

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ

HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

ERKEL

SZÍNHÁZ
THEATRE

2015

PROGRAMME CALENDAR

Dear Reader,



I can only hope that the binding will be able to cope with this bulging 2014/15 Opera Calendar – and I haven't even begun to contemplate how supplies of printer's ink might be effected. Over nearly 400 pages, we present all our premieres, repertoire productions, special events, children's programmes and services as evidence of an Opera accelerated in its activities and updated with a new, more socially driven philosophy.

We have dedicated the new season to Faust. Just as the Richard Strauss jubilee dominated that just past, this season will culminate in a large-scale Faust225 Festival. As one of the seminal works of the cultured world and on the 225th anniversary of the first part being committed to parchment, it is only appropriate to place our focus on this genre and its interpretation of existence by choosing opuses on a broad associative basis. But this is not the only thing going on here, since we – or so we hope – will also be commencing renovations of the Opera House in June 2015. We will be closing the institution's doors not just because this is the anniversary of Miklós Ybl, the building's renowned architect, but because we have an important *task* at hand: to assist with the cultural development of the country, and – as the sole opera house of the nation – of the entire Hungarian people.

The operation of the Hungarian State Opera as a fully fledged institution is now being realised. With the revival of the Erkel Theatre, we have also gained an additional opportunity to fulfil our true calling of performing opera and ballet. The incredible result is the immediate doubling of our audience numbers, something that gives us great confidence. However, the Faust season is about *productions*. After several years of organisational restructuring, financial housekeeping and infrastructure development, the fourth year under our current management will be dedicated to renewing the repertoire, which is why we have planned premieres in numbers hitherto unheard of, 25 in total, all of which will nevertheless – we believe – be of a very high standard.

Yes, twenty-five: making one of the world's largest opera institutions capable of replacing one third of what is already one of the world's largest repertoires. In addition, and in tandem primarily with the most diverse personalities of Hungarian culture life, but also with a number of outstanding artists from abroad, we are better equipped than ever to attend to our duty of providing universal access to the many and varied artistic treasures of our universal art forms.

"He shattered more than one cane to prove that the stone was bad," contemporaries said of the architect of the Opera House. Opened exactly 130 years ago, it has since become a world heritage site. We look forward to seeing you, if even just to give something different a try. I can promise you that you will not be disappointed by the Hungarian State Opera House.

6 April 2014, on the 200th birthday of Miklós Ybl

Szilveszter Ókovács
General Director

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OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ

HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Premieres

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Gaetano Donizetti

Il campanello (The Night Bell)



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

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Director ▶ **a student of the University of Theatre and Film Arts**

Our partner ▶ **is the University of Theatre and Film Arts**

6, 13, 20 and 21 September 2014, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace



Pietro Mascagni / Ruggero Leoncavallo

Cavalleria Rusticana (Rustic Chivalry) / Pagliacci (Clowns) _____

Pietro Mascagni Cavalleria Rusticana

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

Turiddu ▶ **Stuart Neill, Hector Lopez Mendoza**
Santuzza ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács, Ildikó Komlósi**
Lucia ▶ **Éva Balatoni, Veronika Dobi-Kiss**
Alfio ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Béla Perencz**
Lola ▶ **Apollónia Szolnoki**

Ruggero Leoncavallo Pagliacci

Opera in two acts without intermission, in Italian with Hungarian and English surtitles

Canio ▶ **Stuart Neill, Hector Lopez Mendoza**
Nedda ▶ **Andrea Rost, Polina Pasztircsák**
Tonio ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Béla Perencz**
Beppo ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**
Silvio ▶ **TBA**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg, Máté Hátori**
Director ▶ **Georges Delnon**

13, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 28 September, 7 and 11 October 2014,
Opera House

Pietro Mascagni / Ruggero Leoncavallo

_____ Cavalleria Rusticana (Rustic Chivalry) / Pagliacci (Clowns)

"Easter Showdown Motivated By Jealousy!" and "Clown Commits Murder On Stage!" These are two headlines that might have graced *Edoardo Sonzogno's* front pages, and it is the Milanese newspaper publisher and his annual opera-writing competition we have to thank for Italy's two most popular one-act works. *Pietro Mascagni* maintained that he had intended to enter a different opera into *Sonzogno's* contest, but his wife instead submitted *Cavalleria rusticana* without his knowledge in 1889. He had reason to be grateful after the event, since the opera not only won the prize, it also rapidly conquered stages all over the world. This worldwide popularity, according to contemporary reports, is also attributable in part to the work's outstanding success in Budapest under the baton of *Gustav Mahler*. Although *Ruggero Leoncavallo* did not win a prize, *Sonzogno's* patronage helped his first opera, *Pagliacci*, burst onto the public consciousness.

The two pieces can be considered twin operas as they have much in common. These debut operas proved both a blessing and a curse to their composers. Despite the fact that they later wrote a dozen opuses each, they were never able to repeat their initial breakthrough success. Furthermore, the works are probably the greatest examples of the *verismo* movement of naturalistic operas depicting the problems of flesh-and-blood characters. It is no wonder that the performance of the two pieces together on a single evening rapidly became customary.



Ernő Dohnányi

The Tenor

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 ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

Comic opera in two parts, in Hungarian with
English surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasy**

Set designer ▶ **István Rózsa**

Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztopád**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

14, 16, 18 and 20 September 2014, Erkel Theatre

Ernő Dohnányi

The Tenor

A hilarious Hungarian comedy in the German Romantic style. The tenor of a provincial vocal quartet dies... and right before an important singing competition. A new tenor must be found! Only the alcoholic layabout Schippel can help: although he can sing, the other members of the quartet are loath to work with such a person. But necessity trumps scruples... until an attractive young lady stirs up a hornets' nest. In the end, everything is settled by a duel. Our young artists revel in these exquisite character roles under the expert direction of *András Almási-Tóth*.

Many misconceptions still exist with regard to *Ernő Dohnányi*. Throughout his career, he was fully dedicated to serving musical culture and spared neither time nor energy to the cause of promoting Hungarian musical life. In *Bartók's* view, *Dohnányi* brought music closer to the Hungarian people. In addition to heading the Budapest Philharmonic Society, he also served at the helm of Hungarian Radio and as director of the Music Academy, while the entire world celebrated him as a concert pianist. Then the Second World War arrived, after which he was denounced as a war criminal – unjustly. His reputation would remain tarnished for the rest of his life. Our efforts to rehabilitate him as a respected composer of the 20th century and one of its most sensational pianists continue to fall short.

In premiering one of his less known comic operas, the Hungarian State Opera pays homage to this artist exactly 13 years after bringing to life another of his renowned works, the *Tower of the Voivod*.





Robert North–Bob Downes

Troy Game – with Amazons ♀

All-male ballet parody in one act – female version

Choreographer ▶ **Robert North**

Composer ▶ **Bob Downes**

Costume designer ▶ **Peter Farmer**

Ballett masters ▶ **Levente Bajári, Csaba Solti**

27 September, 15, 19 and 22 November 2014, Opera House

Robert North–Bob Downes

Troy Game – with Amazons ♀ ---

Troy Game is a dance parody. Choreographer *Robert North* constructs his satirical “macho man” depiction on elements of martial arts and bodybuilding in this humorous – and exceptionally athletically demanding – choreography, which was originally only danced by men. The Hungarian State Ballet premiered the piece in May 2014, and retains it on the programme for the 2014/15 season.

What is more, the company is preparing to make ballet history in the new season by producing a parody of the parody for the first time in Europe, namely the female version of *Troy Game*, where the same choreography is performed by women instead of men.

The all-female version will appear on stage at the gala night celebrating the Opera House’s 130th anniversary on 27 September 2014, after which the female and male versions will be performed alternately.





Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Così fan tutte

Fiordiligi ▶ **Klára Kolonits**

Dorabella ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Zsófia Kálnay**

Ferrando ▶ **Dávid Szigetvári, Tamás Tarjányi**

Guglielmo ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Despina ▶ **Emőke Baráth, Orsolya Sáfár**

Don Alfonso ▶ **Péter Kálmán**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász, György Vashegyi**

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

Set designer ▶ **TBA**

Costume designer ▶ **Sylva Zimula Hanáková**

Director ▶ **Jiří Menzel**

*10, 12, 16, 18, 21, 24 and 26 October, 14, 16, 18 and 22
November 2014, Opera House*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Così fan tutte

"There is here a certain da Ponte. He has promised to write a new libretto for me, but who knows whether he will keep his word, or whether he even intends to? You know how these Italian gentlemen are," wrote *Mozart* in a letter. The Italian gentleman kept his word, and not just once, but three times. Following their first two hit operas, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*, *Lorenzo da Ponte* and *Mozart* would write a third together. At the premiere of their final joint work, *Così fan tutte*, the audience sat in their seats astonished and bewildered. Its direct language, ironic music and uncomfortable theme made it difficult to grasp, so it was spurned for quite some time. And it's little wonder. In the guise of a witty comedy, *Mozart* offers one of the most surprising stories in the operatic literature.

"Così fan tutte." That is, "Thus do all women," argues Don Alfonso, the old philosopher. Two amorous men do not share his dim view of the fairer sex, and test their partners' respective faithfulness as a bet. The results, however, are not entirely what anyone expected. "The School for Lovers," announces the subtitle, but we might instead call it "Human Experiments". An unsparing morality tale of how much we (don't) know our own characters, emotions, desires and limits. Something that is not easy to confront. And nor are its consequences...

Jiří Menzel originally planned to become a theatre director, but the University of Prague refused him, saying he lacked talent. So he wound up "merely" in the field of film production. He was 28 years old at the release of his first major comedy film, *Closely Watched Trains*, for which he received an Oscar. This is his fourth opera, and to our good fortune, right here in Budapest!





Georges Bizet

Carmen

Don José ▶ Zoltán Nyári, Attila Kiss B.

Escamillo ▶ Mihály Kálmándi

Remendado ▶ Zoltán Megyesi, József Mukk

Dancairo ▶ Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, Gábor Németh

Zuniga ▶ Géza Gábor, Sándor Egri

Morales ▶ András Káldi Kiss

Carmen ▶ Erika Gál, Atala Schöck

Micaela ▶ Gabriella Létay Kiss, Polina Pasztircsák

Frasquita ▶ Cecília Lloyd, Ildikó Szakács

Mercedes ▶ Éva Várhelyi, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz

Conductor ▶ János Kovács, István Dénes

Opera in three parts, in French with Hungarian surtitles

Choreographer ▶ Marianna Venekei

Set designer ▶ László Székely

Costume designer ▶ Márta Pilinyi

Director ▶ Pál Oberfrank

Partner ▶ Open-air Theatre

4 and 6 July 2014, Margaret Island

*31 October, 6, 9, 12, 16, 18, 21, 25, 27 and 29 November 2014,
Erkel Theatre*

Georges Bizet

Carmen

Man meets Woman, and ends up in prison because of her. Man is freed, and Woman favours him with her attention. Woman tires of him and moves on. Man murders Woman, because she ruined his life. Here, the Woman is the most erotic figure in operatic literature: there is no man who can resist the gypsy girl. From the star toreador to the peasant lad, everyone falls at her feet. Exotic, headstrong and unbridled – that is, madly alluring and mysterious, her life is composed of dance, song and freedom. She believes in love, in the cards, in Fate and its fulfilment – whether that means life or death.

Paris secretly adored headstrong, “fallen” women (see: *Traviata*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Madame Bovary*), but always pouted about them in public out of concern for respectability. Bizet’s work had to wait eight years after its premiere for success. It was worth the wait: to this day it is third on the list of most frequently staged operas in the world, and top at the Hungarian State Opera House.

Carmen is an opera requiring an extraordinary director. As this is the original staging, a profound understanding of French culture and language are essential, alongside great dedication to classical music, pinpoint stage direction, meticulous character construction, and credible prose delivery. *Pál Oberfrank*, a Jászay Prize-winning theatrical artist from Veszprém’s Petőfi Theatre, is the perfect choice for the task: he himself has portrayed Don José on the stage in a production based on the original novella by Mérimée.



Benjamin Britten

The Rape of Lucretia

Male Chorus ▶ **Gábor Csiki**

Female Chorus ▶ **TBA**

Collatinus ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Junius ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach**

Tarquinius ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák**

Lucretia ▶ **Krisztina Simon**

Bianca ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Lucia ▶ **Ildikó Jakab**

Conductor ▶ **Máté Hátori**

Opera in two parts, in English with Hungarian surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Andrea Merlo P.**

Visual concept ▶ **Enikő Kárpáti**

Director ▶ **János Csányi**

*5, 7 and 9 November 2014,
Music Academy, Solti György Hall*

Benjamin Britten

The Rape of Lucretia



The partly legendary and partly historical Lucretia is a figure whose death heralded the end of the Roman Monarchy and onset of the Roman Republic. The story has served as an inspiration for, among others, *Henry Chaucer*, *Botticelli*, *Shakespeare*, *Rembrandt*, *Niccolò Machiavelli* – and *Benjamin Britten*. With his chamber opera, the composer follows in the path of classical tragedy; standing in the centre of this astonishingly intimate work is the star-crossed woman whose faithfulness is gambled over by men.

On the hundredth anniversary of the great English composer's birthday, 22 November 2013 to be precise, the piece was etched into Budapest operatic history for the first time, and even then only on a single occasion. The semi-staged production will enter the repertoire from this year under the direction of *János Csányi*, and with a cast of young artists. The chamber opera will also be performed in a new location and revised production at the Music Academy's György Solti Hall on three occasions in November 2014.

Joseph Haydn

L'isola disabitata (The Deserted Island) _____

Silvia ► **Renáta Göncz**
Costanza ► **Eszter Balogh**
Enrico ► **Zoltán Gradsach**
Gernando ► **József Csapó**

Comic opera for children in two acts, in Hungarian

Director ►

*23 and 30 November, 20 December 2014,
Opera House, Royal Staircase*

Joseph Haydn

_____ L'isola disabitata (The Deserted Island)



They say nothing happens by chance. In 1779, fire broke out in the Eszterházy Castle in Fertőd. The Chinese ballroom and the famous theatre hall both burned to the ground, but, in a manner verging on the miraculous, the fire did not reach Haydn's living quarters. The fateful event occurred just a few weeks before the premiere of *The Deserted Island*. Had the fire done more damage, we would never have known about this royal Robinson Crusoe tale of misunderstanding, along with who knows how many other works.

Haydn. When we hear his name, we think of symphonies, string quartets, and perhaps oratorios. Operas do not come to mind so much, even though he wrote 15 of them. This season, audiences will be able to watch the fourteenth of these, performed on the mini-stage on the Royal Staircase in a production by the Moltopera Company under the direction of a student of the University of Theatre and Film Arts.

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

Carl Maria von Weber

Der Freischütz (The Marksman)

Ottokar ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Cuno ▶ **István Kovács, István Rác**

Agathe ▶ **Tünde Szabóki, Beatrix Fodor**

Ännchen ▶ **Eszter Wierdl, Rita Rác**

Caspar ▶ **András Palerdi, Krisztián Cser**

Max ▶ **Attila Fekete, István Kovácsházi**

Hermit ▶ **Kolos Kovács, István Berczelly**

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

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Opera in three acts, in German with Hungarian surtitles

Dramaturge ▶ **Júlia Ungár**

Set designer ▶ **Mária Ambrus**

Costume designer ▶ **Mari Benedek**

Director ▶ **Sándor Zsótér**

*14, 16, 18, 21, 26 and 28 December 2014, Erkel Theatre
27 and 29 May 2015, Opera House*

Carl Maria von Weber

Der Freischütz (The Marksman)

The *Book of Ghosts* opens up, and out roll magic bullets. They roll through the mysterious forests of Bohemia, all the way to the Wolf's Glen. The milky light from the full moon falls across the weeds, and bloodlike dew glistens on the spider-webs. Something macabre is afoot. Demonic forces have entered the normal order of the life of this forest community. The huntsman's bride receives a mourning wreath. Hunter and Prey, Good and Evil ally and struggle with one another – until the white bird alights.

Der Freischütz is a romantic thriller. The first in a totally new art form. *Carl Maria von Weber* not only created German Romantic opera, but also simultaneously reinvented the operatic genre as a whole – both in terms of its thematic content and its composition and orchestration. The plot is derived from German folk legends, while German folk music served as inspiration for its harmonies, thus departing fully from tradition and the *bel canto* style. Although important German operas had come before it (*Mozart's Magic Flute* and *Beethoven's Fidelio*), *Weber's* masterpiece marked the start of a golden age.

This is an exceptional piece, and we owe it a great deal. However, we have been ungrateful: as with the repertoires of so many other famous opera houses, *Der Freischütz* has been missing from Budapest's for years. With the aid of *Sándor Zsótér*, we are attempting to make up for this absence. The director's sensitivity and gift for both interpreting and telling a story are a guarantee that the piece is in the best of hands.



Igor Stravinsky

The Rake's Progress

- Trulove ▶ **András Pallerdi**
- Anne ▶ **Eleanor Lyons**
- Tom Rakewell ▶ **Péter Balczó**
- Nick Shadow ▶ **Péter Kálmán**
- Mother Goose ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**
- Baba the Turk ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi**
- Sellem ▶ **Dávid Szigetvári**

Conductor ▶ **Erik Nielsen**

Opera in three acts, in English with Hungarian surtitles

- Dramaturge ▶ **Judit Keneseý**
- Visual concept ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**
- Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

*18, 20, 22, 24, 27 and 29 January, 16 and 20 May 2015,
Opera House*

Igor Stravinsky

The Rake's Progress

What makes a man happy? What do we really want? What is the price of anything?

Tom Rakewell is not a complex figure. He has a girlfriend, but no job: he's vegetating in contented indolence. Then someone appears: suddenly Tom has money, but he is also being followed. His shadow stalks him to London, from pub to brothel, and then to auction house. Tom Rakewell, without knowing it, has sold his soul to the Devil. On a lark, he marries a bearded lady. In the end, he is repulsed by his life of pleasure, goes mad and winds up in Bedlam. One person stands by him throughout: his abandoned girlfriend. The rake's progress is into depravity, and ends at a card party, where the stake is spiritual redemption. This is a kind of Bildungsroman in reverse, a fable on the loss of innocence: part black comedy, part obituary.

Stravinsky stumbled on the theme at an exhibition in Chicago of eight "cartoon" paintings by William Hogarth. In his music, the Mozartian influence is palpable – but in Stravinsky's own unique neoclassical style.

The Rake's Progress is not a simple thing to direct. The piece is extraordinarily complex: it is not simply a latter-day adaptation of a morality play, but a creative work with a unique tone and exceptional humour. Fortunately, director *Ferenc Anger* has just the right reading of the different layers of this complicated opera, and credible and thrilling interpretation is his specialty.



Camille Saint-Saëns

La Princesse Jaune (The Yellow Princess)

Opera in one act, in Hungarian

Kornelis ▶ **Péter Balczó**

Lena ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Directors ▶ **students of the University of Theatre
and Film Arts**

Georges Bizet

Djamileh

Opera in one act, in Hungarian

Djamileh ▶ **Zsófia Kálnay**

Haroun ▶ **Tamás Tarjányi**

Splendiano ▶ **a student of the Liszt Ferenc Academy
of Music**

*21 and 22 February 2015,
Music Academy, Solti György Hall*

FrenchLateNight

18



Following last year's Mozart's slapstick *Der Schauspieldirektor*, appended with the same composer's contrasting *Six Nocturnes* (project title: *MozartLateNight*), this is the turn of two French composers to shake things up as their one-act operas take us to the exotic world of the Orient. Bizet's *Djamileh* is a steamy tale, set on the banks of the Nile, about a slave woman who falls in love with her captor, while Saint-Saëns's *La Princesse Jaune* (*The Yellow Princess*) is one about a Dutchman's delirious vision of a Japanese phantasm. Like last year, these night-time performances are strictly for over 18s only!

We have assigned this rare staging of these two chamber pieces to some of our young talent, with students at the University of Theatre and Film Arts getting the chance to test their mettle in the genre of opera.

Partner ► **Music Academy, University of Theatre and Film Arts**





Giuseppe Verdi

Nabucco

Nabucco ▶ **Alexandru Agache, Mihály Kálmándi Mihály**

Ismaele ▶ **István Horváth, Zoltán Nyári**

Zaccaria ▶ **András Palerdi, István Rác**

Abigail ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

Fenena ▶ **Erika Gál, Szilvia Vörös**

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

Abdallo ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in three parts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Set designer ▶ **Edit Zeke**

Costume designer ▶ **Janó Papp**

Director ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

13, 15, 18, 20, 22 and 27 February 2015, Erkel Theatre

Giuseppe Verdi

Nabucco

Gergely Kesselyák is a man of many talents. A conductor of the Hungarian State Opera, and previously its Principal Music Director, he also heads the Bartók Plusz Opera Festival and has directed multiple operas. His new interpretation of Verdi's *Nabucco* was premiered at the National Theatre of Miskolc in February 2013, with the Csokonai Theatre in Debrecen taking up the production later. Now it is coming to the Erkel Theatre, retiring *András Mikó's* beloved but worn 30-year-old scenery.

At age 27, Verdi resolved to never write opera again. He was at a low point in his life, both professionally and personally: His comic opera, *Un giorno di regno*, had failed, and around the same time he had to bury his two young children, and then his wife. After some convincing by his agent, he read *Solera's* libretto, *Nabucco*, and by spring of 1942, all of Milan was humming "*Va, pensiero...*" The central point of the opera stands at a historical crossroads: value systems are changing and life is coming under the control of interrelationships starkly contrasting previously in place. In the crosshairs of this conflict between vanquisher and vanquished unfolds a family drama in which the music of the Italian master leads the listener through the entire range of possible emotions. When performed, the work lifts the story out of the biblical era and places it into the realm of the cosmic.

"*Nabucco* is first and foremost about faith, not only faith in God, but the faith we place in each other," Kesselyák has stated. "If we do not waste our energy hurting each other and struggling with God, then we realise we are capable of miracles. 'Serving God, you will become the king of kings.' – This is the opera's final and most important sentence."





Sir Kenneth MacMillan–Jules Massenet

Manon

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák, István Silló**

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Sir Kenneth MacMillan**

Composer ▶ **Jules Massenet**

Music revised by ▶ **Leighton Lucas, Martin Yates**

Set and costumer designer ▶ **Nicholas Georgiadis**

Lighting ▶ **John B. Read**

Répétiteur, based on Benesh notation ▶ **Gary Harris**

Staged by ▶ **Maina Gielgud**

Set designer ▶ **Andrew Jameson**

Costumes ▶ **Michael Brown**

*28 February, 1, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12 and 13 March 2015,
Opera House*

Sir Kenneth MacMillan–Jules Massenet

Manon

The time has come for us to pay homage to one of the most important figures in English ballet. For the first time, we are bringing *Manon* to the stage with Hungarian artists, rather than guest performances by foreign companies.

Sir Kenneth MacMillan was 15 years old when he began his career under the tutelage of *Ninette de Valois*, founder of the English Royal Ballet; in 1970, he himself took the helm of the most highly renowned British ballet company. He worked passionately to reinvent the language of the genre: "I wanted dance to express much more than it had before. Otherwise, I would simply have been producing sterile academic dance pieces." He managed to reinvent not just the language of ballet, but also its subject matter: on many occasions he reached for modern, socially and societally charged themes that no one had ever dared to touch in any genre, let alone in dance. He was met with this criticism also after the 1974 premiere of *Manon*: even though it won enormous acclaim from audiences, critics were shocked by an immoral plotline that was completely unprecedented in the world of classical ballet at the time.

Massenet and *Puccini* both wrote operas based on the story by the 18th century *Abbé Prévost*, with *MacMillan* choosing the less well known French composer. *Leighton Lucas* created a score based on *Massenet's* works: although using nothing from *Manon* itself, he compiled the musical material from the composer's many other operas and oratorios, which *Marton Yates* later re-orchestrated in 2011. Here, *Manon* is being staged with *MacMillan's* original scenery and costumes.





Richard Wagner

Das Rheingold (The Rhinegold)

EVE OF DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN (THE RING OF THE NIBELUNG) TETRALOGY

Wotan ▶ **Mihály Kálmándi**

Donner ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Froh ▶ **Zoltán Nyári**

Loge ▶ **Adrian Eröd**

Alberich ▶ **Béla Perencz**

Mime ▶ **TBA**

Fasolt ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Fafner ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Fricka ▶ **Judit Németh**

Freia ▶ **Bori Keszei**

Erda ▶ **Erika Gál**

Woglinde ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

Wellgunde ▶ **Krisztina Simon**

Flosshilde ▶ **Melinda Heiter**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

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

Director ▶ **Géza M. Tóth**

21, 24, 26 and 28 March 2015, Opera House

Richard Wagner

Das Rheingold (The Rhine Gold)

EVE OF DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN (THE RING OF THE NIBELUNG) TETRALOGY

If *Richard Wagner* were alive today, he would surely be considered a master of fantasy, writing the top bestsellers and bringing home the most Grammys and Oscars and lining up against *The Lord of the Rings*, *Thor*, and *Harry Potter* in popularity, and perhaps even the *Star Wars* series. Drawing from Icelandic and German sagas, Wagner astonishes audiences with stories set to music of such grandiosity that no one remains unaffected.

Das Rheingold, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*. These four operas together make up the *Ring*, which the Opera House is bringing to the stage in a new set of productions. *Das Rheingold* introduces the audience to the magical world of nixies, dwarves, gods, valkyries and giants. In addition to composing an entirely new kind of music, Wagner's grandiose concepts also placed tremendous demands on stage design then and now. Water nymphs sing while swimming in a river; a dwarf first becomes invisible and then turns into a frog in plain view; giants fight with each other – in *Das Rheingold* alone, numerous events take place that are a great challenge to mount on the stage even today.

Géza M. Tóth's short animated film, *The Maestro*, was nominated for an Oscar in 2007. The director has a close relationship with classical music, too, and was the creative force behind an animated film of *Bartók's* theatrical works, *The Miraculous Mandarin* and *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*. He has also created numerous films for the Hungarian Opera, including an animation for 2013's *Saint Matthew's Passion*. The Béla Balázs Award-winning animated film director and rector of the University of Theatre and Film Arts is now confronted with the task of doing battle – by means of his powerful images – with the “impossible”.



Johann Sebastian Bach

Johannes-Passion (St John Passion) _____

Oratorio in two parts, in German with Hungarian and English surtitles

Staged by ▶ **Károly Eperjes**

Soloists ▶ **Zita Szemere, Atala Schöck, Zoltán Megyesi, László Kálmán, István Kovács, Domonkos Blaszó**

Choreographer ▶ **Tamás Solymosi**

Conductor ▶ **Kálmán Strausz**

2 and 4 April 2015, Opera House

Johann Sebastian Bach

_____ Johannes-Passion (St John Passion)

"As time passes, *Bach's* music grows ever more weighty and significant," said *Pilinszky*, with reference to *the St John Passion*. "This Baroque musician has become the most modern composer of our time. He is at once both timeless and hyper-modern, or, to be more precise: the one we have the most need for."

Johann Sebastian Bach's *Saint John's Passion* depicts the suffering and death of Jesus based on the words of the Apostle John the Evangelist. The work was written for Good Friday of 1724 and is a wonderful combination of theatrical work and oratorio, a monumental piece in which 3 hours of music are heard in a performance requiring nearly 200 musicians and singers.

While "*Matthew*" weeps and ruminates, "*John*" points the way forward from there. "*Matthew*" is a mass, while "*John*" is an opera. Or not quite. From research done by scholars, we know a great deal about the role that opera played in *Bach's* era. For some reason, however, the composer himself never wrote opera, only oratorical works whose participants were in true dramatic roles. Probably the greatest virtue of *Saint John's Passion* is that it allows the Good Friday story – despite all of its cruelty and pain – to ring out with a truly positive clamour of brilliant and hopeful music heralding the joy of the Resurrection. *Károly Eperjes*, who is open about his Christian faith, will be bringing the genre into a stylised arena within the setting of early Christianity, while also bringing the magic of cinema into the mix.

Giuseppe Verdi

Aida

BARTOKPLUSZ
OPERA FESZTIVÁL

The King of Egypt ▶ **Miklós Sebestyén, István Kovács**

Amneris ▶ **Ildikó Komlósi, Erika Gál**

Aida ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Csilla Boross**

Radames ▶ **Attila Fekete, Fabio Sartori**

Ramfis ▶ **Péter Fried, András Palerdi**

Amonasro ▶ **Mihály Kálmándi, Béla Perencz**

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

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

Opera in three parts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasdy**

Dramaturge ▶ **Enikő Perczel**

Set designer ▶ **Zsolt Khell**

Costume designer ▶ **Kriszta Remete**

Director ▶ **János Mohácsi**

Partners ▶ **Bartok Plus Opera Festival, Miskolc**

4, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 19 April 2015, Erkel Theatre

Giuseppe Verdi

Aida

In 1869, the viceroy of Egypt contacted *Verdi* in the hopes of acquiring a musical work for the opening of the Suez Canal. The composer did not take on the assignment. The viceroy later contacted him again: wouldn't he like to write an opera for the opening of the Cairo Opera House? The Italian maestro agreed, and commenced work on *Aida*.

The opera takes place in the age of the pharaohs, when Egypt was in the process of conquering Ethiopia. The plot of *Aida* is an example of the human dilemma, of political and personal conflicts. The war produces extreme and dramatic situations that simply cannot be solved. What is a person to do when forced to turn traitor to for the sake of one's love? How is it possible to obey one's father, so that he too does not betray the lover? In the sumptuous halls of the monumental palace, it's possible to feel just as lonely as when standing completely alone in the middle of the desert.

It wasn't the exoticism of the world of the pharaohs that excited Verdi. He dedicated *Aida* to the celebration of universal harmony and peace among nations, with all the pomp and ceremony that such a celebratory event deserved. The work was not ready for the opening, and was only premiered in 1871. Two years later, Egypt again declared war on Ethiopia.

János Mohácsi is one of the key figures in Hungarian theatre. This production, which retires the classic *Aida* from 22 years ago, will mark his debut as an opera director.



Zsófia Tallér

Leander and Linseed

ORIGINAL PREMIERE



(Currently being created at the Opera's request is contemporary children's opera *Leander and Linseed*. The institution is working in concert with composer Zsófia Tallér and librettist Barnabás Szöllősi to create a fantastic opera based on the fairy tale by Andor Szilágyi. The most exciting part of the project is now underway: the two artists are shaping this original story into a musical drama as we write these words. Which scenes will work best musically? For which vocal types should each of the characters be written? What kind of overall musical style best suits this brand-new opera? We can't wait to find out whether Linseed will be a soprano or a contralto, and whether Bogyó gets an aria or not.)

Fairy-tale opera in two parts, in Hungarian

Set designer ▶ **Mária Ambrus**

Costume designer ▶ **Mari Benedek**

Director ▶ **Sándor Zsótér**

Partner ▶ **M2 Channel, MTVA**

11, 12, 18 and 19 April 2015, Erkel Theatre

Zsófia Tallér

Leander and Linseed

ORIGINAL PREMIERE

While the ugly goblin Leander attends to his business in the forest, his pitch black tomcat stays home doing the housework, cooking and cleaning goblin shirts. But when Leander comes home tired, the cat stretches out comfortably in front of him and reads to him. Thus they live together in happy goblinhood, until one day, King Bölömbér the Second mistakes the kitten for a bloodthirsty rabbit, and shoots him with an arrow.

Apart from *György Ránki's The King's New Clothes* and the Mozartian *Little Magic Flute*, we have not really performed a great many children's operas. There really are not so many to choose from, so we must write some! The fresh and witty language, humour and enchanting storyline of *Andor Szilágyi's* 1993 fairy tale play are perfect operatic material, which one of the most talented Erkel Prize-winning contemporary composers is setting to music at the Opera's request.

"Zsófia: mother, wife, teacher, composer," is how her former mentor, *Emil Petrovics* introduced her. This will not be the first children's piece that she has collaborated on. "I do not believe that the way to write is in a serious manner for adults and an infantile one for children. I consider authentic, natural composition to be paramount – children's audiences are especially sensitive to this," she says. Of the production's director, *Sándor Zsótér*, she states, "He always says he doesn't understand music... But looking at his directing work, it is clear that he knows exactly what is happening, often better than those whose profession music is." One thing is certain: children and adults alike will be amazed.





Rudi van Dantzig, Toer van Schayk–Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Swan Lake

Conductor ▶ **TBA, András Déri**

Classical ballet in three acts

Choreography, based on work of **Marius Petipa** and **Lev**

Ivanov ▶ **Rudi van Dantzig**

Folk dance interlude choreographed by ▶ **Toer van Schayk**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Toer van Schayk**

Lighting ▶ **Jan Hofstra**

Répétiteurs ▶ **Sonja Marchioli, Malin Thoors,**

Jeanette Vondersaar

Set and costume assistant ▶ **Ruud Lutgens**

*25, 26, 29 and 30 April, 2, 3, 7, 9 and 10 May 2015,
Opera House*

Rudi van Dantzig, Toer van Schayk—Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Swan Lake

The Hungarian State Opera House's audience has been forced to go without *Swan Lake* for five years. In the 2014/2015 season, we are compensating for this absence with a completely new production! *Tchaikovsky's* first ballet is the most beloved classical piece in ballet literature, and has even served as an inspiration for Hollywood: in the 2010 film *The Black Swan*, Natalie Portman portrayed a prima donna rehearsing for *Swan Lake*, and won nearly every existing film award for her performance.

While the hardships of love between a prince forced into marriage and a maiden enchanted into the form of a swan is one of the most charming Russian romantic fairy tales, the piece nevertheless failed at its original premiere in 1877. The choreographers creating the premiere were simply not equal to *Tchaikovsky's* genius. Finally, in 1895, two artists from the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg, *Marius Petipa* and *Lev Ivanov*, created a work of choreography so fantastic that it established a tradition, and most companies to this day still dance the piece following this blueprint. *Rudi van Dantzig* revised this classic creative work in 1988.

It's also as good as customary for the same female ballet dancer to portray both *Odette* – the pure, innocent white swan – and *Odile* – the seductive, manipulative black swan; and this will also be the case in the Hungarian National Ballet's brand-new production.



Nino Rota

Il cappello di paglia di Firenze (The Florentine Straw Hat)

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE



Comic opera in two parts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

The Hungarian State Opera House has much to be proud of: its chorus for one. We are therefore delighted to give some of its outstanding artists the opportunity to make their debuts as soloists. In 2013, as part of a similar initiative, the audience was able to enjoy an abridged version of *Gounod's* rarely performed opera *Mireille*. Now another genuine rarity is on its way.

Nino Rota's name rings a bell even for those who spend little time at the opera. He is the man behind the music of *La Strada*, *War and Peace*, Italian director *Zeffirelli's* version of *Romeo and Juliet*, and the *Godfather* trilogy, for the second part of which he received an Oscar for "Best Original Score". *Rota* was tireless: aside from composing an astonishing volume of film music, he also wrote ten operas, five ballets, and several dozen other orchestral, vocal, and chamber works, all while directing the Bari Conservatory for 30 years on the side. The *Florentine Straw Hat* is based on the French *farce de rue* of the same name and depicts a young man "tilting at windmills" as he goes to great lengths to ensure his own wedding takes place, while endeavouring to save a different girl's honour. The work will be brought to the stage by one of the University of Theatre and Film Art's students in the Ferencsik Hall on Jókai Street.

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

24, 29 April, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre, Ferencsik Hall

Umberto Giordano

Fedora

Opera in two acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

For the new season, the Opera's significantly expanded chorus is also preparing, alongside *The Florentine Straw Hat*, a *verista* piece to be directed by *Nina Dudek*. This opera by *Umberto Giordano* will likewise be performed in the Ferencsik Hall on Jókai Street.

The composer was inspired by a veritable queen of the stage: *Sarah Bernhardt*. It was for her that *Sardou* wrote the play *Fedora*. The plot is an inimitable French romantic tragedy, a true *pièce bien faite*, with all of the properties of such: (a duel, a letter, a misunderstanding, poison, sweeping emotion), with the twists and turns of a thriller set in tsarist St. Petersburg and Switzerland.

This work has not been heard in Budapest for more than 90 years.

26 April 2015, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre, Ferencsik Hall

Charles Gounod

Faust

Faust ▶ **Dario Schmunk**

Méphistophélès ▶ **Gábor Bretz**

Marguerite ▶ **Andrea Rost**

Valentin ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Wagner ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Siébel ▶ **Szilvia Vörös**

Marthe ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Conductor ▶ **Maurizio Benini**

Opera in three parts, in French with Hungarian and English subtitle

Set designer ▶ **Luigi Scoglio**

Costume designer ▶ **Ana Ramos Aguayo**

Director ▶ **Michał Znaniecki**

17, 19, 21, 23, 26 and 31 May 2015, Opera House

Charles Gounod

Faust

Many opera composers have been “possessed” by the Devil over the last 250 years, including *Boito*, *Schnittke*, *Schubert*, *Weber*, *Busoni* and *Stravinsky*. But perhaps the most famous operatic adaptation is *Gounod's* French grand opera, which is based on the first part of *Goethe's Faust*, a work of literature that absolutely occupies the top tier of world literature. For more than a century, the piece has been an indispensable element of any self-respecting opera company's repertoire, and to this day remains among the most frequently performed operas.

Gounod's aim was not an operatic adaptation of *Goethe's* masterpiece. His grand opera is much more intent on summoning up the composer's world: *Walpurgis Night*, the *Golden Calf Song* and the *Jewel Aria* all conjure forth the steamy and dissipated Paris of his time. Born from the libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré was a perfumed and smoky drama spiced with elements of romance and horror, as well as gothic motifs: a story of romance, the supernatural, religion, and the eternal battle against satanic powers.

Our 2015 production also opens the May anniversary festival of our Faust season: *Michael Znaniecki*, the renowned Polish opera director, will be working in Hungary for the first time.

Ferruccio Benvenuto Busoni

Doktor Faust

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Vajda**

Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

Semi-staged performance

Opera in German with Hungarian and English surtitles

Revised by ▶ **Sir Adrian Boult, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau**

22 and 24 May 2015, Opera House

Ferruccio Benvenuto Busoni

Doktor Faust

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

In two prologues, one intermezzo and three scenes, this piece tells the tragic tale of the most famous scholar in world history. As the people are singing the Apostle's Creed on Easter morning, Faust, rector of the University of Wittenberg, signs a pact with Mephistopheles in his own blood. He first seduces little Gretchen, and later the Duchess of Parma. He summons forth figures from the Bible, causes the death of a soldier, and abandons the baby he fathered with the Duchess to its unhappy fate, while from the fire emerges Helen of Troy. Faust closes the book of magic. He feels the need to pray, but the words will not come. Will a single good deed be enough to save his soul? There is still a little time before midnight...

This novelty piece slated for the Faust225 Festival is truly worthy of a "witch's Sabbath" and uses a 1951 London recording as its basis. It is being staged courtesy of the creative imagination of *Máté Szabó*, one of Hungary's most talented young directors.



Antonio Vivaldi

Farnace

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

Farnace ▶ **TBA**

Berenice ▶ **Tünde Szabóki**

Tamiri ▶ **Viktória Vizin**

Selinda ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Gilade ▶ **Nóra Ducza**

Conductor ▶ **Pál Németh**

Opera in three acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Dramaturge ▶ **Judit Kenesey**

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

12, 14, 18 and 20 June 2015, Erkel Theatre

Antonio Vivaldi

Farnace

HUNGARIAN PREMIERE

In accordance with a new tradition which is very visibly taking root, we will also be closing the 2015 season with a Baroque opera premiere. In the footsteps of *Händel*, *Rameau* and *Gluck* will follow a truly Italian composer: *Vivaldi*! The operas of the "Red Priest" (which number close to 50) were practically unknown until the last quarter of the 20th century. Since the start of the millennium, however, people can't seem to get enough, as more and more recordings and productions are made of his operas. This premiere is a curiosity for two reasons: first, this is the piece's Hungarian premiere, and second, because this is the first occasion a *Vivaldi* opera will be appearing on the Budapest Opera playbill.

