

Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 7.15pm; opera begins at 7.30pm

Act I	55 minutes
Short pause: please remain seated	
Act II	30 minutes
Interval	25 minutes
Acts III and IV	70 minutes

The performance will end at approximately 10.35pm

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

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2017/18 LIVE CINEMA SEASON

MANON THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018
SWAN LAKE TUESDAY 12 JUNE 2018

2018/19 LIVE CINEMA SEASON INCLUDES:

MAYERLING MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018
DIE WALKÜRE SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER 2018
LA BAYADÈRE TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2018
THE NUTCRACKER MONDAY 3 DECEMBER 2018
THE QUEEN OF SPADES TUESDAY 22 JANUARY 2019

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ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL OPERA

MUSIC DIRECTOR SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO
DIRECTOR OF OPERA OLIVER MEARS

MACBETH

OPERA IN FOUR ACTS

MUSIC GIUSEPPE VERDI

LIBRETTO FRANCESCO MARIA PIAVE AFTER THE PLAY BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

CONDUCTOR ANTONIO PAPPANO

DIRECTOR PHYLLIDA LLOYD
REVIVAL DIRECTOR DANIEL DOONER
DESIGNER ANTHONY WARD
LIGHTING DESIGNER PAULE CONSTABLE
CHOREOGRAPHER MICHAEL KEEGAN-DOLAN
REVIVAL CHOREOGRAPHER KIRSTY TAPP
FIGHT DIRECTOR TERRY KING

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS
CHORUS DIRECTOR WILLIAM SPAULDING

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
CO-CONCERT MASTER SERGEY LEVITIN

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY SUE JUDD

LIVE FROM THE
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2018, 7.15PM

Synopsis

The opera is set in Scotland, and on the Scottish and English border.

Act I

In a thunderstorm, three groups of witches appear and hail the warriors Banquo and Macbeth. The witches greet Macbeth as Thane of Glamis, Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland; they greet Banquo as the father of future kings. Messengers arrive and proclaim Macbeth Thane of Cawdor. As the men leave, the witches anticipate meeting Macbeth again.

Lady Macbeth has learnt from her husband of the witches' prophecy and resolves to help him fulfil it. King Duncan is on his way to the castle, and husband and wife plot to murder him. Macbeth subsequently commits the murder but is then overcome with guilt. His wife accuses him of cowardice. Duncan's murder is discovered by Macduff and Banquo. The household vow vengeance on Duncan's assassin.

Act II

Macbeth is now King of Scotland and Duncan's son Malcolm, blamed for his father's death, has fled to England. Fearing the witches' prophecy that Banquo will be the father of kings, Macbeth and his wife plot to kill him and his son.

Assassins murder Banquo, but his son Fleance escapes.

Macbeth and his queen welcome guests to his coronation festivities and Lady Macbeth proposes a toast. Macbeth is terrified when Banquo's ghost appears. His wife attempts to calm him but is unable to disguise Macbeth's ragings. The guests realize their land is now in the grip of criminals. Macbeth decides to visit the witches again.

Interval

Act III

On a stormy night the witches brew their magic potions. Macbeth arrives and asks them to prophesy his destiny. The witches conjure up three apparitions who, in turn, tell him to beware Macduff, that he need fear 'none born of woman', and that he will be invincible until Birnam Wood marches on his castle. The witches then summon apparitions of kings, whom Macbeth recognizes to his horror as Banquo and his descendants. The witches disappear and Lady Macbeth arrives. Macbeth tells her what he has seen, and the pair resolve to destroy their enemies.

Act IV

Refugees lament the suffering of their oppressed homeland. Macduff is distraught at the murder of his wife and his children. Duncan's son Malcolm urges him to extract revenge on Macbeth, and the pair rally the refugees, encouraging them to join forces and fight Scotland's tyrannical king.

In the castle, a doctor and lady-in-waiting watch the sleepwalking Lady Macbeth as she re-lives the atrocities she and her husband have committed.

Macbeth awaits the advancing troops and hardly reacts to news of his wife's death. When soldiers announce that Birnam Wood is on the move – English soldiers carrying branches are advancing – he recalls the third apparition's prophecy.

Macbeth and Macduff fight face to face. The final prophecy is now fulfilled: Macduff reveals that he was surgically removed from his mother's womb. Macbeth is killed and Malcolm proclaimed king.

Cast

MACBETH THANE OF GLAMIS	ŽELJKO LUČIĆ
BANQUO THANE OF LOCHABER	ILDEBRANDO D'ARCANGELO
LADY MACBETH	ANNA NETREBKO
LADY-IN-WAITING	FRANCESCA CHIEJINA
SERVANT TO MACBETH	JONATHAN FISHER
DUNCAN KING OF SCOTLAND	JOHN O'TOOLE
MALCOLM SON OF DUNCAN	KONU KIM
MACDUFF THANE OF FIFE	YUSIF EYVAZOV
FLEANCE SON OF BANQUO	MATTEO DI LORENZO
ASSASSIN	OLLE ZETTERSTRÖM
FIRST APPARITION	JOHN MORRISSEY
SECOND APPARITION	GAIUS DAVEY BARTLETT
THIRD APPARITION	EDWARD HYDE
HERALD	JONATHAN COAD
DOCTOR	SIMON SHIBAMBU

WITCHES, MESSENGERS, NOBLE LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, SERVANTS,
ASSASSINS, SCOTTISH EXILES, SOLDIERS, CHILDREN