

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

OPEN &
RENEWED
2021
22

**Season Preview
Subscriptions**

ERKEL
ERKEL SZÍNHÁZ
ERKEL THEATRE

EIFFEL
EIFFEL MŰHELYHÁZ
EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

THE 2021/2022 SEASON IN NUMBERS

- 17** premieres (12 full-length, 5 one-act)
- 240** opera performances
- 59** opera titles
- 13** opera premieres
- 110** ballet performances
- 21** ballet titles
- 4** ballet premieres
- 40** concerts, oratorios and galas
- 50** further productions
- 170** performances at the Erkel Theatre
- 210** performances at the Eiffel Art Studios
- 115** performances at the Opera House
- 35** tour and guest performances
- 20** types of children and youth programmes

OPEN & RENEWED

2021
22

The 2021/2022 season is about reopening and opening again. Both the gates and the possibilities closed by the epidemic will again be opened to opera and ballet-loving audiences. Our popular youth programmes are returning, as is the Primavera series, Opera Without Borders, and the Afternoons of Songs, as well as many other events previously considered a part of everyday life. However, the benefits gleaned from our recent history will also be preserved, such as the concerts in Kodály Park and online broadcasting. We are also opening up to new things: new programmes and online services are being added to our offer. Autumn will bring the oft-postponed official opening of Eiffel Art Studios, followed by the most important event of recent years, or maybe even an era, in the spring of 2020: the institution's artists, employees, and audiences can again occupy the true citadel of art, the Opera House.

In this, the season of re-opening, the Opera will first and foremost be making up for previously cancelled premieres, along with productions that showcase the many sides of the institution's range: familiar works in new guises, Hungarian premieres, rediscovered pieces, programmes offering a variety of genres, and staged musical works will round out the repertoire.

The institution will also be continuing its endeavours to introduce new generations to Hungarian works that had previously enjoyed unparalleled success, such as bringing *Love Adrift* to the stage after a hiatus of six decades. One of the most important premieres in the season will be the production of *Hunyadi László* based on the piece's original version, which will also demonstrate the artistic and technical virtuosity of the renovated Opera House. The season will also bring an end to the *Ring Cycle*.

OPERA PREMIERES

Georges Bizet **Carmen**

Karol Józef Wojtyła **The Jeweller's Shop** *(for the first time at the Opera)*

Ludwig van Beethoven **König Stephan**

Ludwig van Beethoven – Richard Strauss **Die Ruinen von Athen** *(Hungarian premiere)*

Philip Glass **Les Enfants Terribles** *(Hungarian premiere)*

Jacques Offenbach **Les Contes d'Hoffmann**

Gaetano Donizetti **La Fille du Régiment**

Ede Poldini **Love Adrift**

Claude Debussy **Pelléas et Mélisande**

Ferenc Erkel **Hunyadi László**

Csaba Horváth / Szilveszter Ókovács – Johann Sebastian Bach **Christian Cantatas**

Richard Wagner **Parsifal**

Richard Wagner **Götterdämmerung**

Every year without fail, the Hungarian National Ballet, increasingly praised by international critics, proves that its capabilities know no bounds: it manages to entrance audiences with everything from grand ballets requiring spectacular classical technique to contemporary dance pieces interspersed with acrobatic elements. Accordingly, the company will be continuing to apply its successful recipe this year as well and will be adding new productions to both of its repertoires.

In addition to *Chroma*, preparations for which have been under way for years, another modern choreography, entitled *Sad Case*, will also premiere, while audiences with more traditional tastes will be given the opportunity to enjoy *Paquita Suite* as well as, after a break of fifteen years, Kenneth MacMillan's lavish *Mayerling*.

BALLET PREMIERES

Sol León – Paul Lightfoot / Perez Prado, Alberto Dominguez,

Ernesto Lecuona, Ray Barretto, Trio Los Panchos **Sad Case**

Wayne McGregor / Joby Talbot – Jack White III **Chroma** *(Hungarian premiere)*

Sir Kenneth MacMillan / Ferenc Liszt – John Lanchbery **Mayerling**

Marius Petipa – Tamás Solymosi – Albert Mirzoyan – Irina Prokofieva /

Ludwig Minkus – Édouard Deldevez – Léo Delibes – Riccardo Drigo – Daniel Auber **Paquita Suite**

(Hungarian premiere)



REPERTOIRE

ERKEL THEATRE

Almost a decade has passed since the second theatre building reopened in 2013. Later, in 2017, the Erkel Theatre was promoted to being the primary venue.

After the Opera House opens its doors again, the modernisation works started at the Erkel Theatre can be continued. Until then, opera and ballet fans can attend numerous popular and monumental performances in the first half of the season.

