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OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

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UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!

THE OPERNHAUS ONLINE PROGRAM IN JANUARY 2021

A number of live events were planned for January, but none of them will take place as such. Audiences will continue to stay at home, and the Opernhaus Zürich has expanded its online program with a variety of formats especially for those watching from home.

Starting Saturday, January 9, viewers can catch the broadcast of a **concert with Thomas Hampson and the young singers of the International Opera Studio**. The program includes scenes and arias from Mozart's «Cosi fan tutte» and selected songs by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. It is part of the **«Curtain Call» series**, which was recorded on the stage of the Opernhaus in December to mark the 60th anniversary of the Opera Studio. The series also features **Diana Damrau, Anna Bonitatibus, and Benjamin Bernheim** together with the young talents. Diana Damrau's concert focused on romantic art song. Anna Bonitatibus worked on scenes and arias from Mozart's operas «La clemenza di Tito» and «Le nozze di Figaro», and Rossini's «Il barbiere di Siviglia» with the Opera Studio members. And Benjamin Bernheim and the IOS singers sang grand arias from Massenet's «Manon» and «Werther», and from Verdi's «Rigoletto». All of the «Curtain Call» concerts are available free of charge on the Opernhaus homepage **through January 17**. In addition to the concerts, the Opernhaus produced documentary films about the collaboration between the established singers and the budding professionals, which are also available.

And the show goes on with grand opera. Joining the online program are two productions that were originally shown exclusively as a part of «Oper für alle» on the Sechseläutenplatz. This January, they will enjoy their online revival.

On the **weekend of January 16-17**, audiences can catch **Giuseppe Verdi's «Un Ballo in Maschera»** in a production by David Pountney. Under the baton of general music director Fabio Luisi, the cast is torn between passion and drama: **Otar Jorjikia** is the Swedish monarch Gustavo III, **George Petean** is his rival Renato, **Sondra Radvanovsky** is Gustavo's secret love Amelia, and **Marie-Nicole Lemieux** is master manipulator Ulrica.

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The following **weekend, from January 23-24, Piotr Tchaikovsky's «Pique Dame»** will be available on screens at home, in a production by Robert Carsen recorded in summer 2016. **Oksana Dyka** and **Eduard Martynyuk** gave their Zurich debuts as Lisa and Hermann, respectively. **Doris Soffel** appeared in the role of the Countess. Musical direction for the performance was in the hands of conductor **Stanislav Kochanovsky**, who most recently headed Tchaikovsky's «Jewgeni Onegin» in Zurich. «Pique Dame» is striking in its juxtaposition of a realistic portrayal of society with a gloomy atmosphere full of secretive, fantastical elements.

And through January 25, 2021, the Zurich production of Franz Lehár's «Das Land des Lächelns» will be available on ARTE concert. «Always smiling and always happy, always satisfied, as is always the case, smiling despite the pain of a thousand sorrows », sings exceptional tenor **Piotr Beczala** as Prinz Sou-Chong, as he and his true love Lisa, **Julia Kleiter**, wallow in poignant melancholy. Masters of the house **Andreas Homoki and Fabio Luisi** helmed this production.

The same is true for **Verdi's «Simon Boccanera»**, which premiered in December 2020. This production with Christian Gerhaher is available **through March 5**, free of charge and on demand at **ARTE Concert**.

All dates and further information can be found at www.opernhaus.ch/digital