfly, The Queen of Spades, Otello, Nabucco, Bánk bán, Die Königin von Saba, Blood Wedding*

**Ildikó Cserna** – *Leander and Linseed*

**Gábor Csiki** – *Little Magic Flute, Der Tenor, The Stork Calif, Porgy and Bess*

**László Csurka** – *Háy János*

**Zoltán Daragó** – *Leander and Linseed, Il mondo della luna*

**András Decsi** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Veronika Dobi-Kiss** – *Love, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Suor Angelica*

**Nóra Ducza** – *Il mondo della luna*

**Sándor Egri** – *Die Fledermaus, Madama Butterfly, Carmen, Hunyadi László, Otello, Werther, Bánk bán, Rigoletto*

**Gábor Farkas** – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

**Mária Farkasréti** – *Il campanello, Love, Andrea Chénier, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi, Der Zigeunerbaron, Elektra, Der Tenor, The Stork Calif, Mario and the Magician, Háy János*

**János Fátraí** – *Leander and Linseed*

# Soloists

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## OPERA

**Attila Fekete** – *La traviata, Tosca, La bohème, Aida, Andrea Chénier, Il tabarro, Hunyadi László, Pagliacci, Der Tenor, C'est la guerre*

**Károly Fekete** – *West Side Story*

**Beatrix Fodor** – *Die Walküre, Don Giovanni, Elektra, The Stork Calif*

**Bernadett Fodor** – *Die Walküre, Love and Other Demons*

**Gabriella Fodor** – *Don Giovanni, Die Zauberflöte, Matthäus-Passion*

**Anatoly Fokanov** – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, Aida, Madama Butterfly, The Queen of Spades*

**Péter Fried** – *The Mine, Lucia di Lammermoor, Don Giovanni, Die Zauberflöte, Die Königin von Saba, The Stork Calif, Roberto Devereux, Lucia di Lammermoor*

**Máté Fülep** – *I pazzi per progetto, La traviata, Faust, Carmen, Bánk bán, Bánk bán (Miskolc), L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Zsuzsanna Fülöp** – *Die Fledermaus*

**Géza Gábor** – *Die Walküre, King Pomade's New Clothes, Aida, Il tabarro, Der Zigeunerbaron, Bánk bán, Le grand macabre, Spiritisti, Rigoletto*

**Erika Gál** – *The Spinning Room, Die Walküre, Aida, The Queen of Spades, Siegfried, Nabucco, Die Königin von Saba, Háy János*

**Gabi Gál** – *Parsifal*

**Gábor Gárday** – *La bohème*

**Lajos Geiger** – *The Spinning Room, Il campanello, La bohème 2.0, Faust, King Pomade's New Clothes, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Andrea Chénier, The Queen of Spades, Parsifal, Bánk bán, Elektra, Der Tenor, Porgy and Bess*

**Marcello Giordani** – *Tosca*

**Zoltán Gradsach** – *The Spinning Room, King Pomade's New Clothes, Little Magic Flute, Bánk bán, Leander and Linseed*

**Edita Gruberova** – *Roberto Devereux*

**Álmos Gyarmati** – *Gianni Schicchi*

**András Hábetler** – *La bohème 2.0, Tosca, La bohème, Blood Wedding, Leander and Linseed, Mario and the Magician, Háy János*

**Zsolt Haja** – *The Spinning Room, La bohème 2.0, Faust, Don Giovanni, Die Fledermaus, Love and Other Demons, The Queen of Spades, Der Zigeunerbaron, Pagliacci, Werther, Porgy and Bess*

**Tommi Hakala** – *The Mine*

# Soloists

OPERA

**Balázs Hantos** – *Die Fledermaus, Blood Wedding*

**László Haramza** – *Tosca, C'est la guerre*

**Nadin Haris** – *Suor Angelica, Werther, Elektra, Il mondo della luna*

**Melinda Heiter** – *La traviata, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Aida, Hunyadi László, Otello, Cavalleria rusticana*

**Ferenc Herczeg** – *Leander and Linseed*

**Richard Hoffmann** – *West Side Story*

**István Horváth** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, La bohème 2.o, Don Giovanni, Don Pasquale, Parsifal, Hunyadi László, Nabucco, Le grand macabre, Rigoletto*

**Gergely Irlanda** – *Werther, West Side Story*

**Marcus Jupither** – *Siegfried*

**Ágota Kádár** – *West Side Story*

**András Káldi Kiss** – *West Side Story, La traviata, Tosca, Don Pasquale, Carmen, Hunyadi László, The Stork Calif, Rigoletto*

**Péter Kálmán** – *Gianni Schicchi*

**Michele Kálmándy** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Andrea Chénier, Il tabarro, Otello, Nabucco, Il trovatore*

**Zsófia Kálnay** – *West Side Story, Die Walküre, Andrea Chénier, Cavalleria rusticana*

**Linda Karácsonyi** – *West Side Story*

**Dániel Kelemen** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Zoltán Kelemen** – *La traviata, Don Pasquale, The Queen of Spades, Hunyadi László, Messa di Gloria, Cavalleria rusticana, Bánk bán, Die Königin von Saba, Bánk bán (Miskolc), Sly*

**Márta Kempf** – *Suor Angelica*

**Ingrid Kertesi** – *King Pomade's New Clothes, Bánk bán*

**Bori Keszei** – *La putain respectueuse, Little Magic Flute, Gianni Schicchi, L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**András Kiss** – *La traviata, La serva padrona, La bohème 2.o, King Pomade's New Clothes, Gianni Schicchi, Der Tenor, Il mondo della luna*

**Atilla Kiss B.** – *Aida, Carmen, Hunyadi László, Der Zigeunerbaron, Cavalleria rusticana, Bánk bán*

**Péter Kiss** – *La bohème 2.o, Die Zauberflöte, Parsifal, Rigoletto*

# Soloists

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## OPERA

**Tivadar Kiss** – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, Die Zauberflöte, Madama Butterfly, The Queen of Spades, Der Zigeunerbaron, Bánk bán, Porgy and Bess, Il mondo della luna*

**Tamás Kóbor** – *Il campanello, Die Zauberflöte, Andrea Chénier, The Stork Calif*

**Kristóf Koczor** – *Sly*

**Klára Kolonits** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Verdi: Requiem, Don Giovanni, Die Zauberflöte, Die Fledermaus, Hunyadi László*

**Ildikó Komlósi** – *Aida, Suor Angelica, Cavalleria rusticana, Elektra, Bluebeard's Castle, Il trovatore*

**Krisztina Kónya** – *Sly*

**Annamária Kovács** – *Suor Angelica, Der Zigeunerbaron, Blood Wedding*

**Domokos Kovács** – *La serva padrona*

**Éva Kovács** – *Sly*

**István Kovács** – *La bohème, Aida, The Queen of Spades, Hunyadi László, Parsifal, Matthäus-Passion, Parsifal, Bánk bán, Spiritisti, Bánk bán (Miskolc), New Year's at the Opera, Lucia di Lammermoor*

**István Kovácsházi** – *Die Walküre, Die Fledermaus, Love and Other Demons, Siegfried, Parsifal*

**Kolos Kovács** – *Die Zauberflöte*

**András Kőrösi** – *West Side Story, Hány János*

**István Kristóf** – *West Side Story*

**Kinga Kriszta** – *Die Zauberflöte, Hunyadi László, Der Zigeunerbaron, Bánk bán, The Last Waltz, L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Ágnes Anna Kun** – *Lucia di Lammermoor*

**Michael Kupfer** – *Die Walküre*

**Boglárka Laczák** – *Sly*

**Mónika Langermann** – *Suor Angelica*

**Boldizsár László** – *La bohème 2.0, Love, Faust, Madama Butterfly, Der Zigeunerbaron, Bánk bán, Die Königin von Saba, Bánk bán (Miskolc), Roberto Devereux, Bátori Mária, Sly*

**Gabriella Létay Kiss** – *La bohème 2.0, Faust, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Madama Butterfly, Suor Angelica, Otello*

**Gyöngyi Lukács** – *Tosca, Andrea Chénier, Cavalleria rusticana, Bánk bán*

# Soloists

OPERA

**Júlia Magassy** – *Suor Angelica*

**Ivan Magri** – *Werther*

**Attila Major** – *Sly*

**Erika Markovics** – *La traviata, Madama Butterfly, Suor Angelica, The Queen of Spades, Parsifal, Il trovatore*

**Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz** – *West Side Story, Carmen, Andrea Chénier, Lysistrata, New Year's at the Opera*

**Zoltán Megyesi** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, King Pomade's New Clothes, Little Magic Flute, Die Zauberflöte, Madama Butterfly, Matthäus-Passion, Elektra, Le grand macabre, Leander and Linseed, L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Andrea Meláth** – *Die Zauberflöte, Love and Other Demons, Leander and Linseed, The Last Waltz, Le grand macabre*

**Viktória Mester** – *Die Fledermaus, Carmen, The Queen of Spades, Werther*

**Erika Miklósa** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, West Side Story, Hunyadi László, Bánk bán, Le grand macabre, La traviata*

**Adrienn Miksch** – *The Mine, Elektra, Der Tenor*

**Ágnes Molnár** – *Suor Angelica, Nabucco, Leander and Linseed, Rigoletto*

**Levente Molnár** – *The Spinning Room, La bohème, Bánk bán*

**Levente Molnár** – *West Side Story*

**Zsolt Molnár** – *La bohème 2.0, Der Tenor, C'est la guerre*

**József Mukk** – *Die Fledermaus, Carmen, L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Zoltán Nagy** – *La bohème, Der Zigeunerbaron*

**Stuart Neill** – *Messa di Gloria, Cavalleria rusticana, Verdi: Requiem*

**Gábor Németh** – *La bohème 2.0, Madama Butterfly, Gianni Schicchi, Bánk bán, Háy János*

**Judit Németh** – *Die Walküre, Faust, Otello, Parsifal, Cavalleria rusticana, Bánk bán, Bánk bán (Miskolc)*

**György Nótás** – *West Side Story*

**Leo Nucci** – *Rigoletto*

**Zoltán Nyári** – *The Mine, Die Fledermaus, Carmen, Elektra*

**András Palerdi** – *Verdi: Requiem, Faust, Die Zauberflöte, Aida, Nabucco, Le grand macabre, Mario and the Magician, Bluebeard's Castle, Il trovatore, Porgy and Bess*

# Soloists

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## OPERA

**Polina Pasztircsák** – *La traviata, Don Giovanni, Carmen, Pagliacci, Spiritisti, Porgy and Bess*

**Adorján Pataki** – *The Spinning Room, Spiritisti*

**Dániel Pataki Potyók** – *Die Zauberflöte, Bánk bán, New Year's at the Opera*

**Kristóf Poroszlay** – *The Telephone*

**István Rácz** – *Carmen, Siegfried, Bánk bán*

**Rita Rácz** – *The Spinning Room, Opposite the Catafalque, West Side Story, La bohème 2.0, Don Giovanni, Die Fledermaus, Der Zigeunerbaron, Rigoletto*

**Szilvia Rálik** – *Die Walküre, Andrea Chénier, The Queen of Spades, Nabucco, Elektra, Blood Wedding*

**Róbert Rezsnyák** – *King Pomade's New Clothes, Carmen, Bánk bán, Die Königin von Saba, Spiritisti*

**Rafael Rojas** – *Otello*

**Csaba Rónai** – *West Side Story*

**Andrea Rost** – *The Spinning Room, La bohème, Otello*

**István Rozsos** – *Leander and Linseed*

**Orsolya Hajnalka Röser** – *Il campanello, I pazzi per progetto, La bohème, Little Magic Flute, Die Zauberflöte, Hunyadi László, Bánk bán, Le grand macabre, Porgy and Bess, New Year's at the Opera*

**Jürgen Sacher** – *Siegfried*

**Orsolya Sáfár** – *The Telephone, La bohème 2.0, Faust, King Pomade's New Clothes, Die Zauberflöte, Gianni Schicchi, Le grand macabre, La serva padrona*

**Csaba Sándor** – *Opposite the Catafalque, La putain respectueuse, La bohème 2.0, Don Giovanni, Die Zauberflöte, La bohème, Leander and Linseed, Spiritisti*

**Atala Schöck** – *The Spinning Room, Verdi: Requiem, Carmen, Parsifal, Matthäus-Passion, Werther, Rigoletto, Roberto Devereux*

**Erwin Schrott** – *Don Giovanni*

**Miklós Sebestyén** – *Don Giovanni*

**Egils Silins** – *Siegfried*

**Krisztina Simon** – *La traviata, Parsifal, Elektra*

**Máté Sólyom-Nagy** – *The Stork Calif*

# Soloists

OPERA

**Zoltán Somogyi** – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

**Evgeny Stavinsky** – *Faust*

**Eszter Sümegi** – *Die Walküre, Die Fledermaus, Aida, Madama Butterfly, Il tabarro, Siegfried, Die Königin von Saba*

**Barnabás Szabó Sipos** – *West Side Story*

**Ildikó Szakács** – *La bohème 2.0, Die Fledermaus, Carmen, Der Zigeunerbaron, Parsifal, Lysistrata*

**Tamás Szalma** – *Háry János*

**Tibor Szappanos** – *La traviata, The Queen of Spades, Hunyadi László, Bánk bán*

**Csaba Szegedi** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, La bohème 2.0, La bohème, Pagliacci, Cavalleria rusticana, Bánk bán, Háry János, Roberto Devereux*

**Cecília Széll** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Zita Szemere** – *La bohème 2.0, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Don Pasquale, Siegfried, Werther, Bánk bán (Miskolc)*

**Károly Szemerédi** – *Carmen, Il tabarro, The Queen of Spades, Bánk bán, Blood Wedding, C'est la guerre*

**László Szentimrei** – *Gianni Schicchi*

**Beáta Szepessy** – *The Stork Calif*

**János Szerekován** – *Les dialogues des Carmélites, Madama Butterfly, Il tabarro, Gianni Schicchi, Der Zigeunerbaron, Parsifal, Werther, Der Tenor, The Stork Calif, Háry János, C'est la guerre, Porgy and Bess*

**Dávid Szigetvári** – *Matthäus-Passion*

**Gábor Szirtes** – *West Side Story, Die Fledermaus*

**Tamás Szmerék** – *West Side Story, Háry János*

**Péter Szondi** – *Sly*

**Krisztina Szumelidisz** – *West Side Story*

**Árpád Szücs** – *The Queen of Spades*

**Tamás Szüle** – *La bohème 2.0, La bohème, Die Zauberflöte, Die Fledermaus, Andrea Chénier, Gianni Schicchi, Don Pasquale, Rigoletto*

**László Szvétek** – *Don Pasquale, Il campanello, I pazzi per progetto, King Pomade's New Clothes, Die Zauberflöte, Andrea Chénier, Der Zigeunerbaron, Der Tenor, Blood Wedding, The Stork Calif, L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Botond Takács** – *Gianni Schicchi*

# Soloists

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## OPERA

**Milán Taletovics** – *Sly*

**Andrea Tallós** – *Die Fledermaus*

**Tamás Tarjányi** – *West Side Story, Don Giovanni, Die Fledermaus, Don Pasquale*

**Péter Tóth** – *Sly*

**Katalin Töreky** – *Elektra*

**Béla Turpinszky Gippert** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Gergely Ujvári** – *La traviata, Il trovatore*

**Andrea Ulbrich** – *The Spinning Room, Lucia di Lammermoor, The Mine,*

*Die Zauberflöte, Aida, Otello, Nabucco, Il trovatore, Porgy and Bess*

**Dániel Vadász** – *Blood Wedding*

**Júlia Vajda** – *Blood Wedding, Leander and Linseed*

**Klára Vajda** – *West Side Story*

**Zita Váradi** – *La bohème, Les dialogues des Carmelites*

**Éva Várhelyi** – *I pazzi per progetto, Carmen, Parsifal, C'est la guerre,*

*L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Tamás Zoltán Vass** – *Háry János, Die Walküre, Die Fledermaus, Carmen, Parsifal, Le grand macabre, Háry János*

**Péter Vida** – *Die Fledermaus, West Side Story*

**Szilvia Vörös** – *Faust*

**Bernadett Wiedemann** – *The Spinning Room, Aida, Madama Butterfly,*

*Andrea Chénier, Il tabarro, Gianni Schicchi, Nabucco, Elektra*

**Eszter Wierdl** – *Love, Faust, The Queen of Spades, Der Zigeunerbaron,*

*Bánk bán, C'est la guerre*

**Gertrúd Wittinger** – *Die Walküre, Parsifal, Blood Wedding, The Stork Calif*

**Eszter Zavaros** – *Little Magic Flute*

**Eszter Zemlényi** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Tetiana Zhuravel** – *Love and Other Demons*

**Géza Zsigmond** – *Andrea Chénier, Die Zauberflöte, Madama Butterfly,*

*The Queen of Spades, Der Zigeunerbaron, Elektra, Die Königin von Saba,*

*Leander and Linseed, Rigoletto, Il mondo della luna, Otello*

# 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*

Iurii Kekalo – *Soloist*

Ievgen Lagunov – *Soloist*

Roland Liebich – *Soloist*

Artemisz Bakó-Pisla – *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*

Balázs Majoros – *Demi Soloist*

# Soloists

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## BALLET

**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*

**Snezana Gikovski** – *Demi Character Soloist*

**Julianna Juratsek** – *Demi Character Soloist*

**Sára Weisz** – *Demi Character Soloist*

**Bálint Katona** – *Demi Character Soloist*

**Alekszandr Komarov** – *Demi Character Soloist*

**Csaba Solti** – *Demi Character Soloist*

# Conductors

CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**Jonas Alber** – *René Pape's Recital*

**Philippe Auguin** – *Faust*

**Christian Badea** – *La bohème, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Il trovatore*

**László Bartal** – *King Pomade's New Clothes*

**Michael Boder** – *Elektra*

**Tibor Bogányi** – *Love, The Mine, Leander and Linseed*

**Josep Caballe–Domenech** – *Carmen*

**Paolo Carignani** – *Otello*

**Marco Comin** – *Aida*

**István Dénes** – *La bohème 2.0, Bánk bán, West Side Story, Porgy and Bess*

**András Déri** – *Don Quixote, The Nutcracker, Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs*

**Péter Eötvös** – *A Love and Other Demons*

**Sándor Gyüdi** – *Sly*

**Péter Halász** – *La bohème, Don Giovanni, Nabucco, Rigoletto, Siegfried, La traviata, Die Walküre*

**Pedro Halffter** – *A The Queen of Spades*

**Máté Hátori** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Andrea Chénier, Hány János*

**Domonkos Héja** – *Der Zigeunerbaron, Anyegin*

**Gábor Hollerung** – *The Stork Calif*

**Leo Hussain** – *Werther*

**Gergely Kesselyák** – *Le corsaire, Messa di Gloria, Cavalleria rusticana, Pagliacci, Spartacus, Bel Canto reloaded, Il tabarro, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi*

**Balázs Kocsár** – *La bohème 2.0, Lucia di Lammermoor, Bátori Mária, The Last Waltz*

**Imre Kollár** – *Walking mad, Petite Mort, Six Dances, Etudes, The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, Manon, 3rd Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala*

**Gerard Korsten** – *Don Pasquale*

**János Kovács** – *Bluebeard's Castle, Mario and the Magician, Die Zauberflöte, Parsifal, Blood Wedding, Spiritisti, Simándy100, Die Königin von Saba, Madama Butterfly*

# Conductors

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CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**Géza Kőteles** – *I pazzi per progetto, The Telephone, Little Magic Flute, La serva padrona, Kiskarácsony*

