

OPER KÖLN PRODUCTIONS IN THE 2022.23 SEASON

LES TROYENS (THE TROJANS) | HECTOR BERLIOZ | **PREMIERE** 24 SEPTEMBER 2022

MIRANDA | HENRY PURCELL | **GERMAN PREMIERE** 02 OCTOBER 2022

DIE ENTFÜHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL | WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART | **REVIVAL** 08 OCTOBER 2022

TURANDOT | GIACOMO PUCCINI | **REVIVAL** 29 OCTOBER 2022

DER ZWERG / PETRUSCHKA | ALEXANDER ZEMLINKSY / IGOR STRAWINSKY | **PREMIERE** 19 NOVEMBER 2022

NOMAD | EASTMAN | **DANCE** 25 NOVEMBER 2022

 **DER GESANG DER ZAUBERINSEL** | MARIUS FELIX LANGE | **GERMAN PREMIERE** 26 NOVEMBER 2022

LA CENERENTOLA | GIOACCHINO ROSSINI | **PREMIERE** 17 DECEMBER 2022

LA BOHÈME | GIACOMO PUCCINI | **REVIVAL** 22 DECEMBER 2022

FASTELOVEND ZESAMME! | CÄCILIA WOLKENBURG | **PREMIERE** 21 JANUARY 2023

KARNEVAL, DU ALLERSCHÖNSTE ZEIT | CARNIVAL CONCERTO | 30 JANUARY 2023

 **THE MUSICIAN** | CONOR MITCHELL | **GERMAN PREMIERE** 24 FEBRUARY 2023

ONE AND OTHERS | BALLETT AM RHEIN DÜSSELDORF DUISBURG | **DANCE** 25 FEBRUARY 2023

LUISA MILLER | GIUSEPPE VERDI | **PREMIERE** 04 MARCH 2023

DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER | RICHARD WAGNER | **PREMIERE** 02 APRIL 2023

LA BÊTE DANS LA JUNGLE (THE BEAST IN THE JUNGLE) | ARNAUD PETIT | **WORLD PREMIERE** 14 APRIL 2023

 **PIN KAISER UND FIP HUSAR** | FRANK ENGEL | **REVIVAL** 18 APRIL 2023

GIULIO CESARE IN EGITTO | GEORG FRIEDRICH HÄNDEL | **PREMIERE** 06 MAY 2023

CORPUS BACH | SELON DÉsir | INTRODANS | **DANCE** 11 MAY 2023

 **DER TEUFEL MIT DEN DREI GOLDENEN HAAREN** | STEFAN JOHANNES HANKE | **REVIVAL** 13 MAY 2023

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE | WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART | **REVIVAL** 27 MAY 2023

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR | GAETANO DONIZETTI | **REVIVAL** 11 JUNE 2023

OPERN-AIR AM TANZBRUNNEN | 25 JUNE 2023

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DESIGNATED COLOGNE OPERA INTENDANT HEIN MULDER PRESENTS HIS FIRST SEASON 2022.23

From autumn 2022, Hein Mulders will take over as the new intendant of the Cologne Opera. Together with General Music Director François-Xavier Roth, he presented the programme for the 2022.23 season at a press conference in the StaatenHaus, the interim home of Cologne Opera since the 2015.16 season. Hein Mulders' programme focuses on a range of major operas with established and well-known as well as young, up-and-coming and international artistic teams and singers.

Hector Berlioz's Grand opéra **LES TROYENS** will be performed at the opening of the season under the musical direction of General Music Director François-Xavier Roth. The special double evening **DER ZWERG / PETRUSCHKA** commemorates the premiere of the opera „Der Zwerg” in Cologne 100 years ago – in the very combination of opera and dance. For the first time, Oper Köln is collaborating with choreographer Richard Siegal and his company *Richard Siegal / Ballet of Difference at Schauspiel Köln*, for „Petrushka”.

Following the avant-garde tradition of the Cologne Opera House, Hein Mulders also premieres one opera per season: this season the opera **LA BÊTE DANS LA JUNGLE** by the French composer Arnaud Petit (*1982).

The multiple award-winning performances of the Kinderoper Köln (Cologne Children's Opera), international dance companies as well as popular and new audience formats open the house to young and old, rounded off by the „Opern-Air” at the Tanzbrunnen, the theatre festival for the whole family and the extensive and varied programme of the „Opera. City. School” department.

Cologne's future intendant **Hein Mulders** is delighted about the warm welcome and has great plans: „Leading the Oper Köln into its new, important chapter is both a fulfilment and a privilege already now. I feel a bond with the city and its people. Together with my team, I invite you to experience opera in new colours: with exciting productions, unforgettable musical moments,

informative introductions and opportunities to get to know each other personally.”

