

VICTORIAN OPERA

A woman with long, wavy brown hair is shown from the waist up, wearing a vibrant green, long-sleeved, sequined dress with a high slit. She is looking upwards and to the left with a joyful expression, her mouth open as if singing or laughing. Her right hand is held out, palm up, and a bright, glowing green orb of light emanates from it, surrounded by a cascade of sparkling green particles that drift upwards. The background is dark, featuring vertical wooden slats that create a rhythmic pattern. The overall lighting is warm and dramatic, highlighting the woman and the magical light effect.

SEASON
2027

Victorian Opera respectfully acknowledges the people of the Eastern Kulin Nation, the Traditional Owners of the unceded land upon which we work and create.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the custodians of the lands and waterways across the Australian continent and their continuous connection in Caring for Country.

We reflect on our shared responsibility to honour and respect this land and its stories, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

OUR SEASON

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S IOLANTHE

30 January – 3 February
Palais Theatre

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

11 – 13 March
Horti Hall
19 – 21 March
Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat
16 – 23 October
Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse

THE HAPPY PRINCE

7 – 8 May
The Round
14 May
Darebin Arts Centre
21 – 22 May
Bunjil Place

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

29 June – 3 July
Palais Theatre

WINTER SOIREE SERIES

23 July – 27 August
Horti Hall

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE ROBERT SALZER FOUNDATION

18 August
Arts Centre Melbourne, Hamer Hall

DER FREISCHÜTZ

28 – 30 September
Palais Theatre

FIRST LOOK: LOLA MONTEZ

10 – 14 November
Union Theatre

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"I want magic," sings Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and don't we all?

In 2027, Victorian Opera explores a world in which we all experience magic. Not just illusion or theatrical trickery, though there will be plenty of that too, but the deeper magic that happens when a room full of people comes together to feel something profound. That is what opera can do, and that is what Victorian Opera will deliver in 2027.

Our Palais Summer Season opens with *Iolanthe*, a work that reminds us why Gilbert and Sullivan endure. It has often been said that somewhere in the English-speaking world one of their pieces is always being performed, and in 2027 it is Melbourne's turn again. This fantastical blend of Victorian pantomime and satire takes aim at hereditary power and the class system, while showcasing Sullivan at his most inspired. Full of spirit, wit, and beauty, with echoes of Mendelssohn and Wagner, *Iolanthe* stands as one of the most romantic of their collaborations. Designed by Simone Romaniuk, conducted by James Pratt and directed by myself, this gorgeous piece has not been seen in Melbourne since 2002, and its return promises pure enchantment.

In Ballarat, our ongoing commitment to the city continues with a festival anchored by *The Marriage of Figaro*. Following recent productions including *Parrwang Lifts the Sky*, *Mansfield Park*, and *Ned Kelly*, this much-loved opera offers the perfect introduction for new audiences. Presented in English it will feature a vibrant young Australian cast alongside three seasoned performers.



Phoebe Briggs conducts and Eugene Lynch directs. After rehearsals and orchestral preparation in Horti Hall, the production will move to Ballarat for its performances, before returning later in the year for a four-performance season at the Playhouse.

The Ballarat Opera Festival will also include a recital from our 2027 Opera Prize Winners and our annual Big Christmas Sing, a community celebration bringing together Victorian Opera soloists, the Ballarat Symphony Orchestra, and the Ballarat Choral Society under Briggs' direction.

Our Access All Areas schools program returns with *The Happy Prince* by Australian composer and Master of the Queen's Music, Malcolm Williamson. This new production brings Oscar Wilde's classic tale to life as a deeply moving opera. Wilde uses magic not for adventure or spectacle, but to reveal deeper truths about compassion, sacrifice and love; imagine a world in which kindness and self-sacrifice have eternal significance. *The Happy Prince* will be conducted by Simon Bruckard, directed by Elizabeth Hill-Cooper and designed by Louisa Fitzgerald (Set and Costume) and Robert Brown (Lighting).

In June and July, we return to the Palais with André Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Since its premiere in 1998, it has become one of the most widely performed American operas of the modern era. Based on Tennessee Williams' iconic play, the work is richly attuned to the emotional intensity of the drama, with a score that seems to shimmer with heat and tension, infused with subtle jazz influences. Directed by Dean Bryant and conducted by Brett Weymark, this production will draw on the strength of many of Melbourne's great singing actors to bring its complex characters vividly to life.

In August, we raise a toast to our founding partner The Robert Salzer Foundation. Who better to help us celebrate their remarkable contributions to the arts than conductor Richard Mills AO and star soprano Jessica Pratt in a special gala concert!

In October, the Palais hosts *Der Freischütz*, Carl Maria von Weber's landmark Romantic opera. A cornerstone of the German repertoire, it combines dark, gothic atmosphere with extraordinary orchestration and unforgettable vocal writing.

