



Valerie Barber PR

### **Carlo Rizzi returns to the Metropolitan Opera to conduct 2017-18 season opening's *Norma***

*"What gives this show its compulsive force, however, is the energy of Carlo Rizzi's conducting and the impassioned singing of the cast and, particularly, the chorus. Rizzi simply refuses to let the tempos sag, even when his singers seem to want more time, and he is right: Bellini needs this impetus."*  
*The Times on I Puritani at Welsh National Opera, September 2015*

This September, Italian conductor Carlo Rizzi steps onto the Metropolitan Opera's podium once again to open the 2017-18 season with Bellini's *Norma*, in a new production directed by Sir David McVicar. He returns to conduct the bel canto masterpiece in New York having inaugurated the previous production, which opened in 2001 and was staged until 2013. A performance will be relayed live into cinemas throughout the world on Saturday 7 October 2017 as part of *The Met: Live in HD* broadcast series. Soprano Sondra Radvanovsky shares the title role with Marina Rebeka, whilst tenor Joseph Calleja sings Pollione and mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato takes on the role of Adalgisa. At the Met, Rizzi will also conduct a revival of Franco Zeffirelli's beloved production of *Turandot*, with Oksana Dyka in the title role and Marcelo Alvarez as Calaf.

Ranking among today's leading conductors, Carlo Rizzi is Conductor Laureate of Welsh National Opera, as well as International Chair of Conducting at Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Forthcoming engagements also include *La forza del destino* (new production) and *Tosca* at Welsh National Opera (February-April 2018), *Madama Butterfly* at Deutsche Oper Berlin (February-March 2017), *Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci* at Teatro dell'Opera di Roma (new production, April 2018), and *Les contes d'Hoffmann* at Dutch National Opera (new production, June-July 2018).

Carlo Rizzi also conducts the Hallé, tenor Michael Spyres and soprano Joyce El-Khoury in two discs of bel canto rarities on label Opera Rara, due for international release in September 2017.

[www.carlorizzi.com](http://www.carlorizzi.com)

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#### **25, 28 September, 3, 7, 11, 16, 20 October 2017**

#### **The Metropolitan Opera, New York**

**Carlo Rizzi** conductor | **Sondra Radvanovsky / Marina Rebeka** *Norma* | **Joyce DiDonato** Adalgisa | **Joseph Calleja** Pollione | **Matthew Rose / Vazgen Gazaryan** Oroveso | **Sir David McVicar** director | **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra**

#### **Bellini *Norma* - NEW PRODUCTION**

#### **12, 17, 21, 25, 28, 31 October, 4, 8, 11, 16 November 2017**

#### **The Metropolitan Opera, New York**

**Carlo Rizzi** conductor | **Oksana Dyka** *Turandot* | **Maria Agresta / Hei-Kyung Hong** Liù | **Marcelo Álvarez** Calaf | **James Morris / Giorgi Kirof** Timur | **Franco Zeffirelli** director | **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra**

**Puccini *Turandot***