



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director
SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO CVO

Director of Opera
OLIVER MEARS

ANDREA CHÉNIER

DRAMMA ISTORICO IN FOUR ACTS

Music **UMBERTO GIORDANO**
Libretto **LUIGI ILLICA** by arrangement with
CASA MUSICALE SONZOGNO DI PIERO OSTALI

Conductor **ANTONIO PAPPANO**

Director **DAVID MCVICAR**
Revival Director **THOMAS GUTHRIE**
Set Designer **ROBERT JONES**
Costume Designer **JENNY TIRAMANI**
Lighting Designer **ADAM SILVERMAN**
Choreography and Movement **ANDREW GEORGE**
Revival Choreographer (Act I) **AGURTZANE ARRIEN**

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS
Chorus Director **WILLIAM SPAULDING**

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
Principal Guest Concert Master by arrangement with Trittico
VASKO VASSILEV


A co-production with **CHINA NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS, BEIJING** and **SAN FRANCISCO OPERA**

Exceptional philanthropic support from
Royal Opera House Principals
JULIA AND HANS RAUSING

Season Principal
ALINE FORIEL-DESTETZET

Generous philanthropic support from **AUD JEBSEN, MRS
SUSAN A. OLDE OBE, DAVID FRANSEN, CHARLES AND
KAAREN HALE, MR AND MRS BAHA BASSATNE, PETER
HARRISON AND FIONA WILLIS, ALAN AND CAROLINE
HOWARD, SUSAN AND JOHN SINGER, JOHN SUNDERLAND
AND GEORGE SHISHKOVSKY, THE JEAN SAINSBURY ROYAL
OPERA HOUSE FUND, MARTIN AND JANE HOUSTON, MRS
TREVOR SWETE, THE FRIENDS OF COVENT GARDEN and
THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF COVENT GARDEN. Additional
kind philanthropic support from **SPINDRIFT AL SWAIDI**.**

Position of Music Director Maestro Antonio Pappano
Generously supported by **MRS SUSAN A. OLDE OBE**

Production generously sponsored by  **ROLEX**

TUESDAY 28 MAY 2024 11.30AM

General rehearsal

APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

The performance will last approximately 2 hours and 40
minutes, including one interval

ACT I AND ACT II 65 minutes

INTERVAL 30 minutes

ACT III AND ACT IV 65 minutes

CAST

Carlo Gérard **AMARTUVSHIN ENKHBAT**
Major-Domo **SIMON THORPE**
An Old Gardener **RICHARD HOLLIDAY**
Maddalena di Coigny **SONDRA RADVANOVSKY**
Bersi **KATIA LEDOUX**
Contessa di Coigny **ROSALIND PLOWRIGHT**
Pietro Fléville **WILLIAM DAZELEY**
Filandro Fiorinelli **RICH GITTINS**
Andrea Chénier **JONAS KAUFMANN**
The Abbé **ALED HALL**
Mathieu **JAMES CLEVERTON**
Orazio Coclite **MICHAEL KENNETH STEWART**
The Incredibile (An Incroyable) **ALEXANDER KRAVETS**
Roucher **ASHLEY RICHES**
Maximilien Robespierre **ANDREW HOBDAY**
Madelon **ELENA ZILIO**
Madelon's Grandson **HARRY SANDRINGHAM**
Fouquier-Tinville **EDDIE WADE**
Dumas **JAMIE WOOLLARD***
Gravier de Vergennes **RICHARD HOLLIDAY**
Laval-Montmorency **IRENE HARDY**
Idia Legrey **JUDITH GEORGI**
Schmidt **JEREMY WHITE**

Aristocrats, servants, footmen, sans-culottes, patriots,
urchins, soldiers

*Jette Parker Artist

Extra Chorus
Sopranos **CELESTE GATTAI, BERNADETTE LORD,
ELIZABETH ROBERTS**
Mezzo-sopranos **SIQBHAIN GIBSON, ZOE HAYDN,
FRANCES JELLARD, MARIA JONES**

Actors **JAMES ALLEN, FABRIZIO AMANAJAS,
ASHLEY BAIN, RAIN DE RYE BARRETT,
LUCY BRENCHLEY, LUKE COLDHAM, PETER COONEY,
JAMIE FRANCIS, JUDITH GEORGI, RICH GITTINS,
IRENE HARDY, ANDREW HOBDAY, RICHARD HOLLIDAY,
SASHA KANE, BRENNAN MADDY, XAVI MONREAL,
EDWARD HAYES NEARY, LOCKHART OGILVIE,
JASON SABIN, NADIA SADIQ, MICHAEL KENNETH
STEWART, ANNA-MARIE SULLIVAN, DANIEL SWAN**