**Gergely Madaras** – *Otello, La traviata*

**Alessandro de Marchi** – *Matthäus-Passion*

**Ion Marin** – *Kodály50*

**Ádám Medveczky** – *Bánk bán, Hunyadi László*

**Pál Németh** – *L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso*

**Daniele Rustiono** – *Requiem*

**György Selmeczi** – *Das Liebesverbot, The Blue Hat, Béla's Flight, Prince Pikkó*

**István Silló** – *Manon, Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs, Anna Karenina, Le corsaire*

**Stefan Soltesz** – *Die Fledermaus*

**Pinchas Steinberg** – *Andrea Chénier, La traviata, Cziffra 1956, Richter100, New Year's at the Opera, Ybl204*

**Kálmán Szennai** – *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, La bohème 2.0, Werther*

**Csaba Tóri** – *Disruption in the Seraglio, L'isola disabitata*

**Gergely Vajda** – *Bartók DanceTriptych, Spring Awakening, Le grande macabre*

# Directors

CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**András Aczél** – *The Magic Cupboard, Simándy100, Cziffra 1956, Citizens of Kassa, Hungarian Opera Day, Cinema Szinetár, Chanson Chance, Tokody 40, World Voice Day, European Opera Days, René Pape's Recital, OperaPicnic, OperaSziget II.*

**András Almási-Tóth** – *Porgy and Bess, The Telephone, Der Tenor*

**Ferenc Anger** – *La traviata, Les dialogues des Carmélites, Béla's Flight, Prince Pikko, Il tabarro, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi, Hány Gala, Star Hour Gala*

**Sven –Eric Bechtolf** – *Don Giovanni*

**Georges Delnon** – *Cavalleria rusticana, Pagliacci*

**Balázs Benő Fehér** – *Il campanello*

**Péter Galambos** – *Bluebeard's Castle, Mario and the Magician*

**Judit Galgóczy** – *Il trovatore*

**Zsófi Geréb** – *L'isola disabitata*

**Pál Göttinger** – *Sly*

**András Hábetler** – *Figaro 2.0*

**Mária Harangi** – *Rigoletto*

**Patricia Horváth** – *Two Women*

**Csaba Káel** – *Don Pasquale, Bánk bán, Die Königin von Saba*

**Gergely Kesselyák** – *Nabucco*

**Vilppu Kiljunen** – *The Mine, Love*

**Barrie Kosky** – *Die Zauberflöte*

**Balázs Kovalik** – *Elektra, Blood Wedding*

**Géza M. Tóth** – *Siegfried, Die Walküre, Matthäus-Passion*

**Damiano Michieletto** – *La bohème 2.0*

**András Mikó** – *Parsifal*

**Vagyim Milkov** – *The Queen of Spades*

**János Mohácsi** – *Aida*

**Kálmán Nádasdy** – *La bohème*

**Viktor Nagy** – *Tosca*

**János Novák** – *Disruption in the Seraglio*

**Péter Novák** – *West Side Story*

# Directors

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CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**Tamás Novák** – *Kádár's Last Speech*

**Pál Oberfrank** – *Carmen*

**Stefano Poda** – *Otello*

**Silviu Purcărete** – *Love and Other Demons*

**György Selmeczi** – *Andrea Chénier*

**Balázs Sipos** – *La putain respectueuse, Opposite the Catafalque*

**Tamás Solymosi** – *Háry Gala*

**Máté Szabó** – *Lucia di Lammermoor, Das Liebesverbot*

**Kriszta Székely** – *Madama Butterfly*

**János Szikora** – *Werther, 56 Drops of Blood*

**Bálint Szilágyi** – *I pazzi per progetto*

**Miklós Szinetár** – *Der Zigeunerbaron, Die Zauberflöte, Die Fledermaus, Rigoletto*

**Tamás Szirtes** – *Billy Elliot – The Musical*

**Gábor Szűcs** – *Hunyadi László*

**Böske Tímár** – *Christmas of the Starry-Eyed,  
Season-Closing Gala of the Starry-Eyed*

**Attila Toronykőy** – *L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso, Il mondo della luna,  
King Pomade's New Clothes, Little Magic Flute, Opera Tour with Papageno*

**János Tóth** – *Weeping of the Winter Night*

**László Vámos** – *Il trovatore*

**Péter Varsányi** – *La serva padrona*

**Attila Vidnyánszky** – *Bánk bán, Háry János*

**Michał Znaniecki** – *The Spinning Room, Faust*

**Sándor Zsótér** – *Leander and Linseed*

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# Choreographers

CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**Dóra Barta** – *Megbolydult bolygó*

**Yvette Bozsik** – *Orfeo ed Euridice (Dancetrend '17)*

**John Cranko** – *Oregon*

**Rudi van Dantzig** – *Swan Lake*

**Wayne Eagling** – *The Nutcracker*

**Béla Földi** – *The Martian Chronicles*

**Pál Frenák** – *The Wooden Prince*

**Gyula Harangozó Jr.** – *Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs*

**Anna-Marie Holmes** – *Le corsaire*

**Johan Inger** – *Rain Dogs, Walking Mad*

**Lev Ivanov** – *Swan Lake*

**Zsolt Juhász** – *Dance Suite, The Spinning Room*

**Kylián, Jiří** – *Petite mort, Six Dances, Sarabande, Falling Angels*

**Sir Kenneth MacMillan** – *Manon*

**Michael Messerer** – *Don Quixote*

**Enrico Morelli** – *Moderato Cantabile (Pas de Quatre '17)*

**Lilla Pártay** – *Anna Karenina*

**Marius Petipa** – *Don Quixote, Le corsaire, Swan Lake*

**Toer van Schayk** – *Swan Lake*

**László Seregi** – *Spartacus*

**Tamás Solymosi** – *The Nutcracker, Le corsaire*

**Konsztantyin Szergejev** – *Le corsaire*

**Ákos Tihanyi** – *Billy Elliot – The Musical*

**Sándor Tímár** – *Christmas of the Starry-Eyed,  
Season-Closing Gala of the Starry-Eyed*

**László Velekei** – *Inner Sounds (Pas de Quatre '17)*

**Marianna Venekei** – *La traviata, A Streetcar Named Desire, Faust,  
Die Walküre, Carmen, Die Königin von Saba*

**Balázs Vincze** – *The Miraculous Mandarin (Pas de Quatre '17)*

**Lóránd Zachár** – *SEC (DanceTrend '17)*

**Johanna Bodor** – *Aida*

**Attila Bordás** – *West Side Story*

# Choreographers

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CREATORS OF THE SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

**Zoltán „Batyú” Farkas** – *Bánk bán*

**Péter Gemza** – *Háry János*

**Gábor Horváth** – *King Pomade's New Clothes, Blood Wedding*

**Melinda Jakab** – *Das Liebesverbot*

**Gergely Csanád Kovács** – *Hunyadi László*

**Attila Kozma** – *Il trovatore*

**Noémi Kulcsár** – *Der Tenor, Porgy and Bess*

**Andrea Ladányi** – *Leander and Linseed*

**Péter László** – *Parsifal*

**Jenő Lőcsei** – *Die Fledermaus, Rigoletto*

**Gábor Mihályi** – *Der Zigeunerbaron*

**Éva Molnár** – *West Side Story*

**András Nádasdy** – *Die Zauberflöte, Andrea Chénier, Don Pasquale,  
Der Magic Cupboard*

**Klára Pataky** – *The Telephone*

**Edít Rujsz** – *Hansel and Gretel*

**Csaba Solti** – *Bluebeard's Castle, Mario and the Magician*

**Tamás Solymosi** – *Le corsaire, The Nutcracker*

**György Szakály** – *The Queen of Spades*

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# Orchestra

**Galina Danyilova** – *Concertmaster*

**Ágnes Kovács (nee Soltész)** – *Concertmaster*

**Rodrigo Puskás** – *Concertmaster*

**János Pál Selmeczi** – *Concertmaster*

**Anikó Ecseki** – *First Principal violin*

**Péter Foskolos** – *First Principal violin*

**Éva Mihályi** – *First Principal violin*

**Imola Rajka** – *First Principal violin*

**Anna Bánfalvi** – *First violin tutti*

**Tamás Biró** – *First violin tutti*

**Beatrix Bugony** – *First violin tutti*

**Hajnalka Csikós** – *First violin tutti*

**Károly Gál** – *First violin tutti*

**Andrea Haffner** – *First violin tutti*

**Eva Hartenstein** – *First violin tutti*

**István Horváth** – *First violin tutti*

**Erzsébet Zsuzsanna Hutás** – *First violin tutti*

**Márta Kisfaludy** – *First violin tutti*

**Ibolya Kiss (nee Igaz)** – *First violin tutti*

**Judit Krisztina Kovács** – *First violin tutti*

**Zsuzsa Laskay-Monoki** – *First violin tutti*

**Ágnes Ligeti (nee Beke)** – *First violin tutti*

**István Ludvig** – *First violin tutti*

**Zsófia Maros (nee Molnár)** – *First violin tutti*

**Sándor Molnár** – *First violin tutti*

**Zita Novák** – *First violin tutti*

**László Nyuli** – *First violin tutti*

**Eva Paul** – *First violin tutti*

**József Rácz** – *First violin tutti*

**Ljudmila Romanovszkaja** – *First violin tutti*

**Viktória Szilvási** – *First violin tutti*

**Magdolna Tomsics (nee Závodszyk)** – *First violin tutti*

# Orchestra

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**Hanna Tóth Kiss** – *First violin tutti*

**Gabriella Ürmösi Farkas** – *First violin tutti*

**Áron Dóczi** – *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*

**Katalin Fenyő** – *Second violin tutti*

**Ferenc Gazdag** – *Second violin tutti*

**Lilla Haraszi (née Gulyás Nagy)** – *Second violin tutti*

**Dóra Hargitai** – *Second violin tutti*

**Anna Nóra Kelemen** – *Second violin tutti*

**Éva Kozári (née Terman)** – *Second violin tutti*

**Orsolya Márton** – *Second violin tutti*

**Mónika Müller** – *Second violin tutti*

**Tícia Puskás** – *Second violin tutti*

**Tamás Rigó** – *Second violin tutti*

**Béla Sárközi** – *Second violin tutti*

**Anna Mária Svantek** – *Second violin tutti*

**András Tallián** – *Second violin tutti*

**Ágnes Tamás (née Feitl)** – *Second violin tutti*

**Gábor Dezső Bocskák** – *Second violin tutti*

**Sára Katalin Deák** – *Second violin tutti*

**Csaba Fehér** – *Second violin tutti*

**Veronika Botos** – *Solo viola*

**Anita Inhoff** – *Principal viola*

**Dénes Ludmány** – *Principal viola*

**Csaba Babácsi** – *Viola tutti*

**Mónika Bán (née Bódi), Dr.** – *Viola tutti*

**Gabriella Orsolya Bartis-Gémesi** – *Viola tutti*

**Zsuzsanna Belényi** – *Viola tutti*

# Orchestra

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**Blanka Bozzay** – *Viola tutti*

**Gyula Cseresznyés** – *Viola tutti*

**Péter Kondor** – *Viola tutti*

**Éva Kóra** – *Viola tutti*

**Attila Kovács** – *Viola tutti*

**Attila Lukács** – *Viola tutti*

**Balázs Mészáros** – *Viola tutti*

**Ágnes Miklós** – *Viola tutti*

**Antal Molnár** – *Viola tutti*

**Kornélia Sidló** – *Viola tutti*

**Jenő Sörös** – *Viola tutti*

**Mátyás Török** – *Viola tutti*

**Zsófia Winkler** – *Viola tutti*

**Balázs Kántor** – *Solo cello*

**László Pólus** – *Solo cello*

**Endre Balog** – *Principal cello*

**Eszter Baráti** – *Cello tutti*

**Csaba Bartos** – *Cello tutti*

**Chung Hosung** – *cello tutti*

**Péter Dóczi** – *Cello tutti*

**Fejérvári János** – *cello tutti*

**Ágnes Fodor** – *Cello tutti*

**Erika Kádi** – *Cello tutti*

**Dénes Karasszon** – *Cello tutti*

**Gábor Magyar** – *Cello tutti*

**Anita Miskolczi** – *Cello tutti*

**Ildikó Rönkös** – *Cello tutti*

**Anikó Sabján** – *Cello tutti*

**Gyöngyi Ujházi** – *Cello tutti*

**Tibor Wambach** – *Cello tutti*

**Péter Boldoghy Kummert** – *Principal double Bass*

**Péter Bucherna** – *Principal double Bass*

# Orchestra

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**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*

**Fruzsina Káli-Fonyódi** – *First oboe*

**Ottó Rácz** – *First oboe*

**Nóra Salvi** – *First oboe*

**Krisztina Szélpál** – *First oboe*

**Nóra Baráth** – *Second oboe*

**Csenge Dobos** – *Second oboe*

**József Erős** – *Second oboe*

**Eszter Horváth** – *Second oboe*

**Gábor Galavics** – *First clarinet*

**Sándor Kiss** – *First clarinet*

**Balázs Romy** – *First clarinet*

# Orchestra

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**Beáta Várnai** – *First clarinet*

**Péter Csongár** – *Second clarinet*

**Zsolt Mersei** – *Second clarinet*

**András Péter Novák** – *Second clarinet*

**Gergely Parlagi** – *Second clarinet*

**István Hartenstein** – *First Bassoon*

**Zoltán László Kovács** – *First Bassoon*

**Bálint Döme Mohai** – *First Bassoon*

**Judit Polonkai** – *First Bassoon*

**József Bánfi** – *Second Bassoon*

**László Hunyadi** – *Second Bassoon*

**Ágnes Jandácsik (née Breszka)** – *Second Bassoon*

**Aladár Tüske** – *Second Bassoon*

**Péter Lakatos** – *First French horn*

**Zoltán Szóke** – *First French horn*

**Endre Zoltán Tekula** – *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*

**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*

**Zoltán Nagy** – *Fourth French horn*

**Zsolt Végh** – *Fourth French horn*

**Zsolt Czeglédi** – *First trumpet*

**Bence László Horváth, Dr.** – *First trumpet*

# Orchestra

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**Tibor Király** – *First trumpet*

**Csaba Nagy** – *First trumpet*

**Balázs Winkler** – *First trumpet*

**Ferenc Ács** – *Second trumpet*

**Mihály Könyves-Tóth** – *Second trumpet*

**Tamás Póti** – *Second trumpet*

**István Sztán** – *Second trumpet*

**Róbert Lugosi** – *First trombone*

**Róbert Stürzenbaum** – *First trombone*

**Balázs Szakszon** – *First trombone*

**Sándor Szabó** – *First trombone*

**Tibor Ujj** – *First trombone*

**Csaba Bencze** – *Second trombone*

**Balázs Kovács** – *Second trombone*

**Barnabás Brindás** – *Third trombone*

**Lajos Fülöp** – *Third trombone*

**Mariann Szakszon** – *Third trombone*

**Gábor Adamik** – *Tuba*

**Miklós Wrchovszky** – *Tuba*

**Timár Albert** – *Tuba*

**Attila Csige** – *Timpani*

**László Béla Juhász** – *Timpani*

**Miklós Kovács** – *Timpani*

**Ádám Maros** – *Timpani*

**Gusztáv Péter Cser** – *Percussion*

**Sándor Godán** – *Percussion*

**Attila László** – *Percussion*

**Gáspár Sente** – *Percussion*

**János Tóth** – *Percussion*

**Zoltán Vámosi** – *Percussion*

**Júlia Boros (née Szilvásy)** – *Harp*

**Ágnes Juhász (née Peták)** – *Harp*

**Beáta Klára Simon** – *Harp*

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# Chorus

**Krisztina Andrásy-Neuenstein** – *Soprano I*

**Györgyi Avvakumovits** – *Soprano I*

**Katalin Balogh** – *Soprano II*

**Eszter Bánhidi** – *Soprano II*

**Eszter Bartha** – *Soprano I*

**Gabriella Baukó** – *Soprano I*

**Zsuzsanna Bazsinka** – *Soprano I*

**Tünde Bognár** – *Soprano II*

**Nikoletta Bolya-Pap** – *Soprano II*

**Mónika Budai-Langermann** – *Soprano I*

**Szilvia Fehér (née Szentidai, Dr.)** – *Soprano I*

**Éva Dunai** – *Soprano I*

**Gabriella Érdi** – *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*

**Edina Kersák** – *Soprano I*

**Emese Kovács** – *Soprano I*

**Györgyi Kovács** – *Soprano I*

**Andrea Kozári** – *Soprano I*

**Tünde László** – *Soprano I*

**Monika Leblanc** – *Soprano I*

**Katalin Lénárd** – *Soprano I*

**Csilla Lengyel** – *Soprano II*

**Eszter Magyar** – *Soprano II*

**Györgyi Murár** – *Soprano I*

# Chorus

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**Ildikó Nagy** – *Soprano II*

**Mónika Németh** – *Soprano II*

**Filoretti Óhegyi** – *Soprano I*

**Anikó Péter** – *Soprano II*

**Ilona Piszter** – *Soprano II*

**Júlia Somogyi** – *Soprano II*

**Márta Stefanik** – *Soprano I*

**Beáta Szepessy** – *Soprano I*

**Gabriella Szili** – *Soprano II*

**Katalin Tőrek** – *Soprano I*

**Ágnes Turpinszky** – *Soprano I*

**Klára Vajda** – *Soprano I*

**Éva Varga (née Tőke)** – *Soprano II*

**Mária Borsányi (née Balogh)** – *Contralto I*

**Viktória Avedikián** – *Contralto II*

**Annamária Bócz** – *Contralto I*

**Gabriella Busa** – *Contralto I*

**Nóra Csádi** – *Contralto I*

**Diána Döbörhegyi** – *Contralto I*

**Éva Fülöp** – *Contralto I*

**Anna Viola Farkas** – *Contralto I*

**Diána Hajdú** – *Contralto I*

**Mrs. Ferenc Halász** – *Contralto I*

**Erzsébet Bognár** – *Contralto I*

**Ágnes Hanuska** – *Contralto II*

**Eszter Heresznyei** – *Contralto II*

**Andrea Illés** – *Contralto II*

**Ágota Kádár** – *Contralto I*

**Mrs. József Kalapács** – *Contralto I*

**Beáta Kovács** – *Contralto I*

**Szabina Kristóf** – *Contralto II*

**Veronika Kaskovicz (née Kuzder)** – *Contralto I*

# Chorus

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**Éva Leszkovszki-Tóth** – *Contralto II*

