

MEDIA RELEASE

26 February 2026

Grandstand extended to meet demand for Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour – *The Phantom of the Opera*



Due to an overwhelming demand, Opera Australia today announced that new seats have been added to every performance of the already extended five-week season of *The Phantom of the Opera*, Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, including previously sold-out shows.

Running from Friday 27 March to 3 May, with the first week almost sold out, a further extension of the season is not an option, so to meet demand, the custom-built grandstand will be expanded to accommodate an extra 160 seats for every show.

Opera Australia CEO Alex Budd said, “The demand for *The Phantom of the Opera* in its 40th anniversary year has been phenomenal. When we couldn’t add more performances, we did the only thing left - we built more seats.”

This year’s 5-star production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *The Phantom of the Opera* brings back the original creative team to revive the event’s most popular production, with a cast of brilliant Australian performers bringing this visionary production to life at Mrs Macquaries Point for a strictly limited season this autumn.

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour is a larger-than-life event staged on Sydney’s iconic Harbour. After 14 years, it has become an essential experience on Sydney’s cultural calendar, with audiences flocking to enjoy the unique combination of the outdoor setting, a live orchestra and nightly fireworks, with impressive views of the city skyline, Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour is supported by the NSW Government, via its tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, and through the International Foundation for Arts and Culture as Naming Rights Partner, Dr Haruhisa Handa OA’s Patron in Chief, and OA’s Principal Partner HSBC.

STRATEGIC SPONSORS

NAMING RIGHTS PARTNER

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



DR HARUHISA HANDA



Creatives

Musical Supervisor **Guy Simpson**
 Director **Simon Phillips**
 Set & Costume Designer **Gabriela Tylesova**
 Choreographer & Associate Director **Simone Sault**
 Lighting designer **Nick Schlieper**
 Sound Designers **Shelly Lee**
 Assistant Director **Matt Heyward**

Cast

The Phantom **Jake Lyle**
 Christine Daaé **Amy Manford**
 Raoul, Vicomte de Chagny **Jarrod Draper**
 Monsieur Firmin **Brent Hill**
 Monsieur André **Martin Crewes**
 Madame Giry **Debora Krizak**
 Carlotta Giudicelli **Guisseppina Grech**
 Ubaldo Piangi **Daniel Belle**
 Meg Giry **Jayne Jo Massoud**

Ensemble

Jessica Bock, Mia Byrnes, Georgia Cosgrove, Mia Coutts, Matt Cranleigh, Zac de Gersigny, Anthony Garcia, Michaela Hodgson, Bianca Hopkins, Catrin Lewis, Josephine Lonergan, Natalie Lui, James MacAlpine, Imogen-Faith Malfitano, Sofia Mancini, Jake Maskill, Madeline McCartney, Ella Nonini, Ryan Ophel, Ellise Pellizzer, Matthew Reardon, Annabelle Rosewarne, Julian Seguna, Anna Stephens, Leon Vitogiannis, Vanessa You, Cathy-Di Zhang and Massimo Zuccara

Swings

Paul Whiteley, Tom Sharah and Rachel Breeze

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Performance Information

Evenings at 7.30pm

27 March – 3 May, excluding Mondays and Good Friday on 3 April.

Running Time

Approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes with one interval.

Bookings

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply)

Opera Australia Box Office

(02) 9318 8200

opera.org.au/harbour

**Fleet Steps,
 Mrs Macquaries Point, Sydney**

Images + Video available: [Opera Australia Media Centre](#)

Media enquiries

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