Stephen, the King
Salome
Die Fledermaus
Bánk Bán (The Viceroy Bánk)
Carmina Burana
Manon Lescaut
Der Zigeunerbaron

Giselle
Flames of Paris
The Nutcracker
La fille mal gardée
Onegin

OPERA HOUSE

After the restoration work at the Opera House on Andrásy Avenue that lasted nearly five seasons, the moment everyone, including international audiences, have been waiting for is finally here.

Starting from March 2022, the historic building restored to its original glory and augmented with the most modern technologies will not only be home to productions that have not been performed for quite some time, but successful performances of recent years will also take their worthy place at the Opera House, also known as the Ybl Palace.

Die Frau ohne Schatten
Mefistofele
Matthäus-Passion
Cavalleria rusticana
Simon Boccanegra
Porgy and Bess
Bluebeard's Castle
Le nozze di Figaro
Don Carlo
Andrea Chénier
La fanciulla del West

Romeo and Juliet

EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

The Opera's new artistic complex, called Eiffel Art Studios, needs no introduction: since its test run started in 2019, audiences have experienced the possibilities offered by the complex in the form of numerous performances. The Miklós Bánffy Stage has proved itself excellently qualified with Baroque, classical, and contemporary opera productions as well as modern dance pieces. Audiences were also given access to the Locomotive Hall and Zoltán Kodály Park – the new season will feature programmes in these locations as well.

Leander and Linseed
Gianni Schicchi
The Master and Margarita
Der Schauspieldirektor
The Telephone
Le bourgeois gentilhomme
L'incoronazione di Poppea
The Imaginary Invalid or
The Cabal of Hypocrites
The Gold and the Woman
The Tót Family
Edgar
Saint Margaret
Messiah
Fidelio
Dead Man Walking
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Tante Simona
Le luthier de Crémone

The Fairy Queen
Matthäus-Passion
Die Entführung aus dem Serail
King Pomádé's New Clothes
Figaro3
L'oca del Cairo, ossia
Lo sposo deluso

Whirling
Cacti
Six Dances
Episode 31
Bedroom Folk
A Streetcar Named Desire
The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude
Etudes
Don Juan
Petite Mort
Firebirds

INTERNATIONAL STARS OF THE SEASON

Opera-goers may already be used to the biggest names in the international opera world occasionally appearing alongside our world-class Hungarian singers. Some have even become recurring guests, enthraling audiences at gala events as well as in opera roles. **ERWIN SCHROTT** will become Mefistofele, **PETER SEIFFERT** will grace the Opera stage as Parsifal, **PATRICIA PETIBON** and **LAWRENCE BROWNLEE** will give a concert at the Kodály Park of the Eiffel Art Studios, and **SIR WILLARD WHITE** will sing the role of Bluebeard in Hungarian and Porgy in English. **PLÁCIDO DOMINGO** will also be visiting us again, playing not only the role of Simon Boccanegra but also taking up the baton as conductor and participating in making a recording.



DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS OF THE SEASON

A great number of directors and choreographers will again be responsible for maintaining the variety of the works on the institution's repertoire; they include foreign artists as well as recognised artists and up-and-coming talents. The roster of international guests includes names like **KIRSTEN DEHLHOLM**, **CALIXTO BIEITO**, and **WAYNE MCGREGOR**. The most important works in the season include *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, directed by **KRISZTA SZÉKELY**; choreographers **ALBERT MIRZOYAN**, **IRINA PROKOFIEVA**, and **TAMÁS SOLYMOSI** will be adding new flavour to a pearl by the legendary Marius Petipa. **SZILVESZTER ÓKOVÁCS** will be opening the Opera House and showcasing the new stage technology with the Hungarian opera *Hunyadi László*, and Wagner fans will have to add two new premieres to their calendars: **ANDRÁS ALMÁSI-TÓTH** will be directing *Parsifal*, and **GÉZA M. TÓTH**'s Ring production, launched in 2015, will come to a close.



CONDUCTORS OF THE SEASON

The Opera Orchestra, as the symphony orchestra with the most performances in the nation, will be participating in almost 400 concerts, galas, and opera and ballet performances in the 2021/2022 season. In addition to the three venues, the talented musicians will also showcase their talents at alternative locations like metro stations, sports arenas, and churches.

A number of world-class stars will share the rostrum with the most famous Hungarian conductors and some talented young ones testing their wings. **DAVID COLEMAN** has already conducted the Orchestra in Kuwait; he will again be working in a production of *Giselle*. One of ballet's most famous conductors, **PAUL CONNELLY**, will also come to work in Budapest. A number of international conductors will also return to our stages: **STEFAN SOLTÉSZ** with *Die Frau ohne Schatten* and "*Symphony of a Thousand*", **PIER GIORGIO MORANDI** with Verdi's *Requiem*, **FABRIZIO MARIA CARMINATI** with *La fille du régiment*, and **FRÉDÉRIC CHASLIN** will be conducting his own version of *Pelléas et Mélisande*.



