



LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST

PUCCINI - OPERA DE PARIS

10th FEBRUARY LIVE IN CINEMA FROM LA BASTILLE

LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST from Giacomo Puccini was first performed at the New York Metropolitan in 1910. Never before shown in France, this genuine masterpiece finally enters into the repertoire of the Paris Opera and will be broadcast live this 10th February at 19h30.

This broadcast to cinemas is made possible by François Roussillon & Associés, a Paris based producer of major cultural events, and RISING ALTERNATIVE, a leading distributor of classical music programs to cinemas.

The broadcast, containing background information about the opera and interviews with members of the production, is a great opportunity to learn more about this Puccini masterpiece. Starring Nina Stemme, Marco Berti and Claudio Sgura.

Next from the Opera National de Paris:

BALANCHINE y MILLEPIED (ballet), 3rd June
LA TRAVIATA Verdi, 17th June, with Diana Damrau

See **LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST** trailer: <http://youtu.be/tIK6H-NJf64>

LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST, live 10th February 2014 - 19h30 (Paris time)

Opera in three acts by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Guelfo Civinini and Carlo Zangarini, based on David Belasco's play "The Girl of the Golden West"

Sung in Italian

Creative team

Conductor	Carlo Rizzi	Lighting	Duane Schuler
Director	Nikolaus Lehnhoff	Video	Jonas Gerberding
Sets	Raimund Bauer	Choreography	Denni Sayers
Costumes	Andrea Schmidt-Futterer	Chorus master	Patrick Marie Aubert

Cast

Nina Stemme, <i>Minnie</i>	Andrea Mastroni, <i>Ashby</i>
Claudio Sgura, <i>Jack Rance</i>	André Heyboer, <i>Sonora</i>
Marco Berti, <i>Dick Johnson</i>	Emanuele Giannino, <i>Trin</i>
Roman Sadnik, <i>Nick</i>	Roberto Accurso, <i>Sid</i>

Igor Gnidi, *Bello*
Eric Huchet, *Harry*
Rodolphe Briand, *Joe*
Enrico Marabelli, *Happy*
Wenwei Zhang, *Larkens*

Ugo Rabec, *Billy Jackrabbit*
Anna Pennisi, *Wowkle*
Alexandre Duhamel, *Jake Wallace*
Matteo Peirone, *José Castro*
Paris Opera Orchestra and Chorus

About:

La Fanciulla del West was commissioned by, and first performed at, the Metropolitan Opera in New York on December 10, 1910, and starred Enrico Caruso and Emmy Destinn, for whom Puccini created the leading roles. Also in the cast was Pasquale Amato as *Jack Rance*. The Met's music director Arturo Toscanini conducted. This was the Metropolitan Opera's first world premiere, and it was well-received in the United States. However, the opera was never quite as popular in Europe, except perhaps in Germany. There, it enjoyed a triumphant premiere at the Deutsche Opernhaus in Berlin (now known as the Deutsche Oper) in March 1913, under the musical direction of Ignatz Waghalter.

Other premieres took place in London on May 29, 1911 at Covent Garden Theatre, in Rome on June 12, 1911 at the Teatro Costanzi, in Buenos Aires on July 25, 1911 at the Teatro Colón, and in Melbourne on June 11, June 1912 at Her Majesty's Theatre.

The Metropolitan Opera presented the work in its 2010-2011 season to celebrate this opera's 100th anniversary.

"In those strange days, people coming from God knows where, joined forces in that far Western land, and, according to the rude custom of the camp, their very names were soon lost and unrecorded, and here they struggled, laughed, gambled, cursed, killed, loved and worked out their strange destinies in a manner incredible to us of to-day. Of one thing only are we sure - they lived!"

Puccini prefaced his score with this quotation and, indeed, it is life itself that he aimed to capture, in a trail that would lead him to Paris in *La Bohème*, to Japan in *Madama Butterfly* and then as far as the Far West in a tale of passion, certainly, but also of humanity, brotherhood and compassion. In a saloon bar known as The Polka, gold diggers brood over mothers left behind in Italy whilst Minnie, behind the bar, reads to them from the Bible. Love will come to Minnie in the guise of a criminal but, seeing beyond mere appearances; she will recognize the true heart beneath the rough exterior and realize the possibility of happiness. In the wake of the first literary westerns and as cinema began to exploit the genre, Puccini gave opera its first ever western: a tale of souls stranded at the edge of the world, a tale of laughter and of tears, both exotic and overwhelming. First performed at the Metropolitan Opera of New York in 1910, this genuine masterpiece finally enters the repertoire of the Paris Opera.

RISING ALTERNATIVE, is one of the world's leading alternative content distributors and brings the extraordinary productions of many of the world's most prestigious cultural institutions to cinemas, cultural centers and other public venues worldwide. Milan's LA SCALA, OPERA DE PARIS, the SALZBURG FESTIVAL, the WIENER STAATSOPER and the SAN FRANCISCO OPERA and THE OPERA DE PARIS are just a few of the opera venues in its catalogue www.risingalternative.com

The company, with offices in New York, Berlin, Barcelona and Milan is ideally positioned to support its partners in exhibition and provide cinemas and audiences with a slate of 24 programs a year, 13 of which will be broadcast LIVE in HD in 2013-2014. Its exhibition partner network includes more than 1000 screens in 40 countries. Rising Alternative management has been involved in the international distribution of cultural content to cinemas since 2006.

LA FANCIULLA

DEL WEST

PUCCINI



Conductor: Carlo Rizzi
Director: Nikolaus Lehnhoff

Starring: Nina Stemme
Marco Berti
Claudio Sgura

LIVE IN CINEMA

FEB 10th 2014



RISING ALTERNATIVE

Barbara Berini
Business Development Manager