



The Göteborg Opera announces its 2022/23 season

The Göteborg Opera announces its 2022/23 season with three new productions Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, Verdi's *Nabucco* and the premiere of an opera based on Åsa Lind's book for children, *Sandvargen (The Sand Wolf)*.



Artistic Director Opera/Drama **Henning Ruhe** shares some insight on this season's theme:

"Many of these works share a strong common theme: How do we choose the person we want to share our life with, and how free is our choice? This is a question posed by many of our main characters this season...Although these works may differ widely from each other, they are all populated by strong characters, multifaceted individuals who break loose, rebel, raise their voices or find their own paths."



The Bartered Bride (17 Sep – 25 Oct 2022)



Mellika Melouani Melani directs Smetana's exuberant opera *The Bartered Bride*. In her modern production, Melani dusts off this Czech national-romantic opera and imbues it with punky love, strong desires and violent rebellion against traditional norms. She was the artistic director at Folkoperan (Swedish Folk Opera) in Stockholm and is known for radical productions. Her staging of *Carmina Burana* with seven 80 year old ladies on stage was a massive hit for

three years and played at the Stockholm Globe Arena (nowadays called Avicii Arena).

With a libretto in Swedish by Fredrik Fischer and Linnea Schunnesson, Melani presents a radical modern interpretation inspired by the suburbs in Stockholm and Göteborg.

In a run-down neighbourhood, desires are simmering. The summer heat is driving people crazy with passion, life and desire. They love, they fight, they make plans and deals. The young Mařenka, is passionately in love with a stranger called Jeník. But their love is under threat. Mařenka's parents want to marry her off to the wealthy Vašek in order to pay off a debt. He questions his sexuality when a queer circus arrives in town in a worn-down society where people do anything for money.



Smetana, who lived in Gothenburg for five years, has imbued this comic opera with irresistible charm. Exuberant, explosive and sentimental, it offers romantic arias, lively choruses and Czech folk music. *The Bartered Bride* has been performed at Prague's National Theatre over 2,500 times.

The production is led by the internationally successful conductor **Alevtina Ioffe**, who in recent years has attracted a lot of attention at, among others, Seattle Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, and Komische Oper, marking her Swedish debut.



Les contes d'Hoffmann (The Tales of Hoffmann) - (26 Nov 2022 – 15 Jan 2023)



Young Polish director **Krystian Lada** presents a new take on Offenbach's opéra fantastique *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, which explores the mysteries of love. Lada has created a production of *Les contes d'Hoffmann* with which everyone can easily identify.

The opera opens when beloved Stella has abandoned Hoffmann and he drowns his sorrows in alcohol while reminiscing on the past. What led to this breakup? In his bereaved state, reality and fantasy merge together. As with any couple, Hoffmann's relationship with Stella requires constant decisions to be made in the best interests of the individuals, their relationship and their careers.

The real-life Hoffmann was primarily famous for his humorous fantasy stories. In *Les contes d'Hoffmann* (The Tales of Hoffmann), Hoffmann is the main character in three of his own stories. Sublime soprano **Kerstin Avemo** portrays the three women whom Hoffmann has loved and subsequently lost under bizarre circumstances. Each of the women– the perfect Olympia, the ambitious Antonia and the dramatic Giulietta– represent aspects of one and the same woman.

The role of Hoffmann is sung by three tenors of different ages **Tomas Lind** (Old Hoffmann), **Joachim Bäckström** (Middle-aged Hoffmann) and **Brian Michael Moore** (Young Hoffmann).

French conductor **Sébastien Rouland** has conducted the opera several times, most recently in Tokyo.

Les contes d'Hoffmann is a love story where the burlesque meets the grotesque. It exists in a number of versions and no one knows Offenbach's real intentions for the work. He died a month before the opera opened with the score in his hand and never saw his life's project become reality. This production is based on the latest version from Offenbach's original score.

