



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director

SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO *cvo*

Director of Opera

OLIVER MEARS

TOSCA

MELODRAMMA IN THREE ACTS

Music **GIACOMO PUCCINI**

Libretto **GIUSEPPE GIACOSA** and **LUIGI ILLICA**

Conductor **KAREN KAMENSEK**

Director **JONATHAN KENT**

Revival Director **LUCY BRADLEY**

Designer **PAUL BROWN**

Lighting Designer **MARK HENDERSON**

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS

Chorus Director **WILLIAM SPAULDING**

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Concert Master **SERGEY LEVITIN**

Exceptional philanthropic support from

Royal Opera House Principals

JULIA AND HANS RAUSING

Generous philanthropic support from

ALAN AND CAROLINE HOWARD

Production generously sponsored by

Veuve Clicquot

MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7PM

The 538th performance by The Royal Opera at the Royal Opera House.

This performance is dedicated to the memory of Gary Mardon, former Head of Stage and Assistant Technical Director: a cherished colleague for over three decades.

APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

The performance lasts about 3 hours, including two intervals.

ACT I 50 minutes

INTERVAL 25 minutes

ACT II 45 minutes

INTERVAL 25 minutes

ACT III 30 minutes

LANGUAGE

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

GUIDANCE

Suitable for ages 12+

This production contains depictions of violence, sexual assault and implied torture. There are gunshots in Act III.

CAST

Cesare Angelotti **GRISHA MARTIROSYAN***

Sacristan **HENRY WADDINGTON**

Mario Cavaradossi **MARCELO PUENTE**

Floria Tosca **AUSRINE STUNDYTE**

Baron Scarpia **GABRIELE VIVIANI**

Spoletta **DIDIER PIERI**

Sciarrone **JAMIE WOOLLARD***

Young Shepherd **MADELEINE MCGHEE**

Gaoler **OLLE ZETTERSTRÖM**

*Jette Parker Artist

Extra Chorus

Sopranos **ANGELA CAESAR, JANET FAIRLIE, CELESTE GATTAI, VANESSA WOODFINE**

Mezzo-sopranos **MARIA BROWN, SIOBHAIN GIBSON, CLARE MCCALDIN, JENNIFER WESTWOOD**

Tenors **SIMON BIAZECK, RICHARD MONK, RICHARD REAVILLE**

Basses **OLIVER GIBBS, GAVIN HORSLEY, SIMON PREECE**

Actors

PETER BENTON, BARRY CALLAN, PETER COONEY, RAIN DE RYE BARRETT, KRIS DILLON, BASIL PATTON, JASON SABIN, SULEIMAN SULEIMAN, DANIEL SWAN, ADDIS WILLIAMS

Children's Chorus from **THE TRINITY SCHOOL**
under Director of Music **DAVID SWINSON**



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SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Cesare Angelotti, a Consul of the former Roman Republic, has escaped prison and seeks refuge in the Church of Sant'Andrea della Valle. The painter Mario Cavaradossi, a Republican sympathizer working in the church, promises to help him. Angelotti hides as Cavaradossi's lover Floria Tosca arrives. The lovers' meeting reveals Tosca's passionate love and jealousy. When Tosca has gone, Cavaradossi instructs Angelotti to dress in the disguise left for him, and hide at Cavaradossi's villa. Baron Scarpia arrives at the church. He suspects Cavaradossi of hiding Angelotti. When Tosca returns, Scarpia uses a fan left by Angelotti to make her believe that Cavaradossi is having an affair. Tosca leaves for Cavaradossi's villa, and Scarpia instructs his assistant Spoletta to follow her and track down Angelotti.

INTERVAL

ACT II

Scarpia has arrested Cavaradossi. He summons Tosca to his apartment, and forces her to listen as Cavaradossi is tortured in the next room. Tosca reveals Angelotti's hiding place. Scarpia condemns Cavaradossi to death but tells Tosca that he will free her lover if she will offer herself to him. In agony, Tosca agrees and Scarpia tells her he will arrange a mock execution. As Scarpia embraces Tosca, she fatally stabs him.

INTERVAL

ACT III

As dawn approaches, Cavaradossi waits for his execution at the top of the Castel Sant'Angelo. Tosca arrives and tells him what she has done. She instructs him on how to pretend to die in the mock execution. When the soldiers shoot, Tosca is impressed with her lover's acting. But Scarpia has double-crossed her and Cavaradossi really is dead. As Spoletta's men arrive to arrest her for Scarpia's murder, she leaps from the battlements to her death.

PRODUCTION

Music preparation **RICHARD HETHERINGTON,**
PATRICK MILNE, MARK PACKWOOD,
ANDRÉ CALLEGARO*, PETER SELWYN,
NICHOLAS ANSDALL-EVANS
Assistant Director **LOUISE BAKKER**
Italian language coach **BARBARA DIANA**

*Jette Parker Artist

THE ROYAL OPERA

Patron **THE FORMER PRINCE OF WALES**
Music Director **SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO CVO**
Director of Opera **OLIVER MEARS**
Director of Casting **PETER MARIO KATONA**
Administrative Director **CORMAC SIMMS**

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