



2010/2011season
OPERA



新国立劇場

NEW
NATIONAL
THEATRE
TOKYO

2010.1

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Artistic Consultant (Opera),
and scheduled to be the next Artistic
Director of the opera division

Otaka Tadaaki

Hatanaka Ryosuke. Igarashi Kiyoshi. Thomas Novohradsky. Wakasugi Hiroshi.

The achievements of these distinguished former directors have helped the New National Theatre, Tokyo establish an impressive legacy. As I prepare to take on this important role for the 2010/2011 season, I am both humbled and honored at the thought of the expectations invested in me. I hope to see the theatre build on its past achievements as we forge ahead to even greater heights.

The NNTT must concentrate on greater breadth, greater depth, and fun.

By greater breadth, I mean that I hope the theatre will welcome through its doors people from an even wider segment of the population; and second, that the theatre will produce works that cover an even broader spectrum.

Greater depth. It is important that we delve more deeply to get at the essence of the works we produce, and work toward fostering a deeper bond with the Japanese people today.

"Fun" is just that. The NNTT experience should be an enjoyable one for all who come through its doors, from the patrons, to the singers, choral groups, orchestra members, directors, conductors, and all staff members involved.

The season opener will be *Arabella*, a magnificent story set in Vienna, a city I love. With costuming by Mori Hanae and other great things in store, I am excited already.

This season the NNTT is also proud to welcome four of the most exciting conductors active today: Kazushi Ono, Hirokami Jun'ichi, Takasaki Ken, and Christian Arming. We can count on these outstanding conductors to deliver some novel and invigorating performances under their batons.

I look forward to seeing you all at the theatre, where I know you are in for an immensely enjoyable experience.

〈Profile〉

Otaka Tadaaki was born in 1947 in Kamakura, Japan. He studied at Toho Gakuen School of Music under the famous professor Saito Hideo, who taught such distinguished conductors as Ozawa Seiji and Wakasugi Hiroshi before continuing his studies in Vienna with Professor Hans Swarowsky and Professor Spannagel.

One of Japan's leading conductors, Otaka Tadaaki made his professional broadcasting debut in 1971 with the NHK Symphony Orchestra and for 20 years served as Permanent Conductor of the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra (currently Conductor Laureate), with which he toured extensively in Asia and Europe, being made the orchestra's Conductor Laureate in 1991.

In addition, he was Chief Conductor of the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra (1981 to 1986) and became their Music Advisor and Principal Conductor in May 1998. He led their UK tour as part of 'Japan 2001' and Korea tour in 2005 successfully. Following his tenure with the Tokyo Philharmonic, Mr Otaka was made Permanent Conductor of the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra from 1992 to 1998 (currently Honorary Guest Conductor) and his symphonic and operatic recordings with the orchestra brought much critical acclaim, as did their European tour.

Now a popular and familiar figure on podiums throughout the world, he is particularly known in the UK, where he is invited as Guest Conductor to the London Symphony, London Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, City of Birmingham Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National, Hallé, Bournemouth Symphony, Ulster Orchestra and English Chamber Orchestra. In 1987, Mr Otaka became Principal Conductor of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales (formerly the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra) and made his Prom debut with them the following year. To quote London's Sunday Times: "In his eight years with the orchestra Otaka had worked wonders in Wales." His many appearances in UK and overseas include BBC NOW tours to European countries, Russia, and the Orchestra's first-ever Japanese and North American visits. Outside the UK, recent seasons have seen invitations to the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Bamberg Philharmonic, Strasbourg Philharmonic, Warsaw Philharmonic, Bergen Philharmonic, Oslo Philharmonic, Netherlands Philharmonic, Hong Kong Philharmonic and others.

Mr Otaka is the first ever Music Adviser and Principal Conductor of the Kioi Sinfonietta, one of Japan's finest ensembles, (currently Honorary Conductor Laureate) and after leading them on their first overseas tour of Europe in 2000, became their Honorary Conductor Laureate in September 2003.

In the field of opera production, he has recently received high acclaim for his direction of Britten's *Peter Grimes* with Sapporo Symphony Orchestra in September 2008. Other productions of his include Beethoven's *Fidelio*, J.Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus*, Puccini's *La Tosca*, Wagner's *Tannhaeuser* with Tokyo Nikikai Opera Foundation; Bizet's *Carmen*, Weber's *Der Freischuetz* with Kansai Nikikai Opera Foundation; Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* with Min-on Opera Foundation; R.Strauss's *Salome* with Wales National Opera; and Britten's *Peter Grimes* with Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra.

Mr Otaka's wide-ranging activities include premieres of works by such distinguished composers as Matsumura Teizo, Takemitsu Toru and Miyoshi Akira, many much-praised recordings with BBC NOW by Nimbus, BIS, Chandos and Camerata Tokyo, and his dedication to nurturing future talent led to involvement with the National Youth Orchestra of Britain and the Britten-Pears Orchestra of which he was Director for three years.

In 1991, Otaka Tadaaki received the prestigious Suntory Music Award, given each year to the most impressive Japanese ensemble or individual musician. In 1993, the Welsh College of Music and Drama conferred an Honorary Fellowship on Otaka Tadaaki, and he also holds an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Wales. In 1997, he was awarded the CBE, in recognition of his outstanding contribution over many years to British musical life. He is also the first Japanese ever to receive the Elgar Medal in 1999, for his continuous efforts at spreading the works by Elgar outside the UK.

Mr Otaka has been Professor of Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music and a Visiting Professor at Soai University.

