

OPERA

MAGYAR ÁLLAMI OPERAHÁZ
HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA

MYTH
& HISTORY 22
23



SEASON PREVIEW

EIFFEL

EIFFEL MŰHELYHÁZ
EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

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MYTH & HISTORY

2022/23

THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

- 16** premieres (9 full-length, 7 one-act)
- 340** opera performances
- 53** opera titles
- 13** opera premieres
- 150** ballet performances
- 21** ballet titles
- 3** ballet premieres
- 40** concerts, oratorios and galas
- 300** performances at the Opera House
- 220** performances at the Eiffel Art Studios
- 30** tour and guest performances
- 25** types of children's and youth programmes

THE THEME MYTH & HISTORY OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF PROGRAMMES TO FANS OF OPERA AND BALLET IN THE 2022/23 SEASON. OUR HISTORIES HAS BECOME MYTHS: *BÁNK*, *HUNYADI*, *HÁRY*, AND *THE FIFTH SEAL*, OR *PORGY*; AT OTHER INSTANCES, MYTHS HAVE MADE HISTORY ON THE STAGE: BESIDE *BLUEBEARD* OR *MANDARIN*, *ARIADNE*, *ELEKTRA*, *TANCREDI*, AND EVEN *DIE FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN* HAVE DONE SO. IT IS NOT ONLY HISTORY THAT IS LIFE'S GREAT TEACHER, BUT ART ITSELF, USING MEMORY AND STORYTELLING AS TEACHING AIDS, IT ASSISTS THE PROFESSOR'S WORK. HISTORY, ITS FACTS AND FIGURES, PROCESSES AND CONCLUSIONS ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO STAGE, IT IS RATHER ITS PERSONALITIES, THEIR EMOTIONS AND SURROUNDINGS REPRESENTED – AND NEITHER CAN LIVE WITHOUT THE OTHER.

OPERA PREMIERES

The 2022/23 season of the OPERA was inspired by the interconnected layers of myths and history, with several of its premiering productions being based on dramatic historical events. Beside new productions of popular operas, the world premieres of pieces by Iván Madarász and György Selmeczi will also take place. For the first time in Hungary, Prokofiev's monumental *War & Peace* will premiere, and to honour the 200th anniversary of poet Sándor Petőfi, *John the Valiant* returns in a contemporary staging.

Gluck **ORFEO & EURIDICE**

Kacsóh **JOHN THE VALIANT**

Madarász **THE FIFTH SEAL** (world premiere)

Monteverdi **TANCREDI & CLORINDA**

Mozart **IDOMENEO, RE DI CRETA**

Mozart **LA FINTA GIARDINIERA / THE PRETEND GARDEN-GIRL**

Prokofjev **WAR & PEACE** (Hungarian premiere)

Puccini **TOSCA**

Puccini **SCHICCHI 2.0**

Purcell **DIDO & AENEAS**

Selmeczi **ARTABAN** (world premiere)

Testoni **FANTASIO & FORTUNIO** (Hungarian premiere)

BALLET PREMIERES

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. In the Myth & History season, ballet fans will get to know a feature-length work by Boris Eifman, who is already well-known to the Hungarian audience, and the two internationally renowned dance pieces by Bartók will also be presented with new choreographies.

Eifman / J. Strauss II **THE PYGMALION EFFECT** (Hungarian premiere)

Velekei/Bartók **THE WOODEN PRINCE**

Venekei/Bartók **THE MIRACULOUS MANDARIN**

REPERTOIRE OPERA HOUSE

After the 12 March 2022 reopening of the historic Opera House on Andrásy Avenue after being restored to its original glory and getting augmented with the most modern technologies, it 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 on the repertoire. Audiences can enjoy several significant Hungarian and international pieces ranging from baroque operas to contemporary works, the most spectacular ballet productions will return to stage, and following a long hiatus, a complete *Ring* awaits Wagnerians at the Ybl Palace again.

