

**MEDIA RELEASE**

13 December 2021

**Puccini** | Directed by Graeme Murphy | Conducted by Renato Palumbo and Leonardo Sini

# ‘Nessun dorma’ rings out from the Sydney Opera House in *Turandot*

**January 12 – March 14, 2022** | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House

**Starring** | Lise Lindstrom | Yonghoon Lee | Karah Son | Anna-Louise Cole | Ivan Gyngazov | Mariana Hong



After months of live music deprivation, audiences are invited to experience the power of opera’s most famous aria in Puccini’s *Turandot* when it returns to the Sydney Opera House on January 12, 2022.

Achieving pop status when Luciano Pavarotti’s “Vincerò” made 73,603 people at the 1990 FIFA World Cup Final hold their breath, ‘Nessun dorma’ ends with the statement “I will win” – a fitting mantra for the arts industry after its recent decimation, guaranteed to evoke goosebumps and tears in the Joan Sutherland Theatre.

Singing the aria will be celebrated South Korean tenor Yonghoon Lee who will perform “a superb Calàf, his stentorian delivery producing decibels that belie his slim frame”, while stellar American soprano Lise Lindstrom returns to demonstrate how she made a name for herself in the title role, bringing her “commanding voice and an equally commanding presence,” (Limelight).

OA Artistic Director Lyndon Terracini is pleased to announce that rising star Australian soprano Anna-Louise Cole will share the title role. “Anna-Louise has been a member of our Young Artist Program and is ready to tackle these big roles. It is really exciting that she will make her role debut as *Turandot* so audiences in Sydney can hear what her voice can really do.”

Also sharing the lead roles will be Russian tenor Ivan Gyngazov making his Opera Australia debut as Calàf while South Korean sopranos Karah Son and Mariana Hong will share the part of Liù.

The exceptional Italian maestro Renato Palumbo returns to Australia to lead the Opera Australia Orchestra, Chorus and Children’s Chorus through Puccini’s intensely moving score. Sharing the baton is Italian Leonardo Sini, known as one of the most promising conductors of his generation.

A fantasy opera of poetry and myth, *Turandot* transports audiences to an exotic world where fear and love go hand in hand. Viewers will be on the edge of their seats as suitors answer riddles at the risk of death in an attempt to win the hand of the ice princess of opera.

Since its premiere in 1990, director Graeme Murphy's daring production quickly became renowned as one of the ultimate classics in the Opera Australia repertoire that has since stood the test of time. "Murphy's version of this iconic opera should remain in the catalogue as it is an excellent example of homegrown ability to stage world-class versions of much-loved classics," (Daily Telegraph).

### Creatives

Conductor **Renato Palumbo** Jan 12 – Feb 12  
**Leonardo Sini** Feb 15 – Mar 14  
 Director & Choreographer **Graeme Murphy AO**  
 Revival Director **Shane Placentino**  
 Set & Costume Designer **Kristian Fredrikson**  
 Lighting Designer **John Drummond Montgomery**  
 Assistant Director **Warwick Doddrell**

### Cast

Turandot **Lise Lindstrom** Jan 12 – Feb 5  
**Anna-Louise Cole** Feb 9 – Mar 14  
 Calaf **Yonghoon Lee** Jan 12 - 28  
**Ivan Gyngazov** Feb 2 - Mar 14  
 Liù **Karah Son** Jan 12 – Feb 12  
**Mariana Hong** Feb 15 – Mar 14  
 Timur **David Parkin**  
 Pong **Virgilio Marino**  
 Pang **Iain Henderson**  
 Ping **Luke Gabbedy**  
 Emperor **Dean Bassett**  
 Mandarin **Alexander Sefton**  
 Handmaiden 1 **Leah Thomas**  
 Handmaiden 2 **Katherine Wiles**  
 Prince of Persia **Dean Bassett**

### **Opera Australia Chorus**

### **Opera Australia Children's Chorus**

### **Opera Australia Orchestra**

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>

### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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### Performance information

#### **Evenings at 7.30pm**

January 12, 19, 22, 24, 28  
 February 2, 9, 12, 15, 17, 26  
 March 5, 10, 14

#### **Saturday Matinees at 12.30pm**

January 15  
 February 5

### Running time

Approximately 2 hours and 50 minutes including two intervals

Performed in Italian with English surtitles

### Bookings

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply)

Opera Australia Box Office  
 (02) 9318 8200  
[www.opera.org.au](http://www.opera.org.au)

**Joan Sutherland Theatre,  
 Sydney Opera House**