

MEDIA RELEASE

29 September 2026

Opera Australia: Summer at Sydney Opera House

From snow-kissed Paris to outback Australia, stunning to steampunk, Opera Australia presents new takes on canon favourites with humour, heart & high notes

-Sydney Premiere-

***La Bohème:* A new generation of young creatives bring to life Puccini's heartbreaking tale of love and loss**



One of Australia's most exciting young directors, Constantine Costi brings his fresh take on Puccini's timeless and beloved opera to the Sydney Opera House. Set in the snow-kissed backdrop of Paris, this must-see production breathes new life into the opera that has inspired countless bohemian love stories. *La Bohème* captures the raw emotion of Puccini's iconic score that reminds audiences of the power of love. OA's Music Director and award-winning conductor, Andrea Battistoni will lead a series of stellar local and international singers before passing the baton to fellow Italian conductor Matteo Dal Maso. Italian soprano Maria Teresa Leva returns to Sydney after wowing audiences in *Turandot* to star as Mimi, along with local favourites Jennifer Black, and Samantha Clarke making her role debut, while rising star Italian tenor Matteo Desole makes his OA debut as Rodolfo sharing the role with Paride Cataldo and Iain Henderson. **2 January – 17 March and New Years Eve Performance on 31 December | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House, Tickets from \$79**

-Sydney Premiere-

***The Magic Flute:* A thrilling steampunk spectacle. Mozart's fantasy opera like you've never seen before**



In its first association with Scottish Opera, Opera Australia brings this ingenious production of Mozart's famous final opera *The Magic Flute* to Sydney. This production by baritone-turned director Sir Thomas Allen, a legend of the operatic stage renowned for his performances of Papageno, gives Mozart's enchanting fairytale a steampunk twist that has earned five-star reviews across the UK. An outstanding cast will take audiences on this adventure through the magic and mayhem of Mozart's surreal world. Alexandra Flood and Gemma Nha who dazzled audiences this past season share the role of Pamina along with Celeste Lazarenko while Nicholas Jones performs Tamino with Alasdair Kent who makes his long-awaited OA debut. International singers Daniela Cappiello and Tetiana Zhuravel make their OA debuts as The Queen of the Night before Australian Jessica

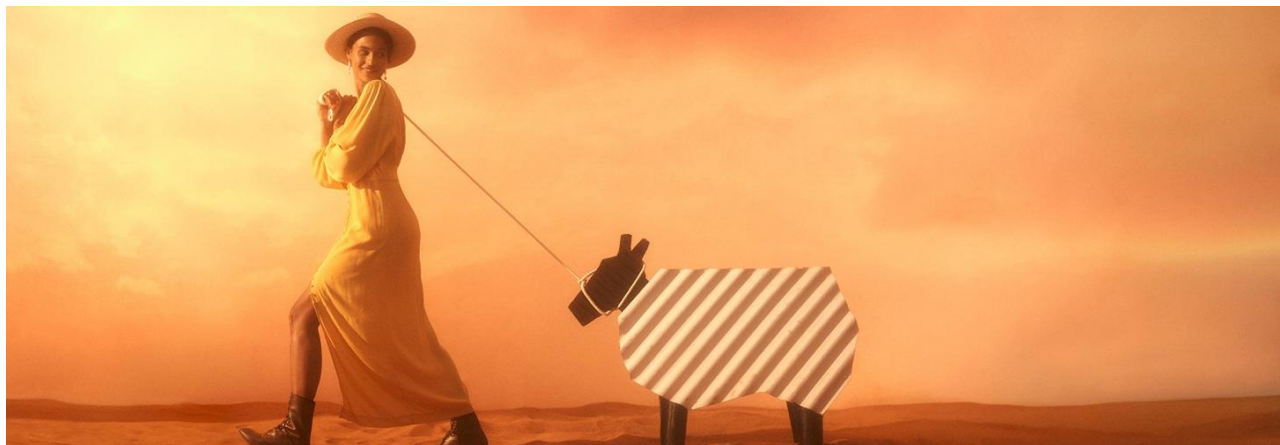
PATRON-IN-CHIEF
DR HARUHISA HANDA

HERO PARTNER

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Blunt steps into the role. Sung in German with English dialogue and full of whim, wit and wonder with fabulously fun costumes and sets, *The Magic Flute* will be a feast for the ears with some of Mozart's most iconic music including the Queen of the Night aria. **13 January – 23 March | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House, Tickets from \$79**