**BÁNK BÁN –
THE VICEROY BÁNK
BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE
HUNYADI LÁSZLÓ
KING POMÁDÉ'S NEW CLOTHES
STEPHEN, THE KING**

**ARIADNE AUF NAXOS
UN BALLO IN MASCHERA
LA BOHÈME
CARMEN
CARMINA BURANA
LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN
DON CARLO
ELEKTRA
DIE FLEDERMAUS
DIE FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN**

**IPHIGENIE AUF TAURIS
LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR
OTELLO
PARSIFAL
DAS RHEINGOLD
DIE WALKÜRE
SIEGFRIED
GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG**

**DON QUIOTE
MAYERLING
THE NUTCRACKER
SWAN LAKE
THE TAMING OF
THE SHREW**

REPERTOIRE EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

The Opera's new artistic complex, the Eiffel Art Studios has been going full steam ahead since its official inauguration in October 2021. Audiences have experienced the possibilities offered by the complex in the form of numerous performances, and the Miklós Bánffy Stage has proved itself excellently qualified with baroque, classical, and contemporary opera productions as well as modern dance pieces. The public was also given access to the Locomotive Hall, the Sándor Hevesi Rehearsal Stage and Zoltán Kodály Park – the 2022/23 season will feature programmes at these locations as well.

**THE IMAGINARY INVALID, OR
THE CABAL OF HYPOCRITES
LOVE ADRIFT
THE MASTER & MARGARITA
THE STUBBORN PRINCESS
THE TENOR**

**IL CAMPANELLO
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
CROSS CANTATAS
DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES
LES ENFANTS TERRIBLES
DIE ENTFÜHRUNG AUS DEM
SERAIL
FIGARO³
MESSIAH
PELLÉAS & MÉLISANDE
PORGY & BESS**

**SIEGFRIED IDYLL
THE WIVES OF HENRY VIII**

**BEDROOM FOLK
THE BEATLECRACKER SUITE
CHROMA
EPISODE 31
ETUDES
SIX DANCES
PAQUITA SUITE
PETITE MORT
SAD CASE
A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE
THE VERTIGINOUS THRILL OF
EXACTITUDE
TROIS GNOSSIENNES
TROY GAME**

FESTIVAL OF MYTHS 2023

LEGENDS & HEROES

Opera is rooted in the Baroque era, and only after two centuries of depicting mythological figures it got around to tell stories of reality and historical events. *Tosca* takes place in 1800, two hundred years after the premiere *Euridice* by Jacopo Peri, the first opera that has survived. In our 2023 Festival of Myths, we return to the basics, but also visit Rome (without Puccini this time), medieval times, and a completely fictional universe, with some focus on Richard Strauss, a composer also inspired by mythology.

Gluck/Strauss **IPHIGENIE AUF TAURIS**

Monteverdi **IL COMBATTIMENTO DI TANCREDI E CLORINDA**

Strauss **ELEKTRA**

Purcell **DIDO & AENEAS**

North **TROY GAME & TROY GAME WITH AMAZONS**

Mozart **IDOMENEO, RE DI CRETA**

Strauss **DIE FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN**

Gluck **ORFEO & EURIDICE**

Strauss **ARIADNE AUF NAXOS**

TOURS & GUEST PERFORMANCES

As usual, the 2022/23 season of the OPERA is full of tours and guest performances. The final performance of Viktor Nagy's *Tosca* production can be seen on MARGARET ISLAND, where the OPERA Orchestra will also accompany the gala recital of Russian lyric soprano Aida Garifullina conducted by Pier Giorgio Morandi, and they will be joined by the Chorus for a concert performance of Verdi's *Attila*.

In the summer of 2022, ensembles and soloists of the OPERA will take a concert-like highlights of *Háry János* to GYULA, to the VALLEY OF ARTS festival, to TATA, and also to BEREGSZÁSZ – if the war in Ukraine permits. The annual concerts given by the chorus and the orchestra in BALATONFÜRED will take place once again to enchant the audience of the lakeside resort.

The OPERA's production of *Bánk Bán - The Viceroy Bánk* will be brought to the stage of the Romanian National Opera in BUCHAREST in June 2022, then its concert version will be taken to MUMBAI in October, to be played at the National Centre for the Performing Arts along with a stage version of *Die Fledermaus* and a Hungarian chamber recital. The company will also go on a ten-stop JAPANESE tour with *Die Zauberflöte*, during which the OPERA Orchestra will give several Beethoven concerts as well.

12 MAY – 17 JUNE 2023, OPERA HOUSE & EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

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 in Budapest. Some have even become recurring guests, enthralling audiences at gala events as well as in opera roles.