This new production, created in collaboration with the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), will be conducted by Chad Kelly, and draw on a cast of outstanding Australian singers, including those returning from Europe. Designed by Richard Roberts (Set) and Harry Gill (Costume) with lighting by Gavan Swift, and directed by myself, it will offer a thrilling, immersive theatrical experience.

November brings a first look at our major new commission for 2027, *Lola Montez*. This pared back presentation at the Union Theatre will provide a fascinating insight into the full opera presentation in 2028. Composed by Joe Chindamo with a libretto by Peter Tregear, the opera explores the extraordinary life of one of the nineteenth century's most provocative figures. Montez was at once a celebrity, a scandal, and a self-fashioned myth. Her brief time in Australia, particularly in Ballarat and Bendigo, left a lasting impression, sparking both outrage and fascination. Chindamo's music, known for its lyrical intensity and rich harmonic language, captures this larger-than-life story with immediacy and depth. The work promises to be both compelling and theatrically vivid.

Our Horti Hall season at our home on Victoria Street continues to support both experimentation and rediscovery. Alongside a two-piano presentation of *The Marriage of Figaro*, we will also present a series of intimate performances as part of our Winter Soiree Series. The series features singing actors who have worked regularly with our company, now up-close and personal. Victorian Opera's commitment to bringing the widest possible repertoire to our audiences here fuses with the company's passion for showcasing the best of Australian operatic and music theatre voices. This will be an eclectic and fascinating series of entertainments.

Across the year, the thread remains the same; Opera as a shared experience, as emotional truth, as spectacle, and as something as close to 'magic' as we mortals can present.

See you at the opera!

Stuart Maunder AM
Artistic Director

FROM THE CEO

Welcome to Season 2027. This year, we focus on the magic of theatre. We take you to fairyland, New Orleans, and all the way back to the Wolf's Glen. As with all magic, we also offer you, our audience, an insight into how that magic is created.

As Victoria's state opera company, we are proud of all that happens on stage and behind-the-scenes. We've built a profoundly skilled group of artisans who largely remain out of the spotlight. They build sets and costumes, and design and create props. Others run the stage each time our audiences are taken on a journey from the first note of a score to the aching silence before applause, as the final note evaporates into thin air.

As we do each year, we champion new Australian works. In our 22 years of existence, we are presenting our 40th new work, *Lola Montez*. Miss Montez was a remarkable character in her own right, and we celebrate her story with a first look at this new work at the Union Theatre.

As 2027 marks the 40th anniversary of our founding partner, The Robert Salzer Foundation, we are delighted to celebrate the legacy of Robert and Betty's vision with a gala concert at Arts Centre Melbourne's Hamer Hall. Many of the artists who have shaped 40 years of opera in Victoria will come together to celebrate and thank this incredible foundation for its enduring commitment to opera in this state. We are delighted to welcome both Richard Mills AO and star soprano Jessica Pratt back to Victorian Opera to lead this special celebration.

As CEO of Victorian Opera, I am deeply grateful to our Board of Directors, led by Genevieve Overell AM. This group of dedicated individuals keeps the core of our business firmly in focus and works tirelessly to ensure we can deliver on our vision. Our staff are passionate theatre buffs who relish bringing these works to life. It is always humbling on opening night to see just how much work and care goes into each presentation.

Our funding partners, Creative Australia and Creative Victoria, are always with us, supporting this work. We thank them for their ongoing commitment.

And it all comes back to our patrons and audience members. We celebrate you for your support and trust in the vision that is Victorian Opera. Please join us throughout 2027 for the magic of theatre, and so very much more.

Elizabeth Hill-Cooper

Elizabeth Hill-Cooper
CEO





GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S IOLANTHE

30 JANUARY –
3 FEBRUARY

Palais Theatre

A sprinkling of fairy dust will brighten summer in St Kilda as Victorian Opera returns to the Palais Theatre with Gilbert and Sullivan's enchanting comic operetta, *Iolanthe*.

Being a fairy has its perks, but fairy law is unforgiving. Twenty-five years ago, *Iolanthe* was banished from fairyland for marrying a mere mortal. When she is summoned to return, fairy magic collides with the British House of Lords... cue romance, rivalry and ridiculous misunderstandings.

Bringing her signature sparkle to the stage, Australia's favourite leading lady Rhonda Burchmore stars as the Queen of the Fairies. Stephen Anderson, one of musical theatre's most versatile performers, takes on the role of the Queen of the Fairies' chief adversary: the pompous Lord Chancellor, a towering pillar of the English judiciary.

Following the sold-out success of *The Pirates of Penzance* (2026), Artistic Director Stuart Maunder and conductor James Pratt reunite for another irreverent Gilbert and Sullivan classic.

Delight in this farcical story of fairies and their foes!

