



2010-2011 OPERA SEASON  
**LA TRAVIATA**

An everlasting success directed by Laurent Pelly and conducted by Patrick Fournillier

Teatro Regio, Friday 22 April 2011 at 8 pm

On Friday 22 April *La traviata* by Giuseppe Verdi will open at the Teatro Regio in the successful staging by Laurent Pelly that inaugurated the 2009-2010 Season and was received enthusiastically on tour in Japan, obtaining various awards from the Japanese critics as the best show of the year. For this edition, Laurie Feldman will be in charge of the direction. On the podium of the **Orchestra** and **Chorus** of the **Teatro Regio** will be the French conductor **Patrick Fournillier**. Sets are by Chantal Thomas and lights by Gary Marder. Starring in Verdi's opera are: **Aleksandra Kurzak**, making her debut in Torino, **Stefano Secco**, **Fabio Maria Capitanucci** and **Chiara Fracasso**. Chorus Master is **Claudio Fenoglio**.

Composed by Giuseppe Verdi on a libretto by Francesco Maria Piave, based on the play *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas fils, *La traviata* was first staged in 1853 at the Teatro La Fenice in Venice where it was badly received. Performed again in Venice a year later, it met instead with great success. Set in mid-nineteenth-century Paris, the story revolves around the beautiful Violetta Valéry, Marie Duplessis in real life, a Parisian courtesan who died young and whom Dumas fils was in love with. Violetta is reduced to sacrificing her love and even her life to save the honour of her beloved Alfredo, after his father Giorgio Germont orders him to break off the relationship in the name of respectability of the family. The solitude of the protagonist and her tragedy, the eternal conflict between destiny and desire, love and redemption, are the main themes in one of the world's most popular stories.

Concerning *La traviata*, Maestro **Patrick Fournillier** affirms: «conducting Verdi is like challenging the myth. I'm happy to be tackling Verdi with an Italian orchestra. I believe that, unlike what happens in France, in your country a feeling of pride towards national repertoire still exists on the part of people making music. And this affinity makes it possible to develop a particular sound and style necessary for Verdi». **Laurent Pelly** adds: «the staging, a constant element for the whole length of the opera, has the difficult role of semiotic generator: thus a stage can comprise numerous stages, becoming a country field in the only happy moment of the opera or a ballroom where the courtesans appear, but also the home of the dying Violetta or the cemetery of Montmartre. The same sobriety is to be found in the costumes, inspired by the 1800s but which could also be worn today».

For the first time in Torino, the role of Violetta will be sung by **Aleksandra Kurzak**, the highly talented Polish soprano. Alternating with her will be **Silvia Dalla Benetta** for the performances on 5 and 7 April. Tenor **Stefano Secco** will be Alfredo, a role he has already interpreted under the direction of Maestro Muti at La Scala in Milan. In the part of Giorgio Germont is the Italian baritone **Fabio Maria Capitanucci**. Completing the cast are Bernadette Lucarini (Annina), Enrico Iviglia (Gastone), Paolo Maria Orecchia (Baron Douphol), Seth Mease Carico (the Marchese D'Obigny) and Dario Russo (Doctor Grenvil).

**Intesa Sanpaolo**, which has recently become a new **Founding Member of the Teatro Regio**, is the **Partner** for this production. In addition, on 5 May the **Antica Cantina Sociale di Canelli** will offer to the public a toast with *La Cuvée del Regio*, a sparkling wine produced in a limited edition in honour of the Regio.

*La traviata* will be broadcast live by **Rai-Radio3** Friday 22 April at 8 pm.

Tickets for *La traviata*, on stage from 22 April to 7 May, are sold out. Therefore only 30 *last minute* tickets will be available one hour before the beginning of the performance at the Box office of the Teatro Regio, piazza Castello 215 - Tel. 011.8815.241/242 - e-mail: [biglietteria@teatroregio.torino.it](mailto:biglietteria@teatroregio.torino.it) - [www.teatroregio.torino.it](http://www.teatroregio.torino.it).

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