The Sandvargen (The Sand Wolf)- 16 September- 27 November 2022



This autumn the Göteborg Opera will perform a children's opera based on Åsa Lind's book *The Sandvargen (The Sand Wolf)*. This world premiere is written by Johanna Fridolfsson (violinist from the Göteborg orchestra) and Malin Aghed and directed by Emelie Sigelius. This one act opera is based on a story about a character called Zaccarina who lives in a house by the sea with her parents. From the sand on the beach, she digs up a new friend: the clever Sandwolf. Together they explore life's big

questions, with the participation from the audience. The production will go on tour throughout the region of Västra Götaland.

Nabucco (20 May-10 June 2023)



Conductor **Giancarlo Andretta** returns to the Göteborg Opera to conduct Verdi's passionate breakthrough opera *Nabucco*. Director **Jacopo Spirei** sets the biblical story in a contemporary context with a desperate populace protesting against an oppressive government. The Göteborg Opera's baritone **Mats Persson** performs

the title role Nabucco, whose perceptions of himself and society change as the plot develops.

2022/23 Season Listings:

**Sunday 18 September 2022,
18:00; Saturday 24 September
2022, 18:00**

Main Stage

Rigoletto- Verdi

Davide Giusti Duke of Mantua
Ólafur Sigurdarson Rigoletto
Ida Falk Winland Gilda
Mats Almgren Sparafucile
Katarina Giotas Maddalena

Annalena Persson Giovanna
Anders Lorentzson Count of
Monterone

Hannes Öberg Marullo

Daniel Ralphsson Borsa

Fredrik Samuelsson Count of
Ceprano

Pauliina Sairanen Countess of
Ceprano

Tiina Markkanen A Page

Mikael Simlund An Officer



Francesco Angelico conductor
David Bösch Director
Göteborg Opera Men's Chorus
Göteborg Opera Orchestra

Saturday 17 September 2022, 18:00;
Wednesday 21 September 2022, 19:00; Sunday 25 September 2022, 15:00; Wednesday 28 September 2022, 19:00;
Sunday 2 October 2022, 18:00;
Wednesday 5 October 2022, 19:00; Saturday 8 October 2022, 18:00; Thursday 13 October 2022, 19:00; Wednesday 19 October 2022, 19:00; Tuesday October 25 2022, 19:00

Main stage

The Bartered Bride- Smetana ***New production**

Mattias Ermedahl Krušina
Carolina Sandgren Ludmila
Matilda Sterby Mařenka

Anders Lorentzson Mícha
Katarina Giotas Háta

Conny Thimander Vašek
Adam Frandsen Jeník
Mats Almgren Kečal)
Daniel Ralphsson Ringmaster
Mia Karlsson Esmeralda
Jonas Egfors Acrobat (trainee HSM)

Alevtina Ioffe conductor
Jiří Rožeň conductor (28/9, 2/10)
Mellika Melouani Melani director
The Göteborg Opera Chorus
The Göteborg Opera Orchestra
Circus performers
Dancers

Saturday 12, Sunday 13, Saturday 19, Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 November 2022, 13:00 & 15:00

Main stage

Sandvargen (The Sand Wolf)-
Johanna Fridolfsson and Malin Aghed
***World premiere**

Hanna Brehmer Zaccarina
Åke Zetterström *Sandvargen*
Viktor Johansson The Father
Viveca Rydén Mårtensson The Mother

Johanna Fridolfsson Musical director
Emelie Sigelius Stage director

Saturday 26 November 2022, 18:00; Tuesday 29 November 2022, 19:00; Friday 2 December 2022, 19:00; Thursday 8 December 2022, 19:00;
Sunday 11 December 2022, 15:00; Sunday 18 December 2022, 18:00; Wednesday 21 December 2022, 19:00;
Thursday 29 December 2022, 19:00; Sunday 8 January 2023, 18:00; Wednesday 11 January 2023, 19:00; Sunday 15 January 2023, 18:00

Main Stage

Les contes d'Hoffmann (The Tales of Hoffmann)- Offenbach
***New production**

Tomas Lind Old Hoffmann/Spalanzani
Joachim Bäckström Middle-aged Hoffmann
Brian Michael Moore Young Hoffmann/Schlemil
Katarina Karnéus Nicklausse/The muse
Kerstin Avemo Olympia/Antonia/Giulietta/Stella
Daniel Ralphsson Andrés/Cochénille/Frantz/Pitchinacco
Markus Pettersson Nathanael
Daniel Hayes Hermann