Composer
Arthur Sullivan

Librettist
W.S. Gilbert

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
James Pratt

Director
Stuart Maunder

Set and Costume
Designer
Simone Romaniuk

Chorographer &
Assistant Director
Anna Tsirigotis

CAST

The Queen of the Fairies
Rhonda Burchmore

Lord Chancellor
Stephen Anderson

Strephon
Alexander Lewis

Phyllis
Rachael Joyce

Iolanthe
Margaret Trubiano

Lord Mountararat
Jeremy Kleeman

Lord Tolloller
Douglas Kelly

Private Willis
Kiran Rajasingam

Celia
Alessia Pintabona

Leila
Aylish Ryan

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra Victoria

Language
Sung in English

Duration
2 hours and 30 minutes,
including interval

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

A photograph of two women peeking from behind a heavy, dark red velvet curtain. The woman on top has long, wavy blonde hair and is smiling. The woman on the bottom has dark, curly hair and is looking upwards with a slight smile. The background is dark, making the red curtain and the women stand out.

11 - 13 MARCH

Horti Hall

19 - 21 MARCH

Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat

16 - 23 OCTOBER

Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse

You are cordially invited to *The Marriage of Figaro*. Dress up or down for Mozart's riotously funny tale of manners, mischief and mayhem.

This beloved comedy follows Figaro and Susanna on their wedding day, as a series of misunderstandings, disguises and schemes threaten to throw their carefully laid plans into chaos.

A cast of rising stars join some of opera's most beloved seasoned performers to bring Mozart's masterpiece to life.

Experience this vibrant new production up close at Victorian Opera's home, Horti Hall, accompanied by two pianos, before it travels to Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat and Arts Centre Melbourne, where it will be performed with chamber orchestra.

Bursting with wit and some of the most glorious music ever written, *The Marriage of Figaro* is guaranteed to leave you with a smile on your face and a spring in your step.

Composer
W.A. Mozart

Librettist
Lorenzo Da Ponte

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
Phoebe Briggs

Director
Eugene Lynch

Set and Costume Designer
Savanna Wegman

CAST

Susanna
Rachael Joyce

Figaro
Kiran Rajasingam

Count
Michael Honeyman

Countess
Alessia Pintabona

Cherubino
Aylish Ryan

Basilio / Curzio
Douglas Kelly

Marcellina
Dimity Shepherd

ORCHESTRA

Victorian Opera
Chamber Orchestra
(Her Majesty's Theatre
Ballarat / Arts Centre
Melbourne, Playhouse)

Piano accompaniment
(Horti Hall)

Language
Sung in English

Duration
2 hours and 40 minutes,
including interval

PRESENTING
PARTNER
(BALLARAT)



THE HAPPY PRINCE



7-22 MAY

The Round
Darebin Arts Centre
Bunjil Place

The enduring charm of Oscar Wilde's storytelling comes to the stage in *The Happy Prince*, adapted by celebrated Australian composer Malcolm Williamson.

High above the town stands a magnificent golden statue of a prince, glittering with jewels and admired by all who pass below. But beneath his dazzling exterior lies a heart heavy with sadness. Looking out across the town, the Happy Prince sees the hardship faced by its people.

When a Swallow stops to rest at the statue's feet, an unexpected friendship forms. Together, they set out to help those in need by sharing the Prince's precious jewels. As they bring comfort and kindness to others, the Prince and the Swallow discover that true riches are found not in gold or gems, but in compassion, generosity and selflessness.

Filled with warmth, humour and heart, *The Happy Prince* is a moving tale of friendship and sacrifice reminding us that true beauty comes from caring for others.

Director Elizabeth Hill-Cooper and conductor Simon Bruckard weave theatrical magic through this delightful Australian work, creating the perfect first opera for the young people in your life.

Presented in association with
Melbourne Conservatorium of Music,
The University of Melbourne

GENEROUSLY
SUPPORTED BY



RELAXED PERFORMANCE IS SUPPORTED BY
Marian & E H Flack Trust
William Angliss Charitable Trust
Besen Family Foundation

Composer / Librettist
Malcolm Williamson
Based on the 1888 story
The Happy Prince
by Oscar Wilde

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
Simon Bruckard

Director
Elizabeth Hill-Cooper

Set and Costume Designer
Louisa Fitzgerald

Lighting Designer
Robert Brown

CAST

Featuring Victorian Opera's
Emerging Artists

ORCHESTRA

Victorian Opera
Chamber Orchestra

Language
Sung in English

Duration
50 minutes

PRODUCTION PATRON
We extend our sincere thanks and
appreciation to Jane Hemstrich AO



A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

29 JUNE - 3 JULY

Palais Theatre

Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* remains one of the greatest American plays of the twentieth century.

The story of a faded Southern belle caught between a grand vision of herself and the harsh realities of life has resonated through popular culture for decades. First staged in 1947, Williams' masterpiece is continually revived, while its screen adaptations have become iconic, from Marlon Brando's definitive Stanley Kowalski to Cate Blanchett's unforgettable portrayal of a similarly fractured heroine in *Blue Jasmine*.

