



Met Opera *Live in HD* to receive “Encores” at Film Streams’ Ruth Sokolof Theater

Live Saturday matinee broadcasts to be repeated on Wednesday evenings

Omaha, Nebraska (September 16, 2008)—With the Metropolitan Opera’s revolutionary *Live in HD* series, area audiences can now experience the riveting productions in real time—and high-definition—from the comforts of Film Streams’ Ruth Sokolof Theater.

Now people unable to make the live broadcasts will have another opportunity to witness what the *Los Angeles Times* hailed as “a new art form.”

In addition to screening all eleven live broadcasts within the 2008/09 Met Opera *Live in HD* season, Film Streams and Opera Omaha will present “encore” presentations identical to the live events.

The 2008/09 season begins Monday, September 22, with the Met’s “Opening Night Gala” celebration starring soprano Renée Fleming. All ten of the other *Live in HD* broadcasts will occur on Saturday afternoons, with encore presentations taking place the second Wednesday (11 days) following the live broadcast. There will not be an encore for the “Opening Night Gala.”

A full list of performances and dates is included on the following pages.

Tickets for all broadcasts within the 2008/09 *Live in HD* season, including both live shows and encores, are \$22 general admission and \$18 for Film Streams Members, Opera Omaha Subscribers, and Met Opera Members.

Tickets can be purchased either online at filmstreams.org or in-person at the Ruth Sokolof Theater (14th and Webster), which opens 30 minutes prior to the first showtime each day.

For more information, please visit filmstreams.org, or contact Casey Logan at (402) 933-0259 (ext. 11) or by email at casey@filmstreams.org.

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The Metropolitan Opera 2008-09 *Live in HD* Schedule

Opening Night Gala -sold out-

Live: Monday, September 22, 2008, 5:00pm (cst)

Encore: No encore

The Met's 125th anniversary season opens September 22 with a celebratory gala starring the extraordinary Renée Fleming in three of her most acclaimed roles. Music Director James Levine and Marco Armiliato conduct fully staged performances of the second act of Verdi's *La Traviata*, the third act of Massenet's *Manon*, and the final scene from Richard Strauss's *Capriccio*. Tenor Ramón Vargas and baritones Thomas Hampson and Dwayne Croft join the soprano for this season-opener. Running time 3 hours 37 minutes / 2 intermissions.

Salome

Live: Saturday, October 11, 2008, 12pm (cst)

Encore: Wednesday, October 22, 5:30pm

Karita Mattila caused a sensation when she sang Salome at the Met for the first time in 2004. She reprises her stunning interpretation of the part, including her unforgettable Dance of the Seven Veils. With baritone Juha Uusitalo as Jochanaan. Mikko Franck conducts. Conductor Patrick Summers; Production Jürgen Flimm; Karita Mattila, Ildikó Komlósi, Kim Begley, Joseph Kaiser, Juha Uusitalo. Running time 1 hour 37 minutes / no intermission.

Doctor Atomic (Met Premiere)

Live: Saturday, November 8, 2008, 12pm (cst)

Encore: Wednesday, November 19, 5:30pm

John Adams's contemporary masterpiece explores a momentous episode of modern history: the creation of the atomic bomb. Director Penny Woolcock makes her Met debut with this gripping story that changed the course of history. Baritone Gerald Finley plays Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the title character and Sasha Cooke as his wife, Kitty, with Eric Owen and Richard Paul Fink. Conductor Alan Gilbert; Production Penny Woolcock; Sasha Cooke, Meredith Arwady, Gerald Finley, Richard Paul Fink, Eric Owens. Running time 3 hours 21 minutes / one intermission.

La Damnation de Faust (New Production)

Live: Saturday, November 22, 2008, 12pm (cst)

Encore: Wednesday, December 3, 5:30pm

Robert Lepage, one of theater's most imaginative directors, applies his artistry to Berlioz's contemplation of good and evil. Using ethereal projections, Lepage has created a vision for *La Damnation de Faust* that seamlessly marries art and technology. "The production focuses on the singers," he says. "But there's a trail of visual consequences and stagecraft that accompanies the events happening on the stage." Marcello Giordani stars in the title role opposite Susan Graham as Marguerite and John Relyea as Méphistophéles. James Levine conducts this rarely staged masterwork. Conductor James Levine; Production Robert Lepage; Susan Graham, Marcello Giordani, John Relyea. Running time 2 hours 45 minutes / one intermission.

