**2025 ARENA DI VERONA**

**OPERA FESTIVAL PROGRAMME**

**From 13 June to 6 September**

**5 operas and 8 special events, for 51 evenings of performances**

The Arena di Verona, the most impressive opera venue in the world, presents its **102nd Festival. From 13 June to 6 September, 51 evening events** feature the most important performers on the international scene, with hundreds of artists, performers, dancers as well as stage sets that are unique in their attention to details and spectacular productions.

Since 1913, the Arena di Verona, a perfectly preserved ancient Roman amphitheatre, has welcomed up to **12,000 spectators every night**. Audiences arrive from all over the world for a unique open-air experience of opera, music and dance.

The Arena di Verona is the greatest open- air theatre in the world. It was built about 2000 years ago, to satisfy the desire of the Roman people for ludus(games). *Think in grand style*! This is what everybody should do trying to imagine the Opera Festival and the Arena di Verona. Everything in this Amphitheatre is oversize, first of all the **stage**; **47 metres wide,** **30** **metres** **depth** and a starry sky as ceiling. Huge **Sets**, assembled by **150 Stagehands** working night and day. The artistic sections: **150** **Musicians**, **200 Members of the Chorus**, **300 Extras and 60 Dancers** on stage every evening for a different performance. Over 1,400 people work at the Festival every summer.

In 2025, there will be 5 opera titles on the bill and 8 special events including galas, concerts and ballets.

**On 13 June, the inauguration will be held with the great choral tableau of *Nabucco* by Giuseppe Verdi. The new production will be entirely created by Stefano Poda,** a visionary director in demand by all the most important theatres and winner of the Italian Critics' Prize for Best Show in 2023. Pinchas Steinberg will conduct the Fondazione Arena Orchestra and Chorus and a cast of opera stars. Repeat performances are scheduled until 5 September.

Stefano Poda is also the author of the successful staging of *Aida*, Verdi's most loved and frequently staged work in the Arena since 1913. His "**crystal" *Aida*, staged from 20 June to 4 September, conducted by Daniel Oren** and featuring almost 400 performers on the stage, combines Ancient Egypt and contemporary art, symbolism and high fashion, with unprecedented games of light and transparency that enhance the ancient amphitheatre.

The 2025 Festival continues with Verdi, with two other works from his remarkable repertoire. ***La Traviata* will be staged from 27 June to 2 August in the elegant production by Hugo De Ana,** inspired by the Belle Époque and conducted by Speranza Scappucci and Francesco Ommassini. **From 8 August to 6 September *Rigoletto***, in the historic version by Ivo Guerra and Raffaele Del Savio inspired by the designs of the veronese architect Ettore Fagiuoli for its Arena premiere a century ago, conducted by Michele Spotti.

***Carmen* is in the programme from 4 July to 3 September, in the classic epic production by Franco Zeffirelli** conducted by Francesco Ivan Ciampa. In 2025, the Arena will pay tribute to composer Georges Bizet, 150 years after his death (in the same year that his masterpiece was first performed). It is also the 30th anniversary of Zeffirelli’s version at the Arena, a spectacular production with almost 500 artists on stage.

Every evening, the best artists on the international scene take to the stage, alongside new emerging talents, making each performance a real ‘premiere’ with an alternation of casts that are difficult to bring together. **On the 2025 Festival**, to name just a few: Anna **Netrebko**, Brian **Jagde**, Amartuvshin **Enkhbat**, Aleksandra **Kurzak**, Roberto **Alagna**, Luca **Salsi**, Nadine **Sierra**, Francesco **Meli**, Ludovic **Tézier**, Mariangela **Sicilia**, Yusif **Eyvazov**, Roberto **Tagliavini**, Erin **Morley**, Greogry **Kunde**, Alexander **Vinogradov**, Aigul Akhmetshina, Luciano **Ganci**, Erwin **Schrott**, Ekaterina **Semenchuk**, Piotr **Beczała**, Christian **Van Horn**, Anita **Rachvelishvili**, Enea **Scala**, Luca **Micheletti**, Rosa **Feola**, the debuts of Angel **Blue,** Pene **Pati**, Marina **Rebeka** and many more.

***Jonas Kaufmann in Opera* will be the protagonist of a grand gala event on 3 August**, an event dedicated to Italian opera, for which the tenor is one of the most sought-after performers in the world. The full Orchestra and Chorus will perform **Orff*'s Carmina Burana* on 15 August, conducted by Andrea Battistoni**. In co-production with Balich Wonder Studio, Giovanni Andrea Zanon will lead the Four Seasons as ***violin soloist* in *Viva Vivaldi. The Four Seasons Immersive Concert* on 27 August.** This multimedia show, exactly 300 years after publication of the opera, was welcomed this year by thousands of young people and a standing ovation at its world premiere right here in the Arena.

Dance plays a key role in the 2025 programme: **a double date on 22 and 23 July is booked for *Roberto Bolle and Friends***, a show co-produced with **Artedanza** that expertly combines classical, modern and contemporary, with the La Scala danseur étoile Bolle and principal dancers from the most important theatres around the world. In 2025, the Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis would have turned 100; the Fondazione Arena will pay homage to him with his most famous work, ***Zorba the Greek***,an icon of dance at the Arena di Verona, for which it was expressly written. After the 2023 and 2024 sold-outs, the performance **will return to the Teatro Romano**, this season **for three dates: 26, 27 and 31 August.**

**Tickets for all performances are already on sale from the website www.**[**arena.it**](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Farena.it%2F&data=05%7C02%7Calessandro.rigoni%40arenadiverona.it%7C2cbc153d11114ac82aa008dc4fe3ef93%7C2b2afe864e714056a75c871748d50c4d%7C0%7C0%7C638473087581221195%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sklM4OXfPC33SA6SixHi17yE2uqtq9iFquNS%2F%2Bx6zmc%3D&reserved=0).

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