Kristoffer Töyrä Wilhelm



Katarina Giotas Voice of
Antonia's mother

Sébastien Rouland conductor
Krystian Lada director and video
design

The Göteborg Opera Chorus
The Göteborg Opera Orchestra

**Saturday 21 January 2023,
18:00; Wednesday 25 January
2023, 19:00; Sunday 29 January
2023, 15:00; Thursday 2
February 2023, 19:00;
Sunday 30 April 2023, 15:00;
Friday 5 May 2023, 19:00;
Sunday 7 May 2023, 18:00;
Wednesday 10 May 2023, 19:00**

Main Stage

La bohème- Puccini

Ida Falk Winland Mimì
Andrei Danilov Rodolfo (Jan/Feb)
Thomas Atkins Rodolfo (April/May)
Luthando Qave Marcello
Mia Karlsson Musetta
Sofie Asplund Musetta
Daniel Ralphsson Benoît
Ivan Dajic Alcindoro

Hannes Öberg Schaunard
Darden Bakraqi Parpignol
Kristoffer Töyrä Colline

Max Webster director
Vincenzo Milletari conductor
Göteborg Opera Chorus
Göteborg Opera Orchestra
Göteborg Opera Children's Choir

**Saturday 4 March 2023, 18:00;
Thursday 9 March 2023, 19:00;
Sunday 12 March 2023, 18:00;
Sunday 19 March 2023, 15:00;
Thursday 23 March, 19:00;
Saturday 1 April 2023, 18:00;
Thursday 6 April 2023, 19:00**

Main Stage

***Die schweigsame Frau (The Silent
Woman)***- Strauss

Anders Lorentzson Sir Morosus
Katarina Giotas His Housekeeper
Hannes Öberg Barber
Sofie Asplund Aminta
Mia Karlsson Isotta
Ann-Kristin Jones Carlotta
Åke Zetterström Morbio
Mats Almgren Vanuzzi
Norman Reinhardt Henry Morosus

Yoel Gamzou conductor
Barrie Kosky director
Philipp Rosendahl assistant
director

Göteborg Opera Chorus
Göteborg Opera Orchestra

*** Rental production from the Bavarian State
Opera, where the production was premiered
in 2010. The sets and costumes were
produced in the Bavarian State Opera's
workshops.**

**Saturday 20 May 2023, 18:00;
Wednesday 24 May 2023, 19:00;
Sunday 28 May 2023, 15:00;
Wednesday 31 May 2023, 19:00;
Saturday 3 June 2023, 18:00;
Wednesday 7 June 2023, 19:00;
Saturday 10 June 2023, 18:00**

Main Stage

Nabucco- Verdi ***New production**

Mats Persson Nabucco
Tomas Lind Ismaele
Mats Almgren Zaccaria
Ann-Kristin Jones Fenena
Daniel Ralphsson Abdallo
Mia Karlsson Anna

Giancarlo Andretta conductor
Jacopo Spirei director
Göteborg Opera Chorus
Göteborg Opera Orchestra



THE GÖTEBORG OPERA

The Göteborg Opera in its modern venue designed by Jan Izikowitz of Lund and Valentin was opened in October 1994. It seats 1,300 and boasts a state of the art acoustic, enhanced by special egg-tempera acoustic paint (which used 6,000 eggs). There is even space for a hidden chorus in the circular lighting rig in the middle of the auditorium. The building houses all the carpentry, metal and wood workshops for mounting full productions from the creation of



the sets and props, to costumes, wigs and prosthetics with the latest environmentally-aware technology (such as an ozone cabinet to clean delicate costumes and 600 sq m of solar panels on the roof). The orchestra and chorus are fully adaptable for opera, dance and musicals and the diverse programme allows for the audience to experiment with all three art forms, with a quarter regularly attending all three with little sign of the snobbery normally associated with opera.

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