



Εθνική
Λυρική
Σκηνή



Greek
National
Opera



Programme



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STAVROS
NIARCHOS
FOUNDATION
CULTURAL
CENTER

ΚΕΝΤΡΟ
ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ
ΙΔΡΥΜΑ
ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ
ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ

SEPTEMBER

2018

16	SUN	20.00	ROSSINI GALA	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
28	FRI	20.00	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: GIOCONDA'S SMILE / MAGNUS EROTICUS	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
29	SAT	20.00	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: GIOCONDA'S SMILE / MAGNUS EROTICUS	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
30	SUN	20.00	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: GIOCONDA'S SMILE / MAGNUS EROTICUS	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall

OCTOBER

2018

13	SAT	20.30	FROGS	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
14	SUN	18.30	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	FROGS	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
17	WED	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
18	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
19	FRI	20.00	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	PARAMYFIKO	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
20	SAT	20.30	PARAMYFIKO	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
21	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
23	TUE	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		17.00–23.00	HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR HADJIDAKIS	Tribute	In all GNO venues
24	WED	20.00	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
27	SAT	20.00	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall

NOVEMBER

2018

02	FRI	20.00	JENŪFA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
03	SAT	20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
04	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
06	TUE	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ALEXANDRA PAPASTEFANOU RECITAL	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
07	WED	20.30	GIORGOS KONTRAFOURIS RECITAL	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
08	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
10	SAT	20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
11	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
13	TUE	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	NIKOLAS ANADOLIS RECITAL	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
14	WED	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
15	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
16	FRI	20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
17	SAT	20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
18	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	WEISSE ROSE	Contemporary repertoire opera	Alternative Stage
20	TUE	20.30	ACHILLEAS WASTOR RECITAL	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
21	WED	20.30	LOLA TOTSIOU RECITAL	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
22	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
23	FRI	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
24	SAT	20.30	A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GERSHWIN	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
25	SUN	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GERSHWIN	Piano Festival	Alternative Stage
27	TUE	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
28	WED	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
29	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
30	FRI	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage

DECEMBER

2018

01	SAT	18.30	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	QUEER APPROACHES TO LENA PLATONOS	Tribute	Alternative Stage
02	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage
06	THU	20.30	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: MAGNUS EROTICUS / BROKEN CONSORT TRANSCRIPTION	Concert	Alternative Stage
07	FRI	20.30	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: MAGNUS EROTICUS / BROKEN CONSORT TRANSCRIPTION	Concert	Alternative Stage
08	SAT	18.30	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
09	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
12	WED	19.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
14	FRI	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		19.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
15	SAT	20.00	GREEK YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
16	SUN	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		18.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
18	TUE	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
19	WED	11.00	THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA	Opera for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		19.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
20	THU	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
21	FRI	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		19.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
22	SAT	20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
23	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage

26	WED	19.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
27	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
28	FRI	20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
29	SAT	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.00	SWAN LAKE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
30	SUN	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	MANON	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage

JANUARY

2019

02	WED	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
03	THU	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
04	FRI	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
05	SAT	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		18.30	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
		21.00	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
08	TUE	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
09	WED	11.00	THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE	Opera for children and youth	Alternative Stage
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
10	THU	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
11	FRI	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
12	SAT	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
13	SUN	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
16	WED	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
17	THU	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
18	FRI	20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
19	SAT	20.00	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
20	SUN	18.30	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	ONCE	Musical	Alternative Stage
22	TUE	20.00	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
23	WED	20.00	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
25	FRI	20.00	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
26	SAT	20.00	SIMON BOCCANEGRA	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
27	SUN	20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
29	TUE	20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage
31	THU	20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage

FEBRUARY

2019

01	FRI	20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
02	SAT	20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
03	SUN	18.30	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	HEDDA GABLER	Opera	Alternative Stage
		21.00	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
06	WED	20.00	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	HADJIDAKIS: COMMON LIFE / CHILDREN AT COLONUS / THE SONGS OF SIN	Concert	Alternative Stage
08	FRI	20.00	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
09	SAT	20.00	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
10	SUN	18.30	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		21.00	THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER	Music and Visual Arts	Stavros Niarchos Hall
15	FRI	20.00	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
16	SAT	20.00	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
17	SUN	18.30	HERRUMBRE	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
19	TUE	20.30	HADJIDAKIS: COMMON LIFE / CHILDREN AT COLONUS / THE SONGS OF SIN	Concert	Alternative Stage
20	WED	20.30	HADJIDAKIS: COMMON LIFE / CHILDREN AT COLONUS / THE SONGS OF SIN	Concert	Alternative Stage
21	THU	20.30	HADJIDAKIS: COMMON LIFE / CHILDREN AT COLONUS / THE SONGS OF SIN	Concert	Alternative Stage
24	SUN	18.30	LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall

MARCH

2019

01	FRI	20.00	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: THE MARTLET'S TALE / SWEET MOVIE	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
02	SAT	20.00	MANOS HADJIDAKIS: THE MARTLET'S TALE / SWEET MOVIE	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
03	SUN	18.30	LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
07	THU	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
08	FRI	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
09	SAT	20.30	GREEK YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHAMBER MUSIC	Concert	Alternative Stage
12	TUE	20.30	TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PELIONFESTIVAL VIOLONCELLO FESTIVAL	PelionFestival	Alternative Stage
13	WED	20.30	TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PELIONFESTIVAL VIOLONCELLO FESTIVAL	PelionFestival	Alternative Stage
14	THU	20.30	TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PELIONFESTIVAL VIOLONCELLO FESTIVAL	PelionFestival	Alternative Stage
15	FRI	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
16	SAT	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
17	SUN	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
20	WED	20.00	LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
21	THU	20.30	THE WAX DOLL	Opera	Alternative Stage
22	FRI	20.00 20.30	LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR THE WAX DOLL	Opera Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
23	SAT	19.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO THE WAX DOLL	Opera Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
24	SUN	18.30	LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
26	TUE	11.00	MUSICA! or THE BATTLE OF SOUNDS	Musical for children	Alternative Stage
27	WED	11.00 19.30	MUSICA! or THE BATTLE OF SOUNDS THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO	Musical for children Opera	Alternative Stage Stavros Niarchos Hall
28	THU	20.30	MUSICA! or THE BATTLE OF SOUNDS	Musical for children	Alternative Stage
29	FRI	19.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO MUSICA! or THE BATTLE OF SOUNDS	Opera Musical for children	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
31	SUN	18.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall

APRIL

2019

05	FRI	20.30	VISIONS AND WONDERS	Opera	Alternative Stage
06	SAT	20.00 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE VISIONS AND WONDERS	Ballet Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
07	SUN	18.30 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE VISIONS AND WONDERS	Ballet Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
09	TUE	20.30	SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
10	WED	20.00 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Ballet Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
11	THU	20.30	SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
12	FRI	19.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Opera Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
13	SAT	20.00 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Ballet Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
14	SUN	18.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Opera Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
16	TUE	20.30	SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
17	WED	19.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Opera Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
18	THU	20.00 20.30	DIMITRI PLATANIAS RECITAL SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Concert Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
19	FRI	20.00 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Ballet Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
20	SAT	19.30 20.30	THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Opera Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
21	SUN	18.30 20.30	FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Ballet Festival	Stavros Niarchos Hall Alternative Stage
23	TUE	20.30	SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
24	WED	20.30	SACRED MUSIC DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage

MAY

2019

02	THU	20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage
03	FRI	20.30	FROGS	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
04	SAT	20.30	FROGS	Music theatre	Alternative Stage
05	SUN	20.30	LA VOIX HUMAINE	Opera	Alternative Stage
12	SUN	18.30	LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
15	WED	19.30	LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
17	FRI	19.30	LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
18	SAT	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
19	SUN	18.30	LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
21	TUE	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
22	WED	19.30	LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK	Opera	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
23	THU	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
24	FRI	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
25	SAT	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
26	SUN	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
28	TUE	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
29	WED	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
30	THU	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
31	FRI	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage

JUNE

2019

02	SUN	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
04	TUE	21.00	NORMA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
05	WED	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
		21.00	NORMA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
07	FRI	20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
		21.00	NORMA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
08	SAT	21.00	NORMA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
09	SUN	20.00	MAGIC	Opera and Fashion	Stavros Niarchos Hall
		20.30	MUSIC THEATRE DAYS	Festival	Alternative Stage
11	TUE	20.00	MAGIC	Opera and Fashion	Stavros Niarchos Hall

+ The *Medea* operetta will be presented at the Stavros Niarchos Hall, as part of the Summer Nostos Festival

JULY

2019

12	FRI	20.00	PRESENTATION OF THE GNO PROFESSIONAL DANCE SCHOOL	Ballet	Stavros Niarchos Hall
21	SUN	20.00	GREEK YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	Concert	Stavros Niarchos Hall
27	SAT	21.00	LA TRAVIATA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
28	SUN	21.00	LA TRAVIATA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
30	TUE	21.00	LA TRAVIATA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus
31	WED	21.00	LA TRAVIATA	Opera	Odeon of Herodes Atticus

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16 September 2018

Starts at 20.00

ROSSINI GALA

150th anniversary
of Gioachino Rossini's death

CONCERT

CONDUCTOR: Sebastiano Rolli

SOLOISTS:

Vassiliki Karayanni, Cella Costea, Mary-Ellen Nesi

Juan Sancho, Dionysios Sourbis, Paolo Bordogna

A co-production with the Rossini Opera Festival, as part of the *Tempo Forte* programme, which takes place within the three-year collaboration project between the Greek and Italian Ministries of Culture

Ticket prices: €20, €30, €40

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

The Greek National Opera commemorates the 150th anniversary of Gioachino Rossini's death with a Gala, on Sunday 16 September at the GNO Stavros Niarchos Hall, at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Renowned soloists Vassiliki Karayanni, Cella Costea, Mary-Ellen Nesi, Juan Sancho, Dionysios Sourbis, Paolo Bordogna will interpret popular extracts from the composer's operas, among which: *Il Turco in Italia*, *La Cenerentola*, *La gazza ladra*, *La donna del lago*, *L'assedio di Corinto*, *Le Comte Ory*, *Guillaume Tell*, *Otello*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*. The GNO Orchestra will be directed by the internationally acclaimed Italian conductor Sebastiano Rolli.

Gianfranco Mariotti, creator of the Rossini Opera Festival and President of the Committee in charge of the Celebration of the 150th year of Rossini's death, notes: "*The celebrations for the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Rossini's death are new ground for action in the international diffusion of this recovered patrimony. The basic conception is that Rossini is not only his music, but also his image, his myth, his influence on the musical culture of all ages, and he is also a source of revenue. This context has given birth to a varied range of events, involving towns of all countries: among these, naturally, is Greece, the cradle of Western culture. This Rossini Gala of ours, fruit of the collaboration between the Greek National Opera and the ROF, is not only a happy example of Italo-Hellenic collaboration, but it is also an initiative which has the right to be listed among the most significant of this Rossini year*".

In the 79 years of its history, the Greek National Opera has staged many of the composer's comic operas, among which *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, *La Cenerentola* and *Le Comte Ory*, as well as operas from Rossini's opera seria repertoire, such as *Mosè in Egitto* and *L'assedio di Corinto*, in productions that impressed due to their unique musical and staging approach.

With the GNO Orchestra



MANOS HADJIDAKIS CYCLE

ARTISTIC SUPERVISOR: George Hadjidakis

28, 29, 30 September 2018

Starts at 20.00 • CONCERT

GIOCONDA'S SMILE / MAGNUS EROTICUS

CONDUCTOR: Lukas Karytinios

SOLOISTS: Alkinoos Ioannidis & Dimitra Selemidou (*Magnus Eroticus*)

1, 2 March 2019

Starts at 20.00 • CONCERT

THE MARTLET'S TALE / SWEET MOVIE

CONDUCTOR: Lukas Karytinios

With the participation of the GNO Orchestra and a small instrumental ensemble

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €25, €30, €35, €40, €45, €60

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

The second part 2018/19 of the Manos Hadjidakis Cycle opens with two of his works, closely associated with the mythology of New York, where the composer spent one of the most creative periods of his life.

Gioconda's Smile is beyond doubt an emblematic work of the Greek music output. "These ten songs were written with a mixture of despair and memories. The theme is a woman alone in the big city. Each song is also a monologue of hers, and all of them together compose her story. A story at once modern and old." With these words Manos Hadjidakis concluded his note on the first edition of the legendary album *Gioconda's Smile*. The work, which has sold more than three million copies throughout the world, was recorded in 1965 in New York, and it was produced by legendary Quincey Jones.

Magnus Eroticus is a milestone in the Greek music tradition and one of Hadjidakis' top creations. Hadjidakis set to music Elytis, Kavafis, Sappho, Sarandaris, Gatsos, Solomos, Euripides, Hortatzis, Solomon and one poem by Myrtilotissa, which had also prompted this work's creation. The first unsurpassed recording of this album included the interpretations of Flery Dadonaki and Dimitris Psarianos. "Magnus Eroticus is a popular god, who lives in our imagination from the moment we are born till our death, beautiful, adolescent and constantly alive. *Magnus Eroticus* is not dressed in local folk costumes. It is dressed in its own clothes which are a composition of difficult combinations of sounds, light colours and poetic dreams. It does not contain messages easily erased by the rain, it doesn't fight back. With these songs I appeal to the most hidden sensitivity of young people of all ages and not to their ephemeral and uncontrollable excitements. These songs are not sensual. Their effect is beyond action, in the deep feeling which characterizes any relationship, of all kinds, so long as it contains the prerequisites for human communication", noted Hadjidakis on the back cover of the album.

