WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE

CONDUCTOR James Levine

PRODUCTION Julie Taymor

set designer George Tsypin

COSTUME DESIGNER Julie Taymor

lighting designer Donald Holder

PUPPET DESIGNERS Julie Taymor Michael Curry

choreographer Mark Dendy

REVIVAL STAGE DIRECTOR David Kneuss

general manager Peter Gelb

MUSIC DIRECTOR EMERITUS James Levine

MUSIC DIRECTOR DESIGNATE Yannick Nézet-Séguin

Opera in two acts

Libretto by Emanuel Schikaneder

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 7:30–10:40PM

First time this season

The production of *Die Zauberflöte* was made possible by a generous gift from **Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Kravis**

Additional funding was received from John Van Meter, The Annenberg Foundation, Karen and Kevin Kennedy, Bill Rollnick and Nancy Ellison Rollnick, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Miller, Agnes Varis and Karl Leichtman, and Mr. and Mrs. Ezra K. Zilkha

The Metropolitan Opera 2017-18 SEASON

The 433rd Metropolitan Opera performance of

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART'S

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE

CONDUCTOR James Levine

IN ORDER OF VOCAL APPEARANCE

TAMINO Charles Castronovo*

FIRST LADY Wendy Bryn Harmer*

second lady Sarah Mesko

THIRD LADY Tamara Mumford*

^{papageno} Markus Werba

QUEEN OF THE NIGHT Kathryn Lewek

MONOSTATOS Greg Fedderly

first slave Stephen Paynter

second slave Kurt Phinney

third slave Craig Montgomery

PAMINA Golda Schultz DEBUT first spirit Lucas Mann

SECOND SPIRIT Eliot Flowers

THIRD SPIRIT A. Jesse Schopflocher

^{SPEAKER} Christian Van Horn

sarastro Tobias Kehrer

first priest Paul Corona

SECOND PRIEST Scott Scully

PAPAGENA Ashley Emerson*

FIRST GUARD Richard Cox

second guard Richard Bernstein

SOLO DANCER Maria Phegan FLUTE SOLO Chelsea Knox

This performance is being broadcast live on Metropolitan Opera Radio on SiriusXM channel 75.

Wednesday, September 27, 2017, 7:30–10:40PM



A scene from Mozart's Die Zauberflöte

* Graduate of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program

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Chorus Master Donald Palumbo Musical Preparation Donna Racik, Gareth Morrell, Bryan Wagorn, and Nimrod David Pfeffer* Assistant Stage Director Sarah Ina Meyers Prompter Donna Racik Met Titles J.D. McClatchy German Coach Marianne Barrett Children's Chorus Director Anthony Piccolo Projection Designer Caterina Bertolotto Makeup Designer Reiko Kruk Associate Set Designer Iosef Yusupov Associate Costume Designer Mary Peterson Puppets Constructed by Michael Curry Design, Inc. and Metropolitan Opera Shops Scenery, properties, and electrical props constructed and painted by Metropolitan Opera Shops Costumes executed by Metropolitan Opera Costume Department Wigs and Makeup executed by Metropolitan Opera Wig and Makeup Department

This performance is made possible in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts.

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Synopsis

Act I

A mythical land between the sun and the moon. Prince Tamino flees a terrible serpent before three ladies in the service of the Queen of the Night save him. After they have left, the bird-catcher Papageno appears. He explains that the queen's ladies give him food and drink in return for his birds. Then, he claims that it was he who killed the serpent. Hearing Papageno take credit for their work, the ladies return and padlock Papageno's mouth shut for lying. Turning to Tamino, they give the prince a portrait of the queen's daughter, Pamina, who they say is being held prisoner by the evil Sarastro. Tamino falls in love with Pamina's portrait at first sight. The queen appears. She grieves over the loss of her daughter and asks Tamino to rescue Pamina. The ladies offer Tamino a magic flute to ensure his safety on the journey, and to Papageno, who will accompany him, they give magic silver bells. Finally, the ladies summon three spirits to guide the men on their journey.

