

TEATRO ALLA SCALA



OPERA
BALLET
CONCERTS
22/23

THE 2022/2023 SEASON OF THE TEATRO ALLA SCALA

La Scala's 2022/2023 Opera, Ballet and Concert Season was presented today at a press conference in the Ridotto dei Palchi attended by Milan Mayor **Giuseppe Sala**, Superintendent and Artistic Director **Dominique Meyer**, Music Director **Riccardo Chailly** and Ballet Director **Manuel Legris**.

Over the past few months, as we have watched the auditorium fill up again and again, we have realised once again how deep the desire is in the public to see, to listen, to be there, to participate in the evenings of opera or ballet, in the concerts, in the lectures and other initiatives. In a word, we have rediscovered together with the audience the love for musical theatre and for this magnificent and unreasonable tradition that has lasted for over four centuries. To this passion we have dedicated our 2022-2023 Season: more than 250 performances intended for a wide and diverse audience, made up of a core of subscribers and patrons enriched by young enthusiasts and families, plus the return of international audiences.

THE OPERA SEASON

The Season includes fourteen operas. The core is, as always, Italian, and Italian the language spoken in eight librettos of the upcoming Season; but one will also hear singing in English, French, German, Russian, Czech and Neapolitan, confirming La Scala's cosmopolitan culture that dates back to Toscanini. The coexistence of the Italian repertoire and European openness is well represented by Music Director Riccardo Chailly, who is involved in two operas that he is conducting for the first time: a cornerstone of the Russian repertoire such as Musorgskij's *Boris Godunov* at the opening, (broadcast by Rai Cultura on Rai1), and an Italian classic such as Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Even within the Italian repertoire there will be an effort of variety and diversification: La Scala's Baroque project will be enriched with *Li zite 'ngalera* by Leonardo Vinci, opening an arc that through Rossini, Donizetti, Verdi and Puccini arrives at the verismo of Giordano and Montemezzi. Vinci's opera has never been performed at La Scala, but it is more surprising that even a masterpiece as popular as Dvořák's *Rusalka* is a premiere for our theatre. There are two Verdi titles: a new staging of *I Vespri siciliani*, which has been missing since 1990, and the revival of *Macbeth*, following the practice of reproposing the opening title of the previous season. The return of the immortal 1963 staging of *La bohème* celebrates the 100th anniversary of Franco Zeffirelli's birth.

THE ARTISTS

The same principles of variety and balance followed in the choice of repertoire can be found in the choice of performers. Conductors of established La Scala prestige such as Riccardo Chailly, Fabio Luisi, Zubin Mehta and Michele Mariotti are joined by the debuts of Tomáš Hanus, Andrea Marcon and Simone Young. Returning after debuts in recent seasons are Marco Armiliato, Giampaolo Bisanti, Frédéric Chaslin and the new San Francisco Opera director Eun Sun Kim. In the directing field, different approaches and trends will be represented: the audience will be able to choose from new works by Kasper Holten, Damiano Michieletto, Hugo de Ana, Davide Livermore, Leo Muscato, Yannis Kokkos, Emma Dante, Robert Carsen and Alex Ollé. Finally, the presence of all the most important voices of our time is intertwined with the emergence of young, growing artists from the Academy or from singing competitions. Among the premieres we will hear Marina Rebeka, Angela Meade, Lisette Oropesa, Sonya Yoncheva and Anna Netrebko; Juan Diego Flórez, Jonas Kaufmann and Vittorio Grigolo; Luca Salsi, Luca Micheletti, Amartuvshin Enkhbat, Ildar Abdrazakov and Ildebrando D'Arcangelo. No less important for us are the voices of tomorrow: Olga Bezsmertna, Benedetta Torre, Svetlina Stoyanova, Federica Guida and Chiara Isotton, who, after her studies at the Accademia, gets her first leading role at La Scala.

THE BALLETT SEASON

The **Ballet Season**, happily alternating between the classics and the present, opens by paying homage to Rudolf Nureyev on the 30th anniversary of his death with a revival of his *Nutcracker* with his miraculous balance of fairy-tale enchantment, Christmas spirit and psychoanalytical excavation. The New Year rightly opens with a glimpse of the future represented by four works by David Dawson, Nacho Duato, Philippe Kratz (with a world premiere) and Jiří Kylián, on a musical carpet that includes Thom Yorke, Enrique Granados and Ezio Bosso. The great 19th-century ballet returns with *Le Corsaire* which, amidst Luisa Spinatelli's sumptuous wings, presents for the first time at the Piermarini Manuel Legris' choreographic reinterpretation of Petipa. Among the classics we will also see MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet* and *Swan Lake* to complete the homage to Nureyev, while two shows will be entirely dedicated to two giants of 20th century dance: William Forsythe (with a world premiere) and John Neumeier, who in *Aspects of Nijinskij* revives the legend of the Ballets Russes. The second edition of the Fracci Gala will see the greatest international performers return to La Scala.

THE CONCERTS

The symphonic and chamber music panorama includes five cycles of concerts, in addition to the Extraordinary Concerts and the Philharmonic Season.

In the **Symphonic Season**, which could rightly be defined as Symphonic-choral, three major 20th-century events stand out: Daniele Gatti inaugurates with Mahler's Symphony No. 3 with women's choir; Riccardo Chailly finally brings Mahler's colossal Symphony No. 8 to La Scala with two choirs, children's choir and an impressive line-up of soloists; Zubin Mehta concludes with Messiaen's Turangalila-Symphonie, with extraordinary soloist Yuja Wang. The Music Director is also present with an evening dedicated to Tchaikovsky, while the eagerly awaited Daniel Harding offers Mozart's last symphonies. The young Timur Zangiev, who made a name for himself by standing in for Valery Gergiev in *The Queen of Spades*, makes his debut with Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich.

