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# OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

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## THE 2020/21 SEASON AT THE OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

**IMPORTANT ROLE DEBUTS +++ WORKS RANGING FROM PERGOLESI AND GLUCK TO MUSSORGSKI AND OFFENBACH TO HAUBENSTOCK-RAMATI AND VALTINONI +++ NUMEROUS CHOREOGRAPHIC WORLD PREMIERES**

The premiere season starts on September 20<sup>th</sup> with Modest Mussorgsky's **«Boris Godunow»**. The cast will be led by Micael Volle, who will be making another important role debut in Zurich. And once again, a production by stage director Barrie Kosky will open the season. Another important role debut will be made by internationally celebrated baritone Christian Gerhaher: he will bow as the title role in **«Simon Boccanegra»** in December in Zurich. Once again, Andreas Homoki and Fabio Luisi are working on this new Verdi production together. Tenor Saimir Pirgu will make his role debut as the poet in Jacques Offenbach's last opera **«Les Contes d'Hoffmann»**. Andreas Homoki will direct for the stage.

The sound-space experience that is **«Amerika»** by Polish Israeli composer Roman Haubenstock-Ramati debuts in Zurich, marking the third production of this piece since its world premiere in 1966. This legendary and daring project of music theater will be directed for the stage by Sebastian Baumgarten and will be musically directed by Gabriel Feltz. Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's rarely performed Baroque gem **«L'Olimpiade»** is in the capable hands of Hungarian theater and music theater director David Marton. Vivica Genaux and Anna Bonitatibus head up an impressive cast of singers, and Ottavio Dantone will conduct the production with the Orchestra La Scintilla. And with **«Orphée et Euridice»** by Christof Willibald Gluck, Christoph Marthaler and Anna Viebrock make their return to Zurich. Stefano Montanari, one of the most interesting conductors and Baroque violinists of his generation, leads the Orchestra La Scintilla.

Director Christof Loy will direct **«Capriccio»** by Richard Strauss for the stage. Following on the heels of her turn as Arabella, Julia Kleiter returns to the Opernhaus Zürich as Countess Madeleine. At her side are such illustrious artists as Christof Fischesser, Markus Eiche, and Paula Murrihy. Markus Poschner conducts this coproduction with the Teatro Real Madrid. A new **«Lucia di Lammermoor»** featuring American soprano Lisette Oropesa is headed for the Zurich opera stage. Appearing as her beloved Edgardo is Piotr Beczala, making his return to the Opernhaus. Stage director Tatjana Gürbaca and conductor Speranza Scapucci head up the directorial team. The Opernhaus presents the world premiere of a new family opera with **«Alice im Wunderland»**. The commission is penned by Italian composer Pierangelo Valtinoni, and will be directed for the stage by Nadja Loschky.

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Further highlights at the Opernhaus Zürich include numerous revivals featuring audience favorites and a host of both beloved and brand-new voices. **Diana Damrau** returns as the Scottish queen Maria Stuarda. **Cecilia Bartoli** continues making magic as Alcina. **Maria Agresta, Quinn Kelsey, and Bryan Hymel** once again come together for «I vespri siciliani», as will **Annette Dasch and Pavol Breslik** in «Die Csárdásfürstin» and **Angelika Kirchschlager and Bryn Terfel** in «Sweeney Todd». **Vannina Santoni** will make her house debut as Manon, while **Benjamin Bernheim** will bring his Chevalier des Grieux to Zurich, following his wild success in the same role in Paris. **Marcelo Álvarez** makes his debut as Don Carlo. **Ekaterina Semenchuck** (Eboli), **Tatiana Serjan** (Elisabetta), **Vitalij Kowaljow** (Filippo) and **Simon Keenlyside** (Rodrigo) complete the outstanding cast of singers for this revival. And the podium of the Philharmonia Zürich will feature conductors such as Fabio Luisi, Giovanni Antonini, Enrique Mazzola, Riccardo Minasi, Marco Armiliato, and Sir Mark Elder.

The Ballett Zürich opens its 2020/21 season with the choreographic world premiere of «**Dornröschen**»: following «**Nussknacker**», Christian Spuck once again takes on a ballet class set to music by Tchaikovsky. Two world premieres by Louis Stiens and Jo Strömngren, the in-house choreographer of the Norwegian National Ballet, will be presented in the vibrant three-part evening «**Balcão de Amor**», named after the pulsing piece by Israeli choreographer Itzik Galili. The Junior Ballett will present an entire evening of new works with «**Impulse**» and Slovenian choreographer Edward Clug returns to Zurich with his visually stunning narrative ballet «**Peer Gynt**». Revivals include Christian Spuck's «**Anna Karenina**», his production of «**Winterreise**», which won the 2019 «Prix Benois de la Danse», and «**Bella Figura**», which features four groundbreaking choreographies by Jiří Kylián.

Under the direction of general music director **Fabio Luisi**, the Philharmonia Zürich will continue its Beethoven cycle with Italian pianist Beatrice Rana, as well as present a concert with works by Johannes Brahms and Franz Schmidt. In May 2021 Luisi concludes his concert season with Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 9.

**Gianandrea Noseda**, who will succeed Luisi with the start of the 2021/22 season, gives a preview of his new musical direction with performances of «Ein deutsches Requiem» by Johannes Brahms in February 2021. And in-house ensemble **Orchestra La Scintilla under the direction of conductor and violinist Riccardo Minasi will continue** the tradition of historically informed performance practice at the house.

The Opernhaus continues its series of concert performances with Rossini's «**La donna del lago**». And the 2020/21 season at the Opernhaus Zürich sees a host of stars in intimate recital settings, presenting such artists as **Anja Harteros, Bryn Terfel, Juan Diego Flórez and Jonas Kaufmann**.

Following the summer break, the Opernhaus will celebrate a grand season-opening party on September 19. A live broadcast of «Madama Butterfly» with Ana Maria Martinez and Saimir Pirgu in the lead roles is open to one and all as a part of the «**oper für alle**» festival on the Sechseläutenplatz on June 12, 2020.

Subscription sales begin in April 2020. Individual ticket pre-sales begin on June 20, 2020 at the Billettkasse at the Opernhaus, online at [www.opernhaus.ch](http://www.opernhaus.ch) or via E-Mail: [ticket@opernhaus.ch](mailto:ticket@opernhaus.ch).