In Sarastro's palace, the slave Monostatos pursues Pamina, but he is frightened away when Papageno arrives. The bird-catcher tells Pamina that Tamino loves her and is on his way to save her.

Led to Sarastro's temple, Tamino learns from a priest that it is the queen who is evil, not Sarastro, and that Pamina is safe. He plays on his flute, charming the animals with the music and hoping that it will lead Pamina to him. When he hears the sound of Papageno's pipes, he rushes off to follow it. Monostatos and his men chase Papageno and Pamina, but the sound of Papageno's magic bells renders them helpless. Sarastro, entering in ceremony, promises Pamina eventual freedom and punishes Monostatos. Pamina and Tamino are enchanted with each other, but soon the priests separate them to maintain their purity.

Intermission (AT APPROXIMATELY 8:40 PM)

Act II

Within the temple's inner sanctum, Sarastro tells the priests that Tamino will undergo initiation rites.

Papageno and Tamino are sworn to silence. The three ladies appear and have no trouble derailing Papageno from his course of virtue, but Tamino remains firm.

In a garden courtyard, Monostatos tries to kiss the sleeping Pamina but hides when the Queen of the Night arrives. She gives her daughter a dagger and orders her to murder Sarastro. When Monostatos finds Pamina alone in tears, he forces himself upon her. Sarastro intervenes, consoling Pamina and explaining that he does not seek vengeance against her mother. Inside the temple, Papageno is quick to break a new oath of fasting and jokes with a flirtatious old lady, who vanishes when he asks for her name. Tamino remains steadfast, even to the point of breaking Pamina's heart—she cannot understand his silence.

The priests inform Tamino that he has only two more trials to complete his initiation. Papageno, who has broken his oath, is eliminated from the trials. Pleading for a wife, he eventually settles for the old lady. When he promises to be faithful to her, she turns into a young maiden named Papagena but immediately disappears.

In one of the temple's gardens, Pamina despairs over Tamino's apparent indifference and contemplates suicide. Before she can take her life, the three spirits intervene to save her.

As Tamino prepares for the final trials, Pamina runs in. Together, they face the ordeals of fire and water, protected by the magic flute.

On a hillside, Papageno dejectedly resolves to hang himself. The spirits arrive just in time and remind him that if he uses his magic bells, he will find true happiness. When he plays the bells, Papagena appears, and the two are united.

At the entrance to the Temple of the Sun, the Queen of the Night, her three ladies, and Monostatos prepare to attack but are defeated and banished. Sarastro joins Pamina and Tamino as the brotherhood praises the gods and the triumph of courage, virtue, and wisdom.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart **Die Zauberflöte**

Premiere: Freihaus-Theater auf der Wieden, Vienna, 1791

Mozart wrote Die Zauberflöte—a sublime fairy tale that moves freely between earthy comedy and noble mysticism—for a theater located just outside Vienna with the clear intention of appealing to audiences from all walks of life. The story is told in a singspiel ("song-play") format characterized by separate musical numbers connected by dialogue and stage activity, an excellent structure for navigating the diverse moods, ranging from solemn to lighthearted, of the story and score. The composer and the librettist were both Freemasons—the fraternal order whose membership is held together by shared moral and metaphysical ideals—and Masonic imagery is used throughout the work. The story, however, is as universal as any fairy tale.

The Creators

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791) was the son of a Salzburg court musician and composer, Leopold, who was also his principal teacher and exhibited him as a musical prodigy throughout Europe. His achievements in opera, in terms of melodic beauty, vocal challenge, and dramatic insight, remain unsurpassed, and his seven mature works in the genre are pillars of the repertory. He died tragically young, three months after the premiere of Die Zauberflöte, his last produced opera. (La Clemenza di Tito had its premiere three weeks before Die Zauberflöte, though its score was completed later.) The remarkable Emanuel Schikaneder (1751–1812) was an actor, singer, theater manager, and friend of Mozart. He suggested the idea of Die Zauberflöte, wrote the libretto, staged the work, sang the role of Papageno in the opera's premiere, and even recruited several of his own family members to join the cast. After Mozart's death, Schikaneder opened the larger Theater an der Wien in the center of Vienna, a venue that has played a key role in the city's musical life from the time of Beethoven to the present day. The former main entrance to the theater is called the "Papageno Gate," a tribute to both men.

