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**Press Release**

29 June 2022

**OUTDOOR FESTIVAL *LIVE AT No.40* RETURNS TO GLASGOW THIS SUMMER WITH A NEW SCOTTISH OPERA PROMENADE PRODUCTION OF *CANDIDE*, PLUS PERFORMANCES FROM CITIZENS THEATRE AND THE ORCHESTRA OF SCOTTISH OPERA**

From 11 August until 3 September, a second year of *Live at No. 40* takes place at Scottish Opera’s Production Studios in Glasgow, featuring a new outdoor promenade production by the Company of Leonard Bernstein’s *Candide*, a Citizens Theatre production of Shakespeare’s *The Comedy of Errors*, and a concert by The Orchestra of Scottish Opera.

There will be six performances of *Candide* from 11 to 20 August, staged under a tented structure on land between Scottish Opera’s Edington Street Studio and the canal, known as New Rotterdam Wharf. These are the first performances of Bernstein’s satirical opera by Scottish Opera since the legendary American composer came to Scotland in 1988, revising the score with the Company’s then-Music Director, John Mauceri. The result was the ‘final version’ of 1989, which is still performed today. Bernstein wrote *Candide* prior to his hit musical *West Side Story,* and it is based on the novel by Voltaire. Full of imagination and comedy, Director **Jack Furness** and Designer **Tim Meacock** are updating the production along with the Community Chorus, to address the specific challenges in the work, including capitalism and globalism in today’s world, celebrating all of life’s beautiful, messy stories along the way.

This energetic production aims to embrace the audience in a fully immersive experience, as they are swept along with the larger-than-life characters on their chaotic adventures across Europe and South America. Putting audience members at the heart of the action, as they follow the performers around the marquee this is an opportunity to experience opera in an exciting new way. Performing side-by-side with a cast of international soloists will be an 80-strong community chorus in partnership with [Maryhill Integration Network](https://maryhillintegration.org.uk/), an organisation bringing, asylum seekers, refugees and settled inhabitants of Glasgow together through art. The chorus range in age from teens to those in their sixties, all with different life experiences.

**Rose Filippi** from Maryhill Integration Network shares: ‘This is the second time MIN has partnered with Scottish Opera. Our participants are so excited to be a part of this new production and are really engaged in the rehearsals. It has been wonderful to meet with other cast and chorus members, and will be a proud moment for us to share the stage with them for the performances in August. This production sends a strong message of unity and welcome, showing that asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow are part of the city and want to contribute to its cultural life. It’s a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the importance of creative projects which have a positive impact on people's sense of belonging in their new homes’

Directed by **Jack Furness** (*Opera Highlights* 2018) and designedby **Tim Meacock** (*Pagliacci* 2018), **William Morgan** (*The Gondoliers* 2022) plays the idealist Candide, with **Paula Sides** as his beloved Cunegonde. They are joined by an ensemble cast that includes **Ronald Samm** (*Pagliacci* 2018), **Susan Bullock** (*Breaking the Waves* 2019), **Jamie MacDougall** (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream* 2022), **Dan Shelvey** (*The Gondoliers* 2022) and Scottish Opera Emerging Artist **Lea Shaw** (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream* 2022). **Stuart Stratford** conducts The Orchestra of Scottish Opera and the Community Chorus.

Scottish Opera is delighted to welcome back The Citizens Theatre to *Live at No.40*, with its five-star production of *The Comedy of Errors*. Following a limited run in Glasgow last year, this is another chance to see Shakespeare’s playful farce, directed by **Dominic Hill (who recently** directed Scottish Opera’s critically acclaimed production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*) from 26 August to 3 September. This vibrant production features a multi-talented ensemble, live music and audience interaction.

*The Comedy of Errors* tells the tale of two identical twin brothers and their identical servants separated by a shipwreck. Years later, unknown to each other, they all end up on the same island. Before a celebratory family reunion can happen, a series of wild mishaps and delightful mayhem begins – including baffling encounters, false accusations, wrongful arrests, and a near-seduction. Bursting with joyful energy and slapstick humour, this fast-paced comedy is the perfect feel-good event, and tours to **Beacon Arts Centre from 19 to 20 August** and **Perth Theatre from 7 to17 September.** BSL, Captioned and Audio Described performances will be available in Glasgow.

