

Sarah Giles' acclaimed *La Traviata* makes its Melbourne debut



"A triumphant 'new' La Traviata. ★★★★★½" Sydney Morning Herald

Opera Australia will return to the grandeur of Melbourne's Regent Theatre next month to present Sarah Giles' nationally lauded production of Verdi's *La Traviata*, a lavish co-production by Opera Queensland, State Opera South Australia and West Australian Opera, for its highly anticipated Melbourne premiere.

The season features a superb cast of local and international performers who will bring to life Giles' acclaimed take on the world's most performed opera, with a mix of fresh new talent alongside well-known favourites.

Two sopranos will bring their own distinctive style to the character of courtesan Violetta with the role to be shared by Melbourne-born Stacey Alleaume and Italian Maria Laura Iacobellis, performing alternating dates across the limited eight show season.

Alleaume returns to her hometown to perform the role she has sung to critical acclaim in opera houses around the world, including Hong Kong, Italy and Wales, as well as Austria later this year.

Also set to delight audiences, Iacobellis will make her Australian debut in this production. The young Italian soprano has made waves across Europe since 2015 with a series of significant lead role debuts across the continent including Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Musetta (*La Bohème*), Nannetta (*Falstaff*) and Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*).

Other alternating cast members include rising New Zealand tenor Filipe Manu who will make his role debut as Alfredo, sharing the season with Italian tenor Oreste Cosimo and acclaimed baritones Andrii Kymach and Luke Gabbedy who will share the role of Giorgio Germont.

Award-winning Italian conductor Giampaolo Bisanti will lead Orchestra Victoria and the Opera Australia Chorus through Verdi's beloved score, bringing his renowned Italianate style to Australia for the first time. Bisanti has firmly established himself as one of the most remarkable and recognized conductors of his generation and is regularly invited to perform by some of the world's most prestigious opera houses.

From the famous 'Brindisi' to Violetta's soaring 'Sempre libera', Verdi's music for is a thrilling, emotional experience and Giles' new perspective continues to strike a chord with audiences, time and again.

PATRON-IN-CHIEF
DR HARUHISA HANDA

HERO PARTNER

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Creatives

Conductor **Giampaolo Bisanti**
 Director **Sarah Giles**
 Set & Costume Designer **Charles Davis**
 Lighting Designer **Paul Jackson**
 Revival Director **Claudia Osborne**
 Assistant Director **Bec Moret**

Cast

Violetta Valéry **Stacey Alleaume** (8, 10, 13 & 15 May), **Maria Laura Iacobellis** (9, 12, 14 & 16 May)
 Afredo Germont **Filipe Manu** (8, 10, 13 & 15 May), **Oreste Cosimo** (9, 12, 14 & 16 May)
 Giorgio Germont **Andrii Kymach** (8, 10, 13 & 15 May), **Luke Gabbedy** (9, 12, 14 & 16 May)
 Flora Bervoix **Angela Hogan**
 Gastone **Iain Henderson**
 Baron Douphol **Richard Anderson**
 Marquis D'Obigny **Anthony Mackey**
 Doctor Grenvil **Shane Lawrencev**
 Annina **Jane Ede**
 Giuseppe **Jin Tea Kim**
 Messenger **Jonathan McCauley**
 Servant **Malcom Ede**

Opera Australia Chorus
Opera Australia Dancers
Orchestra Victoria

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Performance information

7.30pm
 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 May
2:00pm
 10 May

Running time

Approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes including 1 interval.

Performed in Italian with English surtitles.

Please note this production contains adult content including sexual themes and implied violence.

Opera Australia presents *La Traviata*: A co-production by Opera Queensland, State Opera South Australia and West Australian Opera

Bookings

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply)

Opera Australia Box Office
 (03) 9685 3700
www.opera.org.au

Regent Theatre, Melbourne