The Setting

The libretto specifies Egypt as the location of the action. Traditionally, the Masons regarded that land as the legendary birthplace of their fraternity, whose symbols and rituals populate this opera. Some productions include Egyptian motifs as an exotic nod to this idea, but many others opt for a more generalized mythic ambience to convey the otherworldliness of the piece.

The Music

Mozart and Schikaneder created Die Zauberflöte with an eye toward a popular audience, but the varied tone of the work requires singers who can specialize in several different musical genres. The baritone Papageno represents the comic and earthy in his delightful arias "Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja" from Act I and "Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen" in Act II, with its jovial glockenspiel accompaniment. (The instrument was hardly trivial to the score, considering Mozart himself played it at several performances in the initial run.) Papageno meets his comic match in the "bird-girl" Papagena, with whom he sings the playful, but rather tricky, duet "Pa-Pa-Pa." The tenor Tamino, in his ravishing aria "Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön," and the soprano Pamina, in the understated yet profound "Ach, ich fühl's," display true love in its noblest forms. The bass Sarastro expresses the solemn and the transcendental in Act II's noble "O Isis und Osiris" and "In diesen heil'gen Hallen." The Three Ladies have much ensemble work of complex beauty, and even the short scene in Act II for the Three Spirits singing to the sunrise has a unique aura of hushed beauty well beyond the conventions of standard popular entertainment of the time. The use of the chorus is both spare and hauntingly beautiful, and in two showstopping arias—"O zittre nicht" and the more familiar "Der Hölle Rache"-the Queen of the Night provides explosive vocal fireworks

Met History

The Met has a remarkable history of distinguished productions of Die Zauberflöte with extraordinary casts. The opera was first given by the company in 1900, in Italian, and featured Emma Eames, Andreas Dippel, and Pol Plançon. In 1941, Herbert Graf directed a new English-language production with designs by Richard Rychtarik. Bruno Walter led a cast starring Jarmila Novotná, Charles Kullman, Alexander Kipnis, Friedrich Schorr, and a young Eleanor Steber as the First Lady. The legendary 1967 production, with sets and costumes by Marc Chagall, featured Josef Krips conducting Pilar Lorengar, Nicolai Gedda, Lucia Popp, Hermann Prey, Rosalind Elias, and Jerome Hines. The Mozart anniversary year of 1991 saw the debut of a production designed by David Hockney and directed by John Cox and Guus Mostart, with James Levine conducting Kathleen Battle, Francisco Araiza, Luciana Serra, Kurt Moll, and Wolfgang Brendel. The present production by Julie Taymor opened in 2004 with James Levine conducting a cast that included Dorothea Röschmann, Matthew Polenzani, L'ubica Vargicová, Rodion Pogossov, and Kwangchul Youn. In 2007, soprano Diana Damrau became the first artist in Met history to sing both Pamina and the Queen of the Night in a single season.

Program Note

ozart's Die Zauberflöte is a legendary opera perched on a pile of legends. In all dimensions, from the work itself to its various implications, it is one of the stage's most fascinating and beguiling experiences. That reputation essentially goes back to its first performances in 1791, weeks before death came for Mozart.

Die Zauberflöte is a singspiel, the populist Viennese genre that combines operatic arias and ensembles with spoken dialogue. Call it a fairytale for adults, though children are equally at home in its singular world. After Mozart had written a series of brilliant operas for court theaters that amounted to sex comedies set in the contemporary world of masters and servants, upstairs and downstairs, his old friend Emanuel Schikaneder—one of the era's most popular actors, playwrights, and impresarios—came to him with an idea for a yarn about an imaginary country pervaded by magic.

