

THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director
SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO

Director of Opera
OLIVER MEARS

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA / PAGLIACCI

Conductor **DANIEL OREN**

Director **DAMIANO MICHIELETTO**
Revival Director **NOA NAAMAT**
Set Designer **PAOLO FANTIN**
Costume Designer **CARLA TETI**
Lighting Designer **ALESSANDRO CARLETTI**

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
Concert Master **SERGEY LEVITIN**

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS
Chorus Director **WILLIAM SPAULDING**

Co-production with **OPERA AUSTRALIA, LA MONNAIE,
BRUSSELS** and **THE GÖTEBORG OPERA**

Exceptional philanthropic support from
Royal Opera House Principals

JULIA AND HANS RAUSING

The Youth Opera Company is supported by
YVONNE AND BJARNE RIEBER and
THE PETERS FAMILY FOUNDATION CIO

TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 11.15AM

General rehearsal

APPROXIMATE TIMINGS / LANGUAGE

The performance will last about 3 hours
10 minutes, including one interval

ACT I 1 hour 20 minutes

INTERVAL 30 minutes

ACT II 1 hour 20 minutes

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA

MELODRAMMA IN ONE ACT

Music **PIETRO MASCAGNI**

Libretto **GIOVANNI TARGIONI-TOZZETTI** and

GUIDO MENASCI after Giovanni Verga's play based on his
story *Cavalleria Rusticana*

Santuzza **ALEKSANDRA KURZAK**

Turiddu **ROBERTO ALAGNA**

Alfio **DIMITRI PLATANIAS**

Mamma Lucia **ELENA ZILIO**

Lola **RACHAEL WILSON**

There are two offstage gunshots during *Cavalleria rusticana*.

PAGLIACCI

DRAMMA IN A PROLOGUE AND ONE ACT

Music and Libretto **RUGGERO LEONCAVALLO** based on a
newspaper crime report

Canio **JORGE DE LEÓN** replaces **FABIO SARTORI**

Nedda **ANNA PRINCEVA**

Tonio **DIMITRI PLATANIAS**

Beppe **MIKELDI ATXALANDABASO**

Silvio **ANDRZEJ FILOŃCZYK**

Two Villagers **NIGEL CLIFFE, ANDREW O'CONNOR**

Children* **AARIB AAMIR, CHARLOTTE BERRIDO,
IRIS BETTS, LUCIA CAMPBELL, FABIAN CROCKER
GRIFFITHS, ISABEL LU QIQI HOGLEY, JOOWON HONG,
MARGARET JIN, MARIA KEWI, RAPHY LAMING,
OSKAR JUDE LASHLEY, RAPHAEL NOMAN, ARINZÉ OBI,
AURELIA POWELL-BLYTH, DENNEYAH REID,
SHREYAS AADITYA SURESH, DAVID VASILIU,
ANGELINA VASKELA, ELSA ZANOCCO,
STELLA ZANOCCO**

*Members of the Youth Opera Company

Extra Chorus

Sopranos **JESSICA BROAD, RACHEL CHAPMAN,
CELESTE GATTAI, KATHRYN JENKIN, SUSAN JIWEY,
HELEN MILES, ALISON RAYNER, ELIZABETH ROBERTS,
GLENYS ROBERTS, ELINOR ROLFE JOHNSON,
ANNA SAMANT, JULIET SCHIEMANN,
ROSALIND WATERS, VANESSA WOODFINE**
Mezzo-Sopranos **JEANETTE AGER, MARIA BROWN,
SIOBHAIN GIBSON, ZOE HAYDN, FRANCES JELLARD,
MARIA JONES, HYACINTH NICHOLLS,
JENNIFER WESTWOOD**

Tenors **PHILLIP BELL, SIMON BIAZECK,
ANDREW BURDEN, ANDREW BUSHYER, JON ENGLISH,
DARRELL FORKIN, ANDREW FRIEDHOFF,
RICHARD MONK, JAMES SCARLETT, JULIAN SMITH,
ALEX WALL**

Basses **JAMES BIRCHALL, MARK CAMPBELL-GRIFFITHS,
OLIVER GIBBS, GAVIN HORSLEY, JOHN MORGAN,
SIMON PREECE, MARK SABERTON, JOCHEM VAN AST,
ROBERT WINSLADE-ANDERSON, JONATHAN WOOD**

Actors **JAMES ALLEN, KEITH ACKERMAN,
RAIN DE RYE BARRETT, LUKE BARRON,
LUCY BRENCHLEY, ELEONORA RUSSO**

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA

Turiddu sings of his rekindled love for Lola, with whom he is having an affair.

Villagers prepare to celebrate Easter Sunday. Turiddu's girlfriend Santuzza arrives to see him, but Turiddu's mother, Lucia, tells her he is away in another town. Their conversation is interrupted by Alfio, Lola's husband, returning home. He enthuses about his enjoyable job and lovely wife (*Il cavallo scalpita*), mentioning that he saw Turiddu near his house that morning.