PAUL CONNELLY



GYÖRGY VASHEGYI



FABRIZIO MARIA CARMINATI



FRÉDÉRIC CHASLIN



PÉTER DOBOSZAY



BALÁZS KOCSÁR



OLIVER VON DOHNÁNYI



PÉTER HALÁSZ



JÁNOS KOVÁCS



GERGELY KESSELVÁK



STEFAN SOLTÉSZ



ÁDÁM MEDVECZKY



DAVID COLEMAN



PIER GIORGIO MORANDI

TOURS AND GUEST PERFORMANCES

The Opera's various ensembles are welcome guests at innumerable venues both in Hungary and abroad, and they will be more than happy to accept those invitations in the 2021/2022 season. Although international travel is currently restricted, forcing the cancellation of trips to both Japan and India, one foreign destination has been on the institution's roster for a very long time: the Orchestra is planning to conquer **PORTUGAL**. The truck carrying the travelling production of *L'elisir d'amore* will be visiting Hungarian towns in **UPPER HUNGARY**, while audiences in **BEREHOVE** can enjoy *Carmina Burana* in 2021 and a concert version of an important Hungarian work, *Háry János* the following year.

The latter production will also be performed at the Kodály Centre in **PÉCS** and the beautiful outdoor stages of **TATA**, **GYULA**, and **VESZPRÉM** in 2022, with other Opera productions featured this year: the cultural offerings of Tata, Gyula, and **KAPOLCS** will include Opera on Wheels, while Pécs will present *Carmina Burana*. Veszprém, the European Capital of Culture in 2023, will offer additional productions in cooperation with the Opera: in addition to a concert by Juan Diego Flórez, the Orff's masterpiece will also be performed here as well. *La Traviata* will be performed both in Veszprém and in **GYŐR**. In the summertime, the Chorus and Orchestra will offer a series of programmes in **BALATONFÜRED**, with Budapest audiences given the chance to delight in their favourite works and singers on **MARGARET ISLAND**.

The range of special Budapest venues include other beautiful buildings such as the **CHURCH OF ELISABETH OF HUNGARY**, the **CARMELITE MONASTERY**, and the **STABLES IN BUDA CASTLE**. However, there is no doubt that the grandest programme will be the festive mass celebrated by Pope Francis as part of the International Eucharistic Congress at **HEROES' SQUARE**, featuring the Opera Orchestra and Chorus.

The Opera will also be host to some important events: the closing concert of the Budapest Conference held during the Hungarian Presidency of the **VISEGRÁD FOUR** will feature Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* performed on International Music Day at the Eiffel Art Studios with Polish, Slovakian, and Czech soloists as well as an a Hungarian-born Austrian conductor.



TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Starting from 14 June 2021, our loyal customers will be offered a ticket similar to the usual passes, and we will be offering a new discounted ticket type to all audiences from 17 June until 31 August. This flexible subscription provides customers with the opportunity to view their favourite performances on a preferred date and in a selected seat.

The amount of the discount:

- **10%** for purchases of two separate performances;
- **20%** for purchases of three separate performances;
- **30%** for purchases of four separate performances;
- **40%** for purchases of five separate performances;
- **50%** for purchases of six separate performances, from the value of the purchase.

The discount is valid only for performances organised by the Opera in the main auditoriums. It cannot be combined with other offers. When making purchases for performances announced for the 2021/2022 season, gift cards and freely used tickets can be redeemed for both online and purchases made at ticket offices. Free passes cannot be purchased for category IV performances in Erkel Theatre.

As part of the summer discount, tickets will be available for the following performances held by 31 December 2021:

Opera premieres

**Carmen | The Jeweller's Shop | König Stephan / Die Ruinen von Athen
Les Enfants Terribles | Les Contes d'Hoffmann**

Ballet premieres

Sad Case | Chroma

Opera repertoire

**Salome | Carmina Burana | Bánk Bán (The Viceroy Bánk) | The Master and Margarita | Le bourgeois gentilhomme | Requiem | Stephen, the King
L'incoronazione di Poppea | The Imaginary Invalid or The Cabal of Hypocrites
The Gold and the Woman / The Tót Family | La bohème | Messiah
Die Fledermaus | Edgar**

Ballet repertoire

Giselle | Flames of Paris | The Nutcracker

In addition to the above, the Opera offers other special events, orchestra concerts, gala nights, children and youth programmes. More information is available on the Opera website.

Discount ticket purchases:

14-18 June 2021 (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.) | Erkel Theatre, Eiffel Art Studios, and online
From 21 June 2021 | Opera Sales Centre and online

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Opera Sales Centre (weekdays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
1061 Budapest, Hajós utca 13–15. Ground floor 1
Phone: +36 1 332 7914
E-mail: ticket@opera.hu

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