Two great movie suites by Manos Hadjidakis will be presented on 1 and 2 March 2019, as part of the Manos Hadjidakis Cycle. The first work to be presented is the unreleased *The Martlet's Tale*. It is the soundtrack of the 1970 movie of the same title directed by John Crowther and scripted by Nicolas Delbano. The most famous song from that soundtrack is "The ballad of senses and illusions" with lyrics by Shawn Phillips, which became known to the Greek audience quite later from its version in the album *Pornography* (1982). Manos Hadjidakis' assistant to this composition was a then young Italian composer, the now famous Nicola Piovani. The second work is the masterful *Sweet Movie* from the soundtrack of Dušan Makavejev's movie of the same title, produced in 1974. Hadjidakis was enthused over the director's previous movie and thus, gladly accepted Makavejev's proposal. In the prologue Manos Hadjidakis wrote for the screening of the movie at Cine Asty in 1974, he mentioned, among other things, regarding the movie and his music: "Makavejev himself used to say that one should watch *Sweet Movie* together with their girlfriend. Never alone. And at some moments, like the sweet moments of a concert by Rachmaninov or Gershwin, they should touch each other's hands, with tenderness and a secret quiver. It is then, he says, that his movie works properly. So, try to take from my music too, all the sweet and sugary taste encompassed in the movie, along with the Chinese-acupuncture-like stings of its imaginative scenes."

Cycle Sponsor:  attica bank

14, 19, 21, 24, 27 October 2018
2 November 2018

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays at 18.30)

JENŮFA

Leoš Janáček

OPERA

CONDUCTOR: Lukas Karytinios
DIRECTOR: Nicola Raab
SETS – COSTUMES: George Souglides
LIGHTING: David Debrinay
MOVEMENT: Fotis Nikolaou
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

GRANDMOTHER BURYJOVKA: Ines Zikou
LACA KLEMEŇ: Frank van Aken
ŠTEVA BURYJA: Dimitris Paksoglou
KOSTELNIČKA BURYJOVKA: Julia Souglakou
JENŮFA: Maria Mitsopoulou
FOREMAN AT THE MILL: Yannis Yannis
MAYOR: Dimitris Kassioumis
THE MAYOR'S WIFE: Margarita Syngenioutou
KAROLKA: Artemis Bogri
PASTUCHYŇA: Barunka Preisinger
BARENA: Varvara Biza
JANO: Miranda Makrynioti

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €30, €35, €42, €50, €55, €70
Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

The Greek National Opera starts the season with the national premiere of one of the most important lyric works of the 20th century, Czech composer Leoš Janáček's *Jenůfa*. It tells the grim story of an infanticide in the Moravian country during the 19th century: a stepmother kills the newborn baby of her stepdaughter thinking that this way she can help her be happy. It is a story of raw realism, served without sentimentality, in one of the first operas using unaltered literary prose. Janáček, inspired by the special musicality of the Czech language, employs its distinctive inflections to compose his first opera, in which he clearly articulates his personal idiom. The last 25 years this opera has been established in the greatest opera houses worldwide as one of the 20th century masterpieces. *Jenůfa* will be directed by German director Nicola Raab, one of the most important opera directors in Europe; she is internationally acclaimed for the special sensitivity of her readings and her insistence on the dreamlike visualization of the works she directs. Raab, who has presented her work with great success in Vienna, Copenhagen, Bregenz, Göteborg, Lisbon, Los Angeles, Chicago, etc, notes: "Jenůfa founded Janáček's fame as operatic composer; after Jenůfa he was able to follow his trajectory in operatic composition, as he had not been able to do before. Fame came late in his life, Janáček was already 50 by the time of the premiere of Jenůfa in 1904. Based on a play by Gabriela Preissová, the plot of Jenůfa is marked by a strong social realism, a clear depiction of society and customs, that shape the characters and determine their behaviour. Three generations of women are present on-stage when the curtain opens: grandmother, (step)mother and (step)daughter; only one (half)son is to be found, drifting around on the edge of the action (Laca), and certainly no older men of the family. Later we meet another son, but he seems to be "away" eternally, partying, drinking, eschewing his responsibilities... the women have to take over, decide which way to go forward, which way to go at all. And they do, mainly in the shape of Kostelnička, the middle one of the three, the mother figure. Her decisions will determine everybody else's life, even literally so, everybody else's life and death. As in seizing the responsibility, she will even become a murderess, inflicting old (patriarchal?) laws on herself and her family, to conform to the strict rules of society. As if the fathers, that we never meet, are forever controlling the lives of the women. Despite the harsh realities depicted, Janáček's "magic", spiritual side, as we can find it in his orchestral pieces and later operas, never seems to be far away, even if much less obvious than in the rest of his oeuvre. In this production we would like to combine both, realities of an existing rigid society with all their dark sides, together with happy memories of a time seemingly lost, and a spiritual sense of otherworldliness as embodied by nature and the universe."

With the GNO Orchestra and Chorus

Sponsor:  ALPHA BANK

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR HADJIDAKIS

ARTISTIC SUPERVISOR: George Hadjidakis

23 October 2018

In all venues of the GNO from afternoon till late in the evening

TRIBUTE

A co-production with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center

To celebrate Manos Hadjidakis' birthday, the Greek National Opera presents a day-long tribute to the music, the words and the personality of the great Greek composer, who would have turned 93 this year. The Alternative Stage will host piano works performed by pianist Dora Bakopoulos, the work *Captain Michael* performed by baritone Dionysios Sourbis, and a concert with transcribed works by the vocal quartet "Yasemi". At the Stavros Niarchos Hall, distinguished opera artists will interpret songs by the composer, Giota Negka will present a new interpretation of selected songs, and the Schoolwave bands will "play with" his songs and music. With the participation of the GNO Children's Chorus and the Hellenic Navy Band.

Unconventional and innovative, opposed to seriousness and long-established ways of seeing, a fan of "youth" and a constant doubter of things, armed with his Greek and ecumenical education, Manos Hadjidakis connected works with folk music, creating a "new" sound, a "new" form of song whose roots lie in both the East and the West in equal measure.

The detailed programme will be announced soon at www.nationalopera.gr/en.

10, 11, 16, 17, 18 November 2018
22, 28, 29 December 2018

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays 18.30)

SWAN LAKE

Rigos / Tchaikovsky

BALLET

CONDUCTOR: Elias Voudouris
DIRECTOR – CHOREOGRAPHY – SETS: Konstantinos Rigos
COSTUMES: George Segredakis
DRAMATURGY CONSULTANT: Alexandros Efklidis
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT: Mary Tsagari

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €30, €35, €40, €45, €50, €70
Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

The first choreography of the Greek National Opera's new Ballet Director, Konstantinos Rigos, constitutes a new reading of the most famous ballet of all times.

Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* throughout the ages enraptures and moves the audiences while being the utmost career challenge for professional dancers, since the virtuosity and lyricism demanded for its comprehensive interpretation are almost beyond human limits. At the same time, it is an autonomous music work of great interpretative demands.

Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) was one of the most popular composers of the 19th century. He composed equally successful symphonies, concerts, operas, chamber music and music for the ballets *Swan Lake* (1877), *The Sleeping Beauty* (1890) and *The Nutcracker* (1892). These works remain to this day the most popular ballets in the repertoire, thanks to the emotive power and the theatricality of their music, which granted music for ballet the prestige of an independent music genre. The same qualities which run through all of Tchaikovsky's works, also inspired many choreographers to create new works based on his music. It is thus no coincidence that Tchaikovsky's name –perhaps more than of any other colleague of his– has been associated with the art of ballet. The enchanting story of Prince Siegfried, the Swan Queen Odette, the evil wizard Rothbart and his daughter Odile comes to life through the eyes of Konstantinos Rigos; he transfers the action to a post-apocalyptic environment, where dancers seem to be environmental refugees at a dried-up lake bed. This new production of *Swan Lake* attempts to raise questions and seek the answers regarding the way the modern spectator as well as the artist of our time can "reread" and discover anew a classic work, today.

In 2002, Konstantinos Rigos choreographed an adaptation of *Swan Lake* titled *Swan Memory* for the National Theatre of Northern Greece. The performance toured from Athens and Volos to Singapore, São Paulo, Portugal, Italy and France with great success.

With the GNO Orchestra, Principal dancers, Soloists, Demi-Soloists and Corps de Ballet

25, 27, 28, 30 November 2018

14, 16, 18, 19 December 2018

Starts at 11.00

THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA

Ernst Toch

OPERA FOR CHILDREN
In Greek

CONDUCTOR – TRANSLATION: Nicolas Vassiliou
DIRECTOR – CHOREOGRAPHY: Apostolia Papadamaki
SET DESIGNER – PROJECTIONS: Petros Touloudis
COSTUMES: Ioanna Tsami
LIGHTING: Valentina Tamiolaki

CAST (in alphabetical order)

THE KING: Alexandros Loutas – Dionysos Tsantinis
THE QUEEN: Myrto Bocolini – Gina Fotinopoulou
THE PRINCE: Yannis Kalyvas – Dionyssi Melogiannidis
THE CHANCELLOR: Kostis Mavrogenis – Giorgos Papadimitriou
THE MINISTER: Yannis Kavouras – Stamatis Beris
THE NURSE: Marina Kolyva – Margarita Syngenioutou
THE UNKNOWN PRINCESS: Maria-Christina Asimakopoulou – Chrysanthi Chachoulia

Ticket prices: Weekdays (General admission) €12

Sundays: €12, €15, €18, €20, €25, €30

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €5

Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale about the princess who was sensitive enough to be disturbed by a pea hidden underneath a huge pile of mattresses, inspired Austrian composer Ernst Toch to create an opera for children, first presented in 1927.

To render the allegorical fairy tale, Toch, who received the Pulitzer Prize for his Third Symphony (1954), employs the musical language of his time while simultaneously making use of past forms, arias, duets, etc. The enchanting opera was an immediate success and it has ever since been integrated into the repertoire of most opera houses worldwide.

Apostolia Papadamaki attempts to visualise Toch's music with the aim of creatively communicating it to children's audiences. Settings will be formed during the performance, with the help of projectors and modern technology.

With the participation of a 30-member musical ensemble

Sponsors:   

12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 30 December 2018

Starts at 19.30 (Sundays at 18.30)

MANON

Jules Massenet

OPERA

CONDUCTORS: Lukas Karytinis – Kleante Russo
DIRECTOR: Thomas Moschopoulos
SETS: Evangelia Therianou
COSTUMES: Clare Bracewel
MUSIC DRAMATURGY: Kornilios Selamsis
MOVEMENT: Sofia Paschou
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

MANON LESCAUT: Myrtò Papatanasu – Christina Poulitsi
THE CHEVALIER DES GRIEUX: Konstantinos Klironomos – TBA
LESCAUT: Dionysios Sourbis – Vangelis Maniatis
THE COUNT DES GRIEUX: Tassos Apostolou – Petros Magoulas
GUILLOT DE MORFONTAINE: Nikos Stefanou – Christos Kechris
DE BRÉTIGNY: Dimitris Kassioumis – Harris Andrianos
POUSSETTE: Gina Poulou – Varvara Biza
JAVOTTE: Rosa Poulimenou-Cappon – Diamanti Kritsotaki
ROSETTE: Elena Marangou – Athina Kastrinaki

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €35, €40, €50, €55, €60, €90

Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

One of the most famous operas in the French repertoire, Massenet's *Manon* comes back to the Greek National Opera and the music life of Athens after an absence of 52 years! Based on Abbé Prévost's novel, the opera tells the story of the unlucky love of Chevalier des Grieux for Manon, the girl's adventurous life, her love for luxury and her death in squalid conditions, while Des Grieux tries to keep himself away from her. Massenet renders the ambience of each situation through a music that is lively, full of passion and most of all sensuality, and with a style expressing in the liveliest way the French belle époque, its aesthetics and values.

The opera will be directed by the distinguished theatre director and artistic director of Porta Theatre, a man with substantial experience in opera, Thomas Moschopoulos. As he notes: "So, *Manon*. A work whose most distinguishing characteristic is, as one could say, its ambivalence. At all levels: ambience, theme, musical style and ethos of characters. On a different occasion these could be considered as weaknesses but in this case, they become an exquisite example of the artful management of an enchanting and at the same time dangerous fluidity of meaning. In *Manon*'s world nothing is certain. Everything starts "easily" and "lightly" like a comedy of morals, but in the end, its dramatic effect almost exceeds that of melodrama. Is *Manon* an anti-Traviata or an early *Loulou*? A victim of circumstance and a society which subjugates a young woman to labels or a libidinous amoralist destroyed by her own narcissism? And what about Chevalier des Grieux? Is he a faithful being with genuine and strong feelings? Or a naïve obsessive young man, used to an easy life provided by his family's wealth and social status? Perhaps neither Prévost nor Massenet aimed at explicit or moralistic answers. Besides, both the narrative and the opera are products of a time when fluidity prevailed. In the first case, the gallant spirit of the French eighteenth century is challenged by the Enlightenment which calls for critical thinking and questioning of all certainties, while during the belle époque major tensions and inequalities as well as upheavals at all social and spiritual levels are masterly concealed by the general well-being. Like two big bubbles endlessly growing, these two eras will burst into major global crises which will shake the whole world. Could that explain why the staging of this work is particularly interesting nowadays? In the sense that it almost symbolically depicts a world which, inebriated by "easiness" and "carefreeness", is possessed by an insatiable appetite for consumption of pleasures and ephemeral validation, while values are easily placed at the level of market value, love is confused with eroticism and the concept of pornography can easily be used to express all kinds of human behaviour and not only its literal meaning – a world led with dazzling superficiality toward a deterministic dramatic exit while turning a blind eye on whatever the consequences may be, through the deification of the ephemeral? Both in Prévost and Massenet the "narratives" of *Manon Lescaut*'s "story" refer to a "past" in order to comprehend the present. Therefore, the staging will blend the 18th and the 19th century with our recent past, starting from their shiny exteriors and the vertiginous sense of "climbing" and ending with the stunningly stark pain of the abrupt fall of the present".

