



PRESENTS

A NEW PRODUCTION OF GIACOMO PUCCINI'S

TOSCA

American Premiere of the Stage and Costume Designs from the Original Production

Six Performances January 20-24, 2016 at

Rose Theater, Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall

December 17, 2015 - NYCO Renaissance pays tribute to New York City Opera with six performances of a new production of *Tosca*, **January 20–24, 2016** at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall, **Time Warner Center, New York City.**

Giacomo Puccini's three-act melodrama with its vivid Roman tableaux—the Church of Sant'Andrea della Valle, the Palazzo Farnese, and Castel Sant'Angelo—comes to brilliant life in this staging, based on **Adolf Hohenstein's** striking set and costume designs for the **original production that premiered at Rome's Teatro Costanzi in 1900.** For the first time outside of Italy, American audiences will be able to take in Hohenstein's majestic Roman setting, produced with the documentary resources and cooperation of the **Archivio Storico Ricordi** in Milan. **John Farrell** serves as associate stage designer and **Ildikó Debrezzeni** as associate costume designer. Director **Lev Pugliese**, making his American debut, directs the production.

Conductor **Pacien Mazzagatti** leads the **New York City Opera Orchestra** and two casts of international singers. Soprano **Kristin Sampson** (Floria Tosca), tenor **James Valenti** (Mario Cavaradossi) and baritone **Michael Chioldi** (Baron Scarpia) are featured on Wednesday, January 20 (7:00PM), Friday, January 22 (7:30PM) and Saturday, January 23 (8:00PM). Soprano **Latonia Moore** (Tosca; role debut), tenor **Raffaele Abete** (Cavaradossi; American stage debut) and baritone **Carlo Guelfi** (Scarpia) perform on Thursday, January 21 (7:00PM), Saturday, January 23 (2:00PM) and Sunday, January 24 (4:00PM).

This staging of *Tosca* celebrates the achievements of **New York City Opera**, inaugurated with this same opera on February 21, 1944 at the New York City Center for Music and Drama (today's New York City Center), while remaining true to City Opera's tradition of presenting both established singers and younger artists in compelling productions of core operatic repertoire, unusual rarities and contemporary works.

Michael Capasso, General Director of NYCO Renaissance said, "This *Tosca* is the culmination of more than two years of preparation to honor the contributions of this great company and lay the groundwork for its revival."

Roy Niederhoffer, Chairman of NYCO Renaissance continued by stating, "We have worked diligently to revive this important New York institution by looking to its original mission as 'The People's Opera,' developing a viable, entrepreneurial business model, and paving the way for the company to return to its critical place in the City's cultural landscape."

The Cast of *Tosca*

American soprano **Latonia Moore** made her debut in the title role of *Aida* at the Metropolitan Opera in 2012. Widely admired for her interpretation of Verdi's heroine, she has performed *Aida* at Royal Opera, Covent Garden; Zurich Opera; Opera Australia; the New National Theatre, Tokyo; and the opera companies of Dallas, San Diego, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Detroit. Recent performances include Liù in *Turandot* at Royal Opera, Covent Garden; Amelia in *Un ballo in maschera* and *Simon Boccanegra*, Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly* for the Hamburg State Opera; and Mimi in *La bohème* and Cio-Cio-San at the Dresden Semperoper. Ms. Moore has performed leading roles with Opéra de Québec, Ópera de Bilbao, and New York City Opera. She has appeared as soloist with the Berlin Philharmonic, Cincinnati Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, and Atlanta Symphony.

During the 2015-16 season, **Kristin Sampson** makes her debut at the Teatro Francesco Stabile in Potenza, Italy in the role of Mimi in *La bohème*. Upcoming engagements include Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Fondazione Teatro Goldoni in Livorno, the title role in *Madama Butterfly* for the Teatro del Giglio in Lucca, and concert appearances in Italy and the United States. During the 2014-15 season, Ms. Sampson was a featured artist in American Opera Projects' Composers and the Voice program and appeared on Opera America's Creators in Concert honoring the music of Tobias Picker. She has performed in the United States with the

Opera Orchestra of New York, Dicapo Opera Theatre, El Paso Opera, and Santa Fe Opera. Abroad, she has appeared with the Opera Society of Hong Kong, the Teatro Municipal de Santiago in Chile, and the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma. For the Mezzo International Opera Festival (Armel Opera Festival), she appeared in the title roles of *Adriana Lecouvreur*, Tobias Picker's *Emmeline*, and as Masha in Thomas Pasatieri's *The Seagull*, all of which were telecast throughout Europe.

Italian tenor **Raffaele Abete** makes his American stage debut with this NYCO Renaissance production of *Tosca*. As the winner of the competition "Una voce per l'Arena," Abete made his debut at the Arena di Verona as Ismaele in *Nabucco* in summer 2015. Upcoming engagements include Don José in *Carmen* at the Teatro San Carlo in Naples; the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* at the Teatro Filarmonico di Verona; and Alfredo in *La Traviata* at the Arena di Verona. Recent performances include Roméo in *Roméo et Juliette* at the Arena di Verona; Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* and Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Teatro Gaetano Donizetti in Bergamo; and Rodolfo in *La bohème* and the Duke in *Rigoletto* at the Lirica in Piazza festival, in Massa Marittima, Italy.