The work was to be premiered in Schikaneder's suburban theater, the Freihaus, whose audiences—in contrast to the court theaters—ranged from working people to the nobility. To cater to this variegated audience, the impresario mounted everything from Shakespeare to schlock, but he was best known for fanciful stories decked out with dazzling stage effects. *Die Zauberflöte* was to be in that vein.

With this story, Mozart turned from realism to a world of fairy tale, myth, magic, and archetype, and that world led him to a new style. The score is as kaleidoscopic as the characters, from the folk-tunes and rough comedy of the bird-catcher Papageno to the feral soliloquy of the Queen of the Night, from the portrayal of the struggle and resurgence of the lovers to the exalted music of Sarastro and his band of brothers. The libretto is credited to Schikaneder and is marked by his trademark style, but he and Mozart consulted extensively on the story. Mozart always worked closely with his librettists, here perhaps more than ever. That the result stands as by far the best of Schikaneder's dozens of libretti and plays surely had something to do with Mozart's contribution to its creation.

On its face, the story of *Die Zauberflöte* is a classic tale of adventure replete with heroic deeds, supernatural enchantments, and the triumph of goodness over evil. The magical elements are not explained but simply happen, as they do in dream: Bad and good characters switch places, Papageno's bells make the villains erupt in dance, and the three boyish spirits lecture Tamino on wisdom ("Be silent, patient, and steadfast!"). In many ways, it adopts the tropes commonly found throughout the fairy tale canon.

Meanwhile, beneath the childlike surface is a great depth of implication. The ancestry of *Die Zauberflöte* is Viennese popular comedy, which in the past had been entertainment for the masses, mostly improvised, in style rowdy, fanciful, often obscene. Papageno, with his agenda having mainly to do with wine and girls, serious only in his aversion to risking his neck, is an avatar of the

Program Note CONTINUED

old Viennese buffoon Hanswurst ("Jack Sausage"), who embodies a spirit of raffish anarchy wherever he appears. The name Sarastro recalls the legendary sage Zarathustra, but also Shakespeare's magician Prospero, well known to Schikaneder and Mozart. Prospero, like Sarastro, has an untamed and dangerous servant and, also like Mozart's magus, has a capacity for violence and vengeance. Sarastro represents the light of wisdom and Enlightenment in opposition to the dark queen; but he has a dark side too, and she a bright side—her love for her daughter, though even that gives way to her hunger for power and revenge.

Like other fairy tales, *Die Zauberflöte* deals in archetypes—heroes and villains, lovers and buffoons, fire and water, the primal opposition of light and dark. It meanwhile enfolds an allegory. The apparatus of the holy brotherhood, its rigmaroles and mystifications and initiations, seems on the surface an assortment of hokum created to carry the story. In fact, the mythical scaffolding of the opera rises from a secret society that reached its zenith in the Enlightenment: Freemasonry.

Mozart was a fervent Mason, and Schikaneder had been a lodge brother until he was tossed out for being a notorious carouser. History doesn't know which of them came up with the idea of making *Die Zauberflöte* an allegory of the Masonic order, in its espousal of the most progressive ideas of the Enlightenment: questioning of aristocratic power, reaction against religious dogma and superstition (in theory, at least, the Masons were open to men of all faiths), the dream of constitutional governments, and the reign of science and reason under the guidance of wise leaders. In effect, the Masonic ideal is the light that defeats the darkness of the Queen of the Night, who embodies the old order, the old tyrannies and superstitions. More specifically, she probably also represents Austrian Empress Maria Theresa, who had tried to suppress the Freemasons.

The Masonic allegory is so pervasive in *Die Zauberflöte*—widespread use of the number three, incorporation of Egyptian motifs in the scenery and costuming, an elaborate set of rituals of initiation, to name a few—that some critics believe that the opera's central message was to proclaim the importance of the Masonic order in a time when it was under increasing pressure from the throne. The current emperor was Joseph II, a reformer and "benevolent despot." But after the cataclysm of the French Revolution and its threat to the ruling order all over Europe, Joseph increasingly clamped down on the Masons.

