

MEDIA RELEASE

10 June 2021

The ABCs of Opera: Aida, the Barber of Seville, Carmen and more!

Opera Australia is pleased to announce the return of its Great Opera Hits concert series to complement its 2021 Winter season. Designed to appeal to everyone from opera newbies to long-standing fans, the concerts will be performed in the Sydney Opera House's Joan Sutherland Theatre over select dates from July to August.

A perfect taste tester of the world's most famous arias, the concert introduces novices to the vast world of opera through familiar tunes and renews opera fans' love for the classics. Musical masterpieces by the world's greatest composers, including Bizet, Puccini, Rossini and Verdi, stand alone in a relaxed concert – an ideal first experience of the impact and atmosphere of live opera performance.

"We celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary with a captivating, wonderful experience of opera presented by fun and engaging singers who all have crystal voices," said Jenny Jones, a Central Coast resident who attended Great Opera Hits for the first time during its 2021 Summer season.

"The evening sparked a new desire for both my husband and I to experience more of this beautiful art form. The selection of arias is a fantastic way to be introduced to opera and I truly recommend people of any age or music interest to experience it for themselves."

From Pretty Women wannabes to Star Trekkies, many people may be more familiar with opera than they think, recognising tunes from their favourite TV shows or KFC and pasta ads.

Audiences are guided through the concert by exceptional host and pianist Guy Noble who presents the grandeur of opera in a light-hearted, Australian way - guaranteed to provoke lots of laughs.

Each performance will feature four of OA's finest principal artists: soprano Anne-Louise Cole, mezzo soprano Sian Sharp, tenor Simon Kim and baritone Luke Gabbedy.

Whether you are a visitor exploring or you call Sydney home, the Sydney Opera House provides an iconic stage for all to experience opera's finest.

Watch the trailer for a sneak peek [here](#)

Performance information

Evenings at 5pm

July 11
August 1

Evenings at 6.30pm

July 14, 24

Saturday Matinee at 12.30pm

July 17

Running time Approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes including 1 x 20 minute interval

Bookings Adult tickets from \$69 (fees may apply). Concession prices available.

Opera Australia Box Office (02) 9318 8200 <https://opera.org.au/productions/great-opera-hits>

Sydney Opera House, Joan Sutherland Theatre

Opera Australia is committed to COVID Safe practices. Please refer to the website for the Company's COVID Safe procedures: <https://opera.org.au/covid-safety>

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