**Júlia Magassy** – *Contralto II*

**Kata Mátrai E.** – *Contralto II*

**Ildikó Mónus** – *Contralto II*

**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 Takáts (née Hajdu)** – *Contralto I*

**Orsolya Uitz** – *Contralto II*

**Judit Wiedemann** – *Contralto I*

**Imre Ambrus** – *Tenor I*

**Gábor Andrónyi** – *Tenor II*

**Imre Bedics** – *Tenor I*

**Gábor Csiki** – *Tenor I*

**József Csobolya** – *Tenor II*

**András Farkas** – *Tenor I*

**János Gál** – *Tenor I*

**Zoltán Garamvölgyi** – *Tenor II*

**Zsombor Haraszti** – *Tenor I*

**Ferenc Herczeg** – *Tenor II*

**Gábor Jenny** – *Tenor II*

**István Kéringer** – *Tenor II*

**Gyula Kovács** – *Tenor I*

**Zoltán Kovács** – *Tenor I*

# Chorus

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**András Kozári** – Tenor I

**Krisztián Kuthi** – Tenor I

**György Mann** – Tenor I

**Márió Matyó** – Tenor I

**Ferenc Molnár** – Tenor II

**György Nótás** – Tenor II

**János Novák** – Tenor I

**Illés Rácz** – Tenor I

**Miklós Reményi** – Tenor II

**Richárd Rest** – Tenor II

**Dániel Roska** – Tenor I

**Attila Sebők** – Tenor II

**Péter Simándi** – Tenor II

**Balázs Somogyi** – Tenor II

**Zoltán Szabó** – Tenor I

**András Takács** – Tenor II

**János Tandari** – Tenor I

**Attila Tillai** – Tenor I

**Árpád Tóth** – Tenor II

**Gergely Ujvári** – Tenor I

**Antal Bakó** – Baritone

**Sándor Bartus** – Baritone

**Oreszt Bodnár S.** – Baritone

**Attila Búra** – Baritone

**Sándor Dobos** – Baritone

**Károly Fekete** – Baritone

**György Gogolyák** – Baritone

**Álmos Gyarmati** – Baritone

**Péter Illés** – Baritone

**Gergely Irlanda** – Baritone

**Pál Kovács** – Baritone

**István Kristóf** – Baritone

# Chorus

---

**Attila Ollé** – *Baritone*

**Zoltán Somogyi** – *Bass*

**Dávid Tarnai** – *Baritone*

**Gábor Tóth-Czifra** – *Baritone*

**Zsolt Trócsányi** – *Baritone*

**Géza Zsigmond** – *Baritone*

**Péter Balás** – *Bass*

**István Beregszászi** – *Bass*

**Csaba Deák** – *Bass*

**Gábor Farkas** – *Bass*

**János Fátrai** – *Bass*

**Péter Fekete S.** – *Bass*

**Attila Fenyvesi** – *Bass*

**Dávid Nagy** – *Bass*

**Árpád Olcsvári** – *Bass*

**Jenő Schild** – *Bass*

**László Szentimrei** – *Bass*

**Béla Tóth** – *Bass*

**Csaba Tóth** – *Bass*

**Zoltán Tóth G.** – *Bass*

# Corps de ballet

---

Yuiko Adachi

Umberto Aragno

Csilla Arany

Yuka Asai

Benjamin Zoltán Babácsi

Gergő Ármin Balácsi

Dorisz Bedő

Mark James Biocca

German Borsai

Elisaveta Cheprasova

Gaetano Cottonaro

Nika Kristina Crni

Vivien Csokán

Pierpaolo D'Amico

Dénes János Darab

Edit Darab–Fehér

Dmitry Diachkov

Dániel Fodor

Lea Földi

Balázs Gefferth

Mario Genovese

Obengül Polen Gezmis

Yuliya Golovyna

Danielle Gould

Péter András Hajdu

Rita Edit Hangya

Csaba Hommer

Adrienn Horányi

Orsolya Jungwirth–Gáspár

Eszter Kazinczy

Ágnes Kelemen

Dmitrij Kirejko

István Kohári

Maksym Kovtun

Balázs Krajczár

Anna Krupp

Kseniia Kulikova

Gábor Lajti

Eszter Lovisek

Atinay Dorottya Medveczné

Vladyslav Melnyk

Angela Mingardo

Dávid Molnár

Ryosuke Morimoto

Kristóf Morvai

Gábor Németh

Takaaki Okajima

Zsuzsanna Papp

# Corps de ballet

---

Eszter Pataki-Tóth

Anita Pesel

Lloyd Petchey

Eszter Pöcze

Lilla Purszki

Ágnes Riedl

Viktória Rohoncz

Bianka Rotter

Tünde Schmidh (née Antal)

Mónika Katalin Séra

Adrienn Szekeres

Zsófia Szeregnyi

Ilona Szigeti-Scanlon Kelsey

Réka Szilágyi-Sári

Ali Viktor Tabbouch

Yuya Takahashi

Kateryna Tarasova

Yulia Tikka

Barbara Tóth

Emi Uehara

Judit Varga

Tatiana Vdovicheva

Roland Vékes

Manzares Ricardo Vila

Gabriella Vontszemű

# Children's Chorus

---

Anna Katalin Abonyi

Míra Ábrahám

Simon Domonkos Ács

Abigél Antal

Aletta Borbála Babai

Benjámín Bacsó

Jázmin Baghy

Izabella Bakos

Olívia Bakos

Blanka Balázs

Anna Bali

Ernest Bangó

Lilla Csenge Baráth

Enikő Barcs

Richárd Márk Bede

Csenge Besenyeyi

Barbara Daniella Bódi

Eszter Bodnár

Hanna Borbás

Vanessza Chamfrault

Borbála Csalog

Abigél Csatos

Panna Csontos

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

Katalin Duka

Antónia Éliás

Csipke Emesz

Daniela Engel

Domonkos Eörgögh

Osayi Rebekah Ero

Sarolta Fekete

Bettina Dzszenifer Foskolos

Diána Foskolos

Ramóna Foskolos

Cecília Briana Földessy

Stiegemeier

Mária Anna Földessy

Stiegemeier

Milán Grubits

Eszter Róza Haraszti

Júlia Haraszti

Violetta Éva Haraszti

Lídia Huiber

Berta Júlia Ittész

Klára Zsófia Ittész

Georgina Jenei

Dominik Jobbágy

Patrik Jobbágy

Fanni Mária Juhos

Lili Kalmár

Laura Kamarás

Máté Gergő Kamarás

Patrícia Kinga Karádi

József Karczagi

Mihály Efraim Karnai

Rebeka Borbála Kécza

# Children's Chorus

---

Hanna Killeen

Artúr András Kiss

Helga Kiss

Anna Kiss-Leizer

Nikolett Kleineizl

Rozi Panna Kótai

Áron Kovács

Polína Kozlova

Lenke Kun

Virág Vivien Lázók

Zsombor Ádám Lendvai

Lili Majercsik

Lucrezia Marcotulli

Anna Martinovics-Csoma

Réka Medveczki

Orsolya Kinga Melis

Lívia Eszter Mester

Viktória Mohácsi

Rebeka Molnár

Hajnalka Eszter Nagy

Júlia Boglárka Nagy

Sarolta Nagy

Bernadette Júlia Oppitz

Laura Edina Oppitz

Laura Órfi

Sára Pigniczki

Dorottya Pintér

Csenge Pocsai

Tünde Tímea Pócsik

Nikolett Rácz

Petra Boglárka Rácz

Gréta Virág Rákóczi

Elina Rohonczi

Réka Zsuzsa Sámuel

Szilvia Sárkány

Laura Terézia Sieferer

Melinda Simondán

Zsófia Sőreg

Sándor Suke

Dávid Márton Szabó

Regina Karolina Szabó

Fanni Szalai

Zsolt Székely

Domonkos Szilvágyi

Fanni Szlaukó

Botond Márton Takács

Anna Talabér

Henriett Tanai

Dániel Tógyer

Viktor Tóth

Vivien Tóth

Hanga Anna Vallejos

Dzsenifer Szilvia Vane

Luca Varga

Virág Napsugár Varga

# Principal Music Directorate

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**Balázs Kocsár** – *Acting Principal Music Director*

**Erika Egyed-Tóth** – *Assistant to the Principal Music Director*

**Béla Simon** – *Orchestra Director*

**Natasa Janklovics** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Gábor Szigeti** – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

**Réka Tóth** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Kálmán Strausz** – *Chorus Director*

**Eszter Fórizs** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Hedvig Ildikó Károly** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Erika Vasvári** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Dániel Erdélyi** – *Musical Assistant to the Chorus Director*

**Richárd Riederauer** – *Musical Assistant to the Chorus Director*

**Gyöngyvér Gupcsó** – *Director of the Children's Chorus*

**Beáta Treckó** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Dóra Zech** – *Music Archive Manager, Music Archive Consultant*

**Mrs. Iván Benedek** – *Bookbinder*

**Valéria Anna Csányi** – *Music Archive Musical Consultant*

**Melinda Csongár (née Bódi)** – *Music Archive Musical Consultant*

**Julianna Egressy** – *Music Archivist*

**Julianna Martin** – *Music Archivist*

**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*

**Ágnes Kovács** – *Répétiteur*

**László Adrián Nagy** – *Répétiteur*

**Katalin Szirtes** – *Répétiteur*

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# Ballet Directorate

**Solymosi** – *Ballet Director*

**Marianna Venekei** – *Principal Ballet Master*

**Angéla Kövessy** – *Ballett Master*

**Edit Marosi** – *Ballett Master*

**Roland Csonka** – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

**Éva Baranya** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Gabriella Milković** – *International Cultural Manager*

**Szonja Stella** – *Ballet Secretary*

**Zsófia Szabó** – *Artist Coordinator*

**György Leányvári** – *Audio and Video Technician*

**László Schnitzler** – *Audio and Video Technician*

**Károly Schnitzler** – *Audio and Video Technician*

**György Lázár** – *Principal Répétiteur*

**Éva Hajnal** – *Répétiteur*

**Nagyezsda Ronavári** – *Répétiteur*

**Zsanna Vasziolenkó** – *Répétiteur*

# General Directorate

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**Szilveszter Ókovács** – *General Director*

**István Kákay** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Enikő Tókési** – *Assistant to the General Director*

**Péter Horváth** – *Head Internal Auditor*

**Enikő Imreh** – *Internal Auditor*

**Virág Főző, Dr.** – *Deputy General Director*

**Franciska Vecsei (née Hajas Dr.)** – *Personal Assistant*

**Rita Pál, Dr.** – *Assistant to the Director*

**Réka Anna Pávó** – *Directorate Assistant*

**Péter Manninger, Dr.** – *Occupational Health and Safety Physician*

**Rita Márta Fejes-Lucás** – *Medical Assistant*

**Barbara Fejér** – *Medical Assistant*

**Márton Karczag** – *Archive Manager*

**Anna Emőke Nagy** – *Surtitles*

**Éva Mikos-Tekker** – *Ticket Distribution Department Manager*

**Zsófia Nemes** – *Ticket Distribution Department Deputy Manager*

**Bettina Angeli** – *Box Office Sales Consultant*

**Melinda Algács** – *Ticket Distributor*

**Eszter Kunsági** – *Ticket Distribution Assistant*

**Emese Zsófia Kurcz** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Alexandra Markovics** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Júlia Menyhárt** – *Ticket Distributor*

**Zsuzsanna Mermeze** – *Box Office Sales Consultant*

**Antónia Ferencz** – *Ticket Distributor*

**Dóra Kinga Goitein (née Dezséri)** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Zsuzsanna Horváth** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Réka Harsányi** – *Ticket Distributor*

**Ágnes Kerékgyártó** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Mercedes Anikó Miklós** – *Ticket Distributor*

**Zsuzsanna Tóth** – *Box Office Cashier*

**Noémi Kiszely, Dr.** – *Erkel Programme Office Manager*

**Annamária Csonkaréti** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Emőke Nyáguly** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Mónika Farkas** – *Human Resources Management Department Manager*

**Krisztina Böröczki** – *HR Facilitator*

**Mónika Kalmár** – *HR Coordinator*

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# General Directorate

**Zsófia Mendelényi** – *HR Coordinator*

**Erika Tóth (née Zubán)** – *Head HR Facilitator*

**Beáta Samu** – *HR Coordinator*

**Zsófia Kovács, Dr.** – *Chief Legal Counsel*

**Attila Béres, Dr.** – *Legal Specialist*

**Anikó Körmendi, Dr.** – *Legal Specialist*

**Tamás Lisznai** – *Copyright Administrator*

**Klára Reiniger Lami, Dr.** – *Legal Specialist*

**Gábor Miklós** – *Production Coordinator*

**Anett Molnár** – *Production Coordinator*

**Lejla Török** – *Production Assistant*

**Dalma Závodszy** – *Production Assistant*

**Csilla Moharos (née József Dr.)** – *Procurement Manager*

**Krisztina Mária Bordás** – *Procurement Specialist*

**Róbert Ádám Nagy** – *Vehicle Fleet/Material Procurement Manager*

**Tibor Fazekas** – *Warehouse Supervisor*

**Albert Imreh** – *Public Procurement Specialist*

**Dániel Ribárszki** – *Vehicle Fleet/Material Procurement Manager*

**András Szomolányi** – *Vehicle Fleet/Material Procurement Manager*

**Mrs. Sándor Tóth** – *Procurement Facilitator*

**József Vincze** – *Warehouse Clerk*

**Dorina Anett Bognár** – *Office Administrator*

**Zsanett Gerliczki** – *Event Organiser*

**Beáta Kuczka** – *Event Organiser*

**Lilla Kuczka** – *Event Organiser*

**Viktória Anna Sipos** – *Event Organiser*

**Miklós Nagyszentpéteri** – *Head Usher*

**Béla Szilágyi** – *Head Usher*

*ADVISERS TO THE GENERAL DIRECTOR*

**Éva Marton** – *Senior Adviser*

**Miklós Szinetár** (*Opera*)

**Maina Gielgud** (*Ballet*)

**Tamás Bátor** (*International Affairs*)

**Dávid Zsoldos** (*Media*)

# Artistic Directorate

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**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*

**Edit Somogyi** – *Artist Coordination Secretary*

**Dóra Szanka** – *Artist Coordinator*

**Csilla Lenhardt (née Zsilavec)** – *International Specialist*

**Ágnes Nyilassy** – *International Specialist*

**Márta Pölös** – *International Specialist*

**Tamás Jászay Dr.** – *Website Manager*

**Kinga Krisztina Keszthelyi** – *Dramaturg*

**Judit Kenesey** – *Dramaturg*

**Eszter Orbán** – *Dramaturg*

**Kálmán Szennai** – *Principal Répétiteur*

**László Bartal** – *Répétiteur*

**Erika Dallos** – *Répétiteur*

**Katalin Doman** – *Répétiteur*

**Andrea Joy Fernandes** – *Répétiteur*

**Pálma Hidegkuti** – *Répétiteur*

**Balázs Dénes Kálvin** – *Répétiteur*

**Géza Köteles** – *Répétiteur*

**Szilvia Mikó** – *Répétiteur*

**Gyula Pfeifer** – *Répétiteur*

**Sámuel Csaba Tóth** – *Répétiteur*

**Andrea Judit Kovács** – *Head Artistic Assistant*

**András Aczél** – *Artistic assistant*

**Szilvia Gábor** – *Artistic assistant*

**Tibor Gusztáv Frigyesi** – *Artistic assistant*

**Judit Niklai** – *Assistant Director*

**Katalin Kovács** – *Assistant Director*

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# Artistic Directorate

**Mária Anna Kovács** – Assistant Director

**Katalin Lázár** – Assistant Director

**Orsolya Magyar** – Assistant Director

**Albert Mányik** – Assistant Director

**Erika Tóth** – Assistant Director

**Vilmos Szabó** – Head Stage Manager

**Krisztián Nagy** – Head Supernumeraries Organiser

**Tamás Herzog** – Supernumeraries Organiser

**Zsuzsanna Szeőke** – Supernumeraries Organiser

**Rita Bányai** – Head Prompter

**Gábor Lengyel** – Prompter

**Dóra Érsek** – Prompter

**Magdolna Mészáros** – Prompter

**Anna Szilágyi (née Barcsák)** – Prompter

**Judit Török (née Komódi)** – Prompter

**László Csányi** – Stage Manager

**Tamás János Dávida** – Stage Manager

**Balázs Fehér** – Stage Manager

**Gábor Fias** – Stage Manager

**Lóránt Gázsik** – Stage Manager

**Márton Magyar** – Stage Manager

**Richárd Pál Sípós** – Stage Manager

**Ágnes Vághelyi (née Szóka)** – Stage Manager

**Bence Vasdinnyey** – Stage Manager

# Technical Directorate

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**Péter Virág** – *Technical Director*

**Anna Ildikó Józsa** – *Builder's Assistant*

**Judit Molnár** – *Assistant to the Director*

**Andrea Noszkó-Horváth** – *Director's Coordinator*

**Zoltán Juhász** – *Scenic Artist, Set-Construction Workshops Manager*

**Mrs. Árpád Nyerges** – *Scenic Administrator*

**Miklós Resz** – *Scenic Artist*

**Zita Ágota Szeredi** – *Scenic Administrator*

**Zénó Zenovitz** – *Head Painter*

**Péter Tamás Báró** – *Painter*

**Tamás Bertha** – *Painter*

**Gabriella Bukovinszky (née Miskolczy)** – *Sculptor*

**László Fericián** – *Painter*

**László Doru** – *Painter*

**Bálint Miksa** – *Painter*

**Pál Szinvai** – *Sculptor*

**Andor Veres** – *Painter*

**János Szick** – *Head Set Carpenter*

**András Bálint** – *Set Carpenter*

**András Dudás** – *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*

**Imre Tóth** – *Set Carpenter*

**Gábor Viskok** – *Set Carpenter*

**Attila Selyem** – *Head Set Locksmith*

**Géza Galyas** – *Set Locksmith*

---

# Technical Directorate

**Antal Laudisz** – *Set Locksmith*

**András György Nagy-Eiben** – *Set Locksmith*

**Attila Siági** – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

**Péter Vepperi** – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

**Ferenc Molnár** – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

**József Molnár** – *Set Locksmith-Welder*

**György Fejes** – *Technician*

**Zoltán Borics** – *Technician*

**Andrea Dezső** – *Set Seamstress*

**Ildikó Fresli (née Szabó)** – *Set Seamstress*

**Erika Ilyés** – *Set Seamstress*

**Annamária Mezőfi** – *Set Seamstress*

**Kinga Schmidt-Kámán** – *Set Seamstress*

**Zsuzsanna Stári** – *Set Seamstress*

**Mrs. József Szász** – *Set Seamstress*

**Ildikó Balla** – *Costume Fabrication Workshops, Manager*

**Lilla Csukás (née Huszár)** – *Costume Administrator*

**Magdolna Kelemen** – *Costume Administrator*

**Orsolya Bathó (née Lipka)** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Zsuzsanna Braier** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Ágnes Klára Gál (née Hugyecz)** – *Costume Fabricator*

**László Földvári** – *Costume Painter*

**Rita Gáspár (née Gaál)** – *Costume Administrator*

**Ágnes Mittelholcz** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Dóra Pattantyus** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Zsuzsanna Ruppert (née Imrik)** – *Head Costume Fitter*

**Norbert Tóth** – *Costume Fabricator Assistant*

**Mónika Szelei** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Zoltán Verécsi** – *Costume Administrator*

**Attila Benedek** – *Head Men's Costume Fitter*

**Mária Benkő (née Micheller)** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Andrea Bóné** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

# Technical Directorate

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**Mrs. Tamás Borbély** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Andrea Kinga Cucer** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Mrs. Csaba Erdei** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Mrs. János Fábián** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Gabriella Katalin Fagyas** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Zsolt Győr** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**János Oláh** – *Men's Costume Fitter*

**Sándor Szabó** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Mrs. László Varga** – *Men's Costume Fitter*

**Beáta Veres (née Jakubovics)** – *Men's Costume Fabricator*

**Margit Vladár (née Visnyovszki)** – *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*

**Mrs. Tibor Ferenc Kuhár** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**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*

**Mrs. László Palágyi** – *Women's Costume Fitter*

**Emese Seregi** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Csilla Szabó** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Mrs. András Szászi** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Éva Szemerei** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Hedvig Tölgyszéki-Pap** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Katalin Ziegler** – *Women's Costume Fabricator*

**Mónika Tóth** – *Head Milliner*

**Flóra Csépanyi** – *Milliner*

**Éva Fazekas** – *Milliner*

**Erika Sugta** – *Milliner*

**Éva Báró** – *Wigmaker*

**Andrea Biró** – *Wigmaker*

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# Technical Directorate

**Bernadett Széplaki** – *Wigmaker*

**Anna Mária Villányi (née Szántó)** – *Head Wigmaker*

**Gyula Pauscher** – *Head Shoemaker*

**Babett Asztalos** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Katalin Brózik** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Szilvia Fazekas** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Borbála Fekete** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Ilona Kul** – *Women's Costume Fitter*

**Franciska Kump (née Kis)** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Éva Lőrincz Kiss** – *Women's Costume Fitter*

**Julianna Major** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Károly Major** – *Men's Costume Fitter*

**Ferenc Rekenei** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Ivett Rontó** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Regina Szeiman** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Zsuzsanna Vadászi** – *Costume Fabricator*

**Brigitta Benkucs (née Kántor)** – *Shoe Upper Fabricator*

**László Bokros** – *Shoemaker*

**Zoltán Keserű** – *Shoemaker*

**Éva Libor** – *Shoemaker*

**Szilvia Tuba** – *Shoemaker*

**Mihály Pákai** – *Shoemaker*

**Gyula Pauscher** – *Head Shoemaker*

**Tamás Faragó** – *Maintenance Department Manager*

**Erzsébet Jacsó** – *Operational Secretary*

**László Lombay** – *Technical Engineer*

**Gábor Vad** – *Technical Engineer*

**László Czigner** – *Head Caretaker*

**Ibolya Teklovics (née Stáhl)** – *Resort Caretaker*

**Erzsébet Auer** – *Maintenance Technician*

**Csaba Sándor Bányai** – *Maintenance Technician Carpenter*

**László Bertók** – *Caretaker*

# Technical Directorate

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**Ferenc Domozi** – Caretaker