■Term as Artistic Director (scheduled): 9/1/2010 – 8/31/2013

2010/2011season OPERA Lineup

〈New Production 4 / Repertory 6 Total 10 programmes 50 performances〉

2010.10

Arabella New production

Richard Strauss
6 performances

2010.10

Le Nozze di Figaro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
4 performances

2010.11

Andrea Chénier

Umberto Giordano
5 performances

2010.12-2011.1

Tristan und Isolde New production

Richard Wagner
5 performances

2011.2

YUZURU

Dan Ikuma
3 performances

2011.2

La Traviata

Giuseppe Verdi
5 performances

2011.3

Manon Lescaut New production

Giacomo Puccini
6 performances

2011.4

Der Rosenkavalier

Richard Strauss
6 performances

2011.5-6

Così fan tutte New production

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
5 performances

2011.6

Madama Butterfly

Giacomo Puccini
5 performances

Arabella

2010.10/2 - 17

OPERA PALACE | 6 performances | Opera in 3 Acts (Sung in German with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Ulf Schirmer

Production, Scenery, Lighting Design : Philippe Arlaud

Costume Design : Mori Hanae

Graf Waldner : Tsumaya Hidekazu

Adelaide : Takemoto Setsuko

Arabella : Michaela Kaune

Zdenka : Agnete Munk Rasmussen

Mandryka : Thomas Johannes Mayer

Matteo : Oliver Ringelhahn

Graf Elemer : Mochizuki Tetsuya

Graf Dominik : Hagiwara Jun

Graf Lamoral : Hatsukano Takeshi

Die Fiaker-Milli : Amou Akie

Eine Kartenaufschlägerin : Yoda Asako

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

As the NNTT starts the season with a new Artistic Director, the curtain opens with a production of Arabella by Richard Strauss. Strauss was a celebrated conductor as well as the composer of many wonderful operas. His *Der Rosenkavalier* and *Salome* are perhaps better known, but the magnificence of *Arabella* lies in the way the feelings of the characters are deftly portrayed in music. This is true of both the leads and the minor characters. A love story set in Vienna, *Arabella* is a work that demands transcendent musicianship; the singers must have both excellent acting and vocal technique. The orchestra must also be at the top of its game.

In Vienna, the mention of *Arabella* is sure to elicit smiles. We believe it is destined to become a favorite of NNTT patrons as well.

SYNOPSIS

19th century Vienna. Count Waldner, a retired cavalry officer, lives a life of extravagance well beyond his means and has a penchant for gambling. He is nearly broke, and won't be able to afford the cost of the formal social debut of his two beautiful teenage daughters – Arabella and her younger sister Zdenka. The Waldners's odd solution is to dress Zdenka in boy's clothes and call her by a boy's name: Zdenko. Arabella is a graceful young woman with no shortage of suitors. None, however, meet the criteria of Arabella's parents, who hope to marry her off to a rich man so they can escape their financial plight. Matteo, a young officer, is in love with Arabella, but she feels nothing for him. Zdenka in fact likes Matteo, but she tries to play cupid for Matteo and her sister. Mandryka, a wealthy landowner, arrives on the scene with a hefty dowry and offers to marry Arabella. Arabella falls for Mandryka instantly. He proposes to her at a ball on the last night of a carnival. Matteo sees that the two are in love and loses hope. Hoping to console Matteo, Zdenka gives him the key to her room, but tells him it is the key to Arabella's. As fate would have it, Mandryka overhears their conversation. He grows suspicious of Arabella, and everything is thrown into chaos. Zdenka eventually confesses that it was all her doing. The misunderstandings are cleared up and the secrets explained, as the opera ends happily with weddings planned between Zdenka and Matteo, and between Arabella and Mandryka.

Le Nozze di Figaro

2010.10/10 - 19

OPERA PALACE | 4 performances | Opera in 4 Acts (Sung in Italy with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Michael Güttler

Production : Andreas Homoki

Scenery Design : Frank Philipp Schlössmann

Costume Design : Mechthild Seipel

Lighting Design : Franck Evin

Il Conte Almaviva : Lorenzo Regazzo

La Contessa : Myrtò Papatnasiu

Figaro : Alexander Vinogradov

Susanna : Elena Gorshunova

Cherubino : Michaela Selinger

Marcellina : Moriyama Kyoko

Bartolo : Sato Yasuhiro

Basilio : Ono Mitsuhiro

Don Curzio : Kamoshita Minoru

Antonio : Shimura Fumihiko

Barbarina : Kushima Kanae

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

No discussion of opera would be complete without mention of the wunderkind, Mozart, and his best works. This production premiered in 2003 as the first under new Artistic Director Thomas Novohradsky. The singers were clad in monotone costumes on a pure white stage strewn with cardboard boxes. The concept behind Andreas Homoki's production was the collapse of order, and it focuses on the universal problems of mankind, as opposed to the specific historical relationships within the work as had Mozart. As the drama unfolds, this ahistorical stage space is gradually broken down, the singers lose the costuming that would indicate differences in social status, and a pure humanity stripped of societal conventions is vividly portrayed. This highly polished ensemble production places a strong emphasis on nuanced acting and caused quite a buzz, as the work was recognized as one that not only opera fans but also theater fans could enjoy.

SYNOPSIS

A former barber and now a servant of Count Almaviva, Figaro is going to marry Susanna, a servant of the Countess. Although the Count has already given up the right of the first night (the lord's right to share the first marriage night with his servant's bride in place of the servant), the Count, who fancies Susanna, intends to reclaim the right. The Countess laments that her husband's love for her is cooling. Therefore, the Countess, Figaro and Susanna all conspire to outwit the Count. They use Susanna's clothes to disguise Cherubino, a page at puberty, as a woman and try to lure out the Count...