In his operatic adaptation, André Previn brings the blues-infused atmosphere of New Orleans vividly to life, drawing out the story's innate musicality. Richly lyrical and deeply affecting, the score illuminates Blanche's fragile self-image and desperate longing for beauty and escape, set against the brutal force of an emerging modern world.

Celebrated soprano Antoinette Halloran is set to deliver a tour-de-force performance as Blanche DuBois, joined by a powerhouse cast including Samuel Dundas as the thuggish Stanley, Alessia Pintabona as Blanche's younger sister, Stella, and Alexander Lewis as Blanche's possible love interest and saviour, Mitch.

Director Dean Bryant returns to Victorian Opera following his acclaimed production of *Candide*, with conductor Brett Weymark leading Orchestra Victoria.

PRODUCTION PATRON
We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Peter Laver AM

Composer
André Previn

Librettist
Philip Littell

Based on the Tennessee Williams play of the same name.

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
Brett Weymark

Director
Dean Bryant

CAST

Blanche
Antoinette Halloran

Stanley
Samuel Dundas

Stella
Alessia Pintabona

Mitch
Alexander Lewis

Eunice Hubble
Olivia Cranwell

Steve Hubble
Michael Petrucci

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra Victoria

Language
Sung in English

Duration
2 hours and 45 minutes, including interval



DER FREISCHÜTZ

28 – 30 SEPTEMBER

Palais Theatre

The stakes couldn't be higher for Max. A once-gifted marksman whose aim is failing him, he must win a crucial shooting competition to secure his future and bride-to-be.

Lost in the blackness of the forest and gripped by fear, supernatural seduction leads to a dangerous dance with the Devil. Seven magic bullets. Six will strike their mark. But the Devil controls the final shot.

Gothic grandeur, the lyrical beauty of German Romanticism and a timeless tale of temptation and fate fuse in Carl Maria von Weber's *Der Freischütz*.

Seize this rare opportunity to experience one of opera's greatest masterpieces in a brooding new production by Stuart Maunder, featuring the ANAM Orchestra conducted by Chad Kelly and a luminary cast of singers including Joshua Bloom, Kiandra Howarth, Kyle Stegall and Meechot Marrero.

Dark, thrilling and, naturally, unmissable.

Composer
Carl Maria von Weber

Librettist
Friedrich Kind

Based on a story
by Johann August Apel
and Friedrich Laun.

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
Chad Kelly

Director
Stuart Maunder

Set Designer
Richard Roberts

Costume Designer
Harry Gill

Lighting Designer
Gavan Swift

CAST

Max
Kyle Stegall

Agathe
Kiandra Howarth

Kaspar
Joshua Bloom

Annchen
Meechot Marrero

Hermit / Zamiel
Adrian Tamburini

Kuno
Simon Meadows

ORCHESTRA

Australian National
Academy of Music (ANAM)
Orchestra

Language
Sung in German

Duration
2 hours and 20 minutes,
including interval

GENEROUSLY
SUPPORTED BY



PRODUCTION PATRON

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation
to Hans & Peta Henkell - Henkell Family Fund



FIRST LOOK: LOLA MONTEZ

10 – 14 NOVEMBER

Union Theatre

Be among the first to discover Victorian Opera's newest commission, *Lola Montez*, in a first-look premiere presented with University of Melbourne Arts and Culture.

Scandalous, ambitious and endlessly fascinating, Lola Montez was one of the 19th century's most celebrated courtesans and performers. Based on her unbelievable true story, trace the master of reinvention's transformation from Irish lass Eliza James to Spanish dancer Lola Montez as she courted kings and controversies across Europe and in the goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo.

Acclaimed soprano Nina Korbe embodies the legendary showgirl in a new opera by composer Joe Chindamo and writer Peter Tregear. Experience this stripped-back first look and listen directed by Stuart Maunder and conducted by Phoebe Briggs.

Composer
Joe Chindamo
Librettist
Peter Tregear

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor
Phoebe Briggs
Director
Stuart Maunder

CAST

Lola Montez
(Eliza James)
Nina Korbe
The Ghost
(Noel Folland)
James Egglestone
Lt George Lennox /
Henry Seekamp
Jeremy Kleeman
Theatre Manager
(London / Ballarat) /
King Ludwig 1
Samuel Dundas
Mrs James /
Therese of Saxe
Hildburghausen
Emily Edmonds
Quartet
Rachael Joyce, Alessia
Pintabona, Bailey
Montgomerie, Joshua
Morton-Galea

Language
Sung in English

Duration
90 minutes

GENEROUSLY
SUPPORTED BY



23 JULY -
27 AUGUST

Horti Hall

WINTER SOIREE SERIES

Escape the winter blues in 2027 with a series of intimate performances by exceptional artists.

Friday 23 July, 7:30pm:
Dimity Shepherd: Opera Closets

Step into much-loved mezzo Dimity Shepherd's magical imaginary playground where personal style meets costume and transformation begins. A frock opera you won't want to miss!

