

NEW NATIONAL THEATRE, TOKYO 2019/2020 SEASON

New National Theatre, Tokyo (NNTT) announced the 2019/2020 Opera Season, second season under the Artistic Director **Kazushi ONO**, which features 44 performances of 10 works, with 4 New Productions including two NNTT Premieres.

Highlights of the 2019/2020 Season

● Expanding our Repertoire of Russian Opera, Bel Canto and Baroque Opera: “Eugene Onegin”, “Don Pasquale” and “Giulio Cesare”

The Season opens on the 1st of October with a new staging of **TCHAIKOVSKY**’s masterpiece “*Eugene Onegin*”, directed by **Dmitry BERTMAN**, the Artistic Director of Moscow’s Helikon Opera, who has introduced new life into opera with successive new interpretations. This work is a detailed portrayal of the solitude of Onegin and the love of the Tatyana, against the backdrop of four pillars in the beautiful Onegin Hall in Moscow, where Konstantin STANISLAVSKI, the forefather of Russian contemporary theatre, himself once directed *Onegin*. The talented line-up of singers includes the celebrated **Evgenia MURAVEVA** as Tatyana, **Vasily LADYUK** as Onegin and **Pavel KOLGATIN** as Lensky, while the passionate **Andriy YURKEVYCH** takes up the conductor’s baton.

Series of bel canto operas at the NNTT will start with the prized “*Don Pasquale*” by **DONIZETTI**, with a delectable feast of magnificent vocals and scenes that will have you bursting with laughter. We have handpick the finest singers for the cast which include **Danielle DE NIESE**, appearing in the role of Norina. She is praised by the New York Times as “opera’s coolest soprano” and quoted by Opera Today as “not just a superb performer but a phenomenal one”. We are truly looking forward to her NNTT debut. We also have a top line-up of male performers by her side. Italian heavyweight **Roberto SCANDIUZZI** takes the stage as the haplessly in love Don Pasquale. Russian performer **Maxim MIRONOV** appears in the role of the sincere Ernesto. Italian conductor **Corrado ROVARIS**, Music Director of the Opera Philadelphia and Artosphere Festival Orchestra, makes his NNTT debut.

NNTT has never taken on a fully-fledged Baroque opera, but we plan to perform one every other season from this Season. The first piece in this series is **HANDEL**’s “*Giulio Cesare*”, known for its musical magnificence. This tempestuous human drama features the love-struck general Cesare, Cleopatra who seeks to exert her power and seduce Cesare and yet falls in love with him, and Cornelia and her son Sesto, both burning to avenge the murder of their husband and father. It will be conducted by the master of Baroque opera, **Rinaldo ALESSANDRINI**, while **Laurent PELLY** will make his NNTT debut as director. PELLY’s production was a hit at the Paris Opera in 2011, produced with elaborate grandeur and full of wit, unfolds the story in the warehouse of an Egyptian museum. This large-scale Baroque opera at our Opera House will be one worth watching.

- **New Production of WAGNER's "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" as part of the "Summer Festival Opera 2019-20 Japan⇔Tokyo⇔World"**

Another new work this season is **Richard WAGNER's "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg"**. This is a new production by **Jens-Daniel HERZOG**, the director currently being at the centre of attention in the international opera world. The work is a co-production between the New National Theatre, Tokyo, the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan, The Salzburg Easter Festival and Semperoper.

We have an impressive line-up of singers coming to Japan for this production. Hans Sachs will be played by **Thomas Johannes MAYER**, who is bound to make an impression as a young Sachs. **Adrian ERÖD** will appear as Beckmesser, Walther will be played by the young, energetic and passionate **Tomislav MUŽEK**, while **Masako HAYASHI** will appear as his lover, Eva.

- **New Production of Children's Opera during TOKYO 2020**

When the whole world will be watching Japan in August 2020, we will present a special new production of "Children's Opera". Music composed by **Keiichiro SHIBUYA**, script by **Masahiko SHIMADA**, directed by **Eriko OGAWA**, Artistic Director of Drama of the New National Theatre Tokyo, and conducted by **Kazushi ONO**. Many children on stage will interact with **A.I. robot** and talk about the future of Japan while a robot will sing and move in harmony with the voice of the singers and the music from the orchestra.

