Seize the night



Mazda Summer of Opera 8 January – 30 March Sydney Opera House www.opera-australia.org.au



Opera – Seize the night.

Sydney in Summer. It's a special time. Starry skies, the glittering water and a great city a-buzz with music. theatre and art. Where better to drink it all in than at the opera? Whether it is a special occasion, a special friend or a special-becauseyou-feel-like-it day, a night at the opera is a quintessential Sydney

EXPERIENCE LIFE AMPLIFIED

The 2010 Summer Season is full of delights: fall in love at first sight with *La traviata*; get carried away by *Manon* and shocked by *Tosca*; feel the magic of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; and if you like a challenge, don't miss *Bliss*. You can swoon with the passionate arias, thrill to the roar of the grand choruses, or immerse yourself in lives more passionate, more crazy and, somehow, more real – lives amplified by the power of music.

DO IT IN STYLE WITH A PLATINUM PACKAGE

Come alive this Summer with a night at the opera. This year you can do it in style with our new Platinum Package, which offers the ultimate opera experience: the best of the best seats, complimentary interval drinks and canapés in the exclusive Qantas Club and a souvenir program (see pages 20-21 for more details).

BOOK 3 OR MORE OPERAS AND SAVE

Or if you just want to see as much as possible, enjoy significant savings when choosing three or more operas from our 2010 program, (including the seven Winter season operas detailed on pages 16-19).

Choose Your Own Subscriptions are still available and offer significant savings on the costs of buying single tickets (a discount of more than 10%). Subscribers can then buy additional tickets at a discount and exchange tickets for another night if plans change.



Andrea Licata Tom Woods Christopher Alden Charles Edwards Ion Morrell Chervl Barker Nicole Youl Rosario La Spina Carlo Barricelli John Wegner (Until March 22) Warwick Fyfe Iud Arthur Warwick Fyfe (Until March 22) David Thelander Graeme Macfarlane Luke Gabbedy Sian Pendry

Opera Australia Chorus, Opera Australia Children's Chorus. Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra

hoto: Bill Coop



LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT can cause a quite a stir. It certainly does for 17-year-old Manon Lescaut, who is on her way to a convent when she meets Des Grieux. Their eyes meet and so begins a romantic whirlwind towards a life of impoverished bliss. But that is nowhere near the end of the story. Meddling family, wealthy lovers and a love of luxury send Manon and Des Grieux spinning through life in a passionate adventure which may well end in tears.

SKULDUGGERY IS BEAUTIFUL in this sumptuous production, with the twists and turns of fortune taking place amongst the wigs and brocade of rococo France.

GRACIOUS, MOVING AND EVER SO FRENCH, Massenet's melodies just beg to be sung. It is the perfect match for two Australian stars shining ever brighter, here and internationally. Hear Amelia Farrugia and Julian Gavin sing their hearts out with José Carbó and Stephen Bennett as the villains of this delicious affaire de coeur.

YOU'LL LOVE IT if you like a romance with all the frills. Think Les Liaisons Dangereuses meets Diva.

WATCH OUT for some seriously starry homegrown talent.

Evenings at 7.30pm: January 15 | 21 | 23 | 28 February 3 | 10 | 13

Matinee at 1pm: February 6
Performed in French with surtitles.
Running time: three hours and fifteen
minutes including two twenty-minute
intervals.

Emmanuel Plasson Director Stuart Maunder Designer Roger Kirk Lighting Designer Trudy Dalgleish Manon Amelia Farrugia Iulian Gavin losé Carbó Stephen Bennett Guillot de Morfontaine Kanen Breen De Brétigny Richard Anderson Poussette Tarvn Fiebig lavotte

Taryn Fiebig
Javotte
Amy Wilkinson
Rosette
Jacqueline Dark

Innkeeper Richard Alexander

Opera Australia Chorus Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra



WHEN THE CURTAIN GOES UP on the buzzing Parisian salon you might be forgiven for thinking you have travelled back in time. Michael Yeargan's sets and Peter | Hall's lavish period costumes are the perfect backdrop to the lush, sweeping melodies of Verdi's magnificent La traviata.