The Elixir of Love: High notes and high jinks aplenty in this beloved quintessential Australian production of Donizetti's romantic comedy opera



This much-loved production of Donizetti's sparkling opera by Australian theatre royalty Simon Phillips makes a welcome return to Sydney promising romance, laughter and dazzling singing. Audiences are transported to outback Australia in 1915, with Michael Scott-Mitchell's set made entirely from corrugated iron complete with corrugated mountains, sheep, power lines and chickens and Gabriela Tylesova's gorgeous costumes. Stacey Alleaume makes a triumphant return from the stages of Europe for her exciting role debut as Adina, sharing the stage with local stars, John Longmiur, Simon Meadows and Leon Vitogiannis, along with Pietro Spagnoli and Eden Shifroni making their OA debuts. They'll be led by Danila Grassi, one of the world's most exciting young conductors in her first Australian appearance. **29 January – 12 March | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House, Tickets from \$79**

La Voix Humaine & L'Enfant Et Les Sortilèges: An immersive experience into the lesser-known gems of the French repertoire



This thrilling one-night-only double bill of one-act French masterpieces will be performed in concert with the full force of the Opera Australia Orchestra under the baton of Andrea Battistoni. Poulenc's *La Voix humaine* is an electrifying one-woman opera where an unnamed woman makes one final phone call to her lover, whose attentions have turned elsewhere. Opera superstar Anna Caterina Antonacci makes a long-awaited OA debut showcasing her extraordinary vocal and dramatic intensity.

While *La Voix humaine* is intimate and raw, Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* is a dark fantasy set free, its kaleidoscopic score draws on influences from Wagner to Gershwin. During a ferocious tantrum, a child lays waste to their room — until the objects they've destroyed spring to life. Adored Australian turned international mezzo soprano Margaret Plummer leads a cast of outstanding singers in this rarely performed opera by one of the 20th century's most inventive composers. **5 February, Joan Sutherland Theatre, Tickets from \$79**

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-Sydney Premiere-

Eucalyptus: The poignant and ethereal new opera that celebrates Australian bushland to have its Sydney Opera House debut



Following rave reviews around the country, this remarkable Australian opera by Sir Jonathan Mills and Meredith Oakes makes its highly anticipated Sydney premiere. Based on Murray Bail's beloved novel, *Eucalyptus* is a timeless story of love and longing that follows the relationship between Ellen Holland and her overprotective father who has kept her sheltered away from the world in his haven forest of eucalyptus, scared of losing her to her many male suitors. Renowned Australian playwright and director Michael Gow directs this deeply moving production, with designs by Simone Romaniuk. Soprano Desiree Frahn makes her OA debut as Ellen joined by Simon Meadows, Samuel Dundas and Michael Petrucelli. *Eucalyptus* is a co-production commissioned by Opera Australia and Victorian Opera. **22 – 25 March | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House, Tickets from \$79**

Great Opera Hits: Popular tunes and exquisite voices delight



A showcase of the world's greatest arias under the sails of the spectacular Sydney Opera House, *Great Opera Hits* concerts celebrate exceptional music and the power of the operatic voice. Some of Australia's finest performers sing recognisable solos, duets and ensemble pieces by esteemed composers, such as Bizet, Mozart, Puccini and Verdi, in a light-hearted 90 minutes of entertainment. A perfect opportunity for Sydney locals and tourists alike to be introduced to the delightful world of opera. **24 December – 21 March | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House, Tickets from \$79**

Booking Information

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