OPERA AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE
24 January 2018

Shostakovich | **Directed** by Barrie Kosky | **Conducted** by Andrea Molino

A good nose job is hard to find: Kosky's *The Nose* premieres in Australia

21 Feb – 3 March | Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House
Starring | Martin Winkler | John Tomlinson | Alexander Lewis | Jacqueline Dark

The Australian premiere of Barrie Kosky's new production of the rarely performed Shostakovich classic *The Nose* has become the most highly anticipated production of Opera Australia's Sydney Summer Season following its critically acclaimed debut in London in 2017.

A co-production with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and Berlin's Komische Oper, *The Nose* opened to massive acclaim, with reviewers instantly labelling it a hit and calling it "sheer bliss" (Limelight) and "terrifically realised, brilliantly inventive and highly entertaining" (The Spectator).

Under the direction of the outrageously inventive Barrie Kosky, this production is guaranteed to shock and delight. Kosky, who won Best Director at the 2016 International Opera Awards and is a director at the Berlin Komische Oper, brings his brilliant creative force to this huge production which features more than 20 principal singers, 80 named solo parts (including the nose itself), a chorus of singers and dancers, cabaret choreography, and a huge orchestral force.

Using an eclectic montage of different musical and theatrical styles including folk music, popular song and atonality, the frenetic score springs directly from the action on stage as a lowly official chases his gallivanting nose around town. Adding to the spectacle are the ten giant Noses on the loose, who literally steal the stage with a raucous tap dancing number.

Conducted by Andrea Molino, who will most likely direct the complex score from memory – an unbelievable feat – and with a star-studded cast including Martin Winkler (Platon Kuzmitch Kovalev), Sir John Tomlinson (The Barber), and Alexander Lewis (The Nose), all reprising their roles from the original season in London, *The Nose* knows no bounds.

With a new translation by David Pountney, this is a unique opportunity to experience this rarely performed Shostakovich masterpiece sung in English. An opera in the style of Charlie Chaplin or Monty Python, *The Nose* is a hugely entertaining spectacle that will have audiences snorting with laughter.

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Creatives

Conductor **Andrea Molino**

Director **Barrie Kosky**

Revival Director **Felix Seiler**

Set & Lighting Designer **Klaus Grünberg**

Associate Set Designer **Anne Kuhn**

Choreographer **Otto Pichler**

Revival Choreographer **Thomas Herron**

Assistant Director **Matthew Barclay**

Translation **David Pountney**

Cast

Platon Kuzmitch Kovalev **Martin Winkler**

Ivan Iakolevitch/ Clerk/ Doctor **John Tomlinson**

Praskovia Osipovna/ Pretzel Seller **Antoinette Halloran**

District Inspector **Kanen Breen**

The Nose/ Iaryzhkin **Alexander Lewis**

Countess **Jacqueline Dark**

Pelageya Podtotschina/ Travel Agent/Hanger-On **Sian Pendry**

Podtotschina's Daughter/ Hanger-On **Eva Kong**

Playing multiple roles:

Gennadi Dubinsky

Adrian Tamburini

Anthony Mackey

Simon Meadows

Jonathon McCauley

Warwick Fyfe

Malcolm Ede

Ryan Sharp

Virgilio Marino

Nicholas Jones

Benjamin Rasheed

Gregory Brown

Dean Bassett

Martin Buckingham

Brad Cooper

Tom Hamilton

Annabelle Chaffey

Clifford Plumpton

With the Opera Australia Orchestra and Opera Australia Chorus

Performance information

Evenings at 7.30pm

February 21, 23, 26, 28

Saturday Matinees at 1pm

March 3

Running time

Approximately 1 hour and 55 minutes without interval

Sung in English with English surtitles.

Bookings

Adult tickets from $46 (fees may apply)

Group and concession prices available for most performances.

Student Rush available for most performances: $50 (fees may apply)

Opera Australia Box Office
(02) 9318 8200
www.opera.org.au

Please note that this production contains strong language

A co-production between Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Opera Australia and Komische Oper.

Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House

Media enquiries

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