IT STARTS WITH CHAMPAGNE, it continues with song, but when the beautiful courtesan Violetta Valéry sets eyes on young Alfredo Germont her life of parties and paramours suddenly seems so empty. Will true love win out?

THIS MEMORABLE PRODUCTION is brought to life by an outstanding cast. Russian diva Elvira Fatykhova returns to play Violetta, Australian tenor Aldo Di Toro is the love of her life, and Jonathan Summers is his father. Hear them and weep.

YOU'LL LOVE IT IF you're after the ultimate romantic night out, perfect for first time opera goers.

WATCH OUT FOR all the favourites - a great drinking chorus and Violetta's spine-tingling aria, 'Sempre libera'.

Evenings at 7.30pm:

January 22 | 25 | 27 | February 1 | 4 | 6 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 25 | 27 | March 5 | 10 | 20 | 23 | 26 | 29

Matinees at 1pm:

February 13 | March 13

Performed in Italian with surtitles. Running time: two hours and fifty minutes including two twentyminute intervals.

Conductor Philippe Auguin (Until Feb 22) **Brian Castles-Onion**

Director Elijah Moshinsky

Revival Director Richard Iones

Set Designer Michael Yeargan

Costume Designer Peter | Hall

Lighting Designer Nigel Levings

Violetta Valéry Elvira Fatykhova

Alfredo Germont Aldo Di Toro

Giorgio Germont Ionathan Summers (Until Feb 22) Michael Lewis

Flora Bervoix **Dominica Matthews**

Gastone Stephen Smith

Baron Douphol

Shane Lowrencev Marquis d'Obigny

Andrew Jones

Dottore Grenvil Stephen Bennett

Annina Teresa La Rocca

Opera Australia Chorus Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra



DEEP IN THE FOREST the fairies are stirring. As Benjamin Britten's enchanting music slips seductively out of the orchestra pit, discover a place where Indian gods, British colonials and rustic clowns collide, collude and sometimes fall in love. A Midsummer Night's Dream is back.

BEFORE *ROMEO* + *JULIET*, this was the production that showed the world the boundless imaginations of director Baz Luhrmann and designer Catherine Martin. Inspired by the words of Shakespeare and Britten's magical score, they cast a spell to create one of Opera Australia's most celebrated productions, ever.

FACES OLD AND NEW will show you around the enchanted forest. Young Australian conductor Alexander Briger is on the bandstand, while Tobias Cole and Rachelle Durkin play the King and Queen of the Fairies. Meanwhile Tyler Coppin and Conal Coad reprise their unforgettable performances of Puck and Bottom.

YOU'LL LOVE IT IF you like theatrical magic. WATCH OUT FOR blue-skinned fairies and beguiling music.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Evenings at 7.30pm: February 18 | 23 | 26 | March 3 | 11 | 16 | 19 | 24

Matinees at 1pm:

February 20 | March 6

Performed in English with surtitles. Running time: three hours and fifteen minutes including two twenty-minute intervals. Alexander Briger Baz Luhrmann Iulie Edwardson Catherine Martin Bill Marron Nigel Levings Belvnda Buck Tobias Cole Rachelle Durkin Tyler Coppin Theseus lud Arthur Catherine Carby James Egglestone Luke Gabbedy Lisa Harper-Brown Sian Pendry Bottom Conal Coad

Quince Richard Anderson Flute

Graeme Macfarlane

Richard Alexander

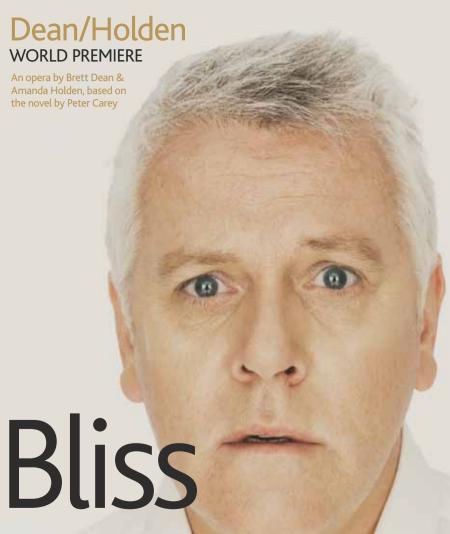
Snout

Andrew Brunsdon

Starveling

Andrew Moran

Opera Australia Children's Chorus Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra



DANGEROUS IDEAS abound in Peter Carey's landmark first novel, *Bliss*. Is this reality or some kind of hilarious hell? What is true love? And why has an elephant sat on my car?

