

## METROPOLITAN OPERA LIVE IN HD 2019-2020 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Always check times with the theatre to avoid any errors, and note that running times are approximate and occasionally underestimated!

### **Ticketing information for Met Opera 2019-2020 Season at the Galaxy (Normanview):**

Customers can buy tickets at the theatre or online, and seating can be reserved. The cost per performance is approximately :

**General Admission** - \$29.00

**Children** (3-13) – \$28.00

**Seniors** (65+) - \$28.00

This may help:

<http://www.cineplex.com/Showtimes/any-movie/galaxy-cinemas-regina?>

A word or two about the productions:

**Turandot** – grand and exotic, with lavish sets and costumes and one of the world's most famous arias, *Nessun dorma*. **Manon** – a melodious and tragic love story. Go especially to hear the stunning lead soprano Lisette Oropesa. **Madama Butterfly** – one of the most commonly performed operas – another tragedy, and another East meets West topic. **Akhnaten** – by minimalist living American composer Philip Glass – presents the Egyptian pharaoh and his wife Nefertiti with an extravagant production including acrobats and jugglers. **Wozzeck** – an Expressionist and intense twentieth-century classic – follows a man through his descent into jealousy, murder, and madness. The musical language is atonal, the storyline disturbing. It is not often presented, however, so catch it while you can – and it is very short, for opera! **Porgy and Bess** – another last-century jazz-inflected classic, by George Gershwin of the well-known *Rhapsody in Blue* – is back at the Met after 30 years with a cast of colour honouring its original Broadway production which had an all-African-American cast. The song *Summertime* will be familiar to many. **Agrippina**, a black comedy set in ancient Rome which satirises the abuse of power, is one of the most popular of Handel's many operas and contains an astonishing number of da capo arias – expect virtuosic coloratura and elaborate ornamentation from a strong cast which includes the rightly-celebrated mezzo Joyce DiDonato and counter-tenor Iestyn Davies. If you've never seen any Wagner opera before, **Der fliegende Holländer** may be a good introduction as it's one of his shortest! Note: no intermission! It's conducted by the great Russian conductor Valery Gergiev and the lead baritone is the eminent Welshman, Sir Bryn Terfel. **Tosca** - Puccini at his most dramatic – features star soprano Anna Netrebko. The aria *Vissi d'arte* is particularly well-known. **Maria Stuarda** - one for history buffs, dealing as it does with the troubled relationships between Mary Queen of Scots and Queen Elizabeth I of England – is a showcase of glorious bel canto music, and features the stunning Diana Damrau in the role of Mary. I'll be at a good many of these, but my particular recommendations this season are:

- for the classics, **Turandot** and **Tosca**
- for beauty of vocalism, **Manon** and **Maria Stuarda**
- for Baroque opera (and the only comedy!), **Agrippina**
- for something powerful from the twentieth-century, **Wozzeck** and **Porgy and Bess**