



ROYAL
OPERA

5 MARCH 2014

CAST AMENDMENT

FAUST (Charles-François Gounod)

4, 7, 11, 14, 17, 22, 25 April 2014

**Co-production with Opéra de Monte Carlo, Opéra de Lille and
Fondazione Teatro Lirico Giuseppe Verdi, Trieste.**

Following the announcement last week that Russian soprano **Anna Netrebko** has withdrawn from *Faust*, the role of Marguerite will now be shared between Bulgarian soprano **Sonya Yoncheva** and Greek soprano **Alexia Voulgaridou**.

Bulgarian soprano **Sonya Yoncheva** will sing the role of Marguerite on 4, 7, 17 and 22 April, making her role debut with The Royal Opera. She will also perform the role for Vienna State Opera in May, again replacing Anna Netrebko. Yoncheva made her debut with The Royal Opera in Plácido Domingo's Operalia Winners' concert in July 2012 and also sang the role of Musetta (*La bohème*) for The Royal Opera in the 2012/13 Season. She made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera, New York, as Gilda (*Rigoletto*) in December 2013, and recently sang Lucia (*Lucia di Lammermoor*) for Paris Opéra.

Greek soprano **Alexia Voulgaridou** will sing the role of Marguerite on 11, 14 and 25 April. She has previously sung the role in Rome, Catania, Hamburg and Valencia. She made her debut with The Royal Opera as Mimì (*La bohème*) in 2008. Her recent performances include Cio-Cio-San (*Madama Butterfly*) in Tokyo and Hamburg, Mimì (*La bohème*) in São Paulo and the title role in *Tosca* in Trieste and Lausanne and for Opera Australia.

The rest of the cast for these performances remains unchanged, with Maltese tenor **Joseph Calleja** in the title role, Welsh bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** as Méphistophélès,

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British baritone **Simon Keenlyside** as Valentin, Croatian mezzo-soprano **Renata Pokupić** as Siébel, British mezzo-soprano **Diana Montague** as Marthe Schwertlein and Jette Parker Principal Korean bass **Jihoon Kim** as Wagner. Italian conductor **Maurizio Benini** conducts all performances.

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