Thaïs (New Production)

Live: Saturday, December 20, 2008, 11am (cst)

Encore: Wednesday, January 7, 5:30pm

The radiant Renée Fleming plays the Egyptian courtesan in search of spiritual sustenance. Thomas Hampson is the monk Athanaël who falls from grace. Massenet's sensual score is presented in a New Production by John Cox. Conductor Jesús López-Cobos; Production John Cox; Renée Fleming, Michale Schade, Thomas Hampson. Running time 3 hours 21 minutes / two intermissions.

La Rondine (New Production)

Live: Saturday, January 10, 2009, 12pm

Encore: Wednesday, January 21, 5:30pm

Opera's charismatic real-life duo, Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna provide the star power to deliver this ravishing romance from the world's most popular opera composer. Gheorghiu plays the kept woman who gambles on true love, and Alagna is the man who makes her question the cost of her glittering existence. Nicolas Joël directs the New Production of this gorgeously melodic look at love. Conductor Marco Armiliato; Production Nicolas Joël; Angela Gheorghiu, Lisette Oropesa, Roberto Alagna, Marius Brenciu, Samuel Ramey. Running time 2 hours 15 minutes / one intermission.

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Orfeo ed Euridice

Live: Saturday, January 24, 2009, 12pm (cst)
Encore: Wednesday, February 4, 5:30pm

Mark Morris's acclaimed production returns! This complete vision for Gluck, with choreography by Morris and costumes by Isaac Mizrahi, features the artistry of Stephanie Blythe in the title role. The alluring Danielle de Niese is Orfeo's adored wife, Euridice, who inspires the hero to face the underworld for her sake. Music Director James Levine conducts. Conductor James Levine; Production Mark Morris; Danielle de Niese, Heidi Grant Murphy/Ying Huang, Stephanie Blythe. Running time 1 hour 31 minutes/no intermission.

Lucia di Lammermoor

Live: Saturday, February 7, 2009, 12pm (cst)
Encore: Wednesday, February 18, 5:30pm

Anna Netrebko stars in the title role of Donizetti's fragile heroine. Tenor Rolando Villazón stars as Lucia's lover, Edgardo. Baritone Mariusz Kwiecien is her tyrannical brother. Mary Zimmerman's hit production is staged as a Victorian ghost story. Conductor Marco Armillato; Production Mary Zimmerman; Diana Damarau/Anna Netrebko, Piotr Beczala/Rolando Villazón, Vladimir Stoyanov/Mariusz Kwiecien, Ildar Abdrazakov. Running time 3 hours 20 minutes/two intermissions.

Madama Butterfly

Live: Saturday, March 7, 2009, 12pm (cst)
Encore: Wednesday, March 18, 5:30pm

Cristina Gallardo-Domâs, the original Butterfly of the production when it opened the 2006-07 season, returns to the title role of the late Anthony Minghella's stunning production, a new classic of the Met repertory. Marcello Giordani stars as Pinkerton. Conductor Patrick Summers; Production Anthony Minghella; Patricia Racette/ Cristina Gallardo-Domâs, Maria Zifchak, Roberto Aronica/Marcello Giordani, Dwayne Croft. Running time 3 hours 21 minutes /two intermissions.

La Sonnambula (New Production)

Live: Saturday, March 21, 2009, 12pm (cst)
Encore: Wednesday, April 1, 5:30pm

Mary Zimmerman, who directed Natalie Dessay in last season's hit New Production of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, underlines *La Sonnambula*'s dual elements of sleep and wakefulness in an intriguing staging set in the present. Bellini's hauntingly lyrical score soars as performed by Dessay and Juan Diego Flórez, back from their sensational run together in *La Fille du Régiment* in leading opera houses around the world. Conductor Evelino Pidò; Production Mary Zimmerman; Natalie Dessay, Juan Diego Flórez, Michele Pertusi. Running time 2 hours 40 minutes /one intermission.

La Cenerentola

Live: Saturday, May 9, 2009, 11:30am (cst)
Encore: Wednesday, May 20, 5:30pm

Hot on the heels of her triumphant Met debut as Rosina in last season's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, El_na Garan_a portrays another Rossini charmer in this bel canto Cinderella story. Lawrence Brownlee is her Prince Charming, Don Ramiro. Veteran baritone Alessangro Corbelli demonstrates his impeccable comic timing to match the gravitas of Met favorite John Relyea. Conductor Maurizio Benini; Production Cesare Lievi; El_na Garan_a, Lawrence Brownlee, Simone Alberghini, Alessandro Corbelli, John Relyea. Running time 3 hours/ one intermission.

More information available at www.filmstreams.org.

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