François-Xavier Roth, Cologne’s General Music Director and Kapellmeister of the Gürzenich Orchestra, sees great potential in the future artistic collaboration: „Hein Mulders and I are already in close creative exchange. I am very much looking forward to the productions we have planned together – both the repertoire pieces as well as a series of world premieres that will commence in this coming season. Opera is a living art form, especially here in Cologne!”

THE 2022.23 SEASON AT A GLANCE

A total of eight premieres and five revivals in opera, three dance premieres, and two world premieres and two revivals in children’s opera will be presented:

OPERA PREMIERES

Hector Berlioz’s grand opéra **LES TROYENS** (*premiere: 24 September 2022*) will be presented for the opening of the 2022.23 season under the musical direction of General Music Director François-Xavier Roth. With this work, Roth crowns his Cologne cycle of Berlioz operas, after „Béatrice et Bénédicte” (season 2021.22) and „Benvenuto Cellini” (season 2015.16). The director will be Johannes Erath, who has already enjoyed great success at the Cologne Opera with Gounod’s „Faust”, Massenet’s „Manon” and, most recently, Saariaho’s „L’amour de loin”.

William Shakespeare’s last play „The Tempest” serves director Katie Mitchell and librettist Cordelia Lynn as the basis for the opera **MIRANDA** (*German premiere: 2 October 2022*). Originally scheduled for the 2019.20 season, the co-production with the Opéra Comique Paris has been transferred to the upcoming season due to the pandemic. Katie Mitchell is known for her profound interpretations: First, Miranda – sung by ensemble member Adriana Bastidas-Gamboa – takes centre stage as the deceased. Then she blasts her own funeral service, forcing those present to hear her true story. The music by Henry Purcell, chosen by Raphaël Pichon, is supervised by much-acclaimed Greek conductor George Petrou.

A special double evening of Alexander Zemlinsky’s one-act opera **DER ZWERG** and Igor Stravinsky’s ballet **PETRUSCHKA** (*premiere: 19 November 2022*) commemorates the world premiere of this opera

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100 years ago – and in precisely this combination of opera and dance – on 28 May 1922 in the old Cologne opera house on Hohenzollernring. For the first time, Oper Köln is collaborating with the dance company *Richard Siegal / Ballet of Difference at Schauspiel Köln* for „Petrushka“. This new production will be directed by Paul-Georg Dittrich, with Lawrence Renes as musical director.

Gioacchino Rossini's opera **LA CENERENTOLA** (*premiere: 17 December 2022*) is staged by young Italian director Cecilia Ligorio, who is presenting her first production in Germany. She is supported by choreographer Daisy Ransom Philips. The musical direction lies in the hands of conductor Matteo Beltrami, who is a frequent guest at Germany's major opera houses, including the Semperoper Dresden, the state operas in Hamburg and Stuttgart and the Deutsche Oper Berlin.

A traditional crowd pleaser is the premiere of the annual „Divertissementchen“ of the men's choir Cäcilia Wolkenburg, which in this season honours the founding of the Cologne carnival 200 years ago (*premiere FASTELOVEND ZESAMME!: 21 January 2023*).

In **LUIZA MILLER** (*premiere: 4 March 2023*), Giuseppe Verdi's art of Italian opera is displayed in full mastery. Oper Köln presents a production from the 2021 Glyndebourne Festival by world-renowned director Christof Loy. Roberto Rizzi Brignoli, a proven expert in Italian opera conducts.

For the new production of Richard Wagner's **DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER** (*premiere: 2 April 2023*), director Benjamin Lazar returns to the Cologne Opera after „Written on Skin“ (2020.21 season). After „Tannhäuser“ (2017.18 season) and „Tristan und Isolde“ (2019.20 season), this is the third Wagner opera conducted by General Music Director François-Xavier Roth at the Oper Köln.

Composer Arnaud Petit, together with translator and playwright Jean Pavans, has transformed the gripping novella „The Beast in the Jungle“ (1903) by Henry James into operatic material. For Oper Köln, Petit and Pavans are revising and expanding an earlier chamber opera into the world premiere **LA BÊTE DANS LA JUNGLE** (*premiere: 14 April 2023*). British director Frederic Wake-Walker, who already staged „Peter Grimes“ in Cologne (2018.19 season), designs this world premiere as an open evening of music theatre in which the boundaries between reality and fiction, stage and audience become blurred. General Music Director François-Xavier Roth conducts.