Andrea Chénier

2010.11/12 - 24

OPERA PALACE | 5 performances | Opera in 4 Acts (Sung in Italy with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Frédéric Chaslin

Production, Scenery, Lighting Design : Philippe Arlaud

Costume Design : Andrea Uhmman

Andrea Chénier : Mikhail Agafonov

Maddalena di Coigny : Norma Fantini

Carlo Gérard : Alberto Gazale

Roucher : Narita Hiroyuki

Un Incredible : Takahashi Jun

La Contessa di Coigny : Moriyama Kyoko

Bersi : Yamashita Makiko

Madelon : Takemoto Setsuko

Mathieu : Okubo Makoto

Fléville : Hagiwara Jun

L'Abate : Kamoshita Minoru

Fouquier Tinville : Kobayashi Yoshiki

Il Maestro di Casa/Schmidt : Osawa Ken

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

Andrea Chénier is one of the best known Verismo operas by Italian opera composer Umberto Giordano, yet is very rarely performed. Its NNTT premiere in December 2005 marked just the third time the opera had been produced in Japan. The production design is by the Paris-born and bred Philippe Arlaud. In Arlaud's production, the viewer sees onstage the presence of the multitude of people who lost their lives amid the tumult, as the story is advanced by the loves fostered in the hearts of the characters. Each act is punctuated by the guillotine, and the stage art takes visual cues from iconic paintings of the times. For the first act, it is the work of Fragonard from the Rococo period; for the second act, Liberty Leading the People by Delacroix; for the third, the dark, weighty work of Goya; and for the fourth, the work of Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich. The opera challenges us living in the present to consider whether the chain of history, one in which violence begets violence, can be broken. French-born conductor Frederic Chaslin will bring his fluid style to the score, making this a musical experience worth the wait.

SYNOPSIS

The setting is the suburbs of Paris in 1789. At a soirée in Count Coigny's house, Maddalena, the daughter of the count, is impressed by a poem written by the poet Chénier, which celebrates the nobility of love and his patriotic sentiments. Meanwhile, Gérard, the count's servant, who is in love with Maddalena, is also moved by Chénier's poem and leaves the count's house in a fit of dissatisfaction with class society. Five years later, Gérard is a high-ranking official with the revolutionary government. Maddalena is now ruined while Chénier, critical of the revolutionary government, is chased by a secret agent. Slipping through police surveillance, the two meet again and confirm their love, but Gérard, who is looking for Maddalena, arrests Chénier, bring him to trial. Maddalena begs Gérard for Chénier's life. Ashamed of his love for Chénier's lover, Gérard swings over to the defense of Chénier, but despite his efforts, the poet is sentenced to death. On behalf of a condemned female convict, Maddalena steals into the prison where Chénier is incarcerated. They are taken to the guillotine while vowing eternal love...



Tristan und Isolde

2010.12/25 - 2011.1/10

OPERA PALACE | 5 performances | Opera in 3 Acts (Sung in German with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Ono Kazushi

Production : David McVicar

Scenery and Costume Design : Robert Jones

Lighting Design : Paule Constable

Choreograph : Andrew George

Tristan : Stephen Gould

König Marke : Guido Jentjens

Isolde : Iréne Theorin

Kurwenal : Jukka Rasilainen

Melot : Hoshino Jun

Brangäne : Elena Zhidkova

Ein Hirt : Mochizuki Tetsuya

Ein Steuermann : Narita Hiroyuki

Stimme eines jungen Seemanns : Yoshida Hiroyuki

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

Artistic Director Otaka Tadaaki (2010/2011 season) is particularly fond of the late German romantics. This opera, from Wagner's mature period, is hailed as his greatest work. In opera, the singers often express the joys and tragedies of love in its many forms, but few works portray such consuming love and anguish. In *Tristan und Isolde*, one can feel the power of Wagner in one's whole body. Conductor Kazushi Ono makes his return to the NNTT after a 12 year absence, and he lead possibly the finest cast of Wagnerian singers available today. Popular Scottish director David McVicar will make his first appearance at the NNTT. His production, stylish and at times shocking, brings out something new and exciting in the works he takes on.

SYNOPSIS

The middle ages of legend. Isolde, an Irish princess, is to be married to Marke, King of Cornwall, in a strategic union. She is quartered aboard the ship of Tristan, the king's nephew. Tristan is the foe of Isolde's previous fiancé, yet she is secretly drawn to him. On the ship, she plans a double suicide with Tristan by poison. But her handmaid, Brangäne, has switched the poison for a love potion, and the two young people fall instantly and passionately in love. Isolde becomes the wife of King Marke, but her meetings with Tristan continue. Brangäne's warnings fall on deaf ears, and one day the king catches the two during a rendezvous. Tristan is mortally wounded by the sword of Morholt, the king's vassal. Tristan's henchman Kurwenal takes him back to his castle to wait for Isolde. Isolde arrives, but her beloved Tristan expires in her arms. The king has learned of the love potion and goes with his entourage intent on forgiving the two, but he arrives to find their lifeless bodies.