**Zsuzsanna Ecet** – Maintenance Technician

**Ferenc Fácán** – Maintenance Technician

**Zoltán Fokta** – Caretaker

**Attila Göblyös** – Deputy Caretaker

**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

**Annamária Kéri (née Székely)** – Painter/Ornamental Painter

**Mária Kovács** – Painter/Ornamental Painter

**István Kiss** – Maintenance Technician

**István László Lázár** – Deputy Caretaker

**Piroska Lengyel (née Bari)** – Deputy Caretaker

**Tamás Lugosi** – Receptionist/Switchboard Operator

**Zoltán György Marczy** – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

**Endre Mészáros** – Upholsterer

**Ferenc Sági** – Maintenance Technician Locksmith

**Péter Szabó** – Maintenance Technician

**István Tamás** – Maintenance Technician

**István Terbócs** – Deputy Caretaker

**Balázs Péter Zeke** – Maintenance Technician Carpenter

**József Kovács** – Head Mechanic

**Demeter András Bálint** – Mechanic

**János Döbrei** – Stoker (Mechanic)

**János Sándor Franzoni** – Stoker (Mechanic)

**János Freiberger** – Stoker (Mechanic)

**Attila Gáspár** – Plumber

**Sándor Iván** – Stoker (Mechanic)

**András Koncsek** – Stoker (Mechanic)

**Zsolt Mészáros** – Mechanic

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# Technical Directorate

**Jenő Molnár** – *Stoker (Mechanic)*

**Dániel Nagy** – *Stoker (Mechanic)*

**Zoltán Szatmári** – *Stoker (Mechanic)*

**Ferenc Tamás** – *Stoker (Mechanic)*

**Gábor Valek** – *Mechanic*

**István József Varga** – *Plumber*

**Sándor Zöldi** – *Maintenance Technician Locksmith*

**István Budai** – *Maintenance Technician Electrician*

**János Daróczi** – *Electrician*

**Tibor Hárshegyí** – *Maintenance Technician Electrician*

**Péter Géza Jutasi** – *Maintenance Technician Electrician*

**Zoltán Osztolykán** – *Maintenance Technician Electrician*

**Károly Péntek** – *Maintenance Technician Electrician*

**Gábor Sáfrán** – *Electrician*

**Ferenc Sáránszki** – *Head 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*

**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*

# Technical Directorate

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**Tamás Borda** – Decorator

**Bence Borda** – Assistant Flyman

**Attila Brindza** – Decorator/Control System Manager

**Zsolt Csapó** – Decorator/Fly Master

**Béla Tamás Csizmazia** – Decorator/Flyman

**Gergely Csonka** – Decorator

**Győző Duba** – Decorator/Flyman

**Gergely Fábián** – Decorator

**Dénes Faragó** – Decorator

**Sándor Fenesi** – Decorator

**Attila Fenyvesi** – Decorator

**Zoltán Gergely** – Decorator

**Tamás Gorzó** – Decorator

**Béla Horváth** – Stage Master

**Zoltán Horváth** – Decorator

**János Jolsvai** – Decorator

**Gábor Juhász** – Decorator

**Zsolt Kálmán Kapás** – Decorator

**László Kerepesi** – Decorator

**László Kertész** – Decorator

**Ádám Kholman** – Assistant Decorator

**László Kiss** – Assistant Decorator

**Gyula Kiss** – Decorator

**Mihály Kósa** – Decorator

**Attila Kovács** – Decorator/Control System Manager

**István Kovács** – Decorator

**Norbert Kovács** – Decorator

**Vilibald Kun** – Stage Master

**Zsolt László** – Decorator

**Károly Lengyel** – Decorator

**Dániel Lokár** – Decorator

**Richárd Meixler** – Decorator

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# Technical Directorate

**János Miskolczy** – Decorator/Flyman

**András Nagy** – Decorator

**Ferenc Nagy** – Decorator

**Vitold Nagy** – Decorator/Flyman

**Sándor Nemes** – Decorator

**Balázs Neruda** – Decorator/Control System Manager

**István Ősz** – Decorator

**Zsolt Pasa** – Assistant Decorator

**József Nagy** – Assistant Decorator

**Adorján Pentz** – Decorator

**Marianna Petke** – Decorator/Control System Manager

**Attila Potyka** – Decorator

**Csaba Sándor Rácz** – Decorator

**Donát Rajnai** – Decorator

**Zoltán Mihály Sáreczky** – Assistant Decorator

**István Sárkány** – Stage Master

**Roland András Sárosi** – Decorator

**Imre Schaul** – Decorator/Flyman

**Dániel Schnitzler** – Assistant Decorator

**Olivér Szakál** – Decorator

**László Szebenzski** – Decorator

**Gyula Szigethy** – Assistant Decorator

**Zoltán Szikszai** – Decorator

**Zoltán Tóth** – Decorator

**András Vágó** – Decorator

**József Vajda** – Decorator

**Gergely Várda** – Assistant Decorator

**Zoltán Varga** – Decorator

**Zoltán Vass** – Assistant Decorator

**Antal Végh** – Stage Master

**Ferenc Krisztián Veréb** – Decorator

**Ottó Zeffer** – Decorator

# Technical Directorate

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**András Both** – *Lighting and Audio Warehouse Manager*

**Gábor Áprily** – *Lighting Technician*

**Mihály Bandi** – *Lighting Technician*

**Ákos István Bodor** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Péter Mihály Erdős** – *Audio Technician*

**Tamás Filák** – *Lighting Technician*

**Balázs Göncöl** – *Lighting Technician*

**Antal Hajdu** – *Head Lighting Technician*

**Szabolcs Herfert** – *Light Control Technician*

**János Horváth** – *Lighting Technician*

**Andrea Hronyán** – *Lighting Technician*

**Gábor Hüttl** – *Head Audio Technician*

**Gusztáv András Jancsó** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Ferenc Kerekes** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Zsolt Kelemen** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Attila Károly Kernács** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Antal Krusch** – *Lighting Technician*

**Gábor Kutasi** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Tibor Lénárd** – *Light Control Technician*

**Gábor Lukács** – *Lighting Technician*

**János Matuz** – *Audio Technician*

**Bálint Major** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Miklós Mucsi** – *Head Lighting Technician*

**György Tamás Nagypál** – *Lighting Technician*

**Tamás Noszko-Horváth** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**István Németh** – *Audio Technician*

**István József Olácsi** – *Lighting Technician*

**Zoltán Pál** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

**Tóth Lilla Panyik** – *Light Control Technician*

**István Papp** – *Lighting Technician*

**Tibor Pataky** – *Audio Technician*

**Dániel Pergel** – *Assistant Lighting Technician*

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# Technical Directorate

**Tamás Pillinger** – Assistant Lighting Technician

**József Poszt** – Lighting Technician

**Zoltán Rab** – Lighting Technician

**Sándor Rzezác** – Head Lighting Technician

**István Senkó** – Lighting Technician

**Ivett Szilágyi** – Lighting Technician

**János Tamási** – Lighting Technician

**Zsolt Zsindely** – Lighting Technician

**Sándor Bóné** – Props Warehouse Manager

**Tamás Bácskai** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Botond Hegedüs** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Attila Erdős** – Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Katalin Huszti** – Assistant 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

**Krisztián Gábor Kovács** – Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Emil Lucsik** – Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Attila Lukácsi** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**László Markos** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Tamás Nánási** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**András Petelen** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Gábor Skultéti** – Head Props and Furniture Stagehands

**István Varga** – Assistant Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Norbert Szarvas** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Gábor Szekeres** – Props and Furniture Stagehands

**Mrs. Lajos Bodó** – Costume Warehouse Manager

**Judit Beáta Ábrahám (née Bojtár)** – Dresser

**Ágnes Ambrus (née Rálik)** – Dresser

**Gabriella Balogh** – Assistant Dresser

**Izabella Barabás** – Dresser

# Technical Directorate

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**Szilvia Barna** – Dresser

**Eszter Benkő** – Assistant Dresser

**Tibor Kaltenecker** – Dresser

**Zsuzsanna Klára Karsay** – Assistant Dresser

**Tímea Erzsébet Fábíán (néé Budai)** – Assistant Dresser

**Krisztina Géryi** – Assistant Dresser

**Vivien Harmati** – Assistant Dresser

**Tibor Kaltenecker** – Dresser

**Zsuzsanna Klára Karsay** – Assistant Dresser

**Mrs. Gábor Attila Kása** – Dresser

**Henrietta Kemerle** – Dresser

**Szabolcs Joel Klein** – Assistant Dresser

**Barnabás Kocserha** – Dresser

**Fanni Viktória Koller** – Dresser

**Klaudia Kovács** – Dresser

**Noémi Kovács (néé Benedek)** – Assistant Dresser

**Ilona Julianna Kovács (néé Szedlár)** – Assistant Dresser

**Mária Kovics** – Dresser

**Viktória Kőműves** – Dresser

**Mária Erika Krisán** – Dresser

**Mrs. Antal Krusch** – Dresser

**Dávid László** – Assistant Dresser

**Edít Gabriella Leéb** – Dresser

**Zsigmond Leidl** – Dresser/Maintenance Technician

**Mónika Lovas (néé Kótai)** – Dresser

**Katalin Lovász** – Dresser

**Mrs. Árpád Lőrincz** – Dresser

**Renáta Mán** – Dresser

**Mária Medve** – Dresser

**Tibor Mészáros** – Dresser

**Ilona Mészáros (néé Gyenes)** – Dresser

**Krisztina Molnár** – Assistant Dresser

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# Technical Directorate

**Gyula Mórocz** – Dresser

**Barbara Irma Morzsa** – Assistant Dresser

**Mária Antónia Mucsi (née Kovács)** – Dresser

**Bence Mucsi** – Assistant Dresser

**József Muladi** – Dresser

**Béla Nagy** – Assistant Dresser

**Gábor Nagy** – Dresser

**Timea Németh** – Dresser

**Naómi Ibolya Nyiri** – Assistant Dresser

**Mrs. Lajos Papp, Dr.** – Dresser

**György Róbert Petrányi** – Dresser

**Szilvia Podhorszki** – Dresser

**Mrs. László Radnai** – Dresser/Maintenance  
Technician

**Enikő Rostás** – Assistant Dresser

**Nóra Somlai** – Dresser

**Erzsébet Spanyol** – Assistant Dresser

**Erika Szabady** – Dresser

**Veronika Erzsébet Szabó** – Dresser/  
Maintenance Technician

**Veronika Szakács** – Dresser

**László Szoatak** – Dresser

**Iván Szubin** – Assistant Dresser

**Nóra Tordai** – Dresser

**Gabriella Turtegin** – Dresser

**Mrs. Imre Tibor Ujj** – Assistant Dresser/  
Maintenance Technician

**Gábor Zoltán (née Zaicsek)** – Dresser

**Mrs. Károly Zsuppányi** – Dresser

**Mariann Makláry** – Hairdressing Supply Manager

**Barbara Gosztony** – Assistant Hairdresser

**Réka Homolyová** – Assistant Hairdresser

**Jennifer Gyenes** – Hairdresser

**Pál Hlovoska** – Hairdresser

**Mrs. Árpád Horváth** – Hairdresser

**Nikolett Kató** – Assistant 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

**János Bartha** – IT Departmental Head

**Péter Bekő** – IT Technician

**Péter Hipszki** – IT Technician

**Kolos Kovács** – IT Technician

# Marketing and Communication Directorate

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**Monika Turkovics, Dr.** – *Director of Marketing and Communication*

**Zsuzsanna Gulyás** – *Marketing and Communication Project Manager*

**Balázs Rákóczi** – *Online Marketing Project Manager*

**László Tóth** – *Marketing Production Manager*

**Judit Várkonyi** – *Public Relations Officer, Spokeswoman*

**Zoltán Balla** – *Communication Project Manager*

**György Jávorszky** – *International Communication Project Manager*

**Zoltán Ficsor** – *Event Marketing Project Manager*

**Melitta Gyüdi** – *Club Manager*

**Jozefa Iványi** – *Museologist, Archive Manager*

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# Business Directorate

**László Ferenc Soltész** – *Acting Business Director*

**Andrea Gyöngyi Balogh, Dr.** – *Assistant to the Director*

**Géza József Nagy** – *Office Assistant*

**Szilvia Szilágyi** – *Registrar*

**Éva Mária Varga, Dr.** – *Registrar*

**András Bojtor** – *Accounting Department Manager*

**Mária Apkó** – *Organisational Bookkeeper*

**Tünde Éva Fodor (née Szabó)** – *Accounting Facilitator*

**Mrs. Károly Jakabos** – *Stocktaker*

**Mrs. László Kovács** – *Auditing Bookkeeper*

**Mrs. Miklós Mezőfi** – *Head Stocktaker*

**Tibor Pap** – *Business Specialist*

**Anna Vogyerák (née Reményi)** – *Accounting Facilitator*

**Nikolett Szabó** – *Accounting Facilitator*

**Klára Simon (née Gebri)** – *Head Accounting Facilitator*

**Szilvia Zsuzsanna Tóth** – *Invoice Account Clerk*

**Erzsébet Gulyás (née Varga)** – *Financial Department Manager*

**Krisztina Cziráki (née Mátrai)** – *Financial Facilitator*

**Rita Kelemen (née Surányi)** – *Financial Administrator*

**Mrs. Sándor Bende** – *Financial Administrator*

**Katalin Egri** – *Financial Facilitator*

**Katalin Grosz (née Kovács)** – *Financial Facilitator*

**Krisztina Herczeg (née Kovács)** – *Head Financial Facilitator*

**Éva Kovács (née Mihályi)** – *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 Csik** – *Payroll Administrator*

**Edit Gulyás** – *Payroll Administrator*

**Erika Halász (née Szmola)** – *Payroll Administrator*

**Rita Liebhauser** – *Payroll Administrator*

**Ágnes Proszammer** – *Payroll Administrator*





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Calendar



# Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>						
3	Saturday	7 pm	OperaDinner		Invitation only	
17	Saturday	2 pm	Donizetti: Il campanello		Sphinx Terrace	
17	Saturday	4 pm	Donizetti: I pazzi per progetto		Sphinx Terrace	
17	Saturday	6 pm	Menotti: The Telephone		Sphinx Terrace	
17	Saturday	7 pm	OperaCinema		Andrássy Avenue	
17	Saturday	10 pm	<b>GRYLLUS: TWO WOMEN (premiere)</b>		In various rooms of the Opera House	
18	Sunday	7 pm	OperaCinema		Andrássy Avenue	
21	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Széchenyi István225		Bertalan Székely Hall	
23	Friday	6 pm	Verdi: La traviata		NYF	F

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
24	Saturday	1 pm	Donizetti: I pazzi per progetto		Sphinx Terrace	
24	Saturday	3 pm	Donizetti: Il campanello		Sphinx Terrace	
24	Saturday	5 pm	Menotti: The Telephone		Sphinx Terrace	
24	Saturday	7 pm	<b>VERDI: LA TRAVIATA (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
25	Sunday	7 pm	Marton Singing Competition Gala Night			
28	Wednesday	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		Komlóssy	A
29	Thursday	6 pm	Opera without Borders (Kodály: The Spinning Room)		NYF	F
30	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		Melis	A

## OCTOBER

1	Saturday	7 pm	<b>KODÁLY: THE SPINNING ROOM (premiere)</b>			P
1	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
2	Sunday	11 am	Verdi: La traviata		Diák	M
2	Sunday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Ilosfálv	A
6	Thursday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Svéd	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
7	Friday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Radnai	A
8	Saturday	11 am	Verdi: La traviata		Simándy	M
8	Saturday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Bartók	A
9	Sunday	11 am	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Bánffy	M
9	Sunday	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		Verdi	A
11	Tuesday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Oláh	A
12	Wednesday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Tóth	A
13	Thursday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		NYF	F
14	Friday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Harangozó	A
15	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: La traviata		Fricsay	A
15	Saturday	11 am	Pergolesi: La serva padrona		Royal staircase	
15	Saturday	1 pm	Pergolesi: La serva padrona		Royal staircase	
16	Sunday	11 am	Verdi: La traviata		Opera Matinée	M
16	Sunday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Ybl	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
19	Wednesday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Fülöp	A
20	Thursday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		ifj Nagy	A
21	Friday	7 pm	<b>RAUTAVAARA: THE MINE + VARGA: LOVE (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
22	Saturday	11 am	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Gimnazista	M
22	Saturday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Tango	A
23	Sunday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Klemperer	A
23	Sunday		<b>KÁDÁR'S LAST SPEECH (premiere)</b>		Trapezium Hall	
24	Monday	7:30 pm	Piano Arias – Liszt205		Opera concert	H
25	Tuesday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
26	Wednesday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
27	Thursday	7 pm	Rautavaara: The Mine + Varga: Love		Házy	A
27	Thursday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
28	Friday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Melis	A
28	Friday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
29	Saturday	11 am	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus			M
29	Saturday	7 pm	Rautavaara: The Mine + Varga: Love		Ferencsik	A
29	Saturday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
30	Sunday	11 am	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus			M
30	Sunday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus		Seregi	A
30	Sunday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
31	Monday	7:30 pm	Verdi: Requiem			H

## NOVEMBER

2	Wednesday	5 pm	Wagner: Die Walküre		NYF	F
2	Wednesday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
3	Thursday	7 pm	Rautavaara: The Mine + Varga: Love		Universitas	A
3	Thursday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	
4	Friday	6 pm	Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus			A
4	Friday		Kádár's Last Speech		Trapezium Hall	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	NOVEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
5	Saturday	6 pm	Gounod: Faust			A
5	Saturday	11 am	Pergolesi: La serva padrona		Royal staircase	
5	Saturday	1 pm	Pergolesi: La serva padrona		Royal staircase	
6	Sunday	5 pm	Wagner: Die Walküre		Polgár	A
9	Wednesday	5 pm	Wagner: Die Walküre		Komlóssy	A
10	Thursday	6 pm	Gounod: Faust		Esély program	A
12	Saturday	5 pm	Wagner: Die Walküre		Visszanéző-sorozat	A
12	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
13	Sunday	6 pm	Gounod: Faust		Failoni	A
16	Wednesday	6 pm	Gounod: Faust		Ybl	A
17	Thursday	5 pm	Wagner: Die Walküre		Svéd	A
18	Friday	6 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		NYF	F
19	Saturday	7 pm	<b>PETIPA / GORSKY / MESSERER / MINKUS: DON QUIXOTE (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
20	Sunday	11 am	Gounod: Faust		Gimnazista	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
20	Sunday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Tóth	A
23	Wednesday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Fülöp	A
24	Thursday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Fricsay	A
25	Friday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Radnai	A
26	Saturday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Klemperer	A
27	Sunday	11 am	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Bánffy	M
27	Sunday	7 pm	Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus: Don Quixote		Ilosfalvy	A
30	Wednesday	6 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites		NYF	F

### DECEMBER

1	Thursday	6 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		NYF	F
2	Friday	7 pm	<b>POULENC: LES DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
3	Saturday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Gimnazista	DM
3	Saturday	6 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
4	Sunday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Opera Matinée	DM

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
4	Sunday	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			A
6	Tuesday	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites		Oláh	A
7	Wednesday	6 pm	Puccini: La bohème		NYF	F
8	Thursday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Fülöp	A
9	Friday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	?
9	Friday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		Failoni	A
10	Saturday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Családi	DM
10	Saturday	6 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
10	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
11	Sunday	11 am	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites		Simándy	M
11	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			A
13	Tuesday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		Ybl	A
14	Wednesday	11 am	Little Christmas			
14	Wednesday	1 pm	Little Christmas			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
14	Wednesday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		ifj. Nagy	A
15	Thursday	7 pm	Poulenc: Les dialogues des Carmélites			A
16	Friday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
17	Saturday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			DM
17	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			ZK
18	Sunday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Invitation only	DM
18	Sunday	6 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Ilosfalvy	A
20	Tuesday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			DM
20	Tuesday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		dr. Palló	A
21	Wednesday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			DM
21	Wednesday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
22	Thursday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			DM
22	Thursday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
23	Friday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			DM