The last premiere of the season is George Frideric Handel's **GIULIO CESARE IN EGITTO** (*premiere: 6 May 2023*). Baroque specialist Rubén Dubrovsky returns to the Cologne Opera stage after three years, following his subtle reading of Mozart's „Le nozze di Figaro“. The director is Vincent Boussard, who has an affinity for the baroque and who, after successes such as „Radamisto“ at the Theater an der Wien and „Ezio“ at the Frankfurt Opera, is now bringing Handel's musical fireworks to the stage in Cologne.

REVIVALS

In the revivals section, popular repertoire operas return to the repertoire: Starting in autumn, the production of **DIE ENTFÜHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL** (*revival: 8 October 2022*), directed by Kai Anne Schuhmacher and sold out in the current season, will be staged again with a new cast of singers. Another audience hit is **TURANDOT** (*revival: 29 October 2022*), directed by Lydia Steier. Two outstanding productions by Michael Hampe, who shaped a great era at the Cologne Opera as intendant from 1975 to 1995, can be enjoyed again: **LA BOHÈME** (*revival: 22 December 2022*) and **DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE** (*revival: 27 May 2023*). The bel canto opera **LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR** (*revival: 11 June 2023*) staged by Eva-Maria Höckmayr will close the season.

SPECIALS

At the start of the season, on 18 September 2022, Hein Mulders opens the StaatenHaus doors for a big **THEATERFEST** for the whole family. Opera Cologne is also looking forward to an enjoyable **CARNIVAL CONCERT** on 30 January 2023, when the Cologne Opera ensemble and the Gürzenich Orchestra, conducted by Andrea Sanguineti, will present a classical carnival concert for the „Jecken“ (Cologne’s carnivalists). Opera Cologne will bring the season to a close with a vocal festival in a class of its own at this year’s **OPERN-AIR** at the Tanzbrunnen on 25 June 2023. Enrico Delamboye, principal guest conductor of the WDR Funkhausorchester since the 2018.19 season, conducts the Gürzenich-Orchestra Cologne.

DANCE

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, who will leave the Opera Ballet Vlaanderen in Antwerp to head the ballet company at the Grand Théâtre de Genève as artistic director at the end of the 2021.22 season, is well known to Cologne audiences with works such as „Sutra“, „Puz/zle“, „Babel(words)“ and „Fractus V“. On 25 and 26 November 2022, him and his company *Eastman* will present the work **NOMAD** on the Middle Eastern-inspired music of Felix Buxton. He deals with the different elements of the desert and creates a multi-faceted mosaic.

For the first time the *Ballett am Rhein* will present itself under the artistic direction of Demis Volpi on 25 and 26 February 2023. The three-part evening bears very different artistic signatures. In addition to the piece **ONE AND OTHERS** by Demis Volpi, Christopher Wheeldon’s choreographies „Polyphonia“ and „Salt Womb“ by Israeli choreographer Sharon Eyal will be shown.

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The company *Introdans* is one of the the Netherlands' leading dance companies. It stands for a contemporary repertoire at a high level and is also appreciated for its social commitment. On 11 and 12 May 2023, a programme focusing on Johann Sebastian Bach's work will be presented. **CORPUS BACH** by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, whose pieces are an integral part of *Introdans*' repertoire, will be featured. **SELON DÉsir**, a ballet by Greek choreographer Andonis Foniadakis, is based on excerpts from the St John and St Matthew Passions. A new creation by the up-and-coming, talented French choreographer Manuel Vignouille rounds off this highly musical programme.

KINDEROPER PREMIERES

Two German premieres will be presented at the Kinderoper Köln (Cologne Children's Opera), which just celebrated its 25th anniversary: Marius Felix Lange's **DER GESANG DER ZAUBERINSEL** (OR: WIE DER RASENDE ROLAND WIEDER ZU VERSTAND KAM) (*premiere: 26 November 2022*), in which sorceress Alcina casts a spell over visitors to her island. After the operas „Das Operschiff oder Am Südpol, denkt man, ist es heiß“ (*world premiere Kinderoper Köln 2005*) and „Schneewittchen“ (*world premiere Kinderoper Köln 2011*), this will be Lange's third work to be staged.

The second German premiere is **THE MUSICIAN** (OR: WIE DER RATTENFÄNGER NACH HAMELN KAM) (*premiere: 24 February 2023*) by Northern Irish composer Conor Mitchell. In this opera, Mitchell traces the question of the mysterious Pied Piper of Hamelin's identity, and brings together a creepy soundtrack and epic narrative. „The Musician“ was commissioned by Northern Ireland's Cahoots NI Children's Theatre and had its successful streaming premiere at the Arts Centre Belfast in 2021. Like his music theatre project „Abomination“, the opera „Our Day“ and the chorale „Shadowtime“, „The Musician“ is equally situated between forms of total theatre and contemporary musical.

