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OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

Press Release, 10 June 2020

LIVE, AT LONG LAST THE OPERNHAUS RETURNS WITH THE «FINALE» MUSIC FESTIVAL

At long last, we'll be able to experience music live again: After the coronavirus pandemic forced the Opernhaus to close for the last few months, it can finally throw open its doors once again to welcome audiences. The Opernhaus Zürich, thanks to the support of its partners Credit Suisse and USB, will present the «Finale» festival from Saturday 4 July to Sunday 12 July. Before the summer break, international stars will take the stage to celebrate their regained freedom. Audiences are invited to enjoy music with us as we present four song recitals and five concerts, all at significantly reduced ticket prices.

The festival kicks off with the **Philharmonia Zürich under the direction of Fabio Luisi**, on **Saturday 4 July and Sunday 5 July**. An ensemble of 23 solo strings will take their place on the stage of the Opernhaus for Richard Strauss' poignant «Metamorphosen». The program will also feature Arnold Schönberg's late romantic «Verklärte Nacht», in the version for string orchestra.

French singers **Sabine Devielhe and Benjamin Bernheim** will guest with a program of songs, arias, and duets featuring works by Donizetti, Massenet, Leo Delibes, Offenbach and more on **Monday 6 July**. They will be accompanied on the piano by Carrie-Ann Matheson.

Thomas Hampson was meant to have sung the lead role in the world premiere of «Girl with a Pearl Earring» in May. But before that happens, he'll present a program to audiences on **Tuesday 7 July** that includes songs by Gustav Mahler (7 July marks his 160th birthday), Aaron Copland, Stephen Foster, and others. Wolfram Rieger will accompany him on the piano.

Diana Damrau is one of the great sopranos of her generation. She triumphed most recently at the Opernhaus Zürich as Maria Stuarda in Donizetti's opera of the same name. On **Wednesday 8 July**, she will take the stage as a part of the «Finale» festival, singing works by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Sergei Rachmaninow, Franz Liszt, Maurice Ravel, and others. Harpist Xavier de Maistre will be at her side.

On **Thursday 9 July**, fans of Baroque music can look forward to a concert with the **Orchestra La Scintilla**. The program features violin concertos by Antonio Vivaldi, as well as arias from Georg Friedrich Händel's «Alcina», «Giulio Cesare», «Orlando», and «Aci, Galatea e Polifemo», all featuring audience darling **Julie Fuchs**. The soprano appears for the first time on a Zurich stage with **Riccardo Minasi**, violin virtuoso and evening's musical director.

Javier Camarena began his career at the Opernhaus Zürich, and will return to the house for the «Finale» festival. His appearance will feature arias by Gaetano Donizetti, Vincenzo Bellini, Giuseppe Verdi, and others. Camarena will be joined by pianist Enrico Maria Cacciari, as they delight audiences on **Friday 10 July**.

Piotr Beczala, Camilla Nylund, Fabio Luisi and the Philharmonia Zürich bring the festival to a close on **Saturday 11 July and Sunday 12 July** with a gala performance of operetta favorites.

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The program features arias, duets, and overtures from «Die lustige Witwe» and «Das Land des Lächelns» by Franz Lehár, «Die Fledermaus» by Johann Strauss and «Gräfin Mariza» by Emmerich Kálmán.

Following the festival, the Opernhaus will commence its summer break in anticipation of the upcoming 2020/21 season. A grand reunion featuring the Opernhaus ensemble, chorus, and orchestra will take the stage on 20 September, when the curtain rises on the premiere of Modest Mussorgski's «Boris Godunow».

Tickets, for a flat rate of CHF 50 / CHF 35, can be booked exclusively online at www.opernhaus.ch or by telephone at +41 44 268 66 66. Due to reduced seating capacity as a result of coronavirus protection measures, individuals are limited to two tickets per person. There is separate advanced booking for each event.

Our sincere thanks to our partners



// «FINALE» FESTIVAL PROGRAM

Saturday 4 July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Monday 15 June)

Philharmonisches Konzert under the direction of Fabio Luisi

Program:

«Metamorphosen» for 23 solo strings, E-flat Version by Richard Strauss
«Verklärte Nacht», op.4, Version for String Orchestra by Arnold Schönberg

Sunday 5 July 2020, 11:15am

(Advanced booking start: Monday 15. June)

Philharmonisches Konzert under the direction of Fabio Luisi

Program:

«Metamorphosen» for 23 solo strings, E-flat Version by Richard Strauss
«Verklärte Nacht», op.4, Version for String Orchestra by Arnold Schönberg

Monday 6 July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Tuesday 16 June)

Song recital with Sabine Devieille & Benjamin Bernheim

Carrie-Ann Matheson, Piano

Program:

Lieder, Arias and Duets by Gaetano Donizetti, Jules Massenet, Henri Duparc, Léo Delibes, Jacques Offenbach, and others

Tuesday 7. July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Wednesday 17 June)

Song recital with Thomas Hampson

Wolfram Rieger, Piano

Program:

Songs Gustav Mahler (on his 160th birthday), Aaron Copland, John Corigliano, Stephen Foster, Henry Burleigh, Michael Daugherty, Jennifer Higdon, and others

Wednesday 8. July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Thursday 18 June)

Song recital with Diana Damrau

Xavier de Maistre, Harp

Program:

Works by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Sergei Rachmaninow, Franz Liszt, Reynaldo Hahn, Maurice Ravel, Henriette Renié, Francis Poulenc

Thursday 9 July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Friday 19 June)

Concert with Julie Fuchs and the Orchestra La Scintilla under the direction of Riccardo Minasi

Program:

Arias, Overtures, and Concertos by Antonio Vivaldi and Georg Friedrich Händel

Friday 10. July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Friday 19 June)

Song Recital with Javier Camarena

Enrico Maria Cacciari, Piano

Program:

Arias by Gaetano Donizetti, Vincenzo Bellini, Giuseppe Verdi, Edouard Lalo

Saturday 11 July 2020, 7:00pm

(Advanced booking start: Friday 19 June)

Operetta Gala with Camilla Nylund and Piotr Beczala,

Philharmonia Zürich under the direction of Fabio Luisi

Program:

Arias, Duets, and Overtures from «Die lustige Witwe» and «Das Land des Lächelns» by Franz Lehár, «Die Fledermaus» by Johann Strauss and «Gräfin Mariza» by Emmerich Kálmán

Sunday 12 July 2020, 18 Uhr

(Advanced booking start: Friday 19 June)

Operetta Gala with Camilla Nylund and Piotr Beczala,

Philharmonia Zürich under the direction of Fabio Luisi

Program:

Arias, Duets, and Overtures from «Die lustige Witwe» and «Das Land des Lächelns» by Franz Lehár, «Die Fledermaus» by Johann Strauss and «Gräfin Mariza» by Emmerich Kálmán