

Premiere / First ever performance in Frankfurt

FEDORA

Melodrama in three acts by Umberto Giordano

Libretto by Arturo Colautti based on Victorien Sardou

Sung in Italian with German and English surtitles

Conductor: Lorenzo Passerini

Director: Christof Loy

Rehearsed by Anna Tomson

Set and Costume Designer: Herbert Murauer

Lighting Designer: Olaf Winter

Video: Velourfilm AB

Chorus Master: Tilman Michael

Dramaturge: Thomas Jonigk

Fedora: Nadja Stefanoff / Asmik Grigorian (May 6th, 14th 2022)

Loris Ipanow: Jonathan Tetelman / Giorgio Berrugi (April 28th, May 6th, 14th 2022)

De Sirieux: Nicholas Brownlee

Olga Sukarew: Bianca Tognocchi

Gretch: Frederic Jost

Dimitri: Bianca Andrew

Desiré: Peter Marsh

Rouvel: Michael McCown

Cirillo: Thomas Faulkner / Anthony Robin Schneider (April 21st, 23rd, 28th, May 6th, 14th 2022)

Borow: Gabriel Rollinson

Lorek: Pilgoo Kang

and others

Oper Frankfurt's Chorus and Extras; Frankfurt Opern- und Museumsorchester

A production from the Royal Opera Stockholm, premiere December 10th 2016

With generous support from the Frankfurt Patronatsverein – Sektion Oper

The first performances in Frankfurt of *Fedora* by **Umberto Giordano** (1867-1948), a production directed by **Christof Loy** for the Royal Opera in Stockholm in 2016, were originally scheduled for 2020/21 but, like many other projects which corona disrupted, it had to be postponed: *Fedora*, performed for the first time on November 17th 1898 at the Teatro Lirico in Milan, is an exciting verismo thriller, the World Premiere of which was also a huge success because two great singers were taking part: Gemma Bellincioni and Enrico Caruso, for whom Giordano composed the short aria „Amor ti vieta“. The title role was, and is, a rewarding vehicle for divas: Maria Callas (although undocumented), Renata Tebaldi, Magda Oliviero, Mirella Freni and Angela Gheorghiu are only some of the singer personalities who made the work their own.

Princess Fedora Romazow's fiancé was the victim of a supposed political assassination attempt in St. Petersburg. Count Loris Ipanow is quickly identified as the prime suspect. A few months later the princess meets Loris at a ball in her Palais in Paris and sees a chance to take her revenge. The count, head over heels in love with her, admits to having killed her fiancé. Fedora asks Loris to come back later. She quickly writes a letter to the Russian chief of police, accusing the count of murdering her lover. When Loris returns Fedora learns that her fiancé was cheating on her with Loris' wife, and that he was shot in self defence. Now Fedora can no longer hide her feelings. The lovers flee from the police to the mountains near Bern. Loris receives a letter informing him that the secret police in St. Petersburg's investigations led to the deaths of his brother and mother. He swears to take revenge on the unknown denunciator. When he realises it was Fedora, he curses her. Full of remorse, she poisons herself, and Loris forgives the dying woman.

Engagements this season for the young Italian conductor **Lorenzo Passerini** include his debut in Frankfurt, Puccini's *La Bohème* in Sydney and Toulouse, Bellini's *La sonnambula* in Naples and Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in Essen. Chemnitz born soprano **Nadja Stefanoff** (*Fedora*) has been a Member of the Ensemble at the Staatstheater in Mainz since 2014/15, where recent successes have included Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur*. The tenor **Jonathan Tetelman** (*Loris*), who was born in Chile and grew up in the USA, recently caused a stir with Cavaradossi in Puccini's *Tosca* at the Theater an der Wien. There are changes in casts, including **Asmik Grigorian** (*Fedora*) and **Giorgio Berrugi** (*Loris*). The other roles are nearly all being sung by **Members of Oper Frankfurt's Ensemble and Opera Studio**.

Premiere / First ever performances in Frankfurt: Sunday April 3rd 2022, at 18.00hrs in the Opera House

Further performances: April 8th, 10th (18.00hrs), 16th, 18th (18.00hrs), 21st, 23rd (18.00hrs), 28th, May 6th, 4th 2022

Unless otherwise stated, all performances begin at 19.00hrs

Tickets cost: € 15 to € 182 (with a 12.5% pre-booking fee when not purchased direct from the theatre)

Tickets can be obtained from the usual outlets, by telephone +49 (0)69 – 212 49 49 4 or online www.oper-frankfurt.de.

We do hope you might be able to publish this event. For further information, ordering photographs and reserving press tickets please contact Holger Engelhardt (Leitung Pressereferat) on +49 (0)69 – 212 46 727. His fax number is +49 (0)69 – 212 37 164 or you can email him on holger.engelhardt@buehnen-frankfurt.de.