YUZURU

2011.2/4 - 6

OPERA PALACE | 3 performances | Opera in 1 Acts (Sung in Japanese)

Conductor : Takaseki Ken

Production : Kuriyama Tamiya

Scenery Design : Horio Yukio

Costume Design : Ueda Itsuko

Lighting Design : Katsushiba Jiro

Tsu : Kamahora Yuko / Koshigoe Mami

Yohyo : Idane Yasuhiko / Ohara Keirou

Unzu : Kudo Hiroshi / Tani Tomohiro

Sodo : Mine Shigeki / Shimamura Takeo



Orchestra : Tokyo Symphony Orchestra

Under new Artistic Director Otaka Tadaaki, we continue the NNTT tradition of presenting great operas by Japanese composers in the Opera House theatre each season. Yuzuru is an enduring classic of Japanese opera, and has been performed over 650 times. In 2000, it was the first production directed by former Artistic Director (Drama) Kuriyama Tamiya, who took this tale from the world of folklore and transformed it into a human drama with universal themes. The director's stated goal was to create "infinitely beautiful and transparent stage art." Taking inspiration from Noh, the stage was set up as a simple, large space. It represents the sky – true home of the character Tsu – and is the theme of the staging. Yuzuru will be conducted by Takaseki Ken, a maestro known for his intensive study of musical scores. Don't miss this opportunity to hear beautiful Japanese language sung in all its glory.

SYNOPSIS

A snowy village in ancient times. One day, Yohyo saves an injured heron. Out of gratitude for his kindness, the heron starts to live with Yohyo as his wife, Tsu, and gives him cloth, called Sembaori (cloth of thousand cranes), which is woven from her own feathers. Told by Unzu and Sodo that if he brings the cloth to the town and sells it there, he would be able to earn a huge sum of money, Yohyo urges Tsu to weave more cloth. Tsu becomes disappointed with Yohyo, who is obsessed with money, but she decides to weave more cloth in the belief that she would be able to regain Yohyo's heart if he gets more Sembaori cloth. Yohyo has been asked by Tsu never to look in on her while she is weaving cloth, but unable to restrain himself, he peeps into the room to see Tsu in the form of a heron weaving cloth. On the following day, Tsu, who has become very thin, gives Yohyo the Sembaori cloth, says farewell to him, and flies into the sky.

La Traviata

2011.2/14 - 26

OPERA PALACE | 5 performances | Opera in 3 Acts (Sung in Italy with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Hirokami Junichi

Production : Luca Ronconi

Set Design : Margherita Palli

Costume Design : Carlo Maria Diappi

Lighting Design : Sergio Rossi

Violetta Valéry : Patrizia Ciofi

Alfredo Germont : Woo-Kyung Kim

Giorgio Germont : Lucio Gallo

Flora Bervoix : Ono Wakako

Visconte Gastone : Higuchi Tatsuya

Barone Douphol : Kobayashi Yoshiki

Marchese D'Obigny : Higashihara Sadahiko

Dottor Grenvil : Shikano Yoshiyuki

Annina : Watanabe Atsuko

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Symphony Orchestra

La Traviata is considered by many to be a starting point for savoring the true pleasure of opera.

This production premiered as the opening production of the 2002/2003 season. Luca Ronconi, one of Italy's leading opera directors, has created a beautiful and cerebral production. He has made a reputation for presenting meticulous emotional portraits, and this work shows a consistent fluidity, expressed through the actions of the characters and quality of continuity. For scene changes, the equipment onstage slides to shift from scenes of high society to the isolation of Violetta's bedroom. The way the feelings of the characters shift with the passage of time is masterfully portrayed. This production will mark the NNTT debut for Patrizia Ciofi, known for her strong performances as Violetta, and Wookyung Kim (as Alfredo), an Asian singer who is making his mark on the world stage. Conducting will be Hirokami Jun'ichi, one of the leading conductors of his generation, also in his first appearance at the NNTT. This collection of Japanese and international talent will deliver an exquisite musical experience.

SYNOPSIS

Violetta, a courtesan in Paris, opens her heart to Alfredo, a son of a wealthy man, though she is hesitant to accept his sincere courtship. They begin to enjoy each other's company living together in the suburbs of the city. One day during Alfredo's absence, his father Germont calls on Violetta to ask her to give up his son so that marriage arrangements for his daughter will proceed smoothly. Violetta decides to abandon her love and leaves Alfredo. After her return to Paris, Alfredo appears in front of her and accuses her of her betrayal in the presence of other people. Time passes, but it is too late when all misunderstandings have come to light. Sick in bed, Violetta dies as she is embraced by the love of Alfredo, who asks for her pardon.



Manon Lescaut

2011.3/15 - 30

OPERA PALACE | 6 performances | Opera in 4 Acts (Sung in Italy with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Riccardo Frizza

Production : Gilbert Deflo

Manon Lescaut : Svetla Vassileva

Des Grieux : Gustavo Porta

Lescaut : Dalibor Jenis

Geronte : Tsumaya Hidekazu

Edmondo : Mochizuki Tetsuya

L'oste : Osawa Ken

Il maestro di ballo : Hayama Kosei

Un musico : Ikeda Kaori

Sergente degli arcieri : Otsuka Hiroaki

Un lampionaio : Matsuura Ken

Un comandante di marina : Sudo Shingo

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Symphony Orchestra

Along with the works of the master of Italian opera, Verdi, the works of Puccini are an essential part of the repertory. In Japan, Tosca, Madama Butterfly and La Boheme are the Puccini operas most often performed. But it was Manon Lescaut, his third opera, that marked his breakthrough as an opera composer. Manon Lescaut contains luscious intermezzos and lovely, enchanting music throughout all acts. In it, one can sense the artistry that continued to manifest in the trilogy that came next (Il tabarro (The Cloak), Suor Angelica (Sister Angelica), and Gianni Schicchi). In opera, love comes in many forms; Manon's unrestrained notions regarding love differ from those of the characters of Arabella or Isolde, or of La Traviata's Violetta. We invite you to revel in the different faces of love that each opera reveals.