THE LIGHTS GO UP on the world premiere of *Bliss*, a new opera by Brett Dean and Amanda Holden. Welcome back to the excesses of the 80s, where sex and drugs beat rock-n-roll. This muchanticipated work stars the electrifying Peter Coleman-Wright as Harry Joy, the blithe and savvy advertising executive who, after a close encounter with death, finds his world is not what it was.

CREATIVE DYNAMITE – the combination of director Neil Armfield, composer Brett Dean, librettist Amanda Holden, conductor Elgar Howarth, along with the brightest stars of Australian theatre design and choreography, will ignite the stage in a blaze of words, music and ideas.

YOU'LL LOVE IT IF you follow the cutting edge of theatre and new Australian music.

WATCH OUT FOR Brett Dean's beautiful kaleidoscope of sound.

Evenings at 7.30pm: March 12 | 17 | 25 | 27 | 30

Matinee at 1pm: March 20

Performed in English with surtitles.
Running time: approximately two hours and forty
minutes including one twenty-minute interval.
Please note this opera contains coarse
language, scenes of a graphic sexual nature
and adult themes. It is not recommended
for children

Conductor Elgar Howarth Director Neil Armfield Set Designer Brian Thomson Costume Designer Alice Babidge Lighting Designer Nigel Levings Choreographer Kate Champion Harry loy

Peter Coleman-Wright

Honey B
Lorina Gore
Alex
Barry Ryan
David
David Corcoran
Lucy
Taryn Fiebig

Merlyn Ouaife

Johnny **Kanen Breen**

Reverend Des/Police Officer 2/ 'Nurse'

Shane Lowrencev Aldo/Nigel Clunes Henry Choo Mrs Dalton Milijana Nikolic Police Officer 1/Betty's Doctor

Stephen SmithNeighbour / Asylum Doctor

Malcolm Ede

Onstage Violinist Erkki Veltheim

Opera Australia Chorus Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra

SYNDICATE 30

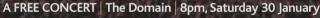
Generous Patrons Supporting New Productions

Mazda Opera in the Domain

Opera Australia and Sydney Festival present

Leonard Bernstein's Candide





Pack the picnic and put the champagne on ice for a very special Mazda Opera in The Domain when Opera Australia and Sydney Festival join forces to present Leonard Bernstein's extravagant comedy, Candide.

Based on Voltaire's satirical novel of 1759, Candide is a hilarious, harsh and hedonistic adventure. Festival Director Lindy Hume has created a semi-staged version of Bernstein's operatic fantasy which features some of American music theatre's greatest moments.

Blindly following the advice of his tutor Pangloss (Paul McDermott), the relentlessly optimistic Candide (David Hobson) careers through a series of wild experiences and astonishing coincidences to return home to his beloved Cunegonde (Emma Matthews) enlighted by a new, more realistic philosophy of life.

Everyone is invited to share in one of Sydney's favourite summer treats, and it's all for free. Join the stars of Opera Australia together with the Opera Australia Chorus and the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, conducted by Paul Kildea for a crazy and memorable summer night.

Performed in English with surtitles.

Venue Supporter



Presenting Partner



IMPORTANT INFORMATION: A range of food and beverages is available in the Domain from early afternooon to the end of the evening, or you can bring your own picnic. For the comfort of our patrons high chairs and beach umbrellas are not allowed and, to protect the lawns, plastic sheeting and ice are not permitted on the grass.









Clockwise from top left: David Hobson, Emma Matthews, Paul McDermott, Judi Connelli





mazpa

Performance Partner



SONDHEIM/WHEELER NEW PRODUCTION

A Little Night Music



Don't miss Sigrid Thornton singing 'Send in the Clowns' in this delightful musical about the follies of love from the team that brought you the 2008 smash-hit production of *My Fair Lady*.