Dancers **BJORN ASLUND, CORDELIA BRAITHWAITE,
EMMA LISTER, JACK WEBB**

Children **GENNARO CIMAFONTE, LUCIEN FLUTTER,
BEATRICE HOPE HENLEY, OLIVE LOUTH,
JAMES MAINWOOD, JONAH ELIJAH MCGOVERN,
JOEL PRICHARD, HARRY SANDRINGHAM,
YUNA MONREAL SAYO, MARKEL STEWART-ARRIEN,
KEVIN GABRIEL TOLBARU, DAIZE WHITE**

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

The Winter Garden at the Château Coigny, 1789

During preparations for a party at the Château, Carlo Gérard, one of the Contessa's footmen, who has long been in love with her daughter Maddalena, watches his elderly father struggling to help and looks forward to the end of the aristocracy's privileged lives. Maddalena and her servant Bersi arrive, closely followed by the guests. Everyone is alarmed by tales of political unrest in Paris. The Contessa and Maddalena insist that Chénier recite a poem. He improvises verses that contrast patriotic love and compassion with the indifference of the aristocracy to the suffering of the people. Moved and shamed, Maddalena leaves, as does Chénier. Gérard lets in the starving peasants who interrupt the music and dancing. The Contessa orders them to be thrown out. In defiance Gérard throws off his servant's livery, and leaves with his father and the mob.

ACT II

The Café Hottot, by the Perronet bridge, Paris, 1794

France has been in the throes of Revolution for five years. The King and Queen have been executed and the government, dominated by Robespierre's Jacobin party, have imposed 'The Terror'. Show-trials and executions take place daily. A Jacobin spy (an incroyable, or 'Incredible') observes Chénier, Mathieu and Bersi closely. The spy is suspicious of Bersi's connection to a mysterious fair-haired woman he is seeking. Once a leading Revolutionary, Chénier has fallen from favour for his outspoken criticism of the Jacobins. His friend Roucher has procured a passport for him and urges him to leave France. But Chénier is intrigued by letters he has received from a mysterious woman signing herself 'Hope'. Gérard arrives – he has prospered in the Revolution and is now a popular Jacobin. The spy draws him aside; it is Gérard who has set him the task of finding the fair-haired woman. Bersi tells Chénier that 'Hope' will meet him that evening. When 'Hope' appears Chénier discovers it is Maddalena, and they realize that they love each other. The couple are surprised by Gérard and the Incredible. Gérard and Chénier fight, and Gérard is wounded. Recognizing the poet whose words inspired him five years ago, Gérard urges Chénier to flee with Maddalena: his name is on the list of the Public Prosecutor Fouquier-Tinville.

INTERVAL

ACT III

The Hall of the Revolutionary Tribunal, a few months later

France is in danger, threatened by foreign invasion and internal rebellion. First Mathieu then Gérard stir the people, asking the women of France to offer their sons and jewels to the Revolution. Old Madelon offers up her grandson. Outside, news spreads of the arrest of Andrea Chénier. Gérard reflects on his hypocrisy in denouncing Chénier. Maddalena arrives and offers to give herself to Gérard to save Chénier. Gérard is affected by the force of Maddalena's love and swears to do all he can to save him. The public swarms into the hall for the latest show-trial. When Fouquier-Tinville reads out the indictment against Chénier, Gérard testifies against his own false accusations. Nonetheless, the jury condemns Chénier to the guillotine.

ACT IV

The courtyard of the St Lazare Prison, the next morning, before dawn

Chénier reads his final poem to Roucher, comparing the sunset of his life to the end of a fine spring day. Gérard arrives with Maddalena and they bribe the gaoler into letting her take the place of a woman condemned to die that same morning. Alone together, Chénier and Maddalena prepare fearlessly for death. The lovers go to the guillotine.

LANGUAGE

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

PRODUCTION

Music preparation **PAUL WYNNE GRIFFITHS, ANDRÉ CALLEGARO*, CHRISTOPHER WILLIS, MARK PACKWOOD**

Assistant Directors **ANGELO SMIMMO, EMMA DOHERTY**

Language Coach **EMMA ABBATE**

*Jette Parker Artist

THE ROYAL OPERA

Patron **HM THE KING**

Music Director **SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO CVO**

Director of Opera **OLIVER MEARS**

Director of Casting **PETER MARIO KATONA**

Administrative Director **CORMAC SIMMS**

SUPPORT OUR ONGOING RECOVERY

We are so glad to welcome our artists back to our theatres to perform for you the opera and ballet you love. During the pandemic we lost £3 in every £5 of our income and we continue to feel the impact as we recover. Sustaining the future of ballet and opera has never been so important. Please consider making a donation to the Royal Opera House community today and help support the future of ballet and opera.

roh.org.uk/donate