SYNOPSIS

18th century. In a square opposite an inn in Amiens, near Paris, the student Edmondo and his young friends are drinking and singing lusty songs of youth. The Chevalier des Grieux pays them no heed, but is smitten at the sight of the beautiful Manon as she alights from her carriage. At his urging, she agrees to meet him again that night. But Manon, voluptuous and wanton in matters of love, wants to change her ways and so is on her way to join a convent, accompanied there by her brother Lescaut. Riding with them is the lascivious old treasurer-general Geronte, who wants Manon for himself and plans to abduct her. Des Grieux learns of the plot and tells Manon. He persuades her to elope, and with the help of Edmondo and his friends, the two head for Paris.

In Paris, Manon becomes fed up with her life of poverty with Des Grieux. She becomes Geronte's mistress, but faced with the emptiness of a life of luxury without love, she starts to miss Des Grieux. Des Grieux pays Manon a secret visit, and just as they are renewing their vows of love, Geronte appears. He is mad with jealousy and loss of face. He reports her to the police for adultery and theft, and has her arrested.

Manon is sentenced to deportation, and is held in a makeshift jail at the port in Le Havre. Des Grieux and Lescaut try in vain to free Manon, but in the end she is put aboard a ship bound for a distant land. Des Grieux cannot bear the thought of losing Manon forever, and he pleads with the ship's commanding officer to let him accompany her in exile.

Once in the French colony of New Orleans, Manon and Des Grieux again run into trouble, and escape from their pursuers into the wilderness. Weakened by hunger and thirst, Manon finally collapses. She realizes the end is near. Des Grieux can do nothing, as she pledges her eternal love and dies in his arms.

Der Rosenkavalier

2011.4/7 - 22

OPERA PALACE | 6 performances | Opera in 3 Acts (Sung in German with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Christian Arming

Production : Jonathan Miller

Scenery and Costume Design : Isabella Bywater

Lighting Design : Isono Mutsumi

Die Feldmarschallin : Camilla Nylund

Der Baron Ochs auf Lerchenau : Franz Hawlata

Octavian : Daniela Sindram

Herr von Faninal : Peter Edelmann

Sophie : Anja-Nina Bahrmann

Marianne : TBA

Valzacchi : Takahashi Jun

Annina : Kano Etsuko

Ein Polizeikommissar : Hasegawa Akira

Der Haushofmeister bei der Feldemarschallin : Onuki Iwao

Der Haushofmeister bei Faninal : Idane Yasuhiko

Ein Notar : Hare Masahiko

Ein Wirt : Kamoshita Minoru

Ein Sänger : Mizuguchi Satoshi

Eine Modistin : Kunimitsu Tomoko

Ein Tierhändler : Tsuchizaki Joe

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra



Artistic Director Otaka Tadaaki (2010/2011 season) has a special fondness for the late German romantics. This production from 2007 is by the great British opera director, Jonathan Miller. Whereas the historical backdrop of the original version is that of 18th century Vienna at the height of aristocratic culture, this one is set in 1912. What the two versions have in common is that in both, the opera's characters – and the composer and the librettist – live in a time in which dark clouds gather overhead, as their societies brace for war. The field marshal's wife is a sagacious woman. She sings of how she wants to stop the clock. She sings of her resignation toward breaking up with her young lover, and the relentless march of time as we age, but she also senses the way that the world on the whole is changing. For this production, Viennese conductor Christian Arming will conduct the New Japan Philharmonic. Arming has made great achievements as musical director with the New Japan Philharmonic, and this will be the NNTT debut for both conductor and orchestra. The production will also mark the return of soprano Camilla Nylund to the NNTT. In her NNTT debut, Nylund brought a combination of dignity and gravity to her performance as the field marshal's wife. She leads a formidable cast of singers that is sure to make this a very special production.

SYNOPSIS

The Marschallin (field marshal's wife) is dallying with her lover, the young count Octavian, while the field marshal is away. It comes about that Octavian is asked to deliver a silver rose to the Sophie, the fiancée of Baron Ochs (the Marschallin's cousin) as a token of the Baron's engagement-but the young couple fall in love at first sight. Ochs challenges Octavian to a duel, but ends up making an immense fuss when he is barely scratched; meanwhile, he is duped by a phony love letter delivered to him by Octavian in women's clothing, and in the end his engagement to Sophie is broken off. The Marschallin sees the love of the young couple and as she makes her exit, gives them her blessing.

Così fan tutte

2011.5/29 - 6/11

OPERA PALACE | 5 performances | Opera in 2 Acts (Sung in Italy with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Paolo Carignani

Production : Damiano Michieletto

Scenery and Costume Design : Paolo Fantin

Fiordiligi : Anna Samuil

Dorabella : Daniela Pini

Despina : Elena Tsalagova

Ferrando : Dmitry Korchak

Guglielmo : Adrian Eröd

Don Alfonso : Roman Trekel

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

Subtitled "The School for Lovers", this opera was created as something of an allegory with the moral that one must not forget reason in matters of love, because those too freely guided by their passions may get hurt. This beautiful ensemble opera demands that all six soloists be able to perform in ensemble at the same high level. Conductor Paolo Carignani is without peer when it comes to ensemble pieces, and his work with the Vienna Philharmonic has earned the highest praise. Director Damiano Michieletto is among the top young talents today, and anticipation is high to see how he utilizes the fine cast of singers assembled for this new production at the NNTT.