Sponsored by



Evenings at 7.30pm: June 28 | 29 July 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 13 Matinees at 1pm: July 3 | 10 PUCCINI NEW PRODUCTION

the Girl of the Golden West



The Girl of the Golden West is an irresistible mixture of the Old World and New. The setting is the stuff of Hollywood westerns, the action has all the ingredients of Italian romantic opera, and the music has a startling originality. Nigel Jamieson directs an exciting new production of Puccini's Wild West tale.

Evenings at 7.30pm: July 14 | 17 | 21 | 27 | 31 August 3 | 6 Matinee at 1pm: July 24 MOZART NEW PRODUCTION

The Marriage of Figaro



Figaro is a security guard and his fiancée Susanna is a maid in the Almaviva family's lavish mansion. Count Almaviva is in lust with Susanna, the Countess is in tears and Cherubino's hormones are getting him into trouble again. Benedict Andrews makes his operatic debut with a compelling contemporary vision of Mozart's masterpiece.

Evenings at 7.30pm:

July 23 | 26 | 29 | August 4 | 10 14 | 16 | 18 September 14 | 17 | 22 | 25 | 30 October 2 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 16 | 20

Matinees at 1pm: July 31 August 7 | October 23 BELLINI NEW PRODUCTION

La sonnambula



In a remote Alpine hamlet, Amina and Elvino are set to marry, until she sleepwalks to the bed of another man. Emma Matthews stars in Julie Edwardson's new production, inspired by the writings of Freud and Jung, the vibrant colours of German Expressionism, and Bellini's exhilarating tumble of melodies.

Sponsored by

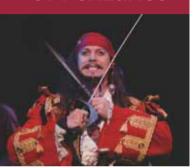


Evenings at 7.30pm: August 5 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 24 Matinee at 1pm: August 14

17

GILBERT & SULLIVAN

The Pirates of Penzance



Anthony Warlow dons his cutlass for another voyage as Gilbert & Sullivan's feel-good show sails back into town, complete with its swashbuckling heroes and dainty heroines, in this all-time family favourite.

Sponsored by

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August 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 31 September 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 10 11 | 16 | 24 | October 28 November 2 | 3 | 5 | 6

Matinees at 1pm:

August 28 | September 4 | 25 October 27 | November 3 | 6 VERDI

Rigoletto



Rigoletto is paid to keep his master laughing, but the Duke's lechery for the innocent Gilda turns Rigoletto from spiteful joker to desperate father. Verdi paints his characters' transformations with a cascade of brilliant arias and ensembles, in a return of one of Opera Australia's best-loved productions.

Sponsored by



MAERSK LINE

Evenings at 7.30pm:

September 18 | 23 | 28 October 6 | 12 | 18 | 21 | 23 | 27 | 29 November 1 | 4

Matinees at 1pm: October 2 | 9 | 16 **R.STRAUSS**

Der Rosenkavalier



Strauss's rapturous tale of life, love and the passage of time is back with a new Marschallin, Cheryl Barker, gliding her way through this classic production. The words are ever bittersweet, and the music finds timeless and complex beauty in a Viennese waltz, heartache in a simple song.

PLEASE NOTE: EARLY START TIME OF 7PM.

Evenings at 7.00pm: October 1 | 5 | 8 | 13 | 19 | 22 | 26 | 30



SURTITLES

All Opera Australia performances are presented with surtitles – instant English translations – on a screen above the stage, so you will always be able to understand the story. If you wear glasses make sure you bring them along.

FREE OPERA TALKS

Members of Opera Australia's artistic team share their insights 45 minutes before selected performances. Held at the Sydney Opera House, these informal, informative talks help you get the most out of your opera experience.

Do it in style with a Platinum Package

Every night at the opera is special... now you can make someone feel extra-special with an Opera Australia Platinum Package

It is one of the great Sydney experiences: a feast of music, singing, performance and spectacle at an iconic Sydney venue, all set against the backdrop of one of the most beautiful harbours in the world. What better way to celebrate a special occasion, entertain an overseas visitor, or make a fuss of someone you love than to come to the Sydney Opera House for a night at the opera?