Friday 30 July, 7:30pm:
Michael Petruccelli: The Wandering Heart

Award-winning tenor Michael Petruccelli and celebrated pianist Phillipa Safey perform three extraordinary song cycles exploring love, longing, and the search for belonging.

Friday 6 August, 7:30pm:
Jeremy Kleeman and Alex Raineri:
Songs of Travel and Small Heads

Jeremy Kleeman and Alex Raineri present an evening of art song in English, built around one of its great cycles: Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel*.

Friday 13 August, 7:30pm:
Johanna Allen: The Songs That Got Away

The songs are famous. The man behind them is not. Harold Arlen gave the world *Stormy Weather*, *Get Happy* and *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, yet his extraordinary life remains largely unrecognised. Acclaimed artist Johanna Allen shines a light on this legendary composer in a compelling musical play featuring his most celebrated standards and showtunes.

Friday 27 August, 7:30pm:
Lucy Maunder: The Space Between the Notes

Stepping away from the characters we've come to know her for, leading lady Lucy Maunder shares the songs that have shaped her. Through music and stories, she traces a journey of doubt, discovery and joy, revealing the moments that happen not in the spotlight, but in the spaces between.

18 AUGUST

Arts Centre Melbourne,
Hamer Hall



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE ROBERT SALZER FOUNDATION

In 1987, Bob and Betty Salzer established a foundation with a simple yet powerful vision: to support the arts and share their enduring love of opera.

Forty years on, The Robert Salzer Foundation has become a cornerstone of Victoria's cultural life, contributing more than \$15 million to help bring the transformative power of art to audiences, individuals and organisations across the state.

To mark their anniversary, Victorian Opera raises a toast to our founding partner with a gala concert conducted by Richard Mills AO and starring globally adored soprano Jessica Pratt in her long-awaited return to Melbourne. Join us and our family of artists as we celebrate The Robert Salzer Foundation's extraordinary legacy with an evening of unforgettable music.



CALENDAR

Subscribe to Season 2027 for best pricing and true flexibility. Subscription tickets start at \$35 with a price to suit every budget. Don't miss our new 30 Years & Under Membership.

IOLANTHE

Palais Theatre
Tickets \$39 – \$175

Saturday 30 January, 7:30pm (P)

Monday 1 February, 7:30pm (30)

Tuesday 2 February, 7:30pm

Wednesday 3 February, 2:00pm & 7:30pm

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

Horti Hall
Tickets \$45

Thursday 11 March, 7:30pm

Saturday 13 March, 2:00pm

Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat
Tickets \$39 – \$90

Friday 19 March, 7:30pm (P)

Sunday 21 March, 2:00pm (P)

Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse
Tickets \$39 – \$155

Saturday 16 October, 7:30pm

Tuesday 19 October, 7:30pm (30)

Thursday 21 October, 7:30pm

Saturday 23 October, 2:00pm

(P) PATRONS' PRE-SHOW RECEPTION

(30) 30 AND UNDER PRE-SHOW EVENT

(R) RELAXED PERFORMANCE

THE HAPPY PRINCE

Tickets \$42 Adult / \$28 Child
Digital Access \$30

The Round

Friday 7 May, 1:00pm (R) (AD)

Saturday 8 May, 2:00pm (P)

Darebin Arts Centre

Friday 14 May, 6:30pm

Bunjil Place

Friday 21 May, 1:00pm (R)

Saturday 22 May, 2:00pm (P)

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

Palais Theatre
Tickets \$39 – \$165

Tuesday 29 June, 7:30pm (30)

Thursday 1 July, 7:30pm (P)

Saturday 3 July, 7:30pm

WINTER SOIREE SERIES

Horti Hall
Tickets \$45

Friday 23 July, 7:30pm - Dmitry Shepherd

Friday 30 July, 7:30pm - Michael Petruccelli

Friday 6 August, 7:30pm - Jeremy Kleeman and Alex Ranieri

Friday 13 August, 7:30pm - Johanna Allen

Friday 27 August, 7:30pm - Lucy Maunder

(P) LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE

(AD TT) AUDIO DESCRIBED AND TACTILE TOUR PERFORMANCE

(G) WORLD PREMIERE

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE ROBERT SALZER FOUNDATION (GALA CONCERT)

Arts Centre Melbourne, Hamer Hall
Tickets \$39 – \$180

Wednesday 18 August, 7:30pm

DER FREISCHÜTZ

Palais Theatre
Tickets \$39 – \$170

Tuesday 28 September, 7:30pm (30)

Thursday 30 September, 7:30pm (P)

FIRST LOOK: LOLA MONTEZ

Union Theatre
Tickets \$39 – \$60

Wednesday 10 November, 7:30pm (P) (G)

Thursday 11 November, 7:30pm (30)

Friday 12 November, 6:30pm
Forum Discussion Event
(No scheduled performance)

Saturday 13 November, 7:30pm

Sunday 14 November, 2:00pm

KEY DATES

Tuesday 22 September

2027 Subscriptions on sale,
Iolanthe available for general sale.

Tuesday 13 October

Remaining Season 2027 tickets
on general sale.