SYNOPSIS

The officers Guglielmo and Ferrando are engaged to the beautiful sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella, respectively. Persuaded by the wise old philosopher Don Alfonso, the two officers decide to test the fidelity of their sweethearts. They pretend that they have been ordered away by their regiment and bid the sisters a false farewell. Later, disguised as Albanians, the two men court Fiordiligi and Dorabella passionately. The two girls weaken little by little to the Albanians' various advances. First, Dorabella yields to her sister's fiancé Guglielmo, and finally, Fiordiligi also succumbs to Ferrando after much resistance. When a double wedding for the two new couples is being arranged, a military march suddenly signals the return of the army.

Madama Butterfly

2011.6/6 - 18

OPERA PALACE | 5 performances | Opera in 2 Acts (Sung in Japanese with Japanese Supertitles)

Conductor : Yves Abel

Production : Kuriyama Tamiya

Scenery Design : Shima Jiro

Costume Design : Maeda Ayako

Lighting Design : Katsushiba Jiro

Madama Butterfly : Kristine Opolais

Pinkerton : Zoran Todorovich

Sharpless : Kai Eijiro

Suzuki : Obayashi Tomoko

Goro : Takahashi Jun

Lo zio Bonzo : Shimamura Takeo

Il principe Yamadori : Matsumoto Susumu

Kate Pinkerton : Yamashita Makiko

Chorus : New National Theatre Chorus

Orchestra : Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra

Since its premiere in 2005, this production of the popular Puccini opera has moved audiences during each of its subsequent runs. Madama Butterfly has been interpreted by directors all over the world. This version was the second production directed by Kuriyama Tamiya with the NNT Opera; the first was Yuzuru. In Kuriyama's creation, the world of Cio-Cio San, a woman who hangs onto love even as she goes to her death, is a space backdropped by an American flag fluttering at the rear of the stage. The subservient relationship of East to West depicted in the original version is no different from that seen today. In Madama Butterfly, we have a dramatic tale infused with the exquisite music of Puccini, the master of Italian opera. The title role is known as a "soprano killer", as the character appears in nearly every scene. Cio-Cio San will be sung by Kristine Opolais, making her NNTT debut. Ms. Opolais has been charming audiences with her beauty, her dramatic expressiveness and her impeccable vocal technique.

SYNOPSIS

The setting is Nagasaki in the Meiji Era. The U.S. naval officer Pinkerton buys the freedom of 15-year-old Cio-Cio-San in Nagasaki, where his ship docked, and marries her without giving it too much thought. Pinkerton soon departs for America. Despite his long silence, Cio-Cio-San waits for her husband's return in the belief that "one fine day he will come back" and turns down a new proposal of marriage. Finally Pinkerton's ship calls at Nagasaki again. But he is accompanied by his wife Kate. Having seen an unfamiliar American woman and learned the whole truth, Cio-Cio-San kills herself with a dagger left by her father.



