



Media Contact:

Valerie Cisneros
marketing@enzian.org
407-629-1088 x302

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**ENZIAN PARTNERS WITH OPERA ORLANDO AND ORLANDO BALLET
FOR ANNUAL SUMMER OPERA & BALLET SERIES**

Orlando, FL (June 2, 2021) – Enzian’s annual Opera and Ballet on the Big Screen Summer Series runs Saturday, June 19th – Saturday, September 18th, featuring an extraordinary lineup of performances filmed in high definition and showcased in spectacular digital cinema, in partnership with Opera Orlando and Orlando Ballet.

Enzian Theater’s Programming Director, Matthew Curtis said, “We are thrilled to be able to bring back our wonderful Opera & Ballet on Film series this summer after the pandemic put us on hold last year. The exciting lineup features two extraordinary titles making their debuts to this series (Verdi’s ‘Falstaff’ and ‘The Ninth Symphony Ballet by Bejart’), as well as astonishingly beautiful new productions from La Scala of a couple of our favorite classics, Puccini’s ‘Tosca’ and Tchaikovsky’s ‘Sleeping Beauty.’”

Opera and ballet fans can purchase a [Season Pass](#) to all four performances and receive discounted admission, as well as a complimentary glass of house wine at each show. All performances can also be purchased individually.

**WHAT: Opera on the Big Screen:
In Partnership with [Opera Orlando](#)**

**[TOSCA \(LA SCALA\)](#)
Saturday, June 19th at 11AM**

The 2019-2020 season opened with the diva of the 21st century, Anna Netrebko, in *Tosca*, one of Puccini’s most “cinematic” operas and often described as a “thriller”.

Riccardo Chailly’s proposed for this *Tosca* a critical version that included a few lines that Puccini had prepared for the world premiere of the opera in 1900 but were left out at the time. The production, directed by Davide Livermore in cooperation with set designer Giò Forma chose a traditional setting, and with the help of rotating parts of the stage, which could also be elevated to show the action taking place on two different levels, was able to create a wider space that could contain the side naves of the church of Sant’Andrea della Valle with the Attavanti chapel and the central altar in act one or the torture room below Scarpia’s office in act one.

In the title role, soprano Anna Netrebko, now at her third opening in five seasons, was a magnificent Tosca. Her performance literally brought down the house. At her side, tenor Francesco Meli lent his ringing voice to Cavaradossi. Luca Salsi played a compelling Scarpia, evil minded and sneaky at the right point. A real luxury cast was bass-baritone Alfonso Antoniozzi in the role of the sacristan.

2019, 160 minutes

FALSTAFF (HAMBURG)

Saturday, August 21st at 11AM

Is opera still just a pleasant pastime and oasis of high culture? Not if Calixto Bieito has any say in the matter. The shocking, outrage-inducing director whose surprise-packed productions can be relied upon to attract attention is a welcome guest at Hamburg State Opera. His most recent venture is a staging of Verdi's comic opera *Falstaff*, which Bieito reinterprets as an apocalyptic satire on entertainment and prototype scenario of modern society. Bieito's take on *Falstaff* is a black comedy that exposes the tragicomic aspect of human existence. He casts the eponymous hero of the piece as a charismatic and perverse pleasure-seeker, a melancholy – and corpulent – bon vivant, whose provocations hold up a mirror to our society.

Falstaff is Verdi's last work for the stage and as such his testament. By the time he composed it he had long since broken free of convention and no longer cared what the world thought of him. *Falstaff* shows us Verdi the tragedian smiling wisely as he takes his final bow. The opera even ends with the words "Tutto nel mondo è burla" – "All the world's a joke". Yet there is nothing bitter about this message.

The new Hamburg production boasts a world-class cast with Ambrogio Maestri – "a Falstaff for our times" – in the title role and Maija Kovalevska as Alice Ford.

2020, 134 minutes

Ballet on the Big Screen:

In Partnership with [Orlando Ballet](#)

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY (LA SCALA)

Saturday, July 17th at 11AM

In his rendering of the dreamiest, most sumptuous of ballets, perhaps the ballet par excellence, Nureyev maintained the incredible purity of Petipa's original choreography, just as he had learned it at the Kirov, but infused it with a fresh sense of theatrical drama and inner strength through remarkable variations and an articulated choreographic composition that reveals all of the characters' psychological nuances. Indeed, it was to La Scala in 1966 that Nureyev entrusted the debut of "his" *Sleeping Beauty*, and now, twelve years after its last performance, his masterpiece returns to the stage with the magnificent sets created by Oscar winner Franca Squarciapino at La Scala in 1993, and Felix Korobov conducting the extraordinary score by Tchaikovsky.

2019, 160 minutes

THE NINTH SYMPHONY BALLET BY MAURICE BÉJART

Saturday, September 18th at 11AM

Maurice Béjart's compelling staging of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* has been

enchancing audiences worldwide since its inception and its idea of universal brotherhood remains highly topical. “Alle Menschen werden Brüder” (All men will be brothers) is the powerful message communicated by the unforgettable music and choreography.

From the stage of the NHK Hall in Tokyo 250 dancers and musicians send this message out into the world. “It is a ‘manifestation’, in the deepest sense of the word.” Maurice Béjart.

Although the ballet was planned purely as an interpretation of Beethoven’s music, Béjart added texts from Nietzsche, Schiller and others to the programme notes. These texts underline the major theme of universal brotherhood, a union of races and peoples culminating with the 4th movement’s ‘Ode to Joy’ and that “All men become brothers.”
2014, 88 minutes

WHERE: **Enzian Theater**, 1300 South Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751

TICKETS: Complete Season Pass (all 4 Opera and Ballet performances and includes one free glass of house wine at each show) – [\\$66](#)
Enzian Member Single Performance – **\$17.50**
General Admission Single Performance – **\$20**
Enzian Members that are Contributor level or above and Season Passholders are able to make a table reservation for this series. Reservations can only be made after a ticket or Season Pass has been purchased and are limited. Please make sure to have your confirmation number ready to provide to the box officer at time of your reservation.

INFO: Enzian is Central Florida's only full-time, not-for-profit cinema for first-run independent and international film, classic revivals, documentary features, and select family entertainment. Enzian, a member-supported organization serving the community for more than 36 years, is home to the Florida Film Festival and Eden Bar. For additional information, visit Enzian.org, call general information at (407) 629-1088, or visit us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

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