



THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA  
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS



Principal Partner, The Royal Opera

# La traviata

OPERA IN THREE ACTS

Music GIUSEPPE VERDI  
Libretto FRANCESCO MARIA PIAVE after Alexandre  
Dumas *filis* play *La Dame aux Camélias*

Conductor ANTONELLO MANACORDA

Director RICHARD EYRE  
Revival Director SIMON IORIO  
Designer BOB CROWLEY  
Lighting Designer JEAN KALMAN  
Director of Movement JANE GIBSON

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS  
Chorus Director WILLIAM SPAULDING

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
Principal Guest Concert Master by arrangement with Trittico  
VASKO VASSILEV

Directed for the screen by IAN RUSSELL

Exceptional philanthropic support from  
Royal Ballet and Opera Principal  
JULIA RAUSING TRUST

Generous philanthropic support from PROFESSOR PAUL  
CARTLEDGE AND JUDITH PORTRAIT OBE

In loving memory of PATRICIA PHILLIPS

## Approximate Timings

The performance lasts approximately 3 hours 10 minutes,  
including two intervals

PRE-SHOW 10 minutes  
ACT I 30 minutes  
INTERVAL (Incl. Interval Feature) 30 minutes  
ACT II 65 minutes  
INTERVAL (Incl. Interval Feature) 30 minutes  
ACT III 30 minutes  
CURTAIN CALL 5 minutes

## Language

Sung in Italian with subtitles

## Cast

Violetta Valéry ERMONELA JAHÓ  
Alfredo Germont GIOVANNI SALA  
Giorgio Germont ALEKSEI ISAEV  
Annina VEENA AKAMA-MAKIA  
Doctor Grenvil BARNABY REA  
Flora Bervoix ELLEN PEARSON\*  
Baron Douphol SAM HIRD\*  
Gastone de Letorières GIORGI GULIASHVILI\*  
Marquis D'Obigny OSSIAN HUSKINSON\*  
Giuseppe ANDREW MACNAIR  
Messenger THOMAS BARNARD  
Servant EUGENE DILLON-HOOPER

\*Jette Parker Artist

Extra Chorus  
Sopranos BERNADETTE LORD, ROSALIND WATERS,  
VANESSA WOODFINE  
Mezzo-sopranos JEANETTE AGER, CLARE MCCALDIN  
Tenors SIMON BIAZECK, ANDREW BUSER,  
ANDREW MACKENZIE-WICKS, RICHARD MONK  
Basses OLIVER GIBBS, GAVIN HORSLEY

Actors PETER COONEY, RICHARD GITTINS, PAULO  
LOPES, DANA MYZER, VIDAL SANCHO, DANIEL SWAN

Dancers FABRIZIO AMANAJAS, ARIANA ARMENAKAS,  
ANDREW ASHTON, PRISCILLA GOMEZ CABRALES,  
RAIN DE RYE BARRETT, STEFANOS DIMOULAS,  
JULIA RUIZ FERNANDEZ, SIMON JAYMES, MARK  
JOSLIN, NATASHA MOSS, DAVID MURLEY,  
EDUARDO NUNEZ, PAULA PUGA, BARNABY  
QUARENDON, LETICIA SANCHEZ, VLAD TRONCEA,  
ROBERT WILKES

Children SASKIA CHEETHAM, EMILIA MENZIES,  
DAISY WALSH

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## Synopsis

ACT I  
A SALON IN VIOLETTA'S HOUSE; AUGUST

Violetta is a well-known Parisian courtesan. At one of her parties, her guest Gastone introduces her to Alfredo Germont. Alfredo and Violetta sing together in praise of wine and pleasure. Violetta invites her guests to dance, but suddenly feels unwell – she is seriously ill with tuberculosis. The guests go on without her, but Alfredo stays behind. He tells Violetta that he is in love with her, and offers to take care of her. The guests leave. Alone, Violetta realizes she is attracted to Alfredo, but in her situation thinks she can only expect to live for pleasure. Her resolve wavers when she hears Alfredo outside.

INTERVAL

ACT II  
SCENE 1: A COUNTRY HOUSE NEAR PARIS;  
THE FOLLOWING JANUARY

Alfredo and Violetta have been living together for three months. Alfredo learns from Violetta's maid Annina that Violetta has been selling her possessions to pay their bills. He leaves for Paris to raise more funds himself. Violetta receives an unexpected visit from Alfredo's father, Giorgio Germont. His daughter's forthcoming marriage is threatened by the scandal of Violetta's affair with Alfredo. He asks Violetta to give up his son. She reluctantly agrees to leave Alfredo, but begs Germont to comfort his son after she has gone. Germont departs, praising her courage. Alfredo returns and after Violetta begs him to always love her, she goes out. A messenger brings Alfredo a note from Violetta, saying that she has left him. Germont returns to comfort his son and beg him to come back to the family home. Alfredo, who doesn't know all that has happened, decides to follow Violetta to Paris.

SCENE 2: A SALON IN FLORA'S HOUSE

Guests gossip, dance and play cards at an elegant party given by Violetta's friend Flora Bervoix. Alfredo arrives and gambles recklessly. Violetta and her new protector Baron Douphol arrive, which provokes Alfredo to challenge the Baron to a game of cards. Alfredo wins. Violetta asks to see Alfredo alone. When she refuses to leave with him, he summons the other guests, and throws his winnings at her as payment for their life together. Germont arrives and denounces his son's insulting behaviour, and the Baron challenges Alfredo to a duel.

INTERVAL

ACT III  
VIOLETTA'S BEDROOM; FEBRUARY

Violetta is dying. She sends Annina to watch the Carnival festivities, and re-reads a letter in which Germont tells her that Alfredo now knows the truth about her sacrifice and will come to her. To Violetta's joy, Alfredo arrives with Annina. Violetta and Alfredo excitedly plan a new life together away from Paris. But they realize that their plans are in vain: Violetta is too ill to recover. With Alfredo, his father, Annina and Doctor Grenvil in attendance, Violetta resigns herself to death. A sudden rush of life convinces her she has recovered, but it is a symptom of the final stage of her illness. She collapses dead in Alfredo's arms.

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## Production

Music preparation PATRICK MILNE, WILLIAM SPAULDING, PEGGY WU\*, NICK FLETCHER, BEN-SAN LAU, DAVID SUTTON-ANDERSON  
Assistant Directors CECILIA STINTON, OSCAR SIMMS  
Assistant to the Movement Director PAULA PUGA  
Language Coaches EMMA ABBATE, ISABELLA RADCLIFFE

\*Jette Parker Artist

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## The Royal Opera

Patron HM THE KING  
Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA  
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS  
Director of Casting PETER MARIO KATONA  
Associate Director NETIA JONES  
Administrative Director CORMAC SIMMS

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