The village gathers for the morning service, and Santuzza joins in with their Easter Hymn (*Inneggiamo, Il Signor non è morto*). When everyone goes on to church, Santuzza and Lucia stay behind. Santuzza tells Lucia how Turiddu seduced her, then abandoned her for Lola (*Voi lo sapete, o mamma*). Because she has slept with a man outside of marriage, Santuzza considers herself excommunicated and unable to enter the church. She asks Lucia to pray for her.

Turiddu arrives. Santuzza reproaches him for his behaviour with Lola, while he accuses her of irrational jealousy (*Tu qui, Santuzza?*). Lola arrives, flirts with Turiddu, mocks Santuzza and goes on to church. Santuzza begs Turiddu to stay, but he rejects her violently. Santuzza curses him. Alfio comes looking for Lola, and Santuzza impulsively tells him about the affair. Alfio swears revenge (*Ad essi non perdono*).

INTERMEZZO

Turiddu invites his friends to drink with him (*Viva il vino spumeggiante*). Alfio refuses. The women, with Lola, leave. Alfio challenges Turiddu to a duel. Turiddu accepts and Alfio heads to the orchard to wait for him. Turiddu tells his mother he has to go (*Mamma, quel vino è generoso!*), and that if he does not return, she must be a mother to Santuzza. As Lucia waits anxiously, Santuzza joins her. More villagers gather. Suddenly, a woman cries out that Turiddu has been killed

PAGLIACCI

PROLOGUE

Tonio, an actor in a travelling troupe, introduces the opera, telling the audience they will see a drama about real people.

ACT I

Villagers are excited by the arrival of travelling actors. Canio, the leader of the troupe, announces that their play will be about the misadventures and eventual triumph of the cuckolded husband Pagliaccio. The villagers invite Canio and actors Beppe and Tonio to have a drink. Tonio says he will join them shortly. The villagers joke that Tonio wants to stay and flirt with Canio's wife Nedda. Canio responds that while he's happy to play a cuckolded husband on stage, he will not countenance infidelity in real life.

Left alone, Nedda broods on her husband's jealousy and envies the freedom of the birds (*Stridono lassù*). Tonio has been secretly listening, and now emerges to plead with her: he knows he is unattractive, but he loves her. Nedda mocks him, and when he tries to kiss her, strikes him. Tonio leaves, now provoked to revenge.

Silvio, one of the villagers, comes looking for Nedda: he is her secret lover. The troupe is departing the next day, and he urges her to run away with him. She is reluctant, but agrees to come that night. The couple do not realize that the vengeful Tonio

has fetched Canio, in time for him to hear the lovers planning their escape. Silvio escapes before Canio discovers his identity. Tonio laughs at having got his own back on Nedda.

Canio threatens Nedda to make her reveal her lover, but she refuses. Beppe interrupts: the audience are arriving for the show. As Canio dresses, he laments a life in which he must play the clown while his heart is breaking (*Vesti la giubba*).

INTERMEZZO

ACT II

Tonio orders the audience to their seats while Nedda collects the ticket money. Silvio comes to remind her of their rendezvous, and she warns him to keep out of sight of Canio.

The play's story mirrors the troupe's real-life situation. Arlecchino (Beppe) serenades Colombina (Nedda), whose husband Pagliaccio (Canio) is away from home. Her servant Taddeo (Tonio) attempts to flirt with her, but she scornfully sends him away so that she can enjoy a supper with Arlecchino. Taddeo interrupts with the news that Pagliaccio is returning home early. Arlecchino escapes as Pagliaccio enters.

As scripted, Pagliaccio accuses Colombina of infidelity and demands her lover's name. But Nedda realises Canio is not acting. She attempts to go on, but Canio refuses (*No! Pagliaccio non son!*). The audience applauds his acting, but Silvio grows nervous. Canio denounces Nedda. Enraged that she still refuses to reveal her lover's name, he kills her. Silvio runs onto the stage. Canio kills him too. Tonio announces 'the play is over'.

PRODUCTION

Music preparation **RICHARD HETHERINGTON, PATRICK MILNE, NICHOLAS ANSDALL-EVANS, SERGEY RYBIN**

Assistant Directors **DAN DOONER, ELEANOR BURKE***

Language Coach **BARBARA DIANA**

Fight Arranger **LOCKHART OGILVIE**

Costume Production Managers **ESTER MANGAS, DONNA GUADAGNINI**

Assistant Costume Production Manager **GIULIA GALLON**

Additional Costumes **ANGELA SANTOS**

*Jette Parker Artist

THE ROYAL OPERA

Patron **THE FORMER PRINCE OF WALES**

Music Director **SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO**

Director of Opera **OLIVER MEARS**

Director of Casting **PETER MARIO KATONA**

Administrative Director **CORMAC SIMMS**

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