

Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 7.45pm; opera begins at 8pm

Act I 35 minutes

Act II 20 minutes

Interval of 30 minutes

Act III 25 minutes

Act IV 30 minutes

Curtain calls approximately 5 minutes

There will be short pauses after Act I and after Act III, please remain seated.

The performance will end at approximately 10.30pm

Tweet your thoughts about tonight's performance before it starts,
during the interval or afterwards with **#ROHbohème**

2019/20 Live Cinema Season

DANCES AT A GATHERING / THE CELLIST TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2020)

FIDELIO TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2020)

SWAN LAKE WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 5 APRIL 2020)

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA/PAGLIACCI TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2020)

THE DANTE PROJECT THURSDAY 28 MAY 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020)

ELEKTRA THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2020

(ENCORE SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2020)

roh.org.uk/cinema



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL OPERA

MUSIC DIRECTOR SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO

DIRECTOR OF OPERA OLIVER MEARS

LA BOHÈME

OPERA IN FOUR ACTS

MUSIC **GIACOMO PUCCINI**

LIBRETTO **GIUSEPPE GIACOSA** AND **LUIGI ILlica**

AFTER HENRI MURGER'S NOVEL SCÈNES DE LA VIE DE BOHÈME

CONDUCTOR **EMMANUEL VILLAUME**

DIRECTOR **RICHARD JONES**

REVIVAL DIRECTOR **JULIA BURBACH**

DESIGNER **STEWART LAING**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **MIMI JORDAN SHERIN**

MOVEMENT DIRECTOR **SARAH FAHIE**

REVIVAL MOVEMENT DIRECTOR **DANIELLE URBAS**

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS

CHORUS DIRECTOR **WILLIAM SPAULDING**

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

GUEST CONCERT MASTER **ANDREW HAVERON**

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY

JONATHAN HASWELL

BROADCAST LIVE FROM THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2020

CO-PRODUCTION WITH TEATRO REAL, MADRID, AND LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO

GENEROUS PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT FROM

THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUND



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Synopsis

Act I

An attic in the Latin Quarter of Paris, Christmas Eve

Rodolfo and Marcello complain about the bitter cold. They burn the manuscript of Rodolfo’s latest play and they and their friend Colline enjoy the brief warmth.

Schaunard arrives with wood, food and wine that he has earned working for an eccentric Englishman. The friends plan to go and eat in the Latin Quarter but are interrupted by Benoît, their landlord, who demands the rent. They offer him wine and, when Benoît boasts of his sexual prowess, pretend outrage and push him out.

Marcello, Colline and Schaunard head off, leaving Rodolfo to finish an article. A girl knocks at the door and asks for a light for her candle. As she is leaving it flickers out again and she realizes that she has lost her key. Rodolfo’s candle also goes out as they search for it. Rodolfo tells the girl about his life as a poet. She tells him her name, Mimì, and describes her life as an embroiderer. Schaunard, Colline and Marcello shout up to Rodolfo to hurry. Mimì asks if she may join them at the Café Momus, and the lovers leave together.

Act II

The Latin Quarter

Rodolfo and Mimì wander through the Christmas Eve crowds. Rodolfo introduces Mimì to his friends. As they sit down to supper, Marcello’s ex-girlfriend Musetta appears with Alcindoro, her rich admirer. Musetta decides to seduce Marcello and launches into a song. She then complains of a painful foot, and dispatches Alcindoro to buy new shoes. She and the bohemians quickly depart, leaving Alcindoro with both their bills.

Interval

Act III

Outside the Barrière d’Enfer

Workers arrive at the city gates. Mimì meets Marcello outside a tavern. When she learns that Rodolfo is there she becomes agitated, and tells Marcello that Rodolfo’s jealousy is destroying their relationship. She hides as Rodolfo appears.

Rodolfo tells Marcello that Mimì’s flirtatious behaviour has incensed him. But soon he reveals the real reason for their separation: she is very ill and he is too poor to help her. They hear Mimì crying and coughing. Rodolfo hurries to her, while Marcello, suspicious of Musetta’s flirtatious laughter, hurries back into the inn. While Marcello and Musetta quarrel and separate, Rodolfo and Mimì decide to postpone their separation until the spring.

Act IV

The attic, autumn

Marcello and Rodolfo pretend not to miss their former girlfriends but admit that they do. Schaunard and Colline arrive with bread and a herring and the four eat and amuse each other.

Suddenly Musetta enters. She has brought Mimì, who is desperately ill: Musetta explains that Mimì has begged to be taken to Rodolfo. Mimì rallies and greets the friends. Musetta instructs Marcello to sell her earrings to pay for medicine and a doctor. Colline leaves with Schaunard to pawn his coat. Mimì, alone with Rodolfo, expresses her boundless love for him, and the lovers reminisce about their first meeting. The others return with a muff and medicine, promising that a doctor will come – but Mimì dies unnoticed while they are preparing her medicine.

Cast

MARCELLO A PAINTER	ANDRZEJ FILOŃCZYK
RODOLFO A POET	CHARLES CASTRONOVO
COLLINE A PHILOSOPHER	PETER KELLNER
SCHAUNARD A MUSICIAN	GYULA NAGY
BENOÎT	JEREMY WHITE
MIMÌ	SONYA YONCHEVA
PARPIGNOL A TOYSELLER	ANDREW MACNAIR
MUSETTA	AIDA GARIFULLINA
ALCINDORO A STATE COUNCILLOR	EDDIE WADE
CUSTOMS OFFICER	JOHN MORRISSEY
SERGEANT	THOMAS BARNARD
CHRISTMAS EVE REVELLERS, BOHEMIANS, WAITERS, STREET SWEEPERS, MILKMAIDS, PEASANT WOMEN	