With the GNO Orchestra and Chorus

Sponsor: 
ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ

GNO MAJOR DONOR

 ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

Greek National Opera
Stavros Niarchos Hall

Stavros Niarchos Foundation
Cultural Center

5 January 2019
3, 10 February 2019

Starts at 18.30 and 21.00

THE ARTIST ON THE COMPOSER

FIRST COMMISSION: Nikos Navridis

PROJECT ON VISUAL ARTS

CONDUCTOR: Giorgos Ziavras

The project *the artist on the composer* is a long-term collaboration between the Greek National Opera and the non-profit organization NEON (neon.org.gr) focusing on the relationship between visual arts and opera.

The project brings together leading contemporary visual artists and filmmakers with live orchestral performance.

Through a newly commissioned work, each artist responds to the work of a classical composer stripped of the usual operatic traditions and storytelling; open to audiences that may not have engaged with opera before.

Unfolding inside an opera house emptied of sets and costumes, this abstract interaction is strengthened by what is left out, allowing the artists' individual responses to push musical performance and audience in new and different directions.

The first commission goes to Greek artist Nikos Navridis.

Nikos Navridis was born in Athens. He studied architecture at the National Technical University of Athens and art at the Athens School of Fine Arts, where he is a professor since 2008. His work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group shows in Greece and abroad. Selected exhibitions include: *ANTIDORON*. The EMST Collection, documenta 14, Fridericianum, Kassel (2017) / *No Country for young men*. *Contemporary Greek art in time of Crisis*. Bozar. Centre for Fine Arts Brussels (2014) / *A Thousand Doors*. Gennadius Library, Athens, NEON & Whitechapel Gallery (2014) / *Between the optimism of the will and the pessimism of the intellect*. 5th Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art (2015) / *Try Again. Fail Again. Fail Better*. Aeschyleia 2013, Eleusis / *The First Image*, CRAC, Contemporary Art Center, Sete, France (2009) / *Transexperiences, Greece 2008*, 798 Space, Beijing, China / *Take a deep breath*, Tate Modern, London (2007) / *Nuit Blanche 2004*, Hôpital Saint-Lazare, Paris, France / *Nikos Navridis, Difficult Breaths*, La Caixa Foundation, Madrid, Spain (2004) and many more in Sweden, Korea, Mexico, Japan and USA. He has represented Greece in the international biennials of Venice (2001 & 2005), Istanbul (1997), São Paulo (1996) and Santa Fe, New Mexico (1999).

With the GNO Orchestra

A collaboration between
the Greek National Opera and **NEON**

19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26 January 2019

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays at 18.30)

SIMON BOCCANEGRA

Giuseppe Verdi

OPERA

A Royal Opera House production

CONDUCTORS: Zoi Tsokanou – Stathis Soulis
DIRECTOR: Elijah Moshinsky
SETS: Michael Yeargan
COSTUMES: Peter J. Hall
LIGHTING: John Harrison
LIGHTING SUPERVISOR: Matthew Mulberry
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

SIMON BOCCANEGRA: Dimitri Platanius – Tassis Chistoyannis
MARIA BOCCANEGRA: Cellia Costea – Anna Stylianaki
JACOPO FIESCO: TBA – Petros Magoulas
GABRIELE ADORNO: Ramón Vargas – Dimitris Paksoglou
PAOLO ALBIANI: Yannis Selitsaniotis – Kyros Patsalides
PIETRO: Dionysos Tsantinis – Alexandros Loutas
CAPTAIN OF THE CROSSBOWMEN: ... Yannis Kalyvas – Dionyssis Melogiannidis

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €35, €40, €50, €55, €60, €90

Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

Giuseppe Verdi created one of the most impressive baritone roles for *Simon Boccanegra*. Through the lips of the historical figure of the first Doge of Genoa, Verdi was able to express his own political thinking and ideals for a united Italy, far from fratricidal wars.

The opera was written in 1857 and Verdi reworked it in 1881 by adding some masterly scenes, based on Petrarch's letters: one addressed to the historical figure of Boccanegra and another to the then Doge of Venice. Nowadays, *Simon Boccanegra* counts among Verdi's most popular operas.

In the magnificent impressive production of the Royal Opera House, Moshinsky attempts an historical direction inspired by the art and architecture of Renaissance. The leitmotifs in his direction are constantly recurring images of the sea, encapsulating a reference to mortality.

Moshinsky is considered one of the most important opera directors worldwide with a considerable, thirty-year long experience in theatre and opera. His repertoire varies and comprises, among others, works of Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Wagner, Strauss, etc. He has won three times the Laurence Olivier Award for best opera, for his performances *Lohengrin*, *Stiffelio* and *The Rake's Progress*. He has systematically collaborated with the most famous opera houses in the world, such as the Royal Opera House in London, the New York Metropolitan Opera, the Sydney Opera, the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg, etc.

With the GNO Orchestra and Chorus

Sponsor:  ALPHA BANK

6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17 February 2019

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays at 18.30)

HERRUMBRE

Nacho Duato

BALLET

CHOREOGRAPHY: Nacho Duato
MUSIC: Pedro Alcalde, Sergio Caballero, David Darling
SCENOGRAPHY: Jaffar Chalabi
COSTUMES: Nacho Duato
LIGHTING: Brad Fields

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €25, €30, €35, €40, €45, €60

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

The first collaboration of the Greek National Opera Ballet with the renowned Spanish choreographer Nacho Duato is a fact. The choreographer with the unique sensitivity to the weaknesses of human nature guarantees a great dance performance about the rust of the soul, titled *Herrumbre (Rust)*. For Nacho Duato, the starting point for this ballet was a photograph from the US-American detention camp, Guantanamo, showing prisoners fallen on the ground like animals. In his choreography, Duato transforms the images of violence spread by the media into movements. His aim here is to raise awareness on a subject that we all should care about. Why? Because it is how we treat others that ultimately defines who we are ourselves.

The succession of impressive scenes, each more violent than the previous one, with people humiliated and terrified inside a cruel prison, constitutes Duato's grand statement against all forms of terrorism. Duato was born in Valencia in 1957 and studied at Rambert School in London and Maurice Béjart's Mudra School in Brussels. He completed his studies at Alvin Ailey's American Dance Centre in New York and began his career in 1980 with the famous Cullberg Ballet in Stockholm. He has been a dancer and a guest choreographer with the Netherlands Dans Theater for ten years. There, he presented his first choreography in 1983, at the urging of Jiří Kylián. He served for twenty consecutive years as artistic director of the National Ballet of Spain, turning it into one of the most sought-after Ballets worldwide for its quality and repertoire. Since 2014 he has been the general and artistic director of the Berlin State Ballet (Staatsballett Berlin), a position he will be holding until 2019, when he will be succeeded by Sasha Waltz and Johannes Öhman. His choreographies have been performed by some of the most important dance companies throughout the world, such as Nederlands Dans Theater, American Ballet Theatre, The Australian Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Stuttgart Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Royal Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company.