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
23	Friday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			A
24	Saturday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			P
25	Sunday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
25	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			P
26	Monday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
26	Monday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
28	Wednesday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
28	Wednesday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème			P
29	Thursday	7 pm	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
30	Friday	11 am	Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			A
30	Friday	6 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		NYF	F
31	Saturday	4 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus			P
31	Saturday	8:30 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus			P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Opera
  Balett
  Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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## JANUARY

1	Sunday	8:30 pm	New Year's at the Opera		Opera concert	P
4	Wednesday	7 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		Klemperer	A
5	Thursday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		Svéd	A
6	Friday	7 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		Radnai	A
7	Saturday	11 am	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		Bánffy	M
7	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème		Ferencsik	A
8	Sunday	7 pm	Strauss: Die Fledermaus			A
14	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
18	Wednesday	6 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		NYF	F
19	Thursday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		Róna	A
20	Friday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		Failoni	A
21	Saturday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			A
22	Sunday	11 am	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		Opera Matinée	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
22	Sunday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			A
25	Wednesday	6 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons		NYF	F
26	Thursday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		Esély program	A
27	Friday	7 pm	<b>EÖTVÖS: LOVE AND OTHER DEMONS (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
28	Saturday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			A
29	Sunday	11 am	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			M
29	Sunday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons		Hungarikum	A

## FEBRUARY

1	Wednesday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin		ifj. Nagy	A
2	Thursday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons			A
3	Friday	7 pm	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			A
4	Saturday	7 pm	Iván Nagy Ballet Gala		Harangozó	A
5	Sunday	11 am	Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze: Onegin			M
5	Sunday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons		Tóth	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
7	Tuesday	6 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier		NYF	F
8	Wednesday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons		Komlóssy	A
9	Thursday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier		Házy	A
10	Friday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier		Fricsay	A
11	Saturday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier		Tango	A
11	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
12	Sunday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier			A
16	Thursday	6 pm	Bizet: Carmen		Bartók	A
17	Friday	6 pm	Bizet: Carmen		Radnai	A
18	Saturday	6 pm	Bizet: Carmen			A
19	Sunday	6 pm	Bizet: Carmen		Universitas	A
23	Thursday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier			A
25	Saturday	8 pm	Háry Night			
26	Sunday	11 am	Breadcrumb Ball – Humperdinck: Hansel and Gretel			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY / MARCH 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
26	Sunday	7 pm	Giordano: Andrea Chénier		Esély program	A

### MARCH

1	Wednesday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		NYF	F
2	Thursday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		Podmaniczky	A
3	Friday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		Melis	A
4	Saturday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades			A
5	Sunday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		Ilosfalvy	A
8	Wednesday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		Fricsay	A
9	Thursday	6 pm	Tchaikovsky: The Queen of Spades		Klemperer A	
10	Friday	6 pm	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz: Anna Karenina		NYF	F
11	Saturday	6 pm	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz: Anna Karenina		Visszanéző-sorozat + Pártay75	A
12	Sunday	11 am	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz: Anna Karenina		Diák	M
12	Sunday	6 pm	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz: Anna Karenina		Harangozó	A
11	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
16	Thursday	5 pm	Wagner: Siegfried		NYF	F
17	Friday	6 pm	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rác: Anna Karenina		Fülöp	A
18	Saturday	11 am	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rác: Anna Karenina M			
18	Saturday	6 pm	Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rác: Anna Karenina		Ferencsik	A
7 pm	Sunday	5 pm	<b>WAGNER: SIEGFRIED (premiere)</b>		Opera Premier	P
7 pm	Sunday	11 am	Haydn: L'isola disabitata		Royal staircase	
7 pm	Sunday	1 pm	Haydn: L'isola disabitata		Royal staircase	
21	Tuesday	6 pm	Verdi: Otello		NYF	F
22	Wednesday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello			A
23	Thursday	5 pm	Wagner: Siegfried		Polgár	A
24	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello		Radnai	A
25	Saturday		Tales of Music			
25	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello		Tango	A
26	Sunday	5 pm	Wagner: Siegfried			A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH / APRIL 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
26	Sunday	11 am	Haydn: L'isola disabitata		Royal staircase	
26	Sunday	1 pm	Haydn: L'isola disabitata		Royal staircase	
30	Thursday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello		Svéd	A
31	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello		Failoni	A

### APRIL

1	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Otello			A
1	Saturday	11 am	Mozart / Novák: Disruption in the Seraglio		Royal staircase	
1	Saturday	1 pm	Mozart / Novák: Disruption in the Seraglio		Royal staircase	
2	Sunday	5 pm	Wagner: Siegfried		Visszanézó-sorozat	A
2	Sunday	11 am	Mozart / Novák: Disruption in the Seraglio		Royal staircase	
2	Sunday	1 pm	Mozart / Novák: Disruption in the Seraglio		Royal staircase	
3	Monday	7:30 pm	Ybl203		Erkel concert	H
4	Tuesday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		NYF	F
5	Wednesday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		Universitas	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
6	Thursday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		Házy	A
7	Friday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		Melis	A
8	Saturday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		Mahler	A
9	Sunday	11 am	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon			M
9	Sunday	6 pm	MacMillan / Massenet / Yates: Manon		Puccini	A
11	Tuesday	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal		NYF	F
12	Wednesday	6 pm	Bach: Matthäus Passion		NYF	F
13	Thursday	7 pm	Bach: Matthäus Passion			H
14	Friday	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal		Polgár	A
15	Saturday	7 pm	Bach: Matthäus Passion			H
16	Sunday	7 pm	Mascagni: Messa di Gloria; Cavalleria rusticana			H
17	Monday	5 pm	Wagner: Parsifal			A
20	Thursday	6 pm	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire		NYF	F
21	Friday	7 pm	<b>HOLMES / SOLYMOSSI / ADAM: LE CORSAIRE (premiere)</b>		Opera Premiere	P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL / MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
22	Saturday		Tales of Music			
22	Saturday	7 pm	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire		Tóth	A
23	Sunday	11 am	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire		Családi	M
23	Sunday	7 pm	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire			A
26	Wednesday	6 pm	Massenet: Werther		NYF	F
27	Thursday	7 pm	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire		Esély program	A
28	Friday	7 pm	Massenet: Werther		Podmaniczky	A
29	Saturday	11 am	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire			M
29	Saturday	7 pm	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire		Harangozó	A
29	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
30	Sunday	11 am	Holmes / Solymosi / Adam: Le corsaire			M
30	Sunday	7 pm	Massenet: Werther		Puccini	A

## MAY

3	Wednesday	6 pm	Strauss: Elektra		NYF	F
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■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
4	Thursday	7 pm	Massenet: Werther		Klemperer	A
5	Friday	7 pm	Strauss: Elektra			A
6	Saturday	11 am	MamaMatinée (Massenet: Werther)		Diák	M
6	Saturday	7 pm	Massenet: Werther		Mahler	A
6	Saturday	10 pm	European Opera Days (Gryllus: Two Women)		in various rooms of the Opera House	
7	Sunday	7 pm	Strauss: Elektra		Ilosfalvy	A
10	Wednesday	7 pm	Strauss: Elektra		Polgár	A
11	Thursday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		NYF	F
12	Friday	7 pm	<b>WOODEN PRINCE100</b>		Seregi	A
13	Saturday	11 am	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			M
13	Saturday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			A
13	Saturday	4 pm	Royal Music Hall		Bertalan Székely Hall	
13	Saturday		Durkó: Moses – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
14	Sunday	11 am	Strauss: Elektra			M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Ballett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
14	Sunday		Balassa: The Man Outside – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
17	Wednesday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Komlóssy	A
18	Thursday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Házy	A
19	Friday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Failoni	A
20	Saturday	11 am	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			M
20	Saturday		Fekete: The Saved City – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
20	Saturday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Tango	A
21	Sunday	11 am	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Simándy	M
21	Sunday		Vajda: Mrs. Karnyó – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
21	Sunday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Podmaniczky	A
24	Wednesday	6 pm	Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Fricsay	A
25	Thursday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons			A
26	Friday	6 pm	Bartók DanceTriptych		NYF	F
27	Saturday		Erkel: Dózsa György – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY / JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
27	Saturday	7 pm	Eötvös: Love and Other Demons			A
28	Sunday	11 am	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Családi	M
28	Sunday		Erkel: Bátori Mária – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
28	Sunday	7 pm	<b>BARTÓK DANCETRIPTYCH (premiere)</b>			P
31	Wednesday	7 pm	Juhász / Frenák / Seregi / Bartók: Bartók DanceTriptych		Fülöp	A

## JUNE

1	Thursday	7 pm	Juhász / Frenák / Seregi / Bartók: Bartók DanceTriptych		Harangozó	A
2	Friday	7 pm	Vajda: Mario + Bartók: Bluebeard			A
3	Saturday	11 am	Kodály: Hány János		NYF	F
3	Saturday		Poldini: Wedding + Kenessey: Gold – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	
3	Saturday	7 pm	Kodály: The Spinning Room		Hungarikum	A
4	Sunday	11 am	Kodály: Hány János			M
4	Sunday	7 pm	Juhász / Frenák / Seregi / Bartók: Bartók DanceTriptych		Bartók	A
4	Sunday	4 pm	Liszt: Don Sanche – Social Music Listening Sessions		Bertalan Székely Hall	

■ Gala, special event ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera ■ Ballett ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
5	Monday	7:30 pm	Czinka Panna		Opera concert	H
5	Monday	6 pm	Gyöngyösi: The Master and Margarita – excerpts		Bertalan Székely Hall	
6	Tuesday	6 pm	Kodály: Hány János		Oláh	A
7	Wednesday	6 pm	Kodály: Hány János		Esély program	A
9	Friday	7 pm	Vajda: Mario + Bartók: Bluebeard			A
10	Saturday	7:30 pm	René Pape's aria recital			P
11	Sunday	6 pm	Kodály: Hány János			A
13	Tuesday	6 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		NYF	F
14	Wednesday	6 pm	Verdi: Il trovatore		NYF	F
15	Thursday	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		Svéd	A
16	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Il trovatore		Melis	A
17	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		Mahler	A
18	Sunday	7 pm	Verdi: Il trovatore			A
21	Wednesday	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto		Failoni	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
22	Thursday	7 pm	Verdi: Il trovatore		Házy	A
23	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Rigoletto Verdi			A
24	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Il trovatore		Ferencsik	A
25	Sunday	7 pm	Night of Stars gala for the season's finest			A
26	Monday		Opera examinations			

■ Gala, special event
 ■ Chamber opera

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert





ERKEL

SZÍNHÁZ  
THEATRE

Calendar



Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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## SEPTEMBER

6	Tuesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		dr Palló	E
7	Wednesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Pedagógus	E
8	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Sárvár	E
9	Friday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Sümeg	E
10	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Csókakó	M
10	Saturday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Erkel premiere	E
11	Sunday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Döbrönte	M
11	Sunday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Esztergom	E
16	Friday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Eger	P
17	Saturday	11 am	Bernstein: West Side Story		Vajdahunyad	M
17	Saturday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Tata	P
18	Sunday	11 am	Bernstein: West Side Story		Vasutas	M
18	Sunday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Hollókő	P
19	Monday	7:30 pm	Flying Start – Gyula Orendt's Recital of Schumann, Mahler and Kodály Songs			A
23	Friday	7 pm	<b>Kylling It – modern ballet gala (INGER / WAITS: RAIN DOGS premiere)</b>		Róna	P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
24	Saturday	7 pm	Kyllng It – modern ballet gala		Nők Lapja, Kőszeg	A
25	Sunday	3 pm	Simándy 100 – with Kaufmann			E
26	Monday	7 pm	Zsura60		Népszabadság, Tánc	A
29	Thursday	7 pm	Kyllng It – modern ballet gala		Gyula	A
30	Friday	7:30 pm	London Philharmonic Orchestra			

## OCTOBER

1	Saturday	7 pm	Kyllng It – modern ballet gala		Seregi / Visszanézó	A
2	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		Népszabadság, Patikus	A
4	Tuesday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
4	Tuesday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
5	Wednesday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
5	Wednesday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
6	Thursday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
6	Thursday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
7	Friday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
7	Friday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
8	Saturday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
8	Saturday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
11	Tuesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Revel	E
12	Wednesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Visegrád	E
13	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Siklós	E
14	Friday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Eger	E
15	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Vasutas	M
15	Saturday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
16	Sunday	7:30 pm	Klára Kolonits's bel canto recital		Nók Lapja	A
18	Tuesday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
18	Tuesday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
19	Wednesday	11 am	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
19	Wednesday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
20	Thursday	5 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		OperaAdventure	
22	Saturday	7:30 pm	Cziffra 1956		Erkel concert	A
23	Sunday	7 pm	56 Drops of Blood (Vörösmarty Theatre)		Operabarát	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
28	Friday	7 pm	The Day of 5 (Puccini: La bohème 2.0)		Sümeg	A
29	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		Veszprém	A
30	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: La bohème 2.0		Voks Humana	A
31	Monday	7 pm	56 Drops of Blood (Vörösmarty Theatre)			A

### NOVEMBER

4	Friday	7:30 pm	56 Requiem		Pedagógus	A
5	Saturday	11 am	Puccini: Tosca		Népszabadság, Patikus	M
6	Sunday	7:30 pm	HUNGARIAN OPERA DAY – Erkel: Bátor Mária		Hungarian Opera Day	A
7	Monday	10 am	Big Projection Day		Foyer	
7	Monday	11 am	Big Projection Day		Foyer	
11	Friday	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		Puccini	A
12	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		Revel	A
13	Sunday	6 am	Cinema Szinetár		Operabarát	A
17	Thursday	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		Siklós	A
18	Friday	7 pm	<b>DONIZETTI: LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (premiere)</b>		Erkel premieree	P
19	Saturday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		Csókakó	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

Date	Day	Time	Performance	NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
19	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca		Tokaj	A
20	Sunday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		Nők Lapja	M
20	Sunday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Visegrád	A
24	Thursday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Sárvár	A
25	Friday	7 pm	Puccini: Tosca			A
26	Saturday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		Nagyszülők-unokák	M
26	Saturday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Tata	A
27	Sunday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			M
27	Sunday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Füzér	A

## DECEMBER

2	Friday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Eger	A
3	Saturday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		Voks Humana	A
4	Sunday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			M
4	Sunday	7 pm	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor			A
5	Monday	7:30 pm	Richter János100		Erkel concert	A
8	Thursday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Gyula	P

■ Gala, special event 
 ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera 
 ■ Balett 
 ■ Concert 
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2016	Season ticket / Notes	Price
9	Friday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Revel	P
10	Saturday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Veszprém	P
11	Sunday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		NOE	M
11	Sunday	7 pm	Bernstein: West Side Story		Füzér	P
16	Friday	6 pm	<b>MOZART: DON GIOVANNI (premiere)</b>		Erkel premieree	P
17	Saturday		Tales of Music			
17	Saturday	6 pm	Mozart: Don Giovanni		Kőszeg	A
18	Sunday	11 am	Mozart / Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
18	Sunday	6 pm	Mozart: Don Giovanni		Hollókő	A
19	Monday	7 pm	Christmas for the Starry-Eyed			
20	Tuesday	6 pm	Mozart: Don Giovanni		Operabarát	A
21	Wednesday	6 pm	Mozart: Don Giovanni		Visegrád	A
22	Thursday	11 am	Mozart / Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		Papageno	M
22	Thursday	6 pm	Mozart: Don Giovanni		Sárvár	A
23	Friday	6 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		Visszanéző	A
24	Saturday	11 am	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		NOE	M

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2016 / JANUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
25	Sunday	11 am	Mozart / Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
27	Tuesday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Erkel matinée	M
27	Tuesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
28	Wednesday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Nagyszülők-unokák	M
28	Wednesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Nők Lapja	E
29	Thursday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			M
29	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Verdi	E
30	Friday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			M
30	Friday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Rezi	E
31	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			M

## JANUARY

5	Thursday	6 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		Siklós	A
6	Friday	6 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		Pedagógus	A
7	Saturday	7 pm	New Year's Frolic		Tánc	A
8	Sunday	11 am	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		Csókakó	M
8	Sunday	6 pm	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		Revel	A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera
 ■ Balett
 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
12	Thursday	6 pm	Wagner: Das Liebesverbot		Gyula	A
13	Friday	7 pm	Wolf-Ferrari: Sly		Operabarát	A
14	Saturday	6 pm	Wagner: Das Liebesverbot		Tokaj	A
15	Sunday	7 pm	Wolf-Ferrari: Sly		Esztergom	A
20	Friday	6 pm	Opera for Doctors (Verdi: Aida)		Sümeg	A
21	Saturday	11 am	Verdi: Aida		Operabarát	M
21	Saturday	7:30 pm	Renée Fleming's song recital			E
22	Sunday	11 am	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes		Papageno	M
22	Sunday	6 pm	Verdi: Aida		Voks Humana	A
26	Thursday	6 pm	Verdi: Aida		Visszanéző-sorozat	A
27	Friday	6 pm	Verdi: Aida		Verdi	A
28	Saturday	11 am	Verdi: Aida		Vasutas	M
29	Sunday	6 pm	Verdi: Aida		Patikus	A

## FEBRUARY

3	Friday	7 pm	<b>PUCCINI: MADAMA BUTTERFLY (premiere)</b>		Eger	P
4	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Veszprém	P

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
5	Sunday	11 am	Bizet: Carmen			M
5	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Füzér	P
10	Friday	7 pm	Puccini: Madama Butterfly			P
11	Saturday	11 am	Bizet: Carmen		Operabarát	M
11	Saturday	7 pm	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Visegrád	P
12	Sunday	11 am	Donizetti: Don Pasquale		Erkel matinée	M
12	Sunday	7 pm	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Puccini	P
16	Thursday	7 pm	Donizetti: Don Pasquale		Siklós	A
17	Friday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		dr. Palló	A
18	Saturday	7 pm	Donizetti: Don Pasquale		Revel	A
19	Sunday	11 am	Donizetti: Don Pasquale		Vajdahunyad	M
19	Sunday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		Esztergom	A
23	Thursday	7 pm	Chanson Chance			
24	Friday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		Rezi	A
25	Saturday	11 am	Donizetti: Don Pasquale		Vox Humana	M
25	Saturday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		Tata	A

■ Gala, special event
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Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY / MARCH 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
26	Sunday	11 am	Donizetti: Don Pasquale			M
26	Sunday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		Visszanézó-sorozat	A

### MARCH

2	Thursday	7 pm	Arany200 – The Bards of Wales		Visegrád	A
3	Friday	7 pm	DanceTrend '17		Seregi	A
4	Saturday	7 pm	Pas de quatre '17		Tánc	A
5	Sunday	6 pm	Puccini: Il trittico		Puccini	A
6	Monday	7:30 pm	Kodály50+		Erkel concert	A
10	Friday	18	Erkel: Hunyadi László		Sümeg	A
11	Saturday	18	Erkel: Hunyadi László		Veszprém	A
12	Sunday	18	Erkel: Hunyadi László		Revel	A
13	Monday	7:30 pm	Tokody40		Opera concert	A
3	Wednesday		Pilvaker			
5	Friday	6 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László			A
18	Saturday	6 pm	Erkel: Hunyadi László		Hungarikum	A
19	Sunday	11 am	Erkel: Hunyadi László		Vajdahunyad	M

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Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH / APRIL 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
24	Friday	6 pm	<b>STRAUSS: DER ZIGEUNERBARON (premiere)</b>		Erkel premiere	P
25	Saturday	11 am	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Döbrönte	M
25	Saturday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Tata	A
26	Sunday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Esztergom	A
30	Thursday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Sárvár	A
31	Friday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Rezi	A