Farnace was one of its composer's favourite operas: he showed it in a number of cities, and also revised the score on all six occasions. The plot revolves around the King of Pontus, recently defeated by the Romans, whose mother-in-law despises him and conspires against him. Intrigue, politics, a death sentence, love, manipulation, and hatred abound as the characters find themselves in the most extreme of situations and traverse an enormously wide range of emotions.

Ferenc Anger is without a doubt a great admirer of Baroque opera, and especially of the enchanting music of *Vivaldi*. It is an old dream of his come true to bring the composer to the Budapest stage at last, and under his direction to boot.



Giuseppe Verdi

Il Trovatore (The Troubadour)

PRE-PREMIERE

BARTÓKPLUSZ
OPERA FESZTIVÁL

Verdi had not yet finished *Rigoletto* when he set to writing a new opera. *Il Trovatore* is a drama of politics, love, and revenge: tragedy *par excellence* in the mountain regions of medieval Spain. The elder Count Luna had two boys. One night, a gypsy woman crept up on the sleeping children. The younger boy swiftly grew ill and the gypsy woman was suspected of casting a spell on the child, her punishment was to be burned alive. But it would be a mistake to say that this was the last of the tragic events...

Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, Traviata: The career of Giuseppe Verdi had entered into a new, more mature phase. *Il Trovatore* is full of passionate, romantic music. The vocal parts of the four principal characters are a challenge of stupefying proportions – as Caruso said, the piece only needed one thing for success: “You have to sign up the four best singers in the world”.

In June 2015, the pre-premiere will be taking place at a special, festival venue: the Miskolc Opera Festival. After a long hiatus, Attila Vidnyánszky will once again be directing an opera production.

Partners ► **Bartók Plusz Opera Festival, Miskolc**

June 2015, Miskolc



Károly Goldmark

Die Königin von Saba (The Queen of Sheba)

PRE-PREMIERE

Károly Goldmark was born into a family of 20 children in Keszthely in 1830. Although he lived in Vienna from 1830 onwards, he declared that, "Just as cattle bear the brand of their owner, I too will keep my Hungarian identity with me until death." The composer had a voice student whose exotic beauty someone once compared to that of the Queen of Sheba. This gave *Goldmark* the inspiration to write an opera about the Oriental queen.

The libretto tells the tale of a love triangle. The Queen of Sheba unleashes her charms on one of Solomon's diplomats, a young man engaged to the daughter of the High Priest of Jerusalem. Although the Queen privately professes her (mutual) attraction to the youth, in public she pretends not to know him. The despairing diplomat, by calling the Queen a "goddess", commits blasphemy and is banished to the desert as punishment. Under the endlessness of the scorching sun, two paths stand before the young man...

This opera by the Hungarian composer who died exactly 100 years ago is being presented in a large-scale production for first time by *Csaba Káel* on Margaret Island at the beginning of July 2015, before moving to the Erkel Theatre in September.

Partners ► **Margitsziget Open-air Theatre, Palace of Arts**

July 2015, Margaret Island

Premieres 82





OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ

HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

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Plots of our repertoire plays were gracefully abridged in the manner of Frigyes Karinthy by comedian Gergely Litkai, compressing almost 400 characters into 400 characters

Gian Carlo Menotti

The Telephone

Lucy ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Ben ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

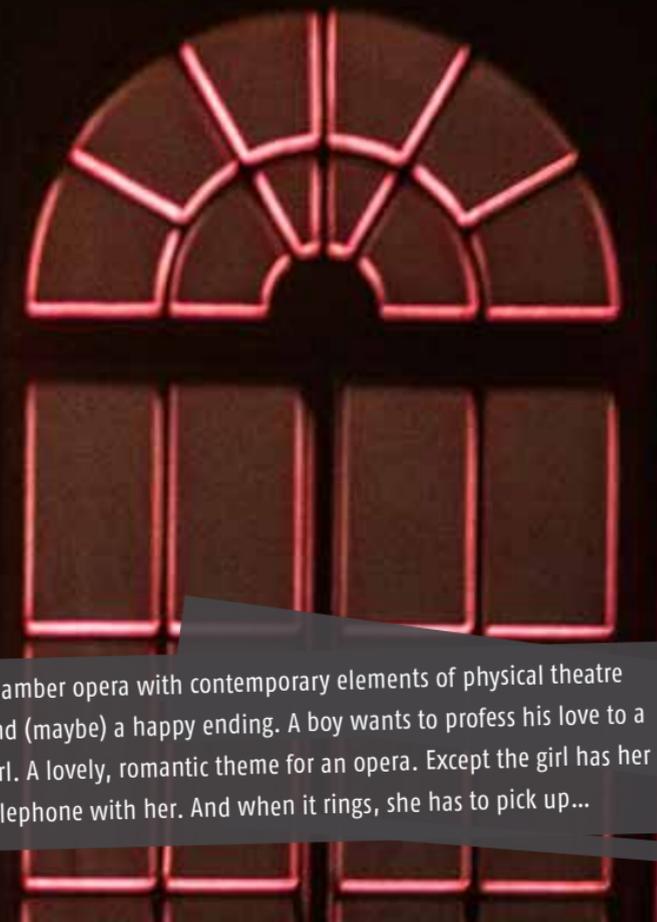
Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic opera in one act, in Hungarian

Set and costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Lisztopád**

Director ▶ **András Almási-Tóth**

*6, 13, 20 and 21 September 2014, Opera House,
Sphinx Terrace on Hajós Street*



Chamber opera with contemporary elements of physical theatre and (maybe) a happy ending. A boy wants to profess his love to a girl. A lovely, romantic theme for an opera. Except the girl has her telephone with her. And when it rings, she has to pick up...



Father, the King of Spain, marries son's sweetheart for political reasons. Meanwhile, Title Character aims to become Governor of Flanders, but daddy has other ideas. Son nearly stabs father and is put behind bars. He doesn't take the hint even after the shooting of his amigo, probably a political instigator, and intrigue against his father's ex-sweetheart, and might wind up in trouble if his dead grandfather doesn't show up to help.

Giuseppe Verdi

Don Carlos

Philip II ▶ **István Rácz, Péter Fried**

Don Carlos ▶ **Attila Kiss B.**

Marquis of Posa ▶ **Levente Molnár, Mihály Kálmándi**

The Grand Inquisitor ▶ **Géza Gábor, Krisztián Cser**

A monk ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Elisabeth ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

Princess Eboli ▶ **Erika Gál, Bernadett Wiedemann**

Tebaldo ▶ **Krisztina Simon**

The Count of Lerma ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

A Voice from Heaven ▶ **Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

Opera in three parts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**

Costume designer ▶ **Tivadar Márk**

Staging, based on directing of ▶ **András Mikó,
Daisy Boschán**

12, 17, 19, 21, 24 and 27 September 2014, Erkel Theatre

Giacomo Puccini

Tosca

Floria Tosca ▶ **Csilla Boross, Gyöngyi Lukács**
Mario Cavaradossi ▶ **Attila Fekete, Atilla Kiss B.**
Baron Scarpia ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov, Alexandru Agache,**

Ambrogio Maestri

Cesare Angelotti ▶ **Géza Gábor, Antal Cseh**
A Sacristan ▶ **András Hábetler, Tamás Szüle**
Spoletta ▶ **Gábor Csiki**
Sciarrone ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

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

Set designer ▶ **Tamás Vayer**

Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**

Director ▶ **Viktor Nagy**

*26 and 28 September, 2, 4, 25 and 29 October, 2, 13 and 26
November 2014, Opera House*



Italian painter shelters fugitive, a fact revealed by the painter's sweetheart, the singer, thanks to a combination of an investigation by the wicked police chief and grievous physical torture. Naively, she offers up her body in exchange for a letter of transit, which proves inadequate in the circumstances, so she gets even with the police chief, who also wasn't born yesterday. This results in the painter being executed and Title Character hurling herself from the ramparts of the Castel Sant'Angelo. Scattered survivors remain to accept applause.

Gaetano Donizetti

Don Pasquale

OPERA ON WHEELS

Don Pasquale ▶ **Tamás Szüle**

Ernesto ▶ **János Szerekován**

Malatesta ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Norina ▶ **Zita Szemere**

Carlotto ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Comic Opera

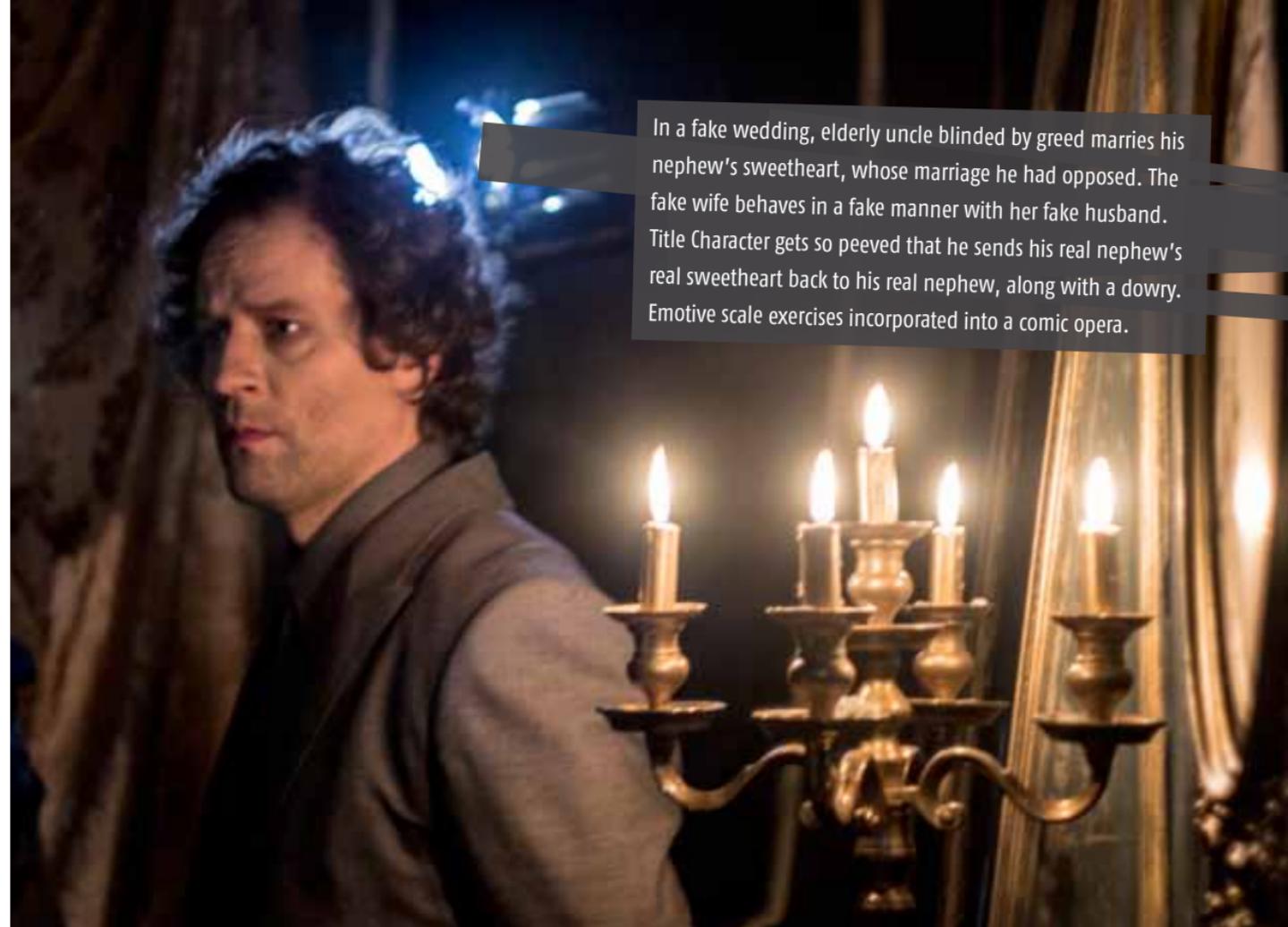
Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Anikó Németh**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

Locations ▶ **Jókai Theatre** (Békéscsaba),
Hevesi Sándor Theatre (Zalaegerszeg),
Gárdonyi Theatre (Eger),
Petőfi Theatre (Veszprém)

Autumn 2014



In a fake wedding, elderly uncle blinded by greed marries his nephew's sweetheart, whose marriage he had opposed. The fake wife behaves in a fake manner with her fake husband. Title Character gets so peeved that he sends his real nephew's real sweetheart back to his real nephew, along with a dowry. Emotive scale exercises incorporated into a comic opera.

Gaetano Donizetti

L'elisir d'amore (The Elixir Of Love)

OPERA ADVENTURE 3.1

Adina ▶ **Júlia Hajnóczy, Zita Váradi, Ingrid Kertesi**

Nemorino ▶ **Szabolcs Brickner, Péter Balczó,
Zoltán Megyesi**

Belcore ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Zoltán Bátki Fazekas,
Róbert Rezsnyák**

Dulcamara ▶ **Tamás Szüle, László Szvétek, Antal Cseh**

Giannetta ▶ **Eszter Zavaros, Ildikó Jakab**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár, Géza Köteles,
László Bartal**

Comic opera in two acts, in Hungarian
with Hungarian surtitles

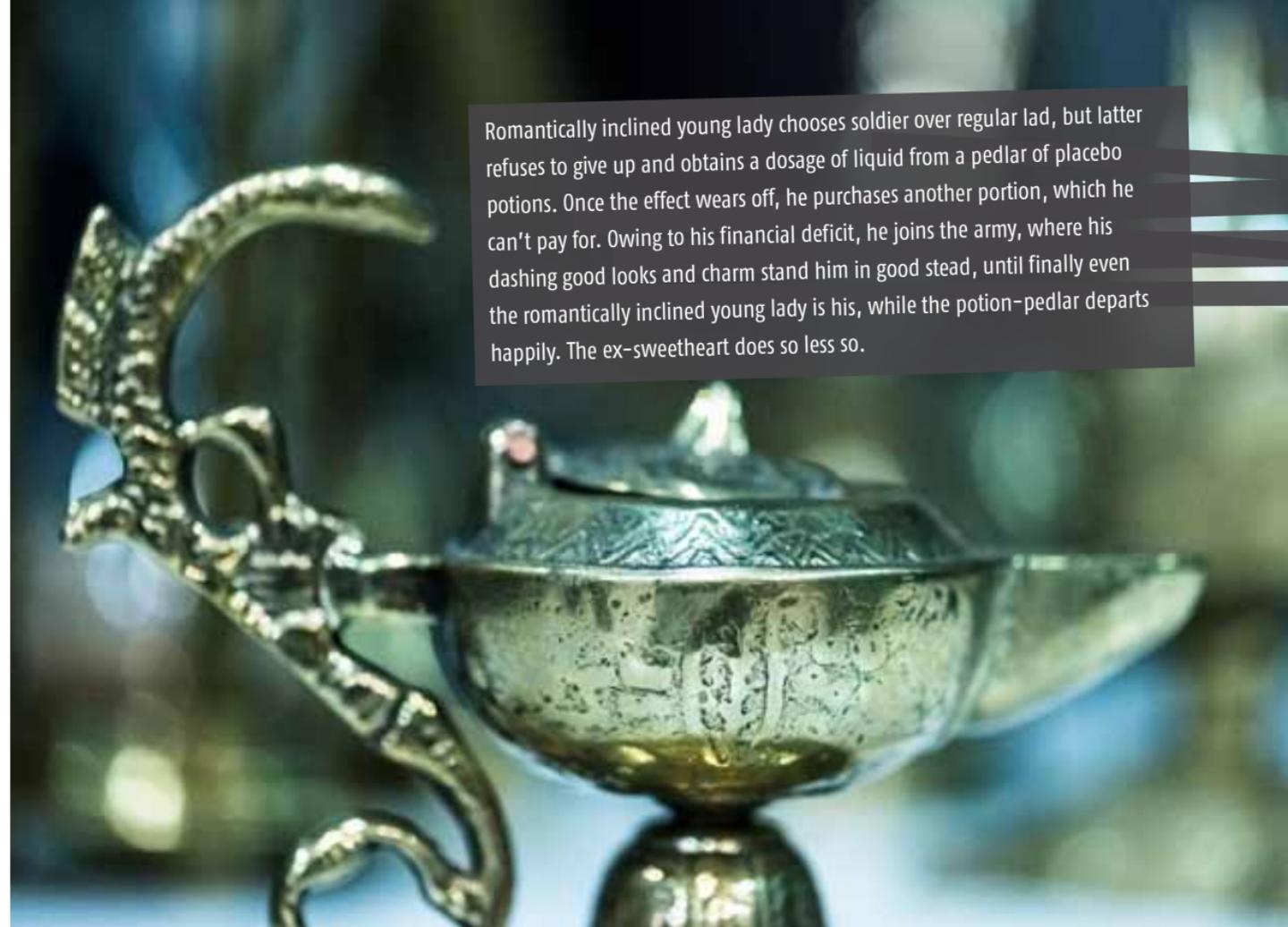
Choreographer ▶ **Andrea Merlo P.**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

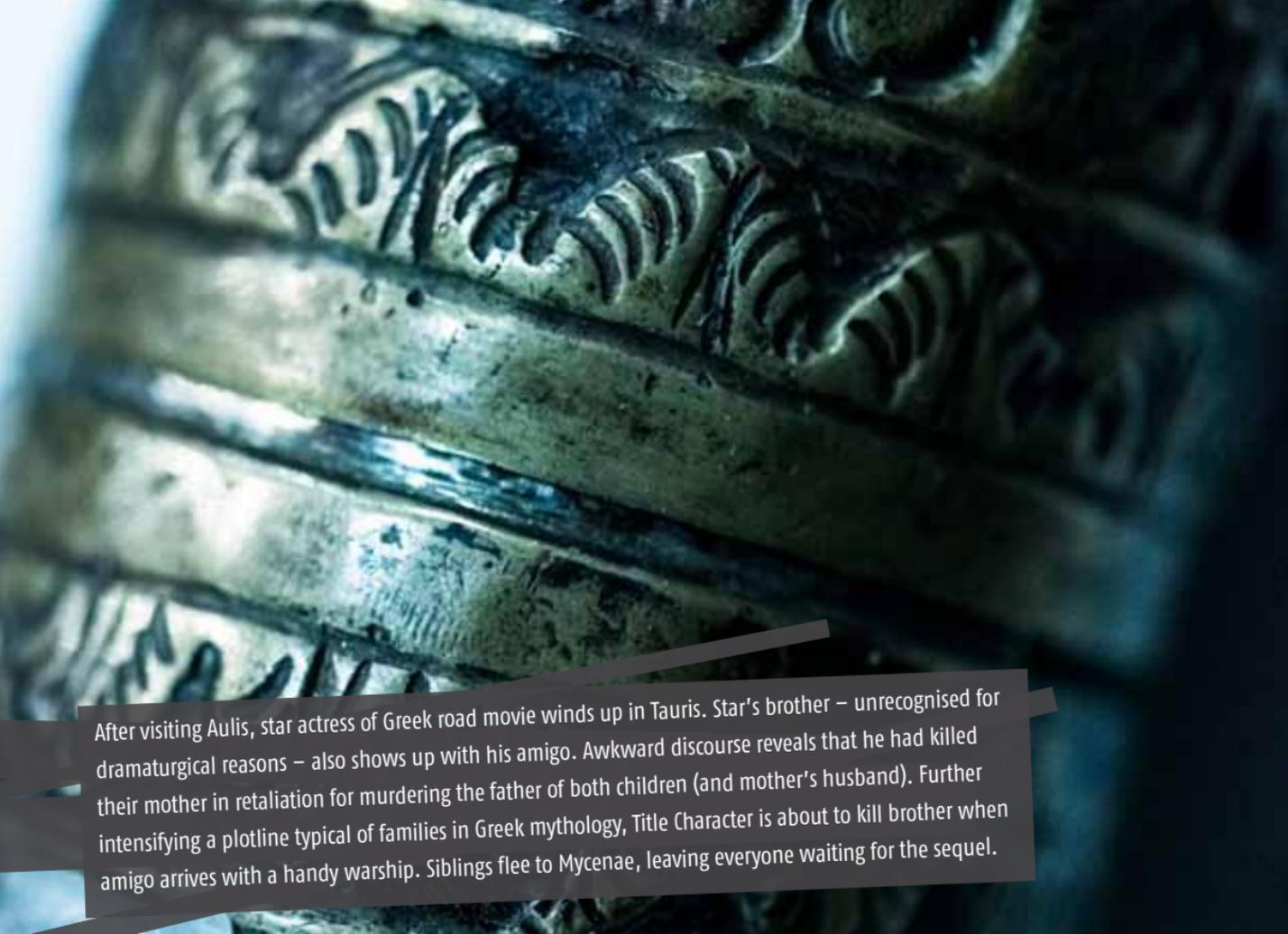
Costume designer ▶ **Judit Beda**

Director ▶ **Sándor Palcsó**

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 October 2014, Erkel Theatre



Romantically inclined young lady chooses soldier over regular lad, but latter refuses to give up and obtains a dosage of liquid from a pedlar of placebo potions. Once the effect wears off, he purchases another portion, which he can't pay for. Owing to his financial deficit, he joins the army, where his dashing good looks and charm stand him in good stead, until finally even the romantically inclined young lady is his, while the potion-pedlar departs happily. The ex-sweetheart does so less so.



Christoph Willibald Gluck–Richard Strauss

Iphigenie auf Tauris (Iphigenia in Tauris)

Iphigenia ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

Artemis ▶ **Gabi Gál**

Pylades ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Orestes ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Thoas ▶ **TBA**

Conductor ▶ **György Vashegyi**

Opera in two parts, in German with Hungarian and English surtitles

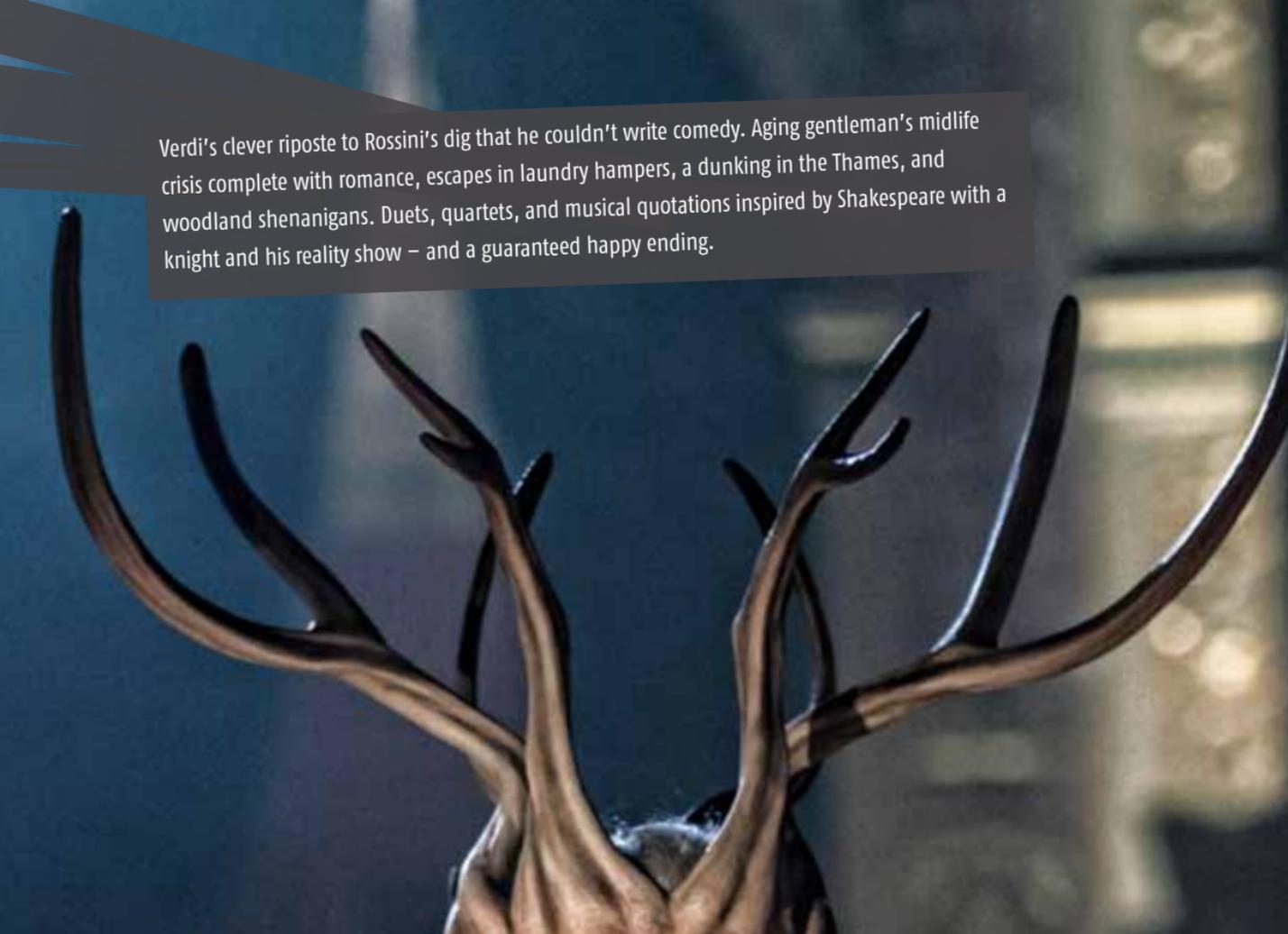
Set designer ▶ **Róbert Menczel**

Costume designer ▶ **Fruzsina Nagy**

Director ▶ **Róbert Alföldi**

3, 5, 9, 11 and 19 October 2014, Opera House

After visiting Aulis, star actress of Greek road movie winds up in Tauris. Star's brother – unrecognised for dramaturgical reasons – also shows up with his amigo. Awkward discourse reveals that he had killed their mother in retaliation for murdering the father of both children (and mother's husband). Further intensifying a plotline typical of families in Greek mythology, Title Character is about to kill brother when amigo arrives with a handy warship. Siblings flee to Mycenae, leaving everyone waiting for the sequel.



Verdi's clever riposte to Rossini's dig that he couldn't write comedy. Aging gentleman's midlife crisis complete with romance, escapes in laundry hampers, a dunking in the Thames, and woodland shenanigans. Duets, quartets, and musical quotations inspired by Shakespeare with a knight and his reality show – and a guaranteed happy ending.

Giuseppe Verdi

Falstaff

Falstaff ▶ **Alexandru Agache**

Ford ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen**

Fenton ▶ **Péter Balczó**

Cajus ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

Bardolf ▶ **Tamás Kóbor**

Pistol ▶ **Géza Gábor**

Alice ▶ **Beatrix Fodor**

Nannetta ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Quickly ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Meg Page ▶ **Erika Gál**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

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

Set and costume designer ▶ **Arnaud Bernard**

Costume co-designer ▶ **Dalma Závodszy**

Director ▶ **Arnaud Bernard**

17, 19 and 22 October, 4 and 8 November 2014, Opera House

Gaetano Donizetti

Lucia di Lammermoor

CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Lucia ▶ **Edita Gruberová**

Lord Enrico Ashton ▶ **Simone Piazzola**

Edgardo ▶ **Dario Schmunck**

Lord Arturo Bucklaw ▶ **Adorján Pataki**

Raimondo Bidebent ▶ **Péter Fried**

Alisa ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Conductor ▶ **Andriy Yurkevych**

Opera in three acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

27 October 2014, Erkel Theatre, FRICSAY100 Festival



Scottish tale of love and reckoning, in which Title Character is in love with the family's enemy. But, as a result of fatherly intrigues, she instead marries father's nominee. When sweetheart shows up, she sees off husband, then herself, leaving sweetheart little choice but to follow suit. Watch out for the sound of the magic flute: it means things are about to get worse.

Sándor Szokolay

Blood Wedding

The Mother ▶ **Andrea Meláth**

The Groom ▶ **Dániel Vadász**

The Neighbour ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Leonardo ▶ **Károly Szemerédy**

The Wife ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

The Mother-in-law ▶ **Mariann Bódi**

The Bride ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**

The Maid ▶ **Júlia Vajda**

The Father ▶ **László Szvétek**

The Best Man ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**

Woodcutters ▶ **Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, András Hábetler,
Balázs Hantos**

The Moon ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Death ▶ **Andrea Meláth**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian with English surtitles

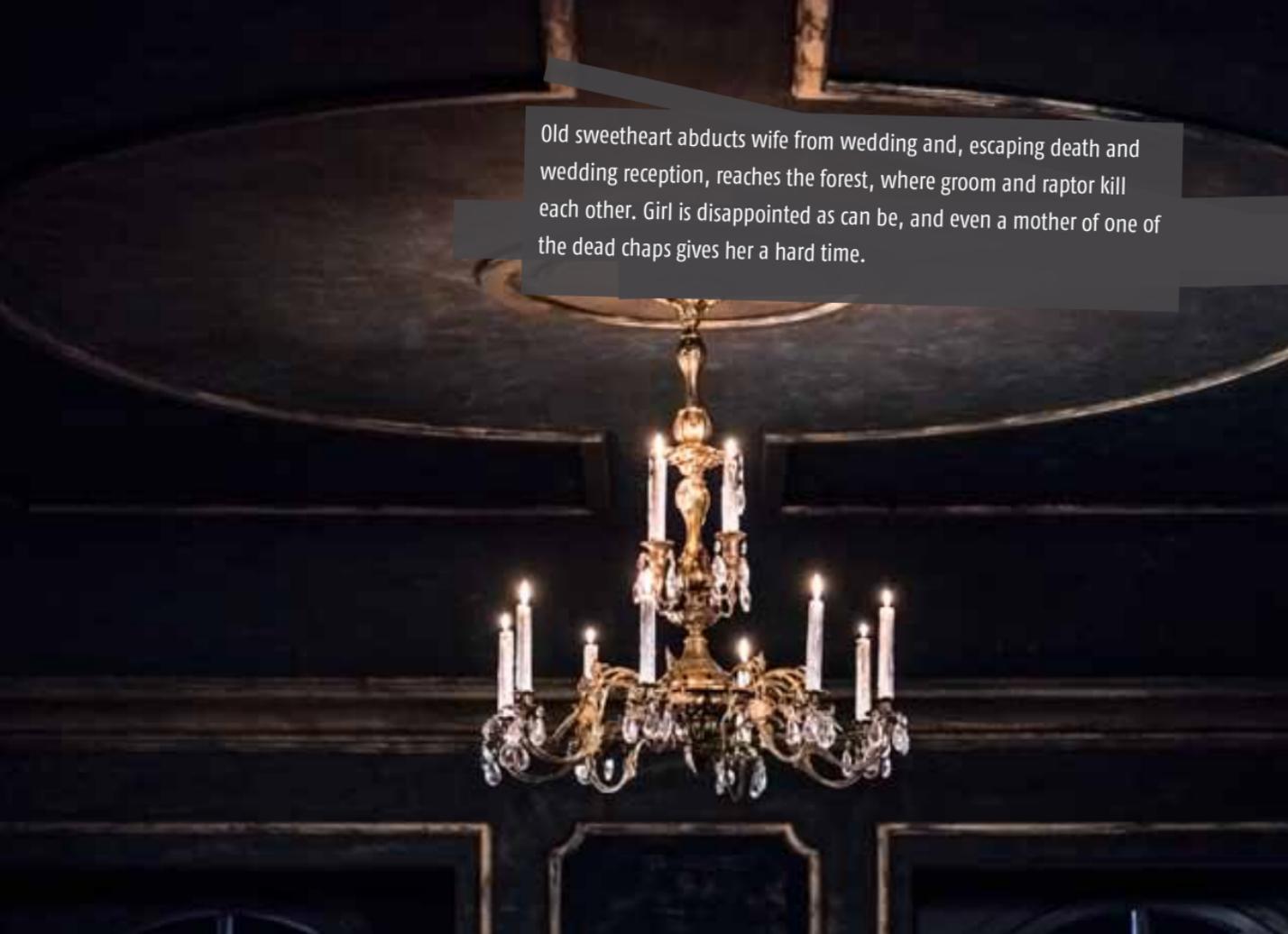
Choreographer ▶ **Gábor Horváth**

Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**

Costume designer ▶ **Márta Jánoskúti**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

7, 9, 11 and 13 November 2014, Erkel Theatre



Old sweetheart abducts wife from wedding and, escaping death and wedding reception, reaches the forest, where groom and raptor kill each other. Girl is disappointed as can be, and even a mother of one of the dead chaps gives her a hard time.

Richard Strauss

Die Frau ohne Schatten (The Woman without a Shadow)

The Emperor ▶ **István Kovácsházi**

The Empress ▶ **Eszter Sümegi**

The Nurse ▶ **Judit Németh**

The Messenger of Keikobad ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

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

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

The Voice of the Falcon ▶ **Erika Markovics**

A Voice from Above ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Barak, the Dyer ▶ **Heiko Trinsinger**

Barak's Wife ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

Barak's Brothers ▶ **Lajos Geiger, Ferenc Cserhalmi,
István Horváth**

Servants of the Empress ▶ **Ildikó Szakács, Bori Keszei,
Gabiella Balga**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

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

Set designer ▶ **Balázs Horesnyi**

Costume designer ▶ **Kati Zoób**

Director ▶ **János Szikora**

9, 12, 15 and 20 November 2014, Opera House

Spirit lady seeks surrogate mother on tight deadline, but turned-to-stone husband and devoured-by-the-earth surrogate parents impede success. Lots of murders are planned, but thwarted by supernatural means. The final reward for self-sacrifice is a shadow. Stone husband wakes up, surrogate parents are happy, and their unborn child sings an aria with accomplishment beyond its years in praise of the – in its view – positive denouement.

Giuseppe Verdi

Il trovatore (The Troubadour)

Count di Luna ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov**

Leonora ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Eszter Sümegi**

Ines ▶ **Erika Markovics, Lúcia Megyesi Schwartz**

Manrico ▶ **Hector Lopez Mendoza, Walter Fraccaro**

Azucena ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Bernadett Wiedemann**

Ferrando ▶ **Marcell Bakonyi, Krisztián Cser**

Ruiz ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

Conductor ▶ **János Kovács**

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

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**

Staged by ▶ **Sándor Palcsó**

Director ▶ **László Vámos**

16, 19, 21, 23, 28 and 30 November 2014, Opera House

Troubadour learns from putative mother that he's really not quite her son. Meanwhile, he is also in love with a princess, but, unfortunately for him, so is a count. They fight a duel as relations between them grow strained. Owing to Title Character's tardiness, his sweetheart plans to enter a convent, a scheme the anti-Count attempts to circumvent by abducting her, unsuccessfully. During the siege of the castle, nearly everyone dies for one reason or another, but not before anti-Count reveals he is really Title Character's elder brother.

Ferenc Erkel

Dózsa György

CONCERT PERFORMANCE, LIVE RECORDING

György Dózsa ▶ **Attila Fekete**

Lóra Csáki ▶ **Adrienn Miksch**

Rose ▶ **Beatrix Fodor**

Zápolya, Voivode in Transylvania ▶ **Béla Perencz**

Barna, a swain ▶ **Zsolt Molnár**

The Poet ▶ **Atala Schöck**

The Fortune-teller ▶ **Bernadett Wiedemann**

Bornemissza ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**

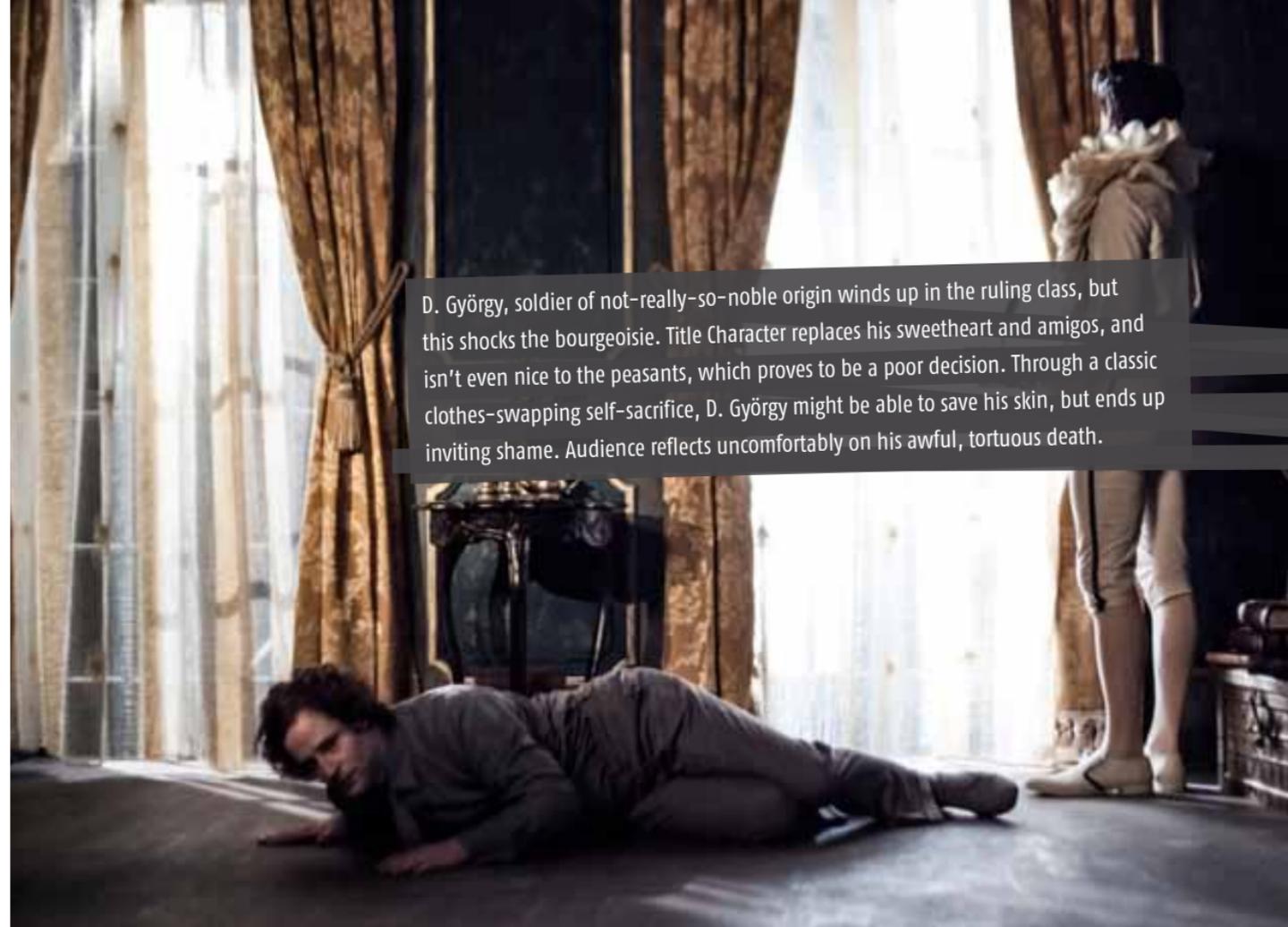
Ulászló II, Taylor Ambrus ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Monk Lőrinc, Bagos ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian with English surtitles

17 November 2014, Erkel Theatre



D. György, soldier of not-really-so-noble origin winds up in the ruling class, but this shocks the bourgeoisie. Title Character replaces his sweetheart and amigos, and isn't even nice to the peasants, which proves to be a poor decision. Through a classic clothes-swapping self-sacrifice, D. György might be able to save his skin, but ends up inviting shame. Audience reflects uncomfortably on his awful, tortuous death.