There is perhaps a deeper archetype here, which enfolds the Masonic undercurrent and makes it universal. *Die Zauberflöte* is an allegory of love in all its manifestations: the randy love of Papageno and Papagena, the exalted love of Tamino and Pamina, the divine love of Sarastro for all humanity. Mozart was all of those people—the buffoon, the lovers, and the sorcerer. He was profoundly a man of the theater, which is to say a believer in masks and mystery and the lies that show us the truth. He entered into his characters like a virtuoso actor; at every moment in the story, Mozart conveys intensely the reality of that moment, whether it is Monastatos's attempts to rape Pamina or Sarastro's noble repudiation of revenge, but also his fits of fury. For all of it, Mozart found a musical embodiment: the stirring choruses of the brotherhood, the folk-tunes of Papageno, the uncanny proclamation of the Guards, the radiance of the three spirits. All these voices exist together in a magical unity, centered on an unceasing flow of enchanted melody and harmony.

Perhaps the central allegory in this particular myth is the magic flute itself, which is an image of the Orphic power of music to enchant, exalt, and potentially redeem. It is the bells that save Papageno and the flute that saves the lovers, who at the end are acclaimed by the order as heralds of a new dawn: "Brave hearts have won the glorious crown! / May Beauty to Wisdom forever be bound!" With that, in his last great work, Mozart reminds us that on this earth, love can be the noblest power and the highest wisdom.

—Jan Swafford

Jan Swafford is a composer and writer whose books include biographies of Beethoven, Brahms, and Charles Ives, as well as The Vintage Guide to Classical Music. He is currently working on a biography of Mozart.

The Cast



James Levine Music director emeritus (cincinnati, ohio)

THIS SEASON In his 47th season at the Met, his second as Music Director Emeritus, he conducts *Die Zauberflöte, Tosca, Luisa Miller,* and *II Trovatore*—the former three also being transmitted live in HD—as well as a special concert series of Verdi's Requiem.

MET HISTORY Since his 1971 debut leading Tosca, he has conducted more than 2,500 performances at the Met—more than any other conductor in the company's history. He became the Met's Music Director in 1976, a position he held for four decades, and was the company's Artistic Director from 1986 until 2004. Of the nearly 90 operas he has conducted at the Met, 13 were company premieres, including *Stiffelio*, *La Cenerentola*, *Benvenuto Cellini*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Erwartung*, and *Idomeneo*. He also led the world premieres of John Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles* and John Harbison's *The Great Gatsby*. He founded the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program in 1980 and returned Wagner's complete *Ring* to the repertoire in 1989. He and the Met Orchestra began touring in concert in 1991, and he has led the ensemble in performances around the world, including in Japan, the U.S., and throughout Europe.



Kathryn Lewek SOPRANO (EAST LYME, CONNECTICUT)

THIS SEASON The Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte* and *The Magic Flute* at the Met, Aix-en-Provence Festival, and with Pacific Symphony; Cunegonde in *Candide* at Washington National Opera; and Handel's *Messiah* with Musica Sacra and Oratorio Society of New York. MET APPEARANCES The Queen of the Night (debut, 2013).

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS Recent performances include the Queen of the Night at Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Canadian Opera Company, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Welsh National Opera, Houston Grand Opera, the Vienna State Opera, and in Madrid and Copenhagen; Ginevra in *Ariodante* in Salzburg; Rosina in *II Barbiere di Siviglia* in Charlotte; Konstanze in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* at Deutsche Oper Berlin; the title role of *Maria Stuarda* in Edmonton; Teresa in *Benvenuto Cellini* in Barcelona; Cunegonde at the Glimmerglass Festival; and the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Charlotte and Toledo. She has also sung the Queen of the Night at Washington National Opera, the Bregenz Festival, English National Opera, and in Leipzig, Toulon, Nashville, and Kansas City; and the title role of Stravinsky's *Le Rossignol* and the Dove in Laks's *L'Hirondelle Inattendue* at the Bregenz Festival.