OPERA

Performance list

Opening Series~2009/2010season

■ = repertory

Season	Production	Music	Conductor	Production	First day
Opening Series	TAKERU	Dan Ikuma	Hoshide Yutaka	Nishizawa Keiichi	97.10/10
	Lohengrin	R.Wagner	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Wolfgang Wagner	97.11/22
	Aida	G.Verdi	Garcia Navarro	Franco Zeffirelli	98.1/15
1998/ 1999	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Kikuchi Yoshinori	Kuriyama Masayoshi	98.4/8
	Die Zauberflöte	W.A.Mozart	Ono Kazushi	Michael Hampe	98.5/6
	Nabucco	G.Verdi	Anton Guadagno	Antonello Madau Diaz	98.6/18
	Arabella	R.Strauss	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Suzuki Keisuke	98.9/19
	Il Barbiere di Siviglia	G.Rossini	Maurizio Benini	Pierfrancesco Maestrini	98.10/9
	Hänsel und Gretel	E.Humperdinck	Sato Kotaro	Nishizawa Keiichi	98.11/27
	Carmen	G.Bizet	Gustav Kuhn	Gustav Kuhn	99.1/19
	The Tale of Himeji Castle	Mizuno Syuko	Hoshide Yutaka	Kuriyama Masayoshi	99.2/13
	Die Fledermaus	Johann Strauss II	Kitahara Yukio	Terasaki Hironori	99.4/21
	Crime and Punishment	Hara Kazuko	Toyama Yuzo	Kato Tadashi	99.6/18
1999/ 2000	Un ballo in maschera	G.Verdi	Paolo Olmi	Alberto Fassini	99.9/21
	Manon Lescaut	G.Puccini	Kikuchi Yoshinori	Pierfrancesco Maestrini	99.11/6
	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Vjekoslav Šutej	Kuriyama Masayoshi	99.12/18
	Don Giovanni	W.A.Mozart	Asher Fisch	Roberto De Simone	00.1/16
	Il Barbiere di Siviglia	G.Rossini	Antonio Pirolli	Aguni Jun / Pierfrancesco Maestrini	00.2/20
	Silence	Matsumura Teizo	Hoshide Yutaka	Nakamura Keiichi	00.3/16
	Salome	R.Strauss	Wakasugi Hiroshi	August Everding	00.4/11
	Don Quichotte	J.E.F.Massenet	Alain Guingal	Piero Faggioni	00.5/7
	Rigoletto	G.Verdi	Renato Palumbo	Alberto Fassini	00.6/11
2000/ 2001	Tosca	G.Puccini	Marcello Viotti	Antonello Madau Diaz	00.9/21
	Die Zauberflöte	W.A.Mozart	Daisuke Muranaka	Michael Hampe	00.10/10
	Eugene Onegin	P.Tcaikovsky	Stefano Ranzani	Boris Pokrovsky / Vera Karpachova	00.10/30
	Bluebeard's Castle	B.Bartók	Tajjiro Iimori	Götz Friedrich	00.11/24
	YUZURU - The Twilight Heron	Dan Ikuma	Hiroaki Masuda	Kuriyama Tamiya	00.12/2
	Il Trovatore	G.Verdi	Daniel Oren	Alberto Fassini	01.1/15
	Rigoletto	G.Verdi	Antonio Pirolli	Alberto Fassini	01.2/5
	Das Rheingold	R.Wagner	Jun Märkl	Keith Warner	01.3/30
	Un ballo in maschera	G.Verdi	Kikuchi Yoshinori	Alberto Fassini	01.5/13
	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Anton Guadagno	Kuriyama Masayoshi	01.6/7
	Manon	J.E.F.Massenet	Alain Guingal	Jean-Pierre Ponnelle	01.7/5
	Turandot	G.Puccini	Kikuchi Yoshinori	Hugo De Ana	01.9/15
2001/ 2002	Nabucco	G.Verdi	Paolo Olmi	Antonello Madau Diaz	01.11/1
	Don Giovanni	W.A.Mozart	Paul Connelly	Roberto de Simone	01.11/16
	Don Carlo	G.Verdi	Daniele Callegari	Alberto Fassini	01.12/6
	Hänsel und Gretel	E.Humperdinck	Misawa Hirohumi	Nishizawa Keiichi	02.1/10
	CHUSHINGURA	Saegusa Shigeaki	Ohtomo Naoto	Hirao Rikiya	02.1/25
	Werther	J.E.F.Massenet	Alain Guingal	Alberto Fassini	02.2/21
	Die Walküre	R.Wagner	Jun Märkl	Keith Warner	02.3/26
	Salome	R.Strauss	Kodama Hiroshi	August Everding	02.5/1
	Tosca	G.Puccini	Alberto Veronesi	Antonello Madau Diaz	02.5/2
	Carmen	G.Bizet	Jacques Delacôte	Maurizio Di Mattia	02.6/7
	La Traviata	G.Verdi	Bruno Campanella	Luca Ronconi	02.9/5
	Lucia di Lammermoor	G.Donizetti	Paolo Olmi	Vincenzo Grisostomi Travaglini	02.10/11
2002/ 2003	Il Barbiere di Siviglia	G.Rossini	Antonio Pirolli	Aguni Jun	02.10/31
	Il Trovatore	G.Verdi	Giuliano Carella	Alberto Fassini	02.11/21
	Ariadne auf Naxos	R.Strauss	Kodama Hiroshi	Hans-Peter Lehmann	02.12/12
	HIKARI	Ichiyonagi Toshi	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Matsumoto Shigetaka	03.1/17
	Arabella	R.Strauss	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Suzuki Keisuke	03.1/31
	Siegfried	R.Wagner	Jun Märkl	Keith Warner	03.3/27
	La Bohème	G.Puccini	Antonio Pirolli	Aguni Jun	03.4/19
	Otello	G.Verdi	Kikuchi Yoshinori	Elijah Moshinsky	03.6/10
	Aida	G.Verdi	Daniel Oren	Franco Zeffirelli	03.9/14