With the GNO Principal dancers, Soloists, Demi-Soloists and Corps de Ballet

Supporters:



24 February 2019
3, 20, 22, 24 March 2019

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays at 18.30)

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

Gaetano Donizetti

OPERA

A co-production with the Royal Opera House

CONDUCTOR: Pierre Dumoussaud
DIRECTOR: Katie Mitchell
REVIVAL DIRECTOR: Robin Tebbutt
SETS – COSTUMES: Vicki Mortimer
MOVEMENT – CHOREOGRAPHY: Joseph Alford
LIGHTING: Jon Clark
LIGHTING SUPERVISION: Matthew Mulberry
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

ENRICO: Tassis Christoyannis
LUCIA: Vassiliki Karayanni – Christina Poulitsi
SIR EDGARDO: Yannis Christopoulos
LORD ARTURO: Yannis Kalyvas – Nikos Stefanou
RAIMONDO: Tassos Apostolou
ALISA: Lydia Vafiadi
NORMANNO: Thanassis Evangelou – Charalambos Velissarios

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €35, €40, €50, €55, €60, €90

Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

Donizetti's bel canto masterpiece is the first co-production of the Greek National Opera with the Royal Opera House, sponsored by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

The production directed by the renowned British director Katie Mitchell received highly successful premieres in London in 2016 and in Athens in 2018.

Mitchell chose to probe into the 19th century woman's world and see the story through the eyes of the central female character. As a contrasting foil to the dark, male-dominated world of the North conceived by Sir Walter Scott, Mitchell brings woman's viewpoint to the foreground and sets the entire work within the context of that era's literature, in an atmosphere, like the one prevailing in the works of the Brontë sisters.

In *Lucia*, the stage is separated in two parts, as Mitchell suggests two parallel narratives: on the one side the audience watches all that is described in the opera's libretto and on the other side light is shed on the events that take place in parallel, events which fill in the blanks of the narrative and reveal the work's feminine aspect.

The wonderful sets and costumes, distinguished by their high aesthetic quality and rare detail, were designed by the exceptional British set designer Vicki Mortimer. After eight highly successful sold out performances at the Stavros Niarchos Hall, the Greek National Opera remounts the work in February and March 2019.

With the GNO Orchestra and Chorus

23, 27, 29, 31 March 2019

12, 14, 17, 20 April 2019

Starts at 19.30 (Sundays at 18.30)

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

OPERA

CONDUCTORS: Marios Papadopoulos – Georgios Balatsinos
DIRECTOR: Alexandros Efklidis
DRAMATURG – COLLABORATING DIRECTOR: Angela-Kleopatra Saroglou
SETS: Yiannis Katranitsas
COSTUMES: Ioanna Tsami
LIGHTING: Melina Mascha
MOVEMENT: Konstantinos Rigos
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

COUNT ALMAVIVA: Dimitris Tiliakos – Dionysios Sourbis
COUNTESS ALMAVIVA: Maria Mitsopoulou – Myrsini Margariti
SUSANNA: Vassiliki Karayanni – Chrissa Maliamani
FIGARO: Panagiotis Economou – Yannis Selitsaniotis
CHERUBINO: Artemis Bogri – Miranda Makrynioti
MARCELLINA: Elena Kelessidi – Despoina Skarlatou
BARTOLO: TBA – Dimitris Kassioumis
BASILIO: Nikos Stefanou – Christos Kechris
DON CURZIO: Stamatis Beris – Dionyssi Melogiannidis

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €30, €35, €42, €50, €55, €70

Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

The Marriage of Figaro, the first of Mozart's three operas to a libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte, returns to the Greek National Opera. Based on Beaumarchais' comedy *La folle journée, ou le Mariage de Figaro*, the work was first presented in Vienna in 1786, a few years before the French Revolution. The libretto reflects the era's unrest and the tension in the relations between different social classes: on the one hand the count and the countess and on the other hand their servants, Susanna and Figaro. Mozart's masterly music outlines each character by simple means. Apart from the usual arias for each role and the duets between them, the composer creates incredibly imaginative ensembles, like the famous septet in Act II: starting with one, then two, three, four, five, six and in the end seven characters discuss with each other during a thrilling music part, which lasts for twenty minutes without, however, losing its clarity and power. But, above all, it is a work whose characters are principally humane, with all their aspects, both positive and dark ones, equally brought out into the light. The director of the production and artistic director of the GNO Alternative Stage, Alexandros Efklidis, notes: "The Marriage of Figaro, as well as the rest of the works resulting from the Mozart-Da Ponte cooperation, often suffer from their unquestionable classification as timeless masterpieces: their playful, comic and even farcical character is outweighed before the dazzle caused by their musical genius as well as the density of meanings co-articulated through the ideal co-existence of music and speech. This new production of the work for the Greek National Opera focuses on Mozart's comic, yet paradoxical world of opera and attempts to bring out the subtleties of the composer's musico-dramatic genius. Within a movie set which reflects a universe of retro paradoxicality, Mozart's heroes morph into cogs in a strange world, put together by the opera's theatrical details; meanwhile, emphasis is given on the timeless struggle for social climbing and decency."

With the GNO Orchestra and Chorus

6, 7, 10, 13, 19, 21 April 2019

Starts at 20.00 (Sundays at 18.30)

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Stravinsky's ballet triptych

BALLET

LE SACRE DU PRINTEMPS

CHOREOGRAPHY: Daphnis Kokkinos

PIANO: Stefanos Nasos, Apostolos Palios

LE CHANT DU ROSSIGNOL

CHOREOGRAPHY – SETS: Marco Goecke

PIANO: Giorgos Konstantinou

LES NOCES

CONDUCTOR: Nicolas Vassiliou

CHOREOGRAPHY: Konstantinos Rigos

PIANO: Giorgos Konstantinou, Stefanos Nasos,
Apostolos Palios, Sophia Tamvakopoulou

SOLOISTS: Mina Polychronou, Margarita Syngenioutou,
Filippos Modinos, Petros Magoulas

With the participation of the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation Chorus

It wouldn't be an overstatement to claim that Igor Stravinsky, with his ideas and accomplishments, had not only exerted a very deep influence on the composers of his time and in total on the musical avant-garde of the first decades of the previous century, but he had also decisively contributed to the music developments in the 20th century. His personal trajectory has passed through many phases and, if something characterizes it, that is precisely its stylistic diversity. Stravinsky became worldwide known through a series of ballets for which he composed the music. They were the fruits of his creative cooperation with impresario Sergei Diaghilev, who had created the Ballets Russes in Paris in collaboration with some of the most talented Russian artists who lived and worked far from their homeland. It was for this ensemble that the triptych of ballets *From Russia with Love* was written: *Le Sacre du printemps* [*The Rite of spring*, 1913], *Le Chant du rossignol* [*The nightingale's song*, 1914/1917/1920] and *Les noces* [*The wedding*, 1923]. Three renowned choreographers design the choreographies: Daphnis Kokkinos of the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch, distinguished German choreographer Marco Goecke who will be the director of Hannover Ballet starting in 1919/20 and the Ballet Director of the Greek National Opera, Konstantinos Rigos.