TICKET FEES & CHARGES

Additional fees and charges will apply based on ticketing agency and delivery method chosen. Transaction fees do not apply to tickets purchased via Subscription. A delivery fee may apply for tickets sent via post.

TICKETING DETAILS

2027 Concessions include: Pension and Health Care Card holders, full-time students, and MEAA members. Other discount prices available: Senior, 30 years and under, Mob Tix and Child (14 years and under) for select performances. Companion Card ticketing available.

Victorian Opera
Subscriptions 1300 822 849
Box Office 03 9001 6400 (Option 1)
victorianopera.com.au

Palais Theatre
03 8537 7677
ticketmaster.com.au

Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse and Hamer Hall
1300 182 183
artscentremelbourne.com.au

Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat and Civic Hall
03 5333 5888
hermaj.com

The Round
03 9262 6555
theround.com.au

Darebin Arts Centre
03 8470 8280
arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/Arts-venues/Darebin-Arts-Centre

Bunjil Place
03 9709 9700
bunjilplace.com.au

For more information on each venue,
visit: victorianopera.com.au/venues



Terms & Conditions:

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ABOUT US

Victorian Opera is Victoria's state opera company.

We honour the centuries-old history of opera's boundless creativity while captivating audiences with relevant, creative and accessible work.

We create productions that inspire, challenge and stir the soul. Since our inception in 2005, our annual commission program has seen over 40 new Australian works written, produced and performed.

In 2021, Victorian Opera was admitted to the National Performing Arts Partnership Framework in recognition of our outstanding contribution to Australia's artistic landscape. This acknowledgement and added financial investment enable us to deepen collaborative ties throughout the industry, and stage productions across the state, the country and beyond.

In 2027, we are delivering more productions and concerts that showcase and promote Australia's vibrant performing arts scene. We employ hundreds of singers, instrumentalists,

theatre-makers and technicians to bring our creative vision to life, and engage audiences with this glorious art form.

A key focus of our organisation is to uncover and develop the talent of emerging artists, both on-stage and behind-the-scenes. From singers to prop makers to costumiers and everyone in between, artists work on productions with Victorian Opera to enrich their career. We delight in the hunger of these practitioners to learn and, ultimately, give back to the future of opera and music theatre.

Our community of Patrons, funding partners and creative industry professionals is truly remarkable. This vibrant network continues to champion Victorian Opera's artistic vision in its vital role sustaining and advancing our creative practice.

We invite you to join us in 2027. See you at the opera!

VICTORIAN OPERA TEAM

Founding Music Director
The late Richard Gill AO

Chair
Genevieve Overell AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sharolyn Kimmorley AM
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Michael Smolders
Patricia Stebbens
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Amanda Watt
Gillian Wong

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Elizabeth Hill-Cooper
Artistic Director
Stuart Maunder AM
Head of Finance and Corporate Services
Anna Lewis

ARTISTIC & EDUCATION

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Phoebe Briggs
Company Manager
Hannah Bullen
Acting Company Manager
Matt Bebbington
Repetiteur
Tom Griffiths
Artistic and Operations Coordinator
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VOYCE Director
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SALES

Audience Engagement Manager
Nichole O'Duffy
Ticketing Coordinator
Lindsay Mulcahy

PRODUCTION

Head of Production
Robert Brown
Head Mechanist
Taylor Joynes
Costume Manager
Cortnee Jarvis

EDUCATION AND PATHWAYS

Victorian Opera is committed to giving audiences of all ages a deeper insight into every aspect of live production. Our program for emerging artists across all areas of the performing arts creates pathways for practitioners to excel and flourish.

ACCESS ALL AREAS

Created for primary school-age children, our Access All Areas program involves four interactive, 25-minute workshops available to stream live or on demand. Each workshop showcases a different aspect of staging an opera: the voice, design, technical production and the orchestra. The program concludes with watching a children's opera at the theatre, streamed live or on demand.

In 2027, Access All Areas will be available for *The Happy Prince*.

LEARNING RESOURCES

A written resource will accompany productions in 2027. They offer deeper insights into the works, such as interviews with Set & Costume Designers, fascinating aspects of the opera's history, and introductions to cast members.

These resources are suitable for anyone attending a performance, who may want to discover more about the opera or musical being staged.

VICTORIAN OPERA YOUTH CHORUS ENSEMBLE (VOYCE)

We invite young singers between ages 15 and 21 to audition to join the year-long Youth Chorus Ensemble. Across each school term, participants rehearse Tuesday evenings and work closely with Victorian Opera's music staff. The program culminates in an annual VOYCE Concert.

YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Victorian Opera's Youth Ambassador Program is focussed on offering a diverse group of Year 11 secondary school students an in-depth introduction to opera. Each Ambassador receives complimentary tickets to attend Victorian Opera's performances, meet members of the team creating the show, and enjoy meetups with their fellow Ambassadors.

