

The Olivier Award nominated King's Head Theatre  
announces its next radically reimagined opera production

# Verdi's La Traviata



The King's Head Theatre today announces their Autumn 2018 opera production; a radical reimagining of Verdi's incendiary tale of sex, class and power; **La Traviata** in a new English version by Becca Marriott and Helena Jackson.

England, 1818. Violetta earns her crust dancing for the rich and powerful at an exclusive gentleman's club until a chance meeting with naive and idealistic Elijah changes everything. The powerful collide with the powerless, with earth-shattering consequences for all involved.

The King's Head Theatre have firmly established themselves as one of the foremost producers of accessible, small scale opera. Their critically-acclaimed Trafalgar Studios transfer of *La bohème* has been nominated for the Olivier Award for Best New Opera Production with winners to be announced on Sunday 9 April whilst 2017's *Tosca* won the Off West Award for Best Opera production.

The production will also be directed by Helena Jackson, who recently graduated from the King's Head Theatre's award-winning Trainee Resident Director's scheme with several members of the creative team behind *La bohème* and *Tosca* returning to work on the production.

**La Traviata** will run from Thursday 27 September to Saturday 27 October, 2018.

**The Press nights are Tuesday 2 October at 7.00pm and Wednesday 3 October at 7.00pm**

Artistic Director of the King's Head Theatre, Adam Spreadbury-Maher said: "Verdi's powerful tragedy may have been written over one-hundred years ago but its searing examination of privilege and exploitation is directly relevant to twenty-first century struggles. I can't wait to share our uncovered, exposed and redefined new version with audiences."

Becca Marriott, a King's Head Theatre Associate Artist who also co-wrote librettos for and starred in the company's critically acclaimed productions of *La bohème* and *Tosca*, said: "165 years ago Verdi wrote an opera about a woman who was trapped and stigmatised because of her sexual allure. In 2018 very little has changed. Hypocrisy still imprisons us, and escaping your social class is as hard as ever. Verdi challenged the status quo in society in every opera he ever wrote. Our new adaptation questions the powerlessness of twenty first century politics when politicians fail to police themselves."

#### About King's Head Theatre

The King's Head Theatre was established in 1970. The most ethically and socially responsible fringe theatre in the UK, we are known for our challenging work and support of young artists. Last year 113,808 audience members saw a show of ours: 44,607 at our 110-seater home on Upper Street and 71,544 on tour. At our home in Islington we had 774 performances last year of 95 different shows. We are committed to fighting prejudice through the work we stage, the artists and staff we work with and by producing work for minority audience groups. We believe in fair pay for all on the fringe and create accessible routes for early career artists to stage their work; work we are passionate about. This year we announced the theatre is on the move. In 2019, subject to a fund-raising campaign, the King's Head Theatre will move into a custom-built space in the heart of Islington Square, directly behind its current home securing the future of the venue for generations to come.

## LISTINGS INFO

The King's Head Theatre presents

Verdi's

### La Traviata

Thursday 27 September - Saturday 27 October 2018

Mondays - Saturdays at 7.00pm

Saturday Matinees at 3.30pm (excluding Saturday 29 September)

Saturday 14 & 21 April at 3.00pm

#### Press Nights:

**Tuesday 2 October at 7.00pm  
and Wednesday 3 October at 7.00pm**

Running Time: 2 hours

Social:

Twitter  
@KingsHeadThtr  
#LaTraviataKHT

King's Head Theatre  
115 Upper Street  
London N1 1QN

Box office: 0207 226 8561

[www.kingsheadtheatre.com](http://www.kingsheadtheatre.com)

How to get there:

The nearest underground stations are Angel (on the Bank branch of the Northern line) and Highbury & Islington (on the Victoria and London Overground lines).

The nearest rail station is Kings Cross St Pancras.

Tickets:

Preview - 27 September (all tickets) £10.00  
Preview - 28 September (all tickets) £14.00  
Preview - 29 September (all tickets) £10.00  
Premium (Friday & Saturday Evenings) £35.00

Premium £27.50  
Standard £23.50  
Concession £19.50  
Under 30's (Tuesday Evenings only) £10.00  
Unwaged (Saturday matinees only) £5.00

#### Press enquiries

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