Richard Wagner

Tannhäuser

Hermann ▶ **Péter Fried**
Elisabeth, Venus ▶ **Csilla Boross**
Tannhäuser ▶ **Robert Dean Smith**
Wolfram ▶ **Mihály Kálmándi**
Walter ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**
Biterolf ▶ **Tamás Szüle**
Heinrich ▶ **Gergely Ujvári**
Reinmar ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**
A Young Shepherd ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

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

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**
Set designer ▶ **Sándor Kecskeméti, Péter Horgas**
Costume designer ▶ **Judit Schäffer**
Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

25, 27 and 29 November, 2 December 2014, Opera House



Song festival in 13th century Thuringia ends in tragedy. Title Character returning from life of hedonism wishes to cause ladyfriend further anguish. His composition proves so overwhelming that he goes to Rome to seek penance, where the response is not positive. Preparing return to life of hedonism, Title Character is redeemed by sweetheart's death, and then expires anyway.

Kacsóh Pongrác

Sir John

Sir John ▶ **Zoltán Nyári, Gergely Ujvári**

Iluska ▶ **Kinga Kriszta**

Bagó ▶ **Antal Cseh**

The Emperor of France ▶ **Péter Haumann**

The Daughter of the French Emperor ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**

The Stepmother ▶ **Magda Kalmár**

The Guard ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Ranger ▶ **Balázs Hantos**

Bartolo ▶ **Péter Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Máté Hátori**

Singspiel in three parts, in Hungarian
with Hungarian surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Andrea Merlo P., András Nadasdy**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Judit Beda**

Music revised by ▶ **Jenő Kenessey**

Director ▶ **Sándor Palcsó**

*28 and 30 November, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13 December 2014,
Erkel Theatre*



Title Character, thanks to his sweetheart's wicked stepmother, runs off to join the Hussars, with whom he achieves a string of considerable successes. On his return, he learns of the girl's death, whereupon, alerted by the rose growing from her ashes, he learns that Iluska has begun an illustrious career as a fairy queen. Title Character nearly accepts fairy kingship, but his homesickness prevails and Iluska eventually also abdicates her throne. They return to their native village, where only Bagó is sad, and has every reason to be. Based on the epic poem *János Vitéz*, written in 1845 by Hungary's national poet Sándor Petőfi.

Giacomo Puccini

La bohème

Rodolf ▶ **Teodor Ilincăi, Attila Fekete**

Schaunard ▶ **András Káldi Kiss, Zsolt Haja**

Marcello ▶ **Levente Molnár, Csaba Szegedi**

Colline ▶ **Marcell Bakonyi, Miklós Sebestyén**

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

Musetta ▶ **Bori Keszei, Mitileneou Cleo**

Benoit ▶ **András Hábetler**

Alcindor ▶ **Tamás Szüle**

Parpignol ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Paolo Carignani, Péter Halász**

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

Set designer ▶ **Gusztáv Oláh**

Costume designer ▶ **Tivadar Márk**

Staging, based on the direction of **Kálmán Nádasdy** ▶
Sándor Palcsó

4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 20, 26 and 28 December 2014, 4 and 11 January 2015, Opera House

Starving intellectual falls in love with consumptive seamstress. The intellectuals are so hungry that they abandon the only supper in the piece without paying. In third act, everybody breaks up with everybody else, but the consumptive seamstress becomes so consumptive that the previously cheerful intellectuals fall into a deep funk. The work's worldwide success resembled what happened when you had a lung complaint in the 1830s: nothing could be done to stop it.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart–Lackfi János

Little Magic Flute



Sarastro ▶ **Krisztián Cser, László Szvétek**
Tamino ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, Dániel Pataki P.**
The Queen of the Night ▶ **Rita Hertelendy, Ildikó Szakács**
Pamina ▶ **Zita Szemere, Bori Keszei**
Papageno ▶ **Zoltán Gradsach, András Hábetler**
Papagena ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**
Monostatos ▶ **Jenő Dékán, Gábor Csiki**
Ringmaster ▶ **Tamás Busa**

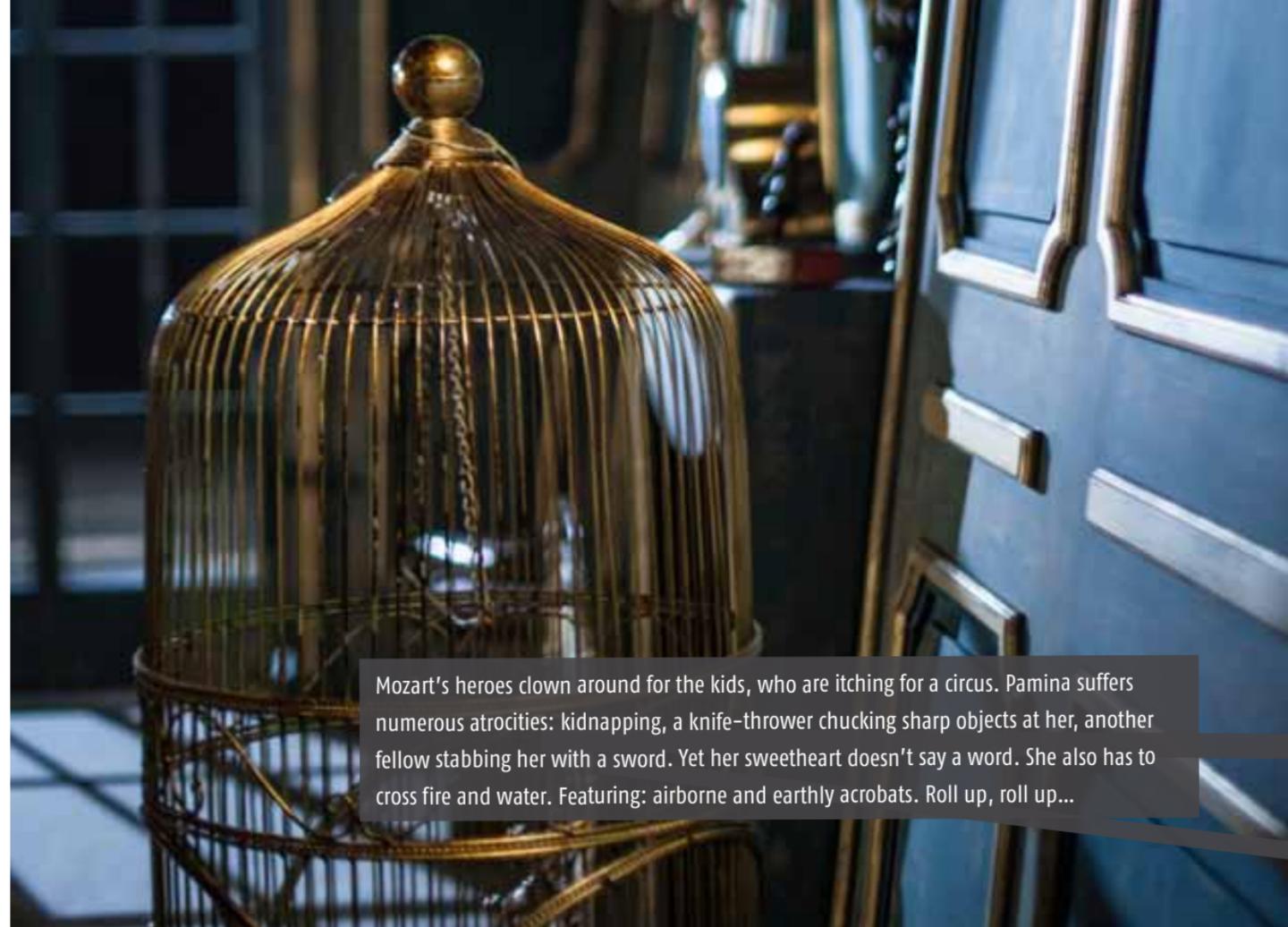
Conductor ▶ **Géza Köteles**

Fairy-tale singspiel with intermission for pretzels,
in Hungarian

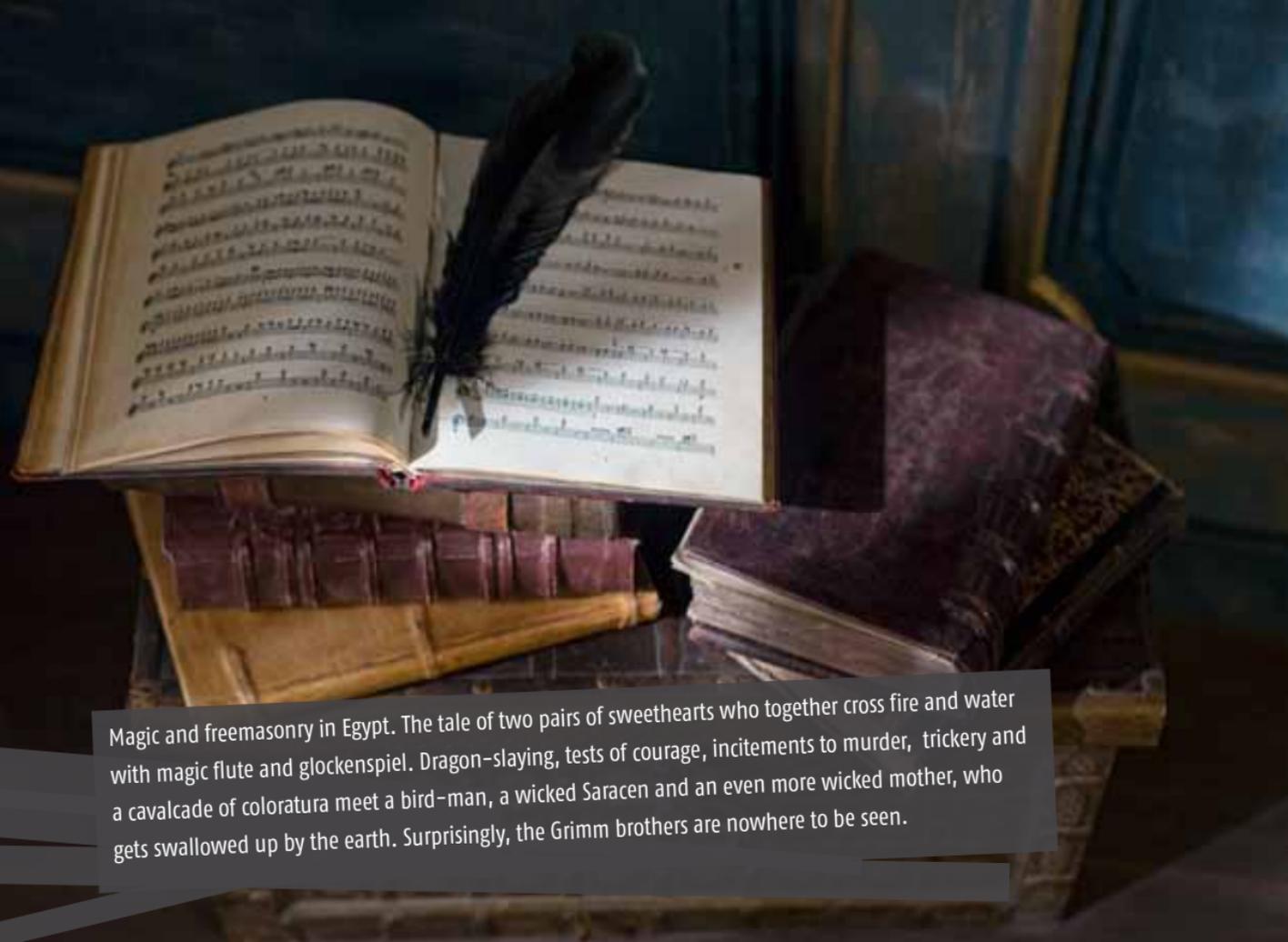
Music compiled by ▶ **Géza Köteles**
Libretto revised by ▶ **János Lackfi**
Set and costume designer ▶ **Katalin Juhász**
Director ▶ **Attila Toronykőy**

Partner ▶ **MACIVA**

*13, 20, 27 and 30 December 2014, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24 and 25
January 2015, Erkel Theatre*



Mozart's heroes clown around for the kids, who are itching for a circus. Pamina suffers numerous atrocities: kidnapping, a knife-thrower chucking sharp objects at her, another fellow stabbing her with a sword. Yet her sweetheart doesn't say a word. She also has to cross fire and water. Featuring: airborne and earthly acrobats. Roll up, roll up...



Magic and freemasonry in Egypt. The tale of two pairs of sweethearts who together cross fire and water with magic flute and glockenspiel. Dragon-slaying, tests of courage, incitements to murder, trickery and a cavalcade of coloratura meet a bird-man, a wicked Saracen and an even more wicked mother, who gets swallowed up by the earth. Surprisingly, the Grimm brothers are nowhere to be seen.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)

Sarastro ▶ **András Palerdi, István Kovács**
Tamino ▶ **Ottokár Klein, Szabolcs Brickner**
The Queen of the Night ▶ **Klára Kolonits**
Pamina ▶ **Júlia Hajnóczy Júlia, Orsolya Sáfár**
First Lady ▶ **Éva Bátori, Anikó Bakonyi**
Second Lady ▶ **Andrea Meláth, Gabriella Balga**
Third Lady ▶ **Erika Gál, Kornélia Bakos**
Old Priest ▶ **András Kiss, Kolos Kovács**
Young Priest ▶ **József Mukk, Tibor Szappanos**
First Armoured Man ▶ **Tamás Kóbor, Gábor Csiki**
Second Armoured Man ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi,
Szabolcs Hámori**
Papageno ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Róbert Rezsnyák**
Papagena ▶ **Ildikó Jakab, Gabriella Gál**
Monostatos ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, János Szerekován**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Madaras, János Kovács**

Singspiel in two acts, in Hungarian with English surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **András Nadasdy**

Set designer ▶ **Péter Horgas**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**

Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

*19, 23, 25, 27 and 30 December 2014, 3 and 4 January 2015,
Erkel Theatre*

Johann Strauss

Die Fledermaus (The Bat)

Eisenstein ▶ **István Kovácsházi, Zoltán Nyári**

Rosalinda ▶ **Klára Kolonits, Orsolya Hajnalka Róser**

Frank ▶ **Tamás Szüle, Sándor Egri**

Prince Orlofsky ▶ **Atala Schöck, Éva Várhelyi**

Alfred ▶ **Szabolcs Brickner**

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

Blind ▶ **József Mukk, István Rozsos**

Adele ▶ **Rita Rácz, Cecília Lloyd**

Yvan ▶ **Balázs Hantos**

Frosch ▶ **Péter Vida, Gábor Szirtes**

Ida ▶ **Andrea Tallós, Ottília Csengery**

Melanie ▶ **Zsuzsanna Fülöp**

Conductor ▶ **István Dénes**

Operetta in three acts in Hungarian with English and German surtitles

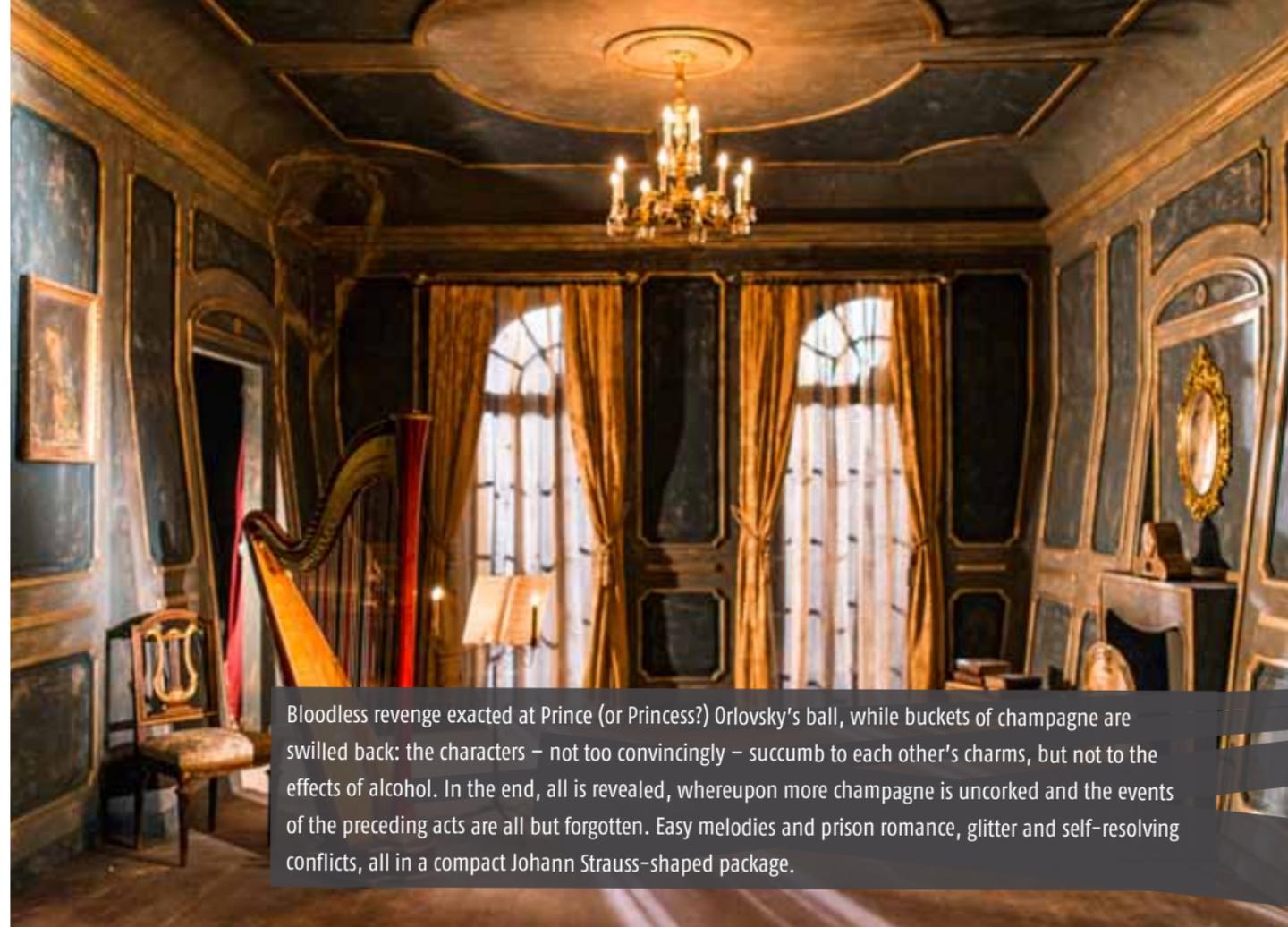
Choreographer ▶ **Jenő Lőcsei**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**

Director ▶ **Miklós Szinetár**

30 and 31 December 2014, 3 and 11 January 2015, Opera House



Bloodless revenge exacted at Prince (or Princess?) Orlovsky's ball, while buckets of champagne are swilled back: the characters – not too convincingly – succumb to each other's charms, but not to the effects of alcohol. In the end, all is revealed, whereupon more champagne is uncorked and the events of the preceding acts are all but forgotten. Easy melodies and prison romance, glitter and self-resolving conflicts, all in a compact Johann Strauss-shaped package.

Giacomo Puccini

Turandot

Turandot ▶ **Szilvia Rálik, Gyöngyi Lukács**

The Emperor Altoum ▶ **István Róka**

Timur ▶ **Kolos Kováts, István Rác**

Calaf ▶ **Attila Kiss B., János Bándi**

Liu ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Zita Váradi**

Ping ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen, Lajos Geiger**

Pang ▶ **István Horváth, László Beöthy-Kiss**

Pong ▶ **Péter Kiss**

Mandarin ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Conductor ▶ **Gergely Kesselyák**

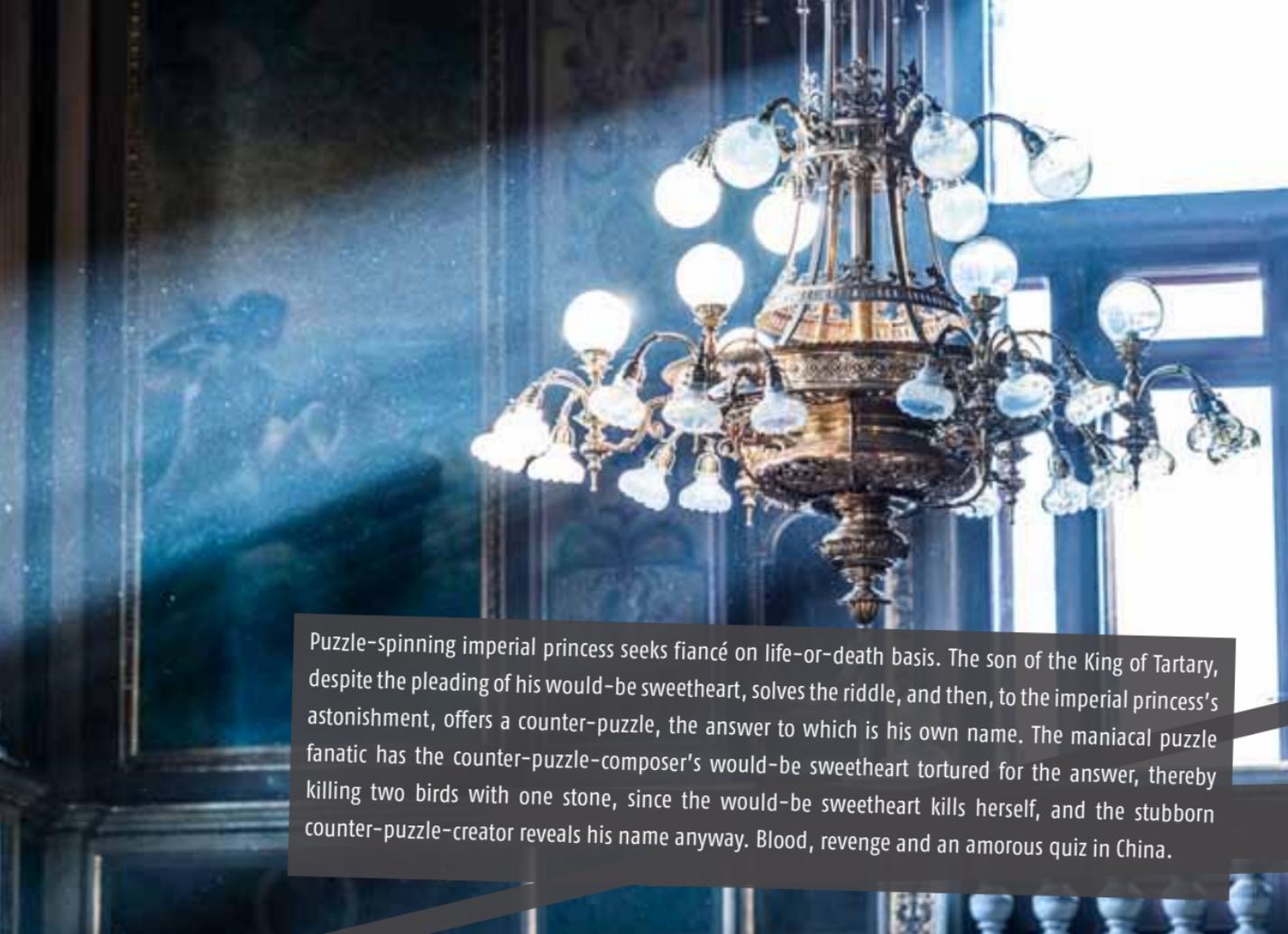
Opera in three acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**

Costume designer ▶ **Márta Jánoskuti**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

7, 9, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25 and 29 January 2015, Erkel Theatre



Puzzle-spinning imperial princess seeks fiancé on life-or-death basis. The son of the King of Tartary, despite the pleading of his would-be sweetheart, solves the riddle, and then, to the imperial princess's astonishment, offers a counter-puzzle, the answer to which is his own name. The maniacal puzzle fanatic has the counter-puzzle-composer's would-be sweetheart tortured for the answer, thereby killing two birds with one stone, since the would-be sweetheart kills herself, and the stubborn counter-puzzle-creator reveals his name anyway. Blood, revenge and an amorous quiz in China.

Giuseppe Verdi

Rigoletto

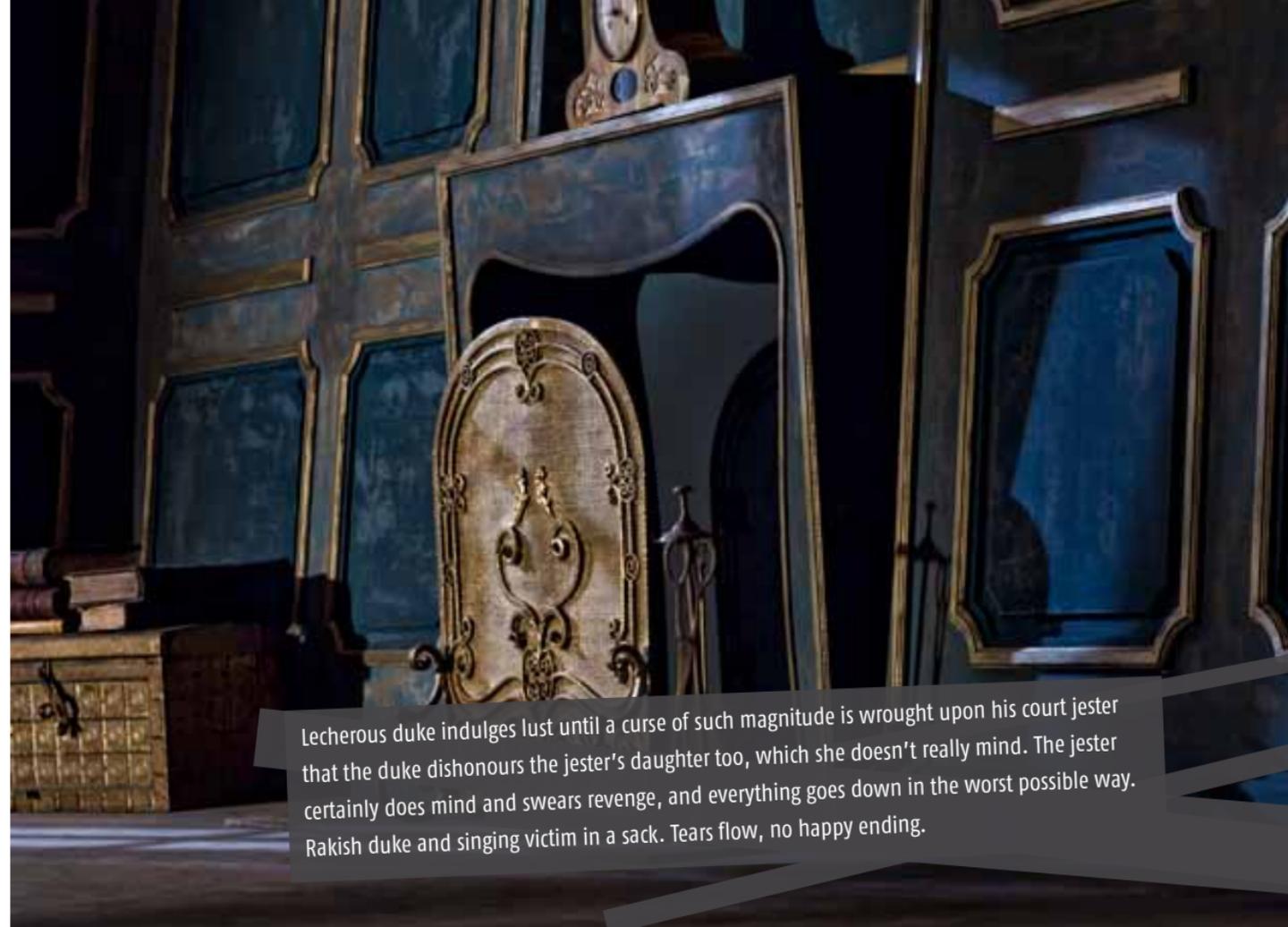
Duke of Mantua ▶ **Ivan Magri, Andrej Dunaev**
Rigoletto ▶ **Mihály Kálmándi, Alexandru Agache**
Gilda ▶ **Erika Miklósa, Rita Rác**
Sparafucile ▶ **Géza Gábor, Miklós Sebestyén**
Maddalena ▶ **Atala Schöck, Apollónia Szolnoki**
Count Monterone ▶ **Sándor Egri**
Marullo ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**
Borsa ▶ **Péter Kiss**
Count Ceprano ▶ **Tamás Szüle**
Giovanna ▶ **Katalin Gémes, Veronika Dobi-Kiss**
A Page ▶ **Eszter Zavaros**
A Court Usher ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász, Tamás Pál**

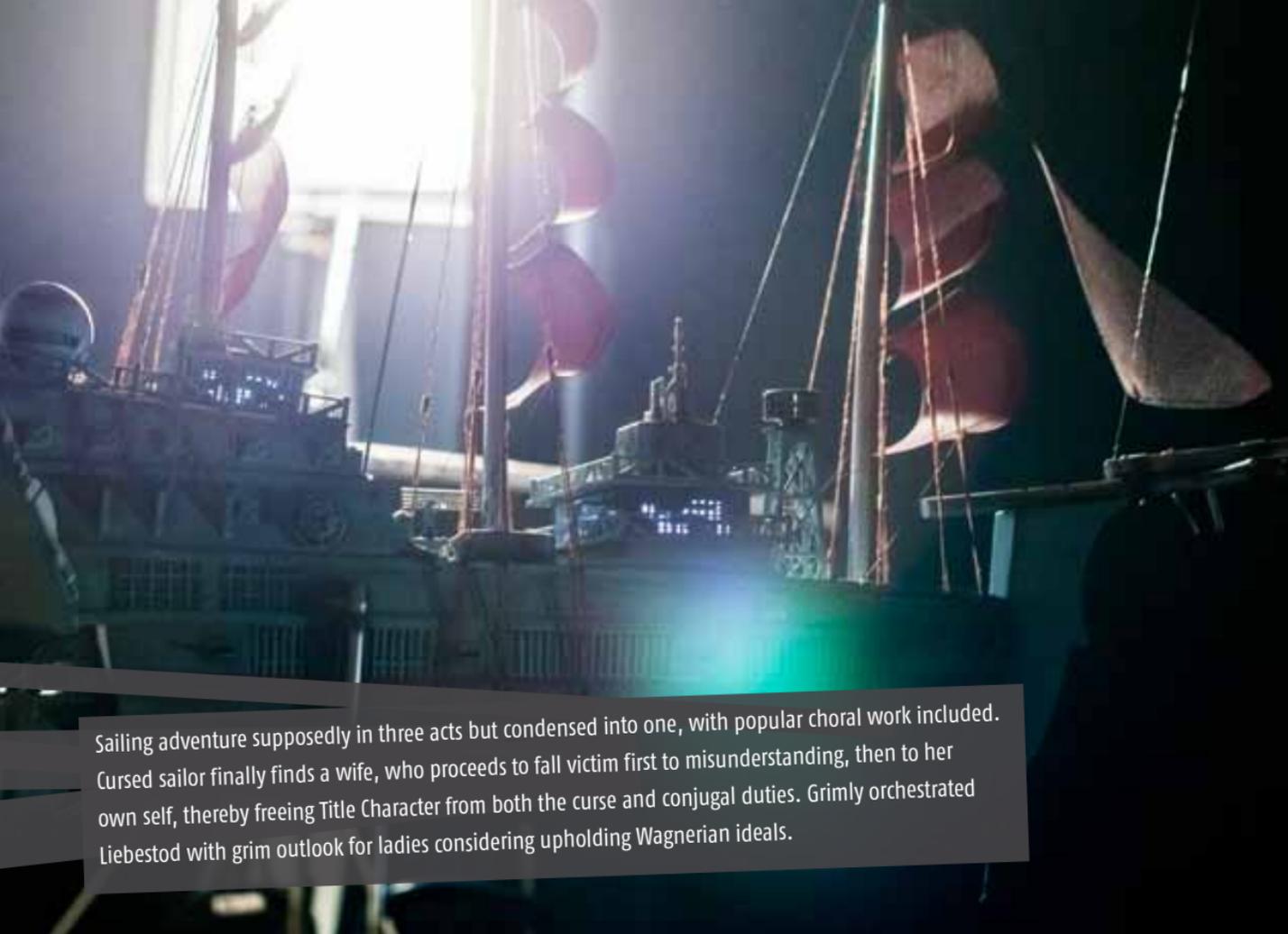
Opera in three acts, in Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Jenő Lócsei**
Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**
Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich**
Director ▶ **Mária Harangi, Miklós Szinetár**

14, 16, 18, 22, 24, 27 and 31 January 2015, Erkel Theatre



Lecherous duke indulges lust until a curse of such magnitude is wrought upon his court jester that the duke dishonours the jester's daughter too, which she doesn't really mind. The jester certainly does mind and swears revenge, and everything goes down in the worst possible way. Rakish duke and singing victim in a sack. Tears flow, no happy ending.



Sailing adventure supposedly in three acts but condensed into one, with popular choral work included. Cursed sailor finally finds a wife, who proceeds to fall victim first to misunderstanding, then to her own self, thereby freeing Title Character from both the curse and conjugal duties. Grimly orchestrated Liebestod with grim outlook for ladies considering upholding Wagnerian ideals.

Richard Wagner

Der fliegende Holländer (The Flying Dutchman)

Donald (Daland) ▶ **András Palerdi**
Senta ▶ **Eszter Sümegi, Gyöngyi Lukács**
Georg (Eric) ▶ **Attila Fekete**
Mary ▶ **Éva Balatoni**
Steersman ▶ **István Horváth**
The Dutchman ▶ **Mihály Kálmándi**

Opera in one act, in German with Hungarian and English surtitles (original 1841 version)

Set designer ▶ **Éva Szendrényi**
Costume designer ▶ **Krisztina Berzsenyi**
Director ▶ **János Szikora**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea**

28 and 30 January, 1, 3, 5 and 7 February 2015, Opera House



American naval lieutenant marries Japanese geisha, gets her pregnant and abandons her to her fate. He returns after a slight delay with his American wife to fetch the kid, for which the stubborn Japanese wife, with unthinkable impudence, thanks him by killing herself.

Giacomo Puccini

Madama Butterfly

Madama Butterfly ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss, Andrea Rost**

Suzuki ▶ **Andrea Ulbrich, Katalin Gémes**

Kate ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Pinkerton ▶ **Boldizsár László**

Sharpless ▶ **Béla Perencz, Tamás Busa**

Goro ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi, Gergely Boncsér**

Yamadori ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák, Lajos Geiger**

Bonzo ▶ **Sándor Egri**

The Imperial Commissioner ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Conductor ▶ **TBA**

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

Set designer ▶ **Kentaur**

Costume designer ▶ **Ilona Vágvölgyi**

Director ▶ **Miklós Gábor Kerényi**

4, 10, 18, 20, 22 and 25 February 2015, Opera House

Giuseppe Verdi

Otello

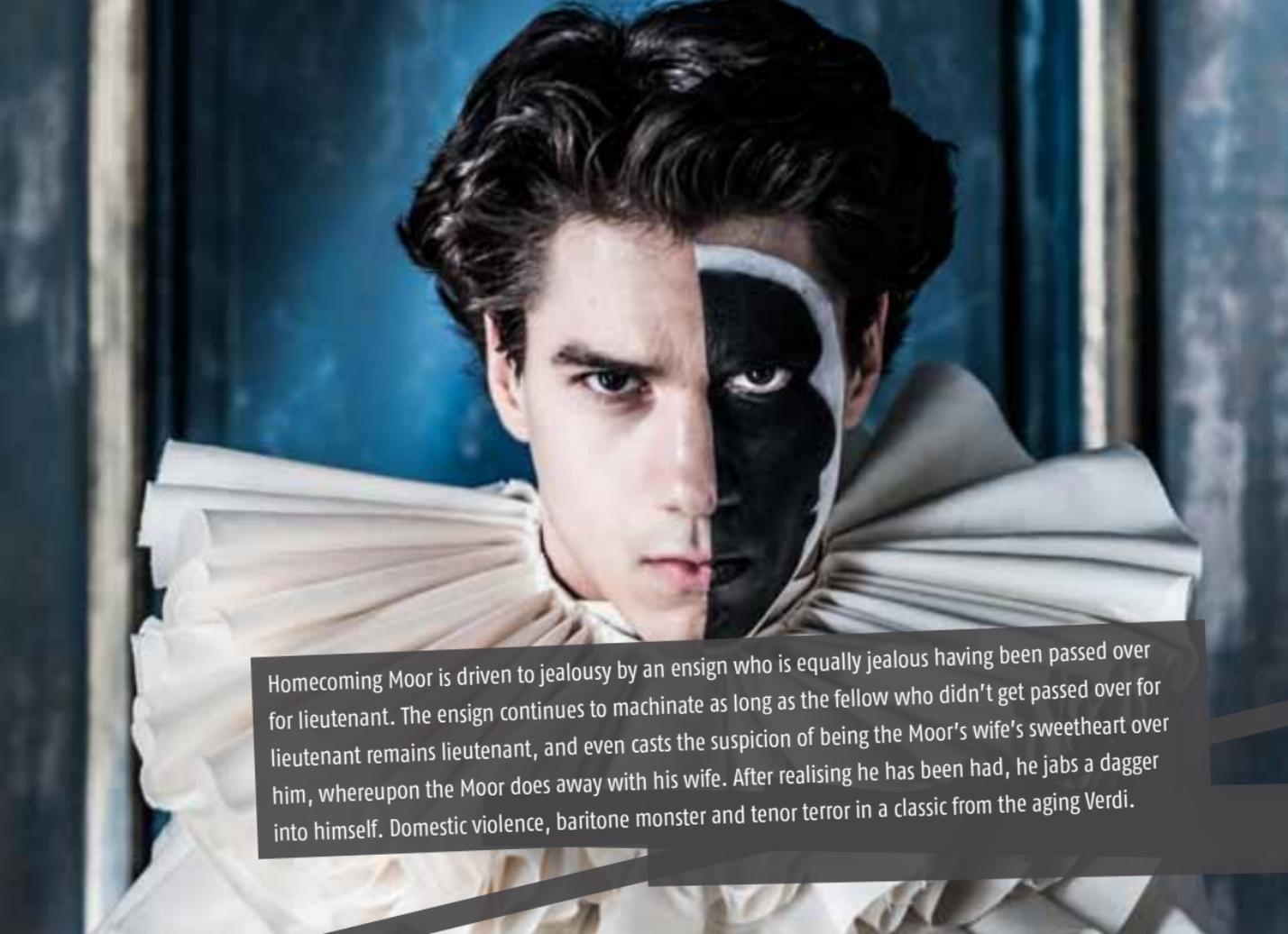
Otello ▶ **José Cura, Marco Berti**
Desdemona ▶ **Polina Pasztircsák**
Iago ▶ **Anatoly Fokanov**
Emilia ▶ **Veronika Dobi-Kiss**
Cassio ▶ **Zoltán Nyári**
Roderigo ▶ **Gergely Boncsér**
Montano ▶ **Sándor Egri**
Lodovico ▶ **Ferenc Cserhalmi**
Herold ▶ **Géza Zsigmond**

Conductor ▶ **Marco Comin**

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

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**
Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**
Staged by ▶ **Sándor Palcsó**
Director ▶ **László Vámos**

8, 11, 19 and 21 February 2015, Opera House



Homecoming Moor is driven to jealousy by an ensign who is equally jealous having been passed over for lieutenant. The ensign continues to machinate as long as the fellow who didn't get passed over for lieutenant remains lieutenant, and even casts the suspicion of being the Moor's wife's sweetheart over him, whereupon the Moor does away with his wife. After realising he has been had, he jabs a dagger into himself. Domestic violence, baritone monster and tenor terror in a classic from the aging Verdi.



