

The Met  
ropolitan  
Opera **HD**  
LIVE



*The Met: Live in HD*  
2009-10 Season

FEATURING 9 TRANSMISSIONS

“High C’s  
in High Def...  
Bravo!”

—*The Boston Globe*

“A Riveting  
Experience”

—*Los Angeles Times*

The Met’s award-winning series of live, high-definition performance transmissions to movie theaters continues to captivate audiences around the world. In the 2008-09 season, the series will reach more than one million people in North America alone. The fourth season of *The Met: Live in HD*, which begins October 10, 2009, will feature nine of the most popular operas ever composed.

“Best Seat  
in the House”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

TOSCA

AIDA

TURANDOT

LES CONTES  
D’HOFFMANN

DER  
ROSENKAVALIER

CARMEN

SIMON  
BOCCANEGRA

HAMLET

ARMIDA

*Giacomo Puccini*

# TOSCA

*Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica*

**HD TRANSMISSION: OCTOBER 10, 2009**

“*Tosca* combines Puccini’s glorious musical inspiration with the melodramatic vitality of one of the great Hitchcock films,” says Met Music Director James Levine, who conducts this new production. The opera tells the story of three people—a famous opera singer, a free-thinking painter, and a sadistic chief of police—caught in a net of love and politics. Soprano Karita Mattila, recently seen in this season’s *Live in HD* presentation of *Salome*, sings the title role for the first time outside her native Finland. Luc Bondy, acclaimed for his imaginative theater and opera productions, directs. The cast also includes Marcelo Álvarez as Cavaradossi and Juha Uusitalo as Scarpia.

CONDUCTOR **James Levine**

PRODUCTION **Luc Bondy\***

SET DESIGNER **Richard Peduzzi\***

COSTUME DESIGNER **Milena Canonero**

TOSCA **Karita Mattila**

CAVARADOSSI **Marcelo Álvarez**

SCARPIA **Juha Uusitalo**

SACRISTAN **Paul Plishka**

A co-production of the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Milan, and Bayerische Staatsoper, Munich  
Production underwritten by The Annenberg Foundation

\*Debut

**Karita Mattila** as Tosca,  
photographed by Brigitte Lacombe

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*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

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Giuseppe Verdi  
**AIDA**

Libretto by Antonio Ghislanzoni

HD TRANSMISSION: OCTOBER 24, 2009

Set in ancient Egypt, *Aida* is both a heartbreaking love story and an epic drama full of spectacular crowd scenes. A cast of powerful voices and a grand production bring the story to life on the Met stage (and on the HD screen). Violeta Urmana stars in the title role of the enslaved Ethiopian princess, with Dolora Zajick as her rival. Johan Botha plays Radamès, commander of the Egyptian army, and Daniele Gatti conducts. Among the score's highlights is the celebrated Triumphal March.

CONDUCTOR **Daniele Gatti**

PRODUCTION **Sonja Frisell**

SET DESIGNER **Gianni Quaranta**

COSTUME DESIGNER **Dada Saligeri**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **Gil Wechsler**