EMERGING ARTISTS' PROGRAM

Each year, Victorian Opera presents a production that highlights emerging artists with less than ten years of professional experience. Selected through audition, performers and technicians collaborate with Victorian Opera to deliver a work as part of the company's season.

The emerging artist production for 2027 is *The Happy Prince*.

EMERGING ARTIST OPERA PRIZE

Each year, up to four singers are competitively selected for salaried positions with Victorian Opera. These emerging artists work closely with Victorian Opera's music staff and Artistic Director through weekly coaching, gaining valuable professional experience and mentorship. Across each season, they feature in productions, recitals and special events.





Nina Korbe, appearing here backstage as Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, returns to Victorian Opera in the title role of *Lola Montez* in 2027.

BECOME A PATRON

THE MAGIC BEGINS WITH YOU

Become a Patron and help bring unforgettable opera and musical theatre to life.

The generosity of our community of Patrons and opera lovers is at the heart of Victorian Opera. Their passion for this remarkable art form ensures we can continue creating and presenting outstanding productions year after year.

The impact of our Patrons' annual contributions cannot be overstated. Their tax-deductible support plays a vital role in everything we do, enabling Victorian Opera to create and share the magic of opera.

Become a Patron and experience first-hand how your support makes a difference.

Our Patrons' Engagement Program introduces you to an inner circle of likeminded supporters and our exclusive activities and events for 2027 include:

2027 Opera Prize Winners Recital

Hear our Opera Prize scholarship recipients in a private recital at Horti Hall and meet the artists afterwards in an intimate reception.

2027 Rehearsal Series

Enjoy a sneak peek into the rehearsal process for our productions. The series offers exclusive behind-the-scenes access revealing how a production evolves from score to stage. It's an informative and enriching way to see our creatives, artists and technicians at work in our studio and observe how your investment supports the work we do.

Patrons' Pre-show Receptions

Patrons holding tickets to our mainstage productions will be invited to an exclusive pre-show reception on designated performance nights. During these events, you will hear insights into the production and enjoy opportunities to connect with our inner circle Patrons.

2027 CALENDAR PATRONS' PRE-SHOW RECEPTIONS

Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*

Saturday 30 January
6:15pm–7:15pm

The Marriage of Figaro

Friday 19 March
6:15pm–7:15pm

Sunday 21 March

12:45pm–1:45pm

The Happy Prince

Saturday 8 May
12:45pm–1:45pm

A Streetcar Named Desire

Thursday 1 July
6:15pm–7:15pm

Der Freischütz

Thursday 30 September
6:15pm–7:15pm

Lola Montez

Wednesday 10 November
6:15pm–7:15pm

Please note that for all Palais Theatre pre-show receptions, Patrons will incur a cost of \$20 per person.

For more information, please contact:
Louise Lemke, Head of Development
louise@victorianopera.com.au

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Shirley Breese
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Nola Daley
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Margaret Cash
Paul & Sheryl Coughlin
Beatrice & Richard Donkin
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Lauren Mosso
Charles Edmonds
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Greg Noonan
Merlyn Quaife AM
Dr Garry Joslin &
Prof. Dimity Reed AM
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Sparky Foundation
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Caroline Travers OAM &
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Christina Turner
Ian Watts OAM
Margot & the late Richard Welton

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Lyn Williams AC
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Bequestors

Jenny Anderson
Lesley Bawden
Roger Chao
Frank & Danielle Chamberlin
Peter & Jenny Hordern
Peter Hourigan
Jane Kunstler
Richard Laslett & Colin Gunther
Gregory J Reinhardt AM
Chris & Helen Trueman
Peter Turner
Geoffrey Blick & Lorraine Weiner
Tony Wildman & Robert Gibbs
Secret Admirers (7)

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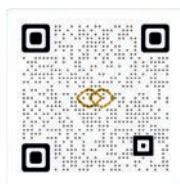
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30 YEARS & UNDER MEMBERSHIP



Take advantage of Victorian Opera's 30 Years & Under Membership in Season 2027.

Experience the magic of opera and music theatre for just \$30 per performance and enjoy access to a series of members-only events with likeminded arts lovers.

To join, purchase 30 Years & Under tickets to two or more shows as part of our dedicated Membership and unlock benefits including:

30 YEARS & UNDER MEMBER BENEFITS

Book to the below performance dates and join our member events:

Gilbert and Sullivan's
Iolanthe
Monday 1 February

A Streetcar Named Desire
Tuesday 29 June

Der Freischütz
Tuesday 28 September

The Marriage of Figaro
Tuesday 19 October

First Look: Lola Montez
Thursday 11 November

AN EXCLUSIVE INVITATION

Join an invite-only event in Season 2027.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Dedicated \$30 tickets are available for all performances and price levels, excluding Premium seats. To be eligible for a 30 Years & Under Membership and ticket offer, you must be aged 30 years or under at the time of purchase.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICING

Enjoy a Season 2027 built just for you! Choose any combination of 2 or more shows to save up to 20% on every ticket and create your perfect year of opera including priority treatment and fantastic benefits. Don't miss our special 30 Years & Under Membership.