Four adventures bearing little resemblance to reality during the Napoleonic Wars, all based on folk music and presented by an old veteran. Title Character sacrifices career for sweetheart, choosing Örzse and the provincialism of Nagyabony over the Imperial Palace in Vienna (which you did not need a ticket to see back then).

Zoltán Kodály

Háry János

Háry János ▶ **Zsolt Haja, Antal Cseh**

Old Háry ▶ **László Csurka**

Örzse ▶ **Erika Gál, Atala Schöck**

Emperor Franz / Judge ▶ **Tamás Szalma**

The Empress ▶ **Mária Farkasréti, Zita Váradi**

Napoleon / The Innkeeper ▶ **András Hábetler,
Zoltán Bátki Fazekas**

Marie Louise ▶ **Erika Markovics, Éva Várhelyi**

Baron Ebelasztin ▶ **János Szerekován, Jenő Dékán**

Old Marci ▶ **László Szvétek, Gábor Németh**

A Student ▶ **Bence Mátyássy**

Burkus, a guard ▶ **Dénes Farkas**

General Krucifix ▶ **Dávid Szatory**

A Hungarian Guard ▶ **Tibor Fehér**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

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

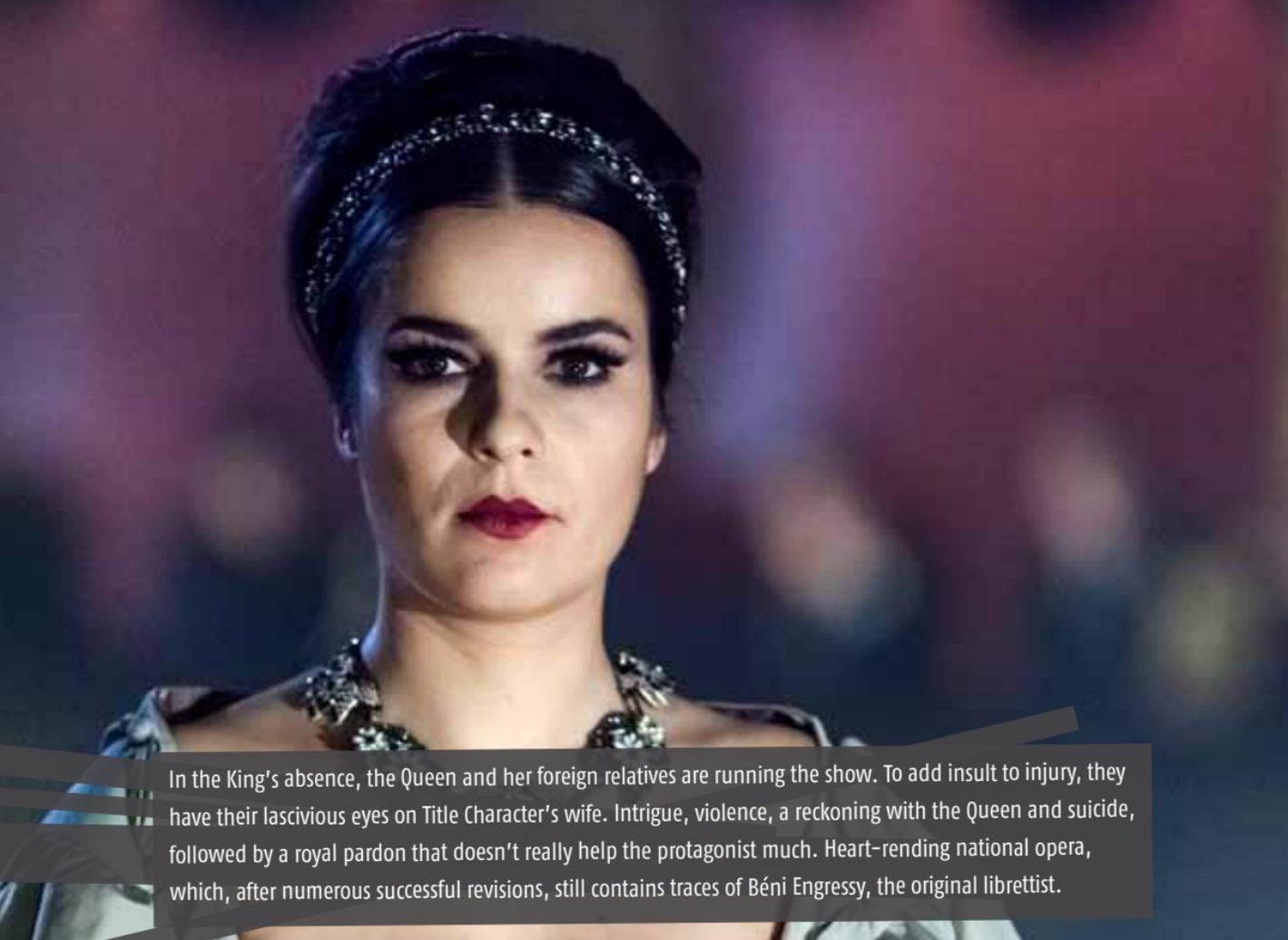
Choreographer ▶ **Péter Gemza**

Set designer ▶ **Olekszandr Bilozub**

Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**

Director ▶ **Attila Vidnyánszky**

12, 14, 15, 17, 19 and 21 February 2015, Erkel Theatre



In the King's absence, the Queen and her foreign relatives are running the show. To add insult to injury, they have their lascivious eyes on Title Character's wife. Intrigue, violence, a reckoning with the Queen and suicide, followed by a royal pardon that doesn't really help the protagonist much. Heart-rending national opera, which, after numerous successful revisions, still contains traces of Béni Engressy, the original librettist.

Ferenc Erkel

Bánk bán

Endre II ▶ **István Berczelly**
Gertrude ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács**
Ottó ▶ **Zoltán Nyári**
Bánk bán ▶ **Attila Kiss B.**
Melinda ▶ **Ingrid Kertesi**
Tiborc ▶ **Alexandru Agache**
Petur bán ▶ **Béla Perencz**
Biberach ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**
A Royal Officer ▶ **János Martin**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian with English surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Zoltán Farkas „Batyú”**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Rita Velich Rita**

Director ▶ **Csaba Káel**

26 February, 4, 10, 14 and 22 March 2015, Opera House

Ferenc Erkel

Hunyadi László

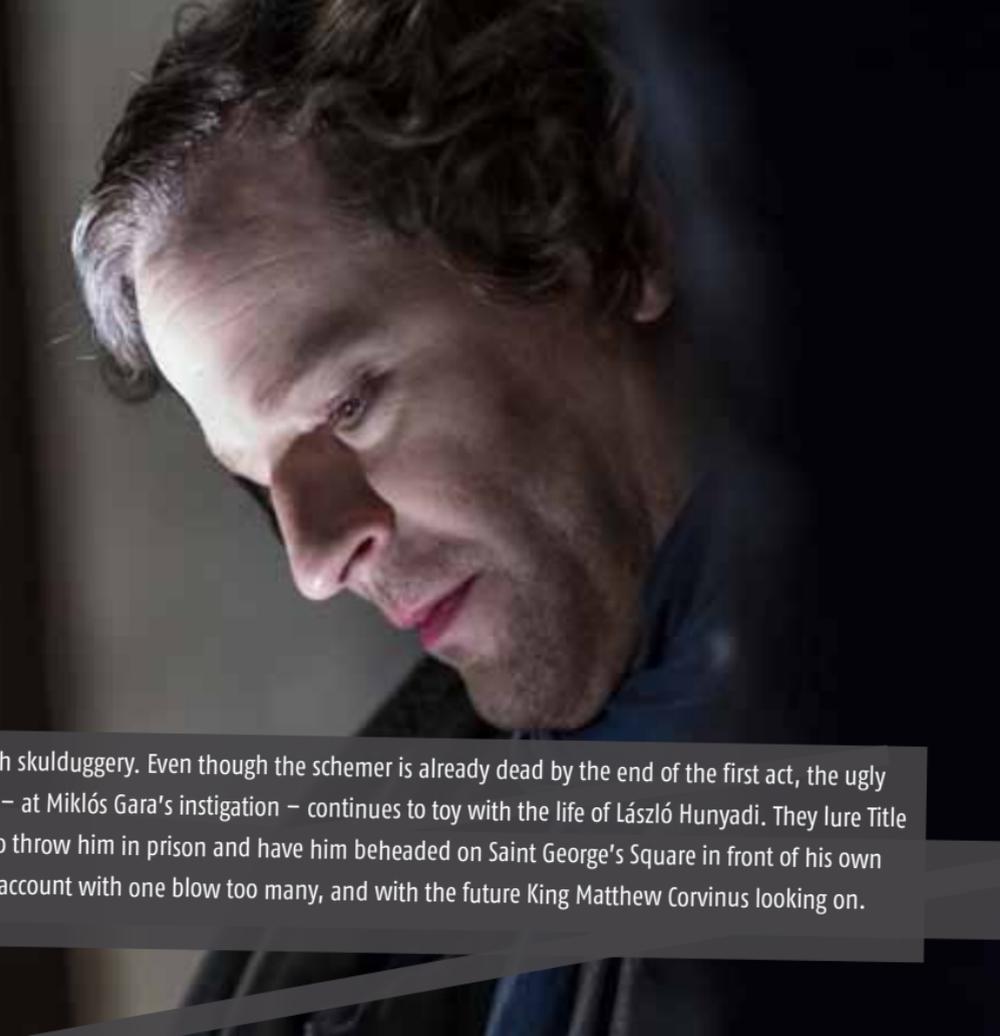
László V ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**
Ulrik Cillei ▶ **Krisztián Cser**
Erzsébet Szilágyi ▶ **Klára Kolonits**
László Hunyadi ▶ **Attila Fekete**
Mátyás Hunyadi ▶ **Kriszta Simon**
Miklós Gara ▶ **Zoltán Kelemen**
Mária Gara ▶ **Kinga Kriszta**
Mihály Szilágyi ▶ **Sándor Egri**
Rozgonyi ▶ **András Káldi Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Balázs Kocsár**

Opera in three acts, in Hungarian with English surtitles

Choreographer ▶ **Gergely Csanád Kováts**
Set designer ▶ **Katalin Libor**
Costume designer ▶ **Enikő Kárpáti**
Director's associate ▶ **Csaba Vasvári**
Director ▶ **Gábor Szűcs**

28 February, 3, 11, 13 and 15 March 2015, Opera House



National opera replete with skulduggery. Even though the schemer is already dead by the end of the first act, the ugly feud continues as László V – at Miklós Gara's instigation – continues to toy with the life of László Hunyadi. They lure Title Character to a feast, only to throw him in prison and have him beheaded on Saint George's Square in front of his own mother. A blow-by-blow account with one blow too many, and with the future King Matthew Corvinus looking on.

Giuseppe Verdi

Luisa Miller

Luisa ▶ Klára Kolonits

Federica ▶ Katalin Károlyi

Laura ▶ Orsolya Veress

Rodolfo ▶ Adorján Pataki

Miller ▶ Tamás Busa

Count Walter ▶ István Kovács

Wurm ▶ János Szilágyi

Set designer ▶ Csaba Csíki

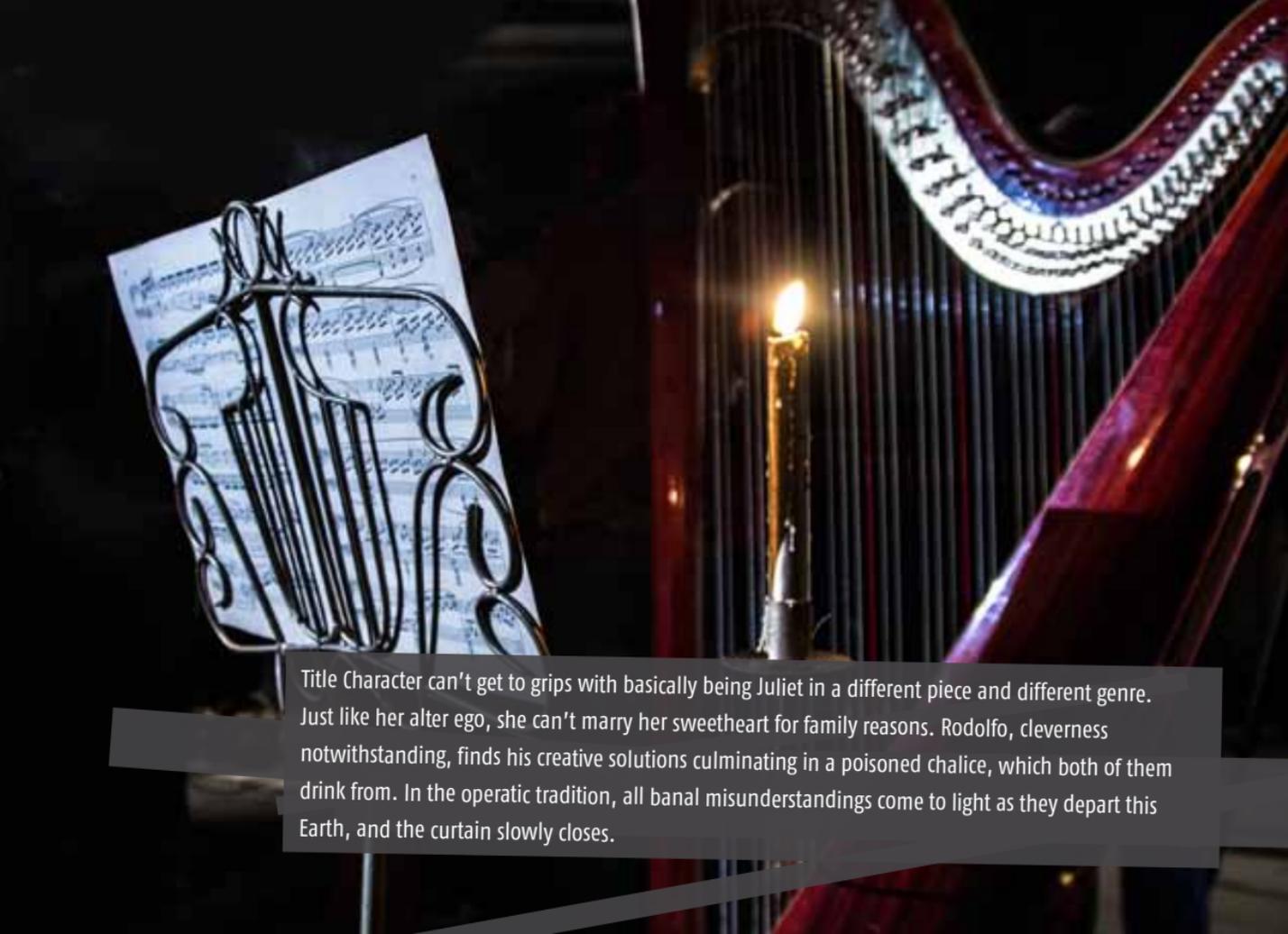
Costume designer ▶ Zsuzsa Kiss

Director ▶ Artur Szóts

Partner ▶ Hungarian Opera of Kolozsvár

Artistic concept, conductor ▶ György Selmeczi

6 and 8 March 2015, Erkel Theatre



Title Character can't get to grips with basically being Juliet in a different piece and different genre. Just like her alter ego, she can't marry her sweetheart for family reasons. Rodolfo, cleverness notwithstanding, finds his creative solutions culminating in a poisoned chalice, which both of them drink from. In the operatic tradition, all banal misunderstandings come to light as they depart this Earth, and the curtain slowly closes.



Disguised count repeatedly attempts romantically inspired incursions into the house of respected doctor, who has his own designs on the girl, his ward. The abduction attempt, which is unsuccessful despite the assistance of a crafty barber, ultimately results in a wedding. That feeling you get from a "Best of Opera" CD!

Gioacchino Rossini

Il barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville)

Count Almaviva ▶ **Ottokár Klein**

Bartolo ▶ **Fokanov Anatolij**

Rosina ▶ **Zsófia Kálnay, Gabriella Balga**

Figaro ▶ **Zsolt Haja**

Basilio ▶ **András Pallerdi, Kolos Kováts**

Berta ▶ **Éva Balatoni, Katalin Gémes**

Fiorello ▶ **Lajos Geiger**

Officer ▶ **Gábor Németh**

Conductor ▶ **Stefan Soltesz, Roland Böer,
Massimo Taddia**

Comic opera in two acts, in Italian
with Hungarian surtitles

Set designer ▶ **László Székely**

Costume designer ▶ **Marianna Wieber**

Staging, based on the directing of András Békés ▶
Balázs Kovalik

7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21 and 25 March 2015, Erkel Theatre

Richard Strauss

Ariadne auf Naxos (Ariadne on Naxos) _____

The Major-Domo ▶ **Franz Tscherne**

The Music Master ▶ **Tamás Busa**

The Composer ▶ **Viktória Vizin**

The Tenor, Bacchus ▶ **István Kovácsházi**

The Dancing Master ▶ **Zoltán Megyesi**

The Wigmaker ▶ **Róbert Rezsnyák**

A Lackey ▶ **Tamás Szüle**

Zerbinetta ▶ **Erika Miklósa**

The Prima Donna, Ariadne ▶ **Tünde Szabóki**

Harlequin ▶ **Csaba Szegedi**

Scaramuccio ▶ **Dániel Vadász**

Truffaldin ▶ **Krisztián Cser**

Brighella ▶ **István Horváth**

Naiad ▶ **Zita Váradi**

Dryad ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Echo ▶ **Eszter Wierdl**

Conductor ▶ **Domonkos Héja**

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

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Gergely Zöldy Z**

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger**

20, 22, 27 and 29 March 2015, Opera House

Viennese gentleman orders up two musical ensembles for his birthday, but the fireworks must start promptly at 9, so the first mash-up in history is born: an opera buffa performed simultaneously with an opera seria. This opera cuvée is equally rich in acids and residual sugars. Ariadne prepares to journey to the underworld, where she runs into Bacchus, and they fall for each other. An opera within an opera at the Opera.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Don Giovanni

Don Giovanni ▶ **Levente Molnár**
The Commendatore ▶ **Péter Fried**
Donna Anna ▶ **Anikó Bakonyi**
Don Ottavio ▶ **Tibor Szappanos**
Donna Elvira ▶ **Beatrix Fodor**
Leporello ▶ **András Pallerdi**
Masetto ▶ **Antal Cseh**
Zerlina ▶ **Zita Szemere**

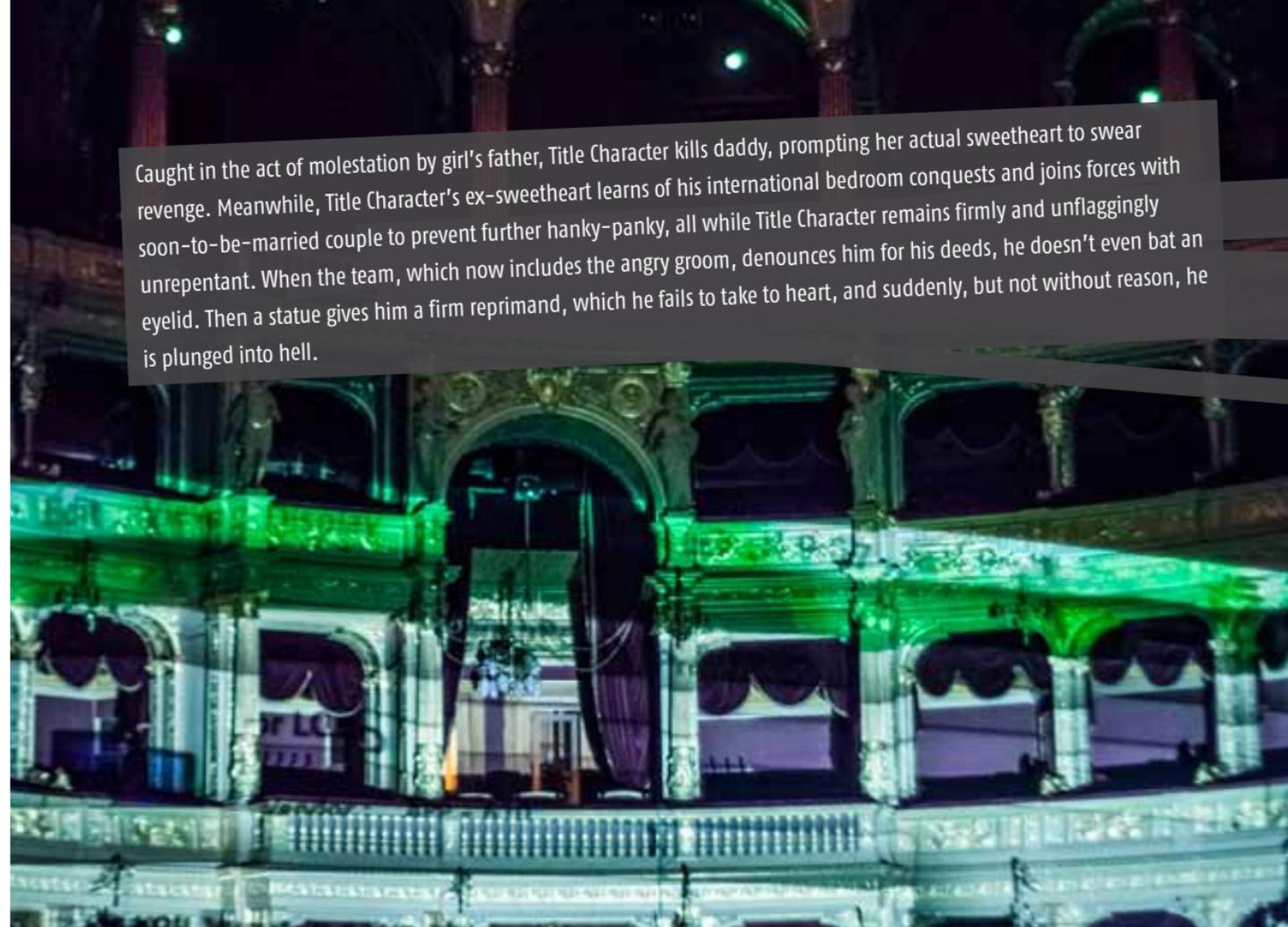
Conductor ▶ **Gábor Káli**

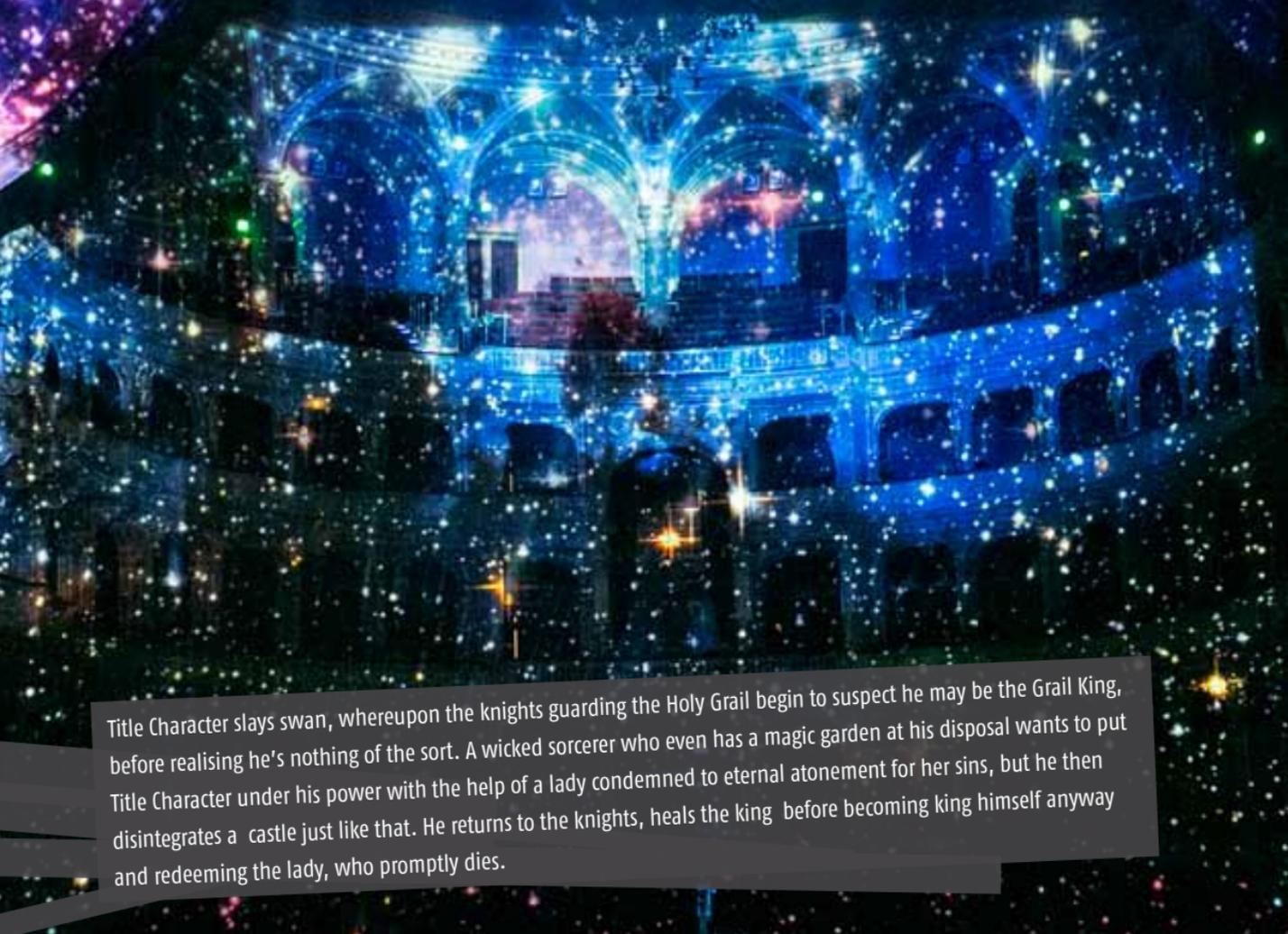
Opera in two acts, in Italian with Hungarian
and English surtitles

Set and costume designer ▶ **Nana Cecchi**
Director ▶ **Gianfranco de Bosio**

20, 22, 24 and 26 March 2015, Opera House

Caught in the act of molestation by girl's father, Title Character kills daddy, prompting her actual sweetheart to swear revenge. Meanwhile, Title Character's ex-sweetheart learns of his international bedroom conquests and joins forces with soon-to-be-married couple to prevent further hanky-panky, all while Title Character remains firmly and unflinchingly unrepentant. When the team, which now includes the angry groom, denounces him for his deeds, he doesn't even bat an eyelid. Then a statue gives him a firm reprimand, which he fails to take to heart, and suddenly, but not without reason, he is plunged into hell.





Title Character slays swan, whereupon the knights guarding the Holy Grail begin to suspect he may be the Grail King, before realising he's nothing of the sort. A wicked sorcerer who even has a magic garden at his disposal wants to put Title Character under his power with the help of a lady condemned to eternal atonement for her sins, but he then disintegrates a castle just like that. He returns to the knights, heals the king before becoming king himself anyway and redeeming the lady, who promptly dies.

Richard Wagner

Parsifal

Amfortas ▶ **Levente Molnár**

Titirel ▶ **István Kovács**

Gurnemanz ▶ **TBA**

Parsifal ▶ **István Kovácsházi**

Klingsor ▶ **Sándor Egri**

Kundry ▶ **Judit Németh**

Grail Knights ▶ **Péter Kiss, Lajos Geiger**

Pages ▶ **Erika Markovics, Kriszta Simon,
István Horváth, János Szerekován**

Flower Maidens ▶ **Zita Váradi, Kinga Kriszta,
Kriszta Simon, Gabriella Gál,
Tímea Balog, Éva Várhelyi**

Voice from Above ▶ **Atala Schöck**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea**

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

Choreographer ▶ **Géza Seregi,**
modernised by **Péter László**

Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**

Costume designer ▶ **Péter Makai**

Staged by ▶ **Nina Dudek**

Director ▶ **András Mikó**

3 and 6 April 2015, Opera House

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Il nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro) _____

Count Almaviva ▶ **Levente Molnár, Csaba Szegedi**

The Countess ▶ **Andrea Rost, Tünde Szabóki**

Susanna ▶ **Rita Rácz, Júlia Hajnóczy**

Figaro ▶ **Krisztián Cser, András Pallerdi**

Bartolo ▶ **Géza Gábor, Tamás Szüle**

Marcellina ▶ **Éva Balatoni, Mária Temesi**

Basilio ▶ **András Hajdu, Gábor Csiki**

Cherubino ▶ **Gabriella Balga, Zsófia Kálnay**

Antonio ▶ **András Kiss**

Barbarina ▶ **Eszter Zavaros, Ildikó Jakab**

Don Curzio ▶ **László Beöthy-Kiss, Péter Kiss**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász, János Kovács**

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

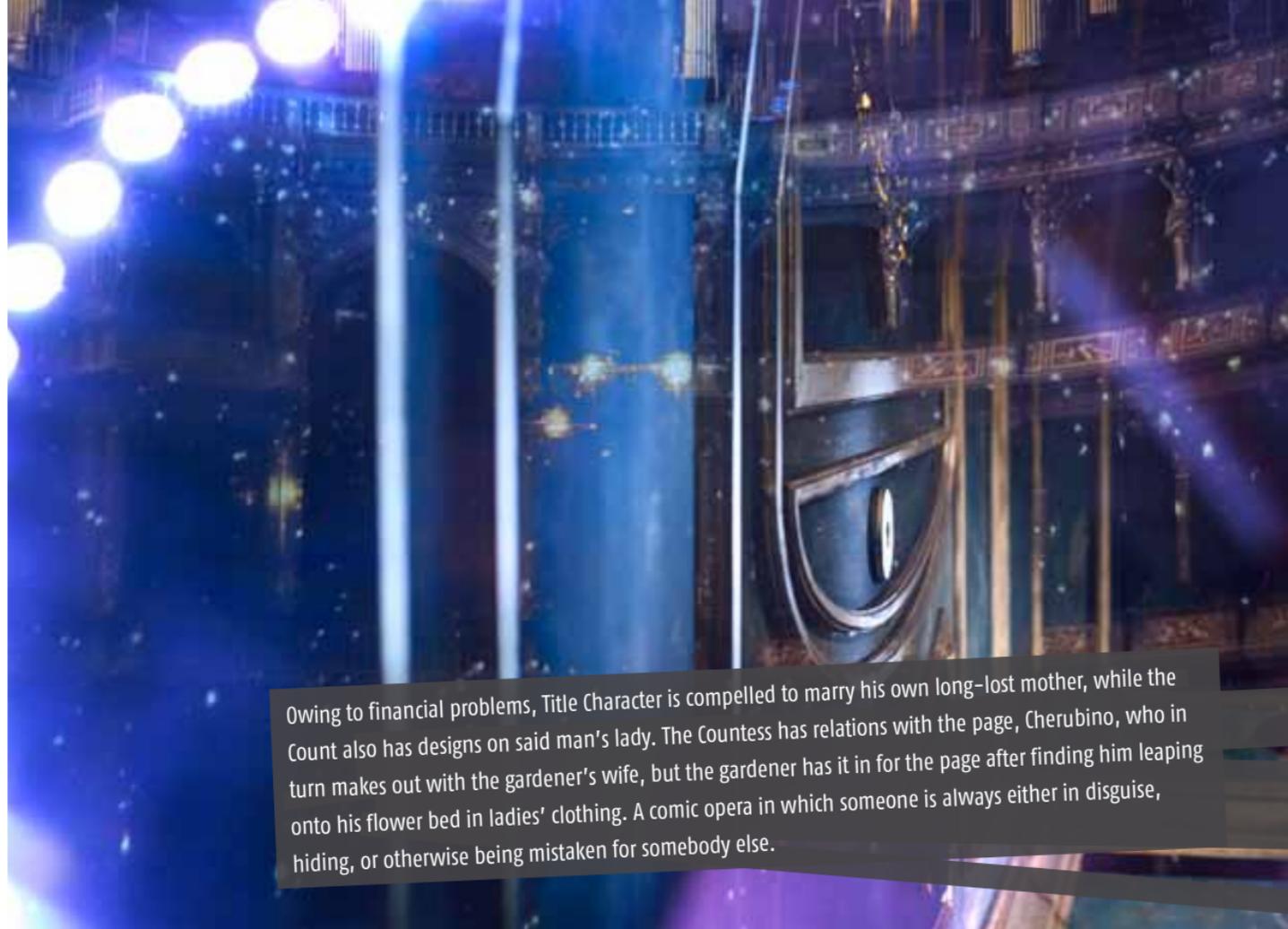
Choreographer ▶ **András Nádasy**

Set designer ▶ **Attila Csikós**

Costume designer ▶ **Nelly Vágó**

Director ▶ **Judit Galgóczy**

10, 12, 17, 19 and 22 April, 3, 6, 8 and 10 May 2015, Opera House



Owing to financial problems, Title Character is compelled to marry his own long-lost mother, while the Count also has designs on said man's lady. The Countess has relations with the page, Cherubino, who in turn makes out with the gardener's wife, but the gardener has it in for the page after finding him leaping onto his flower bed in ladies' clothing. A comic opera in which someone is always either in disguise, hiding, or otherwise being mistaken for somebody else.

Leoš Janáček

Jenůfa

Widow of the Churchwarden ▶ **Éva Balatoni**

Laca ▶ **János Bándi**

Steva Buryja ▶ **Atilla Kiss B.**

Grandmother Burjovka ▶ **Gyöngyi Lukács**

Jenůfa ▶ **Szilvia Rálik**

The Old Mill Foreman ▶ **Gábor Bretz**

Mayor ▶ **László Szvétek**

Mayor's Wife ▶ **Katalin Gémes**

Karolka ▶ **Krisztina Simon**

Neighbour ▶ **Éva Várhelyi**

Barena ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Janó ▶ **Kinga Kriszta**

Conductor ▶ **Graeme Jenkins**

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

Choreographer ▶ **András Nadasdy**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Olekszandr Bilozub**

Director ▶ **Attila Vidnyánszky**

18, 21, 23 and 26 April 2015, Opera House

Stepdaughter is pregnant by cousin, who chooses instead the judge's daughter, while other boy, who is in love with stepdaughter, prefers to butcher stepdaughter's face. To ensure future happiness, stepmother drowns stepdaughter's child in brook. Child is later discovered, although murderer does appear to have credible explanation. Son with knife embraces stepdaughter at finale. Slavic story with much sorrow.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Die Entführung aus dem Serail (Abduction from the Seraglio)

OPERA ADVENTURE

Selim Pasha ▶ Zoltán Rátóti, András Hábetler

Constanza ▶ Erika Miklósa, Orsolya Hajnalka Róser,
Klára Kolonits, Ildikó Szakács

Blonde ▶ Rita Rácz, Kinga Kriszta, Zita Szemere,
Orsolya Sáfár

Belmonte ▶ István Horváth, Péter Balczó,
Szabolcs Brickner, Tibor Szappanos

Pedrillo ▶ Zoltán Megyesi, Tamás Kóbor

Ozmin ▶ Géza Gábor, Tamás Szüle, István Rácz,
Tamás Bátor

Conductor ▶ György Vashegyi, István Dénes,
Kálmán Szennai, László Bartal

Singspiel in three parts, in Hungarian

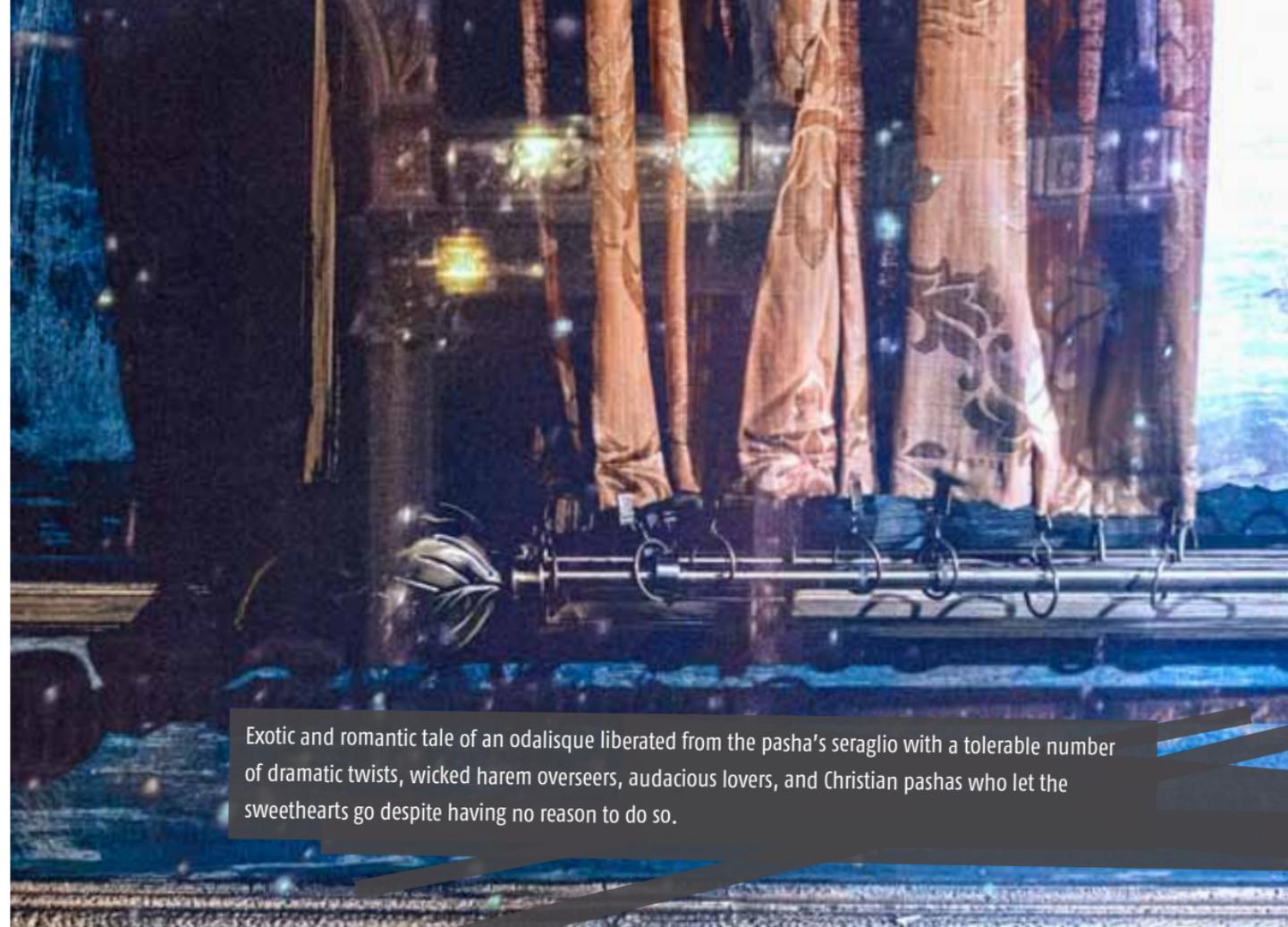
Choreographer ▶ Teodóra Bán

Set designer ▶ Attila Csikós

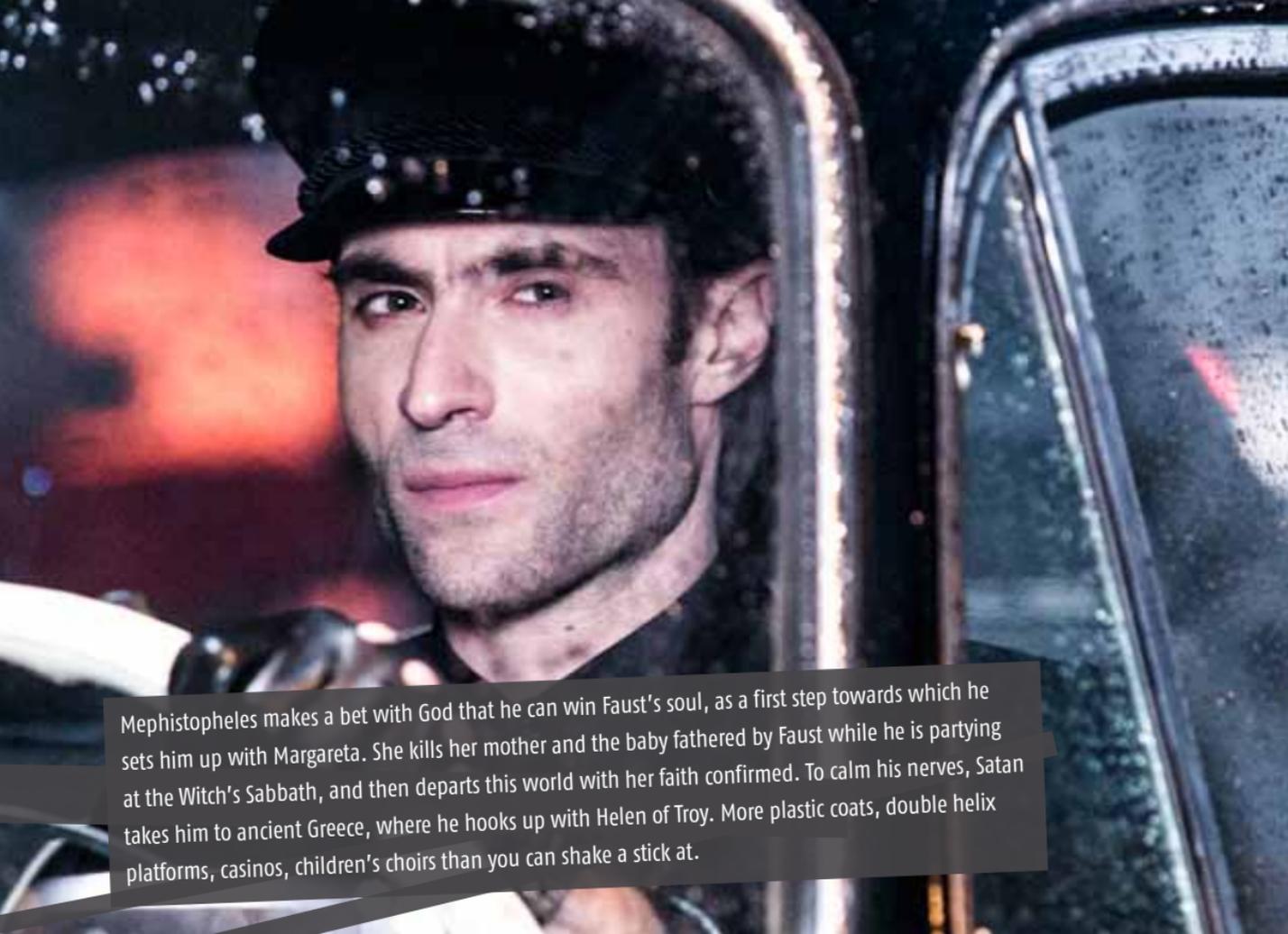
Costume designer ▶ Rita Velich

Director ▶ Csaba Káel

3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 May 2015, Erkel Theatre



Exotic and romantic tale of an odalisque liberated from the pasha's seraglio with a tolerable number of dramatic twists, wicked harem overseers, audacious lovers, and Christian pashas who let the sweethearts go despite having no reason to do so.