Also at *Live at No.40* is a performance from The Orchestra of Scottish Opera on 17 August. The programme includes Barber’s *Adagio for Strings*, Copland’s *Appalachian Spring*, and four songs from *Old American Songs (Books 1 and 2)* featuring mezzo-soprano and Scottish Opera Emerging Artist **Lea Shaw**. The concert will close with Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9 ‘From the New World'.

Scottish Opera General Director **Alex Reedijk** said: ‘We are delighted to be bringing back *Live at No.40* for a second year at our Production Studios, in the heart of Glasgow. For Scottish Opera, this is a journey that began with the promenade production of *Pagliacci* in Paisley, and outdoor shows of *La bohème* and *Falstaff*. The success of last summer’s event demonstrated that our audiences are not put off by unpredictable Scottish weather, and are more than happy to come to outdoor performances! We know that many people are still not quite comfortable with returning to an indoor venue, so we hope this provides an opportunity to get the music fix they’ve been so missing. *Candide* promises to be a spectacular show, and it’s great to be sharing the billing once again with Citizens Theatre, as well as with Maryhill Integration Network, and raise awareness of the work they do in Glasgow.’

**Dominic Hill**, Citizens Theatre’s Artistic Director said: ‘Last year we were thrilled to be a part of Scottish Opera’s summer festival. Sadly, the pandemic forced us to curtail our run of *The Comedy of Errors*. So, we are hugely grateful to have another chance this year to present Shakespeare’s glorious farce in a production that promises to be even more full of mayhem and laughter than ever. As our home in the Gorbals continues its redevelopment, we are seeking opportunities to take our work on tour across Scotland - and I am delighted that includes the open-air stage at Live at No.40 in our home city of Glasgow.’

For more information and to book tickets, visit [www.scottishopera.org.uk/shows/candide/](http://www.scottishopera.org.uk/shows/candide/)

*Candide* is supported by **Friends of Scottish Opera, Scottish Opera’s Education Angels,** and **The Scottish Opera Endowment Trust**.

***Candide* cast**

Candide **William Morgan**

Dr Pangloss/Voltaire/Martin/Cacambo **Ronald Samm**

Maximillian/Captain **Dan Shelvey**

Cunegonde **Paula Sides**

Paquette **Lea Shaw\***

The Old Lady **Susan Bullock**

Governor/Vanderdendur/Ragotski **Jamie MacDougall**

\*Scottish Opera Emerging Artist 2022/23

***Candide* creative team**

Conductor **Stuart Stratford**

Director **Jack Furness**

Designer **Tim Meacock**

Lighting Designer **Clare O’Donoghue**

Video Designer **Tim Reid**

Choreographer **Maisie Newman**

Associate Director **Annemiek van Elst**

***The Comedy of Errors* cast and creative team**

Director **Dominic Hill**
Designer **Jessica Worrall**
Lighting **Lizzie Powell**
Composer **Nikola Kodjabashia**
Movement **Benedicte Seierup**and **Lucien MacDougall**

Ensemble   **Cindy Awor Luciana**

Ensemble  **Esme Bayley Adriana**

Dromio Of Ephesus and Syracuse / Ensemble  **Michael Guest**

Duke / Luce / 2nd Merchant   **Francesca Hess**

Actor Musician / Ensemble  **John Kielty**

Egeon / Pinch / Ensemble  **John Macaulay**

Antipholus Of Ephesus and Syracuse / Ensemble  **Angus Miller**

Abbess / Courtesan / Ensemble  **Renee Williams**

Performance Diary

**New Rotterdam Wharf, Scottish Opera Production Studios, 40 Edington Street, Glasgow, G4 9RD**

***Candide*** (Scottish Opera)

11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20 August, 6pm

***The Comedy of Errors*** (Citizens Theatre)

26, 27,30,31 August & 1,2,3 September, 7pm

1 September, 10.30am (Schools performance, call Citizens Theatre Box Office to book.)

3 September, 2.30pm

**The Orchestra of Scottish Opera**

17 August, 6pm

Notes to Editors

Scottish Opera is Scotland’s national opera company and the largest performing arts organisation in Scotland. The 2022/23 season marks its 60th Anniversary.

