



Semperoper
Dresden

Semperoper Dresden: The 2020/21 season with »Semper Essenz«

PRESS RELEASE



©Semperoper Dresden/photo: Jochen Quast

Semperoper announces Corona replacement programme »Semper Essenz« with details of premieres for 2020/21

Dresden, 30 June 2020: The Semperoper Dresden will welcome back audiences after the summer break with an amended programme. In order to be able to offer performances under the current restrictions, the productions originally planned for August to October 2020 will be replaced by small-format events under the title »Semper Essenz«. In this way, the opera house will meet all the current hygiene regulations.

The »Semper Essenz« series will feature musical highlights and prominent arias or ensemble passages from the scheduled operas, now performed in shorter concert or semi-staged productions with a reduced orchestra and cast of singers. The operas include Rossini's »Il barbiere di Siviglia/ The Barber of Seville«, Mozart's »Die Entführung aus dem Serail« and »Don Giovanni«, Tchaikovsky's »Eugene Onegin« as well as Puccini's »Tosca« and »Madama Butterfly«. The list of star singers runs from Hrachuhí Bassenz, Nikola Hillebrand, Christa Mayer, Ekaterina Morozova, Kristine Opolais, Stepanka Pucalkova to Alexey Markov, Roberto Scanduzzi, Jonathan Tetelman and Georg Zeppenfeld. The musicians of the Staatskapelle Dresden will be conducted by Giampaolo Bisanti, Jonathan Darlington, Alessandro De Marchi or Omer Meir Wellber. All these names are a guarantee for glittering performances and world-class artistry in the series »Semper Essenz«.

Two song recitals as well as Semperoper Ballett gala evenings round off the replacement programme: The first vocal recital, entitled »Semper Essenz: Rossini for Gourmets«, will feature works from Rossini's seductive »Sins of Old Age«, here performed by members of our Junges Ensemble team. This will replace the »Auftakt!« event that traditionally kicks off the new season. For the second soiree »Semper Essenz: Song Recital Anja Harteros«, the world-famous soprano is returning to Dresden, here accompanied by Wolfram Rieger on the piano, in order to present her new programme of songs. With the ballet gala »Semper Essenz: We will dance!«, the astonishing perfection of Semperoper Ballett can finally be admired once again in live performance. Fans of our »Jazz Windows« series can also visit the Semperoper (rather than the usual Semper Zwei venue) to enjoy the legendary Günter Baby Sommer, who is joining forces with master wordsmith and essayist, Christoph Hein, for an evening entitled »Verwirrnis« (»Confusion«).

If performances are able to take place normally from November onwards, the cancelled premieres of »Don Carlo« and »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?« from last season will be rescheduled for the 2020/21 season. The premiere of Udo Zimmermann's chamber opera »Weiße Rose« in the staging by Stephan Grögler, scheduled for October, has been moved back to November 9. If the production cannot take place in Semper Zwei as planned, »Weiße Rose« will be performed on the Semperoper stage as part of »Semper Essenz«. The new productions of »Die andere Frau«, »Guillaume Tell/ William Tell« and »Madama Butterfly« have been shifted to the 2021/22 season. All other premiere dates announced in the 2020/21 programme remain unchanged. Further highlights of the upcoming season from November 2020 onwards will be announced successively.

With »Semper Essenz«, the Semperoper Dresden aims to tread new ground by offering unusual and lively perspectives on previously hidden aspects of music theatre: Through a careful selection of excerpts, familiar works will be distilled down into an intoxicating musical brew, each with its own unique flavour. According to managing director Peter Theiler: »The Staatskapelle players and our singers ensure the high musical quality that audiences expect when they visit the Semperoper. By spotlighting the »essence« of the works, we are all sure to enjoy new and unfamiliar viewing and listening experiences in the Semperoper.

Ticket sales for the amended programme begin at 10 am on 7 July 2020. Bookings are accepted in writing or online at semperoper.de.

The entire replacement programme can be viewed at semperoper.de/semper-essenz. Please note that a strictly limited number of review tickets is available for these events. Accompanying tickets can be purchased at the standard price.

Please address your ticket request (indicating your editorial assignment) as well as all other press enquiries and interview requests to presse@semperoper.de. Pictures in print quality and text in digital form can be downloaded from semperoper.de

Semperoper Dresden

susanne.springer@semperoper.de, T +49 (0)351 4911 251 (Head of Communication and Marketing)

oliver.bernaeu@semperoper.de, T +49 (0)351 4911 336 (Press Officer)

semperoper.de



Partner der
Semperoper Dresden