

### Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 6.45pm

Act I 35 minutes

#### Interval

Act II scene 1 44 minutes

#### Pause

Act II scene 2 22 minutes

#### Interval

Act III 35 minutes

**The live relay will end at approximately 10.30pm**



ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE

THE ROYAL OPERA

MUSIC DIRECTOR SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO  
DIRECTOR OF OPERA KASPER HOLTEN

# LA TRAVIATA

OPERA IN THREE ACTS

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MUSIC **GIUSEPPE VERDI**

LIBRETTO **FRANCESCO MARIA PIAVE**

AFTER ALEXANDRE DUMAS FILS'S PLAY *LA DAME AUX CAMÉLIAS*

CONDUCTOR **YVES ABEL**

DIRECTOR **RICHARD EYRE**

REVIVAL DIRECTOR **DANIEL DOONER**

DESIGNER **BOB CROWLEY**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **JEAN KALMAN**

DIRECTOR OF MOVEMENT **JANE GIBSON**

**ROYAL OPERA CHORUS**

CHORUS DIRECTOR **RENATO BALSADONNA**

**ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE**

CONCERT MASTER **VASKO VASSILEV**

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY **MATT WOODWARD**

LIVE FROM THE  
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2016, 6.45PM

# Synopsis

## Act I A salon in Violetta’s house; August

Violetta is a well-known Parisian courtesan. At one of her parties, her guest Gastone introduces her to his friend Alfredo Germont. Alfredo and Violetta sing a song together in praise of wine and pleasure. Violetta invites her guests to dance, but suddenly feels unwell – she is seriously ill with tuberculosis. The guests go on without her, but Alfredo stays behind. He tells Violetta that he is in love with her, and offers to take care of her. The guests leave. Alone, Violetta realizes she is attracted to Alfredo, but in her situation thinks she can only expect to live for pleasure. Her resolve wavers when she hears Alfredo outside.

### Interval

## Act II Scene 1: A country house near Paris; the following January

Alfredo and Violetta have been living together for three months. Alfredo learns from Violetta’s maid Annina that Violetta has been selling her possessions to pay their bills. He leaves for Paris to raise more funds himself. Violetta receives an unexpected visit from Alfredo’s father, Giorgio Germont. His daughter’s forthcoming marriage is threatened by the scandal of Violetta’s affair with Alfredo. He asks Violetta to give up his son. She reluctantly agrees to leave Alfredo, but begs Germont to help his son get over her after she has gone. Germont departs, praising her courage. Alfredo returns and after Violetta begs him to always love her, she goes out. A messenger brings Alfredo a note from Violetta, saying that she has left him. Germont returns to comfort his son and beg him to come back to the family home. Alfredo, who doesn’t know all that has happened, decides to follow Violetta to Paris.

## Scene 2: A salon in Flora’s house

Guests gossip, dance and play cards at an elegant party given by Violetta’s friend Flora Bervoix. Alfredo arrives and gambles recklessly. Violetta and her new protector Baron Douphol arrive, which provokes Alfredo to challenge the Baron to a game. Alfredo wins, and when Violetta refuses to leave with him, he summons the other guests, and throws his winnings at her as payment for their life together. Germont arrives and denounces his son’s insulting behaviour, and the Baron challenges Alfredo to a duel.

### Interval

## Act III Violetta’s bedroom: February

Violetta is dying. She sends Annina to watch the Carnival festivities, and re-reads a letter in which Germont tells her that Alfredo now knows the truth about her sacrifice and will come to her. To Violetta’s joy, Alfredo arrives with Annina’s return. Violetta and Alfredo excitedly plan a new life together away from Paris. But they realize that their plans are in vain: Violetta is too ill to recover. With Alfredo, his father, Annina and Doctor Grenvil in attendance, Violetta resigns herself to death. A sudden rush of life convinces her she has recovered, but it is a symptom of the final stage of her illness. She collapses dead in Alfredo’s arms.

# Cast

VIOLETTA VALÉRY	VENERA GIMADIEVA
FLORA BERVOIX	ANDREA HILL
MARQUIS D’OBIGNY	JEREMY WHITE
BARON DOUPHOL	YURIY YURCHUK
DOCTOR GRENVIL	JAMES PLATT
GASTONE DE LETORIÈRES	SAMUEL SAKKER
ALFREDO GERMONT	SAIMIR PIRGU
ANNINA	SARAH PRING
GIUSEPPE	NEIL GILLESPIE
GIORGIO GERMONT	LUCA SALSÌ
MESSENGER	JOHN BERNAYS
SERVANT	MICHAEL LESSITER
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, FRIENDS OF VIOLETTA AND FLORA, GUESTS, SERVANTS ACTORS, DANCERS, EXTRA CHORUS	