Mephistopheles makes a bet with God that he can win Faust's soul, as a first step towards which he sets him up with Margareta. She kills her mother and the baby fathered by Faust while he is partying at the Witch's Sabbath, and then departs this world with her faith confirmed. To calm his nerves, Satan takes him to ancient Greece, where he hooks up with Helen of Troy. More plastic coats, double helix platforms, casinos, children's choirs than you can shake a stick at.

Arrigo Boito

Mefistofele

Mefistofele ▶ **András Palerdi**

Faust ▶ **TBA**

Margherita – Helena ▶ **Gabriella Létay Kiss**

Wagner – Nereo ▶ **Dániel Vadász**

Marta – Pantis ▶ **Erika Markovics**

Conductor ▶ **Carlo Montanaro**

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

Choreographer ▶ **Marianna Venekei**

Set designer ▶ **Csaba Antal**

Costume designer ▶ **Mari Benedek**

Director ▶ **Balázs Kovalik**

28 and 30 May 2015, Opera House

MozartLateNight

OPERA ON WHEELS

18

Mozart

Der Schauspieldirektor (The Impresario)

Madame Herz ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Mademoiselle Silberklang ▶ **Andrea Puja**

Monsieur Vogelsang ▶ **József Mukk**

Buff, a singer ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Musical comedy with a lyrical epilogue, In Hungarian and Italian with Hungarian surtitles

Mozart

Six Nocturnes

Soprano ▶ **Orsolya Sáfár**

Soprano ▶ **Andrea Puja**

Bass ▶ **Tamás Busa**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Oberfrank**

Choreographer ▶ **György Jellinek**

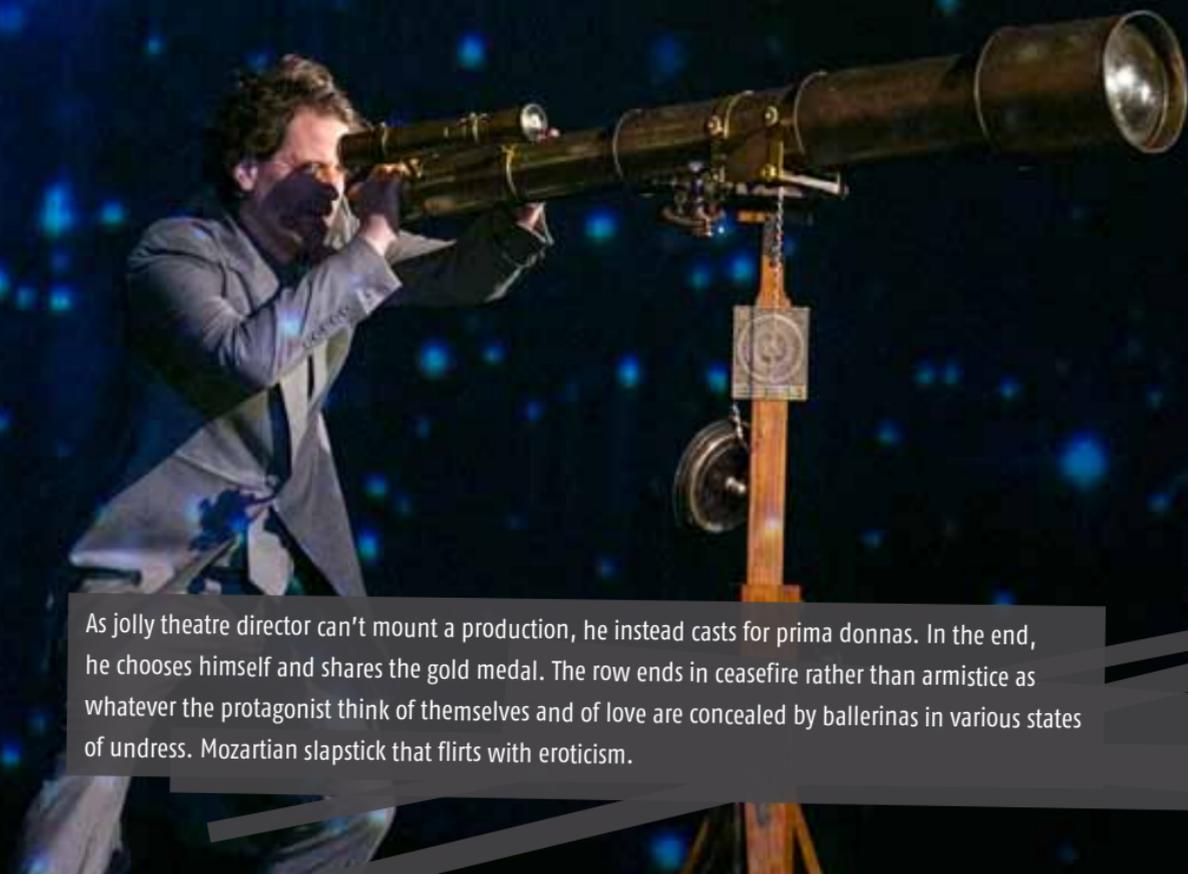
Libretto revised by ▶ **Gergely Litkai**

Set designer ▶ **Róbert Menczel**

Costume designer ▶ **Ildikó Tihanyi**

Director ▶ **Máté Szabó**

Spring 2015, county town theatres



As jolly theatre director can't mount a production, he instead casts for prima donnas. In the end, he chooses himself and shares the gold medal. The row ends in ceasefire rather than armistice as whatever the protagonist think of themselves and of love are concealed by ballerinas in various states of undress. Mozartian slapstick that flirts with eroticism.



HUNGARIAN NATIONAL BALLET
MAGYAR NEMZETI

BALLET

Ballets from the repertoire

Contents, Ballets from the Repertoire

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Due to reasons particular to the genre, the cast of ballet performances will be published only one month in advance. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Plots of our repertoire plays were gracefully abridged in the manner of Frigyes Karinthy by comedian Gergely Litkai, compressing almost 400 characters into 400 characters.

North–Downes / Bournonville–Løvenskiold

Troy Game / La Sylphide

Troy Game ♂

All-male ballet parody in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Robert North**

Composer ▶ **Bob Downes**

Costume designer ▶ **Peter Farmer**

Conductor ▶ **András Déri, Gergely Kesselyák**

La Sylphide

Romantic ballet in two acts

Choreography, based on work **August Bournonville** ▶

Maina Gielgud

Composer ▶ **Hermann Severin von Lovenskiold**

Lighting ▶ **Kirk Bookman**

Staged by ▶ **Maina Gielgud**

Ballet masters ▶ **Angéla Kövessy, Mark Pace,
Marianna Venekei, Katalin Volf**

11, 12, 14, 17, 19 and 20 September 2014, Opera House

Scottish farmer sees fairy in the forest and falls so head over heels in love that, despite his sweetheart and soon-to-be-wife's remonstrations, he follows her into the woods. After a spot of a divertissement, he does away with his fairy sweetheart as per a witch's advice. Meanwhile, his buddy marries his non-fairy sweetheart, which hits him so hard that he dies too. (All this after the evening had started so cheerfully with Troy Game.)





For reasons that include the reduction of state debt, embassy secretary woos widow at fictional country's embassy in Paris while public representatives and diplomatic wives conduct labyrinthine affaires de coeur. The widow engages in manoeuvres to save the French attaché's honour, but, after a few twists and turns, will be the embassy secretary's. Behind the wings, the national currency's exchange rate skyrockets.

Ronald Hynd–Ferenc Lehár

The Merry Widow

Composer ▶ **Ferenc Lehár**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló, Kálmán Szennai**

Comic ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Ronald Hynd**

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

Set and costume designer ▶ **Peter Docherty**

Lighting ▶ **Kirk Bookman**

Ballet masters ▶ **Levente Bajári, Annette Page,
Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei**

3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 16, 18 and 19 October 2014, Erkel Theatre

Gyula Harangozó–Léo Delibes

Coppélia

Composer ▶ **Léo Delibes**

Music revised by ▶ **Jenő Kenessey**

Conductor ▶ **László Kovács**

Comic dance in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Gyula Harangozó**

Set design, based on the original drawings of

Zoltán Fülöp ▶ Attila Csikós

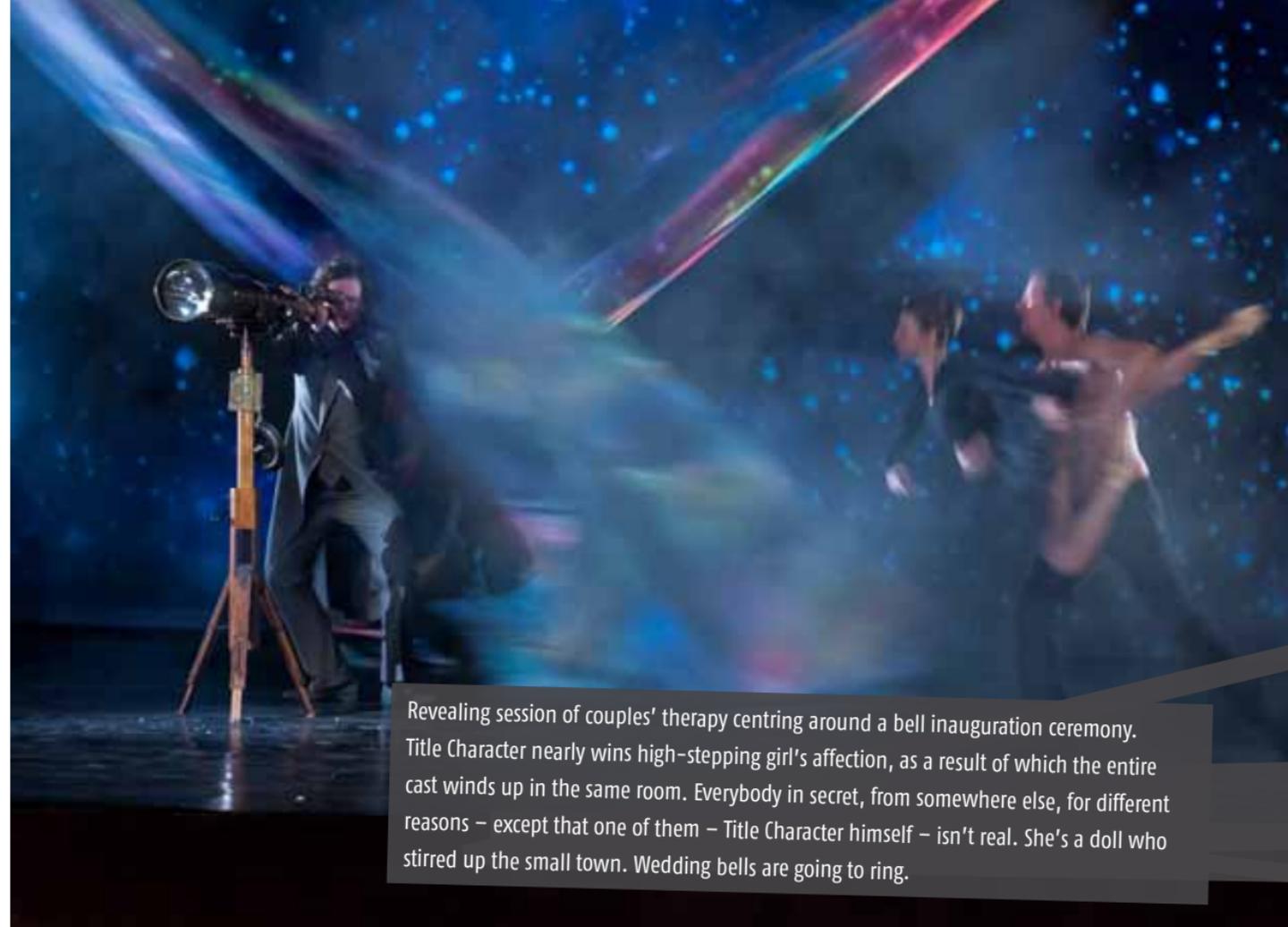
Costume design, based on the original drawings of

Tivadar Márk ▶ Rita Velich

Staged by ▶ **Gyula Harangozó Jr.**

Ballet masters ▶ **Márta Metzger, Marianna Venekei**

30 and 31 October, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November 2014, Opera House



Revealing session of couples' therapy centring around a bell inauguration ceremony. Title Character nearly wins high-stepping girl's affection, as a result of which the entire cast winds up in the same room. Everybody in secret, from somewhere else, for different reasons – except that one of them – Title Character himself – isn't real. She's a doll who stirred up the small town. Wedding bells are going to ring.

Ballet night in two acts

Conductor ▶ **Imre Kollár**

Robert North–Bob Downes

Troy Game ♂♀

All-male ballet parody in one act – also in female version

Choreographer ▶ **Robert North**

Composer ▶ **Bob Downes**

Costume designer ▶ **Peter Farmer**

Ballet masters ▶ **Levente Bajári, Csaba Solti**

Jiří Kylián–Wolfgang A. Mozart

Six dances

Choreographer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Composer ▶ **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Lighting ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Technical adaptation ▶ **Kees Tjebbes, Joop Caboort**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Jiří Kylián**

Répétiteur ▶ **Yvan Dubreuil**

Ballet masters ▶ **Andrea Merlo P., Marianna Venekei**

Harald Lander–Carl Czerny

Études

Classical ballet in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Harald Lander**

Composer ▶ **Carl Czerny**

Répétiteur ▶ **Johnny Eliassen**

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

15, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 23 November 2014, Erkel Theatre

Vasili Vainonen-Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The Nutcracker



Conductor ▶ **András Déri, Valéria Csányi, Imre Kollár**

Fairy-tale ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **Vasili Vainonen**

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Gusztáv Oláh**

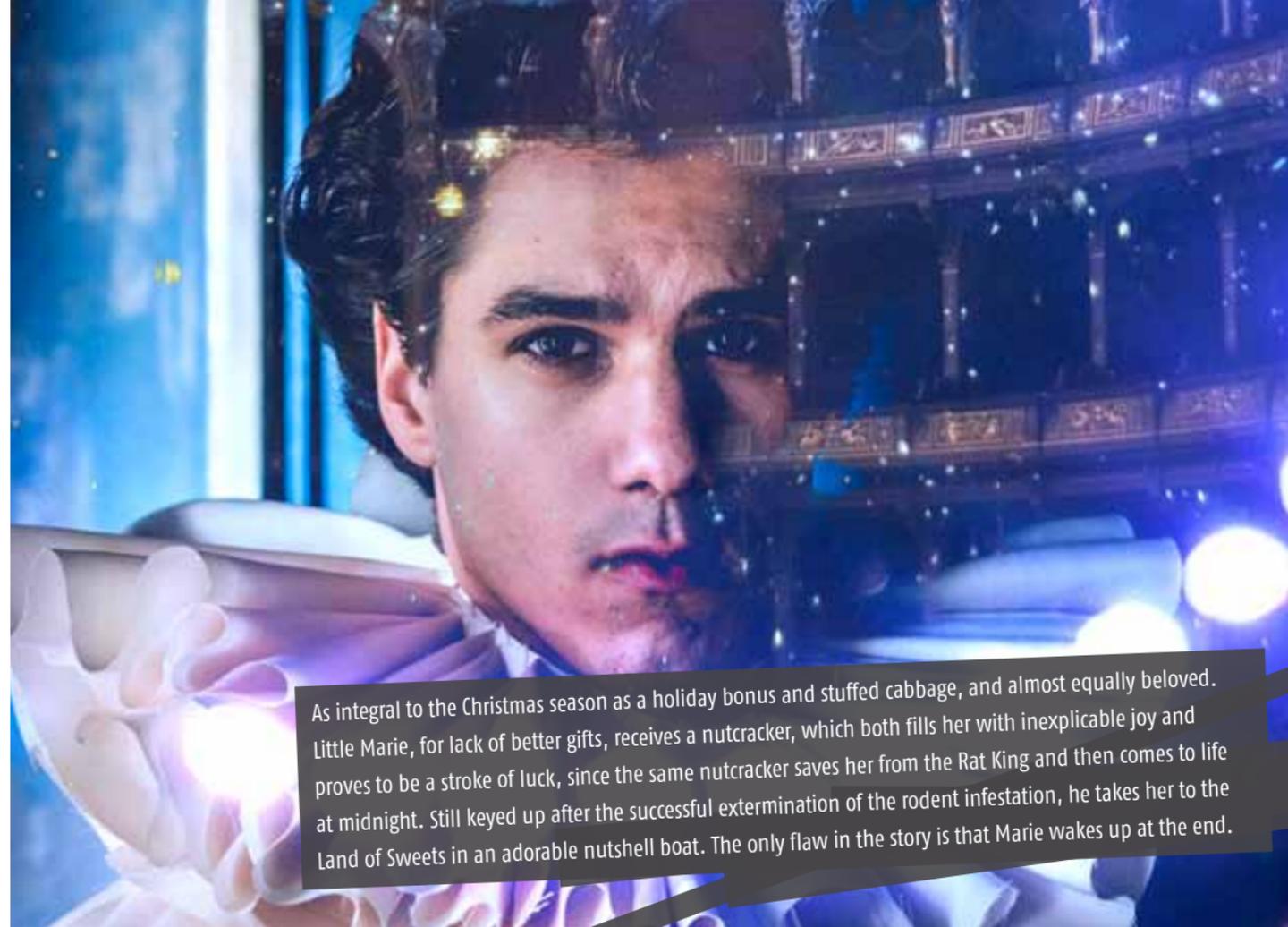
Ballet masters ▶ **Imre Dózsa, Wiesław Dudek, Angéla Kövessy, Tamás Solymosi, Krisztina Végh, Marianna Venekei, Katalin Volf**

Répétiteur for the students of the

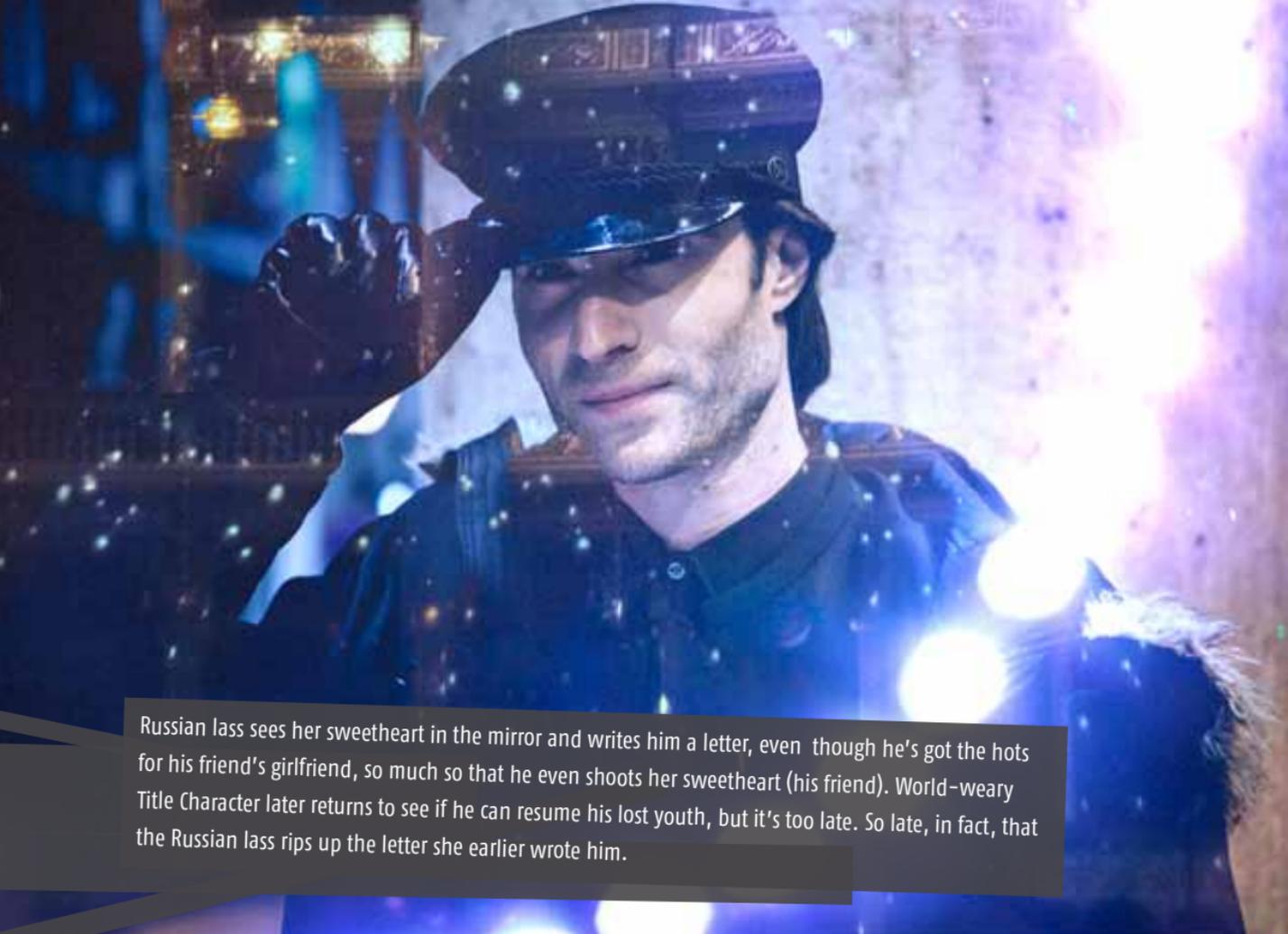
Hungarian Dance Academy ▶ Evelyn Janács

Partner ▶ **Hungarian Dance Academy**

*6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30
December 2014, Opera House*



As integral to the Christmas season as a holiday bonus and stuffed cabbage, and almost equally beloved. Little Marie, for lack of better gifts, receives a nutcracker, which both fills her with inexplicable joy and proves to be a stroke of luck, since the same nutcracker saves her from the Rat King and then comes to life at midnight. Still keyed up after the successful extermination of the rodent infestation, he takes her to the Land of Sweets in an adorable nutshell boat. The only flaw in the story is that Marie wakes up at the end.



Russian lass sees her sweetheart in the mirror and writes him a letter, even though he's got the hots for his friend's girlfriend, so much so that he even shoots her sweetheart (his friend). World-weary Title Character later returns to see if he can resume his lost youth, but it's too late. So late, in fact, that the Russian lass rips up the letter she earlier wrote him.

John Cranko–Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Onegin

Composer ▶ **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Orchestrated by ▶ **Kurt-Heinz Stolze**

Conductor ▶ **István Silló, Kálmán Szennai**

Ballet in three acts

Choreographer ▶ **John Cranko**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Thomas Mika,
Maren Fischer**

Lighting ▶ **Steen Bjarke**

Costume assistant ▶ **Diana Eckmann**

Ballet masters ▶ **Eszter Kazinczy, Angéla Kövessy,
Ildikó Pongor, Tamás Solymosi, Marianna Venekei**

15, 17, 21, 23, 24 and 25 January 2015, Opera House

László Seregi–Léo Delibes

Sylvia

Composer ▶ **Léo Delibes**

Delibes's music adapted to the lyrics by ▶ **Tamás Pál**

Conductor ▶ **Péter Oberfrank, Imre Kollár**

Comic ballet in two acts

Choreographer ▶ **László Seregi**

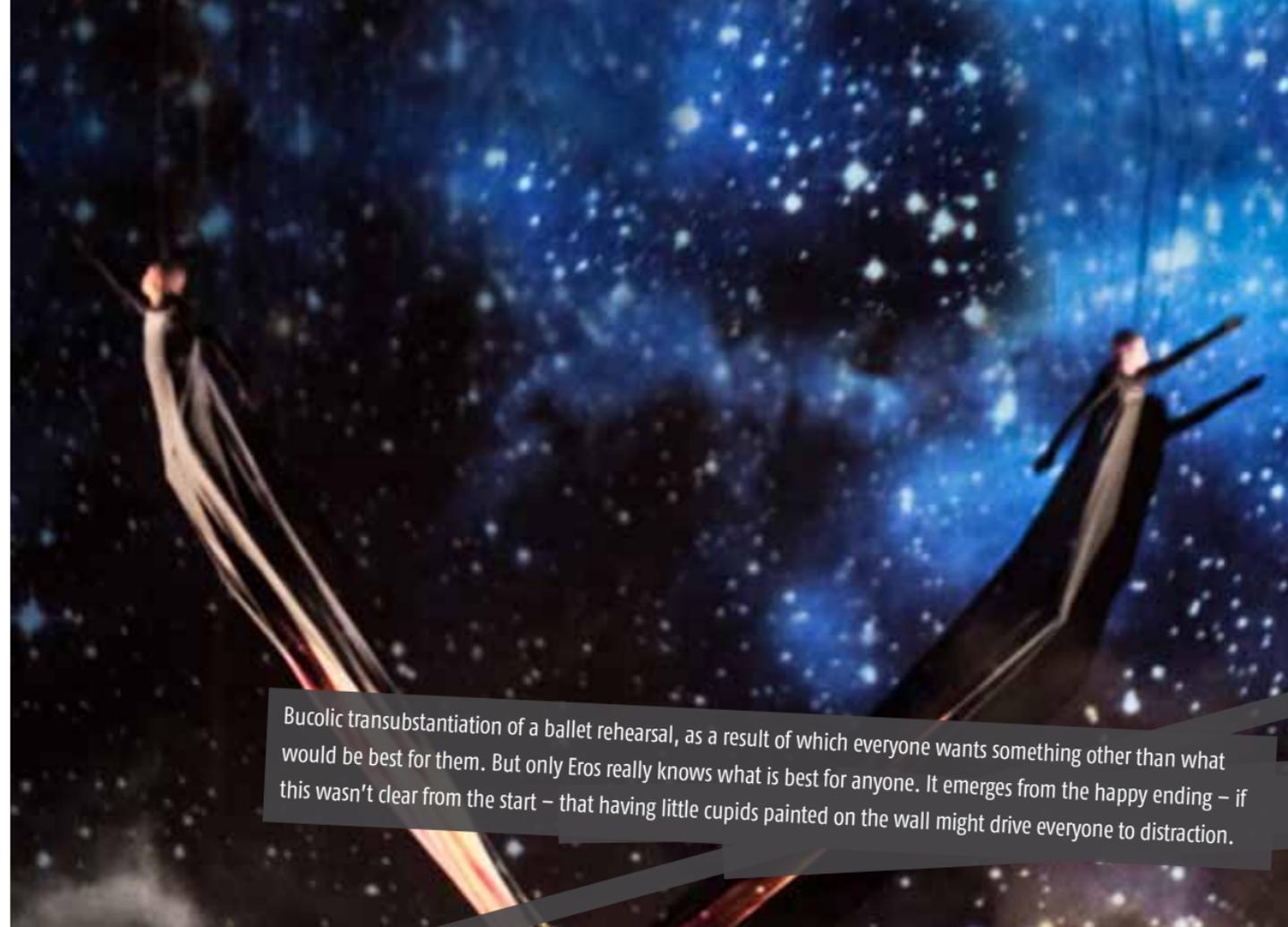
Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Ildikó Kaszás**

Set designer ▶ **Gábor Forray**

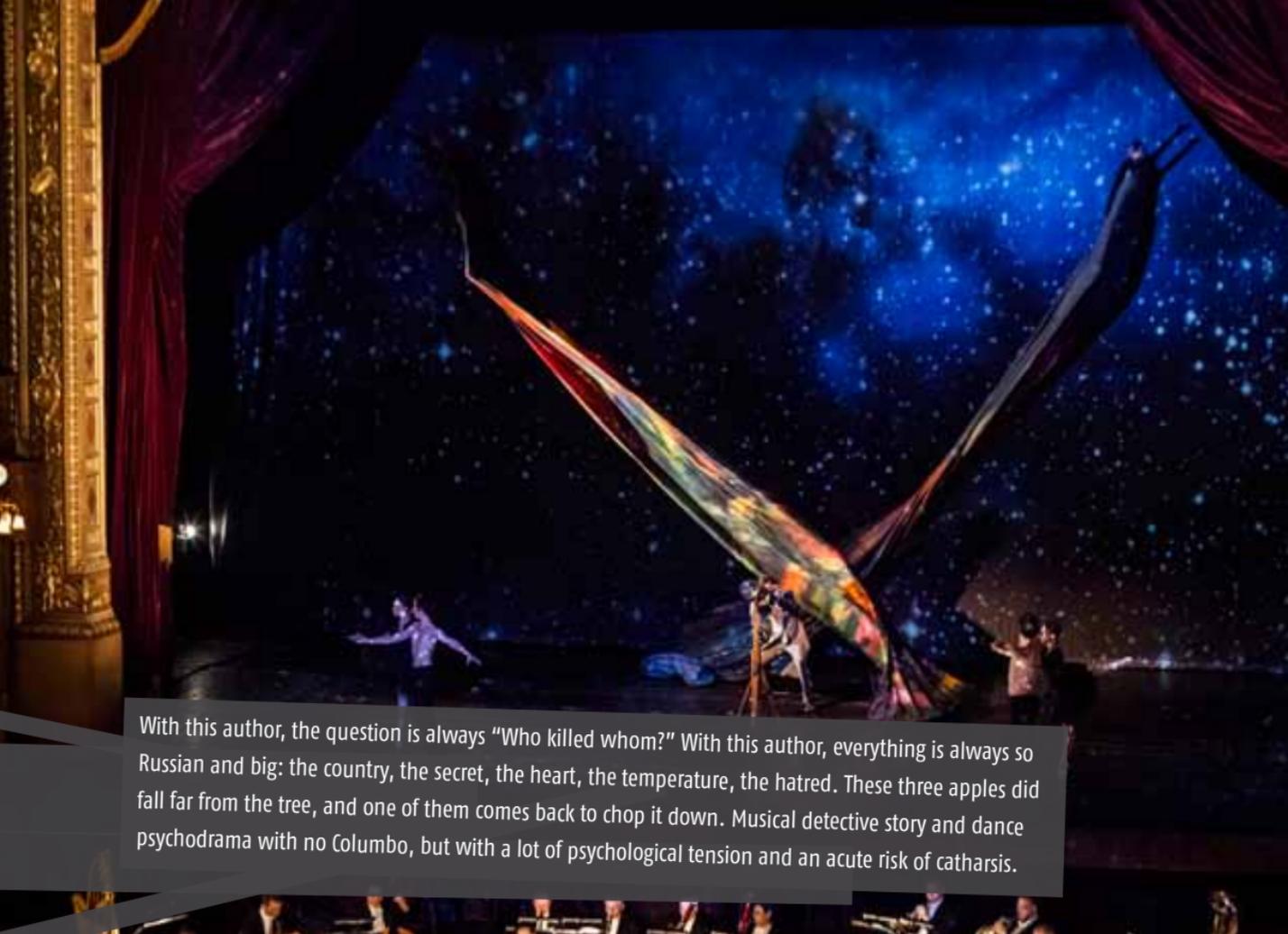
Costume designer ▶ **Tivadar Márk**

Ballet master ▶ **Ildikó Kaszás**

23, 25, 27, 28, 30 and 31 May 2015, Erkel Theatre



Bucolic transubstantiation of a ballet rehearsal, as a result of which everyone wants something other than what would be best for them. But only Eros really knows what is best for anyone. It emerges from the happy ending – if this wasn't clear from the start – that having little cupids painted on the wall might drive everyone to distraction.



With this author, the question is always "Who killed whom?" With this author, everything is always so Russian and big: the country, the secret, the heart, the temperature, the hatred. These three apples did fall far from the tree, and one of them comes back to chop it down. Musical detective story and dance psychodrama with no Columbo, but with a lot of psychological tension and an acute risk of catharsis.

Boris Eifman–Sergei Rachmaninoff
Modest Mussorgsky–Richard Wagner

The Karamazovs

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

Ballet in two acts

Choreographer ▶ **Boris Eifman**

Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Olga Kalmikova**

Set and costume designer ▶ **Vyacheslav Okunev**

Lighting ▶ **Boris Eifman**

Ballet masters ▶ **Andrea Merlo P., Krisztina Vég**

19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 June 2015, Erkel Theatre



BUDAPEST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
BUDAPESTI FILHARMÓNIAI TÁRSASÁG - AZ OPERA

ZENEKARA

Concerts

Concerts by the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra

22 September 2014 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Modest Mussorgsky ▶ **Night on Bald Mountain –
Symphonic Poem**

Sergei Rachmaninoff ▶ **Piano Concerto No. 2
in C minor**

Dmitri Shostakovich ▶ **Symphony No. 10 in E minor,
opus 93**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **Andrei Korobeinikov**

27 and 28 October 2014 (Monday, Tuesday, 7.30 pm)

Verdi ▶ **Requiem**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **Csilla Boros** – soprano,
Clémentine Margaine – alto, **Stuart Neill** – tenor,
Robert Tagliavini – bass, **The Hungarian State Opera
House Chorus** (chorusmaster ▶ **Máté Szabó Sipos**)

Concerts by the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra

24 November 2014 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Dmitri Kabalevsky ▶ **Colas Breugnon Overture**

Antonin Dvořák ▶ **Cello Concerto in B minor, opus 104**

Béla Bartók ▶ **Concerto**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **Tamás Varga**

22 and 23 December 2014 (Monday, Tuesday, 7.30 pm)

Leonard Bernstein ▶ **Divertimento**

Leonard Bernstein ▶ **West Side Story** –
symphonic dances

George Gershwin ▶ **Porgy and Bess** – highlights

Conductor ▶ **John Axelrod**

Featuring ▶ **Csilla Boross** – soprano, **Derrick Lawrence**
– Baritone, **The Hungarian State Opera House Chorus**
(chorusmaster ▶ **Máté Szabó Sipos**)

19 January 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Zoltán Kodály ▶ **The Peacock** – variations on a folk tune

Ferenc Liszt ▶ **Hungarian Fantasy**

Ludwig van Beethoven ▶ **Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)**

Conductor ▶ **Tamás Vásáry**

Featuring ▶ **Mihály Berecz** – piano

Concerts by the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra

9 February 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Anton Webern ▶ **Passacaglia, op. 1**
Johannes Brahms ▶ **Violin Concerto, op. 77**
Igor Stravinsky ▶ **The Rite of Spring (1913)**

Conductor ▶ **Christian Badea**

Featuring ▶ **Alexandra Conunova**

9 March 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Gustav Mahler ▶ **Symphony No. 3**

Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

Featuring ▶ **Atala Schöck** – alto,
The Hungarian State Opera House Chorus
(chorusmaster ▶ **Máté Szabó Sipos**),
The Hungarian State Opera House
Children's Chorus
(chorusmaster ▶ **Gyöngyvér Gupcsó**)

Concerts by the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra

13 April 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Richard Wagner ▶ **Tristan und Isolde –
Overture and Isolde's Liebestod**
Karlłowicz Mieczysław ▶ **Stanisław i Anna
O wiecimowie, opus 12**
Johannes Brahms ▶ **Symphony No. 1 in C minor,
opus 68**

4 May 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Sergei Prokofiev ▶ **Symphony No. 1
(Classical Symphony)**
Maurice Ravel ▶ **Piano Concerto in G major**

Conductor ▶ **Marco Letonja**

Featuring ▶ **Benedetto Lupo**

1 June 2015 (Monday, 7.30 pm)

Robert Schumann ▶ **Scenes from Goethe's Faust**

Conductor ▶ **Michael Schönwandt**

Featuring ▶ **Jörg Schneider** – tenor, **Péter Fried** – bass,
Jochen Kupfer – baritone,
The Hungarian State Opera House Chorus
(chorusmaster ▶ **Máté Szabó Sipos**),
The Hungarian State Opera House
Children's Chorus
(chorusmaster ▶ **Gyöngyvér Gupcsó**)



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Special Events

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“In Times of War...”