Introducing the Platinum Package, your ticket to the ultimate opera experience.

With a Platinum Package, you are enjoying great performances in style. Not only do we guarantee you a fabulous show and the best of the best seats, but you also receive a souvenir program and an invitation to the exclusive Qantas Opera Lounge for interval drinks and snacks. All you need to do is choose your opera, choose your night, choose your outfit and we will do the rest.

The Platinum Package costs \$350 per ticket and due to the exclusive nature of this offer, availability is strictly limited. There will only be twenty Platinum Packages on sale for any given performance, so if that all-important anniversary, that big birthday or special trip is coming up, it is not too early to book your ultimate night at the opera.

PLEASE NOTE: PLATINUM PACKAGES ARE ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH OPERA AUSTRALIA. CALL 02 9318 8200 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



SINGLE TICKET PRICES

OPERAS							
Premium A Res B Res C Res							
Standard*	\$270	\$208	\$144	\$105			
Concession	\$243	\$187	\$130	\$95			
Saturday Night	Saturday Night \$297		\$158	\$115			
Platinum	\$350	-	-	_			

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC / THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE									
	Premium A Res B Res C Res								
Standard*	\$165	\$129	\$110	\$74					
Concession	\$149	\$116	\$99	\$67					
Saturday Night	\$180	\$142	\$121	\$81					
Platinum	\$250	-	_	_					

PLEASE NOTE:

Prices are valid until 31 December 2009 and booking fees may apply.

No concessions are available on Saturday evenings.

For children 16 years and under a special child concession of \$55 is available for Saturday matinee performances when accompanied by an adult.

Platinum Packages are only available through Opera Australia. Presented as a gift pack, Platinum Packages include opera tickets, Qantas Opera Lounge passes and a program voucher.

For more information and bookings call 02 9318 8200.

BUY 3 OR MORE AND SAVE

Design your own opera package to suit your taste and budget, save money and qualify for extra discounts and benefits. Subscribers may purchase extra tickets during the year at a discount, and exchange their tickets (your first exchange is FREE).

3-5 PRODUCTIONS (SAVE OVER 10%) Prices per ticket per opera								
	OPERAS							
Premium A Res B Res C Res								
Standard	\$230	\$93						
Concession	\$207 \$160 \$113 \$84							
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC / THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE								
Standard	\$147	\$112	\$95	\$66				
Concession \$132 \$100 \$86 \$59								

6-12 PRODUCTIONS (SAVE OVER 20%) Prices per ticket per opera								
OPERAS								
Premium A Res B Res C Res								
Standard	\$204	\$82						
Concession	\$184	\$142	\$101	\$74				
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC / THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE								
Standard	\$130	\$99	\$85	\$58				
Concession	\$118	\$90	\$76	\$52				

^{*} Standard = Monday - Friday evenings and Saturday matinees.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TICKETS AND PERFORMANCE TIMES

A valid ticket is required to access the Concert Hall, the Opera Theatre foyers and all performance spaces. Please have your ticket with you at all times as you may be asked to present it for inspection. To minimise disturbances, late arrivals may be 'locked out' until interval. Unless otherwise specified, evening performances begin at 7.30pm and matinees at 1pm – please make sure you arrive on time.

GROUP BOOKINGS

Like many of the best things in life, opera is an experience made even more enjoyable when shared with good friends. Opera Australia invites you and your friends, family, colleagues or clients to experience a night at the opera.

Great savings are available for groups of 8 or more, and even greater savings for bookings of 20 or more. Our dedicated Group Bookings team will assist you to select the best seating and most suitable opera for your group, and our flexible 'book now, pay later' policy gives you time to organise your group night out.

For more information, call Opera Australia Groups & Tourism on 02 9318 8391 or email groups@opera-australia.org.au.

CONCESSIONS

Concession pricing is available to full pensioners and full-time students.

When placing your booking and on entry to the Sydney Opera House you will need to show your Proof of Age card, Student ID card or Pensioner Concession card. Concessions are not available on Saturday evenings.