Prices displayed are for Adult Subscription tickets.

All discounts are already applied based on standard, full-priced tickets.

PRODUCTION	TICKET TYPE	PREMIUM	A	B	C	D	ONE RESERVE
Gilbert and Sullivan's Iolanthe	Adult	\$140	\$124	\$79	\$55	\$35	
	Concession	\$132	\$116	\$71	\$47	\$35	
	Senior	\$136	\$120	\$75	\$51	\$35	
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	
The Marriage of Figaro (Horti Hall)	Adult						\$36
	Concession						\$32
	Senior						\$33
	30yrs & Under						\$30
	Child (up to 14yrs)						\$24
The Marriage of Figaro (Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat)	Adult		\$72	\$52	\$35		
	Concession		\$64	\$44	\$35		
	Senior		\$68	\$48	\$35		
	30yrs & Under			\$30	\$30		
	Child (up to 14yrs)		\$24	\$24	\$24		
The Happy Prince	Adult						\$33
	Concession						\$27
	Senior						\$29
	30yrs & Under						\$24
	Child (up to 14yrs)						\$22
A Streetcar Named Desire	Adult	\$132	\$112	\$79	\$55	\$35	
	Concession	\$124	\$104	\$71	\$47	\$35	
	Senior	\$128	\$108	\$75	\$51	\$35	
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	

PRODUCTION	TICKET TYPE	PREMIUM	A	B	C	D	ONE RESERVE
Winter Soiree Series	Adult						\$36
	Concession						\$32
	Senior						\$33
	30yrs & Under						\$30
	Child (up to 14yrs)						\$24
Celebrating 40 Years of The Robert Salzer Foundation	Adult	\$144	\$132	\$84	\$63	\$35	
	Concession	\$136	\$124	\$76	\$55	\$35	
	Senior	\$140	\$128	\$80	\$59	\$35	
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	
Der Freischütz	Adult	\$136	\$116	\$79	\$55	\$35	
	Concession	\$128	\$108	\$71	\$47	\$35	
	Senior	\$132	\$112	\$75	\$51	\$35	
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	
The Marriage of Figaro (Arts Centre Melbourne)	Adult	\$124	\$104	\$79	\$55	\$35	
	Concession	\$116	\$96	\$71	\$47	\$35	
	Senior	\$120	\$100	\$75	\$51	\$35	
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24	
First Look: Lola Montez	Adult	\$48	\$44	\$41	\$35		
	Concession	\$44	\$40	\$37	\$35		
	Senior	\$45	\$42	\$39	\$35		
	30yrs & Under		\$30	\$30	\$30		
	Child (up to 14yrs)	\$24	\$24	\$24	\$24		
The Big Christmas Sing	Adult						\$31
	Concession						\$26
	Senior						\$28
	30yrs & Under						\$24
	Child (up to 14yrs)						\$16

ACCESSIBILITY

Victorian Opera is committed to producing opera and musical theatre for everyone. We work diligently to ensure our productions allow the entire audience to get the most out of their experience. We offer a wide range of initiatives and resources for greater accessibility.



VISION, HEARING AND MOBILITY

- Surtitles or scene descriptors
- Assisted listening devices (various venues)
- Relaxed Performance (*The Happy Prince*)
- Wheelchair-accessible car parking and venue access
- Accessible toilet facilities
- Wheelchair and limited mobility seating
- Assistance animals are welcome in all our venues

TICKETING

- Accessible pricing for Pension and Health Care Card holders, full-time students, Senior Card holders, children, and 30 years & under
- Companion Card ticketing
- Complimentary programmes for all performances

MOB TIX

Victorian Opera offers First Nations audience members access to discounted tickets to its productions.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from Australia are eligible, as well as Māori, Pasifika and First Nations people from other countries.

MORE INFORMATION

victorianopera.com.au/access
(03) 9001 6400

For venue-specific accessibility details
victorianopera.com.au/venues

RELAXED PERFORMANCE



The Happy Prince

Friday 7 May, 1:00pm
The Round

Friday 21 May, 1:00pm
Bunjil Place

Relaxed performances are for anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed environment.

This can include, but is not limited to, people with autism, sensory sensitivities, Tourette's syndrome, learning disabilities or dementia, as well as people living with anxiety or people who have experienced trauma.

AUDIO DESCRIBED AND TACTILE TOUR PERFORMANCE



The Happy Prince

Friday 7 May, 1:00pm
The Round

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We accept credit or debit card (Mastercard, VISA, AMEX).

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PURCHASING A SUBSCRIPTION FOR MORE THAN ONE PERSON:

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If you're booking separately, let us know the Subscribers you wish to be seated with and ask the other Subscriber to do the same. Bookings made at approximately the same time are more likely to be seated together.



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