KINDEROPER REVIVALS

Dorothea Hartmann's and Stefan Johannes Hanke's play **DER TEUFEL MIT DEN DREI GOLDENEN HAAREN** (*revival: 13 May 2023*) and the mobile music theatre production **PIN KAISER UND FIP HUSAR** (*revival: 18 April 2023*), which the Kinderoper Köln will once again present in kindergartens and daycare centres in and around Cologne, are on the repertoire. The Kinderoper's offer will be extended to institutions for senior citizens within the framework of the UNISONO project, which brings together very young and older audiences in intergenerational workshops and joint performance visits.

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TICKET SALES

Advance ticket sales for the months of September, October and November 2022 will start on 20 June 2022. Subscriptions can be pre-ordered from 8 April 2022. Advance sales for the following months of the 2022.23 season will be announced in due time.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

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HEIN MULDER

Hein Mulders was appointed intendant of the Cologne Opera in April 2021, starting with the 2022/23 season. He previously managed the Aalto-Musiktheater Essen, the Philharmonie Essen and the Essen Philharmonic from 2013 to 2022.

He was born and raised in the Netherlands. After graduating from high school, he moved to Paris at the age of 17 to study art history at the École du Louvre and French at the Institut Universitaire Catholique. He then moved to the University of Amsterdam, where he studied art history, archaeology

and Italian and specialised in musicology and opera history. He also studied piano at the Utrecht Conservatory. After successfully completing his studies, he started in the vocal department of one of the leading national music agencies in The Hague as management assistant. He then took over the position of orchestra leader of the Dutch National Youth Orchestra and accompanied the orchestra on international tours and music festivals in France (Aix-en-Provence), Spain (Valencia), Hungary (Budapest), Slovenia (Ljubljana), Austria (Wiener Festwochen), Germany (Schloss Weikersheim), Belgium and Italy.

In 1995 Hein Mulders began working as a casting officer at the Vlaamse Opera in Antwerp and Ghent. There he became part of the management team as Head of Casting and Artistic Planning only one year later. He was responsible for all artistic matters concerning the composition of the production teams, selection of conductors and casting of singers, as well as the overall artistic planning. At the same time, he was a jury and board member of the Opera Studio in Flanders.

In the summer of 2006, Hein Mulders moved to the Nederlandse Opera in Amsterdam as opera director. As the right-hand man of artistic director Pierre Audi, he was responsible for casting and overall artistic planning as well as for the music and production departments. Right at the beginning, Hein Mulders engaged conductor Marc Albrecht, who then served as general music director for more than ten years. In Amsterdam, Mulders was responsible for the world premiere of Alexander Raskatov's opera „Dog's Heart” (based on a story by Mikhail Bulgakov), which received worldwide attention. The monumental Amsterdam production of Gioacchino Rossini's opera „William Tell” was subsequently performed at the Metropolitan Opera in

New York. In Amsterdam, Hein Mulders worked with conductors such as Mariss Jansons, Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Sir Simon Rattle and directors such as Stefan Herheim, Christof Loy and Simon McBurney.

In 2013 Hein Mulders was appointed intendant of the Aalto Music Theatre Essen, the Essen Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philharmonie Essen when these three divisions of the Essen Theatre and Philharmonic Union (TUP) were merged into one management for the first time. He introduced Czech conductor Tomáš Netopil, who had previously worked as Musical Director at the Prague National Theatre, as new General Music Director for the Essen Philharmonic and the Aalto Music Theatre. In 2016, Mulders' Essen contract was already extended for another five years from 2018. In the 2018/19 season, a „Welt am Sonntag” critics' poll nominated the Aalto Theatre as North Rhine-Westphalia's „Opera House of the Year”, due to the range and quality of its productions.

Hein Mulders is a jury member of numerous international singing competitions, among others in Spain („Viñas”/Barcelona, „Julian Gayarre” / Pamplona, Opera de Tenerife / Santa Cruz), Norway („Queen Sonja” / Oslo), Italy („Ottavio Ziino” / Rome), Canada („Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyrichoregra” / Montreal), Romania („Grand Prix de L'Opéra” / Bucharest), Austria („Cesti-Barockoper” / Innsbruck, „Belvedere” / Villach 2019), Brazil („Maria Callas” / Sao Paulo), Albania („Marie Kraja” / Tirana), the Netherlands („IVC” / 's-Hertogenbosch, „Belvedere” / Amsterdam), South Africa („Belvedere”/Cape Town 2016), England („Opera Awards”/ London 2017) and Latvia („Belvedere”/Jurmala 2018). In addition, he was also a member of the final jury at the International Conducting Competition „Guido Cantelli” in Turin / Novara in September 2020.