

## MEDIA RELEASE

4 June 2024

# Opera Australia marks Puccini's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with thrilling new *Tosca*

25 June – 16 August 2024 | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House



Marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Giacomo Puccini's death, Opera Australia has programmed two of the legendary Italian composer's most celebrated works at the Sydney Opera House this winter, starting with Edward Dick's acclaimed five-star production of *Tosca* opening on 25 June.

This electrifying new production of Puccini's action-packed thriller has all the ingredients for a gripping, edge-of-your-seat opera, with its compelling, and ultimately tragic, love story, filled with passion and power, jealousy and betrayal, that unfolds over a rapid-fire 24 hour period.

Renowned as a crowd pleaser for opera lovers around the world, *Tosca* is the perfect choice for those wanting to try opera for the first time. The suspenseful plot told through Puccini's soaring music with powerful, and at times haunting, singing takes audiences on an emotional roller-coaster.

Director Edward Dick has brought together an award-winning creative team to deliver a production that blends Renaissance grandeur and contemporary elegance.

Set designer Tom Scutt beautifully places the action beneath a suspended gilded dome that reveals a stunning Renaissance fresco, with performers dressed in contemporary glamour by BAFTA-winning costume designer Fotini Dimou and stadium style lighting by Lee Curran.

Northern Irish soprano Giselle Allen will make her OA debut in the titular role, sharing with OA favourite Karah Son who made her role debut in the recent Melbourne season, singing *Tosca*'s signature aria 'Vissi d'arte' to rapturous applause and critical acclaim.

Korean tenor Young Woo Kim will make his Sydney Opera House debut as the love struck painter Cavaradossi and the villainous Scarpia will be performed by Armenian dramatic baritone Gevorg Hakobyan in his OA debut, and then by award-winning local baritone Warwick Fyfe.

Acclaimed maestro Johannes Fritsch makes a welcome return to Australia to conduct the OA Orchestra for the first half of the season, followed by OA's Head of Music Tahu Matheson.

PATRON-IN-CHIEF  
DR HARUHISA HANDA

HERO PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



**Creatives**

Conductor **Johannes Fritzsch** (Jun 25-Jul 18), **Tahu Matheson** (Jul 27-Aug 16)

Director **Edward Dick**

Set Designer **Tom Scutt**

Costume Designer **Fotini Dimou**

Lighting Designer **Lee Curran**

Choreographer **Maxine Braham**

Assistant Director **Warwick Doddrell**

**Cast**

Tosca **Giselle Allen** (Jun 25-Jul 18),  
**Karah Son** (Jul 27-Aug 16)

Cavaradossi **Young Woo Kim**

Scarpia **Gevorg Hakobyn** (Jun 25-Jul 27),  
**Warwick Fyfe** (Jul 31-Aug 16)

Spoletta **Benjamin Rasheed**

Sciarrone **Luke Gabbedy**

Angelotti **David Parkin**

Sacristan **Andrew Moran**

Gaoler **Anthony Mackey**

**Opera Australia Chorus**

**Opera Australia Orchestra**

**Performance information**

**Evenings at 7.30pm**

June 25, 29

July 2, 4, 6, 10, 18, 27, 31

Aug 7, 10, 12, 14, 16

**Saturday Matinees at 12.00pm**

July 13

Aug 3

**Running time**

Approximately 2 hour and 40 minutes,  
including two intervals

Performed in Italian with English  
surtitles

Please note this production contains  
depictions of violence, including  
violence against women, murder and  
suicide.

*Tosca* is an Opera North production.

**Bookings**

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply)

Opera Australia Box Office  
(02) 9318 8200

[www.opera.org.au](http://www.opera.org.au)

**Joan Sutherland Theatre,  
Sydney Opera House**

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