American tenor **James Valenti** made his professional stage debut as Rodolfo in *La bohème* at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma. Since then he has performed with world's leading opera companies, including La Scala; Metropolitan Opera; Royal Opera, Covent Garden; L'Opéra national de Paris; Bavarian State Opera; Lyric Opera of Chicago, and San Francisco Opera. He has appeared at festivals in Salzburg, Baden-Baden, Carmoor, and Ravinia. This season, Mr. Valenti performs the role of Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* with the Filarmónica de Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico and the Wroclaw Opera in Poland. Recent performances include the role of Cavaradossi with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra; Pinkerton at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires; Don José in *Carmen* at the Hamburg State Opera; and the title role in Dominick Argento's *The Dream of Valentino* at the Minnesota Opera.

Baritone **Michael Chioldi** has received acclaim for his portrayal of the dramatic baritone roles of Verdi, Puccini, and Strauss. Recent role debuts include the title roles in *Rigoletto* with the Filarmónica de Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico; *Macbeth* with Palm Beach Opera, and *Nabucco* with Lyric Opera Baltimore; Conte di Luna in *Il trovatore* at the Utah Opera; Rodrigo in *Don Carlo* and Renato in *Un ballo in maschera* with Austin Lyric Opera; and Giacomo in *Giovanna D'Arco* for Chicago Opera Theater. His 2014-15 season included debuts as *Macbeth* at the Royal Opera House in Muscat, Oman; Scarpia with Toledo Opera; Jochanaan at Virginia Opera; and Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at New Orleans Opera. Mr. Chioldi has performed with nearly every major American opera company, including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, and Los Angeles Opera, and appeared as Sharpless in the "Live from Lincoln Center" broadcast of the Washington National Opera and New York City Opera production of *Madama Butterfly*.

Italian baritone **Carlo Guelfi** has appeared at the world's leading opera houses in signature roles, including La Scala (*La Gioconda*, *Tosca*, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, *Aida*); Metropolitan Opera

(*Rigoletto*, *Otello*); Vienna State Opera (*Il trovatore*, *Macbeth*), and the opera companies of Rome, Florence, Bologna, Genoa, Venice, Zurich, Munich, Madrid, and Barcelona; as well as the Arena di Verona, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, and the Salzburg Festival. In the opera house and concert platform, Mr. Guelfi has collaborated with conductors Semyon Bychkov, Daniele Gatti, Zubin Mehta, Antonio Pappano, and Christian Thielemann, among others, and made recordings for EMI, Decca, and the RAI Trade label.

Conductor **Pacien Mazzagatti** has recently led performances at the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City; Mikhailovsky Theater in St. Petersburg; International House of Music in Moscow, and as guest conductor for the Polish National Opera in Warsaw. In New York, he served as conductor of the New York City Opera Orchestra for the Gala commemorating the legacy of Julius Rudel, performances of *Turn of the Screw* at Symphony Space, and productions of Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta* and Menotti's *Saint of Bleecker Street* for Dicapo Opera Theatre.

Stage Director **Lev Pugliese** recently staged *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Teatro Verdi in Pisa; *Aida* for the Summer Opera Festival in Puglia, *Don Giovanni* and *La bohème* at the Macedonian Opera and Ballet in Skopje and the International Festival of Dance and Music in Bangkok.

TOSCA PRODUCTION WEBSITE

<http://www.nycorenaissance.com/tosca>

ABOUT NYCO RENAISSANCE

Since 2013 NYCO Renaissance has worked tirelessly to bring the New York City Opera out of bankruptcy. To learn more about our efforts including plans for the future, educational initiatives and audience development, please visit:

<http://www.nycorenaissance.com/about.php>



YouTube



ABOUT ARCHIVIO STORICO RICORDI

Staging based on the original set and costume designs provided by **the Archivio Storico Ricordi**.



www.archivioricordi.com

TOSCA

Opera in Three Acts

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica after the play by Victorien Sardou

Rose Theater

Jazz at Lincoln Center's

Frederick P. Rose Hall

Time Warner Center, New York, NY

Dates and Casts

Wednesday January 20, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Friday, January 22, 2016, at 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 23, 2016, at 8 pm

Kristin Sampson, soprano

James Valenti, tenor

Michael Chioldi, baritone

Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Saturday, January 23, 2016, at 2 pm

Sunday, January 24, 2016, at 4 pm

Latonia Moore, soprano

Raffaele Abete, tenor

Carlo Guelfi, baritone

For tickets:

Jazz at Lincoln Center Box Office

Broadway at 60th Street, Ground Floor

Monday-Saturday, 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Sunday, 12:00PM – 6:00PM

CenterCharge: (212) 721 – 6500

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