#### APRIL

1	Saturday	11 am	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Erkel matinée	M
1	Saturday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Tokaj	A
2	Sunday	11 am	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Operabarád	M
2	Sunday	6 pm	Strauss: Der Zigeunerbaron		Visegrád	A
4	Tuesday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Szeged National Theatre		Szeged	
5	Wednesday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Csokonai National Theatre – Debrecen		Debrecen	
6	Thursday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Pécs National Theatre		Pécs	
7	Friday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Hungarian Opera of Cluj–Napoca		Kolozsvár	
8	Saturday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Győr National Theatre		Győr	

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Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
9	Sunday	7 pm	PRIMAVERA'17 – Miskolc National Theatre		Miskolc	
11	Tuesday	3 pm	The Day of Verse		Foyer	
13	Thursday	7 pm	Mascagni: Cavalleria rusticana + Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Gyula	A
14	Friday	7 pm	Mel Gibson: The Passion – film screening			
15	Saturday	11 am	Mascagni: Cavalleria rusticana + Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Vasutas	M
15	Saturday		World Voice Day			
17	Monday	11 am	Mascagni: Cavalleria rusticana + Leoncavallo: Pagliacci			M
19	Wednesday	?	Komische Oper Berlin (BSF – Mozart: Die Zauberflöte)			
20	Thursday	?	Komische Oper Berlin (BSF – Mozart: Die Zauberflöte)			
21	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		Eger	P
22	Saturday		Choral Days			
22	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		Kőszeg	P
23	Sunday		Choral Days			
23	Sunday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		Voks Humana	P
28	Friday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		Verdi	P
29	Saturday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco			P

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Opera
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  Concert
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Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL / MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
30	Sunday	7 pm	Verdi: Nabucco		Revel	P

### MAY

2	Tuesday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
2	Tuesday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
3	Wednesday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
3	Wednesday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
4	Thursday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
4	Thursday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
5	Friday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
5	Friday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
6	Saturday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
6	Saturday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
9	Tuesday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
9	Tuesday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
10	Wednesday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
10	Wednesday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	

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Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
11	Thursday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
11	Thursday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
12	Friday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
12	Friday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
13	Saturday	11 am	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
13	Saturday	5 pm	Erkel: Bánk bán		OperaAdventure	
18	Thursday	6 pm	Goldmark: Die Königin von Saba			A
19	Friday	6 pm	<b>RUZITSKA: BÉLA'S FLIGHT + ORBÁN: PRINCE PIKKÓ (premiere)</b>		Erkel premiere	P
20	Saturday	6 pm	Goldmark: Die Königin von Saba		Invitation only	A
21	Sunday	11 am	Ruzitska: Béla's Flight + Orbán: Prince Pikkó		Operabarát	M
25	Thursday	7 pm	Dohnányi: Der Tenor			A
26	Friday	7 pm	Szokolay: Blood Wedding		Visszanéző	A
27	Saturday	11 am	Tallér / Szilágyi / Szöllösi: Leander and Linseed			M
27	Saturday	7 pm	Dohnányi: Der Tenor		Revel	A
28	Sunday	11 am	Tallér / Szilágyi / Szöllösi: Leander and Linseed		Nagyszülök-unokák	M
28	Sunday	7 pm	Szokolay: Blood Wedding			A

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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## JUNE

2	Friday	7 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			M
3	Saturday	11 am	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Papageno	M
3	Saturday	6 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Revel	M
4	Sunday	11 am	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			M
8	Thursday	7 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Invitation only	M
9	Friday	7 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Róna	M
10	Saturday	11 am	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Operabarát	M
10	Saturday	6 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs			M
11	Sunday	11 am	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Döbrönte	M
11	Sunday	6 pm	Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs		Hollókó	M
17	Saturday	7 pm	<b>VENEKEI / DÉS: A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE (premiere)</b>		Erkel premiere	P
18	Sunday	7 pm	Starry-Eyed Season Closing Gala			
22	Thursday	7 pm	Ballet examinations			
23	Friday	7 pm	Venekei / Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		dr. Palló	A
24	Saturday	7 pm	Venekei / Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		Harangozó	A

■ Gala, special event
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■ Opera
 ■ Balett
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 ■ Musical

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE / JULY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
25	Sunday	11 am	Venekei / Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		Patikus	M
25	Sunday	7 pm	Venekei / Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire		Seregi	A
26	Monday		Hungarian Dance Academy exams			
29	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Gyula	E
30	Friday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical		Operabarát	E

## JULY

1	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
1	Saturday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
2	Sunday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
2	Sunday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
4	Tuesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
5	Wednesday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
6	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
7	Friday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
8	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
8	Saturday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E

■ Gala, special event
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Date	Day	Time	Performance	JULY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
9	Sunday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
9	Sunday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
11	Tuesday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
12	Wednesday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
13	Thursday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
14	Friday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
15	Saturday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
15	Saturday	7 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
16	Sunday	11 am	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E
16	Sunday	5 pm	John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical			E

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■ Opera
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 ■ Concert
 ■ Musical





EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

EIFFEL

# MŰHELYHÁZ

Eiffel Art Studios



Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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### MAY

10	Wednesday		Strauss / Jókai: Der Zigeunerbaron (excerpts)			B
12	Friday	7 pm	<b>FARKAS: THE MAGIC CUPBOARD (premiere)</b>			B
13	Saturday		Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus – film screening			B
14	Sunday		Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz: Anna Karenina – film screening			
14	Sunday	7 pm	Farkas: The Magic Cupboard			B
15	Monday		Rautavaara: The Mine + Varga: Love – film screening			B
16	Tuesday		Erkel: Hunyadi László – film screening			B
17	Wednesday	7 pm	Barta: Planet in Turmoil + Földi / Solaris: The Martian Chronicles			B
20	Saturday	7 pm	Seregi / Mendelssohn-Bartholdy: A Midsummer Night's Dream – film screening			B
21	Sunday	7 pm	Barta: Planet in Turmoil + Földi / Solaris: The Martian Chronicles			B
22	Monday	7 pm	Lajtha: The Blue Hat			B
23	Tuesday	7 pm	Ligeti: Le grand macabre			B
24	Wednesday	7 pm	Kacsóh: John the Vailant – Social Music Listening Sessions			B

  Gala, special event

  Opera   Ballett   Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY / JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
28	Sunday		Szőnyi: The Golden-Winged Bee			B
29	Monday	7 pm	Gyöngyösi: The Stork Calif			B
30	Tuesday		Harangozó / Delibes: Coppélia - film screening			B
31	Wednesday	7 pm	Madarász: The Last Waltz			B

### JUNE

1	Thursday	9 pm	HungarianLateNight - Lendvay: La putain respectueuse + Mezei: Catafalque			B
4	Sunday	7 pm	Selmeczi: Spiritisti			B
6	Tuesday	7 pm	Erkel: King Stephen - film screening			B
7	Wednesday	7 pm	Bozay: The Last Five Scenes - film screening			B
8	Thursday		Petrovics: C'est la guerre; Lysistrate			B
9	Friday	7 pm	Ránki: King Pomade's New Clothes			B
10	Saturday		Venekei / Dés: A Streetcar Named Desire - excerpts (concert version)			B
18	Sunday	7 pm	<b>MOZART: L'OCA DEL CAIRO OSSIA LO SPOSO DELUSO (premiere)</b>			B
20	Tuesday	7 pm	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			B

■ Gala, special event

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY / JUNE 2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
22	Thursday	7 pm	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			B
24	Saturday	11 am	Mozart: L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso			B
24	Saturday	7 pm	Donizetti: Roberto Devereux – with Edita Gruberova			

 Gala, special event

 Opera  Ballett  Concert





OPERA

OPERA

Első Sorban

PENZ



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Further venues



Date	Day	Time	Performance	2016–2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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### NOVEMBER

3.	Thursday	7 pm	Weeping of the Winter Night		Orchestra Centre (Jókai Str.)	
4.	Thursday	7 pm	Weeping of the Winter Night		Orchestra Centre (Jókai Str.)	

### MARCH

3.	Friday	9 pm	<b>HUNGARIANLATENIGHT – LENDVAY: LA PUTAIN RESPECTUEUSE; MEZEI: OPPOSITE THE CATAFALQUE (premiere)</b>		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	
4	Saturday	9 pm	HungarianLateNight – Lendvay: La putain respectueuse; Mezei: Opposite the Catafalque		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	
10	Friday	9 pm	HungarianLateNight – Lendvay: La putain respectueuse; Mezei: Opposite the Catafalque		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	
11	Saturday	9 pm	HungarianLateNight – Lendvay: La putain respectueuse; Mezei: Opposite the Catafalque		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	

### MAY

21	Sunday		Bella: Spring Awakening; Solti: La violetta		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	
23	Tuesday		Bella: Spring Awakening; Solti: La violetta		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	

■ Gala, special event ■ KamaraPerformance

■ Opera ■ Balett ■ Concert

Date	Day	Time	Performance	2016-2017	Season ticket / Notes	Price
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### JUNE

1	Thursday	9 pm	HungarianLateNight - Lendvay: La putain respectueuse; Mezei: Opposite the Catafalque		Liszt Academy, Solti Hall	B
16	Friday		<b>ERKEL: BÁNK BÁN (pre-premiere)</b>		Miskolc	B
23	Friday	8 pm	<b>Operalsland I - GERSHWIN: PORGY AND BESS (pre-premiere)</b>		Margaret Island	
25	Sunday	8 pm	Operalsland I - Gershwin: Porgy and Bess		Margaret Island	

### JULY

7	Friday	8 pm	Operalsland I - Verdi: Il trovatore		Margaret Island	
9	Sunday	8 pm	Operalsland I - Verdi: Il trovatore		Margaret Island	
14	Friday		Tour d'Opera		Lake Tisza	
15	Saturday		Tour d'Opera		Lake Tisza	
16	Sunday		Tour d'Opera		Lake Tisza	
20	Thursday	8 pm	OperaFüred - Chorus concert		Balatonfüred	
21	Friday	8 pm	OperaFüred - Gala		Balatonfüred	
22	Saturday	8 pm	OperaFüred - Palotás		Balatonfüred	
23	Sunday	7 pm	OperaFüred - OperaCinema (Verdi: La traviata)		Balatonfüred	

■ Gala, special event
 ■ KamaraPerformance





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Ticket Information, Season Passes and Discounts



## Season Passes and Bonuses

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In the 2016/2017 season the Hungarian State Opera offers a choice of different season passes for old and new customers. With our thematically compiled schemes we offer full-evening general entertainment to our guests who share the same interest, thus providing opportunities for professional discussions and brainstorming about business, arts and the combination of these in the intermissions of the performances. 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 (for both the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre) 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 **five-performance season pass for the Opera House may buy discounted tickets for five performances at the Opera House, and the same applies to the owner of a four-performance season pass to the Erkel**: he or she may also purchase one ticket to each of four performances at the Opera House at a 30% discount.)

**BONUS+** – We've linked each of the 63 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** holder to an event held in the Bánffy Stage to be opened at the Eiffel Art Studios or the Székely Bertalan Hall. (In the case of chamber programmes 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](http://www.opera.hu/vasarloiaszf).)

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## 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 **Opera House and Erkel Theatre** for six performances of their choosing even after the period for purchasing regular season passes has closed. **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.

**SIX-PERFORMANCE CARD** – Last but not least, the **Six-Performance Card** will be available for sale starting on 1 July 2016. 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. **The only condition for taking out a card – in addition to buying a ticket – is to complete a short two-minute questionnaire on the Opera.**

# Opera for Everyone

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## CHANCE SERIES

The activities of the cultural institution that is by far the largest in Hungary are based on two main pillars. As a consequence of the limited disposable income of many Hungarians, the Erkel Theatre operates with especially friendly prices, and therefore it must be sustained by the Opera House, which has no other option but to operate with high prices which, at least to some degree, cover some of the human and material resource requirements of an opera or ballet performance. The Chance series has been introduced to make it possible for the most faithful of our less wealthy guests to get to the Ybl Palace with a discount – and not “only” with a season pass, a Six-Performance Card, a daily student discount or to the dress rehearsals. The many existing options can now be enhanced with five selected performances: if buyers purchase their tickets for seats designated by the Opera within 3 days, and only buy a maximum of 2 tickets for one performance.

### Performances ▶

*10 November 2016, 6 pm* – Gounod ▶ **Faust**

*26 January 2017, 7 pm* – Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze ▶ **Onegin**

*26 February 2017, 7 pm* – Giordano ▶ **Andrea Chénier**

*27 April 2017, 7 pm* – Holmes / Solymosi / Adam ▶ **Le corsaire**

*7 June 2017, 6 pm* – Kodály ▶ **Háry János**

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# Opera for Everyone

SEE IT AGAIN SERIES

The Opera is a huge but diverse institution, which regards its 1210 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 9 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 8×2 tickets with the coupons given by the Opera as part of their monthly remuneration, so these are not complimentary tickets.

Selected performances ►

*21 October 2016 7 pm, Erkel Theatre –*

**Kylling It – modern ballet gala**

*12 November 2016, 5 pm, Opera – Wagner ►* **Die Walküre**

*23 December 2016, 6 pm, Erkel Theatre –*

Mozart ► **Die Zauberflöte**

*26 January 2017, 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – Verdi ►* **Aida**

*26 February 2017, 6 pm, Erkel Theatre – Puccini ►* **Il trittico**

*11 March 2017, 6 pm, Opera –*

Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rácz ► **Anna Karenina**

*2 April 2017, 5 pm, Opera – Wagner ►* **Siegfried**

*26 May 2017. 7 pm, Erkel Theatre – Szokolay ►* **Blood Wedding**

# Opera for Everyone

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DRESS REHEARSAL SERIES – FULL ENJOYMENT AT A QUARTER OF THE PRICE!

As the flagship of Hungarian artistic life, the Hungarian State Opera – in recognition and acceptance of its responsibility to society – endeavours to make its treasure trove of operatic and ballet culture as widely available as possible. This is why we will again be opening up dress rehearsals of 27 different productions throughout the course of the 2016/2017 season to students, large families and pensioners, making them the first to see the given week's production, including premieres in some cases.

We reserve a total of around 25,000 tickets for these three broad segments of society. Those of our guests able to show a valid student or pensioner ID, or a membership card from the National Association of Large Families ([www.noe.hu](http://www.noe.hu)) or from the Federation of Family Organisations of the Carpathian Basin, or a membership card of the Friends of Opera, will be eligible to partake in the night's enjoyment for 20% of the price charged for the given seat at a regular performance of the same work.

(It sometimes occurs at open dress rehearsals that – owing to illness – a soloist might mime her part or that the conductor repeats certain passages. During these events, it is not permitted to sit in the rows in front of and behind the desk in the stalls used by the lighting designer and the director.

Institutional coordinator ► **Miklós Reményi** – vocal artist ([remenyimiklos@opera.hu](mailto:remenyimiklos@opera.hu))

# Opera for Everyone

DRESS REHEARSAL SERIES – FULL ENJOYMENT AT A QUARTER OF THE PRICE!

## Performances ▶

23 September 2015, 6 pm – Verdi ▶ **La traviata**

29 September 2015, 6 pm – Kodály ▶ **The Spinning Room**

13 October 2016 6 pm – Seregi / Khachaturian ▶ **Spartacus**

2 November 2016, 5 pm – Wagner ▶ **Die Walküre**

18 November 2016, 6 pm –

Petipa / Gorsky / Messerer / Minkus ▶ **Don Quixote**

30 November 2016, 6 pm – Poulenc ▶ **Les dialogues des Carmélites**

1 December 2016, 6 pm –

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ▶ **The Nutcracker**

7 December 2016, 6 pm – Puccini ▶ **La bohème**

30 December 2016, 6 pm – Strauss ▶ **Die Fledermaus**

18 January 2017, 6 pm – Cranko / Tchaikovsky / Stolze ▶ **Onegin**

25 January 2017, 6 pm –

Eötvös ▶ **Love and Other Demons**

7 February 2017, 6 pm – Giordano ▶ **Andrea Chénier**

1 March 2017, 6 pm – Tchaikovsky ▶ **Queen of the Spades**

10 March 2017, 6 pm –

Pártay / Tchaikovsky / Rác ▶ **Anna Karenina**

16 March 2017, 5 pm – Wagner ▶ **Siegfried**

21 March 2017, 6 pm – Verdi ▶ **Otello**

4 April 2017, 6 pm – MacMillan/Massenet/Yates ▶ **Manon**

11 April 2017, 5 pm – Wagner ▶ **Parsifal**

12 April 2017, 6 pm – Bach ▶ **Matthäus Passion**

20 April 2017, 6 pm – Holmes/Solymosi/Adam ▶ **Le corsaire**

26 April 2017, 6 pm – Massenet ▶ **Werther**

3 May 2017, 6 pm – Strauss ▶ **Elektra**

11 May 2017, 6 pm –

Dantzig / Schayk / Tchaikovsky ▶ **Swan Lake**

26 May 2017, 6 pm – Bartók ▶ **DanceTrioptych**

3 June 2017, 11 am – Kodály ▶ **Háry János**

13 June 2017, 6 pm – Verdi ▶ **Rigoletto**

14 June 2017, 6 pm – Verdi ▶ **Il trovatore**

# Opera for Everyone

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COME ON IN!

The 120 discounted admission tickets per performance of the Come on in! programme makes it possible for 25,000 students to have a seat at Opera performances for a symbolic 300 forints (or 1 euro for foreigners). Although most of the seats have only a limited view of the stage due to the unusual horse-shoe shape of the auditorium, care was taken to make tickets available for the excellent seats on the third floor too. Everyone knows that the acoustics are the best here, and as there are two large screens to help see the stage, and the refurbished confectionery and the permanent exhibition are located on the same floor, which all makes it the ideal choice for students “to rule the roost” from above.

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# Opera for Everyone

ERKEL FACEBOOK FAN CLUB

## **I love Erkel!**

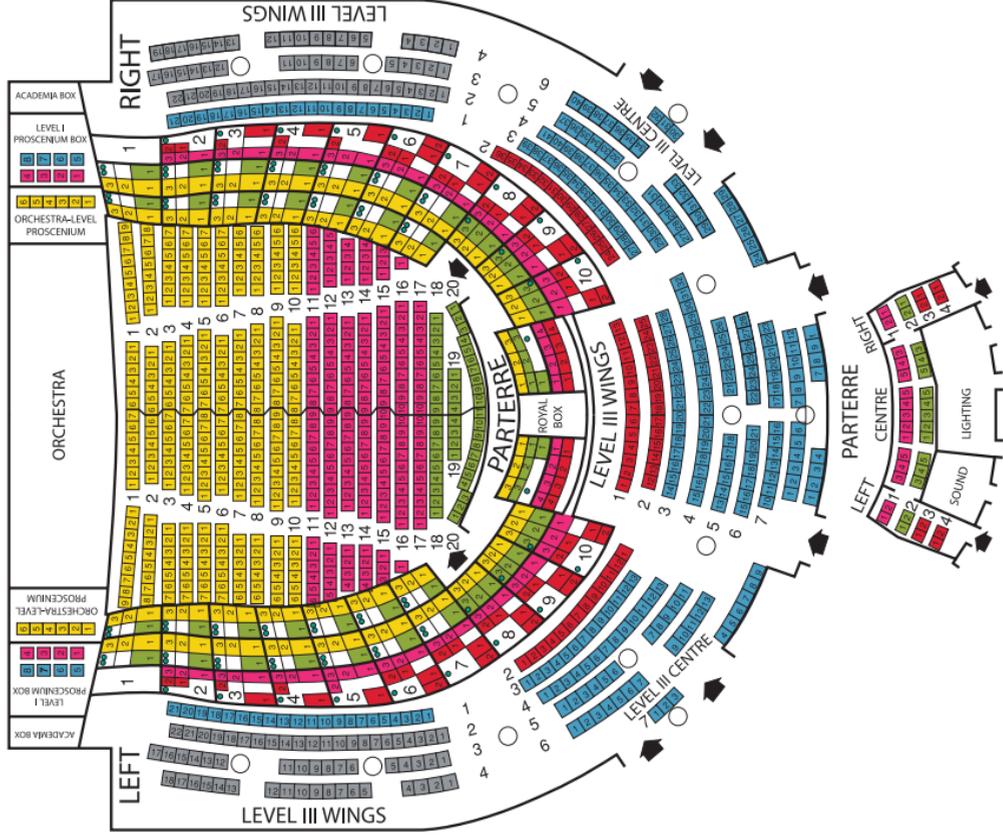
The online communities – and audiences – of the Opera House and Erkel Theatre has swelled to the tens of thousands since the 2013/14 season. Our battalion of Facebook fans had topped the 40,000 mark, with our posts, photos and videos spreading across the social network, while online fans of the Erkel Theatre snapped up free tickets within seconds. We will be continuing our highly successful competitions – and our efforts to build our online community – in a revised format in the 2016/17 season with fresh ideas and extended opportunities to purchase discounted tickets.

