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HARMONIE

Aero
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in the Czech Republic

Renée Fleming
(Thais)

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Jules Massenet | **THAÏS** (New Production)

Saturday, December 20, 2008 (5:45 pm)

Running time 3 hours 21 minutes / two intermissions

Conductor: Jesús López-Cobos; Production: John Cox; Renée Fleming, Thomas Hampson, Michael Schade

Renée Fleming stars as the Egyptian courtesan in search of spiritual sustenance. Thomas Hampson is the monk who falls from grace. Massenet's sensual opera is presented in a new production by John Cox.

Giacomo Puccini | **LA RONDINE** (New Production)

Saturday, January 10, 2009 (6:45 pm)

Running time 2 hours 15 minutes / one intermission

Conductor: Marco Armiliato; Production: Nicolas Joël; Angela Gheorghiu, Lisette Oropesa, Roberto Alagna, Marius Brenciu, Samuel Ramey

Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna provide the star power to deliver this ravishing romance from the world's most popular opera composer. Gheorghiu plays the kept woman who gambles on true love, and Alagna is the man who makes her question the cost of her glittering existence. Nicolas Joël directs the new production of this gorgeously melodic look at love.

Christoph Willibald Gluck | **ORFEO ED EURIDICE**

Saturday, January 24, 2009 (6:45 pm)

Running time 1 hour 31 minutes / no intermission

Conductor: James Levine; Production: Mark Morris; Stephanie Blythe, Danielle de Niese
Mark Morris's acclaimed production returns. This complete vision for Gluck, with choreography by Morris and costumes by Isaac Mizrahi, features the artistry of Stephanie Blythe in the male title role. The alluring Danielle de Niese is Orfeo's adored wife, Euridice, who inspires the hero to face the underworld for her sake. Music Director James Levine conducts.

Gaetano Donizetti | **LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR**

Saturday, February 7, 2009 (6:45 pm)

Running time 3 hours 20 minutes / two intermissions

Conductor: Marco Armiliato; Production: Mary Zimmerman; Anna Netrebko, Rolando Villazón, Mariusz Kwiecien, Ildar Abdrazakov

Anna Netrebko sings the title role of Donizetti's fragile heroine for the first time at the Met, with tenor Rolando Villazón in the part of her lover, Edgardo. Baritone Mariusz Kwiecien is her tyrannical brother. Mary Zimmerman's hit production is staged as a Victorian ghost story.

Giacomo Puccini | **MADAMA BUTTERFLY**

Saturday, March 7, 2009 (6:45 pm)

Running time 3 hours 21 minutes / two intermissions

Conductor: Patrick Summers; Production: Anthony Minghella; Cristina Gallardo-Domâs, Marcello Giordani

Cristina Gallardo-Domâs returns to the title role of Anthony Minghella's stunning production, a new classic of the Met repertory, opposite Marcello Giordani.

Gioacchino Rossini | **LA CENERENTOLA**

Saturday, May 9, 2009 (6:15 pm)

Running time 3 hours / one intermission

Conductor: Maurizio Benini; Production: Cesare Lievi; Elina Garanča, Lawrence Brownlee, Simone Alberghini, Alessandro Corbelli, John Relyea

Hot on the heels of her triumphant Met debut as Rosina in last season's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Elina Garanča portrays another Rossini charmer in this bel canto Cinderella story. Lawrence Brownlee is her Prince Charming. Veteran baritone Alessandro Corbelli demonstrates his impeccable comic timing to match the gravitas of Met favorite John Relyea.