100 YEARS SINCE THE OUTBRAKE OF WWI



The sorrowful meeting of the long drawn-out 19th and the extremely bloody 20th centuries is revived by old press cuttings, poems, essays, chansons, dance music, marches, operettas, photographs and newsreels. The director of the evening, *Péter Galambos*, based his work on the research of *Árpád Marton* and the concept of *Attila Vidnyánszky*. The programme will begin at 8 pm and will be broadcast live on television and on the LED wall on Dalszínház Street.

Our partners ► **Public Foundation for Research into Central and Eastern European History and Society, National Theatre**

28 July 2014, 9 pm Hungarian State Opera



Freedom OperaGala

UNGARN FÜR DEUTSCHLAND, OPERA FOR EUROPE

Exactly 25 years have passed since Hungary bravely opened its borders and allowed tens of thousands of East German tourists to escape to the West. Many people consider this not only to be the first blow in bringing down the Berlin Wall, but as a crucial moment in our shared European identity and key a milestone along the path to the pan-European value system and unified continent officially embodied by the European Union. The Hungarian State Opera invites leaders of institutions in each of the member states to this anniversary, for whom it will provide an overview of the uniquely European arts of opera and ballet performance at the “*O Freiheit! Kehrst du zurück? 1989-2014*” conference. We will also be holding a podium discussion in the German language featuring important personalities from Germany, which will be moderated by *Dr. Mária Schmidt*, Director-General of the House of Terror, and *Gergely Pröhle*, Deputy Secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

Among the esteemed guests invited is German Chancellor *Angela Merkel*, as well as three stars of the genre, namely *Anja Kampe*, *Piotr Beczala* and *Ferruccio Furlanetto*. They will be joined by *Andrea Rost*, the outstanding Hungarian singer celebrating 25 years on stage. They will perform the arias of freedom, and sing the famous ensemble pieces from the operatic repertoire with 25 singers arriving from other European Union nations. The live feed from Duna Televízió will be broadcast by state channels in each of the European Union member states. In the afternoon on the closed-off Andrassy Avenue, the public will be entertained by two very special productions conjuring up the *commedia dell' arte* tradition of the genre on the Opera House's Sphinx Terrace.

Freedom OperaGala

UNGARN FÜR DEUTSCHLAND, OPERA FOR EUROPE



Featuring the **Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra**, **Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** and **Hungarian National Ballet** – the Opera House's ensembles

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász** Principle Music Director

Director ▶ **Ferenc Anger** Artistic Director

Host ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács** General Director

Partners ▶ **Public Foundation for Research into Central and Eastern European History and Society, Foreign Ministry, Opera Europa, Duna Televízió, National Theatre, MTVA**

5 September 2014 10 am, Erkel Theatre (symposium)

7 pm, Opera House, Bertalan Székely Hall (podium discussion)

6 September 2014 4 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Donizetti: Il campanello di notte (opera premiere)

6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Menotti: The Telephone (opera performance)

8 pm, Andrassy Avenue (gala evening)



Ball at the Opera30

KFT REVISIT THE SCENE OF PAST GLORIES

In 1984, the scaffolding was removed from the Opera House and the building reopened on the 100th anniversary of its inauguration. It is around 30 years ago too that the cult Hungarian band sang *Bál az operában*. So it was about time that KFT should make an appearance at the Opera House on Andrásy Avenue and experience just what it was singing about all those years ago.

The band that broke the world record for the number of opera roles to be named in the chorus of a pop song will not only bring with them Cavaradossi, Cio-Cio San, Desdemona and Don Juan, but also the unique spectacle of an acoustic concert featuring scenes and humorous skits never seen before. What would you expect in an opera house?

Featuring ► **András Laár, Tibor Bornai, András Márton, Miklós Lengyelfi II and guests**

7 September 2014 8 pm, Opera House

Opera Without Borders

ON FIRST HEARING

For many years now, Hungarians living abroad have been invited to an opening performance at the Opera House, an institution always looking to enhance its role in Hungarian culture. For the launch of the new season, we are revisiting the theme of national unity, and paying our respects to our forefathers who collected material, technology and expertise from across Greater Hungary to build the new Opera House. The major of Gyula, Dr. Ernő Görgényi will lay a wreath at the feet of the town's most famous son, Ferenc Erkel, the first principal director of the Opera House, whose statue stands to the left of the building.

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

Partners ► **Public Foundation for Research into Central and Eastern European History and Society, Local Government of Terézváros**

12 September 2014 6 pm, Opera House, main entrance (laying of wreath)

6.30 pm, Opera House (citizens' oath)

7 pm, Opera House (La Sylphide – ballet performance)

“...the Muses Fall Silent”

100 YEARS SINCE THE CLOSURE OF THE OPERA HOUSE

In 1914, the ancient phrase “inter arma silent musae” could not have rung truer. When the Monarchy's armies took up the fight and Russian troops entered Hungarian territory from the east, the Opera House, which had closed as usual for the summer months, did not reopen for the autumn season. Silence reigned at the institution, which had just turned 30 years old, until the following March, but it was a further wait of three years for the end of the war. Our commemorative evening looks back on that autumn a century ago through contemporary newsreels, excerpts from the diary of *Miklós Bánffy* and newspaper articles. With the help of artists from the Opera and the National Theatre, and through the music and poetry of a sad, decadent time, we evoke September 1914, the beginning of the only extended period in the Opera's history when its doors remained officially closed.

To finish, we will hear the emblematic closing movement of a similarly emblematic work by a composer with emblematic value for the Opera House: namely, *The Farewell* from *Gustav Mahler's* famous symphony *The Song of the Earth*, in an arrangement by *Arnold Schoenberg* with *Judit Németh* as soloist. The director of this evening's event is *Péter Galambos*.

Partners ► **Public Foundation for Research in Central and East European History and Society, National Theatre**

15 September 2014 7.30 pm, Opera House

Tuning Series

PREMIERE PRIMERS

There could hardly be a more worthwhile initiative for the Opera than to attempt to provide a clearer understanding of the essence of its latest productions with these special, illustrated presentations on each of the new works entering its repertoire. The Tuning Series of 45-minute programmes take place in Hungarian in the Opera House's Bertalan Székely Hall and Sphinx Terrace, the Erkel Theatre foyer, Hall I of the Music Academy and the Dózsa Hall of the Jókai Street Orchestral Centre an hour prior to the start of the the given opera or ballet production and may be attended free of charge by those holding an admission ticket for that day's performance. Hosts will include ballet mistress *Ildikó Pongor*, music historians *Gáspár Krasznai*, *Gergely Fazekas* and *Szabolcs Molnár*, writer *Ferenc László* and conductor *István Dénes*.

Tuning Series

PREMIERE PRIMERS

Dates:

6 September **Il campanello** – Opera House

13 September **Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci**
– Opera House

14 September **The Tenor** – Erkel Theatre

10 October **Così fan tutte** – Opera House

27 October **Lammermori Lucia** – Erkel Theatre

31 October **Carmen** – Erkel Theatre

31 October **Carmen** – Erkel Theatre

5 November **The Rape of Lucretia** – Academy of Music

7 November **Blood Wedding** – Erkel Theatre

17 November **Dózsa György** – Erkel Theatre

14 December **Der Freischütz** – Erkel Theatre

18 January **The Rake's Progress** – Opera House

13 February **Nabucco** – Erkel Theatre

21 February **FrenchLateNight** – Academy of Music

28 February **Manon** – Opera House

21 March **Das Rheingold** – Opera House

28 March **Pas de Quatre '15** – Erkel Theatre

30 March **TáncTrend '15** – Erkel Theatre

2 April **St. John Passion** – Opera House

4 April **Aida** – Erkel Theatre

11 April **Leánder and Lenzirom** – Erkel Theatre

19 April **Fedora** – Jókai Street Orchestral Centre

21-26 April **Primavera '15** – Erkel Theatre

25 April **Swan Lake** – Opera House

17 May **Faust** – Opera House

22 May **Doctor Faust** – Opera House

12 June **Farnace** – Erkel Theatre

Season Opener

VERISMO MASTERPIECES



Georges Delnon, the prospective intendant of the Hamburg State Opera, will be staging two iconic one-act operas of Italian *verismo*, Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*. These latest premieres also mark the opening of the new season at the Opera House, with the first premiere to be conducted by the world-renowned *Pinchas Steinberg*, new president and principle conductor of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, the Opera House's concert ensemble. The opera scene also returns to Andrásy Avenue, which will be closed off to cars in front of the Opera House, as the leading figures of Hungarian opera and ballet return in costume for the start of the season. With the same capacity as the Opera House itself, seating for 1,200 people will be set up outside, from where the audience will be able to follow the premiere inside on giant screens.

The premiere will be broadcast live with a slight delay on Duna Televízió and Bartók Radio. In the interval, we will screen *Géza M. Tóth's* film *Where the world unfolds – The history of Hungarian opera performance*, commissioned by the institution in 2013. The evening of the season opener will also feature two performances of new choreography by *György Jellinek* created for the intermezzi of *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci*. The artistic director of the production *Italian Anzix* is *Márta Simonffy*, president of the Association of Hungarian Fine and Applied Artists (MKISZ). The Opera House building itself will be dressed up with video installations for the occasion and the event will be opened by Terézváros Mayor *Dr Zsófia Hassay* and the Opera's General Director *Szilveszter Ókovács*.

Season Opener

VERISMO MASTERPIECES

13 September 2014 4 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Donizetti: **Il campanello**
6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Menotti: **The telephone**
6.30 pm, Andrásy Avenue Stage – **Italian Anzix** (ballet)
7 pm, Opera House and Andrásy Avenue – Mascagni: **Cavalleria rusticana**
8 pm, Andrásy Avenue Stage – **Where the world unfolds** (film screening)
9.30 pm, Opera House and Andrásy Avenue – Leoncavallo: **Pagliacci**
10 pm, Andrásy Avenue Stage – **Italian Anzix** (ballet)

Partners ► **Local Government of Terézváros, MKISZ**

Car-Free Weekend

BANISHING BOREDOM OUTSIDE THE OPERA HOUSE



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 Saturday and Sunday, and a live feed of the performance in the great hall beamed onto Andrásy Avenue. Visitors will be greeted with 1,200 seats and an enormous LED wall, which will – for the first time in the Opera House's history – also be showing ballet under the late-summer stars.

Partners ► **Academy of Music, Visual Power**

20 and 21 September 2014 4 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Donizetti: *Il campanello di notte* (opera performance)
6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace – Menotti: *The Telephone* (opera performance)

20 September 2014 7 pm, Andrásy Avenue – *La Sylphide* (ballet performance) screening

21 September 2014 7 pm, Opera House – Éva Marton Singing Competition Gala Night (screening)

Questions, Questions

WHY LIKE THIS AND SOME OTHER WAY?

This new series at the Opera explores, over the course of 12 *séances*, the driving forces behind the most exciting productions to premiere at the Opera House. These public events take place as part of each premiere run two hours prior to the performance on the given evening. Entry to the seating area is free to anyone who previously saw the production, and is all but essential for any press and fans of the opera, as the creative team behind the opera production will explain the concept behind the set design and field questions. Moderator: Szilveszter Ókovács, General Director. The events will be recorded, edited and made available on the Opera House's social media pages.

Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci

18 September 2014, 6 pm – Opera House

The Tenor 20 September 2014, 6 pm – Erkel Theatre

Così fan tutte 16 October 2014, 6 pm – Opera House

Carmen 6 November 2014, 6 pm – Erkel Theatre

The Rake's Progress 22 January 2015, 6 pm – Opera House

Nabucco 20 February 2015, 6 pm – Erkel Theatre

Manon 5 March 2015, 6 pm – Opera House

Das Rheingold 26 March 2015, 6 pm – Opera House

Aida 10 April 2015, 5 pm – Erkel Theatre

Swan Lake 30 April 2015, 6 pm – Opera House

Faust 21 May 2015, 6 pm – Opera House

Farnace 18 June 2015, 6 pm – Erkel Theatre

Éva Marton Singing Competition

GALA NIGHT AT THE OPERA HOUSE



In June of 2013, our Opera House was the venue for an extraordinarily successful gala night saluting the greatest Hungarian female opera singer of the 20th century on her 70th birthday. It was then that the realisation dawned that the lure of *Éva Marton's* name was great enough to attract young singers from around the world to compete in a singing competition with the world-famous soprano chairing the jury. The contest will take place at the Academy of Music, where the artist has worked as a faculty head for the last ten years, and where she herself studied – while the awards ceremony will take place at the Opera House, the place a young Éva Marton enjoyed her first successes.

Partner ► **Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music**

21 September 2014 7.30 pm, Opera House

Song Nights on Dalszínház Street 3.0

THE ART OF MINIATURE

First-rate song programmes continue at the Opera House on the first Saturday of each month as the finest Hungarian singers delve deeper into the world of song. Entrance to the entire series can be purchased with the Song Cycles subscription, and we also sell tickets for the song compilations individually. Each year, we also invite a foreign artist. Access to the concerts, which start at 4 pm, will be via the Royal Staircase from the Dalszínház utca entrance to the left of the Opera House. The 80 or so guests will proceed up onto the marble colonnade, where we will be waiting with a glass of Hungarian wine selected by our gastronomic consultant *Ildikó Káli*, president of the Hungarian Association of Sommeliers. Suitably refreshed, we will move on to the Bertalan Székely Hall, resplendent with its frescoes and paintings, marvellous wood panelling and intimate lighting, where the Hungarian translations of the songs will be beamed up by a projector. The Song Cycles season ticket features pianist *János Gábor*, with the Opera's pianists also playing in four of the song compilation programmes.

The song evenings will be recorded by Magyar Rádió.

Information ► www.opera.hu/musor



Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

The exclusive and unusual series of chamber concerts put on by the Hungarian State Opera and members of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra continues after a slight re-tuning. Exclusive because the venue is the Bertalan Székely Hall, the royal salon which seats an audience of only 80, and unusual because it offers a glimpse into the life of the Opera from a unique perspective. Within the intimate setting that chamber music provides, these concerts feature musicians whose work is generally familiar to us only as "members of the orchestra". Few people are aware that a significant number of Hungary's oldest and largest symphony orchestra are internationally known and acclaimed musicians, many holders of the Kossuth and Liszt prizes, Artists of Merit, and 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 ► **Zsolt Madarász**

Programme producer ► **Csaba Bartos**

Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

11 October 2014 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Johannes Brahms ▶ **Songs**

Zoltán Kovács ▶ **Songs** – premiere

Johannes Brahms ▶ **String Quintet in G major, No. 2, op. 111**

Featuring ▶ **Andrea Meláth** – vocalist,
Erika Dallos – piano, **Ágnes Soltész** and
Patricia Fahidi – violin,
Dénes Ludmány, Balázs Tóth – viola,
Endre Balog – cello

15 November 2014 (Saturday, 4 pm)

César Franck ▶ **Piano Quintet in F minor**

Armand Tóth ▶ **Songs Accompanied by Harp** (based on poems by Zoltán Bátki Fazekas, Paul Verlaine and Georges Rouault)

Gabriel Fauré ▶ **Piano Quartet, op. 15**

Featuring ▶ **Ildikó Szakács** – vocalist,
Imre Hargitai – piano,
Pál Éder, Dávid Pintér – violin,
Anita Inhoff – viola, **Eszter Baráti** – cello,
Ágnes Petak – harp

Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

13 December 2014 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Joseph Haydn ▶ **“Russian” Quartet in G major, op. 33**

Johann Sebastian Bach ▶ **Magnificat** – “Esurientes implevit bonis”

Johann Sebastian Bach ▶ **Cantata, BWV. 147** – “Jesus bleibet meine Freude”

Johann Sebastian Bach ▶ **Christmas Oratorio** – “Bereite dich, Zion”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart ▶ **Flute Quartet in D major**

Szilveszter Rostetter ▶ **Pastorale**

Max Reger ▶ **Maria Wiegenlied, op. 76**
(transposed by Patricia Fahidi)

F. Schubert ▶ **Heilig, heilig, heilig, D. 872**
(transposed by Patricia Fahidi)

Featuring ▶ **Enikő Derzsi-Pap** – vocalist,
János Rácz – flute,
Patricia Fahidi, Enikő Tury – violin,
Veronika Botos – viola,
Tibor Wambach – cello

10 January 2015 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Dmitri Shostakovich ▶ **Seven Romances on Verses by Alexander Blok**

Johannes Brahms ▶ **Sextet in G major, op. 36**

Featuring ▶ **Tünde Szabóki** – vocalist, **József Csalog, Áron Dóczy** – violin, **Dénes Ludmány, Réka Szabó** – viola,
Dénes Karasszon, Ildikó Rönkös – cello
Guest ▶ **Csenge Czeglédi** – “The Storm” and other poems

Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

14 February 2005 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Johann Sebastian Bach ▶ **Wind Quintet in B major**

Franz Schubert ▶ **The Shepherd on the Rock**

Georges Bizet ▶ **Carmen Suite**

Benjamin Britten ▶ **Metamorphoses**

Dénes Ágay ▶ **Five Easy Dances**

Claude Debussy ▶ **Golliwog's Cakewalk**

Featuring ▶ **Penta Wind Quintet**

(János Rácz – flute, Krisztina Szélpál – oboe,

Beáta Várnai – clarinet,

István Hartenstein – bassoon,

Gábor Tóth – French horn),

Eszter Sümegi – soprano

14 March 2015 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Johann Sebastian Bach ▶ **Goldberg Variations** – excerpts
(arranged by **Dmitri Sitkovetsky**)

György Kurtág ▶ **S.K. Remembrance Noise** – six songs
based on poems by **Dezső Tandori**

Arnold Schönberg ▶ **Transfigured Night, op. 4**

Featuring ▶ **Atala Schöck** – vocalist, **Magdolna Závodszy,**

Katalin Fenyő – violin

Jenő Sörös, Attila Lukács – viola,

Erika Kádi, Tibor Wambach – cello

Royal Music Hall

WHERE CHAMBER MUSIC COMES ALIVE

9 May 2015 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Károly Goldmarrk ▶ **Ballada for Violin and Piano, op. 54**

Miklós Csemiczky ▶ **Three songs based on poems by
Lewis Carroll**

Carl Reinecke ▶ **Trio (1895), op. 230**

Featuring ▶ **Galína Danyílova, Márta Kísfaluda** – violin,

István Kovács – vocalist,

Bartos Trio (Irina Ivanyickaja – piano,

Galína Danyílova – violin,

Csaba Bartos – cello)

18 April 2015 (Saturday, 4 pm)

Antonin Dvořák ▶ **Terzetto in C major for Two Violins
and Viola, op. 74**

Levente Gyöngyösi ▶ **Two Csokonai Songs**

Levente Gyöngyösi ▶ **Sonata for Trumpet, Cello and
Piano**

J.N. Hummel ▶ **Piano Quintet, op. 87**

Featuring ▶ **Ágnes Beke, Zita Novák** – violin,

Veronika Botos, Éva Kóra – viola,

Klára Kolonits – soprano,

Balázs Réti – piano, **Csaba Nagy** – trumpet,

Anna Scholz – cello,

Péter Kummert Boldoghy – double bass



OpeReport

TALK SHOW IN THE ERKEL GRAND BUFFET

The victim arrives. He or she is welcomed by two disagreeable characters, and is not left alone right until the end. The interrogation begins – about the theatre, about life, about memories both cherished and best forgotten. The victim is presented with a tailor-made selection of video clips (where untainted pleasure is not always guaranteed...) If that were not enough, some surprise guests also lie in wait!

Our goal here is to offer the public encounters with some of the Opera House's unique personalities within an informal setting. *András Aczél*, the director and brains behind the event, in the company of opera singer *András Hábetler*, will make sure that none of the invited Opera stars and creative artists feel safe for one moment. The guests themselves will also prepare special performances to accompany the conversations. So beware, from 4 o'clock on the last Saturday of every month, a punishing talk show will begin in the Grand Buffet of the Erkel Theatre.

The two torturers ► **András Aczél** and **András Hábetler**

From October 2014 to May 2015, Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet

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's and the Opera's most important days of mourning and memorial, all accompanied by the orchestra playing excerpts of music fitting for the occasion. The animated series is the work of film director *Géza M. Tóth*, with musical accompaniment provided by composer *Géza Kőteles*, who is also the Opera's conducting répétiteur.

The relevant dates of significance and the music to be played:

6 October 2014 - Day of memorial for the Martyrs of Arad – national day of mourning
(Erkel: **Laszlo Hunyadi – Funeral March**)

4 November 2014 - Day of memorial for the crushing of the 1956 Revolution – national day of memorial
(Beethoven: **Egmont Overture**)

7 November 2014 - Hungarian Opera Day – Ferenc Erkel's birthday (Erkel: **Bánk bán – Hazam, hazam**)

22 January 2015 - Day of Hungarian Culture (Kodaly: **Song from the Hary Janos Suite**)

25 February 2015 - Day of memorial for the Victims of Communist Dictatorships (Dohnanyi: **Stabat Mater, 1953**)

16 April 2015 - Day of memorial for the Victims of the Holocaust (Mahler: **Ruckert Lieder, No. 3**)

4 June 2015 - Trianon Memorial Day – Day of National Solidarity (Bartok: **Hungarian Sketches Evening with Szeklers**)



Opera House130

THERE ONCE WAS A GRAND OPENING...



At 7 o'clock on the evening of 27 September 1884, the Opera House in Budapest opened in the presence of *Franz Joseph*, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary. In this memorial year, *Miklós Ybl*'s masterpiece will now be "re-inaugurated" in what is also the 200th anniversary of the architect's birth. The inaugural procession will be reconstructed and the opening ceremonies re-enacted based on research by the Opera's chief archivist *Márton Karczag* and theatre historian *Nóra Wellmann*. The king and his retinue arrive from the Castle in carriages, awaited at the Opera House by members of the Tisza government and the architect Ybl, while the gazing crowds flood into the entrance hall of the Opera with an unquenchable curiosity... This celebratory programme will partly follow the original schedule of 130 years ago – but with an added twist.

We invite voluntary "extras" of an adventurous nature born on 27 September to photograph their personal IDs and get in touch with us through the Opera's Facebook page. They will have the chance to take part in a masquerade with their partners, donning costumes chosen from the Opera's wardrobe in the Castle and accompanying the carriages all the way to Andrásy út, or getting dressed up in the Opera House itself and awaiting the royal convoy by the driveway leading up to the entrance. They will then be able to enjoy a one-off, unrepeatable gala evening performance free of charge. The event will be filmed by Duna Televízió.

Opera House130

THERE ONCE WAS A GRAND OPENING...

Ferenc Erkel ▶ **Bánk bán** (Act II with legends)
Bánk bán ▶ **András Molnár**
Melinda ▶ **Ilona Tokody**
Gertrude ▶ **Éva Marton**
Tiborc ▶ **István Berczelly**
Otto ▶ **Dénes Gulyás**
Biberach ▶ **Csaba Ötvös**

Conductor ▶ **Ádám Medveczky**

Ferenc Erkel ▶ **Hunyadi László** (overture)
Robert North ▶ **Troy Game – with Amazons**
(parody of a ballet parody, premiere)
Géza M. Tóth ▶ **The Palace on Sugár út** (film premiere)

Partners ▶ **Duna Televízió, MTVA**

27 September 2014 7 pm, Opera House

International Music Day

BIG B(R)AND 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 freshly assembled Big Band will also entertain passers-by in front of the building on Andrásy út with interpretations of popular operatic arias played exclusively by our brass players in special arrangements by composer *Attila Pacsay*. An unusual feature of the Opera's brass ensemble is that horns replace saxophones. The leader of the Opera Big B(r)and is trumpeter *Tibor Király*.

1 October 2014 6 pm, Opera House, Sphinx Terrace

Spar Marathon at the Opera

RUN, OR LET YOUR VOICE RUN!

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

12 October 2014 from 10 am, Andrásy Avenue

Armel

INTERNATIONAL OPERA COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL



Every year, the Armel Opera Competition seeks out the best opera singers for leading pairs of roles in opera productions in five different countries. Auditions are held at several locations worldwide. The public then gets the chance to enjoy the completed productions in the five countries' partner opera houses under the aegis of the Armel Opera Festival. At the gala event to close the festival, prizes for *Best Female Performer*, *Best Male Performer* and *Best Production* are awarded based on the decision of an international jury of leading experts. The Erkel Theatre now makes its debut as a festival venue, hosting the three largest-scale productions. Director of the Armel Opera Competition and Festival is Ágnes Havas.

12 October 2014, 7 pm Jaroslav Krček: **The Emperor's New Clothes** / Gábor Kerek: **Parody**
(production of the J. K. Tyl Theatre, Plzeň, Czech Republic)

14 October 2014, 7 pm Sir Harrison Birtwistle: **Punch and Judy**
(production of the Neue Oper Wien, Vienna, Austria)

16 October 2014, 7 pm Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: **Mitridate, re di Ponto**
(production of the Tbilisi State Academic Opera, Tbilisi, Georgia)

Artists Unmasked

THE UNFAMILIAR FACES OF FAMILIAR ARTISTS

Éva *Bátori's* informal talk show series continues in the Bertalan Székely Hall on the third Saturday of every month from October to May and features opera singers who are also active in other areas of the arts. One of the Opera's outstanding solo singers continues the conversations interrupted at the end of last season with, among others, *Livia Budai* and *Katalin Kasza*, and starts new ones with guests including *Maria Teresa Uribe*, *Ildikó Iván* and Kossuth Prize-winning sculptor *György Jovanovics*.

For the new season, we are also inviting representatives of other disciplines of the arts for conversations: players of instruments who are also visual artists, or visual artists who also play music, or who are enthusiastic followers of opera, ballet or classical music. At the end of the programme of music and conversation, an informal chat will continue over a coffee and the invited artist's favourite cake.

From 18 October 2014 4 pm, Opera House, Bertalan Székely Hall

Change of Fortune

HAPPY ENDINGS ARE NOT JUST FOR FAIRYTALES!

nők lapja



Celebrating its 65th birthday, women's magazine *Nők Lapja* has partnered with Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) to give families in need without a permanent place to live a new start. The initiative offers an opportunity to families with several children currently living in temporary accommodation run by HIA to find a home of their own, as long they are willing to do everything they can to turn their fate around. Through the Erkel Theatre, the Opera is joining the year-round collection of donations, so that anyone attending the charity performance of *János vitéz* can now take part in the fundraising campaign. Information on how to purchase tickets will be published in *Nők Lapja* from September 2014.

For more details on the fundraising campaign www.segelyszervezet.hu/esely

Partners ► **Sanoma – Nők Lapja, Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

30 November 2014, 11 am, Erkel Theatre



Fricsay100 Mini Festival

A FORGOTTEN GLOBAL STAR

One of the great figures of a legendary generation of Hungarian conductors was born 100 years ago this year. *Ferenc Fricsay* was on the one hand the son of *Richárd Fricsay*, chief military orchestra conductor of the Horthy era, but on the other, also helped conceal Jewish members of the Szeged orchestra where he was working: there is no further need to explain why he himself was forced into hiding during the siege of Budapest and why his career was again stifled in 1948. Even so, on the back of a sensational performance in Salzburg – where he stood in for *Otto Klemperer* – he built an international career within a few years. Had cancer not claimed him, the post of principal conductor of the Vienna Philharmonic was awaiting him from 1963.

A decade of full activity for Fricsay saw him make 200 recordings for Deutsche Grammophon, open at the Deutsche Oper Berlin and the Cuvilliés Theatre in Munich, feature in the first opera broadcast on German television and the world's first film documenting an orchestral rehearsal, conduct the world premieres of three contemporary operas in Salzburg, and play his part in the discovery of *Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau*. He moulded the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra into his own ensemble and, wherever he travelled and with whomever he performed concerts, always took care to ensure Hungarian works or soloists appeared on the programme. The conspiracy to silence this maestro was complete under the Rákosi and Kádár regimes, but we have remained in Fricsay's debt ever since.

Fricsay100 Mini Festival

A FORGOTTEN GLOBAL STAR

The Opera has Fricsay to thank not only for the famed revival of *Lucia di Lammermoor* which made *Mária Gyurkovics* a household name, but also for the first performance in the dead of winter 1945, as the front retreated. *Reiner, Ormandy, Szell, Solti, Ferencsik* and *Fricsay*, it is only with this last name that the list of Hungarian conducting legends of the 20th century is complete.

26 October 2014, St. Stephen's Basilica – Fricsay: **Mass in C major** – Hungarian premiere (conductor: **Ádám Medveczky**)

27 October 2014, Erkel Theatre – Donizetti: **Lucia di Lammermoor** (Lucia: **Edita Gruberová**)

28 October 2014, Opera House, Red Salon – **"A self-contained secret"** (Fricsay exhibition, curated by **Márton Karczag**)

29 October 2014, Opera House, Bertalan Székely Hall – **Fricsay100 Memorial Album** (with notes by **Szilveszter Ókovács**)

30 October 2014, Opera House, main staircase – **Inauguration of Fricsay bust** (gift from **Marta Dobay-Fricsay**)

Piano Arias

THE BIRTHDAY OF FERENC LISZT IN THE OPERA



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, we lay a wreath to the sound of resounding fanfares at this spot with representatives of the music academy that bears his name. Liszt not only conducted opera, but would also often rework beloved pieces of 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. The principal artist at the 2014 Piano Arias will be world-famous pianist *Alexander Gavrylyuk*.

Mozart ▶ **Rondo in D major**

Brahms ▶ **Paganini Variations**

Saint-Saëns / Liszt / Horowitz ▶ **Danse**

Wagner-Liszt ▶ **Isolde's Liebestod**

Liszt ▶ **Consolation No. 3**

Liszt ▶ **Valse impromptu**

Liszt / Horowitz ▶ **Rákóczi March**

Liszt ▶ **Tarantella (Venezia e Napoli)**

On piano ▶ **Alexander Gavrylyuk**, Featuring **Judit Németh** (Isolde)

Principle patron ▶ **Anita Herczegh**, wife of the President of Hungary

20 October 2014, 7 pm, Opera House main entrance (laying of wreath), 7.30 pm, Opera House (piano recital)

Tuned to Freedom

FREE FAMILY EVENTS AT THE OPERA

A reading park, ballet performance, behind-the-scenes tours, handicrafts, a Big B(r)and concert and much more besides. A lively and action-packed programme of events awaits the entire family on this national holiday. This event regularly attracts thousands of visitors, with lines stretching from the atrium to the artists' entrance.

It is a special pleasure, and one afforded to anyone, to visit *Miklós Ybl's* masterpiece in this anniversary year, 200 years after the master's birth and 130 after the building's inauguration. All events are free of charge to attend with a registration ticket collected from the Opera House box offices.

23 October 2014, 10 am – 4 pm, Opera House

Requiem

LIBERA ME, DOMINE

One of the Opera's loveliest traditions is its musical observation of the All Saints/Day of the Dead holiday period each year with the funeral mass that has been described as "an opera in ecclesiastical robes". *Giuseppe Verdi's* grandiose *Requiem* is the honest music of an opera composer that blends tragedy, pain, hope and consolation in the operatic style and language characteristic of Verdi. The *Requiem* was heard in many venues around Budapest on occasion of the bicentenary celebrations last year, during which time we chose instead to play *Leonard Bernstein's* Jewish and *Gabriel Fauré's* Christian funeral opuses, but the tradition returns in 2014.

Verdi ▶ **Requiem**

Featuring ▶ **Csilla Boross, Clementine Margaine, Stuart Neill, Roberto Tagliavini**
the Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera
the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra
Conductor ▶ **Pinchas Steinberg**

27–28 October 2014 7.30 pm, Opera House

Big Projection Day

SLIDE' 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 on 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 Big Projection Day, which is holding one of its main events in the Erkel Theatre, wishes to draw attention to. We await nursery school groups and children to projections with expert storytellers and musical accompaniment.

Host ▶ **Gergő Süveges**

On piano ▶ **Miklós Harazdy**

Partner ▶ **Diafilmgyártó Kft.**

6 November 2014 11 am, Erkel Theatre, Grand Buffet

Hungarian Opera Day

THE BIRTHDAY OF FERENC ERKEL

On 7 November 1810, *Ferenc Erkel* was born the son of a Gyula teacher. 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 remember *Sándor Szokolay*, another brilliant Hungarian composer, who – like Erkel – also made significant contributions as a teacher.

A revival of the opera *Blood Wedding* by the recently deceased composer will be presented to the audience as part of a joint celebration of Hungary's national opera culture, which was created by *Erkel* and has developed over some two centuries since. On the composer's birthday, we naturally also reflect again on prose works that deal with *Erkel's* life: on this occasion, a new chamber piece by *Zsolt Pozsgai* entitled *Molto pavane* will be performed in the Grand Buffet before the concert.

7 November 2014, Erkel Theatre

5 pm Zsolt Pozsgai ► **Molto pavane** (stage play)

Director ► **Zsolt Pozsgai**

Ferenc Erkel ► **József Incze**

Gustav Mahler ► **Ádám Varga**

7 pm Sándor Szokolay – **Blood Wedding** (see page 106)

Andrea Rost²⁵

JUBILEE OF THE WORLD-RENOWNED SOPRANO

It has been 25 years since this student of the Academy of Music first walked the boards of the Erkel Theatre in 1989 in the role of Juliette. Combined with the direction of *Dénes Gulyás* and his impulsive portrayal of Roméo, *Andrea Rost's* performance created a huge sensation and soon set her off on a campaign of international conquests that took in the opera houses of Vienna, Paris, London, Milan, Munich, Berlin, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York. The soprano now takes to the stage in her always favoured surroundings of the Erkel Theatre to sing a programme of works she has compiled herself, in the company of some of her closest colleagues whose identity shall remain a secret for the moment. The evening will also see the first screening of a new short film on Rost made by Duna Televízió.

Conductor ► **Gergely Kesselyák**

10 November 2014 7.30 pm, Erkel Theatre

The Night of the Ad Eaters

CLASSICAL MUSIC AND ADVERTISING MEET AT THE ERKEL THEATRE

The 14th Hungarian edition of *The Night of the Ad Eaters* is presented in what are – compared to previous years – the unusual and novel surroundings of the Erkel Theatre, aimed at an audience receptive to both classical music and commercials of a high standard. Quality advertising has become an organic part of the cultures of many nations, as has classical music. As an applied art, a successful piece of creative advertising, like a brilliant piece of music, can bear the imprint and mood of a given time and cultural milieu.

The opera and classical music will also be represented in the accompanying programmes, with a personality from the classical genre acting as host for the event. The evening features creative competitions, award ceremonies, a special show and some striking promotions.

8 November 2014, Erkel Theatre



Dózsa500

REMEMBERING AN UPRISING HALF A MILLENNIUM AGO



It is 500 years since a peasants' revolt broke out in mediaeval Hungary under the leadership of a man-at-arms of the lower nobility named *György Dózsa*. From history, we have a relatively accurate picture of the progress and nature of the conflict, and of how the movement was eventually defeated, but legends still abound regarding the execution of the leader of the revolt. One thing the accounts all agree upon is that *György Dózsa* certainly had to endure terrible torture. *Ferenc Erkel's* opera, premiered after the Compromise of 1867, presents a subtle portrait of the hero, and although the piece reaches a dramatic climax with Dózsa's death, the acts that lead up to it portray a pensive, de-mythicized figure struggling within himself.

With the concert performance of a now only rarely performed work, Erkel's former institution wishes to pay tribute to the Opera House's first music director, the first great organiser of Hungary's musical culture and the father of its national Romantic opera. A sound recording made by Bartók Radio will constitute the latest in its OperaTrezor series. Dózsa and the peasant uprising he led will also be remembered in the language of dance in a dance chronicle presented by our partner the Honvéd Art Ensemble.

Conductor ► **Balázs Kocsár**

17 November 2014, 7 pm, Erkel Theatre (Erkel: Dózsa György)

29 and 30 November 2014, 7 pm, Erkel Theatre (Dózsa – A Dance Chronicle)



Academy of Music & CO

CHAMBER OPERAS IN THE SOLTI HALL



The former small hall of the sparkingly redecorated Academy of Music has been the main hub of the opera faculty for a hundred years or more. Renamed after *György Solti*, the opera hall with its stage, wire catwalk and balconies is the ideal venue for all chamber opera productions that do not require a large set and attempt to innovate on the mainstream language of operatic performance. Every year, the Hungarian State Opera runs two series in the home of its strategic partner, the Academy of Music: autumn will see a reworking of an earlier premiere, while the new year brings a fresh production tailored to the venue.

Partner ► **Music Academy**

Benjamin Britten ► **The Rape of Lucretia** (see page 32)

5, 7 and 9 November György Solti Chamber Hall, Academy of Music

Georges Bizet ► **Djamileh** (see page 43)

Saint-Saëns ► **La princesse jaune** (see page 43)

20 and 21 February 2015 György Solti Chamber Hall, Academy of Music

Nutcracker Festival

ADVENT AT THE OPERA

On the first Sunday of advent, we not only decorate an enormous tree befitting of the wonder of Andrassy Avenue, but also invite adults and children who love yuletide treats to gather round. Once again, there will be a choral performances each evening on the Hajós Street sphinx's "A'Capella steps" before each evening's performance, and the Kolibri Theatre will also be giving short puppet shows. With charity in mind, the wine of Piarista Bor will be mulled once again, chestnuts will be freshly roasted and the full range of the Opera's exclusive drinks range will be available to buy. Meanwhile, the OperaShop will move out onto the street and offer – as perhaps the perfect gift – copies of our latest recording, *Dohnányi's* single-act opera *The Tenor*. All proceeds will go to Interchurch Aid (HIA) and are expected to generate substantial income for the organisation.

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 and the huge sleigh on the Dalszínház Street Sphinx Terrace.

Our legendary ballet production will be performed a total of 20 times.

Opening ceremony ► *30 November, 6 pm* with *László Lehel*, president of Hungarian Interchurch Aid

Partners ► **Hungarian Dance Academy, A'Capella Winery, Piarista Bor, Skrabski Winery, Kolibri Theatre, Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

30 November – 23 December 2014 Andrassy Avenue

Little Christmas

LET CHRISTMAS BE FOR EVERYONE

The Opera House has an uplifting tradition of arranging a special performance that takes place in the salon of *The Nutcracker*, but 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 the Little Christmas shows.

Artistic director ► **Máté Szabó Sipos**

Soloist ► **Eszter Zavaros, Róbert Rezsnyák**

Host ► **László Szvétek**

12 December 2014 11 am and 1 pm, Opera House

Golden Saturday

FAMILY CHRISTMAS IN THE ERKEL THEATRE

On the last Saturday before Christmas in 2013, more than 1,400 people participated in the Christmas event of the National Association of Large Families in the Erkel Theatre. This year, the Opera is going one step further by opening up the Mozartian *The Little Flute* production not just to members of NOE, but, for the morning performance also grandmothers and grandfathers from the Hungary's largest association of pensioners, not forgetting their grandchildren. This special Golden Saturday event in anticipation of Christmas is sure to bring new energy and the joy of being together to all involved.

*20 December 2014 11 am, National Association of Large Families, National Civil Association of Pensioners
3 pm, National Association of Large Families*

Children's Safety Christmas

GOLDEN SUNDAY NUTCRACKER



This is the sixth 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 famous *Nutcracker* will conjure up a festive atmosphere for disadvantaged children from around the country and beyond.

