



Carlo Rizzi returns to The Metropolitan Opera to open the 2022/23 season, marking his 30th anniversary year with the Company

The versatile and charismatic Italian conductor will raise the baton on three operas at the Met this autumn: a new production of *Medea* and revivals of *Tosca* and *Don Carlo*

“Carlo Rizzi [...] conducts the Met Orchestra superbly and they play gloriously for him.”
Gramophone, January 2019

Having opened the 2017/18 season to great acclaim with Bellini’s *Norma*, Carlo Rizzi returns to The Metropolitan Opera, New York once again to conduct the first opera of its 2022/23 season: a new production – and the Met premiere – of Cherubini’s rarely performed masterpiece *Medea* (27 September-28 October). His first venture into this demanding score, Rizzi will conduct a stellar cast with soprano Sondra Radvanovsky in the tour-de-force title role and tenor Matthew Polenzani as her Argonaut husband Giasone.

Rizzi says of *Medea*: “I have been interested in exploring this opera since I was very young and first listened to the famous recording by Tullio Serafin with Maria Callas in the title role. To now be able to perform *Medea* at The Metropolitan Opera - and for the opening of the new season - is something that I am greatly looking forward to. I am especially excited to be working with such a great cast, and in particular with Sondra Radvanovsky and David McVicar, both of whom I previously collaborated with when we opened the Met’s 2017 season with *Norma*.”

Medea is the first of three productions by David McVicar that Maestro Rizzi will conduct throughout the autumn at the Met. The second is *Tosca* (4 October-4 November) which Rizzi conducted in 2018/19 and in early 2022, when New York’s *Observer* declared “Who better to conduct [*Tosca*] than Met veteran, Carlo Rizzi? He is as much at home in that hall as *Tosca* and Cavaradossi are at home duetting in the basilica.” Aleksandra Kurzak sings the role of the eponymous diva, with Michael Fabiano and Roberto Alagna sharing the role of Cavaradossi.

Rizzi’s autumn trio of engagements at the Met concludes with performances of McVicar’s monumental production of *Don Carlo* (3 November-3 December), marking Rizzi’s debut at the Met with this epic Verdi opera. First seen during the 2021/22 season in the original French version, it is now sung in Italian by an impressive cast led by Russell Thomas in the title role.

A true Met veteran, Rizzi’s long-standing relationship with the Metropolitan Opera dates back to his debut in 1993 when he first conducted *La bohème*. He has subsequently returned to the Met to conduct over 200 performances of 16 operas: *La bohème*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *Rigoletto*, *L’elisir d’amore*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *La traviata*, *Cavalleria rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Aida*, *Il trovatore*, *Norma*, *Turandot*, *Nabucco*, *Tosca* and *Mefistofele*. *Medea* and *Don Carlo* will bring his tally to 18 operas in total.

Rizzi says of The Metropolitan Opera: “Over the past 30 years the Met has been a place where I have been able to express myself as a musician and to make some of my most artistically-rewarding work. This is thanks to the great orchestra and chorus of this opera house that, with their continued artistry and commitment, make every performance very special.”

Carlo Rizzi holds a reputation as one of the world’s foremost operatic conductors, in demand as a guest artist at the world’s most prestigious venues and festivals. Equally at home in the opera house and the concert hall, his vast repertoire spans everything from the foundation works of the operatic and symphonic canon to rarities by Bellini, Cimarosa and Donizetti to Giordano, Pizzetti and Montemezzi. Combining a deep expertise in the vocal art with theatrical flair and the practical collaborative skills honed over decades of experience in the world’s finest theatres, he is acclaimed by singers and audiences alike as a master of the operatic craft. Carlo Rizzi was appointed Artistic Director of Opera Rara in 2019, a position that has recently been extended to 2025. Following his tenure as Music Director of Welsh National Opera (1992-2001 and 2004-8), Rizzi has been Conductor Laureate of the Company since 2015.

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Tuesday 27 September 2022, 6pm
Saturday 1, Saturday 8 October 2022, 8pm
Wednesday 5, Thursday 13, Friday 28 October 2022, 7.30pm
Tuesday 18 October 2022, 7pm
Saturday 22 October 2022, 1pm
The Metropolitan Opera, New York
[Event link](#)

Carlo Rizzi conductor | **Sondra Radvanovsky** Medea | **Matthew Polenzani** Giasone | **Janai Brugger** Glauce | **Michele Pertusi** Creonte | **Ekaterina Gubanova** Neris | **David McVicar** director | **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus**

Cherubini *Medea* (NEW PRODUCTION, SEASON OPENER)

Tuesday 4, Tuesday 11, Monday 24, Thursday 27 October, Friday 4 November 2022, 7.30pm
Saturday 8 October 2022, 1pm
Saturday 15, Wednesday 19, Monday 31 October 2022, 8pm
The Metropolitan Opera, New York
[Event link](#)

Carlo Rizzi conductor | **Aleksandra Kurzak** Tosca | **Michael Fabiano/Roberto Alagna** Cavaradossi | **John Lundgren** Scarpia | **Patrick Carfizzi** Sacristan | **David McVicar** director | **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus**

Puccini *Tosca*

Thursday 3, Monday 7, Wednesday 23, Saturday 26 November 2022, 7.30pm
Friday 11, Tuesday 15, Wednesday 30 November 2022, 7pm
Saturday 19 November, Saturday 3 December 2022, 12pm
The Metropolitan Opera, New York
[Event link](#)

Carlo Rizzi conductor | **Russell Thomas** Don Carlo | **Eleanora Buratto/Angela Meade** Elisabeth de Valois | **Anita Rachvelishvili** Eboli | **Peter Mattei** Rodrigo | **Günther Groissböck** Filippo II | **John Relyea** Grand Inquisitor | **David McVicar** director | **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus**

Verdi *Don Carlo*