Season	Production	Music	Conductor	Production	First day
2003/ 2004	Le Nozze di Figaro	W.A.Mozart	Ulf Schirmer	Andreas Homoki	03.10/10
	Tosca	G.Puccini	Gerard Korsten	Antonello Madau Diaz	03.11/9
	Les Contes d' Hoffmann	G.Offenbach	Ban Tetsuro	Philippe Arlaud	03.11/28
	NARUKAMI / SHUNKAN	Mamiya Michio / Shimizu Osamu	Akiyama Kazuyoshi	Ichikawa Danjuro	04.1/30
	Tales from Spain	M.Ravel	Marc Piollet	Nicolas Musin	04.2/18
	Salome	R.Strauss	Friedrich Haider	August Everding	04.2/27
	Götterdämmerung	R.Wagner	Jun Märkl	Keith Warner	04.3/26
	Macbeth	G.Verdi	Miguel Gomez-Martinez	Noda Hideki	04.5/13
	Falstaff	G.Verdi	Dan Ettinger	Jonathan Miller	04.6/25
2004/ 2005	Carmen	G.Bizet	Numajiri Ryusuke	Maurizio Di Mattia	04.6/28
	Cavalleria Rusticana / Pagliacci	P.Mascagni / R.Leoncavallo	Ban Tetsuro	Grischa Asagaroff	04.9/9
	La Bohème	G.Puccini	Inoue Michiyoshi	Aguni Jun	04.9/25
	Elektra	R.Strauss	Ulf Schirmer	Hans-Peter Lehmann	04.11/11
	La Traviata	G.Verdi	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Luca Ronconi	04.11/22
	Macbeth	G.Verdi	Riccardo Frizza	Noda Hideki	05.1/17
	Lulu	A.Berg	Stefan Anton Reck	David Pountney	05.2/8
	Osan, from "Shinju Ten no Amijima"	Kubo Mayako	Kanda Keiichi	Aguni Jun	05.2/25
	Così Fan Tutte	W.A.Mozart	Dan Ettinger	Kornelia Repschläger	05.3/21
	Le Nozze di Figaro	W.A.Mozart	Hirai Hideaki	Andreas Homoki	05.4/7
	Fidelio	L.v.Beethoven	Michael Boder	Marco Arturo Marelli	05.5/28
2005/ 2006	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Renato Palumbo	Kuriyama Tamiya	05.6/24
	Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg	R.Wagner	Stefan Anton Reck	Bernd Weik	05.9/14
	Il barbiere di Siviglia	G.Rossini	Nir Kabaretti	Josef E. Köpplinger	05.10/14
	Andrea Chénier	U.Giordano	Miguel Gomez-Martinez	Philippe Arlaud	05.11/20
	Les contes d'Hoffmann	J.Offenbach	Ban Tetsuro	Philippe Arlaud	05.11/27
	Die Zauberflöte	W.A.Mozart	Hattori Joji	Michael Hampe	06.1/21
	Così fan tutte	W.A.Mozart	Olaf Henzold	Kornelia Repschläger	06.2/4
	Ai-en ~To Die for Love~	Miki Minoru	Otomo Naoto	Egawa Tomomi	06.2/17
	La forza del destino	G.Verdi	Inoue Michiyoshi	Emilio Sagi	06.3/15
2006/ 2007	Cavalleria Rusticana / Pagliacci	P.Mascagni / R.Leoncavallo	Fabio Luisi	Grischa Asagaroff	06.4/5
	Die Fledermaus	Johann Strauss II	Johannes Wildner	Heinz Zednik	06.6/14
	Don Carlo	G.Verdi	Miguel Gomez-Martinez	Marco Arturo Marelli	06.9/7
	Idomeneo	W.A.Mozart	Dan Ettinger	Grischa Asagaroff	06.10/20
	Fidelio	L.v.Beethoven	Cornelius Meister	Marco Arturo Marelli	06.11/30
	Il Barbiere di Siviglia	G.Rossini	Michele Carulli	Josef E. Köpplinger	06.12/1
	Der Fliegende Holländer	R.Wagner	Michael Boder	Matthias von Stegmann	07.2/25
	La Forza del Destino	G.Verdi	Maurizio Barbacini	Emilio Sagi	07.3/15
	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Kuriyama Tamiya	07.3/22
2007/ 2008	La Fanciulla del West	G.Puccini	Ulf Schirmer	Andreas Homoki	07.4/15
	Der Rosenkavalier	R.Strauss	Peter Schneider	Jonathan Miller	07.6/6
	Falstaff	G.Verdi	Dan Ettinger	Jonathan Miller	07.6/13
	Tannhäuser und der Sängerkrieg auf Wartburg	R.Wagner	Philippe Auguin	Hans-Peter Lehmann	07.10/8
	Le Nozze di Figaro	W.A.Mozart	Numajiri Ryusuke	Andreas Homoki	07.10/18
	Carmen	G.Bizet	Jacques Delacôte	Uyama Hitoshi	07.11/25
	La Bohème	G.Puccini	Maurizio Barbacini	Aguni Jun	08.1/20
	Salome	R.Strauss	Thomas Rösner	August Everding	08.2/3
	The Black Ships -Yoake-	Yamada Kosaku	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Kuriyama Masayoshi	08.2/22
	Aida	G.Verdi	Mario Martone	Franco Zeffirelli	08.3/10
	Der Freischütz	C.M.v.Weber	Dan Ettinger	Matthias von Stegmann	08.4/10
	Die Soldaten	B.A.Zimmermann	Wakasugi Hiroshi	Willy Decker	08.5/5
	La Traviata	G.Verdi	Kamioka Toshiyuki	Luca Ronconi	08.6/5

Season	Production	Music	Conductor	Production	First day
2008/ 2009	Turandot	G.Puccini	Antonello Allemandi	Henning Brockhaus	08.10/1
	Rigoletto	G.Verdi	Daniele Callegari	Alberto Fassini	08.10/25
	Don Giovanni	W.A.Mozart	Constantin Trinks	Grischa Asagaroff	08.12/5
	Madama Butterfly	G.Puccini	Carlo Montanaro	Kuriyama Tamiya	09.1/12
	Die Fledermaus	J.Strauss II	Alexander Joel	Heinz Zednik	09.1/27
	Das Rheingold	R.Wagner	Dan Ettinger	Keith Warner	09.3/7
	Die Walküre	R.Wagner	Dan Ettinger	Keith Warner	09.4/3
	Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk	D.Shostakovich	Mihail Sinkevich	Richard Jones	09.5/1
	La Cenerentola	G.Rossini	David Syrus	Jean-Pierre Ponnelle	09.6/7
2009/ 2010	Shuzenji Monogatari	Shimizu Osamu	Toyama Yuzo	Sakata Tojuro	09.6/25
	Otello	G.Verdi	Riccardo Frizza	Mario Martone	09.9/20
	Die Zauberflöte	W.A.Mozart	Alfred Eschwé	Michael Hampe	09.10/29
	Wozzeck	A.Berg	Hartmut Haenchen	Andreas Kriegenburg	09.11/18
	Tosca	G.Puccini	Frédéric Chaslin	Antonello Madau Diaz	09.12/2
	Siegfried	R.Wagner	Dan Ettinger	Keith Warner	10.2/11
	Götterdämmerung	R.Wagner	Dan Ettinger	Keith Warner	10.3/18
	L'elisir d'amore	G.Donizetti	Paolo Olmi	Cesare Lievi	10.4/15
	Die Frau ohne Schatten	R.Strauss	Erich Wächter	Denis Krief	10.5/20
	Carmen	G.Bizet	Maurizio Barbacini	Uyama Hitoshi	10.6/10
	Rokumeikan	Ikebe Shinichiro	TBA	Uyama Hitoshi	10.6/24