Dr. Péter Edvi, President of the Children's Safety Service, and Szilveszter Ókovács, General Director of the Hungarian State Opera, 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 Seven Dwarves*.)

21 December 2014 11 am, Opera House (The Nutcracker)

2015 Erkel Theatre (Snow White and the Seven Dwarves)

Opera Christmas

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CONCERT OF THE YEAR

The tradition celebrating the Christmas holidays with unusual styles of music at the Opera House is beginning to take root. The Anglo-Saxon programme of 2012 was followed by Latin rhythms last year, and Christmas of 2014 will bring a selection of American music (with the first performance of the production taking place the previous day as part of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra subscription series). We are an Opera House, so the orchestral pieces will be joined by vocal works to ensure wonderful and light-hearted holiday enjoyment for all the family.

Leonard Bernstein ▶ **Divertimento**

Leonard Bernstein ▶ **West Side Story** – symphonic dances

George Gershwin ▶ **Porgy and Bess** – highlights

Soloists ▶ **Csilla Boross, Lawrence Derrick**

Conductor ▶ **John Axelrod**

Featuring ▶ **Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera** (chorusmaster: **Maté Szabó Sipos**)

23 December 2014 7.30, Opera House

Nutcracker Gala Matinéés

A STAR BALLERINA GRACES ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST EXTRAVAGANT SETS

An unforgettable way to spend the morning of Christmas Eve! Upholding a tradition started in 2011, this Christmas gift from the Opera House comes in the form of a world-famous ballet star featuring in our deservedly renowned, showpiece production of *The Nutcracker*. The very best of the Hungarian National Ballet and students of the Hungarian Dance Academy will be joined for this matinée performance by *Polina Semionova* in the role of Princess Marie. The First Solo Dancer of the American Ballet Theatre has already appeared at the Hungarian State Opera House as the star guest at the Silver Rose Ball in 2014.

Princess Maria ► **Polina Semionova**

Conductor ► **Péter Halász**

24-26 December 2014 11 am, Opera House

New Year's Bat

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, while, in the third act, the costume of inebriated prison guard Frosch will be donned by a female artist – 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 – all conducted by the principal music director.

Frosch ► **Piroska Molnár**

Conductor ► **Péter Halász**

31 December 2014 Opera House and Andrassy Avenue

New Year's at the Opera

NEW WORKS AND SYMPHONY NO.9 BY "A"

A New Year's invocation at the Opera: the entire complement of the Hungarian State Opera will be saluting both their audience and all Hungarians living abroad via Duna Televízió. The evening will feature a poem by Hungarian-Slovakian poet *Zoltán Csehy*, a new ballet segment, a New Year's greeting from neurobiologist Dr. Balázs Gulyás as a representative of the world of science, and a new piece written for the occasion by composer *Judit Varga*. The vocal soloists will be made up of the very finest opera singers in Hungary, with the Opera's acting Principal Music Director on the conductor's podium.

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**

Featuring ▶ **László Mátray**, actor

1 January 2015 Opera House



Day of Hungarian Culture

A CELEBRATION OF OUR HOMELAND'S PERFORMANCE ART

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 is on an aspect of performed art that forms an equally important part of Hungarian culture: on this day, we will 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 the Opera House, we will be displaying relics of *Ferenc Erkel* relating to the *Himnusz*, penned by *Ferenc Kölcsey*, while an expanded version of the thematic “Hungaricum” exhibit by *Tamás Kárpáti* that had visited Andrassy Avenue the previous year will resume at the Erkel Theatre.

22 January 2015 6.30 pm, atrium of the Erkel Theatre – opening of “Hungaricum” exhibit

Holocaust 1944

FOR THOSE TAKEN FROM THE OPERA

At the end of the memorial year of the Hungarian holocaust, the Opera House also bows its head in respect to the victims. Numerous artists and employees from the institute died in the Nazi camps, while others mourn and suffer the absence of their families and relatives to this day. The memorial concert programme will feature a work with a direct message, but also a piece that is slightly more abstract, tackling more the psychological aspects of the pain caused by the tragedy. Both works are relatively rarely heard on the Hungarian stage.

Arnold Schönberg ▶ **A Survivor from Warsaw**

Miklós Radnóti ▶ **I cannot know...**

Henryck Górecki ▶ **Symphony No. 3**

Featuring ▶ **The Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra,
Chorus of the Hungarian State Opera, Kátya Tompos (Radnóti)**

Conductor ▶ **Ari Rasilainen**

26 January 2015 7.30 pm, Opera House



Faust Ball

CARNIVAL AT THE OPERA!



In 2014, we held the Silver Rose Ball in honour of Richard Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier* on occasion of the composer's jubilee year. The 2015 carnival season will once again be crowned by the Opera Ball, but for the Faust season, two special artists will be bringing this devilish theme to life: *Angela Gheorghiu*, the world-famous diva, and *Carlos Acosta*, the star dancer, visit Hungary for the first time. Just as the world of sport was featured last year, this year science plays the same role, so we will be inviting Hungary's greatest personalities from the field, alongside a great many guest artists and supporters of the Opera. We'll have some world-famous Hungarian scientists as guests of honour too, but let's keep their identity secret for now.

The ball retains its philanthropic objective: we are continuing with the ambulance project, and there also will be an opportunity to make a convivial contribution on the square next to the Opera House at the Dalszínház Street Ball, where we will be projecting the Faust Ball's festive programme live. In addition, hundreds of thousands of viewers will again be able to observe the Ball through the kind efforts of Duna Televízió. The morning after, we will again be hosting disadvantaged children in the enormous ballroom, inviting them to the "Breadcrumb Ball" to watch *Engelbert Humperdinck's* fairytale opera, *Hansel and Gretel*.

Conductor ▶ **Péter Halász**, Principal Music Director

Directors ▶ **Ferenc Anger**, Artistic Director, **Tamás Solymosi**, Ballet Director

Host ▶ **Szilveszter Ókovács**, General Director

14 February 2014, 9 pm, Opera House – Faust Ball and Dalszínház Street Ball



Iván Nagy International Ballet Gala

IN HONOUR OF THE LATE BALLET STAR

Internationally renowned ballet artist and several-time ballet director Iván Nagy passed away on 22 February 2014. After returning to Hungary 20 years ago, he committed himself to the service of his homeland and worked with us 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 are organising an international ballet gala night, to which we invite the greatest in the profession to pay tribute to his knowledge and humanity.

On this evening, we also plan to announce the establishment of the recently created Iván Nagy Scholarship and its first appeal to support and advance Hungarian ballet and its highly talented performers.

7 March 2015 Opera House



Pas de quatre '15

PANORAMA OF HUNGARIAN DANCE ENSEMBLES

Hungarian National Ballet **Troy Game** ♂

Male ballet parody in one act

Choreographer ▶ **Robert North**

Composer ▶ **Bob Downes**

Costume designer ▶ **Peter Farmer**

Ballet masters ▶ **Levente Bajári, Csaba Solti**

Ballet Pécs **Change Back**

Choreographer ▶ **Leo Mujić**

Composer ▶ **Johann Sebastian Bach**

Design ▶ **Thomas Mika**

Assistant ▶ **Tünde Czebe**

Ballet Company of Győr **Bolero**

Choreographer ▶ **András Lukács**

Composer ▶ **Maurice Ravel**

Costume designer ▶ **Monika Herwerth**

Lights and Sets ▶ **András Lukács**

Szeged Contemporary Dance Company

Stabat Mater

Choreographer ▶ **Tamás Juronics**

Composer ▶ **Arvo Pärt**

Lighting ▶ **Ferenc Stadler**

Scenery concept ▶ **Tamás Juronics**

Costume designer ▶ **Bianca Imelda Jeremias**

29 March 2015 Erkel Theatre

Once again, the traditional *Pas de quatre* night will be followed by the 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.

Inversedance – Zoltán Fodor Company: **Eszter**

Choreographer ▶ **Zoltán Fodor**

Choreographer's assistant ▶ **Kitty Balkányi**

Music ▶ **Attila Gergely**

Lighting ▶ **Ferenc Stadler**

Pál Frenák Company

Boys

Choreographer ▶ **Pál Frenák**

Dancers ▶ **Nelson Reguera, Péter Holoda, Zoltán Feicht, Leonardo Maietto**

Music ▶ **Fabrice Planquette, Attila Gergely**

Visuals ▶ **Pál Frenák**

Lighting ▶ **János Marton**

Sound ▶ **Attila Hajas**

Staging, alpinist ▶ **György Zoltai**

Lead producer ▶ **Dóra Juhász**

30 March 2015 Erkel Theatre



Parsifal for Scientists

"ENLIGHTENED BY COMPASSION..."

The special Holy Tuesday evening performance in 2013's *Opera for Everyone* open dress rehearsal series was expressly for the benefit of the 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 on Holy Wednesday 2015 it will be the turn of Hungarian scientists to be summoned for a truly incomparable experience, the motto of which is one of the final – and most enlightened – lines from the libretto to Parsifal.

Partner ► **Hungarian Academy of Sciences**

31 March 2015 5 pm, Opera House

YBL201

AWARD CONCERT AND EXHIBITION

Miklós Ybl, the brilliant designer of the Opera House building, was born in 1814. On his 201st birthday, we will be continuing the tradition started last year and celebrating with a concert attended by an audience of engineers and architects. Several days before the concert, the presentation of the Ybl Prizes, the highest accolades in Hungarian architecture, will be made, with the Opera House's Bertalan Székely Hall providing the venue from now on. During the concert's intermission, representatives of both the Opera and the Ybl Society will lay a wreath at the memorial tablet to mark this anniversary.

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

Mieczyslaw Karłowicz ▶ **Stanislaw and Anna Oswiecimowie**, op. 12

Johannes Brahms ▶ **Symphony No. 1 in C minor**, op. 68

Conductor ▶ **Antoni Wit**

Partners ▶ **Ybl Society, Chamber of Hungarian Architects, Association of Hungarian Architects**

13 April 2015 7.30 pm, Opera House

The Day of Verse

HUNGARIAN MUSIC AND POETRY

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 evening of Hungarian poems and songs starting at 5 pm, prior to the evening's performance. With the participation of actors and singers, Hungarian verses by everyone from *Kodály* to contemporary poets will be heard and accompanied by the musical works set to them. Compiled by singers *Frigyes Andrásy* and *Krisztina Andrásy*.

Encouraged by the success of last year's event, we are laying on two simultaneous events in 2015. The poetry concert in the Opera House will run in parallel with a gathering of students from two of Hungary's acting colleges in the Grand Buffet of the Erkel Theatre. Professors *Géza M. Tóth* and *Attila Vidnyánszky* will be selecting from the finest in Hungarian verse.

Partners ▶ **University of Theatre and Film Arts, University of Kaposvár**

11 April 2015 5 pm, Opera House – Poetry concert

5 pm, Erkel Theatre – Nekem a legszebb

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, and in 2015 will reach out beyond the Opera House's walls and celebrate the wonder of the voice in an open-air programme series.

Partner ► **Akvárium Klub**

16 April 2015 Erzsébet Square, Akvárium



Primavera '15

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 invited to participate will feature their latest pieces at the Erkel Theatre. Thanks to the Armel Production, the performance judged by the curators to be of the highest standard will be given the opportunity to guest in Western Europe.

Csokonai Theatre, Debrecen (Saint-Saëns ► **Samson and Delilah**)

Győr National Theatre (Mozart ► **The Magic Flute**)

Hungarian Opera of Cluj-Napoca (Offenbach ► **The Tales of Hoffmann**)

Miskolc National Theatre (Verdi ► **Rigoletto**)

Pécs National Theatre (Mozart ► **Don Giovanni**)

Szeged National Theatre

Partner ► **Armel Production**

21-26 April 2015 Erkel Theatre

Choral Artist's Mini-Festival

FOCUS ON THE CHORAL ARTISTS OF THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

This year's programme showcasing the virtues of the Hungarian State Opera Chorus, Hungary's top professional choral ensemble, kicks off with an operatic rarity. Nino Rota's work will be followed by a choral concert and song night connected to the Faustian theme, as well as a version of the *Umberto Giordano* opera *Fedora* that harks back to the *verismo* of the first two works that opened the season. A concert by the Hungarian State Opera children's chorus also features in the series.

24 and 29 April 2015 7 pm, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre – Nino Rota ► **Il cappello di paglia di Firenze** (see page 70)

25 April 2015 7 pm, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre – **"Faust and his Time" chamber concert and song night**

26 April 2015 11 am, St. Stephen's Basilica – children's choir concert

26 April 2015 7 pm, Jókai Street Orchestral Centre – Giordano ► **Fedora** (see page 71)

MamaMatinée

CONCERT FOR MOTHERS-TO-BE

If we take *Zoltán Kodály* at his word, musical education commences not in the womb, but while even while the child's own mother is yet to be 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 2,300 tickets for this performance of *The Marriage of Figaro*. In exactly the same manner as last year, we will be welcoming 300 young couples to the stalls, balconies and parterre seating areas of the orchestra level. In the first interval, a high-resolution group photograph will be taken of the mothers-to-be in front of the Opera House, which will be made available to download on the Opera's website.

Partners ► **Ministry of Human Resources, MTVA, Magyar Rádió**

3 May 2015 11 am, Opera House

European Opera Days

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 will 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. Sleeping bags required. Release from the demons occurs at six in the morning, with the arrival of the stage crew.

Head Inquisitor ► **András Aczél**

Information ► terjviszsa@opera.hu

7 May 2015 10 pm, Opera House

May Celebration

FAUST225 FESTIVAL

Just as our Strauss150 Festival in late spring and early summer 2014 crowned our 130th season, the Faust225 Festival focuses around the 225th anniversary of the appearance of fragments of Goethe's *Faust, Part I*. Five splendid works based on the theme of *Faust* will be played (including the premier of *Gounod's* opera and the Hungarian premiere of *Busoni's* work), with the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra giving a concert of rarities to close this gem of a series, more than two weeks long and replete with both Hungarian and foreign artists of international renown. All performances will take place at the Opera House.

Partner ► **Magyar Turizmus Zrt.**

Gounod ► **Faust** (17, 19, 21, 23, 26 and 31 May 2015)

Stravinsky ► **The Rake's Progress** (16 and 20 May 2015)

Boito ► **Mefistofele** (28 and 30 May 2015)

Weber ► **Der Freischütz** (27 and 29 May 2015)

Busoni ► **Doktor Faust** (22 and 24 May 2015)

BPS Concert ► **Schumann and Faust** (1 June 2015)

15 May 2015 – 1 June 2015 Faust225 Festival

Seregi Night 2014

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.

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. The first winner in 2014 was *András Lukács*, who was commissioned by the Opera to choreograph the ballet section of the New Year's Concert to a waltz from *Richard Strauss's Der Rosenkavalier*, which the public was able to enjoy on television on 1 January 2014. This year's winner will be announced prior to the performance of the great master's *Silvia*.

23 May 2015 7 pm, Erkel Theatre

Figaro Here and There

10TH TOUR OF JAPAN

The Hungarian State Opera House has given a total of around 200 performances in Japan to date. On 4 June 2015, the company starts its tenth tour of Japan, and we will be taking two pieces with us this time: both *Mozart's Marriage of Figaro* and *Rossini's Barber of Seville* will be staged in the distant island nation.

In addition to Tokyo's foremost performance venue, the Bunka-kai-kan, the Opera's 100-strong contingent will be visiting the hypermodern theatres of numerous other Japanese cities.

Venues ▶ **Tokyo, Nagano, Kawaguchi, Musashino, Hamamatsu, Nagoya, Oita, Morioka, Osaka, Kobe, Fukuoka, Wakayama**

Partner ▶ **Concert Doors Ltd.**

The Hungarian State Opera is responsible not only for Hungarian culture, but also for its many employees. On the final Saturday afternoon of the season in June, we invite each and every one of them and their families to the Normafa park area of the Buda Hills. The "Norma-fa" was an enormous beech tree that marked the spot of a legendary outdoor 1840 concert of Bellini's magnificent opus, and the name has stuck to the entire area ever since, along with its special place in the legacy and affection of the Opera, with June also marking the month of its collapse in – appropriately operatic fashion – a thunderstorm in 1927. Some 1,200 families involved with the Opera on a regular professional basis will be able to enjoy children's programmes, 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 being a showing of Hollywood classic *The Great Caruso*, with *Mario Lanza* in the title role.

Partners ▶ **Örökmozgó Film Múzeum, Royalsekt Zrt.**

27 June 2015 from 3 pm, Normafa

Night of Stars

GALA FOR THE SEASON'S FINEST



The season cannot be allowed to pass without a gala spectacular 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 Étoile Award. The audience will be populated with artists and employees of the Opera together with the Opera's special guests. The event will be broadcast live on public media and screened 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.

Director ► **Ferenc Anger, Tamás Solymosi**

Conductor ► **Péter Halász**

Previous winners ► **Chamber Singer of the Hungarian State Opera: Eszter Sümegi, Zita Váradi, Gábor Bretz (2012), Kolonits Klára, Attila Fekete, Mihály Kálmándi (2013)**
► **Étoile of the Hungarian State Ballet: Zoltán Oláh (2012), Aliya Tanykpayeva (2013)**

Partners ► **Duna Televízió, Bartók Rádió, MTVA, Budapest District V, St. Stephen's Basilica, Hungarian Interchurch Aid**

29 June 2015 Erkel Theatre



Opera in Balatonfüred

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, with the assistance of the public media, will no doubt prove a worthy venue for the popularisation of opera in the dignified setting that the genre deserves. The opening evening on Thursday will see the Choir of the Hungarian State Opera take to the stage, while another opera gala will take place on Friday with, four young singers in a performance that will include the Hungarian State Opera's chorus.

As is now tradition, the Opera's ballet dancers to dance the ball's Palotás, or "Palace Dance", a stately promenade with its roots deep in Hungarian history. What is more, there will also be a screening of our baller film of *The Merry Widow* to enjoy on the Sunday evening after the ball. The opera gala itself will be recorded by Duna Televízió.

23 July, Thursday: choral evening

24 July, Friday: orchestral opera gala

25 July, Saturday: Anna Ball Palotás

26 July, Sunday: OperaCinema (The Merry Widow ballet film screening)

23-26 July 2015 Balatonfüred, Gyógy tér

OperaSziget
"JUST PLAY IT COOL, BOY!"

Day after day, and with unflagging enthusiasm, we must struggle on every front to popularise opera and ballet and put paid to preconceptions. The above quote from *West Side Story* is an indication of how to position the young singers of the Hungarian State Opera House at 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. The project is the responsibility of director *András Aczél*, with bass-baritone *András Hábetler* as programme host.

11-18 August 2014 Hajógyári Island, Budapest



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Children's and Youth Programmes

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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.

The programme will commence at 9.30 am on each date.

16, 17, 18, 24, 26 and 27 September 2014

1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 29, 30 and 31 October 2014

6, 8, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26 and 27 November 2014

2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18 and 19 December 2014

7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 January 2015

4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25 and 26 February 2015

4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28 March 2015

1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 April 2015

7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 May 2015

Entry is 1000 Ft/child,
free for accompanying teachers.

Info ► balerina@opera.hu

The Adventures of Maestro Macaroni

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, as they search for Maestro Macaroni's missing conductor's baton. 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 baton is found, every little secret will be revealed.

Maestro Macaroni ► **Máté Szabó Sípós**

12 September

7 December

20 September

20 December

12 October

21 December

18 October

4 January

9 November

17 January

15 November

25 January

23 November

3 March

Tickets: 2000 Ft

Meet by the Dalszínház Street entrance to the Opera House, next to the Royal Staircase.

Magical Opera

RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7

In the beautiful Bertalan Székely Hall, nursery and primary school-age children with their parents or in school groups will 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.

Groups* (Mondays, from 9.30 and 11.00)

3 and 17 November 2014

8 December 2014

26 January 2015

2, 16, 23 and 30 March 2015

27 April 2015

11 May 2015

Families (Saturday at 9.00)

8, 15 and 29 November 2014

6 December 2014

23 February 2015

3, 24 and 31 January 2015

7 February 2015

Ticket price: 1000 Ft

* One accompanying teacher goes free for every five children

On Mondays, use the Opera House's Dalszínház Street entrance; on Saturdays, entrance will be through the main entrance.

OperaAdventure 3.0

The 2014–2015 school year brings the third season of OperaAdventure, the largest theatrical education programme in Hungary. Tens of thousands of students have come from all over Hungary to take part in an opera experience of a lifetime at the Erkel Theatre. In Spring of 2014, the programme is expanding even further: OperaAdventure participants will now also be able to view public collections. (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 is eligible to qualify as teaching hours according to the given school's local teaching programme. 122 towns, 300 schools, 52,000 students – and counting.

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

OperaAdventure 2014: autumn series: October 2014 – Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore

OperaAdventure 2014: spring series: May 2015 – Mozart: Abduction from the Seraglio



Afternoon Jam

RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7

A fun introduction to various musical instruments in the Opera House's Bertalan Székely Hall, on Sundays from 3.30 pm and 5 pm.

26 October ▶ Percussion

16 November ▶ Flute – Bassoon

30 November ▶ Trumpet – Trombone

18 January ▶ Guitar

8 February ▶ Clarinet – Oboe

22 February ▶ French Horn – Tuba

22 March ▶ Cello – Double Bass

29 March ▶ Harp

12 April ▶ Piano

26 April ▶ Violin – Viola

Individual tickets are available for 1200 Ft per session.

Meet by the Dalszínház Street entrance to the Opera House, next to the Royal Staircase.

Instrumental magic

RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7

A playful demonstration of the orchestra's various instrumental sections for young children of nursery and primary school age on the Royal Staircase.

Groups

(Mondays at 9 am, 10.30 am and 12 pm)

20 October ▶ Strings

26 November ▶ Woodwinds

15 December ▶ Brass

5 January ▶ Percussion

19 January ▶ Strings

9 February ▶ Woodwinds

13 April ▶ Percussion

Families, season pass

holders (Saturdays at 10.30 am and 12 pm)

Metronome season pass

8 November ▶ Strings

15 November ▶ Woodwinds

29 November ▶ Brass

6 December ▶ Percussion

Musical Note season pass

3 January ▶ Strings

24 January ▶ Woodwinds

31 January ▶ Brass

7 February ▶ Percussion

Tuning Fork season pass

(Saturdays at 9 am, 10.30 am and 12 pm)

7 March ▶ Strings

11 April ▶ Woodwinds

18 April ▶ Brass

30 May ▶ Percussion

Group tickets are available for 1000 Ft per session, One accompanying teacher goes free for every five children.

For season-pass programmes, individual tickets cost 1,200 Ft, while a "season pass" for four sessions can be purchased in advance for 4000 Ft.

Children to the Erkel!

UNICEF CHILDREN'S DAY



UNICEF is one of the world's foremost humanitarian organisations. It currently operates in more than 190 countries and regions to safeguard every child from infancy to adulthood. The organisation works with great dedication to ensure every child receives clean drinking water, adequate nutrition, and at least basic education, and is protected from violence, exploitation and infectious disease. UNICEF conducts its work from individual contributions, as well as material support from governments, the business world and the non-profits. In Hungary, the international organisation is represented by the Hungarian National Committee for UNICEF. UNICEF's programmes in Hungary aim to broaden awareness of children's rights and stamp out child abuse. The Hungarian branch of UNICEF is a partner of the Opera: for years the Erkel Theatre has been turned over to children on Children's Day in late May or early June, with various arts and crafts and game activities in the entrance hall and buffet area, as well as an opera performance, *The Little Magic Flute*, created by János Lackfi on the basis of *Mozart's Magic Flute*, which conjures up a fairy tale world of the circus and Singspiel. The contract sealing the cooperation between the two organisations was signed before the Children's Day 2013 performance of *The King's New Clothes*, with the intention of creating a new tradition. The agreement is renewed each year as part of the festivities, which is when the artists who will be performing the pro bono work on behalf of the Hungarian State Opera are also announced.

9 am ▶ **Children's Programmes**

11 am ▶ Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – János Lackfi ▶ **Little Magic Flute**

31 May 2015 Erkel Theatre



Sing-along Baby

MUSICAL FUN WITH LITTLE ONES

At these sessions now being launched 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.

We recommend sessions from birth to the age of three and also welcome expectant mothers.

Sessions held by ► **Klára Újvári**

Price: 1000 Ft/family

On Thursdays from 11 am (30 min. each), Erkel Theatre

First Session ► *30 October 2014*

Final Session ► *28 May 2015*



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Exhibitions

Exhibitions

OPERA HOUSE

12 September – 8 October Cavalleria rusticana – Pagliacci*

27 September – 2 June 130 Years of Hungarian Operas

27 September – 31 December Ybl Model Competition

8 – 27 October Mozart at the Opera House (with thanks to the Palace of Arts)

27 October – 30 November Fricstay100

1 December – 5 January The Nutcracker

16 January – 2 February Hogarth, Graphic Reproductions*

22 February – 16 March Manon

19 March – 20 April Das Rheingold – RING (with thanks to the Palace of Arts)

24 April – 14 May Swan Lake

14 May – 2 June Faust and the Devil*

* With thanks to the Museum of Fine Arts

Exhibitions

ERKEL THEATRE

11 September – 8 October The Tenor

22 October – 12 December Carmen

12 December – 2 January Der Freischütz

22 January – February 10 Day of Hungarian Culture – Hungaricum

13 February – 2 March Nabucco

4 – 20 April Aida

30 April – 18 May Abduction from the Seraglio

20 – 30 June The Karamazovs

9 January – February 12 Exhibition of Contemporary Transylvanian Painters

4 March – 1 April Selection of Opera House Sets and Scenery by János Jolsvai and József Balogh



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Calendar

Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
SEPTEMBER 2014					
6	Saturday	20	Freedom Opera Gala		
7	Sunday	19:30	Ball at the Opera30 (KFT)		
10	Wednesday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
11	Thursday	11	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
11	Thursday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide	Ősz/1	B
13	Saturday	19	MASCAGNI: Cavalleria Rusticana / LEONCAVALLO: Pagliacci (premiere)	Premiere/1	P
14	Sunday	11	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide	Bánffy/1	K
14	Sunday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide		B
15	Monday	19	The Muses Fall Silent – Tribute		H

Date	Day	Time	Performance	SEPTEMBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
16	Tuesday	19	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Tóth/1	A
17	Wednesday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide			B
18	Thursday	19	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Házy/1	A
19	Friday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide		Klemperer/1	B
20	Saturday	11	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide		Simándy/1	K
20	Saturday	19	North-Downes: Troy Game / Gielgud-Løvenskiold: La Sylphide			B
21	Sunday	19	Marton Singing Competition Gala			V
22	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Kodály/1	H
23	Tuesday	19	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Oláh/1	A
25	Thursday	19	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Svéd/1	A
26	Friday	19	Puccini: Tosca		Radnay/1	A
27	Saturday	19	Opera House 130 – Gala			V
28	Sunday	11	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci		Gimnazista/1	K
28	Sunday	19	Puccini: Tosca			A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
OCTOBER 2014					
2	Thursday	19	Puccini: Tosca	Puccini/1	A
3	Friday	19	Gluck–Strauss: Iphigenie auf Tauris	Mikó/1	A
4	Saturday	19	Puccini: Tosca		A
5	Sunday	19	Gluck–Strauss: Iphigenie auf Tauris	Pataky/1	A
7	Tuesday	19	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci	Failoni/1	A
8	Wednesday	18	Mozart: Così fan tutte (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
9	Thursday	19	Gluck–Strauss: Iphigenie auf Tauris	Házy/2	A
10	Friday	19	MOZART: COSÌ FAN TUTTE (premiere)	Premiere/2	P
11	Saturday	11	Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana / Leoncavallo: Pagliacci	Simándy/2	K
11	Saturday	19	Gluck–Strauss: Iphigenie auf Tauris		A
12	Sunday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte	Tóth/2	A
15	Wednesday	18	Verdi: Falstaff (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
16	Thursday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte	Ősz/2	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
17	Friday	19	Verdi: Falstaff		Verdi/1	A
18	Saturday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte		Ferencsik/1	A
19	Sunday	11	Verdi: Falstaff		Bánffy/2	K
19	Sunday	19	Gluck–Strauss: Iphigenie auf Tauris			A
20	Monday	19:30	Liszt103 – Arias for piano			H
21	Tuesday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte		Klemperer/2	A
22	Wednesday	19	Verdi: Falstaff		Tiszay/1	A
23	Thursday		Tuned to Freedom – Family Day at the Opera			
24	Friday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte		Universitas/1	A
25	Saturday	19	Puccini: Tosca			A
26	Sunday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte			A
27	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Dohnányi/1	H
28	Tuesday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert			H
29	Wednesday	11	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
29	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Tosca		A
30	Thursday	19	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia	Fülöp/1	B
31	Friday	19	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia		B
NOVEMBER 2014					
2	Sunday	11	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia		K
2	Sunday	19	Puccini: Tosca		A
4	Tuesday	19	Verdi: Falstaff	Failoni/2	A
5	Wednesday	19	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia	Harangozó/1	B
6	Thursday	11	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
6	Thursday	19	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia		B
8	Saturday	11	Verdi: Falstaff	Gimnazista/2	K
8	Saturday	19	Harangozó–Delibes: Coppélia		B
9	Sunday	19	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten	Pataky/2	A
12	Wednesday	19	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten	Klemperer/3	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	NOVEMBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
13	Thursday	19	Puccini: Tosca			A
14	Friday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte			A
15	Saturday	19	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten		Lukács/1	A
16	Sunday	11	Mozart: Così fan tutte		Családi/1	K
16	Sunday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		Mikó/2	A
18	Tuesday	19	Mozart: Così fan tutte			A
19	Wednesday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		Verdi/2	A
20	Thursday	19	Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten		Házy/3	A
21	Friday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		Radnay/2	A
22	Saturday	11	Mozart: Così fan tutte		Suli/1	K
22	Saturday	18	Wagner: Tannhäuser (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
23	Sunday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		Ősz/3	A
24	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Kodály/2	H
25	Tuesday	18	Wagner: Tannhäuser		Oláh/2	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
26	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Tosca		A
27	Thursday	18	Wagner: Tannhäuser	Svéd/2	A
28	Friday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		A
29	Saturday	18	Wagner: Tannhäuser		A
30	Sunday	19	Verdi: Il trovatore		A
DECEMBER 2014					
2	Tuesday	18	Wagner: Tannhäuser	Delly/1	A
4	Thursday	19	Puccini: La bohème		A
5	Friday	11	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
6	Saturday	11	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		K
6	Saturday	19	Puccini: La bohème		A
7	Sunday	11	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker	Családi/2	K
7	Sunday	18	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		B
9	Tuesday	19	Puccini: La bohème	Puccini/2	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
10	Wednesday	19	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Fülöp/2	B
11	Thursday	19	Puccini: La bohème			A
12	Friday	19	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
13	Saturday	11	Puccini: La bohème			K
13	Saturday	18	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
14	Sunday	11	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
14	Sunday	18	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
17	Wednesday	19	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Harangozó/2	B
18	Thursday	19	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		Tél/1	B
19	Friday	19	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
20	Saturday	19	Puccini: La bohème			A
21	Sunday	18	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker			B
22	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Dohnányi/2	H
23	Tuesday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Concertante/2	H

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
24	Wednesday	11			D
25	Thursday	11	Vainonen–Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker		C
26	Friday	11			C
26	Friday	19	Puccini: La bohème		D
27	Saturday	18			D
28	Sunday	11			A
28	Sunday	19	Puccini: La bohème		D
30	Tuesday	11			A
30	Tuesday	19	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		D
31	Wednesday	16.30	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		D
31	Wednesday	20.30	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		D
JANUARY 2015					
1	Thursday	20	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		D
3	Saturday	19	Strauss: Die Fledermaus		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY 2015	Season Ticket	Price
4	Sunday	19	Puccini: La bohème			A
11	Sunday	11	Puccini: La bohème		Bánffy/3	K
11	Sunday	19	Strauss: Die Fledermaus			A
14	Wednesday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
15	Thursday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin			B
16	Friday	18	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
17	Saturday	11	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin		Gimnazista/3	K
17	Saturday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin			B
18	Sunday	19	STRAVINSKY: THE RAKE'S PROGRESS (premiere)		Premiere/3	P
19	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Kodály/3	H
20	Tuesday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress		Oláh/3	A
21	Wednesday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin		Harangozó/3	B
22	Thursday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress		Házy/4	A
23	Friday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin		Mikó/3	B

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
24	Saturday	11	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin	Simándy/3	K
24	Saturday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress	Ferencsik/2	A
25	Sunday	11	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin	Családi/3	K
25	Sunday	19	Cranko–Tchaikovsky: Onegin	Fülöp/3	B
27	Tuesday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress	Tóth/3	A
28	Wednesday	18	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
29	Thursday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress	Svéd/3	A
30	Friday	19	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer	Tél/2	A
31	Saturday	18	Puccini: Madama Butterfly (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
FEBRUARY 2015					
1	Sunday	19	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer	Klemperer/4	A
3	Tuesday	19	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer	Delly/2	A
4	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly	Tiszay/2	A
5	Thursday	19	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	FEBRUARY 2015	Season Ticket	Price
6	Friday	18	Verdi: Otello (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
7	Saturday	19	Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer		Lukács/2	A
8	Sunday	18	Verdi: Otello			A
9	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert		Dohnányi/3	H
10	Tuesday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly			A
11	Wednesday	18	Verdi: Otello		Verdi/3	A
14	Saturday		FAUST BALL			
15	Sunday	11	Breadcrumb Ball – Hansel and Gretel			
18	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Tél/3	A
19	Thursday	18	Verdi: Otello		Mikó/4	A
20	Friday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly			A
21	Saturday	18	Verdi: Otello		Ferencsik/3	A
22	Sunday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Pataky/3	A
25	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Madama Butterfly		Puccini/3	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
26	Thursday	19	Erkel: Bánk bán	Házy/5	A
27	Friday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
28	Saturday	19	MACMILLAN–MASSENET: MANON (premiere)	Premiere/4	P
MARCH 2015					
1	Sunday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon	Tavasz/1	B
4	Wednesday	19	Erkel: Bánk bán		A
5	Thursday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon	Fülöp/4	B
6	Friday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon	Radnay/3	B
7	Saturday	19	Nagy Iván International Ballet Gala		B
8	Sunday	11	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon		K
8	Sunday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon	Harangozó/4	B
9	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert	Kodály/4	H
10	Tuesday	19	Erkel: Bánk bán	Oláh/4	A
11	Wednesday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon	Tiszay/3	B

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MARCH 2015	Season Ticket	Price
12	Thursday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon		Svéd/4	B
13	Friday	19	MacMillan–Massenet: Manon		Failoni/3	B
14	Saturday	19	Erkel: Bánk bán			A
18	Wednesday	18	Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
19	Thursday	18	Wagner: Das Rheingold (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
20	Friday	19	Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos			A
21	Saturday	19	WAGNER: DAS RHEINGOLD (premiere)		Premiere/5	P
22	Sunday	11	Erkel: Bánk bán			A
22	Sunday	19	Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos			A
24	Tuesday	19	Wagner: Das Rheingold		Delly/3	A
26	Thursday	19	Wagner: Das Rheingold		Universitas/2	A
27	Friday	19	Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos			A
28	Saturday	19	Wagner: Das Rheingold		Ferencsik/4	A
29	Sunday	19	Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos		Mikó/5	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
31	Tuesday	17	Wagner: Parsifal (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
APRIL 2015					
1	Wednesday	18	Bach: St. John Passion (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
2	Thursday	19	Bach: St. John Passion (premiere)		H
3	Friday	17	Wagner: Parsifal	Delly/4	A
4	Saturday	19	Bach: St. John Passion	Concertante/3	H
6	Monday	17	Wagner: Parsifal		A
10	Friday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro	Failoni/4	A
12	Sunday	11	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro		K
13	Monday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert	Dohnányi/4	H
17	Friday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro	Radnay/4	A
18	Saturday	19	Janáček: Jenůfa	Tavasz/2	A
19	Sunday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro	Nyár/1	A
21	Tuesday	19	Janáček: Jenůfa	Klemperer/5	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
22	Wednesday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro		A
23	Thursday	19	Janáček: Jenůfa		A
24	Friday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
25	Saturday	19	RUDI VAN DANTZIG–TCHAIKOVSKY: SWAN LAKE (premiere)	Premiere/6	P
26	Sunday	11	Janáček: Jenůfa	Suli/2	K
26	Sunday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake	Patakyl/4	B
29	Wednesday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake	Fülöp/5	B
30	Thursday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		B
MAY 2015					
2	Saturday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake	Lukács/3	B
3	Sunday	11	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro		K
3	Sunday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake	Nyár/2	B
4	Monday	19.30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert	Kodály/5	H
6	Wednesday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro	Tiszay/4	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2015	Season Ticket	Price
7	Thursday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake		Harangozó/5	B
8	Friday	18	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro		Tavasz/3	A
9	Saturday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			B
10	Sunday	11	Mozart: Il nozze di Figaro		Suli/3	K
10	Sunday	19	Rudi van Dantzig–Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake			B
15	Friday	18	Gounod: Faust (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
16	Saturday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress			A
17	Sunday	19	GOUNOD: FAUST (premiere)			
19	Tuesday	19	Gounod: Faust			A
20	Wednesday	19	Stravinsky: The Rake's Progress		Universitas/3	A
21	Thursday	19	Gounod: Faust		Tóth/4	A
22	Friday	20	Busoni: Doktor Faust		Concertante/4	K
23	Saturday	19	Gounod: Faust		Failoni/5	A
24	Sunday	20	Busoni: Doktor Faust			K

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
26	Tuesday	19	Gounod: Faust	Oláh/5	A
27	Wednesday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz	Nyár/3	A
28	Thursday	19	Boito: Mefistofele		A
29	Friday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz	Radnay/5	A
30	Saturday	19	Boito: Mefistofele	Lukács/4	A
31	Sunday	19	Gounod: Faust	Pataky/5	A
2015. JUNE					
1	Friday	19:30	Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra Concert	Dohnányi/5	H



ERKEL

SZÍNHÁZ
THEATRE

Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
SEPTEMBER 2014					
11	Thursday	18	Dohnányi: The Tenor (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
12	Friday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos	Eger/1	A
14	Sunday	19	DOHNÁNYI: THE TENOR (premiere)		A
16	Tuesday	19	Dohnányi: The Tenor	Visegrád/1	A
17	Wednesday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos	Gyula/1	A
18	Thursday	19	Dohnányi: The Tenor	Sárvár/1	A
19	Friday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos	Füzér/1	A
20	Saturday	19	Dohnányi: The Tenor	Veszprém/1	A
21	Sunday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos	Esztergom/1	A
24	Wednesday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos	Sírok/1	A
27	Saturday	18	Verdi: Don Carlos		A
OCTOBER 2014					
1	Wednesday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore	Opera Adventure invitation only	M

Date	Day	Time	Performance	OCTOBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
1	Wednesday	19	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
2	Thursday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
2	Thursday	17	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
3	Friday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
3	Friday	19	Hynd-Lehár: The Merry Widow		Eger/2	A
4	Saturday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
4	Saturday	19	Hynd-Lehár: The Merry Widow		Seregi/1	A
5	Sunday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
5	Sunday	19	Hynd-Lehár: The Merry Widow		Esztergom/2	A
7	Tuesday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
7	Tuesday	17	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
8	Wednesday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
8	Wednesday	19	Hynd-Lehár: The Merry Widow			A
9	Thursday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore		Opera Adventure invitation only	M