Golda Schultz Soprano (bloemfontein, south Africa)

THIS SEASON Pamina in Die Zauberflöte for her debut at the Met; Micaëla in Carmen, Musetta in La Bohème, Freia in Das Rheingold, Fiordiligi in Così fan tutte, and a Flower Maiden in Parsifal at the Bavarian State Opera; and Sophie in Der Rosenkavalier in Tokyo. CAREER HIGHLIGHTS She is a member of the ensemble at the Bavarian State Opera, where her roles have included Pamina, Liù in Turandot, Ortlinde in Die Walküre, and Zerlina in Don Giovanni, among others. Recent performances include Vitellia in La Clemenza di Tito and Sophie at the Salzburg Festival; Susanna in Le Nozze di Figaro at La Scala; the Countess in Le Nozze di Figaro at the Glyndebourne Festival; Fiordiligi in Klagenfurt, Austria; and Sibilla in the world premiere of Beat Furrer's La Bianca Notte in Hamburg. Between 2013 and 2014, she was a member of the State Theater in Klagenfurt, where her roles included Princess Ninetta in The Love for Three Oranges, Cleopatra in Giulio Cesare, and Sophie, among others.



Charles Castronovo Tenor (Queens, New York)

THIS SEASON Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* and *The Magic Flute* at the Met, Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at Covent Garden, Don José in *Carmen* at Deutsche Oper Berlin and in Toulouse, Alfredo in *La Traviata* at the Paris Opera and Bavarian State Opera, and Roméo in *Roméo et Juliette* in Karlsruhe, Germany.

MET APPEARANCES Rodolfo in La Bohème, Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni, the First Guard in Manon, the First Prisoner in Fidelio, Beppe in Pagliacci (debut, 1999), and the Sailor's Voice in Tristan und Isolde.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS Recent performances include Edgardo, the title role of *Roberto Devereux*, Don Ottavio, Tamino, and Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore* at the Bavarian State Opera; Faust in *La Damnation de Faust* at Staatsoper Berlin; Lenski in *Eugene Onegin* at Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Vienna State Opera; Rodolfo in Budapest and at Covent Garden; Alfredo at the Vienna State Opera, Canadian Opera Company, and in Barcelona; the title role of *Faust* in Zurich and Turin; Ferrando in *Così fan tutte* at Opera Australia; Faust in Boito's *Mefistofele* in Baden-Baden; Gabriele Adorno in *Simon Boccanegra* in Bordeaux; and Ruggero in *La Rondine* at Deutsche Oper Berlin.

The Cast CONTINUED



Tobias Kehrer bass (dessau, germany)

THIS SEASON Sarastro in Die Zauberflöte and The Magic Flute at the Met; and Daland in Der Fliegende Holländer, Orest in Elektra, Zuniga in Carmen, the Second Soldier in Salome, the Priest in Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, the Commendatore in Don Giovanni, Sparafucile in Rigoletto, and Don Alvaro in Rossini's II Viaggio a Reims at Deutsche Oper Berlin. MET APPEARANCES Sarastro (debut, 2014).

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS Since 2012, he has been a member of the ensemble at Deutsche Oper Berlin, where his roles have included Sarastro, Osmin in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Lieutenant Ratcliffe in *Billy Budd*, Hunding in *Die Walküre*, Prince Gremin in *Eugene Onegin*, Don Basilio in *II Barbiere di Siviglia*, the Grand Inquisitor in *Don Carlo*, Steffano Colonna in Wagner's *Rienzi*, and Colline in *La Bohème*, among many others. He has also sung Osmin at La Scala, the Bavarian State Opera, and the Glyndebourne Festival; Sarastro at the Paris Opera; Fafner in *Das Rheingold* at Lyric Opera of Chicago; and Truffaldin in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, the Night Watchman in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, and the Police Commissioner in *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Salzburg Festival.