By playing the Facebook Fanclub game, fans of the Opera's page get the chance each week to buy 105 pairs of tickets to Erkel performances for just Ft 300 apiece. (The number refers to the Erkel Theatre's 105th birthday in December.) In this game, speed will no longer be the critical factor, curiosity about the worlds of opera and ballet, some imagination and a little competitiveness will also be required. It is our aim for every member of our online "circle of friends" to visit us, and perhaps be touched by the incomparable magic of the opera and ballet.

# TICKET PRICES

		No. of seats	PREMIER "P"	BASE PRICE "A"	MATINÉE "M"	DRESS REHEARSAL "F"	CONCERT "H"	NUTCRACKER MATINÉE "DM"
<b>PRICE CATEGORY I</b>								
Orchestra level	Rows 1-10	283	25,000	18,000	8,700	4,500	9,400	11,000
Orchestra level and Level I boxes (1-11)	Row 1	108	25,000	18,000	8,700	4,500	9,400	11,000
<b>PRICE CATEGORY II</b>								
		391						
Orchestra level	Rows 11-17	172	19,500	14,400	6,900	3,600	7,500	8,600
Level II boxes (2-11)	Row 1	62	19,500	14,400	6,900	3,600	7,500	8,600
Proscenium box	Row 1	8	19,500	14,400	6,900	3,600	7,500	8,600
Parterre	Row 1	15	19,500	14,400	6,900	3,600	7,500	8,600
<b>PRICE CATEGORY III</b>								
		257						
Orchestra level	Rows 18-20	46	14,200	11,900	5,600	3,000	5,600	7,000
Orchestra level (1-7) and Level I boxes (1-11)	Row 2	54	14,200	11,900	5,600	3,000	5,600	7,000
Parterre	Row 2	15	14,200	11,900	5,600	3,000	5,600	7,000
<b>PRICE CATEGORY IV</b>								
		115						
Level II boxes (2-11)	Rows 2-3	64	8,700	5,600	2,700	1,400	3,100	3,500
Parterre	Rows 3-4	8	8,700	5,600	2,700	1,400	3,100	3,500
Level III centre	Rows 1-2	53	8,700	5,600	2,700	1,400	3,100	3,500
<b>PRICE CATEGORY V</b>								
		125						
Proscenium box	Row 2	8	2,000	1,500	800	400	1,500	950
Level III centre	Rows 3-9	209	2,000	1,500	800	400	1,500	950
Level III wings	Row 1	42	2,000	1,500	800	400	1,500	950
<b>PRICE CATEGORY VI</b>								
		259						
Level III wings	Rows 2-4	114	700	600	300	150	500	350
<b>PRICE CATEGORY VII</b>								
Additional seats		82	700	500	300	150	300	350

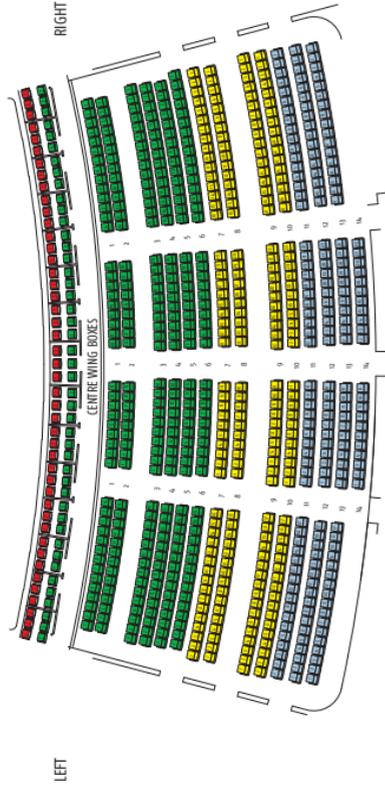
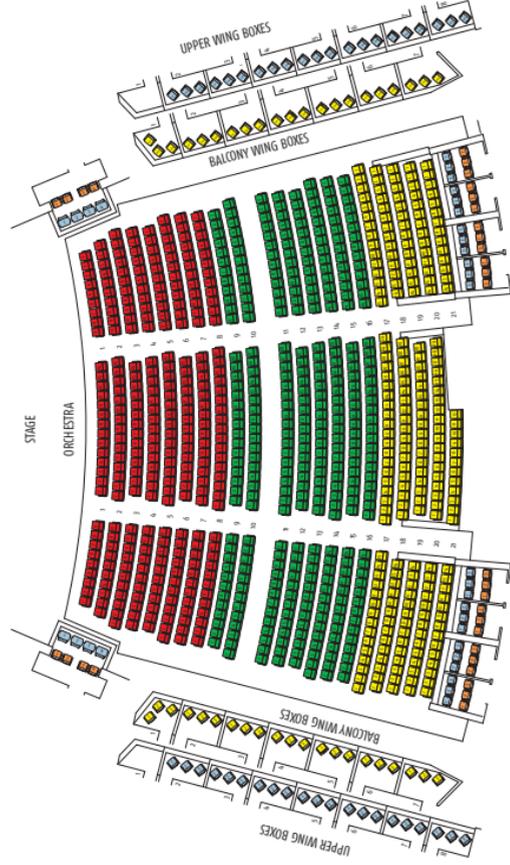
# OPERA HOUSE SEATING CHART



# TICKET PRICES

<i>Seats</i>	<i>ROWS</i>	<i>NO. OF SEATS</i>	<i>PREMIERE "P"</i>	<i>BASE PRICE "A"</i>	<i>MATINÉE "M"</i>	<i>PREMIUM "E"</i>
<i>PRICE CATEGORY I</i>						
Orchestra level	ROWS 1-8	298	5,000	3,600	1,800	6,500
Centre balcony box	ROW 1	45	5,000	3,600	1,800	6,500
<i>PRICE CATEGORY II</i>						
Orchestra level	ROWS 9-16	354	4,000	2,900	1,500	5,000
Balcony seat	ROWS 1-6	293	4,000	2,900	1,500	5,000
Centre balcony box	ROW 2	45	4,000	2,900	1,500	5,000
<i>PRICE CATEGORY III</i>						
Orchestra-level seats	ROWS 17-21	223	2,100	1,500	800	3,500
Balcony seat	ROWS 7-10	216	2,100	1,500	800	3,500
Balcony wing box	ROW 1	42	2,100	1,500	800	3,500
<i>PRICE CATEGORY IV</i>						
Balcony seat	ROWS 11-14	190	700	500	300	1,500
Centre orchestra box	ROW 1	24	700	500	300	1,500
Level I wingbox	ROW 1	42	700	500	300	1,500
<i>PRICE CATEGORY V</i>						
Centre orchestra box	ROW 2	24	400	300	200	1,000

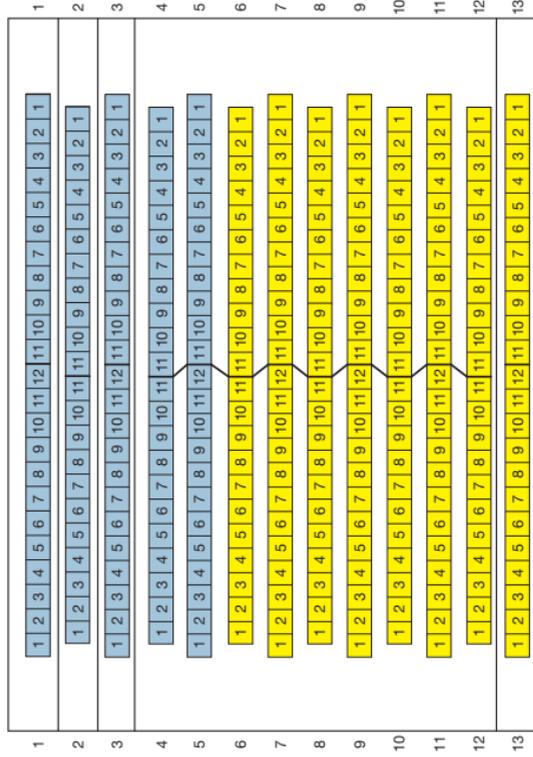
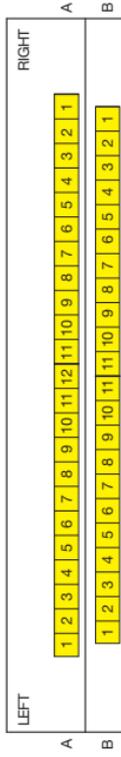
# ERKEL THEATRE SEATING CHART



## TICKET PRICES

<i>Ticket Prices 2016/2017 Bánffy Stage</i>		
<b>Seats</b>	<b>"B" BÁNFFY</b>	<b>"EB" PREMIUM BÁNFFY</b>
<b>PRICE CATEGORY I</b>		
<b>Rows 1-5</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>10000</b>
<b>PRICE CATEGORY II</b>		
<b>Rows A, B; 6-13</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>7000</b>

# BÁNFFY STAGE



# TICKET INFORMATION 2016 | 2017

## HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Address: 1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22

Postal address: 1373 Budapest, Pf. 513

## ERKEL THEATRE

Address: 1087 Budapest, II. János Pál papa tér 30.

## TICKETS:

### OPERA SALES POINT

1061 Budapest, Hajós utca 13 15/ Ground Floor, Door 1 (buzzer 90)

Phone: +36 1 33 27 914

Opening hours: weekdays, 10 am to 5 pm

E-mail | [jegy@opera.hu](mailto:jegy@opera.hu)

### Opera House Box Offices

Address: 1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22

Phone: +36 1 35 30 170

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.



# TICKET INFORMATION

2016 | 2017

## 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](mailto:jegy@opera.hu).

All our box offices accept payments by bank card.

Online ticket sales | [www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu) | [www.jegymester.hu](http://www.jegymester.hu)

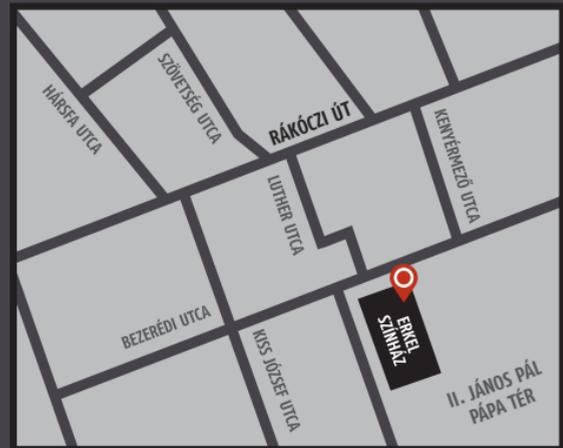
Central telephone number: +36 1 81 47 100

E-mail | [info@opera.hu](mailto:info@opera.hu)

Website | [www.opera.hu](http://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.**





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Operatic Empire



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# 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 artists was **Enrico Caruso** and several world premieres of Hungarian works were held inside these historic walls (*Bluebeard's Castle, Hány 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 of the auditorium will be improved and we are planning to make modifications to the orchestra pit and the stalls level. The limestone façade will also be renewed. The proposal about the modernisation of the Andrassy Avenue palace of the Hungarian State Opera was submitted to the government before this publication went to press.

# E R K E L



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# 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 1849, 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. 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 800,000 guests who have been registered since the reopening can now come to the theatre by underground too.



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# Eiffel Art Studios

KŐBÁNYAI ROAD

The largest indoor complex in Hungarian railroad history, the Northern Railway Maintenance and Engineering works was built in 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 core repair complex of 22,000 square metres, named after 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. The memorial room of the designer of the building János Feketeházy will be created here, and the institution's nine workshops will be moved here together with all the sets, costumes and props. The Eiffel Hall, which was large enough to repair up to 96 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. 006 Mávag steam locomotive of the 301 series. 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 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 Kodály roses. A playground will be built surrounded by the halls, which will operate in a spirit of environmental awareness.

The planned inauguration of the building complex: 18 June 2017 (Sun)



CASA  
MUSEUM OF THE  
19th CENTURY

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# Orchestral Centre

JÓKAI STREET

The centre where the orchestra of the Opera rehearses for performances, galas and the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra 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 now requires refurbishment. 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 Orchestra.



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# 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 building's heating and cooling systems 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 parts of the Opera's modernisation programme. A special feature of the Administration Building is that it is connected to the Opera House by a tunnel under Hajós Street, and 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 regularly rehearse in the Tivoli Theatre buildings, the Bárka Theatre, the old Duna Television, Hungexpo and a rapid-response police building!



Where  
the world  
unfolds

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# 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.



# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Charity Programmes

# Nutcracker Festival

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## 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. Once again, there will be choral performances each evening on the Hajós Street sphinx's "a'capella steps", and the Kolibri Theatre will also be giving short puppet shows. 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, the Sphinx dressed up in seasonal clothing, and the huge sleigh evoking the fairy-tale world of *The Nutcracker* on the Dalszínház Street Sphinx Terrace. Our legendary ballet production, unchanged since 1950, was renewed last year, and has been performed a total of 25 times in 2016 due to its huge success.

Opening ceremony ► 29 November 2015 (Sunday), 6 pm with **László Lehel**, president of Hungarian Interchurch Aid

Partners ► **A'Capella Winery, Piarista Bor, Skrabski Winery, Kolibri Theatre, Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

*27 November 2016 (Sun), Andrásy Avenue*

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# Silver Sunday

FAMILY CHRISTMAS IN THE ERKEL THEATRE

On the last Saturday before Christmas in 2013, more than 1400 people participated in the Christmas event of the National Association of Large Families and the National Civil Association of Pensioners in the Erkel Theatre. The same Saturday in 2014 and Silver Sunday in 2015 weren't any different. After *Little Magic Flute* and *John the Valiant*, this year's *King Pomade's New Clothes* will bring new energy and the joy of being together to all involved in anticipation of Christmas. For 1800 children, parents and grandparents, we could do no less than, but welcome you with special programmes before the performance in various rooms in the theatre.

Naturally, we will also again be announcing the start of the holiday-season drawing competition at the performance.

Ránki ► **King Pomade's New Clothes** (see ► p. 161)

Partner ► **National Association of Large Families**

*11 December 2016 (Sunday), 11 am, Erkel Theatre*

# Little Christmas

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LET CHRISTMAS BE FOR EVERYONE

The Opera's artists have an uplifting tradition of arranging a special performance that takes place in the Christmas salon of *The Nutcracker*, and features games, musical interludes and opera excerpts for children. On the playlist will be passages from the operas *The Magic Flute* and *Hansel and Gretel*, as well as the ballet *The Nutcracker*. Children will also have the opportunity to hear the winter-themed music of Vivaldi and Leopold Mozart, to meet with the House's child artists and even join them in song. When it all comes to an end, we will be bidding each little one a fond farewell with a small gift in their pocket, lots of music in their hearts, and high hopes of seeing them again soon.

The event will be attended by physically disabled and socially disadvantaged children otherwise unlikely to ever come into contact with the Opera House. Each year, our artists waive their fees to perform at these Little Christmas shows.

Conductor ► **Géza Köteles**

Soloists ► **Eszter Zavaros, Zsolt Molnár**

Host ► **László Szvétek**

*16 December 2015 (Wed) 11 am and 1 pm, Opera House*

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# Children's Safety Christmas

GOLDEN SUNDAY NUTCRACKER

This is the eighth 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 disadvantaged children from around the country and beyond.

Eagling / Solymosi / Tchaikovsky ► **The Nutcracker** (see ► p. 249)

**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 4 June 2017 [Sun] 11 am.)

*18 December 2016 (Sun), 11 am, Opera House*

# MamaMatinée

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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 Ft 300 tickets for the matinée performance of *Werther*: 2016 will be the fourth 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 Opera House. 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 prizewinners draw, with one lucky mother winning enough nappies to last until toilet training.

The audience will be welcomed by State Secretary Katalin Novák.

Massenet ► **Werther**

Partner ► **State Secretariat for Family and Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Human Capacities, MTVA, Hungarian Radio**

*6 May 2017 (Sat), 11 am, Opera House*

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# Breadcrumb Ball

A SECOND DAY FOR CHARITY AT THE OPERA HOUSE

The morning after the Hány Night, children from disadvantaged backgrounds or those living with disabilities will be taking their places again in the Opera House's auditorium and will also receive a gift after the performance. Charity has always been part of the 132-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.

Hansel ▶ **Tivadar Kiss**

Gretel ▶ **Gabi Gál**

Mother ▶ **Jolán Sánta**

Gingerbread Witch ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**

Sandman ▶ **János Szerekován**

Dew Fairy ▶ **Ingríd Kertesi**

Giant ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Butterfly ▶ **Viktória Rohonczi**

Dandelion ▶ **Umberto Aragno**

Mountain Elf ▶ **András Aczél**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Engelbert Humperdinck ▶ **Hansel and Gretel**

Children's opera in one part, in Hungarian

Libretto based on the tale by the Grimm brothers ▶

**Adelheid Wette**

Hungarian translation ▶ **Frigyes Róna**

Choreographer ▶ **Edit Rujsz**

Staged by ▶ **András Aczél**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

*26 February 2017. (Sun) 12 am, Opera House*

# Opera for Everyone

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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. From now 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**.

*8 October (Sat) 11 am*, Elton John ▶ **Billy Elliot – The Musical** (see ▶ p. 239)

*19 November (Sat) 11 am*, Ránki ▶ **King Pomade's New Clothes** (see ▶ p. 161)

*17 December (Sat) 11 am*, Mozart / Lackfi ▶ **Little Magic Flute** (see ▶ p. 164)

*14 January (Sat) 7 pm*, Wagner ▶ **Das Liebesverbot** (see ▶ p. 171)

*25 February (Sat) 11 am*, Donizetti ▶ **Don Pasquale** (see ▶ p. 180)

*25 March (Sat) 11 am*, Strauss ▶ **Der Zigeunerbaron** (see ▶ p. 86)

*8 April (Sat) 7 pm*, Primavera17 (see ▶ **p. 351**)

*13 May (Sat) 11 am*, Erkel ▶ **Bánk bán** (see ▶ p. 211)

*10 June (Sat) 11 am*, Harangozó Jr. / Kocsák ▶ **Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs** (see ▶ p. 269)

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# 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, but access to the Opera House is still more difficult. Thanks to our developments last year – and before the modernisation project due to be completed in season 2017/2018 – attending of our performances has become easier.

Our disabled guests arriving at the side entrance of the Opera House in Hajós Street will be helped by our colleagues to the lift – passing a disabled restroom on the corridor – and they will be seated in the so-called proscenium on the first floor. This ornamented and spacious box can accommodate three guests together with their partners, and there's enough space for bags and equipment; entering and leaving the box doesn't disturb either the other guests or the performance. The box is equipped with a bell to alert our colleagues for assistance if necessary.

The box must be booked in advance at the Opera Sales Centre by mail or telephone – naturally both the disabled guest and their companion can purchase discounted tickets.





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Reviews from Around the World



# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

“In Budapest, you dress up to go to the opera. This is obviously not unique to the city, but when you see their State Opera House you understand why you’d want to. That is not a building that you want to let down – it looks like something out of a fairy-tale, which recently celebrated its one hundred and thirtieth anniversary by recreating the Imperial Court in pageant form on the surrounding streets. The State Opera is very generous in wanting to bring music to the people and puts on outdoor concerts several times a year... In addition to this, the State Opera also stages performances at the Erkel Theatre – which is about as different a building as it is possible to get. Its brutalist style does not have the same opulent warmth of its sister, but there is something charming about its modernist cleanness, and certainly the theatre inside, with its mammoth capacity and perfect acoustics, cannot be faulted.”