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
9	Thursday	19	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow	Sárvár/2	A
10	Friday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore	Opera Adventure invitation only	M
10	Friday	17	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore	Opera Adventure invitation only	A
11	Saturday	11	Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore	Opera Adventure invitation only	M
11	Saturday	19	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow	Veszprém/2	A
15	Wednesday	19	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow		A
18	Saturday	19	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow	Füzér/2	A
19	Sunday	11	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow	Tata/1	M
19	Sunday	19	Hynd–Lehár: The Merry Widow		A
27	Monday	19	FRICSAY100 – Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor		V
28	Tuesday	11	Bizet: Carmen (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
31	Friday	19	BIZET: CARMEN (premiere)		A
NOVEMBER 2014					
6	Thursday	19	Bizet: Carmen	Visegrád/2	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	NOVEMBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
7	Friday	19	Szokolay: Blood Wedding		Sirok/2	A
9	Sunday	11	Szokolay: Blood Wedding		Csókakó/1	M
9	Sunday	19	Bizet: Carmen		Tokaj/1	A
10	Monday	19:30	Rost25 – Jubilee Gala			
11	Tuesday	19	Szokolay: Blood Wedding		Sümeg/1	A
12	Wednesday	19	Bizet: Carmen		Gyula/2	A
13	Thursday	19	Szokolay: Blood Wedding		Sárvár/3	A
15	Saturday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études			A
16	Sunday	11	Bizet: Carmen		Vasutas/1	M
16	Sunday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études			A
17	Monday	19	Erkel Ferenc: Dózsa György		Concertante/1	A
18	Tuesday	19	Bizet: Carmen			A
19	Wednesday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études			A
20	Thursday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études			A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
21	Friday	19	Bizet: Carmen	Eger/3	A
22	Saturday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études	Seregi/2	A
23	Sunday	19	Troy Game Six Dances Études		A
25	Tuesday	19	Bizet: Carmen		A
27	Thursday	19	Bizet: Carmen		A
28	Friday	18	Kacsóh: Sir John	Füzér/3	A
29	Saturday	11	Honvéd Táncszínház: Dózsa		A
29	Saturday	19	Bizet: Carmen		A
30	Sunday	11	Kacsóh: Sir John		M
30	Sunday	19	Honvéd Táncszínház: Dózsa		A
DECEMBER 2014					
5	Friday	18	Kacsóh: Sir John	Hollókő/1	A
7	Sunday	11	Kacsóh: Sir John	Döbrönte/1	M
9	Tuesday	18	Kacsóh: Sir John	Sümeg/2	A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	DECEMBER 2014	Season Ticket	Price
11	Thursday	18	Kacsóh: Sir John		Sárvár/4	A
12	Friday	18	Weber: Der Freischütz (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
13	Saturday	11	Mozart-Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
13	Saturday	18	Kacsóh: Sir John		Veszprém/3	A
14	Sunday	19	WEBER: DER FREISCHÜTZ (premiere)			A
16	Tuesday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz		Visegrád/3	A
18	Thursday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz		Siklós/1	A
19	Friday	18	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte			A
20	Saturday	11	Mozart-Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
21	Sunday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz		Esztergom/3	A
23	Tuesday	18	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte			A
25	Thursday	11	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte			A
26	Friday	19	Weber: Der Freischütz			A
27	Saturday	11	Mozart-Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
27	Saturday	18	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		A
28	Sunday	11	Weber: Der Freischütz	Tata/2	M
30	Tuesday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		M
30	Tuesday	18	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		A
JANUARY 2015					
2	Friday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		M
3	Saturday	11	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte	Vasutas/2	M
4	Sunday	18	Mozart: Die Zauberflöte		A
7	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Turandot	Gyula/3	A
9	Friday	19	Puccini: Turandot	Eger/4	A
10	Saturday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		M
11	Sunday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		M
14	Wednesday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto	Hollókő/2	A
15	Thursday	19	Puccini: Turandot		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JANUARY 2015	Season Ticket	Price
16	Friday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto			A
17	Saturday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
17	Saturday	19	Puccini: Turandot			A
18	Sunday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
18	Sunday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto		Siklós/2	A
21	Wednesday	19	Puccini: Turandot		Tokaj/2	A
22	Thursday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto			A
23	Friday	19	Puccini: Turandot			A
24	Saturday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute			M
24	Saturday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto			A
25	Sunday	11	Mozart–Lackfi: Little Magic Flute		Döbrönte/2	M
25	Sunday	19	Puccini: Turandot			A
27	Tuesday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto		Sümege/3	A
29	Thursday	19	Puccini: Turandot			A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
31	Saturday	19	Verdi: Rigoletto		A
FEBRUARY 2015					
11	Wednesday	11	Verdi: Nabucco (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
12	Thursday	18	Kodály: Háry János		M
13	Friday	19	VERDI: NABUCCO (premiere)	Kőszeg/1	A
14	Saturday	11	Kodály: Háry János	Vasutas/3	M
14	Saturday	18	Kodály: Háry János	Veszprém/4	A
15	Sunday	11	Kodály: Háry János	Tata/3	M
15	Sunday	19	Verdi: Nabucco	Esztergom/4	A
17	Tuesday	18	Kodály: Háry János		M
18	Wednesday	19	Verdi: Nabucco	Hollókő/3	A
19	Thursday	18	Kodály: Háry János		M
20	Friday	19	Verdi: Nabucco		A
21	Saturday	11	Kodály: Háry János	Csókakő/2	M

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
21	Saturday	18	Kodály: Háry János		M
22	Sunday	19	Verdi: Nabucco		A
27	Friday	19	Verdi: Nabucco	Tokaj/3	A
28	Saturday	19	Erkel: Hunyadi László	Siklós/3	A
MARCH 2015					
3	Tuesday	19	Erkel: Hunyadi László		A
6	Friday	19	Verdi: Luisa Miller		A
7	Saturday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A
8	Sunday	19	Verdi: Luisa Miller		A
10	Tuesday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia	Sümege/4	A
11	Wednesday	19	Erkel: Hunyadi László	Gyula/4	A
12	Thursday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A
13	Friday	19	Erkel: Hunyadi László	Kőszeg/2	A
14	Saturday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
15	Sunday	11	Erkel: Hunyadi László		M
17	Tuesday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia	Rezi/1	A
19	Thursday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A
20	Friday	18	Mozart: Don Giovanni		A
21	Saturday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A
22	Sunday	18	Mozart: Don Giovanni		A
24	Tuesday	18	Mozart: Don Giovanni		A
25	Wednesday	19	Rossini: Il barbiere di Siviglia		A
26	Thursday	18	Mozart: Don Giovanni		A
29	Sunday	19	Pas de quatre '15		A
30	Monday	19	DanceTrend '15		M
APRIL 2015					
2	Thursday	18	Verdi: Aida (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
4	Saturday	18	VERDI: AIDA (premiere)		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	APRIL 2015	Season Ticket	Price
8	Wednesday	18	Verdi: Aida		Visegrád/4	A
10	Friday	11	Tallér: Leander and Linseed (public dress rehearsal)		Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
10	Friday	18	Verdi: Aida			A
11	Saturday	11	TALLÉR: LEANDER AND LINSEED (premiere)			M
11	Saturday	17	Tallér: Leander and Linseed			M
12	Sunday	11	Tallér: Leander and Linseed			M
12	Sunday	18	Verdi: Aida			A
14	Tuesday	18	Verdi: Aida			A
17	Friday	18	Verdi: Aida			A
18	Saturday	11	Tallér: Leander and Linseed			M
18	Saturday	17	Tallér: Leander and Linseed			M
19	Sunday	11	Tallér: Leander and Linseed		Döbrönte/3	M
19	Sunday	18	Verdi: Aida			A
21	Tuesday	19	Primavera '15			A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
22	Wednesday	19	Primavera '15		A
23	Thursday	19	Primavera '15		A
24	Friday	19	Primavera '15		A
25	Saturday	19	Primavera '15		A
26	Sunday	19	Primavera '15		A
MAY 2015					
3	Sunday	19	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		A
5	Tuesday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	M
5	Tuesday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	A
6	Wednesday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	M
6	Wednesday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	A
7	Thursday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	M
7	Thursday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	A
8	Friday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail	Opera Adventure invitation only	M

Date	Day	Time	Performance	MAY 2015	Season Ticket	Price
8	Friday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
9	Saturday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
12	Tuesday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
12	Tuesday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
13	Wednesday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
14	Thursday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
15	Friday	17	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	A
16	Saturday	11	Mozart: Die Entführung aus dem Serail		Opera Adventure invitation only	M
23	Saturday	19	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia		Seregi/3	A
27	Wednesday	19	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia		Rezi/2	A
28	Thursday	19	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia			A
30	Saturday	11	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia			M
30	Saturday	19	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia		Kószeg/3	A
31	Sunday	19	Seregi-Delibes: Sylvia			A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Season Ticket	Price
JUNE 2015					
10	Wednesday	18	Vivaldi: Farnace (public dress rehearsal)	Opera for Everyone invitation only	F
12	Friday	19	VIVALDI: FARNACE (premiere)		A
14	Sunday	19	Vivaldi: Farnace		A
18	Thursday	19	Vivaldi: Farnace	Rezi/3	A
19	Friday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A
20	Saturday	19	Vivaldi: Farnace	Sirok/3	A
21	Sunday	11	Eifman: The Karamazovs	Vasutas/4	A
21	Sunday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A
24	Wednesday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A
25	Thursday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A
26	Friday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A
27	Saturday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs	Seregi/4	A
28	Sunday	19	Eifman: The Karamazovs		A

Date	Day	Time	Performance	JUNE 2015	Season Ticket	Price
29	Monday	19	Night of Stars			A



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

Opera Bonus

For the new season, the Hungarian State Opera is raising the curtain on a brand-new website with a new look and greatly expanded content.

In addition to a revamped design offering easy access from all modern devices (tablets, PCs and mobile phones), the website engine will also be receiving a tune-up for faster, more convenient and more enjoyable browsing, while buying tickets online will be simpler and quicker than ever. Visitors will also find new features like an image gallery with accompanying text that will serve as a virtual tour of the Opera House, digital downloads of our publications, and OperaDigiTar, a digital archive giving researchers access to a huge volume of high-quality material from the past 130 years. Our focus on social media also remains unchanged: The Opera's loyal followers will continue to benefit from staying tuned with rewards including competitions, exclusive pictures and videos.

The new website with its comprehensive management system under the hood is the result of several years of planning based on best practices adopted by the world's major concert venues. It is the first step of a long-term IT development project.

From autumn 2014, www.opera.hu

The Hungarian State Opera considers nurturing and developing Hungary's vocal culture to be among its key tasks. The Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music, where nearly all of its singers and musicians graduated, shares the same vision. In this spirit, and continuing along the path charted in 2012, world-famous artists will once again be holding master classes in the new season. The art of *Júlia Hamari*, *Yevgeny Nesterenko* and *Dénes Gulyás* requires no special introduction: all voice types will benefit from their guidance. All classes are held at the Academy of Music, and are open and free of charge to Hungarian and foreign singers at the Opera, as well as students of the music academy. (The teachers reserve the right to limit the number of students.) The courses will conclude on their final afternoon with a public concert in the Bertalan Székely Hall. Applications should be sent via e-mail.

Information ► mesterkurzus@opera.hu

Partner ► **Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music**

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 – all 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.

The further training includes observing two performances and the teachers will then receive theoretical and practical training on five occasions of six hours each, which include both plenary and group sessions. (Also included are discussion forums, workshops and rehearsal visits, a presentation on music history, advice on planning cultural programmes, group music-making, a tour of the building, and personal meetings with artists, producers and theatre professionals.)

The performances are at the Erkel Theatre.

Information ► operaakademia@opera.hu

On the occasion of the production of *Háry János* in 2013, the Opera announced for the first time a competition to allow every student to try out, as part of their own school classes, the experience of playing music and singing in a group as they create their own total artwork. Following the success of that competition, the Hungarian State Opera House is also curious this year to find out what new versions will be made of the songs in the production of *L'elisir d'amore*, the piece selected for the OperAdventure programme this fall.

The grand prize will be a spectacularly enjoyable class outing rich with outstanding cultural treats.

Jury ► **Zoltán Amin**, communications professional and Deputy CEO, Duna Televízió
Csaba Káel, director and General Manager, Palace of Arts
Szilveszter Ókovács, opera signer and General Director, Hungarian State Opera House
Andrea Vigh, harpist and Rector, Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music

Information ► videopalyazat@opera.hu

OpeRajz

A FITTING VENUE FOR DRAWING EARLY MASTERPIECES

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 1–2 classes at a time, up to a total of 40 children.

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

Opera on Wheels

After the Second World War, the artists of the opera resumed their activity with *Don Pasquale* – and last year we resumed ours with the same production. After several decades, Opera on Wheels was on the road again 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, etc.) make it suitable for chamber opera and ballet productions. The travellers are on a mission: to popularise the Opera's productions and the genres of opera and ballet.

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 Opera on Wheels will be touring in the autumn with *Csaba Káel's 2014 Don Pasquale*, while the age-restricted MozartLateNight production will be making guest appearances around the country in the spring, with plans to visit locations outside of Hungary as well.

Information ► www.opera.hu

Sempre Libera... Always Free! _____

Simultaneously with last year's Budapest premiere of Verdi's special work, *Stiffelio*, the Opera started planning a new Verdi mini gala series, allowing us to pay homage to *Giuseppe Verdi*, the possessor of the richest and most extensive oeuvre in opera history. On the composer's bicentenary, the Opera started to consider visiting those Hungarian cities that lack a suitable theatre auditorium, but do have an attractive, smaller facility suitable for a beautiful, small-scale concert performance, with additional destinations made up of higher-quality recreational venues that will attract the audience of the future. The Sempre Libera Gala will on each occasion feature four outstanding opera singers and a pianist, together with one of the Opera's répétiteurs, in a production by *Albert Mátyik* with lighting by *András Both*. The production is small enough to travel in two minibuses. Inquiries regarding advance bookings may be made at the Opera's artistic secretariat – we also have not ruled out the possibility of putting mini ballet demonstrations on the road either.

Partner ► **Hungarika Kft.**

Information ► emprelibera@opera.hu

_____ Collegium Operorum (Day of Hungarian Culture) "LET US TEACH EVERY PEOPLE"

The year 2013 saw the launch of the Opera's programme to support Hungarian cultural institutes beyond our borders, with the Song Night on Dalszínház Street productions expanded with Hungarian programme elements and performed at Hungarian cultural institutes. Whenever possible, the performers of each evening of song programmes will also pay a visit to a second Hungarian institute to repeat their concert there.

Institutes participating in the programme:

Cultural Service of the Embassy of Hungary in Brussels
New Delhi Hungarian Information and Cultural Centre
Office of the Hungarian Cultural Counsellor, Cairo
Hungarian Cultural, Scientific and Information Centre, Moscow
Hungarian Institute of Bratislava
Hungarian Institute of Prague
Bucharest Hungarian Cultural Centre, Branch Institute of Sepsiszentgyörgy
Hungarian Institute of Tallinn

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 130-year history, and this exclusive club will also henceforth have its own seat.

On weekdays, the private OperaLobby will receive benefactors of the Hungarian State Opera in the Bertalan Székely Hall in an intimate, salon-type setting, where a selection of coffee house specialities and cheeses will be provided along with newspapers, Internet access, and a smoking terrace. Club members will be given access to the Sissy Proscenium, from where they can follow rehearsals and performances. Entrance on Dalszínház Street, via the Royal Staircase.

Opening hours: Between 8 am and 12 midnight (Monday through Friday)

Starting from: 27 September 2011

Today's rich selection of radio stations is lacking one that exclusively broadcasts operatic and ballet music. Thankfully, this is exactly what you can expect to hear on the Opera podcast: through this virtual channel, we will be sending news from our institution out to cyberspace, naturally 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 Magyar Rádió digitised and released, as well as to share discs featuring our artists recorded by Hungaroton and other record companies.

Chief Editor ► **Dávid Zsoldos**

Partner ► **Fidelio Média Kft.**

www.opera.hu/operafm



Total Artist

EXCHANGING IDEAS AT THE TABLE OF MIKLÓS BÁNFFY



There are many secrets hidden in the former office in the Opera House of the great nobleman *Miklós Bánffy*, the last of Hungary's 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 have been 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.

Host ▶ General Director *Szilveszter Ókovács*.

Partner ▶ **Duna Televízió, MTVA**

From autumn 2014, on Duna Televízió

Opera Magazine

WHERE THE NEWS UNFOLDS

In the past, the biggest Hungarian cultural institution's primary use for its own magazine was to provide its partners and supporters with an exclusive advertising platform – and also to provide some information to fans. The bi-monthly periodical summoned into life in 2012 has taken on a good bit more of a challenge than that. In 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



Shortly after the change in regime in Hungary in 1989, the once vibrant flame of the domestic record industry all but flickered out. As a result, 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 last 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.

The original version of *Bánk Bán* from 2011, 2012's original version of *Hunyadi László*, and 2013's *Háry János* all have been recorded – while the new series will also be complemented by promotional releases and special compilations (*Hunyadi-highlights + werkfilm*, *Útravaló* (For the Road) 2013, *Erkel 102*, and *Útravaló 2014*).

In connection with the renovation of the Erkel Theatre, we are preparing the world's first live recording of *Ernő Dohnányi's* opera *The Tenor* featuring the production's singers, and are also recording *Erkel's* opera *Dózsa György*. On the centenary of the birth of *Mária Gyurkovics*, we have released a selection of unpublished radio recordings by the outstanding coloratura soprano, and this season the "100 years of" series will be expanded to include *Ferenc Fricsay* and *Tibor Udvardy*. The *Útravaló* series is also continuing, so that the Hungarian State Opera House will also present every Hungarian child born in 2015 with an album.

Our releases

- ▶ Erkel *Bánk bán* (original version, 2011)
- ▶ Erkel *Hunyadi László* (original version)
- ▶ Erkel *Hunyadi László* (original version, extracts + werkfilm, 2012, 1 CD)
- Kodály ▶ *Háry János*
 - ▶ Stars of the Opera House I–II
 - ▶ Erkel 102
 - ▶ Mária Gyurkovics100
- Mad Rhythm ▶ *Ella Fitzgerald at the Erkel Theatre*
 - ▶ *Útravaló 2013*
 - ▶ *Útravaló 2014*
 - ▶ What's Playing on the Record? (book trilogy by Géza Fodor)
 - ▶ Budapest Philharmonic160

Planned releases:

- ▶ Richard Strauss150
- ▶ Opera130 (book and CD)
- ▶ Dohnányi: *The Tenor* (live recording)
- ▶ Fricsay100 (tribute book and CD)
- ▶ *Útravaló 2015*
- ▶ Géza M. Tóth's opera films (DVD)
- ▶ Udvardy100
- ▶ Erkel: *Dózsa György* (studio recording)
- ▶ Freedom Gala Night (DVD)
- ▶ Duke Ellington at the Erkel Theatre
- ▶ *The Unknown Opera* (book)
- ▶ Best of Opera 2011–2014 (DVD)

Museum Corner

ETHNOGRAPHY ALL YEAR ROUND

In the interests of finding convergences in the different spheres of culture, we have established a close relationship with the Museum of Ethnography and its enormous and variable collections. Throughout the 2014/2015 season, miniature exhibitions fitting 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 showcases. The team working under *Dr Lajos Kemecei* will be working on the following exhibitions:

From 1 October 2014 – **L'elisir d'amore** – opera: **Italy in Objects**

From 28 November 2014 – **Sir John** – singspiel – **Petőfi and the Romanticism of the Great Plains**

From 7 January 2015 – **Turandot** – opera – **Voices of China**

From 12 February 2015 – **Háry János** – singspiel – **Sir Joannes Háry**, or, Hungarian-ness condensed into singspiel



OperaShop

THE FINEST OPERA STORE IN HUNGARY

The 130-year-old Opera House's former ticket office on Dalszínház Street will be 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 and posters. Product development and production is underway.

Entrance from Dalszínház Street

Opening hours: From 27 September 2014, every day between 10 am and 10 pm.



OperAssortment

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 and bitters made from Transylvanian herbs.

Under production: Pálinka fruit brandy from Tokaj





OperaYearbook

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.)

Opera Ambassador Programme

In autumn of 2013, the Hungarian State Opera launched the “Opera Ambassador” programme, in which it dispatches to all parts of Hungary 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 non-profit organisations, and their functions also include the nurturing of talent.

We invite applications to the three-year programme every year in May.

Information ► nagykovet@opera.hu

You Shall go to the Ball!

BECAUSE AT THE BALL, CLOTHES DO MAKE THE PERSON

The Opera House takes pride in not only its own ball, but also in those of others. That's why it gives (primarily) high school students and nonprofit organisations the chance – on a first-come, first-served basis and between 6 January and 18 February – to borrow costumes that are no longer in use but which are kept in storage and might still be serviceable for the occasional ball, whether they are 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 (2750 Ft per costume for cleaning, and potential repairs that need to be made), but it does request of the given institution or organisation that it sets 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 an admission ticket for two to the opera – to a performance of the Opera House's choosing – as the grand prize for the ball's raffle or other competition.

6 January 2015

Info ► viddesviseld@opera.hu

Útravaló (For the Road) 2015



On 1 January 2013, the General Director of the Hungarian State Opera presented to Anna Léna Üveges, the first child born in Hungary in the New Year, and her proud mother, a copy of the *Útravaló* (For the Road) CD, which was received by the family of every Hungarian new-born (whether in Hungary or abroad) in 2013. 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 Opera and the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra.

While we made our selections for 2013 from among the most popular Hungarian operas and symphonic orchestral works, the 2014 edition of *Útravaló* is composed of recent radio broadcasts of the 160-year-old Budapest Philharmonic, the Opera's orchestral ensemble. In 2015, we are choosing popular excerpts from radio performances from recent years: *Arabella*, *Hippolyte et Aricie*, *Hunyadi László*, *Spiritualists*, *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*, *Mario and the Magician*, *Marton70*, *Night of Stars*, *The Magic Flute*, *Little Magic Flute*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Ariadne auf Naxos* and *Iphigenie auf Tauris*.

Partners ► **Promobox Kft., Ministry of Public Administration and Justice, Foreign Ministry**

From January 2015

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 2014 World Music Day

29 April 2015 World Dance Day

Info ► www.opera.hu

OperaCafé

SITTING DOWN WITH TOTAL ART

We have long needed for there to be 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 arrived at the idea of building a coffee shop in the former ticket office on Hajós Street.

Here the finest cakes and drinks await those meeting by the Opera, whether or not they are there for a performance or not. Part of the space will be equipped with audio equipment, where an upbeat weekly quiz programme with the title of OperaCafé 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.

Opening: 27 September 2014

OperaForum '15

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.

Partner ► **EMMI State Secretariat for Culture**

10 April 2015, Erkel Theatre

OperaVisit

TOURS OF THE THE OPERA IN SEVEN LANGUAGES

Tours of the Opera House building, built 130 years ago by Miklós Ybl, whose 200th anniversary it now is, 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.

Information ► www.operavisit.hu

Our Heroes and Heroines

ETERNAL MEMBERES 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.

Eternal members (as at April 2014): **Éva Andor, András Békés, István Berczelly, János Berkes, Attila Csikós, Imre Dózsa, Magda Kalmár, Katalin Kasza, Ildikó Kaszás, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, Erzsébet Komlóssy, János Kovács, Kolos Kováts, Zsuzsa Kun, Margit László, Ádám Medveczky, Lajos Miller, András Molnar, Géza Overfrank, Adél Orosz, Melinda Ottrubay, Lilla Pártay, Ildikó Pongor, Sándor Sólyom-Nagy, Mária Sudlik, Miklós Szinetár, Ilona Tokody.**

Master Artists (as at April 2014): **András Békés, Attila Csikós, Imre Dózsa, Magda Kalmár, Péter Kelen, Gábor Keveházi, Veronika Kincses, Erzsébet Komlóssy, Kolos Kováts, Zsuzsa Kun, Ádám Medveczky, Lajos Miller, András Molnár, Adél Orosz, Lilla Pártay, Ildikó Pongor, Sándor Sólyom-Nagy, Miklós Szinetár, Ilona Tokody.**

31 March 2015, Opera House, Bertalan Székely Hall

Opera for Everyone

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 be opening up dress rehearsals of 25 different productions throughout the course of the 2014/2015 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 30,000 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) or from the Federation of Family Organisations of the Carpathian Basin, will be eligible to partake in the night's enjoyment for 25% of the price charged for the given seat at a regular performance of the same work.

Opera for Everyone

FULL ENJOYMENT AT A QUARTER OF THE PRICE!

10 September 2014 – **Troy Game / La Sylphide**
11 September 2014 – **Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci**
11 September 2014 – **The Tenor ***
8 October 2014 – **Così fan tutte**
15 October 2014 – **Falstaff**
28 October 2014 – **Carmen ***
29 October 2014 – **Coppélia**
6 November 2014 – **Die Frau ohne Schatten**
22 November 2014 – **Tannhäuser**
5 December 2014 – **The Nutcracker**
12 December 2014 – **Der Freischütz**
14 January 2015 – **Onegin**
16 January 2015 – **The Rake's Progress**

28 January 2015 – **Der fliegende Holländer**
6 February 2015 – **Otello**
11 February 2015 – **Nabucco ***
27 February 2015 – **Manon**
18 March 2015 – **Ariadne auf Naxos**
19 March 2015 – **Das Rheingold**
31 March 2015 – **Parsifal**
2 April 2015 – **Aida ***
10 April 2015 – **Leander and Linseed ***
24 April 2015 – **Swan Lake**
15 May 2015 – **Faust**
10 June 2015 – **Farnace ***

*dress rehearsal at the Erkel Theatre

Ft 300 student tickets in the upper circle

As of 1 March 2012, 120 discounted admission tickets for each Opera House performance (ten per cent of total tickets) valid for the upper circle seats on Level 3 are set aside for young audience members. The student tickets can be purchased in person at the Opera House box office two hours before the start of the performance by showing a valid student ID.

I love the Erkel!

The online communities – and audiences – of the Opera House and Erkel Theatre swelled to the tens of thousands over the 2013/14 season. By the end of the season, our battalion of Facebook fans had topped the 21,000 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 2014/15 season with fresh ideas and extended opportunities to purchase discounted tickets.

By playing the FACEBOOK FANCLUB game to be launched in the new season, fans of the Opera's page get the chance each week to buy 103 pairs of tickets to Erkel performances for just Ft 300 apiece. (The number refers to the Erkel Theatre's 103rd birthday in December.) In this new 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.

The opera's slogan, therefore, for this season might just be expanded to read: The Opera House – where the world, and the World Wide Web, unfold.



OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ

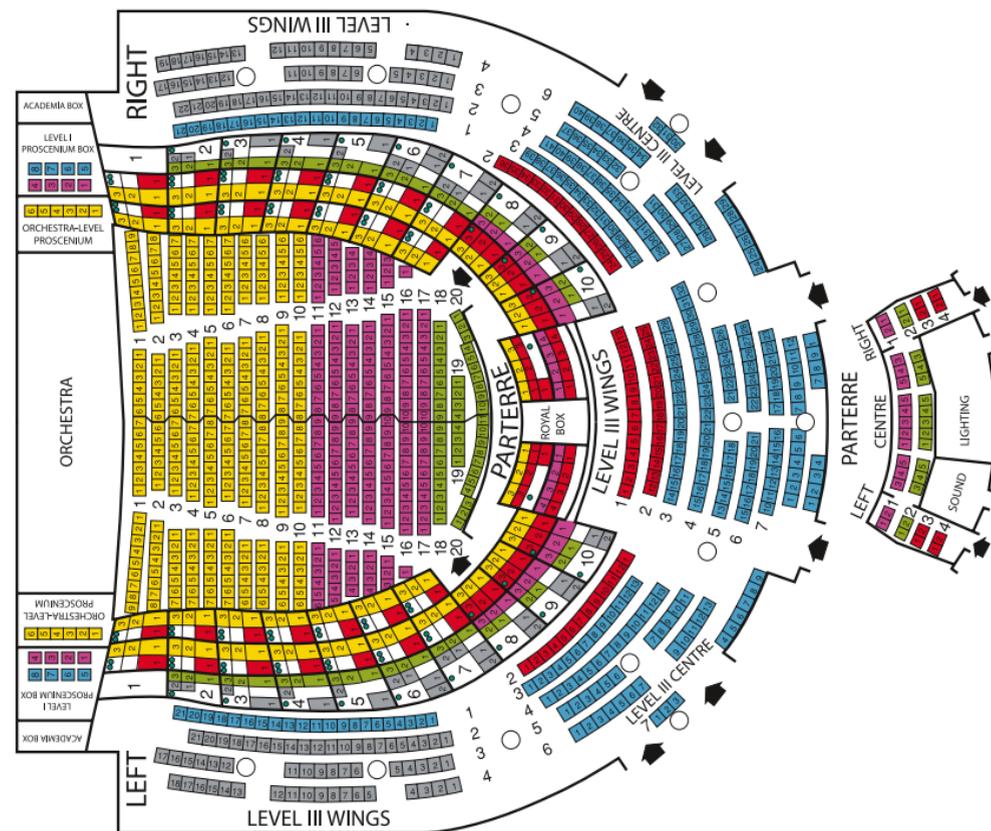
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

[Ticket information](#)

TICKET PRICES

From 1 September 2014		BASE PRICE	BALLET PRICE	RAISED PRICE	TOP PRICE	PREMIÈRE PRICE	CONCERT PRICE	MATINÉE PRICE	DRESS REHEARSAL PRICE
Seat prices		A	B	C	D	P	H	M	(OPERA FOR EVERYONE), "F"
PRICE CATEGORY I									
Orchestra level	Rows 1-10	14,500	12,000	16,500	19,000	19,800	7,500	7,000	3,600
Orchestra level and Level I boxes (1-11)	Row 1	14,500	12,000	16,500	19,000	19,800	7,500	7,000	3,600
PRICE CATEGORY II									
Orchestra level	Rows 11-17	11,500	9,200	13,500	14,500	15,600	6,000	5,500	2,900
Level II boxes (8-11)	Row 1	11,500	9,200	13,500	14,500	15,600	6,000	5,500	2,900
Proscenium box	Row 1	11,500	9,200	13,500	14,500	15,600	6,000	5,500	2,900
Parterre	Row 1	11,500	9,200	13,500	14,500	15,600	6,000	5,500	2,900
PRICE CATEGORY III									
Orchestra	Rows 18-20	9,500	7,800	10,500	11,000	11,400	4,500	4,500	2,400
Level I boxes (8-11)	Row 2	9,500	7,800	10,500	11,000	11,400	4,500	4,500	2,400
Level II boxes (2-7)	Row 1	9,500	7,800	10,500	11,000	11,400	4,500	4,500	2,400
Parterre	Row 2	9,500	7,800	10,500	11,000	11,400	4,500	4,500	2,400
PRICE CATEGORY IV									
Orchestra level and Level I boxes (1-11)	Row 2	4,500	4,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	2,500	2,200	1,100
Level II boxes (8-11)	Row 2	4,500	4,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	2,500	2,200	1,100
Parterre	Rows 3-4	4,500	4,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	2,500	2,200	1,100
Level 3 centre	Rows 1-2	4,500	4,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	2,500	2,200	1,100
PRICE CATEGORY V									
Proscenium box	Row 2	1,500	1,200	1,500	1,800	2,000	1,500	800	400
Level III centre	Rows 3-9	1,500	1,200	1,500	1,800	2,000	1,500	800	400
Level III wings	Row 1	1,500	1,200	1,500	1,800	2,000	1,500	800	400
PRICE CATEGORY VI									
Level II boxes (2-7)	Rows 2-3	600	500	600	700	700	500	300	200
Level II boxes (8-11)	Row 3	600	500	600	700	700	500	300	200
Level III wings	Rows 2-4	600	500	600	700	700	500	300	200
PRICE CATEGORY VII									
EXTRA SEATS		500	400	600		700	500	300	200

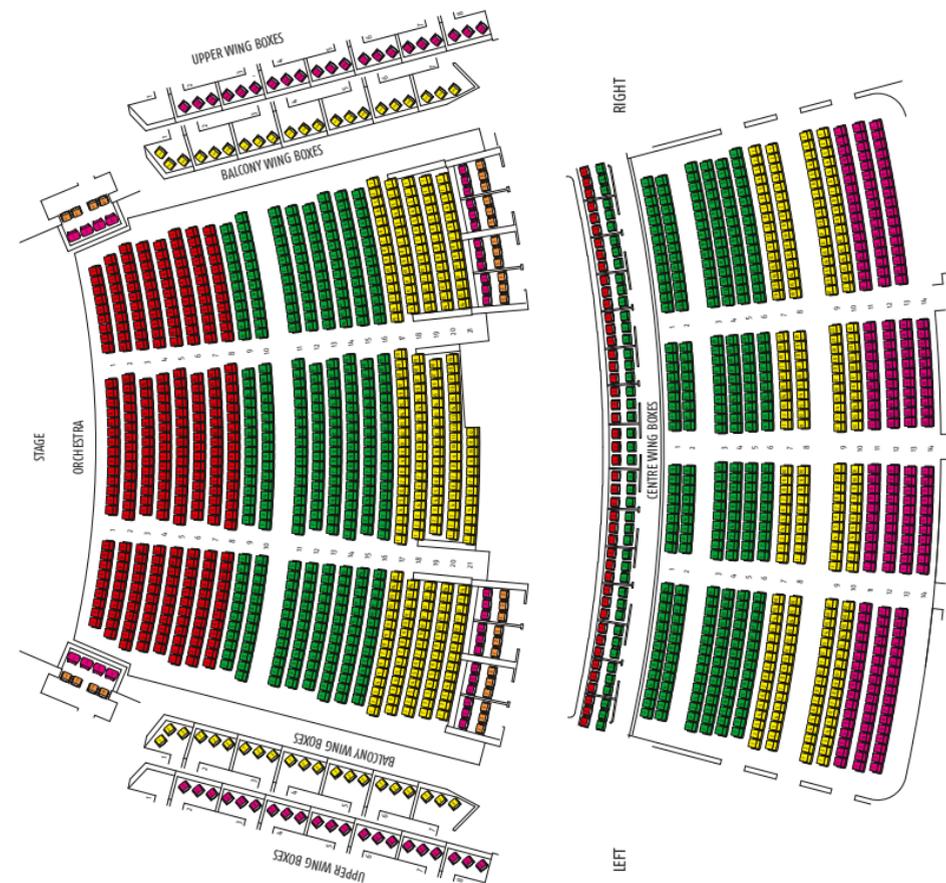
OPERA HOUSE SEATING CHART



TICKET PRICES

Seats	Rows		BASE PRICE "A"	MATINÉE "M"	DRESS REHEARSAL "F"
SEAT CATEGORY I					
Orchestra-level seats	Rows 1-8	298	3,600	1,800	1,800
Centre balcony box	Row 1	45	3,600	1,800	1,800
SEAT CATEGORY II					
Orchestra-level seats	Rows 9-16	355	2,900	1,500	1,500
Balcony seat	Rows 1-6	293	2,900	1,500	1,500
Centre balcony box	Row 2	45	2,900	1,500	1,500
SEAT CATEGORY III					
Orchestra-level seats	Rows 17-24	223	1,500	800	800
Balcony seat	Rows 7-10	216	1,500	800	800
Balcony wing box	Row 1	42	1,500	800	800
SEAT CATEGORY IV					
Balcony seat	Rows 11-14	190	500	300	300
Centre orchestra box	Row 1	24	500	300	300
Level I box	Row 1	42	500	300	300
Proscenium box	Row 1				
SEAT CATEGORY V					
Centre orchestra box	Row 2	24	300	200	200

ERKEL THEATRE SEATING CHART



HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA HOUSE

Address: 1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22 | Postal address: 1373 Budapest, Pf. 513

Main telephone No.: +36 (1) 814-7100 | Main e-mail address: info@opera.hu

Website: www.opera.hu

ERKEL THEATRE

Address: 1087 Budapest, II. János Pál papa tér 30.

Box offices (Opera House main entrance – Tel.: +36 (1) 8147-225, +36 (1) 8147-408; Erkel Theatre box office: +36 (1) 332-6150)

Tickets can be booked Monday through Saturday from 11 am until the start of the evening's performance, or until 5 pm if there is no performance. On Sundays and bank holidays, our box offices open three hours before the start of the performance, or at 10 am in the event of a matinée.

Opera House, Organisational Department

(Accessible from the Dalszínház Street entrance – Tel.: +36 (1) 8147-100/extensions 159, 201, 240 and 318; fax +36 (1) 3119-017)

Tickets may be booked Monday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. Group ticket requests may be submitted via email prior to all performances at jegy@opera.hu.

Tickets may be purchased for all Opera House and Erkel Theatre performances from 1 August 2014, both at the ticket office and online. We ask you to please note that for performances to which season tickets apply, tickets are available only in limited quantities. It is possible to pay by bank card at all of our sales venues.

Online ticket sales: www.opera.hu; www.jegymester.hu

The Hungarian State Opera reserves the right to make amendments to the programme.

The latest information can be found on the www.opera.hu website.

We would like to thank the television channels below for showing the Opera's film advertisement for the 2014/2015 season as a public-service message.

M1, M2, M3, Duna Televízió, Duna World, Film Café, Spektrum, Sport1, Sport2, TV Paprika, TV2, SuperTV2, Fem3, Pro4, RTL Klub, ATV, HírTV, Viasat3.

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Strategic Media Partners



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Media Partners



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Management of the Hungarian State Opera House:

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Béla Simon *Orchestral Director*

Máté Szabó *Sipos Chorus Director*

Gyöngyvér Gupcsó *Head of the Children's Chorus*

Responsible publisher: *The General Director of the Hungarian State Opera House*

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Opera image 2014/15

Executive Producer: **Szilveszter Ókovács, Monika Turkovics**

Line Producer: **Felicián Keresztes**

"Where the world unfolds 2012-2015" concept:

Zoltán Fekete, Attila Kéri, Tamás Gács, Szilveszter Ókovács,

Monika Turkovics, Endre Végh

Creative staff

Creative director – Endre Végh

Art Director – Zoltán Fekete

Director, Photography – Tamás Gács

Associate Director – Danila Kostil

Camera Operator – Gábor Garai

Editor – Gyula Mózes

Sets – Peter Sparrow

Costumes – Ali Tóth – Anikó Virág

Composer – Róbert Gulya

Production Manager – Felicián Keresztes

Film Manager – Richárd Rácz

Director's Assistant – László Kádár

Makeup – Sarolta Tombor

Stylist – Péter Friedman

Special Mask – Iván Pohárnok

Models – Ferenc Urbányi

Animal Trainer – Bendegúz Körmöczi

Post Production – Niki Fehér / Umbrella

Photographic Post Production – András Jeli

"Making of" film:

Márton Somogyi, Bertold Brautigam, András Tiszai

"Making of" photos:

Szilvia Csibi, Zoltán Fekete, Péter Herman, Attila Nagy, Szilárd Nagyllés

Depicted performers:

Bence Apáti, Benjamin Babácsi, Krisztián Cser, Péter Halász, Gergely Hegyesi, Kolos Kovács, Gergő Körtvély, Gergely Leblánc, Amanda Márton, Shoko Nakamura, Orsolya Sáfár, Réka Sári, Mónika Séra, Bea Simon, Eszter Sümegi, Júlia Szilvássy, The Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra

Choreographer of Dance Sequence:

Tamás Solymosi

Music:

**The Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra – the Opera's symphony orchestra
Chorus of the Budapest Opera**

www.opera.hu