CHOREOGRAPHER **Alexei Ratmansky\***

AIDA **Violeta Urmana**

AMNERIS **Dolora Zajick**

RADAMÈS **Johan Botha**

AMONASRO **Carlo Guelfi**

RAMFIS **Roberto Scandiuzzi**

THE KING **Stefan Kocán\***

\*Debut

A scene from *Aida*

*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

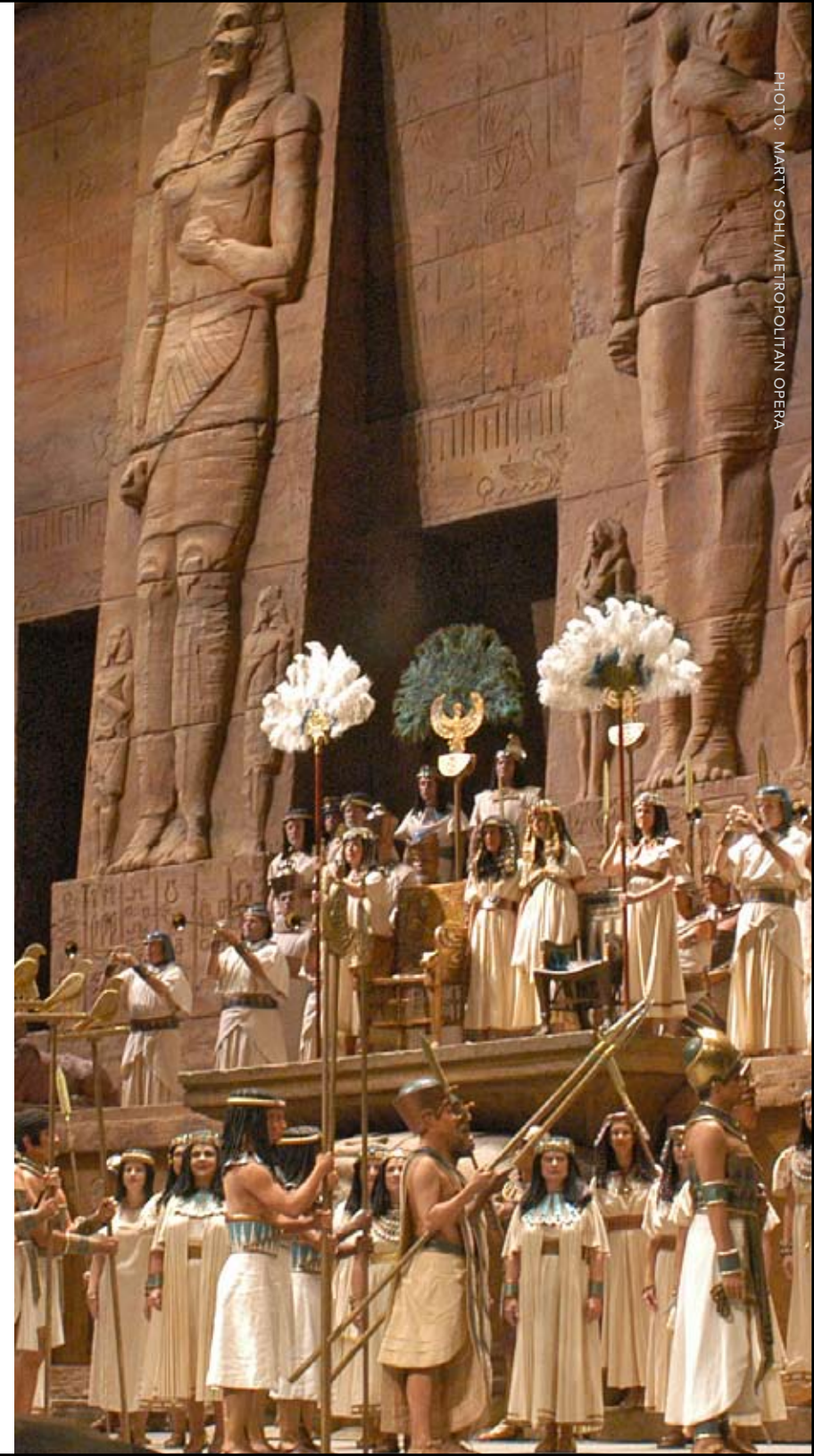


PHOTO: MARTY SOHL/METROPOLITAN OPERA

*Giacomo Puccini*

# TURANDOT

*Libretto by Giuseppe Adami and Renato Simoni*

HD TRANSMISSION: NOVEMBER 7, 2009

Director Franco Zeffirelli's breathtaking production of Puccini's last opera is a favorite of the Met repertoire. Maria Guleghina plays the ruthless Chinese princess of the title, whose hatred of men is so strong that she has all suitors who can't solve her riddles beheaded. Marcello Giordani sings Calàf, the unknown prince who eventually wins her love and whose solos include the famous "Nessun dorma."

CONDUCTOR **Andris Nelsons\***

PRODUCTION **Franco Zeffirelli**

SET DESIGNER **Franco Zeffirelli**

COSTUME DESIGNERS **Anna Anni, Dada Saligeri**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **Gil Wechsler**

CHOREOGRAPHER **Chiang Ching**

TURANDOT **Maria Guleghina**

LIÙ **Marina Poplavskaya**

CALÀF **Marcello Giordani**

TIMUR **Samuel Ramey**

\*Debut

A scene from *Turandot*

*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

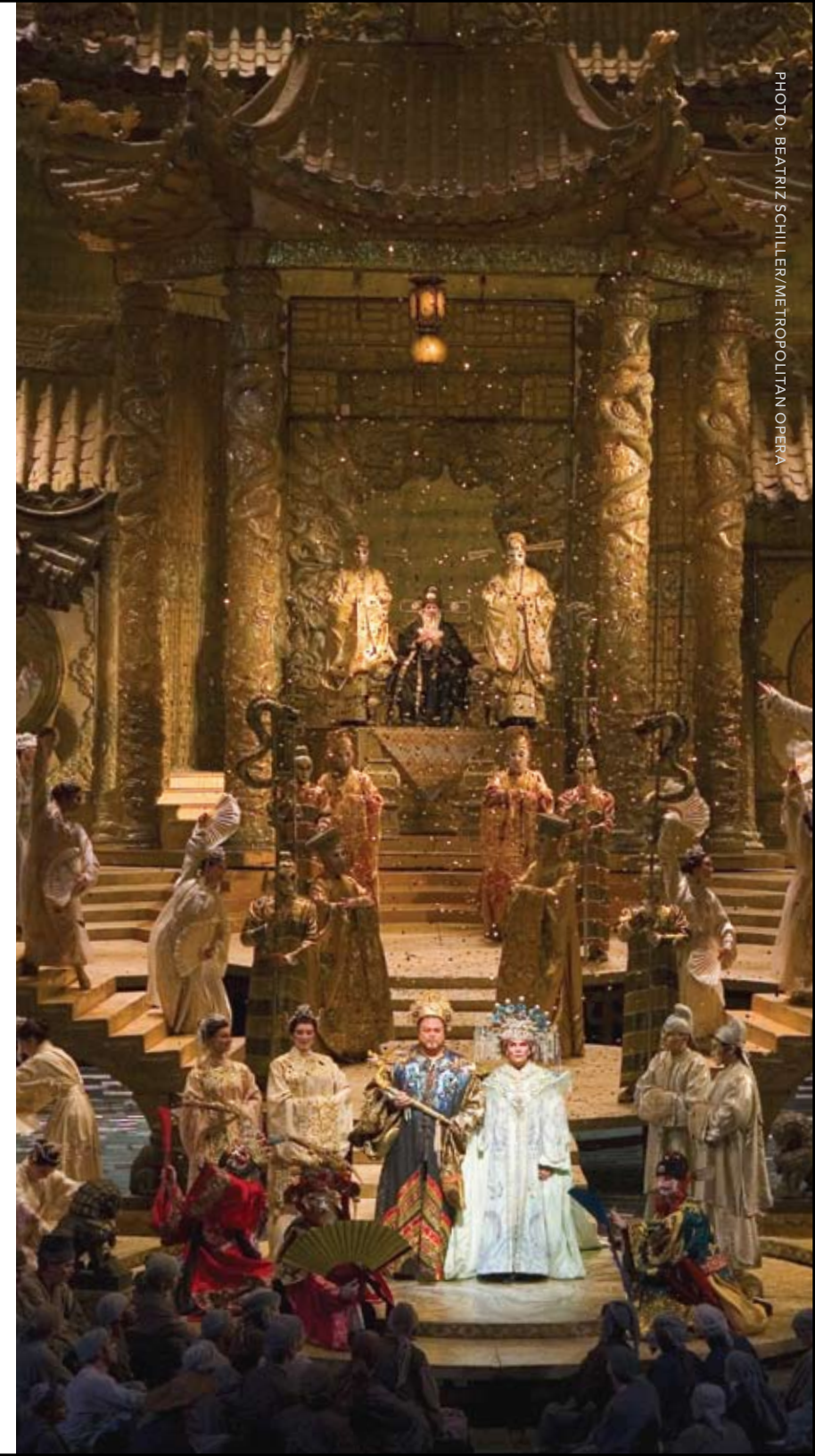


PHOTO: BEATRIZ SCHILLER/METROPOLITAN OPERA

Jacques Offenbach

# LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN

THE TALES OF HOFFMANN

Libretto by Jules Barbier

HD TRANSMISSION: DECEMBER 19, 2009

Tony Award® winner Bartlett Sher (*South Pacific*) directs this new production, returning after the triumph of his Met *Barber of Seville* (seen live in HD in the 2006–07 season). Offenbach's fictionalized take on the life and loves of the German Romantic writer E.T.A. Hoffmann is a fascinating psychological journey. Met Music Director James Levine conducts star tenor Rolando Villazón in the tour-de-force title role, with Anna Netrebko as the tragic Antonia, Elina Garanča as the ambiguous Nicklausse, and René Pape as the demonic four villains.

CONDUCTOR **James Levine**

PRODUCTION **Bartlett Sher**

SET DESIGNER **Michael Yeargan**

COSTUME DESIGNER **Catherine Zuber**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **James F. Ingalls**

CHOREOGRAPHER **Dou Dou Huang**

OLYMPIA **Kathleen Kim**

ANTONIA **Anna Netrebko**

GIULIETTA **Ekaterina Gubanova**

NICKLAUSSE/THE MUSE **Elina Garanča**

HOFFMANN **Rolando Villazón**

FOUR VILLAINS **René Pape**

Production underwritten by the Hermione Foundation

