



# RIGOLETTO

## LIVE FROM THE WIENER STAATSOPER DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> IN CINEMAS

Saturday 20th December 2014, RIGOLETTO from the Wiener Staatsoper will be released LIVE to cinemas around the world.

The South Korean maestro Myung-Whun Chung conducts Pierre Audi's production starring British baritone Simon Keenlyside as Rigoletto, Polish tenor Piotr Beczala as *Duque de Mantua* and the American soprano Erin Morley as *Gilda*; a great international cast for an irresistible Verdi classic that will be released in HD by satellite from one of the most prestigious stages in the world.

Watch the trailer for RIGOLETTO: [http://youtu.be/TZ\\_XcExqB-w](http://youtu.be/TZ_XcExqB-w)

This LIVE event is made possible by **UNITEL CLASSICA** and **RISING ALTERNATIVE** enabling opera lovers around the world to enjoy this great Verdi masterpiece. Featuring one of the most renowned baritones alive, Simon Keenlyside, along with two great artists, Piotr Beczala and Erin Morley, *Rigoletto* will delight audiences around the world.

### RIGOLETTO

Giuseppe Verdi

Wiener Staatsoper

LIVE December 20, 2014

Starting Time: 19h30 (local time)

#### CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	Myung-Whun Chung
Director	Pierre Audi
Sets	Christof Hetzer
Lights	Bernd Purkrabek
Dramaturgy	Bettina Auer
Chorus	Wiener Staatsoper Chorus
Orchestra	Wiener Staatsoper Orchestra

## ARTISTIC TEAM

Rigoletto	Simon Keenlyside
Duke of Mantua	Piotr Beczała
Gilda	Erin Morley
Maddalena	Elena Maximova

## ABOUT THE TITLE

Considered one of Giuseppe Verdi's greatest accomplishments, *Rigoletto* continues to enthrall audiences worldwide with its tragic plot and famous arias. One of the most popular arias of all time, "La donna e' mobile," is so catchy that prior to *Rigoletto's* Venice premiere in 1851, Verdi swore the tenor to secrecy, forbidding him to sing, hum, or whistle the aria anywhere except in his private rehearsals.

A tragedy of social injustice and inequality, *Rigoletto* explores the self-hate of the titular hunchbacked court jester, a typical Verdian character who oscillates between affection for his daughter and contempt for the nobility. Caught up in the Duke's lascivious lifestyle, Rigoletto is cursed for his complicity. An intense drama of passion, deceit, filial love, revenge and murder, *Rigoletto* perfectly combines melodic richness with dramatic power, features which both characterize Verdi's opera masterpieces and ensure them a permanent place in the world's operatic repertoire.

**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. OPERA DE PARIS, the SALZBURG FESTIVAL, the WIENER STAATSOPER, the SAN FRANCISCO OPERA, TEATRO REAL de Madrid and the GRAN TEATRE del LICEU de Barcelona are just a few of the opera venues in its catalogue [www.risingalternative.com](http://www.risingalternative.com).

**UNITEL CLASSICA**, is the worldwide Premium Pay TV Channel for classical music. Founded more than 17 years ago in Germany the channel reaches now into more than 40 platforms in 17 countries. Its label includes productions from all the major festivals and theaters in the world, including the Wiener Staatsoper [www.unitelclassica.es](http://www.unitelclassica.es) / [www.unitel.de](http://www.unitel.de).



Giovanni Cozzi

[gcozzi@risingalternative.com](mailto:gcozzi@risingalternative.com)