NNTT OPERA 2019/2020 SEASON AT A GLANCE

----- 10 Productions in total including 4 New Productions -----

EUGENE ONEGIN /Pyotr TCHAIKOVSKY [New Production]

1, 3, 6, 9, 12 October 2019

Conductor: Andriy YURKEVYCH

Production: Dmitry BERTMAN

Tatyana: Evgenia MURAVEVA

Eugene (Yevgeny) Onegin: Vasily LADYUK

Vladimir Lensky: Pavel KOLGATIN

Olga: TORIKI Yayoi

Prince Gremin: Alexey TIKHOMIROV

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



Andriy YURKEVYCH



Dmitry BERTMAN

DON PASQUALE / Gaetano DONIZETTI [New Production]

9, 11, 13, 16, 17 November 2019

Conductor: Corrado ROVARIS

Production: Stefano VIZIOLI

Don Pasquale: Roberto SCANDIUZZI

Dottor Malatesta: Biagio PIZZUTI

Ernesto: Maxim MIRONOV

Norina: Danielle DE NIESE

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



©F.Parenzan / Teatro Verdi Trieste

LA TRAVIATA / Giuseppe VERDI

28 November, 1, 3, 5, 7 December 2019

Conductor: Ivan REPUŠIĆ

Production, Costume Design: Vincent BOUSSARD

Violetta Valéry: Myrtò PAPATANASIU

Alfredo Germont: Iván Ayón RIVAS

Giorgio Germont: SUDO Shingo

Flora Bervoix: KOBAYASHI Yuka

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

LA BOHEME / Giacomo PUCCINI

24, 26, 28, 31 January, 2 February 2020

Conductor: Paolo CARIGNANI

Production: AGUNI Jun

Mimi: Nino MACHAIDZE

Rodolfo: Matteo LIPPI

Marcello: Mario CASSI

Musetta: TSUJII Akiho

Schaunard: MORIGUCHI Kenji

Colline: MATSUI Hiroshi

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Symphony Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA / Gioachino ROSSINI

6, 8, 11, 14, 16 February 2020

Conductor: Antonello ALLEMANDI

Production: Josef E. KÖPPLINGER

Il Conte d'Almaviva: René BARBERA

Rosina: WAKIZONO Aya

Bartolo: Paolo BORDOGNA

Figaro: Florian SEMPEY

Don Basilio: Marco SPOTTI

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Symphony Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

COSÌ FAN TUTTE / Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART

18, 20, 22, 24 March 2020

Conductor: Paolo OLMI

Production: Damiano MICHIELETTA

Fiordiligi: Eleonora BURATTO

Dorabella: Anna GORYACHOVA

Despina: TAKAHASHI Nobuko

Ferrando: Giovanni SALA

Don Alfonso: Simone ALBERGHINI

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Symphony Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

GIULIO CESARE / Georg Friedrich HÄNDEL [New Productions]

7, 11, 12 April 2020

Conductor: Rinaldo ALESSANDRINI

Production: Laurent PELLY

Giulio Cesare: Aytaj SHIKHALIZADA

Cornelia: KANOH Etsuko

Sesto: KANEKO Mika

Cleopatra: Miah PERSSON

Tolomeo: FUJIKI Daichi

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



© Agathe Poupeney / Opera national de Paris

LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN / Jacques OFFENBACH

19, 21, 23, 25 April 2020

Conductor: Marko LETONJA

Production, Set Design and Lighting: Philippe ARLAUD

Hoffmann: Stefan POP

Nicklausse, La Muse: KOBAYASHI Yuka

Olympia: YASUI Yoko

Antonia: KINOSHITA Mihoko

Giulietta: YOKOYAMA Keiko

Lindorf, Coppélius, Miracle, Dapertutto: Kyle KETELSEN

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

SALOME / Richard STRAUSS

17, 20, 23, 26 May 2020

Conductor: Constantin TRINKS

Production: August EVERDING

Salome: Alex PENDA

Herodes: Ian STOREY

Herodes: Jennifer LARMORE

Johanaan: Tómas TÓMASSON

Naraboth: SUZUKI Jun

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra



© Masahiko Terashi / New National Theatre, Tokyo

Summer Festival Opera 2019-20 Japan⇄Tokyo⇄World

DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG/ Richard WAGNER [[New Production](#)]

21, 24, 27, 30 June 2020

Conductor: ONO Kazushi

Production: Jens-Daniel HERZOG

Hans Sachs: Thomas Johannes MAYER

Veit Pogner: Bjarni Thor KRISTINSSON

Sixtus Beckmesser: Adrian ERÖD

Walther von Stolzing: Tomislav MUŽEK

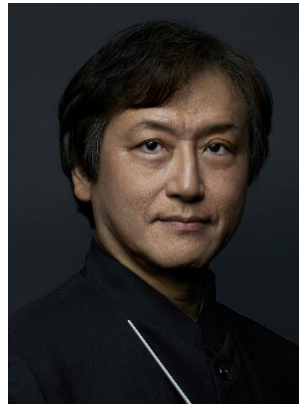
David: MOCHIZUKI Tetsuya

Eva: HAYASHI Masako

Chorus: New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra: Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra

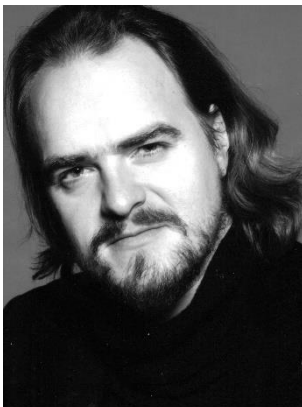
Co-Production with Salzburg Easter Festival, Semperoper Dresden and Tokyo Bunka Kaikan



ONO Kazushi



Jens-Daniel HERZOG



Thomas Johannes MAYER



Bjarni Thor KRISTINSSON



Adrian ERÖD



Tomislav MUŽEK

KAZUSHI ONO, Artistic Director of Opera

Kazushi ONO graduated from Tokyo University of the Arts. He was formerly Music Director of the **Zagreb Philharmonic Orchestra** (1990-1996) and General Music Director of **Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe** (1996-2002) before he succeeded Antonio Pappano as Music Director of **Theatre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels** where he enjoyed six highly successful seasons (2002-2008). He then served as Principal Conductor of **Opéra National de Lyon** (2008-2017), during which time he was also Principal Guest Conductor of **Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini**. He is currently Music Director for the **Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra** and the **Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya**.



He made his opera debut in 2007 at **La Scala in Milan** (“Macbeth”). Since then, he has made a number of appearances at the **Metropolitan Opera in New York** (“Der fliegende Hollaender”), the **Opéra National de Paris** (“Kol Roger”), the **Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich** (“Der fliegende Hollaender” and “Haensel und Gretel”), the **Deutsche Staatsoper in Berlin** (“Elektra”), the **Glyndebourne Festival Opera** (“L’heure espagnole”, “L’enfant et les sortilèges” and “Haensel und Gretel”), and the **Festival d’Aix-en-Provence** (“Le Rossignol”). In September 2016, he took up the role of Artistic Consultant for Opera at the **New National Theatre Tokyo**, and in September 2018 he assumed office as the theatre’s **Artistic Director of Opera**.

Awards

- 1987 Arturo Toscanini International Competition for Conductors
- 1989 Muramatsu Award
- 1993 Akio Watanabe Music Foundation Award /
Encouragement Prize for New Artists by Minister of Education Award for Fine Arts
- 1997 Hideo Saito Memorial Fund Award / Idemitsu Music Award
- 2006 Prix de la critique and European Grand Prize for Opera (Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie)
- 2007 Minister of Education Award for Fine Arts
- 2008 Medal with Purple Ribbon from the Japanese government
- 2009 Prix de la critique, Prix de Claude Rostand for “Le Joueur”, “Lulu”, “Mort à Venise”
(l’Opéra National de Lyon) / Exxon Mobil Music Award
- 2010 The Imperial Prize, the Japan Arts Academy Prize / Suntory Music Award
- 2011 Prix de la critique, Prix de Claude Rostand for “Le Rossignol et autres fables” (l’Opéra National de Lyon)

- 2012 Grammy Award for “Diva Divo” (Joyce DiDonato with Orchestre de l’Opera National de Lyon)
- 2014 Gramophone’s Opera Award for “L’heure espagnole” and “L’enfant et les sortilèges” (Glyndebourne Festival)
- 2016 Asahi Prize for his contribution to Japanese society
- 2017 Prix de la critique, Prix de Claude Rostand, “L’ange de Feu” (l’Opéra National de Lyon) / Officier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government / Special Medal by the City of Lyon

ABOUT THE NEW NATIONAL THEATRE, TOKYO

The New National Theatre, Tokyo (NNTT) is Japan's only national theatre dedicated to the performing arts of **Opera, Ballet, Dance and Drama**. Since we opened in 1997, the NNTT has presented world-class performances not only at our theatre in Tokyo but also at many regional theatres, and has come to occupy a familiar and much-loved place in the nation's cultural life.



Opera House

The NNTT comprises the **Opera House** (1814 seats; known as Opera Palace), **Playhouse** (1038 seats) and **The Pit** (open space theatre with flexible seating arrangements up to 468 seats), each of which uniquely contributes to an annual total of about 300 stage performances to the delight of approx. 200,000 theatregoers, including many visitors from overseas. The theatre is constantly active in staging productions, by itself or in collaboration with other theatres throughout Japan and overseas.

New National Theatre Chorus and **The National Ballet of Japan** are the two resident companies of the NNTT. NNT Chorus inaugurated since the 1998/1999 Season performs in most of the opera productions produced by NNTT. Their activities go beyond operatic performances while they also appear at other concert halls and music festivals and performs in concerts with symphony orchestra.

As Japan's foremost national opera house, New National Theatre Tokyo strives to create, promote and disseminate performing arts of the highest achievement to the public, in a way that inspires and engage with people on the emotional level. In doing so, we strive to be a full and enriching presence, and to this end we look to your support and partnership.