As a prelude to the Myth & History season, Italian tenor FABIO SARTORI is invited to star in the park concert of Eiffel Art Studios in August. In *War & Peace* ANNA SHAPOVALOVA (Natasha) will be the guest star, while in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* EVA BODOROVÁ (Konstanze) will join the production, who also has Hungarian roots. Following her great success this year, ANGELA NISI (Mimi) returns to *La bohème*, while the title role of *Otello* will be played by WALTER FRACCARO and CARLO VENTRE. As a real curiosity, countertenor RODRIGO SOSA DAL POZZO will appear in the performances of *Orfeo & Euridice* singing the title role and conducting the production as well.

The OPERA also launches a new series titled *Stars with a Piano*, in which aria and song recitals are given by internationally recognized artists such as ILDAR ABDRAZAKOV, FERRUCCIO FURLANETTO, SIMON KEENLYSIDE, JULIA LEZHNEVA, WALTRAUD MEIER, OLGA PERETYATKO and RAMÓN VARGAS.

The OPERA does not forget about its own stars either. It is going to celebrate ÉVA MARTON's 80th birthday with a gala concert, while GYÖNGYI LUKÁCS and ILDIKÓ KOMLÓSI will have 3 solo recitals each at the Eiffel Art Studios as a continuation of the series this year.

DIRECTORS & 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.

CALIXTO BIEITO has already made his Hungarian debut with *Carmen*, in the season of Myth & History, he produces *War & Peace* by Prokofiev, for the first time in Hungary. Returning are directors DÓRA BARTA, MÁTÉ SZABÓ, JÁNOS SZIKORA with new productions, and ANDRÁS ALMÁSI-TÓTH stages to rarely performed operas by Mozart.

The greatest premiere of the ballet season will be *The Pygmalion Effect*, a choreography by BORIS EIFMAN. Bartók's two dance pieces, *The Wooden Prince* and *The Miraculous Mandarin* are also presented in new versions, former by Ballet Győr director LÁSZLÓ VELEKEI, the latter by leading ballet mistress MARIANNA VENEKEI. The repertoire will include classical productions by MICHAEL MESSERER, WAYNE EAGLING and SIR KENNETH MACMILLAN, as well as a number of contemporary pieces by JIŘÍ KYLIÁN, HANS VAN MANEN, ALEXANDER EKMAN, WAYNE MCGREGOR, and many more.

CONDUCTORS OF THE SEASON

The OPERA Orchestra, as the symphony orchestra with the most performances in the nation, will be participating in almost 500 concerts, galas, and opera and ballet performances in the 2022/23 season. The series entitled Opera Total continues at the Eiffel Art Studios featuring monumental works, jubilee galas take place in memory of Miklós Ybl and Sándor Petőfi, and as it is customary, the New Year is greeted with a Beethoven concert.

In addition to the most excellent Hungarian conductors and young talents, the OPERA orchestra will be conducted by ANTONELLO ALLEMANDI (*Lucia di Lammermoor, Requiem*), DIEGO CERETTA (*Fantasio & Fortunio*), DAVID COLEMAN (*Swan Lake, The Pygmalion Effect*), PAUL CONNELLY (*Mayerling, Iván Nagy Ballet Gala*), FRÉDÉRIC CHASLIN (*Dialogues des Carmélites, Petőfi Symphony*) and THOMAS HERZOG (*The Nutcracker, Don Quixote*), MARC PIOLLET (*Les contes d'Hoffmann*), LEONARDO SINI (*Un ballo in maschera*) and STEFAN SOLTÉSZ (*Die Frau ohne Schatten*).



SUBSCRIPTIONS & TICKETS

Subscription pre-sale for subscription holders:

21 – 23 March 2022, Opera House

Subscriptions on sale: **24 – 25 March 2022**, Opera House & opera.hu

26 March – 30 June 2022, Opera Sales Centre, Eiffel Art Studios & opera.hu

Tickets on sale: **from 4 July 2022**

Hungarian State Opera ticket offices

OPERA HOUSE

1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 22.

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Monday – Sunday 10:00–19:00

EIFFEL ART STUDIOS

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Thursday – Sunday 10:00–19:00

OPERA SALES CENTRE

1061 Budapest, Hajós utca 13–15., ground floor 1 (door bell no. 90)

Phone: +36 1 332-7914

Monday – Thursday 10:00–17:00

Friday 10:00–14:00

Further information

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