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«FINALE»: STAR-STUDED MUSIC FESTIVAL BEFORE THE SUMMER BREAK

The relaxation measures approved by the Swiss Federal Council on 27 May, which will allow events with up to 300 people starting in June, has enabled the Opernhaus Zürich to resume rehearsals and performances in advance of the summer break. Regretfully, the originally planned program cannot be presented as planned, as both performances and rehearsals have not been possible since April. We are all the more pleased that so many artists who are so closely associated with our house will make it possible for us to once again experience music together after the lockdown. After «Heimspiel», our online program with streaming versions of operatic and ballet recordings, and our podcast «Zwischenspiel», we will now return to the stage with small, very exclusive festival featuring concerts and song recitals, which bears the name «Finale». **Between 4 July and 12 July, we'll present a different artistic star every day, live once again: Diana Damrau, Camilla Nylund, Julie Fuchs, Sabine Devieille, Piotr Beczala, Thomas Hampson, Javier Camarena, Benjamin Bernheim, Fabio Luisi, and Riccardo Minasi.**

A detailed program will be published in the coming week.

GRAND OPERA IN THE 2020/21 SEASON, DESPITE CORONA

Given the current distancing regulations, opera performances featuring large collectives such as an orchestra and a chorus in the orchestra pit and on stage are not feasible without painful changes to the works themselves or a drastic reduction in instrumentation. But armed with a strong determination to present music theater in its entire range, an entirely new performance model was developed for the Opernhaus. Both the complete orchestra and chorus will be transmitted live from an external rehearsal hall into the Opernhaus, in compliance with distancing regulations. This will be possible with top-notch acoustical integrity and without any time delay. Vocal soloists and, if necessary, smaller choral ensembles, will perform live on stage. In this way, the previously published program for the 2020/21 season can by and large be presented as planned.

All premieres and revivals will be able to take place as planned. In addition, this plan offers the flexibility necessary to allow the chorus and orchestra to perform live in the Opernhaus at any time in according with relaxation of distancing regulations.

OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

Instead of the revival of «I vespri siciliani», whose June 2020 premiere was already canceled, the Opernhaus will present a glittering Verdi Gala featuring the soloists engaged for the production.

One week after the opening premiere of «Boris Godunow», the Opernhaus Zürich will present the premiere of the operetta «Die Csárdásfürstin», which was originally slated for April.

A special protection plan is also being developed for performances by the Ballett Zürich, which will allow for their planned performances to take place as scheduled during the corona pandemic.