

Premiere

LE POSTILLON DE LONJUMEAU

Opéra comique in three acts by Adolphe Adam
 Libretto by Adolphe de Leuven and Léon-Lévy Brunswick
 Sung in French with German and English surtitles

Conductor: Beomseok Yi / Takeshi Moriuchi (April 9th, 12th 2025)
 Director: Hans Walter Richter
 Set and Costume Designer: Kaspar Glarner
 Choreography: Gabriel Wanka
 Lighting Designer: Jakob Bogensperger
 Chorus Master: Álvaro Corral Matute
 Dramaturge: Mareike Wink

Chapelou, Postillon / Saint-Phar, Opera Singer: Francesco Demuro
 Madeleine, Landlady / Madame de Latour: Monika Buczkowska-Ward / Ava Dodd (April 9th, 12th 2025)
 Bijou, Blacksmith / Alcindor, Chorister: Joel Allison
 Marquis de Corcy: Jarrett Porter
 Bourdon: Morgan-Andrew King
 Rose: Gabriel Wanka
 Louis XV: Wolfgang Gerold

Oper Frankfurt's Chorus and Extras
 Frankfurter Opern and Museumsorchester

Production acquired from the Tirol Festival in Erl
With generous support from the Frankfurt Patronatsverein – Sektion Oper

This production of the high-spirited Opéra comique *Le postillon de Lonjumeau* (1836) by **Adolphe Adam** (1803-1856) comes from the Tirol Festival in Erl, where its triumphant premiere took place on December 27th 2021. The press was enthusiastic too. BR-Klassik / Allegro (Bavarian Radio) broadcasted: „Erl's *Postillon de Lonjumeau* is opulent, witty and masterful while daring to be historically accurate. A rare operatic delight!“ A critic from opera platform www.omm.de raved: „Director **Hans Walter Richter** and his team proved that with an enthusiastic cast a production in classical surroundings doesn't have to be antiquated, but can have satirical attributes and be very entertaining.“

The action: The Landlady Madeleine and coach driver Chapelou are getting married. The Intendant of the Royal Opera has been sent by the furious King to find a replacement singer, so is thrilled and relieved when he hears Chapelou singing the „Romance of the Postillon“, and manages to persuade him to come to Paris immediately, where a glittering career lies in store. So Madeleine finds herself deserted by her husband on their wedding night. 10 years later Chapelou, now Saint-Phar, is the principal singer at the Royal Opera, and Madeleine, who inherited a fortune from her aunt, is now Madame de Latour, who moves in aristocratic circles. They meet again at a private performance in Madame de Latour's home. Madeleine recognises Chapelou immediately, while he's fallen for „Madame de Latour“. Madeleine knows how to use this to her advantage and take revenge on her husband at last, but she still loves him ...

The production is conducted by **Beomseok Yi**, a South Korean Kapellmeister from Erl who conducted it there, and **Takeshi Moriuchi**, Oper Frankfurt's Japanese Chief Coach, who is new to the work. Nearly all the artists sang their roles in Erl: including the Italian tenor **Francesco Demuro** (Chapelou, Postillon / Saint-Phar, Opera Singer), whose international career brought him to Frankfurt for roles including Rodolfo (*La Bohème*), Alfredo (*La Traviata*), the Duke of Mantua (*Rigoletto*) and Arturo (Bellini's *I puritani*). He is joined by the Polish soprano **Monika Buczkowska-Ward** (Madeleine, Landlady / Madame de Latour), a Member of the House on Willy-Brandt-Platz's Ensemble since 2020/21 who recently enjoyed great success here with Oksana in Rimsky-Korskov's *Christmas Eve*. New to the production are American baritone **Jarrett Porter** (Marquis de Corcy), from the Ensemble, and Māori bass **Morgan-Andrew King** (Bourdon), from the Opera Studio. The Irish soprano **Ava Dodd** sings Madeleine, Landlady / Madame de Latour instead of Monika Buczkowska-Ward in the last two performances.

Premiere: Sunday March 2nd 2025, at 18 hrs in the Opera House

Further performances: March 6th, 15th, 21st, 23rd (15.30hrs), 29th, April 4th, 6th (18hrs), 9th, 12th 2025
 Unless otherwise stated, all performances begin at 19.30hrs.

Tickets cost: € 16 to € 190 (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.