



Semperoper  
Dresden

## **Semperoper Dresden: Peter Eötvös's »The Golden Dragon« – Premiere on 13 December 2019**

PRESS RELEASE / INVITATION

### **»Even a dragon only takes the path he knows«**

Dresden, 2. December 2019. Co-produced with the Teatro Arriaga Bilbao, the Semperoper presents the Dresden premiere of Peter Eötvös's opera »The Golden Dragon« on Friday, 13 December 2019. The libretto for this piece of musical theatre, which premiered in 2014, is by one of the most successful German-language playwrights of our time, Roland Schimmelpfennig, who adapted his play of the same name. The musical version was created by the Hungarian composer and conductor, Peter Eötvös, whose artistic output features several operas and orchestral works that bridge the gap between Eastern European folk traditions and contemporary classical music. The Staatskapelle Dresden appointed this internationally acclaimed artist its composer-in-residence for the 2018/19 season.

The original drama, which premiered exactly ten years ago in Vienna's Burgtheater, is one of the most frequently performed German-language plays. Following its staging at the Berlin Theatertreffen, it was voted »Play of the Year« of 2010 by a survey of theatre critics by the magazine Theater heute and was also awarded the Mülheim Dramatist's Prize. The epicentre of this darkly comic story is the Asian fast food joint »The Golden Dragon«, in which a motley group of people come together, thereby casting a spotlight on the dark sides of our globalised world. While the breakneck succession of grotesque scenes in the original play has been reduced by half in this operatic version, the number of protagonists remains unchanged. This modern masterpiece of musical theatre overcomes with great skill the musical and staging difficulties of having only five singers perform many different roles. In Dresden, the various characters will be interpreted by Karina Repova, Mariya Taniguchi, Jürgen Müller, Beomjin Kim and Doğukan Kuran.

Commissioned by Frankfurt Opera in cooperation with the Ensemble Moderne, the premiere of »The Golden Dragon« in Frankfurt am Main was conducted by the composer. This staging at the Semper Zwei by Czech director Barbora Horáková Joly offers Dresden audiences their first chance to enjoy the work. The Staatskapelle Dresden will be conducted by Petr Popelka.

### **Peter Eötvös's »The Golden Dragon«**

Premiere on Friday, 13 December 2019 at 6 pm in Semper Zwei

Additional performances on 15, 21, 23 and 28 December 2019

An introductory talk on the work is offered 25 minutes before the performance in the upstairs foyer of Semper Zwei

Tickets for all performances can be purchased from the Schinkelwache on Theaterplatz (T +49 (0)351 4911 705) as well as online. For more details, check out our website: [semperoper.de](http://semperoper.de)

Please direct your application for review tickets (along with the editorial assignment, expected publication date and details of the medium) as well as press enquiries and interview requests to [presse@semperoper.de](mailto:presse@semperoper.de)

Photographic material in print quality along with text in digital form available at [www.semperoper.de/presse](http://www.semperoper.de/presse)

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