



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THURROCK

JUNE 2013

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE INSIGHTS ON *TOSCA*

Monday 8 July at 7.30pm, Thameside Theatre

BP BIG SCREEN RELAY OF *TOSCA* IN THURROCK

Thursday 18 July at 7.30pm, High House Production Park

The Royal Opera House is delighted to announce that this year's free **BP Big Screen** performance in Thurrock is **The Royal Opera's** stunning production of **Puccini's *Tosca*** on **Thursday 18 July at 7.30pm** at the High House Production Park.

Royal Opera House Insights also return to the Thameside Theatre in Grays on **Monday 8 July at 7.30pm** for a special *Tosca* event exploring the opera and including a Sing-along with members of **The Royal Opera Chorus**.

From 7pm on the day of the live relay, there will be pre-show interviews and backstage films on the big screen at the High House Production Park in Purfleet with the entire evening being presented by **Alan Titchmarsh** live from the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden.

Tosca is one of the great opera experiences. It's a thrilling and heart-wrenching story of passionate love, jealousy, murder and suicide featuring **Martina Serafin** as the tragic Tosca and **Aleksandrs Antonenko** as her lover Cavaradossi, with **Scott Hendricks** as the evil Baron Scarpia who plots their destruction.

For all Royal Opera House press releases visit www.roh.org.uk/press



Supported using public funding by
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ENGLAND**

The BP Big Screens are the perfect way to share world-class opera and ballet with friends and family for free. Whether audiences are new to ballet and opera or already devotees, the BP Big Screen relays offer a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the very best performances from the Royal Opera House.

The Royal Opera House's Insights event will explore *Tosca* with an introduction to the story, performances of arias from the opera sung by members of the Royal Opera Chorus and the opportunity to join in some of the opera's musical highlights under the direction of a member of The Royal Opera Music Staff. No previous singing experience is necessary, just an enthusiasm to join in. Everyone will then be fully prepared for the Big Screen performance of *Tosca*.

Tickets for the *Tosca* Insight event are £5, £3 for students and can be purchased from the Royal Opera House Box Office on 020 7304 4000.

Kasper Holten, Director of The Royal Opera House, said: 'These all fresco summer big screenings, now in their 26th year, are a highlight of our Season. To be able to offer world-class performances absolutely free and to so many venues across the UK fills us with pride. We first screened a live performance on a Big Screen in Covent Garden Piazza in 1987 and this year we're broadcasting to 22 different venues. This incredible growth in this free scheme would not be possible without the support of BP and we're exceptionally grateful to them.'

Des Violaris, BP's UK Director for Arts and Culture, said: 'BP is delighted to continue its support for the BP Big Screens. Being able to connect people and communities across the UK with the highest quality opera and ballet for free is at the core of our relationship with the Royal Opera House. Every year we see more and more people engage with the BP Big Screens, enjoying these regular events with friends and family who haven't previously had an opportunity to experience these art forms. We hope that the skies will stay clear this summer so that even more people can discover the BP Big Screens.'

To find out more about BP Big Screens, please visit

www.roh.org.uk/bpbigscreens.

For more details about Royal Opera House Insights, please visit www.roh.org.uk/insights

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Notes for Editors

BP AND ROH

BP has been the longest running supporter of the Royal Opera House, starting the relationship in 1989 with initiatives including the Schools' Matinee programme and the Chance to Dance scheme. BP have supported the Big Screen live relays of opera and ballet performances direct from Covent Garden since 2000 and last year announced their commitment to a further five years of sponsorship. The generous ongoing support of BP has enabled the Royal Opera House to reach as many people as possible around the country with live performances, allowing them to experience the very best of opera and ballet in their home town, for free. As always, BP has combined support for the screenings with studies and analysis of the benefits of the screenings and associated education work.

BP SUPPORT FOR UK ARTS & CULTURE

In the UK, BP is a major supporter of the arts, with a programme that spans over 35 years. In 2011 BP announced its investment of almost £10 million in extending its long term partnerships with the British Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, the Royal Opera House and Tate Britain over the next five years. Taken together, these agreements represent one of the most significant long-term corporate investments in UK arts and culture www.bp.com

THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Over the last Season 7.5 million people have engaged with the work of the Royal Opera House. The commitment to enabling as many people as possible to experience and enjoy world-class opera and ballet will continue as we present our work over new platforms from cinema to online streaming and broadcasts with the BBC and free BP Big Screens. Other access initiatives include the

Student Standby Scheme, Welcome Performances for families and the Schools’
Matinees.

PRESS OFFICE CONTACTS

Jules Easlea
07941 502577
julie.easlea@roh.org.uk

Simon Magill
Royal Opera House
Communications Manager
Tel: 020 7212 9230
simon.magill@roh.org.uk

BP press office
Tel: 020 7496 4708
bppress@bp.com

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THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE BP BIG SCREEN

The Royal Opera

Puccini’s *Tosca*

THURSDAY 18 JULY, 7.30pm

You can see *Tosca* live and free at the following BP Big Screen venues:

Trafalgar Square, London | High House Production Park, Purfleet | Canary Wharf, London | Duthie Park, Aberdeen | City Hall, Donegall Square, Belfast | Centenary Square, Bradford | Millennium Square, Bristol | The Hayes, Cardiff | Transport Museum, Hales St, Coventry | Talaton House, East Devon | Lyric Square, Hammersmith | Millennium Square, Leeds | Exchange Square, Manchester | Centre Square, Middlesbrough | The Piazza, Plymouth | Guildhall Square, Portsmouth | MediaCityUK, Salford | Castle Square, Swansea | Wharf Green, Swindon | General Gordon Square, Woolwich | Walthamstow Town Square, Waltham Forest.