The Sala del Piermarini also hosts four **Guest orchestras**, showing different styles and traditions from Italy and Europe: Antonio Pappano inaugurates in November with the Accademia di Santa Cecilia, while John Eliot Gardiner offers a Bachian Christmas with the English Baroque Soloists and the Monteverdi Choir, and in May Daniele Gatti presents a Mahler programme with the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester. The cycle concludes with the Wiener Philharmoniker in the Milanese repetition of the concerts that on the previous two days mark Riccardo Chailly's return to the Musikverein with a programme entirely dedicated to Richard Strauss.

Zubin Mehta also returns to the calendar of **Extraordinary Concerts** with a performance of Haydn's *Missa in tempore belli* for the Christmas Concert; the Choir conducted by Alberto Malazzi celebrates the anniversary of the reconstruction of the hall on 11 May with the *Petite messe solennelle*, and George Petrou and Armonia Aenea perform Porpora's *Carlo il Calvo*, the third opera premiered at La Scala this season, which continues the journey through the Neapolitan 18th century opened by *Li zite 'ngalera*.

Many great voices that we will be able to hear in the Season of **Singing Recitals**, with pianists who are much more than accompanists: Michael Volle with Helmut Deutsch, Markus Werba embarking on the Winterreise with Michele Gamba, Vittorio Grigolo with Vincenzo Scalerà, Anna Netrebko in a Russian evening with Elena Bashkirova, Luca Salsi with Nelson Calzi, Benjamin Bernheim between France and Italy with Carrie-Ann Matheson. Special attention deserves the return of Renée Fleming celebrating Rachmaninov's 150th birthday with Evgeny Kissin at the piano.

The cycle of the **Great pianists**, opened by Khatia Buniatishvili and illuminated as every year by the presence of Maurizio Pollini, includes a monographic Chopin programme with Jan Lisiecki, an evening mixing Bach, Beethoven and Schubert with Rudolf Buchbinder, and an intelligent layout between Liszt, Wagner and Mahler with Igor Levit.

Completing the panorama of La Scala's instrumental cycles are the **Chamber Concerts** hosted in the Ridotto dei palchi on Sunday mornings: eleven appointments to get to know soloists and ensembles of the Orchestra more closely in programmes ranging from Vivaldi to Berio and Andriessen.

LA SCALA FOR KIDS

In recent years, the Teatro alla Scala has developed and renewed its offer for children and young people. In the 2022/2023 Season an important step forward is taken with the commission of a new opera for children, *The Little Prince*, composed by Pierangelo Valtinoni to a libretto by Paolo Madron from Saint-Exupéry. Forty performances are already planned with Polly Graham directing and the young Toscanini Competition winner Vitali Alekseenok on the podium. For the second year Mario Acampa is the author and director of the Sunday afternoon concert-shows *Le mirabolanti avventure di Lalla e Skali*, an authentic theatre series that in 2023 will dedicate an episode to Giuseppe Verdi but also one to Mauricio Kagel, because children do not lack the spirit of discovery. For a slightly older audience Acampa has devised *Concerts for Young and Old*, in which a specialist explores the intertwining of music with the other arts.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Enthusiasts interested in delving into the authors and titles of the Season are welcomed to La Scala by over one hundred conferences, curated and coordinated by Raffaele Mellace. Three study conferences are dedicated to *Boris Godunov*, to the Neapolitan School and to Italo Montemezzi, while the cycle of opera and ballet presentations “Prima delle prime” - twenty-one meetings realised in collaboration with the Amici della Scala - celebrates its fortieth anniversary; finally, spectators of the Opera Season can attend an introductory conference before each performance. Editorial and record presentations continue at the Theatre Museum, where an exhibition dedicated to Franco Zeffirelli on the centenary of his birth is being prepared.

TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The effort to build an even more complete cultural offer capable of satisfying the expectations of different audiences united by their love for music and theatre is reflected in new participation possibilities, from the Under30 formulas that are enriched with opportunities for 30/35 year old audiences, to the “Un palco in famiglia” initiative and the Carnet and “Weekend alla Scala” proposals, in collaboration with the main Milanese Museums, designed for Italian and international audiences.

THE NEW BUILDING IN VIA VERDI AND THE “MAGNIFICA FABBRICA” IN RUBATTINO

The events of recent years have shaped a new world, which also requires new strategies and perspectives from theatres. La Scala has already embarked on an extraordinary transformation process that has seen the construction of a new building dedicated to rehearsal rooms and offices in recent months, and in the next few years will bring together workshops and warehouses in a “Magnifica fabbrica” of music in the Rubattino area. The winning design of the international competition for “Magnifica Fabbrica” is signed by RFPO Rodriguez y Oriol and Walk Architecture and Landscapes of Madrid and SD Partners of Milan.

The richness and complexity of the Season that is opening are an expression of a Theatre that once again, together with Milan, wants to look to the future.

Intesa Sanpaolo is the Main Sponsor of the Teatro alla Scala Season

THE TEATRO ALLA SCALA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT:

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THE SUPPORTING FOUNDERS:

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THE EMERITI FOUNDERS:

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