Christian Van Horn BASS-BARITONE (ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK)

THIS SEASON The Speaker in *Die Zauberflöte* and Julio in Thomas Adès's *The Exterminating* Angel at the Met, Méphistophélès in *Faust* at Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Emperor in Stravinsky's *The Nightingale and Other Short Fables* with the Canadian Opera Company, and Handel's *Messiah* in Ann Arbor

MET APPEARANCES Colline in La Bohème and Pistola in Falstaff (debut, 2013).

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS Recent performances include Melisso in Alcina and Raimondo in Lucia di Lammermoor at the Santa Fe Opera; Oroveso in Norma at the Dallas Opera; the Four Villains in Les Contes d'Hoffmann at LA Opera, the Bavarian State Opera, and San Francisco Opera; Escamillo in Carmen, Narbal in Les Troyens, Alidoro in La Cenerentola, Frère Laurent in Roméo et Juliette, and Publio in La Clemenza di Tito at Lyric Opera of Chicago; the Prefect in Donizetti's Linda di Chamounix in Rome; Escamillo with the Canadian Opera Company; Oroveso, Colline, and Von Bock in the world premiere of Marco Tutino's Two Women at San Francisco Opera; Zaccaria in Nabucco at Seattle Opera; and Colline at San Diego Opera.



Markus Werba baritone (kärnten, austria)

THIS SEASON Papageno in Die Zauberflöte at the Met, Dr. Falke in Die Fledermaus and Roland in Schubert's Fierrabras at La Scala, Faust in Schumann's Szenen aus Goethes Faust in concert in Geneva, Alphonse XI in Donizetti's La Favorite in Barcelona, and Germont in La Traviata in Venice.

MET APPEARANCES Harlequin in Ariadne auf Naxos (debut, 2010).

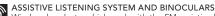
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS Recent performances include Papageno in Turin, Padua, Venice, Palermo, and at the Vienna State Opera and Covent Garden; Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Bologna and Venice; Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at La Scala and in Tokyo, Dresden, and Rome; Beckmesser in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* at La Scala and Staatsoper Berlin; Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* in concert in Rome; Wolfram in *Tannhäuser* in Beijing; Danilo in *The Merry Widow* in Naples; the Count in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Edinburgh International Festival; Marcello in *La Bohème* in Turin; the title role of *Don Giovanni* in Salerno; and Rodrigo in *Don Carlo* in Dresden and Tokyo. He has also appeared at the Salzburg Festival, LA Opera, Baden-Baden Festival, Buenos Aires's Teatro Colón, and Vienna's Theater an der Wien.

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Tickets for score desk seats in the Family Circle boxes may be purchased by calling the Met Opera Guild at 212-769-7028. These no-view seats provide an affordable way for music students to study an opera's score during a live performance.

TOUR GUIDE SERVICE

Backstage tours of the Opera House are held during the Met season on most weekdays at 3:15pm, and on select Sundays at 10:30am and/or 1:30pm. For tickets and information, call 212-769-7028. Tours of Lincoln Center daily; call 212-875-5351 for availability.

WEBSITE

www.metopera.org



WHEELCHAIR ACCOMMODATIONS Telephone 212-799-3100, ext. 2204. Wheelchair entrance at Concourse level.

The exits indicated by a red light and the sign nearest the seat you occupy are the shortest routes to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency, please do not run—walk to that exit.

In compliance with New York City Department of Health regulations, smoking is prohibited in all areas of this theater.

Patrons are reminded that in deference to the performing artists and the seated audience, those who leave the auditorium during the performance will not be readmitted while the performance is in progress. The photographing or sound recording of any performance, or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theater, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Offenders may be ejected and liable for damages and other lawful remedies.

Use of cellular telephones and electronic devices for any purpose, including email and texting, is prohibited in the auditorium at all times. Please be sure to turn off all devices before entering the auditorium.