With the GNO Principal dancers, Soloists, Demi-Soloists and Corps de Ballet

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €25, €30, €35, €40, €45, €60

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

Greek National Opera
Stavros Niarchos Hall

Stavros Niarchos Foundation
Cultural Center

Exceptional Greek baritone Dimitri Platanias in a unique recital, the first to take place at the GNO Stavros Niarchos Hall –the venue with the unique acoustics– in the SNFCC.

The GNO protagonist who stands out at the leading opera houses of Europe (London, Munich, Brussels, Venice, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Florence, Madrid, Amsterdam, Valencia, Stuttgart, etc), soon after his debut in America with the San Francisco Opera, returns to Greece to interpret arias of Rossini, Verdi, Leoncavallo, Giordano, etc.

18 April 2019

Starts at 20.00

DIMITRI PLATANIAS RECITAL

CONCERT

PIANO: Sophia Tamvakopoulou

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €25, €30, €35, €40, €45, €60

Students, children: €12 • Limited visibility: €10

12, 15, 17, 19, 22 May 2019

Starts at 19.30 (Sundays at 18.30)

LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK

Dmitri Dmitrievich Shostakovich

OPERA

CONDUCTOR: Vassilis Christopoulos
DIRECTOR: Fanny Ardant
SETS: Tobias Hoheisel
COSTUMES: Milena Canonero
LIGHTING: Luca Bigazzi
CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

In the main roles:

BORIS: Yannis Yannis
ZINOVY: Yannis Christopoulos
KATERINA IZMAILOVA: Svetlana Sozdateleva
SERGEY: Sergey Semishkur
AKSINYA: Sophia Kyanidou
SHABBY PEASANT: Nikos Stefanou

Ticket prices: €15, €20, €35, €40, €50, €55, €60, €90

Students, children: €15 • Limited visibility: €10

One of the most famous operas of the 20th century comes back to the Greek National Opera after almost a quarter of a century. Based on a novel by Nikolai Leskov, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* treats the subject of woman's position in the provincial society. At the same time, Shostakovich outlines exceptionally critical portraits of institutions such as the church and the police. The work became worldwide known in 1936 when, after Stalin had visited the performance, newspaper *Pravda*, an official instrument of the communist party, published an article titled "Confusion instead of music" condemning the music as vulgar, rough and petit bourgeois, and criticizing the work's positive stance toward its murderess protagonist. The opera was banned in the Soviet Union and it was performed only after the death of Stalin, in 1962, in a new version. Today the work is performed almost exclusively in its original version, allowing audiences worldwide to enjoy its inspired, tense and powerful music.

The Greek National Opera has assigned the direction of Shostakovich's masterpiece to Fanny Ardant, an important figure in the world of French cinema and theatre. Ardant, a star of 60 films and 30 plays, Truffaut's muse, Zeffirelli and Polanski's protagonist and Depardieu's unsurpassed partner, collaborates for the first time with the Greek National Opera, after her first direction of a musical theatre work, Sondheim's *Passion*, at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, in 2016.

Through this production Ardant introduces to the Greek audience two great collaborators: distinguished German set designer Tobias Hoheisel and famous costume designer Milena Canonero, who has won four Oscars for Best Costume Design (for Kubrick's *Barry Lyndon*, Hugh Hudson's *Chariots of Fire*, Sofia Coppola's *Marie Antoinette* and Wes Anderson's *The Grand Budapest Hotel*), was the costume designer in movies such as: *The Clockwork Orange*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *The Midnight Express*, *Out of Africa*, as well as in important opera productions at the Metropolitan Opera, the Paris Opera, the Teatro alla Scala, the Salzburg Festival and the Vienna State Opera, among others.

With the GNO Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists

Sponsor:  ALPHA BANK

4, 5, 7, 8 June 2019

Starts at 21.00

NORMA

Vincenzo Bellini

OPERA

A co-production with La Fura dels Baus

CONDUCTOR: Georgios Balatsinos
 DIRECTOR – SETS: Carlus Padrissa / La Fura dels Baus
 COSTUMES: Chu Uroz
 CHORUS MASTER: Agathangelos Georgakatos

In the main roles the distinguished Italian soprano
 Carmen Giannattasio (Norma), Cella Costea (Adalgisa)
 and Tassos Apostolou (Oroveso)

Ticket prices: €25, €45, €55, €60, €85, €100

Students, children: €15

Norma, an opera absolutely associated with Greece in multiple ways, comes back to the Greek National Opera. It is one of the first operas to have been successfully presented in the capital of the newly formed state, already in 1837. In the Greek National Opera's long history, the role of Norma has been interpreted by renowned Greek singers such as Maria Callas in 1960 at the Theatre of Ancient Epidauros and Elena Soulioti in 1968 at the Odeon of Herodes Atticus.

The love triangle between the perjured High Priestess of the Druids, her young colleague and the Roman proconsul will be brought back to life by director Carlus Padrissa, one of the six artistic directors of the famous collective La Fura dels Baus from Barcelona. From the moment it was founded in 1979 to this day, La Fura dels Baus have been engaged in all forms of performing arts: from street theatre to digital theatre, and from the opening ceremony of the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games to opera, in which they seem to have found their ideal means of expression. La Fura dels Baus have become unique and sought-after all over the globe thanks to their desire to abolish the limits between the stage and the audience, as well as their incessant quest for new ways of expression. The list of their collaborations with great opera houses and festivals is endless: Opéra national de Paris, Royal Opera House (Covent Garden, London), Salzburg Festival, Teatro Real (Madrid), Arena di Verona, Brussels, Amsterdam, Dresden, Lyon, Rome, Frankfurt, Sydney, Munich, Bologna, Huston, etc; equally endless are the pieces and first covers about them on the world's greatest newspapers.