Hannah Marcus (*Bachtrack*, UK)

“On the Hungarian Opera Day we saw the jubilee performance of Sándor Szokolay’s *Blood Wedding*. In the meantime, among Péter Horgas’s minimalist set, which still required a lot of external work, Balázs Kovalik’s technique as director has raised this opera to excellent international standards. The orchestra led by conductor János Kovács together with the many talented soloists of enormous determination turned this modern opera into a work of art.”

Dieter Topp (*Orpheus*, Germany)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"*Nabucco* was not simply a repertoire piece but a real festive performance as everybody involved really contributed to the success of this intense evening.

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker*, Austria)

"The new *Nabucco*, which premiered in Budapest, will probably be liked by everybody who likes musical theatre to be precise and meticulous."

Yeri Han (*Das Opernglas*, Germany)

"It's hard to find fault with conductor Kálmán Strausz's work. The chorus scenes [of *Aida*] are wonderful, affirming the singers' superb schooling and their leader's professionalism."

Jan Falk (*Opera News*, Russia)

"The young soloists in *Così fan tutte* sang perfectly, and the orchestra played gracefully with rich and precise tones. The musicians under the baton of Péter Halász definitely enjoyed the proceedings and they played with great refinement and clarity"

Gyulara Sadykh-zade (*Musical Life*, Russia)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"As Tatyana, Aliya Tanykpayeva exhibits both technical accomplishment and powerful emotions. Adrienn Pap plays Olga as bright, mischievous soul, so that it comes as no surprise when she embarks on the tragic party flirtation with Onegin. Dmitry Timofeev brings vigour to the part of Lensky and delineates this headstrong character... The corps de ballet dance Cranko's choreography for the garden and party scenes with vibrant life and were finely synchronised. The Hungarian National Ballet honoured Cranko's memory with this fine production."

Stuart Sweeney (*Critical Dance*, USA)

"The creators of the production of *The Rake's Progress* depicted all the important concepts, including moral, in an exact and expressive way. They followed the composer's instructions to the letter, which virtually nobody does these days. There was no debate with Stravinsky and their faithfulness to the composer had a beneficial impact on the work as a whole. Conducted by Erik Nielsen, the orchestra played in a flexible, moving and definite manner. Eleanor Lyons's unique and soft voice perfectly matched the orchestra's superbly accomplished performance.

Gyulara Sadykh-zade (*Vedomosti*, Russia)

"Sex, gambling and recklessness are not 20th century inventions. Ferenc Anger presents Tom Rakewell's story (*The Rake's Progress*) as a fable building it up gradually. All of Hogarth's eight paintings come alive before our eyes – either in reality or symbolically... Many do not know this work by Stravinsky, although it would deserve it, but the production by the Hungarian State Opera might make this work popular."

Vladimíra Kmečová (*Opera Plus*, Czech Republic)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"This production of *The Rake's Progress* can be called 'designer' in the best sense of the word. Its music video-like glittering presentation and the details of the direction – which reminds the viewers of the photos in magazines or the interior of contemporary art galleries – approach the aesthetics of the 21st century, and yet they do not lose sight of the original concept and even emphasise it successfully."

Jan Falk (*Opera News, Russia*)

"It was good to see [*Manon*] in the setting of such beautiful opera house, the rich, Neo-Renaissance style of the theatre somehow complementing the earlier, 18th century setting of the Abbé Prévost's novel. It was also interesting to see the quintessential British style, impeccably coached by Maina Gielgud and Gary Harris, imposed on dancers who have been trained elsewhere."

Deborah Weiss (*Dance Europe, UK*)

"The Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera was conducted by Gergely Kesselyák this evening; his baton conjured the great French composer's [Massenet's] popular and less well-known melodies full of emotion from the pit. At the end of the performance [of *Manon*] all the participants received long applause for their excellent performance, and Ballet Director Tamás Solymosi can be satisfied with his troupe's performance."

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"Today *Luisa Miller* is on the set, and Verdi is attractive. Klára Kolonits plays Luisa's role with great experience and familiarity, and the whole cast plays Verdi powerfully. The new Erkel Theatre is welcoming, and a large contingent of foreign guests joined the Hungarians. Australian, American, German, Swiss, Austrian and northern dialects can be heard, and the large number of Asian visitors is also apparent."

Dieter Topp (*Kulturforum Europa, Germany*)

"The extremely traditional stage play was accompanied by sophisticated and specifically Wagnerian sounds, which Péter Halász, the Opera's young musical director accentuated powerfully focusing on the parts that have a melancholic effect. In collaboration with the orchestra of the Opera, a lively and clearly scheduled production was created."

Sebastian Barnstorf (*Das Opernglas, Germany*)

"Péter Halász emphasised the story-telling nature of the work totally with beautiful and clear lines, a great love for detail and his conducting greatly contributed to the success of the evening. He encouraged the musicians to play their parts with intensity and always found appropriate links to connect parts of the story at the right moments. This was how the musical part rang out a strong symbiosis with the visual display and the events on the stage. We are eagerly looking forward to seeing how this unusual concept will continue in *Die Walküre*."

Klaus Billand (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"The videos projected on the scrim give us a glimpse into Wotan's brain or the technical fate of our civilisation – or at least the future of Géza M. Tóth's *Ring*... We are left to feel free to associate, and at crucial moments the production clearly explains what it wants. First and foremost, to tell the story of the piece clearly, which he managed to do, especially thanks to a strong cast."

Jörn Florian Fuchs (*Nordbayerischer Kurier*, Germany)

"The ballet gala, featuring international stars, remembered Iván Nagy's achievements in the field of ballet. It was brilliant, of just the appropriate length and many perfectly selected dance productions, most of which were accompanied by the orchestra conducted by István Silló. It was sheer enjoyment with a lot of applause."

Ira Werbowsky (*Der neue Merker*, Austria)

"Rarely is a flock of swans so beautiful together, with identical shaping of the arms, framing necks at the same angle. The overriding pleasure was that they were hearing the same music – moving in perfect harmony, as one."

Deborah Weiss (*Dance Europe*, UK)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"Here *Faust*, an opera that can seem leaden, vapid, pedestrian, turned out in this production, staged by Polish director Michał Znaniecki and designed by Italian Luigi Scoglio, to be utterly coherent. Each idea or conceit Znaniecki carefully followed through. Nothing was gratuitous; the action was vigorous; the unfolding, logical; the moves, uniformly relevant. Not least, the French pronunciation was superlative."

Roderic Dunnett (*Opera Now*, UK)

"The devil may not get all the best tunes in Gounod's *Faust*, but Gábor Bretz certainly stole the show in this new production at the Hungarian State Opera. Polish director Michał Znaniecki has a lot of fun, combining the surreal with Eurovision kitsch, full of lurid colours, in his staging... Maurizio Benini led a spirited account of Gounod's score, a little unsubtle perhaps, but with plenty of brio. The soldiers' chorus had gusto and the timpani playing in the final ballet number was little short of demonic! All in all, devilishly good fun. "

Mark Pullinger (*Bachtrack*, UK)

"Although Budapest cannot always attract international stars, this production [of *Faust*] with mainly Hungarian singers was definitely a world-class one."

Wolfgang Kutzschbach (*Das Opernglas*, Germany)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"Gounod's *Faust* is a deservedly popular but tricky work: besides the many fabulous arias and popular melodies it contains a number of operatic commonplaces and a mixture of styles. Michał Znaniecki managed to avoid these traps with a good sense and simply transposed the story of the opera to today. The mad feast, for instance, takes place at the Bacchus Disco Bar, and no one dances a waltz as in the original piece. The orchestra was conducted sensitively and brilliantly by one of the best in Europe, the Italian Maurizio Benini."

Jacek Marczyński (*Rzeczpospolita, Poland*)

"Busoni's intense score for *Doktor Faust* was billed as a semi-staging, but Máté Szabó and Csörsz Khell worked such wonders with modest resources that this looked like a full-scale staging... Gergely Vajda, a first-class house conductor, delivered Busoni's complex, scherzo-ridden score with dramatic assurance and much fine detail, with accolades going to the tuba."

Roderic Dunnett (*Opera News, USA*)

"There is no doubt that the Hungarian State Opera Chorus works miracles [in *Mefistofele*] together with the junior section led by Gyöngyvér Gupcsó (the Children's Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera) – we have to admit that one can rarely hear young choristers sing in such an infallible manner, and we can only congratulate them

Bertrand Bolognesi (*Anaclase, France*)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"Special offer for Saturday afternoon: Boris Eifmann's two-act ballet, *The Karamazovs*, a brilliant performance by the Hungarian National Ballet. The three dancers are excellent as they present the brothers of different characters convincingly, especially József Medvecz in the remarkable role of Aleksei... The rest of the company and the orchestra conducted by Ádám Medveczky make the long-lasting experience complete as *The Karamazovs* is a piece that does not let us return to our daily chores after seeing it."

Ira Werbowsky (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

"Budapest Opera House is deservedly famous for its exceptional acoustics, which made Vivaldi's music played with period instruments audible all the way to the chords from the harpsichord. Conductor and flautist Pál Németh made the Baroque orchestra play the finest nuances, crescendos and diminuendos with powerful horn sections and delicate harpsichord accompaniment, and the Opera House hall was filled with most enjoyable sounds and harmonies."

Mikko Louhivuori (*Phos to Alethinon, Finland*)

"Ferenc Anger's production has dusted the somewhat old-fashioned baroque libretto and creates good effects partly by its brand-new perspectives. In addition to serious themes, the production is characterised by a lot of humorous and comical moments... The audience let the cast of *Farnace*, all of whom performed excellently, go for a well-deserved summer break."

Angelika Otto (*Crescendo, Germany*)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"What was inspiring to me was the median age in the theatre for the evening *Carmen* performance, which was about 23, with many young children and teens with their parents in attendance. I've never seen so many young people at an opera, and I feel the work being done by the Erkel is the reason."

Bonnie Carroll (*Life Bites News*, USA)

"In fact, the most persuasive directorial decision of the production was Oberfrank's depiction of Don José's amours. Unlike so many *Carmens* before it, this one argued – convincingly – that the opera's women run the show."

Hannah Edgar (*Dialoges*, USA)

"Stage director Máté Szabó leads the singers throughout the opera [*Das Liebesverbot*] and in minor roles he often demanded acrobatic skills, which, however, the dancers clearly performed easily. An undoubtedly modern and novel production which does not deviate from the story in any way."

Andreas Schnabl (*Der neue Merker*, Austria)

"A breath-taking [*Otello*] production, which greatly differs from the ones we are used to. Stefano Poda changed it to a timeless masterpiece between reality and mysticism while emphasising the subconscious in the world of shadows, secrets and visions."

Maria Luisa Runti (*Eliconie*, Italy)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"The purest figure, as expected, was Iago. Michele Kálmándi's stunning appearance includes everything associated with dark charisma, as well as his strong and full voice, which completely reflects his temperament, and has the power not only to fit in with the texture of the stage, but he can also turn its monumental nature to his own advantage."

Jan Falk (*Opera News*, Russia)

"The chorus, and especially the children's chorus excelled, but the greatest achievement of the evening was definitely that of the orchestra. Pinchas Steinberg conducted wonderfully, recognising and clearly reflecting the emotional waves of the ever-present story. Thanks to this that the *Otello* in Budapest did not become a *Desdemona*, but remained *Otello*."

Vladimíra Kmečová (*Opera Slovakia*, Slovakia)

"The HSO often has something special up its sleeve. This time it was Gabriella Létay Kiss, whose creamy tone, arched phrasing and immaculate Italian made a truly affecting Desdemona."

Robert Turnbull (*Opera Now*, UK)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"Under the baton of the experienced Pinchas Steinberg, the chorus led by Kálmán Strausz, the children's chorus led by Gyöngyvér Gupcsó and the Orchestra of the Hungarian State Opera presented an exemplary reading of the score. The orchestra played with exceptional unity and such high quality that it promotes it to the rank of most important ensembles in Europe."

Costin Popa (*Cronica Muzicală, Romania*)

"In Budapest the title role of *Die Königin von Saba* seemed to have been composed for Erika Gál's passionate and sensual mezzo-soprano. Her aura made the wonder of the legendary queen comprehensible, something the insecure Assad could easily die from.

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)

"Generally, the production pleased me both vocally and artistically, and gave me the chance to spend a wonderful night with enchanting music, in which conductor János Kovács played a major role. The return of *Die Königin von Saba* to the Hungarian stage can in good conscience be claimed to be a success."

Jan Falk (*Opera News, Russia*)

# Reviews from Around the World

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THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN – AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"There's a city that never sleeps. All right, it is not really true, but this city has an opera that never sleeps. At least, where can we find another place where two premieres, a Wagnerian work and *Mario and the Magician* and a number of children's programmes take place over a long weekend? Only at the Hungarian State Opera. Quantity does not come at the expense of quality, though, as the theatre led by Szilveszter Ókovács takes its standards seriously. It's just enough to see what calibre guest singers and guest conductors have graced our southern neighbours in recent years."

Pavel Unger (*Opera Plus*, Slovakia)

"This premiere [of *Werther*] was flawless from a musical point of view: the elderly maestro, Michel Plasson, whose high esteem is not only confined to Hungary, conducted in a fine and impeccable manner, whereas Arturo Chacón-Cruz impressed the audience with his magnificent tenor in the title role."

Marieluise Jeitschko (*Theater:Pur*, Germany)

"We can see *Werther* on the posters of the Budapest Opera. The Hungarian company performs it in French, but under the baton of a French conductor, who is actually Michel Plasson ... I admit that I liked it. Firstly the orchestra, which has a major role in this opera. Rarely before have I heard such superb sounds from an orchestra on Hungarian stages."

Pierre Waline (*Le Journal Francophone de Budapest*)

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# Reviews from Around the World

THEY'VE COME, THEY'VE SEEN - AND THEY'VE BEEN CONQUERED

"The Hungarian National Ballet did its best to make *Swan Lake* a memorable performance. We could see countless dancers on stage in spectacular costumes in the first and third acts. They open our eyes and minds entirely, and then suddenly the minimalistic shining of the white swans almost blinds us."

Robert de Koning (*Journalism, The Netherlands*)

"Krisztián Cser played Fasolt in a very well developed role with his melodic bass voice. With this role, he managed to achieve a hat trick. In the morning he had sung the main roles in two Hungarian operas, the magician Cipolla in Vajda's *Mario and the Magician* and Bluebeard in Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*. And finally Fasolt's role was the third one for the trifecta, which would be deserving of an entry in the *Guinness World Records*."

Harald Lacina (*Der neue Merker, Austria*)





# OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ  
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Partners



"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 TV2 Group is a dedicated supporter of Hungarian culture. We find it especially important to report regularly about the outstanding events and performances of Hungarian culture and performing arts. One of the foundations of this objective is the strategic agreement signed with the Opera in 2014, which is clear evidence of the interrelation between commercial media and high culture. TV2 Group looks forward to further collaboration and is proud to contribute to the success of the 2016/2017 season of the Opera as its media partner."

*TV2 Group*

“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 is the most important cornerstone of the Art & Culture programme of BMW in Hungary. Our strategic cooperation has resulted in a number of successful events, and I am convinced that the season to come will have further attractive and exciting opportunities for both of us.”

*Baudouin Denis, CEO of BMW Hungary*

## Strategic partners



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Making of photographs – **Attila Nagy, Péter Rákossy**

**The costumes, wigs and accessories for the photographs were made in the workshops of the Hungarian State Opera.**

**MANY THANKS TO EACH OF THE OPERA'S WORKSHOPS!**

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## Artists:

**Zsolt Haja** (*Háry János*) (Kodály: *Háry János* – Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet)

**Gábor Bretz** (*Don Giovanni*)

**Krisztián Cser** (*Leporello*) (Mozart: *Don Giovanni* – Opera House, statue terrace)

**Atala Schöck** (*Housewife*) (Kodály: *The Spinning Room* – Opera House, dressing room)

**Polina Pasztircsák** (*Luca*) (Varga: *Love* – Opera House, carpentry workshop)

**Gergely Boncsér** (*Biondello*)

**Kinga Kriszta** (*Celidora*) (Mozart: *L'oca del Cairo ossia Lo sposo deluso* – Eiffel Art Studios)

**Bence Apáti** (*Stanley*)

**Lili Felméry** (*Blanche*) (Venekei / Dés: *A Streetcar Named Desire* – Eiffel Art Studios)

**Mária Celeng** (*Sierva Maria*) (Eötvös: *Love and Other Demons* – Opera House, Feszty Bar)

**Bajári Levente** (*Mandarin*)

**Jessica Carulla Leon** (*The Girl*) (Seregi / Bartók: *The Miraculous Mandarin* – Erkel Theatre stage and stalls)

**Gabriella Busa** (*voice, piano*)

**Mariann Krasznai** (*trombone*) (*Chorus and Orchestra – Opera House, orchestra pit*)

**Gergely Balázi** (*Crassus*)

**Gergely Leblanc** (*Spartacus*) (*Seregi / Khachaturian: Spartacus – Opera House painting studio*)

**Áron Vizlendvai** (*Billy*) (*John / Hall: Billy Elliot – The Musical – Eiffel Art Studios*)

**Yuri Kekalo** (*Conrad*)

**Tatiana Melnik** (*Medora*) (*Holmes / Adam: Le corsaire – Opera House rigging loft*)

**Szilveszter Ókovács**

narrator

**MANY THANKS TO ALL ARTISTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA CAMPAIGN!**

## **More than Opera!**

*The past five seasons – and what awaits us...*

The main areas of development in the period 2011-2018

1. state subsidies and own income equal to 2001 in real terms over several phases;
2. changing the foundation charter and the structure of the institution, creating 500 new positions in storage facilities;
3. hiring younger singers, conductors and managers;
4. raising remuneration and fees;
5. planning of thematic season, thematic festivals (MayFest), new programme policy;
6. increasing the number of performances, a shift towards the stagione system;
7. systematic assessment of artists as public employees;
8. setting framework for financial planning;
9. refurbishment of the Erkel Theatre, reopening, new programme and pricing policy;
10. modernisation of the Opera house acoustics and technology, changing functions of various rooms, restoration;
11. construction of a workshop, rehearsal and storage facility, purchasing instruments;
12. new communication and marketing techniques, online and electronic media presence;
13. new concepts, partners and investments in catering;
14. new sales centre and sales policy for season tickets and discount system (cultural basic care);
15. Opera to embrace the whole community with new programmes, charity and family events, including street presence, high-quality galas with the involvement of partners;

16. establishing a lively and functioning supporters' club, maximising income from corporate tax breaks without commission;
17. developing a new opera and ballet repertoire with improved turnover;
18. strengthening the Classical line and raising the standards of the technical level of the Hungarian National Ballet;
19. including modern single-act ballets in the programme for guest performances;
20. exploring Ferenc Erkel's legacy and the Opera's past , recording Hungarian operas, publishing books and records, connection with public collections;
21. acquainting all 9th grade students with the opera (OperaAdventure);
22. including Richard Strauss and French music in the repertoire; pre-classical operas for the connoisseur, thematic gala concerts;
23. building a new, unconventional Ring;
24. organising season tickets for the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, orchestral chamber concerts and a choral mini-festival;
25. negotiating and signing a new collective agreement, drafting a law on opera;
26. regular contracting of leading international artists (stage directors, designers, choreographers, conductors, singers);
27. contact with the country and theatres around Hungary (Opera and Ballet on Wheels) with summer festivals, especially with the Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca;
28. renewed activities abroad, tours and guest performances;
29. creating chamber productions, expanding number of venues for performances ;
30. strategic partnership with MŰPA Budapest, the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, the Philharmonia Hungary, coproduction;
31. construction of own training centre and visitor centre, new children's programmes;
32. new internal award system, career model for artists (jubilee ring, pre-retirement benefits, Opera Ambassador programme).





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