



ROYAL  
OPERA

21 SEPTEMBER 2012

## CASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

### ***LA BOHÈME*** (Giacomo Puccini)

9 and 12 March 2013

Italian soprano **Barbara Frittoli** has withdrawn from singing the role of Mimì in *La bohème* on 9 and 12 March. The role will now be sung by Russian soprano **Hibla Gerzmava** who previously sang the role with The Royal Opera in 2009 and most recently with the Metropolitan Opera, New York in 2011. Last Season she sang the role of Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*. She returns in June 2013 to sing Amelia Grimaldi (*Simon Boccanegra*).

### ***DON CARLO*** (Giuseppe Verdi)

21 and 25 May

Italian tenor **Roberto Aronica** will sing the role of Don Carlos on 21 and 25 May. He previously sang the role in 2010 in Bilbao. He made his debut with The Royal Opera as Rodolfo (*La bohème*) in 2008. Recent performances include Rodolfo (*La bohème*) in Naples and Barcelona and the title role in *Stiffelio* in Parma.

### ***LA RONDINE*** (Giacomo Puccini)

5, 8, 11, 14, 17, July

Italian tenor **Vittorio Grigolo** has withdrawn from all his scheduled performances singing the role of Ruggero Lastouc in *La rondine*, and will be replaced by American tenor **Charles Castronovo** on 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, July. Charles Castronovo most recently performed with The Royal Opera in February 2012, singing the role of Ferrando (*Così fan tutti*).

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*tutte*), the same role in which he made his Royal Opera debut in 2004. He has also sung Tom Rakewell (*The Rake's Progress*) and Alfredo Germont (*La traviata*) for The Royal Opera. In April in the Royal Opera's 2012/13 Season he will sing the role of Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*), a role which he has recently sung in Chicago.

Brazilian tenor **Atalla Ayan** will sing the role of Ruggero Lastouc in the remaining performances on 13 (matinee), 20 and 21 (matinee) July, making his debut with The Royal Opera. His recent roles include Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*) and Alfred (*Der Fledermaus*) in Stuttgart, and Rodolfo (*La bohème*) for Glyndebourne on Tour.

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