CHILD CONCESSION

For children 16 years and under a special child concession of \$55 is available for Saturday matinees when accompanied by an adult.

TRANSPORT INFORMATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Many buses, trains and all ferries stop at Circular Quay. It is then a 10 minute walk to the Sydney Opera House. The Sydney Opera House operates a transit shuttle for elderly and less mobile passengers between Stand E at Circular Quay and the Concourse.

TAXIS

Taxis can drop off passengers at the Sydney Opera House Concourse, and can usually be hailed from the roundabout at the end of Macquarie Street.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

The Opera Theatre is equipped with an FM Radio system for patrons requiring hearing assistance. Receivers and headsets are free of charge and can be obtained from the cloakroom prior to the performance.

PATRONS WITH DISABILITIES

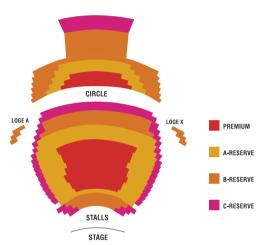
Limited parking for patrons with disabilities is available on the vehicle concourse under the Monumental Steps. Please book a space as early as possible by phoning (02) 9250 7185.

Drivers can drop off passengers with mobility difficulties at the turning circle beside the Monumental Steps. Vehicles should then be parked elsewhere. If passengers require staff assistance to enter the building, please notify the Gatehouse as you enter the Sydney Opera House precinct.

CLOAKING FACILITIES

For the safety and comfort of patrons, bags larger than a small, A4-sized handbag must be left with cloakroom staff during performances.

OPERATHEATRE SEATING RESERVES



HOW TO BOOK

Opera Australia Ticket Services

(02) 9318 8200

480 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm www.opera-australia.org.au

Group Bookings

(02) 9318 8391

Sydney Opera House

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(02) 9250 7777 (single tickets only)

Monday to Saturday, 9am to 8.30pm

2010 SUMMER SEASON CALENDAR

JANUARY							
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat Mat	Sat Eve	
4	5	6	7	8 Tosca	9	9	
11	12	13 Tosca	14	15 Manon	16	16 Tosca #	
18	19	20 Tosca	21 Manon	22 Traviata	23 Tosca	23 Manon #	
25 Traviata #	26 Tosca	27 Traviata	28 Manon #	29 Tosca	30	30 Domain	

FEBRUARY						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat Mat	Sat Eve
1	2	3	4	5	6	6
Traviata	Tosca #	Manon #	Traviata	Tosca	Manon	Traviata #
8	9	10 Manon	11 Tosca	12	13 Traviata	13 Manon
15	16	17	18	19	20	20
	Tosca	Traviata #	Dream	Tosca	Dream	Traviata
22	23	24	25	26	27	27
Traviata	Dream	Tosca #	Traviata	Dream	Tosca #	Traviata

MARCH						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat Mat	Sat Eve
1	2	3 Dream #	4	5 Traviata	6 Dream #	6 Tosca
8	9 Tosca	10 Traviata #	11 Dream	12 Bliss	13 Traviata	13 Tosca
15 Tosca	16 Dream #	17 Bliss #	18 Tosca	19 Dream	20 Bliss #	20 Traviata
22 Tosca	23 Traviata	24 Dream	25 Bliss #	26 Traviata	27 Tosca	27 Bliss #
29 Traviata	30 Bliss	31				

Opening Night

Final performance

Traviata = La traviata Domain = Mazda Opera in the Domain Dream = A Midsummer Night's Dream

Free opera talk prior to the performance in the Opera Theatre Northern Foyer Lounge. All opera performances are staged in the Opera Theatre and unless otherwise specified, evening performances commence at 7.30pm and matinees at 1pm.

Hero Partners





Gold Partners









Silver Partners

Commonwealth Bank













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RUSSELL REYNOLDS ASSOCIATES



Government Partners





Opera Australia is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.





Opera Australia is assisted by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.





Opera Australia is supported by the Victorian government through Arts Victoria.

Performance Partner



Performances feature the Opera Australia Chorus and the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra.