



Scottish  
Opera

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**Courage.  
Ambition.  
Artistry.**

**And always...  
Guaranteed  
goosebumps.**

A huge thank you to Dunard Fund for all their sustained support of Scottish Opera and the arts in Scotland.

Thank you to all our sponsors:



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# Welcome

Following the ambition and success of our 60th Anniversary Season, we are thrilled to present a 61st Season of exciting premieres and cherished classics – performed across Scotland and continuing the Company’s reputation for high quality opera, artistic flexibility, and innovation.

Sir Thomas Allen’s beloved, whimsical production of Rossini’s *The Barber of Seville* returns this autumn and tours to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Inverness, and Aberdeen. Next is the UK premiere of Jonathan Dove’s *Marx in London!* directed by Stephen Barlow; this madcap comedy unearths the human side of the great theorist. To finish the Season, Verdi’s ever-popular *La traviata* returns in Sir David McVicar’s sumptuous production – adored around the world and now back home in Scotland.



Scottish Opera Young Company presents an innovative, immersive double bill of Henry McPherson’s *Maud* and Kurt Weill’s *Down in the Valley*. Our partnership with Lammermuir Festival continues with Richard Strauss’ *Daphne*, which receives its Scottish premiere 85 years after its first performance. *The French Collection* offers the variety, beauty, and crowd-pleasing creations of France’s great composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. *Opera Highlights*, Pop-up Opera, and our Schools projects travel to all corners of the country, continuing our unabated dedication to bringing opera to everyone in Scotland. This Season you can also see productions that began their lives at Scottish Opera in theatres around the world, from Cardiff to Vancouver.

While times are hard for all right now, we are hugely proud of the standards of work we continue to achieve. We are immensely grateful for the loyal support of everyone who makes our work possible – the Scottish Government; our supporters as part of The Alexander Gibson Circle, Education Angels, Friends, Emerging Artist Benefactors, and New Commissions Circle; and our treasured audiences. We hope that you find much to enjoy and we look forward to welcoming you soon.

**Alex Reedijk**  
General Director

**Stuart Stratford**  
Music Director



# The Barber of Seville

Rossini

Back by popular demand, **Sir Thomas Allen** (*The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Magic Flute*, *Don Giovanni*) creates a riotous production of Rossini's beloved comedy. The action centres around Figaro, one of opera's most delightful characters and perhaps the only voice of reason in a world of young love and ageing folly. When Count Almaviva sets his sights on the beautiful Rosina, he enlists Figaro – barber, fixer, and all-round man of action – to help woo her. It is no easy feat: Rosina's guardian Doctor Bartolo keeps her under lock and key with the intention of marrying her himself!

The multiplying disguises, comic hijinks, and daring escapes engineered by Figaro are enhanced by **Simon Higlett's** enchanting designs, bright with Spanish colours. This revival is sung in English in a translation by Amanda Holden (*Falstaff* 2021) for a fresh and immediate spin on Rossini's larger-than-life characters and antics.

With Rossini's signature toe-tapping ensembles, high-speed patter, and lively coloratura arias, this bel canto masterpiece is a joyful theatrical experience packing in one comic scene after another. Here, Scottish Opera unites **Samuel Dale Johnson** (*Eugene Onegin* and *Pagliacci* 2018) as the titular barber, with **Anthony Gregory** (*Anthropocene* 2019) and **Simone McIntosh** (in her Scottish Opera debut) as the young lovers. Rounding out the other side of the scheming are **David Stout** (*Nixon in China* 2020) and **Dingle Yandell** (*Thérèse* 2022).

'...the production is a pleasure  
which deserves to be repeated'

The Scotsman



The Times



The Herald

## October – November 2023

### Theatre Royal Glasgow

17 • 20 • 25 • 28 October 7.15pm

22 October 3pm

Access performance 27 October 3pm

### Festival Theatre Edinburgh

3 • 8 • 11 November 7.15pm

5 November 3pm

Access performance 9 November 3pm

### Eden Court, Inverness

16 • 18 November 7.15pm

### His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen

23 • 25 November 7.15pm

Running time approx. 2 hrs 50 mins

Interval 20 mins

Sung in English with English supertitles

Translation by Amanda Holden

**Conductor** Stuart Stratford

**Director** Sir Thomas Allen

**Designer** Simon Higlett

**Lighting Designer** Mark Jonathan

**Assistant Lighting Designer**

Callum Macdonald

**Figaro** Samuel Dale Johnson

**Rosina** Simone McIntosh

**Count Almaviva** Anthony Gregory

**Doctor Bartolo** David Stout

**Don Basilio** Dingle Yandell

**Berta** Inna Husieva

**Fiorello** Ross Cumming

Access performances – see page 10

Pre-show talks and audio description

available – see page 11

Revival of the 2007 production

Supported by **The Scottish Opera Syndicate**



# MARX IN LONDON!

Jonathan Dove



## UK PREMIERE

London, 1871. The spectre of communism might be haunting Europe, but Karl Marx's demons are far more mundane. Watched by a spy, chased by debt collectors, harried by his family (legitimate and not), and rescued repeatedly from financial ruin by Friedrich Engels, a single madcap day is the backdrop for a run of misadventures and mistakes. Marx might have envisioned an economic system that would restore order and equality to the workers of the world, but his own affairs are in chaos. Amidst this storm in a teacup, can he find an hour to write?

*Marx in London!* takes the great thinker off his pedestal, interweaving zany humour with moments of pathos and poignancy. For the UK premiere of **Jonathan Dove's** opera, director **Stephen Barlow** (praised by The Arts Desk for his 'slick' *Flight* in 2018) and designer **Yannis Thavoris** (praised by Bachtrack for his 'splendid' *Ariodante* in 2016 and 'ingenious' *Madama Butterfly* in 2014) create a kinetic new production, plumbing the frivolity and profundity of one man's existence.

This grand farce is led by **Roland Wood** (*Il trittico* 2023) as Karl Marx, with **Orla Boylan** and **Lucy Schauer** as the long-suffering women in his life. Following their star turns in *Candide* (2022), **Paula Sides** and **William Morgan** reunite as Marx's eager youngest daughter and her hapless suitor. Scottish tenors **Alasdair Elliott** (*The Miserly Knight* 2022) and **Jamie MacDougall** (*Il trittico* 2023) take the roles of Engels and the Spy respectively.

'a genuine comedy... Dove's score is bright, rhythmically insistent and pacy.'

The Guardian on the world premiere  
of *Marx in London* (2018)



The Guardian



Bachtrack

Supported by **The Alexander Gibson Circle** and **Scottish Opera's New Commissions Circle**

## February 2024

### Theatre Royal Glasgow

13 • 15 • 17 February 7.15pm

### Festival Theatre Edinburgh

22 • 24 February 7.15pm

Running time approx. 2 hrs 25 mins

Interval 20 mins

Sung in English with English supertitles

**Libretto** Charles Hart

**Conductor** David Parry

**Director** Stephen Barlow

**Designer** Yannis Thavoris

**Lighting Designer** Rory Beaton

**Projection Designer** PJ McEvoy

**Karl Marx** Roland Wood

**Jenny Marx** Orla Boylan

**Tussi Marx** Paula Sides

**Freddy** William Morgan

**Helene** Lucy Schauer

**Friedrich Engels** Alasdair Elliott

**Spy** Jamie MacDougall

**Melanzane** Paul Hopwood

Pre-show talks and audio description  
available – see page 11

A woman with dark, curly hair is seated on an ornate chair, leaning forward. She wears a dark, long-sleeved dress with a lace-trimmed bodice. In her right hand, she holds a single red rose. The floor around her is scattered with many red rose petals. The background is dark and features a patterned wall. The overall mood is dramatic and somber.

# La traviata

Verdi

Violetta Valéry lives on borrowed time. In Paris' hedonistic high society, she wrings each day for its joys before her illness catches up with her. When the idealistic young Alfredo offers true love, happiness seems possible – but her past has exacted a price. Giuseppe Verdi's devastating tragedy – based on Alexander Dumas' *filis'* novel, in turn inspired by a real woman – has inspired countless retellings, including cult favourite films *Pretty Woman* and *Moulin Rouge!*.

With his characteristic eye for detail, **Sir David McVicar** (*Il tritico*, *Falstaff*, *Pelléas et Mélisande*) gets to the love and loss at the core of this doomed love affair in his passionate, gripping, and startlingly intimate *Belle Époque* production. **Tanya McCallin's** sumptuous designs centre Violetta's journey and enduring legacy despite her fleeting life. Verdi's magnificent score sweeps the characters through every shifting mood – from the wildly dramatic to the most vulnerable moments.

This beloved production, which began life at Scottish Opera in 2008, has been seen at the houses of co-producers Teatro Real Madrid, Gran Teatre del Liceu, and Welsh National Opera. Now, audiences in Glasgow, Inverness, Aberdeen, and Edinburgh have a chance to experience it anew. The superb **Hye-Youn Lee** (*Carmen* 2023, *The Verdi Collection* 2022) brings her signature Violetta to Scotland for the first time, with **Ji-Min Park** as her ardent lover Alfredo.

'brilliantly detailed, non-showy approach to the story-telling... a definitive version.'

The Herald



Scottish Daily Express



Bachtrack

## May – June 2024

### Theatre Royal Glasgow

8 • 10 • 14 • 16 • 18 May 7.15pm

12 May 3pm

Access performance 17 May 3pm

### Eden Court, Inverness

23 • 25 May 7.15pm

### His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen

30 May • 1 June 7.15pm

### Festival Theatre Edinburgh

7 • 11 • 13 • 15 June 7.15pm

9 June 3pm

Access performance 14 June 3pm

Running time approx. 2 hrs 55 mins

First interval 20 mins

Second interval 20 mins

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

**Conductor** Stuart Stratford

**Director** Sir David McVicar

**Revival Director** Leo Castaldi

**Designer** Tanya McCallin

**Lighting Designer** Jennifer Tipton

**Choreographer** Andrew George

**Violetta Valéry** Hye-Youn Lee

**Alfredo Germont** Ji-Min Park

**Flora** Lea Shaw

**Gastone** Monwabisi Lindi

**Marchese D'Obigny** Ross Cumming

**Annina** Heather Ireson

**Doctor Grenvil** Thomas D. Hopkinson

Access performances – see page 10

Pre-show talks and audio description

available – see page 11

Supported by Scottish Opera's 'Play A Supporting Role' Appeal

## Accessible performances



## Access Opera

If a full-length opera doesn't feel like the right fit, Access performances are open to all and make coming to a favourite opera as easy and stress-free as possible. Whether you're living with dementia or Long COVID, more comfortable at a shorter show, struggling to get to evening performances, or would simply benefit from the relaxed atmosphere, you can enjoy everything opera has to offer.

- Maximum running time of 2 hours, including a 30 minute interval
- Afternoon start times for easier travel
- A narrator guides you through the story, with The Orchestra of Scottish Opera and cast
- Welcoming front of house staff who have undergone training provided by Alzheimer Scotland
- Doors open 45 minutes before the start, allowing time to get settled in
- Wheelchair spaces and extra staff on hand to help if you want to transfer
- Brighter lighting levels in the auditorium
- No need to keep quiet or sit still; you can come in and out of the auditorium during the show
- Lower capacity to allow everyone extra space
- Watch the live show on TV screens around the theatre if you need to
- Quiet areas available if you need to take a break
- Enjoy tea and cake in the café beforehand!

**Tickets from £10.** Free carers. Groups welcome. Free tickets for school groups (call your local box office to book).

Dementia Friendly  
All Access performances are audio-described.

### Access **The Barber of Seville**

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**Glasgow** 27 October 3pm

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**Edinburgh** 9 November 3pm

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### Access **La traviata**

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**Glasgow** 17 May 2024 3pm

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**Edinburgh** 14 June 2024 3pm

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'I really enjoyed the extra context and help that the presenter provided to the audience, and I now feel more equipped to go see full-length opera shows in the future.'

Access Opera audience member

## Pre-show talks

These half-hour sessions delve into the detail of each opera, enhancing your enjoyment and extending your knowledge of the piece. Tickets are free but must be reserved in advance. Limited availability.

### The Barber of Seville

**Glasgow** 25 October 6pm

**Edinburgh** 8 November 6pm

**Inverness** 18 November 6pm

**Aberdeen** 25 November 6pm

### Marx in London!

**Glasgow** 15 February 2024 6pm

**Edinburgh** 24 February 2024 6pm

### La traviata

**Glasgow** 16 May 2024 6pm

**Inverness** 25 May 2024 6pm

**Aberdeen** 1 June 2024 6pm

**Edinburgh** 13 June 2024 6pm

## Audio-described performances

For those who are visually impaired, this service provides live commentary during certain full-length and all Access Opera performances, describing the action on stage without compromising the music. As part of the experience, a recorded introduction to the opera is provided in advance. At select performances there is a live audio introduction before the start of the performance.

Call your local box office to book, or book online. Discounts available. Guide dogs are welcome.

### The Barber of Seville

**Glasgow** 28 October 7.15pm

**Edinburgh** 11 November 7.15pm

**Inverness** 18 November 7.15pm

**Aberdeen** 25 November 7.15pm

### Marx in London!

**Glasgow** 17 February 2024 7.15pm

**Edinburgh** 24 February 2024 7.15pm

### La traviata

**Glasgow** 18 May 2024 7.15pm

**Inverness** 25 May 2024 7.15pm

**Aberdeen** 1 June 2024 7.15pm

**Edinburgh** 15 June 2024 7.15pm

Access Opera performances are also audio-described – see opposite page for dates.



## Opera in Concert

Music Director Stuart Stratford curates Scottish Opera's annual concert programme, introducing audiences to rarely performed work he is passionate about. *Daphne*, Richard Strauss' wistful one-act opera of solace in nature and complicated human passions, continues the Company's fruitful collaboration with Lammermuir Festival to present another Scottish premiere following last year's *Thérèse*.

Later in the year, be whisked away to Paris with *The French Collection*, a concert that celebrates the variety and vivaciousness of French opera. Expect a mix of grand opera splendour and sparkling *opéra comique* numbers, all brilliantly interpreted by The Orchestra of Scottish Opera.



'A glorious performance  
of the colourful score  
from the orchestra...'

**The Herald** on *Thérèse* (2022)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**LAMMERMUIR FESTIVAL**

# Daphne

Strauss

Loosely based on Greek mythology as told in Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and Euripides' *The Bacchae*, Strauss' lush, bucolic score — one of his personal favourites — showcases The Orchestra of Scottish Opera in a journey of discovery, grief, and ultimately rebirth and release. The young Daphne feels at home nowhere so much as in nature. She loves the trees, sunlight, and flowers, but recoils at the idea of human romance, even when offered selflessly by her childhood friend Leukippos. Soon a mysterious stranger arrives, seeming to bring the power of the sun and to understand Daphne's kinship with nature. When her father prepares a feast for the return of the gods, which he feels is imminent, Daphne's otherworldly love comes up against all-too-human jealousies and struggles.

Supported by **Friends of Scottish Opera** and **The Scottish Opera Endowment Trust**

**September – December  
2023**

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**Theatre Royal Glasgow**

5 September 7.30pm

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**Lammermuir Festival**

St Mary's Church, Haddington

7 September 7.30pm

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**Usher Hall, Edinburgh**

10 December 3pm

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Running time approx. 1 hour 30 mins

No interval

Sung in German with English  
supertitles

**Conductor** Stuart Stratford

**Concert Staging** Emma Jenkins

**Daphne** Hye-Youn Lee

**Leukippos** Shengzhi Ren

**Peneios** Dingle Yandell

**Gaea** Claire Barnett-Jones

**Shepherds** Ross Cumming, Monwabisi

Lindi, Colin Murray, Francis Church

**Maids** Catriona Hewitson, Inna Husieva

**Opera in Concert**

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a white opera costume with red floral embroidery, is seated on a wooden bench. She is holding a large, vibrant bouquet of flowers, including yellow and white flowers, and looking towards the camera with an expressive, open-mouthed smile. The scene is set against a dark background with a wooden railing in the foreground.

**The French Collection**



Few cities saw as much innovation and creative output in opera as Paris did during the 19th century. With three major opera houses and composers from France and further abroad vying for a coveted premiere at one (or more) of them, French opera contains a vast variety of musical and dramatic styles as its artists pushed boundaries on stage and in the pit. This concert includes excerpts from some of the era's grandest and most beloved operas as well as its rarer gems that deserve a second hearing, including works by Georges Bizet, Charles Gounod, and Jules Massenet.

**The Orchestra of Scottish Opera** captures the vivacity and grandeur of this uniquely brilliant musical epoch under the baton of the Company's Music Director **Stuart Stratford**. With a first-rate group of singers to be announced later this year, *The French Collection* will be a night of romance, drama, and beautiful music to remember.

'...continually engaging thanks primarily to the rock-star quality of the orchestral playing'

Seen and Heard International on *The Verdi Collection* (2023)



Arts Review Edinburgh



The Herald

## March 2024

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### Caird Hall, Dundee

1 March 7.30pm

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### Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

3 March 3pm

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Running time approx. 2 hrs

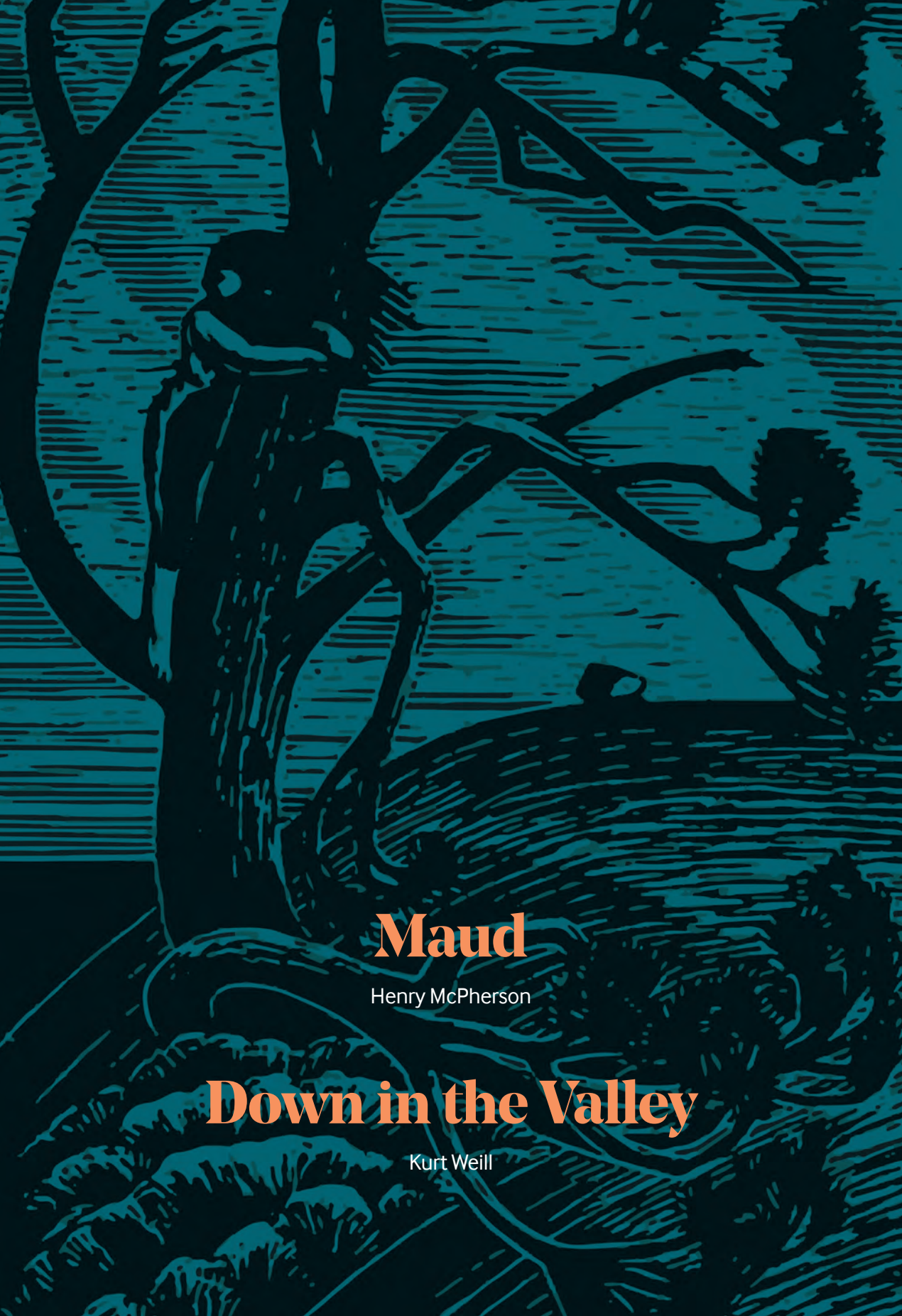
Interval 20 mins

Sung in French with English supertitles

Conductor Stuart Stratford

'...conductor Stuart Stratford drew consistently glowing playing from the orchestra'

Bachtrack on *Pelléas and Mélisande* (2017)



# Maud

Henry McPherson

# Down in the Valley

Kurt Weill

Scottish Opera Young Company moves between centuries to tell stories of young people finding connection and survival within – and sometimes despite – their respective insular worlds.

In midsummer, while picking blackberries in an ancient wood, a child stumbles upon a tiny creature in the undergrowth. Taking her new-found treasure home, however, not everyone shares her love. A retelling of a traditional folk tale, *Maud* is written and composed by Henry McPherson – composer, improviser, and teacher – and received its premiere in 2018 as a winner of Scottish Opera’s Opera Sparks competition.

In another time, two young adults in an isolated religious village have fallen in love against their elder’s wishes – and the girl disobeys her mother to go dancing with the boy. When a horrible accident changes their lives forever, they have one night to reckon with their fates. Composer Kurt Weill’s and librettist Arnold Sundgaard’s magical and menacing folk-inspired opera is a bittersweet coming-of-age tale showing the light and darkness of one claustrophobic community.

By connecting the two operas on a single Hebridean-inspired set that transforms before the audience’s eyes, this immersive double bill shows the grit it takes to survive within and against a harsh landscape and even harsher mob mentalities.

Directed by **Flora Emily Thomson** (As *The Seasons Turn* 2022) and conducted by SOYC Artistic Director **Chris Gray**, a cast of 11 young performers bring these two stories to life.



‘...if this is the future of Scottish Opera,  
it’s in excellent hands.’

ScotsGay Arts on *Rubble* (2022)

Supported by **Scottish Opera’s New Commissions Circle**, **Scottish Opera’s Education Angels**, the **Leverhulme Trust**, **Professor Richard Rose** and **Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust**

## July 2023

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### Scottish Opera Production Studios

40 Edington Street, Glasgow G4 9RD  
27 • 28 July 6pm

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### Barrfields Theatre, Largs

29 July 6pm

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### Albert Halls, Stirling

30 July 6pm

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Running time approx. 1hr

No interval

Sung in English

**Conductor** Chris Gray

**Director** Flora Emily Thomson

**Set and Costume Designer**

Finlay McLay

**Lighting Designer** Rebecca Coull

**Company Repetiteur** Karen MacIver

To find out more about SOYC –  
see page 21

# Opera on your doorstep

## Opera Highlights

A troupe of talented singers, including the 2023/24 Emerging Artists, traverse Scotland to bring an original piano-accompanied production to local venues. This vibrant, one-of-a-kind show is created specifically for Scottish Opera each season. Director **Laura Attridge** (*The Miserly Knight* and *Mavra* 2022) brings her signature clarity and richness to this year's tour, and internationally renowned designer **Ana Inés Jabares-Pita** brings her Spanish flare to create an unforgettable and fun experience that adapts to every venue.

**Autumn Music Director/Pianist** Toby Hession

**Spring Music Director/Pianist** James Longford

**Director** Laura Attridge

**Designer** Ana Inés Jabares-Pita

**Autumn 2023 singers** Katy Thomson, Katherine Aitken, Innocent Masuku, Jerome Knox

**Spring 2024 singers** Inna Husieva, Lea Shaw, Monwabisi Lindi, Ross Cumming

Running time approx. 2 hrs,  
including a 20-minute interval

**Autumn Tour** 21 September – 28 October 2023

Touring to Giffnock, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Strathmiglo, Newtonmore, Lossiemouth, Ardross, Thurso, Lochinver, Arisaig, Seil Island, Tillicoultry, Glasgow, Dumfries, Crawfordjohn, Maybole, and Musselburgh.

On sale Summer 2023

**Spring Tour** 13 February – 23 March 2024

Touring to Greenock, Stirling, Ardrishaig, Blairgowrie, Peterhead, Aboyne, Strathpeffer, Tongue, Stornoway, Poolewe, Dornie, Ballachulish, Tobermory, Johnstone, Middleton, Duns, St Andrews, and Largs.

On sale Winter 2023

Supported by **Friends of Scottish Opera**



'Our whole family, children and adults alike were entranced from the beginning to the end!'

Pop-up audience member, summer 2022



## Pop-up Opera

Experience opera on a miniature scale with specially created half-hour performances brought to life by a storyteller, two singers, instrumentalists, and a beautiful backdrop and set of illustrations. *A Little Bit of Die Fledermaus* and *A Little Bit of Eugene Onegin* are two cleverly rewritten versions of beloved classics – one a sparkling comedy of mistaken identities, the other a stirring tale of first love. This year, the Pop-up Company will be visiting primary schools in each location on the tour with *Puffy MacPuffer and the Crabbit Canals*, a piece for primary pupils about the five very different canals that run the length and breadth of Scotland. This Scottish Opera original features words by Allan Dunn and music by Marion Christie.

**A Little Bit of Die Fledermaus** Strauss II  
**A Little Bit of Eugene Onegin** Tchaikovsky  
Arranged by Derek Clark

**Storyteller** Allan Dunn  
**Soprano** Jessica Leary  
**Baritone** Andrew McTaggart  
**Cello** Andrew Drummond Huggan/Sonia Cromarty  
**Guitar** Sasha Savaloni/Ian Watt  
Running time approx. 30mins

**Summer Tour** 27 May – 2 July 2023  
Touring to Sanquhar, Moniaive, Linlithgow, Blantyre, Springburn, Stornoway, Dornoch, Strathpeffer, Cruden Bay, and Dundee.  
On sale now

Supported by **Friends of Scottish Opera**

## New talent



## Scottish Opera Young Company

Scottish Opera Young Company gives aspiring singers between the ages of 17 and 21 a unique and practical introduction to opera. Rehearsing throughout the year under Artistic Director Chris Gray, Young Company members work with a range of professionals – including directors, choreographers, conductors, and vocal coaches – to hone their skills, culminating in two performances a year.

For those a few years away from the Young Company, the non-auditioned SOYC Gateway is the perfect first step for those aged 14 to 18 who want to explore opera making.

For more information on how to join, visit [scottishopera.org.uk](http://scottishopera.org.uk)

Supported by the **Leverhulme Trust** and **Professor Richard Rose**

‘It’s been such a great stepping stone into the more professional side of this career and it will prepare you for what you’ll come into contact with in the future.’

SOYC member





## Emerging and Associate Artists

The Emerging Artists programme gives young singers, répétiteurs, and costume designers the opportunity of a lifetime – a period of full-time work with the Company to help them launch their careers. Our 2023/24 Artists are:

**Soprano** Inna Husieva

**Mezzo-soprano** Lea Shaw (Associate Artist)

**Tenor** Monwabisi Lindi

**Baritone** Ross Cumming

## Recitals

Emerging Artists are involved in several productions throughout the season and also perform in lunchtime recitals during the year, to include:

**30 November** | University of Glasgow


**8 December** | Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Supported by **Scottish Opera's Emerging Artist Benefactors** and **Elizabeth Salvesen**









BECAUSE YOU LOVE...  
MUSIC | DRAMA | THEATRE

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**OPERA**

Our productions are recognised and appreciated as some of the best in the world. The experienced teams across Scottish Opera continuously invest a significant amount of time, talent, and resources to produce this beautiful and complex art form.

We are proud to have the support of so many people who are passionate about opera across Scotland and beyond. As a supporter you have the opportunity to attend special events and network with other opera lovers, artists, and industry professionals as you deepen your understanding of music, theatre, history, and culture.

In addition to performances, we offer a rich palette of community outreach and health and wellbeing programmes. By supporting Scottish Opera, you can give back to communities across Scotland to help ensure that the arts remain a vital part of our cultural heritage and enrich the lives of future generations.

There are a range of levels at which to support our work; for example, our Friends support the work of Scottish Opera's extensive touring productions and our Patrons of The Alexander Gibson Circle help fund a new production each season. Friends and Patrons receive priority season booking, along with an early bird discount of 20% on tickets. The closing date to join for the 2023/24 Season booking period is 31 May 2023.

To find out more about how to support different aspects of our work please visit [scottishopera.org.uk/support-us](https://scottishopera.org.uk/support-us). Alternatively, please phone the Scottish Opera Fundraising team on **0141 242 0596** or email [supportus@scottishopera.org.uk](mailto:supportus@scottishopera.org.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you!

## Education & Outreach: Community

Scottish Opera engages with people in every corner of Scotland and beyond, ensuring meaningful and transformative experiences no matter age, background, or ability.

### Memory Spinners

Memory Spinners uses music, storytelling, movement, and visual arts to help Glasgow-based people living with dementia relax, get creative, and form new support networks. Throughout each 8-week term, they share memories that are then incorporated into a relaxed performance for friends and family. All spaces are free – to find out how to join, call **0141 332 9559**.

Supported by **The R S Macdonald Charitable Trust, Life Changes Trust, Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust, Bellahouston Bequest Fund, RKT Harris Trust, J Macdonald Menzies Charitable Trust, Trades House of Glasgow (Commonwealth Fund), and Scottish Opera's Education Angels**

### Community Choir

We need your voice! Set up in 2012, our Choir gives adults of all ages an opportunity to sing a wide variety of music – folk, world, classical, opera, popular, and more – in a supportive atmosphere, with sharings each term. You do not need to be able to read music or have previous experience. Come see what fun singing can be!

Visit [scottishopera.org.uk](http://scottishopera.org.uk) for more details.

Supported by **Cruach Trust, The Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust, W M Mann Foundation, Souter Charitable Trust, and Scottish Opera's Education Angels**

'I'm very grateful that Memory Spinners are there as they give my dementia darling so much interest, focus, dignity and fun.'

Audience participant





'I really feel that [Breath Cycle] has helped my recovery, and brought some much-needed joy!'

Participant 2023

### Breath Cycle

This ground-breaking online programme was formed with the Respiratory and Cystic Fibrosis Medicine team at NHS Glasgow. Designed to benefit those living with conditions affecting lung health – particularly Long COVID – free resources introduce participants to vocal exercises and breathing techniques. The response is overwhelmingly positive, with participants citing improvement in breathing, energy levels and mood.

To find out more, please visit our website, where you can access a series of short tutorials and exercises, or sign up for weekly online sessions and song writing workshops.

### The Covid Composer's Songbook

A selection of songs written by Breath Cycle participants has been recorded for anyone to use and enjoy. Visit the website to download the full collection.

Supported by **The Scottish Government, Cruach Trust, The Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust, W M Mann Foundation, Souter Charitable Trust and Scottish Opera's Education Angels**

# Education & Outreach: Opera in Schools

## Primary Schools Tour

Scottish Opera’s children’s operas make learning fun and creative. Over the years, the Primary Schools Tour has inspired over 500,000 children across all 32 Local Authority areas. This year’s new show is *Vikings! The Quest for the Dragon’s Treasure*. *Vikings!* can be facilitated with an in-person workshop day led by Scottish Opera Teaching Artists with full rental of props and costumes, or entirely within the classroom by teachers themselves. In both, teachers receive all materials in advance.

In-person tour booking opens June 2023 for dates from February – June 2024. Digital tour available from January 2024.

## CISS partnership

*How The Dragon Was Made* is an interactive performance project for all Confucius Institute classroom hub schools designed to explore Chinese culture and language through music and visual arts. Senior primary classes use the digital resources to create their own performances that introduce one of China’s most ancient folk tales to the youngest pupils.

## Secondary Schools resources

*The Elixir of Love: Three Ways to Stage an Opera* is a free teaching resource for secondary schools. Pupils explore Donizetti’s comedy through three different interpretive stagings to learn about music, drama, and art and design – incorporating history, storytelling, and critical thinking.

To find out how you can work with Scottish Opera at your school, call **0141 332 9559** or visit **[scottishopera.org.uk](http://scottishopera.org.uk)**



**‘I have adored every minute  
of this excellent experience  
and I just wish I could do it  
all again.’**

A 9-year-old participant



## Disney Musicals in Schools

Disney Musicals in Schools collaborates with primary schools with no previous engagement with the arts and often facing a range of social and economic challenges. Teaching Artists guide pupils through rehearsals for special adaptations of Disney musicals and, crucially, provide training for teachers to build their pupils' skills and confidence through the performance arts, creating a sustainable arts legacy for the future.

Our Opera in Schools programmes are supported by **Harbinson Charitable Trust, David & June Gordon Memorial Trust, Hayward Sanderson Trust, Scottish Opera's Education Angels and JTH Charitable Trust**



# Venue information

## **Opera Highlights, Pop-up Opera, Young Company & Emerging Artist Recitals**

Please visit [scottishopera.org.uk](http://scottishopera.org.uk) for booking details for each venue

### **Theatre Royal Glasgow**

282 Hope Street,  
Glasgow G2 3QA  
0333 009 6690  
[atgtickets.com](http://atgtickets.com)

### **Festival Theatre Edinburgh**

13/29 Nicolson Street,  
Edinburgh EH8 9FT  
0131 529 6000  
[capitaltheatres.com](http://capitaltheatres.com)

### **Eden Court, Inverness**

Bishops Road,  
Inverness IV3 5SA  
01463 234 234  
[eden-court.co.uk](http://eden-court.co.uk)

### **His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen**

Rosemount Viaduct,  
Aberdeen AB25 1GL  
01224 641 122  
[aberdeenperformingarts.com](http://aberdeenperformingarts.com)

### **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**

2 Sauchiehall Street,  
Glasgow G2 3NY  
0141 353 8000  
[glasgowconcerthalls.com](http://glasgowconcerthalls.com)

### **Caird Hall**

City Square,  
Dundee DD1 3BB  
01382 434 940  
[dundeebox.co.uk](http://dundeebox.co.uk)

### **St Mary's Church**

(Scottish Opera at  
Lammermuir Festival)  
Haddington EH41 4BZ  
0131 226 0004  
[lammermuirfestival.co.uk](http://lammermuirfestival.co.uk)

### **Usher Hall, Edinburgh**

Lothian Road,  
Edinburgh EH1 2EA  
0131 228 1155  
[usherhall.co.uk](http://usherhall.co.uk)



# Performance diary 2023/24

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Saturday 27 May 2023	various	Pop-up Opera	A' the Airts Community Arts Centre, Sanquhar
Sunday 28 May	various	Pop-up Opera	Glencairn Memorial Institute, Moniaive
Saturday 3 June	various	Pop-up Opera	Linlithgow Burgh Halls
Sunday 4 June	various	Pop-up Opera	David Livingstone Birthplace, Blantyre
Sunday 11 June	various	Pop-up Opera	Springburn Auditorium
Saturday 17 June	various	Pop-up Opera	An Lanntair, Stornoway
Saturday 24 June	various	Pop-up Opera	West Church Hall, Dornoch
Sunday 25 June	various	Pop-up Opera	Strathpeffer Pavilion
Saturday 1 July	various	Pop-up Opera	Port Erroll Public Hall, Cruden Bay
Sunday 2 July	various	Pop-up Opera	Little Theatre Dundee
Thursday 27 July	6pm	Maud & Down in the Valley	Scottish Opera Production Studios, Glasgow
Friday 28 July	6pm	Maud & Down in the Valley	Scottish Opera Production Studios, Glasgow
Saturday 29 July	6pm	Maud & Down in the Valley	Barrfields Theatre - Vikingar!, Largs
Sunday 30 July	6pm	Maud & Down in the Valley	Albert Halls, Stirling
Tuesday 5 September	7.30pm	Daphne	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Thursday 7 September	7.30pm	Daphne	St Mary's Church, Haddington
Thursday 21 September	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Eastwood Park Theatre, Giffnock
Saturday 23 September	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	The Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh
Tuesday 26 September	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	The Lemon Tree, Aberdeen
Thursday 28 September	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Strathmiglo Village Hall
Saturday 30 September	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Newtonmore Village Hall
Tuesday 3 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Lossiemouth Town Hall
Thursday 5 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Ardrross Community Hall
Saturday 7 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Thurso High School
Tuesday 10 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Lochinver Village Hall
Thursday 12 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Astley Hall, Arisaig
Saturday 14 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Seil Island Community Hall
Tuesday 17 October	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Tuesday 17 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Devonvale Hall, Tillicoultry
Thursday 19 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Cottiers Theatre, Glasgow
Friday 20 October	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Saturday 21 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Theatre Royal Dumfries
Sunday 22 October	3pm	The Barber of Seville	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Tuesday 24 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Crawfordjohn Village Hall
Wednesday 25 October	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (PST)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Thursday 26 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Maybole Town Hall
Friday 27 October	3pm	Access The Barber of Seville (AD)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Saturday 28 October	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (AD)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Saturday 28 October	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Loretto School Theatre, Musselburgh
Friday 3 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Sunday 5 November	3pm	The Barber of Seville	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Wednesday 8 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (PST)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Thursday 9 November	3pm	Access The Barber of Seville (AD)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Saturday 11 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (AD)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Thursday 16 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville	Eden Court, Inverness
Saturday 18 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (AD, PST)	Eden Court, Inverness
Thursday 23 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville	His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen
Saturday 25 November	7.15pm	The Barber of Seville (AD, PST)	His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen
Thursday 30 November	1.10pm	Emerging Artist Recital	University of Glasgow
Friday 8 December	1pm	Emerging Artist Recital	Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Sunday 10 December	3pm	Daphne	Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Tuesday 13 February 2024	7.15pm	Marx in London!	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Tuesday 13 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock
Thursday 15 February	7.15pm	Marx in London! (PST)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Thursday 15 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Albert Halls, Stirling
Saturday 17 February	7.15pm	Marx in London! (AD)	Theatre Royal Glasgow



Date	Time	Event	Venue
Saturday 17 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Ardrishaig Public Hall
Tuesday 20 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Blairgowrie Town Hall
Thursday 22 February	7pm	Opera Highlights	Peterhead Leisure and Community Centre
Thursday 22 February	7.15pm	Marx in London!	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Saturday 24 February	7.15pm	Marx in London! (AD, PST)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Saturday 24 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Aboyne and Glen Tanar Memorial Hall
Tuesday 27 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Strathpeffer Pavilion
Thursday 29 February	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Tongue Village Hall
Friday 1 March	7.30pm	The French Collection	Caird Hall, Dundee
Saturday 2 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	An Lanntair, Stornoway
Sunday 3 March	3pm	The French Collection	Glasgow Royal Concert Hall
Tuesday 5 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Poolewe Village Hall
Thursday 7 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Dornie and District Community Hall
Saturday 9 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Ballachulish Village Hall
Tuesday 12 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	An Tobar and Mull Theatre, Tobermory
Thursday 14 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Johnstone Town Hall
Saturday 16 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Middleton Village Hall
Tuesday 19 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Duns Volunteer Hall
Thursday 21 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	The Byre Theatre, St Andrews
Saturday 23 March	7.30pm	Opera Highlights	Barrfields Theatre - Vikingar!, Largs
Wednesday 8 May	7.15pm	La traviata	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Friday 10 May	7.15pm	La traviata	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Sunday 12 May	3pm	La traviata	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Tuesday 14 May	7.15pm	La traviata	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Thursday 16 May	7.15pm	La traviata (PST)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Friday 17 May	3pm	Access La traviata (AD)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Saturday 18 May	7.15pm	La traviata (AD)	Theatre Royal Glasgow
Thursday 23 May	7.15pm	La traviata	Eden Court, Inverness
Saturday 25 May	7.15pm	La traviata (AD, PST)	Eden Court, Inverness
Thursday 30 May	7.15pm	La traviata	His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen
Saturday 1 June	7.15pm	La traviata (AD, PST)	His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen
Friday 7 June	7.15pm	La traviata	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Sunday 9 June	3pm	La traviata	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Tuesday 11 June	7.15pm	La traviata	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Thursday 13 June	7.15pm	La traviata (PST)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Friday 14 June	3pm	Access La traviata (AD)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh
Saturday 15 June	7.15pm	La traviata (AD)	Festival Theatre Edinburgh

**AD:** Audio-described performance **PST:** Pre-show talk

## Around the world

Renowned for their flexibility and craftsmanship, Scottish Opera productions are frequently presented by opera houses across the globe.

Two of our 60th Anniversary productions are presented by Welsh National Opera this Season: Osvaldo Golijov's *Ainadamar* is in Cardiff, Llandudno, Bristol, Plymouth, Birmingham, Milton Keynes, and Southampton from September to November 2023. Puccini's *Il trittico* can be seen in Cardiff in June 2024.

Following on from a run at the Opéra Comique in Paris in May 2023, Detroit Opera perform our 2019 production of Missy Mazzoli's *Breaking the Waves* in April 2024 (having recently presented *Ainadamar* in April 2023).

In addition, our 2014 production of Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* is performed twice in Canada: at Vancouver Opera in February 2024, and at Canadian Opera Company in Toronto in April and May 2024.



### Thank you

Special thanks to everyone who has helped to create this 2023/24 Season campaign including Costume for bringing the characters to life, especially the hair and makeup team for their meticulous attention to detail; Props for their unique stock of the weird and the wonderful; Workshop for their generous support and advice; Stage for preparing a photography/videography space; and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for their expertise in creating our backdrops.

### Image credits

Season campaign photography/videography by Kirsty Anderson and Jamie Simpson

Other production photography by Kirsty Anderson, Fraser Band, Julie Broadfoot, James Glossop, Julie Howden, Karen Jackson and Sally Jubb

### Programme

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**The Barber of Seville**  
**Marx in London!**  
**La traviata**  
**Daphne**  
**The French Collection**  
**Maud**  
**Down in the Valley**  
**Opera Highlights**  
**Pop-up Opera**

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