**Rolando Villazón** as Hoffmann,  
photographed by Micaela Rossato,  
with **Anna Netrebko** as Antonia

*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*



*Richard Strauss*

# DER ROSENKAVALIER

*Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal*

HD TRANSMISSION: JANUARY 9, 2010

Strauss's comic masterpiece of love and intrigue in 18th-century Vienna stars Renée Fleming as the aristocratic Marschallin and Susan Graham in the trouser role of her young lover. Music Director James Levine conducts a cast that also includes Kristinn Sigmundsson and Thomas Allen.

CONDUCTOR **James Levine**

PRODUCTION **Nathaniel Merrill**

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER **Robert O'Hearn**

MARSCHALLIN **Renée Fleming**

OCTAVIAN **Susan Graham**

SOPHIE **Christine Schäfer**

ITALIAN SINGER **Eric Cutler**

FANINAL **Thomas Allen**

BARON OCHS **Kristinn Sigmundsson**

**Renée Fleming and Susan Graham**  
in *Der Rosenkavalier*

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*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

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Georges Bizet

# CARMEN

Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy

HD TRANSMISSION: JANUARY 16, 2010

One of the most popular operas of all time, *Carmen* “is about sex, violence, and racism—and its corollary: freedom,” says Olivier Award-winning director Richard Eyre about his new production of Bizet’s drama. “It is one of the inalienably great works of art. It’s sexy, in every sense. And I think it should be shocking.” Angela Gheorghiu plays the seductive gypsy of the title in her role debut, opposite Roberto Alagna as the obsessed Don José.

CONDUCTOR **Yannick Nézet-Séguin\***

PRODUCTION **Richard Eyre\***

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER **Rob Howell\***

LIGHTING DESIGNER **Peter Mumford**

CHOREOGRAPHER **Christopher Wheeldon**

MICAËLA **Barbara Frittoli**

CARMEN **Angela Gheorghiu**

DON JOSÉ **Roberto Alagna**

ESCAMILLO **Mariusz Kwiecien**

Production underwritten by Mrs. Paul Desmarais, Sr.

\*Debut

**Angela Gheorghiu** as Carmen,  
photographed by Dusan Reljin

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*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

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*Giuseppe Verdi*

# SIMON BOCCANEGRA

*Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave and Arrigo Boito*

HD TRANSMISSION: FEBRUARY 6, 2010

Four decades into a legendary Met career, tenor Plácido Domingo makes history singing the title role in Verdi's gripping political thriller, which is written for a baritone. Adrienne Pieczonka, Marcello Giordani, and James Morris are his co-stars in this moving and tragic story of a father and his lost daughter. James Levine conducts.

CONDUCTOR **James Levine**

PRODUCTION **Giancarlo del Monaco**

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER **Michael Scott**

AMELIA GRIMALDI **Adrienne Pieczonka**

GABRIELE ADORNO **Marcello Giordani**

SIMON BOCCANEGRA **Plácido Domingo**

JACOPO FIESCO **James Morris**

**Plácido Domingo** stars in  
*Simon Boccanegra*

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*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

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*Ambroise Thomas*

# HAMLET

*Libretto by Michel Carré and Jules Barbier*

HD TRANSMISSION: MARCH 27, 2010

The works of Shakespeare have inspired more operatic adaptations than any other writer's. Simon Keenlyside and Natalie Dessay bring their extraordinary acting and singing skills to two of the Bard's most unforgettable characters in this new production of Ambroise Thomas's *Hamlet*. For the role of Ophelia, the French composer created an extended mad scene that is among the greatest in opera.

CONDUCTOR **Louis Langrée**

PRODUCTION **Patrice Caurier\*** and **Moshe Leiser\***

SET DESIGNER **Christian Fenouillat\***

COSTUME DESIGNER **Agostino Cavalca\***

LIGHTING DESIGNER **Christophe Forey\***

OPHÉLIE **Natalie Dessay**

GERTRUDE **Jennifer Larmore**

LAËRTE **Toby Spence\***

HAMLET **Simon Keenlyside**

CLAUDIUS **James Morris**

Production owned by the Grand Theatre of Geneva

Production underwritten by Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer J. Thomas, Jr.

\*Debut

**Natalie Dessay** as Ophélie  
and **Simon Keenlyside** as Hamlet

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*The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD 2009–10 Season*

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*Gioachino Rossini*

# ARMIDA

*Libretto by Giovanni Schmidt*

HD TRANSMISSION: MAY 1, 2010

This story of a sorceress who entralls men in her island prison has inspired operatic settings by a multitude of composers, including Gluck, Haydn, and Dvořák. Renée Fleming stars in the title role of Rossini's version, opposite no fewer than six tenors. Tony Award® winner Mary Zimmerman returns to direct this new production of a work she describes as “a buried treasure, a box of jewels.” The fanciful and magical tale, Zimmerman says, “has an epic, enchanted quality and a tremendous visual element.”

CONDUCTOR **Riccardo Frizza**

PRODUCTION **Mary Zimmerman**

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER **Richard Hudson**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **Brian MacDevitt**

CHOREOGRAPHER **Graciela Daniele\***

ARMIDA **Renée Fleming**

RINALDO **Lawrence Brownlee**

GOFFREDO **Bruce Ford**

GERNANDO **José Manuel Zapata**

CARLO **Barry Banks**

UBALDO **Kobie van Rensburg**

Production underwritten by  
The Sybil B. Harrington Endowment Fund

\*Debut

**Renée Fleming** as Armida,  
photographed by Dusan Reljin

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