The Company’s performance repertoire ranges across five centuries, from the earliest operas to newly-commissioned world premieres. Scottish Opera collaborates with the world’s finest singers and creatives, together with The Orchestra of Scottish Opera and choruses for each opera. Recent accolades include a South Bank Sky Arts Award, a Scottish Award for New Music, Sunday Herald Culture Awards, a Herald Angel, and a 2020 RPS Award. In 2021 the Company returned to live audiences with Sir David McVicar’s new production of Verdi’s *Falstaff* performed in Glasgow and at the Edinburgh International Festival.

The Company tours extensively across Scotland to ensure performances are within reach of as many of the country’s very dispersed population as possible. Specially-adapted 40-foot long trailers bring Pop-up Opera performances to thousands of people each year. In 2021 the Company performed nearly 200 performances of its Pop-up Opera Roadshow to socially distanced audiences of 11,014 people. This is one of the most extensive touring programmes of any European opera company and a much-valued contribution to Scotland’s cultural and artistic life, particularly in remote and island communities.

The Company’s Education & Outreach programme, which celebrated 50 years in 2021, includes an annual Primary Schools Tour, bringing children the opportunity to perform their own specially-commissioned piece alongside professional singers. Around 120 schools and 9,000 pupils take part each year. Scottish Opera aims to be inclusive and affordable through availability of free and cheap tickets, as well as performances offering audio description and specially-devised shorter access performances.

The Company’s Opera on Screen productions are available to watch at: [www.scottishopera.org.uk/what-s-on/opera-on-screen](http://www.scottishopera.org.uk/what-s-on/opera-on-screen). The collection includes Donizetti’s *L’elisir d’amore*, Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel*, Mozart’s *Così fan tutte*, *Opera Highlights*, Menotti’s *The Telephone*, and Samuel Bordoli and Jenni Fagan’s *The Narcissistic Fish*. The Company’s 2021 production of *The Gondoliers*, filmed live at Festival Theatre Edinburgh, is available on BBC iPlayer.

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**Maryhill Integration Network**

Maryhill Integration Network (MIN) was established to bring asylum seekers, refugees, migrants and the settled inhabitants of Glasgow together. Since 2001, we have been developing projects which support positive social change by investing in communities and providing a welcoming - and much-needed - safe and inclusive space with opportunities for collaboration and connection.

We celebrate the use of arts and culture as a means of expression, challenging stereotypes in order to create authentic narratives which value contributions made by all in our community.

MIN’s Mission is to develop a unique and creative environment in which communities can come together to share experiences and demonstrate the value of cultural diversity in Scotland.

MIN’s Vision is for an inclusive society where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, and can live supported and connected lives

**Citizens Theatre**

The Citizens Theatre is Glasgow’s major producing theatre and one of the leading theatre companies in the UK. Over the last 75 years, it has built an international reputation for producing innovative shows on stage, alongside a highly regarded learning programme of participatory and education work. It is led by Artistic Director Dominic Hill who is regarded as having “a talent for classical drama which is genuinely world class.” (Daily Telegraph) and Executive Director, Alex McGowan. The theatre presents bold new interpretations of classic texts that are accessible and relevant - and uniquely, where any member of the audience can attend a performance for as little as 50p.

The company’s beautiful Victorian home in the Gorbals is currently closed while it undergoes a major redevelopment. This will be the first comprehensive, integrated redevelopment of the building since it opened in 1878. The project will transform the experiences of audiences, participants and performers and secure the future of one of Scotland’s most iconic buildings and leading producing theatres.

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