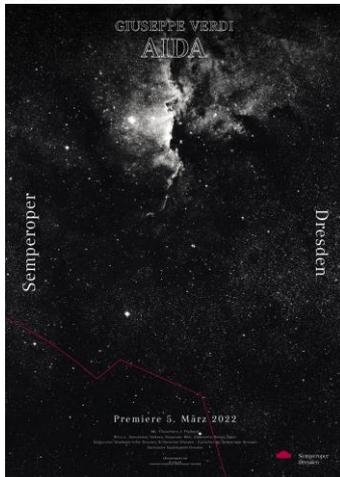




Semperoper
Dresden

Semperoper: Dresden premiere of »Aida« with star-studded cast

PRESS RELEASE



Premiere poster »Aida« 2021/22

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Katharina Thalbach's production of »Aida« will celebrate its premiere on 5 March 2022 under the baton of Christian Thielemann and with Krassimira Stoyanova in the title role. Other guest performers at the Semperoper include Francesco Meli, Quinn Kelsey and Georg Zeppenfeld, who makes his role debut.

Dresden, 11 February 2022. On Saturday, 5 March 2022, the curtain will rise at the Semperoper on another of this season's special premieres, namely the new production of Giuseppe Verdi's »Aida« staged by Katharina Thalbach, whose production of »Hansel and Gretel« is a long-time favourite in the Semperoper's Christmas repertoire. Now she brings her vision of ancient Egypt to Dresden. Together with her trusted stage and costume designer of many years, the Italian Ezio Toffolutti, the star director and actress from Berlin will dazzle the Dresden audience at this premiere with golden pharaonic architecture that also makes reference to Art Deco and early film architecture.

This new production at the Semperoper is the sixth staging of »Aida« in the city since 1876. Most recently, director Udo Samel staged Giuseppe Verdi's great ensemble opera for the Saxon State Opera's 1997/98 season. A self-confessed lover of all things Egyptian, Katharina Thalbach's staging concept aims to create a brilliant acoustic space that will allow the singer's voices to render both audible and tangible the power and tenderness of Verdi's composition in all its various facets. Artistic Director Peter Theiler and his team welcome a brilliant international ensemble of guest singers to Dresden with Krassimira Stoyanova in the title role supported by Francesco Meli, Quinn Kelsey and Georg Zeppenfeld, who makes his role debut as Ramfis.

The Staatskapelle's Principal Conductor will not only be working on his first opera of the current season; this is also Christian Thielemann's very first production of »Aida«. The State Opera Chorus, the Dresden Symphonic Chorus (the Semperoper's auxiliary choir), as well as dancers and extras will ensure the requisite visual and acoustic opulence that made this Verdi

opera world-famous, alongside the moving arias and the »Aida trumpets« of the triumphal march.

Tickets can be purchased from 10 a.m. on Thursday, 17 February 2022, at the Schinkelwache box office on Theaterplatz (T +49 (0)351 4911 705) as well as online. **A maximum of two tickets will be issued per booking for all performances of »Aida«. This applies to both online and in-person bookings.**

A live broadcast of the new Dresden production of »Aida« will be released on Sunday, 13 March 2022 – simultaneous to the broadcast on ARTE television – by our media partner ARTE as part of the ARTE Opera Season via the ARTE Concert streaming service. The recording is a co-production of Saxon State Opera and ZDF/ARTE as part of the »ARTE Opera Season« in collaboration with UNITEL.

»Aida« Giuseppe Verdi
Opera lirica in four acts
Staged by Katharina Thalbach

Premiere at 6 pm on Saturday, 5 March 2022, in the Semperoper Dresden
Further performances on 9, 13, 17 & 20 March as well as 3, 5 & 9 July 2022
With Krassimira Stoyanova, Georg Zeppenfeld, Francesco Meli and Quinn Kelsey, amongst others.

The Staatskapelle Dresden will play under its Principal Conductor, Christian Thielemann. The production also features the State Opera Chorus and the Dresden Symphonic Chorus (the Semperoper's auxiliary choir).

This production is generously supported by the Semperoper Foundation.
The media partner ARTE will present »Aida« as part of the »ARTE Opera« season.

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For more details, please visit our website: semperoper.de.

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