Carlus Padrissa notes about the staging of *Norma* at the Odeon of Herodes Atticus: "*The second transfer of the lyric tragedy Norma, the child murderess by La Fura dels Baus will revolve around a ritual which will however not include any cross. The source of inspiration will be Nietzsche's work The birth of tragedy through the spirit of music, perceived from a pro-Christian point of view: a prehistoric myth full of symbolisms. A genealogical tree which breaks, an altar, a Rock and a ritual brew. Air, fire, earth, wars, betrayals, bravery, unsubdued feelings and sensuality. Therefore, our intention is to create an honest exercise aiming at matching the genuine alchemy of the time with the darker aspect of the druids. In one respect, all of us are child murderers in modern society: we leave our children a non-sustainable world. It's exactly for this reason that we will use recycled waste from the Mediterranean to develop a part of the set and the meagre costumes for the performance. Long-drawn, tragic melodies, with intense flourishes giving rise to intense emotions. Among the unforgettable moments of this opera counts the "Casta diva" aria, perhaps the most popular soprano aria in the history of music. The performance will be held at the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, an impressive venue, with the audience sitting right across the stage, creating thus an impressive composition. The audience is separated by three key-points: the ring encompassing the orchestra, the ring dividing the audience in two parts, and one more which will shine on the audience with a solar photocell, like the Sun God with his halo.*"

With the GNO Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists

Sponsor:



ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ

GNO MAJOR DONOR

 ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ
 STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

Greek National Opera
Stavros Niarchos Hall

Stavros Niarchos Foundation
Cultural Center

Magic is the theme of the new production of the Opera and Fashion Cycle, which returns to the Greek National Opera after a two-year break. Its relaunch is based on an idea aiming at reminding the dynamics of the synergy between these two very bright worlds, resulting in explosive beauty. Thus, the new production comes to reveal the many faces of *Magic*, aspiring to trigger our imagination and add colour to our daily life. Opera and Fashion meet on an equal footing and in a creative manner, seeking new ways of interaction and shaping a magical palette of images, visual joy, feelings, tension, and possibilities which perhaps exceed natural forces. The project will be joined by the Greek National Opera Ballet, who will also design the choreographies, as well as by professional models.

9, 11 June 2019

Starts at 20.00

MAGIC

OPERA AND FASHION

CONCEPT – SUPERVISOR: Isma Toulatos
DIRECTOR – ART DIRECTION: Konstantinos Rigos
CHOREOGRAPHY: GNO Ballet dancers
MUSIC SUPERVISOR: Dimitris Giakas
SPECIAL GUEST (FASHION DESIGNER): TBA

June 2019, as part of the
Summer Nostos Festival

MEDEA

Nikos Kypourgos
Based on Bost's *Medea*

OPERETTA

LIBRETTO: Nikos Kypourgos, Lena Kitsopoulou
CONDUCTOR: Elias Voudouris
DIRECTOR: Yannis Skourletis / bijoux de kant
SETS: Konstantinos Skourletis

Operetta is the flagship of light musical theatre, which has developed in parallel to the older and more serious sister-genre of opera. In Greece, operetta enjoyed huge success, especially during the interwar period, when hundreds of new works were written by some of the most important Greek composers. In the context of the Operetta restart Cycle, the Greek National Opera will present new operettas, commissioned to three distinguished Greek composers, with the aim of providing the necessary boost for the genre's creative restart.

It all starts with Bost's satirical *Medea*, set to music as operetta by Nikos Kypourgos upon commission from the Greek National Opera. The Operetta restart Cycle starts deliberately with Bost's *Medea*, since it is a genuinely groundbreaking work, which will acquire a new dimension once it is set to music and presented as an operetta. Besides, it is no accident, that Bost managed to create a completely personal and recognizable satirical style, as a sketch artist, a copywriter, a playwright, and a painter as well. His unorthodox use of language and his deliberately misspelled texts aimed at deconstructing *katharevousa* (heavily archaized form of modern Greek) and establishing *demotic* Greek (colloquial modern Greek). Bost's satire targeted the Greek petits bourgeois of the post-war decades, the appearance of respectability, the little learning, the nouveau riche, xenomania, the striking class conflicts in post-war Greece, as well as Greek politics. *Medea's* text, in fifteen-syllable metre, uses as a starting point Euripides' famous tragedy but speaks in Bost's register about a woman who wants to kill her children because they are bad at learning and don't want to work either; while on top of that, her husband cheats on her and wants to marry the princess of Corinth. Nikos Kypourgos, one of the most important Greek composers, has been a close associate of Manos Hadjidakis. Starting from the legendary *Lilipoupoli* he has composed dozens of works for theatre and cinema, vocal music, orchestral music, chamber music, dance music, songs and musicals.

With the GNO Orchestra, Choir and Soloists

The *Medea* operetta will be presented as part of the Summer Nostos Festival, which is organized and exclusively funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

27, 28, 30, 31 July 2019

Starts at 21.00

LA TRAVIATA

Giuseppe Verdi

OPERA

CONDUCTOR: Lukas Karytinis

DIRECTOR – SETS – CHOREOGRAPHY: Konstantinos Rigos

Main roles are performed by the distinguished GNO singers:

Myrtò Papatnasiu (Violetta), Dimitri Platanias
and Tassis Christoyannis (Giorgio Germont)

Ticket prices: €25, €45, €55, €60, €85, €100

Students, children: €15

Greek National Opera's second summer production for 2019 is Giuseppe Verdi's highly popular work, *La Traviata*, which will be presented for the first time at the Odeon of Herodes Atticus. The unlucky love of "The Lady of the Camellias" for Alfredo Germont, as perceived and set to music by Giuseppe Verdi through uniquely powerful melodies indelibly etched in the heart and mind, will come to life in a new production directed by Konstantinos Rigos.

La Traviata will be the operatic debut of the director, choreographer and Greek National Opera's Ballet Director, Konstantinos Rigos. Over his long career, apart from his choreographies, he has successfully directed large scale theatre performances such as *Bossa Nova*, *Titanic*, *Red Lights* and *Wind* (at the National Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet*, and great musical productions, like *Cabaret*, *Rocky Horror Show*, *Eratokritos*, etc.

Rigos will attempt a time travel, starting from Violetta Valéry's Parisian 18th century residence to today's cruel world, where the tragic ending of the story will unfold. In the spirit of Verdi's compelling music, the direction will focus on the hypocrisy of relationships, the dominant ethics of then and today, the rigidity of social structures, and the heroine's dramatic love. A psychological profile of Violetta Valéry, from the dawn of love to the darkness of death.

Twenty-one years since his emblematic choreography on *The Lady of the Camellias* at the Kalamata International Dance Festival and the Amore Theatre, Konstantinos Rigos revisits the "famous courtesan of Parisian society", with whom Alexander Dumas had an affair and for whom he wrote the operatic version of his play.

With the GNO Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists

A

S

13, 14 October 2018

3, 4 May 2019

Starts at 20.30

FROGS

Based on Aristophanes' play

MUSIC THEATRE

MUSIC: Opera Chaotique
PUPPET & MASK CONSTRUCTION AND ANIMATION: Merlin Puppet Theatre
ADAPTATION – DIRECTION – SET – COSTUME DESIGN: Opera Chaotique &
Merlin Puppet Theatre

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF:

OPERA CHAOTIQUE: George Tziouvaras (singing, piano, narrative),
Chris Koutsogiannis (drums, percussions)

MERLIN PUPPET THEATRE: Dimitris Stamou, Demy Papada

Stavros Parginos (cello), Lito Messini (soprano)

Ticket prices: €12, €15
Students, children: €8

The Alternative Stage of the Greek National Opera launches the 2018/19 season with a special adaptation of Aristophanes' comedy *Frogs* presented from the surreal perspective and with the utterly subversive humour of an eccentric duet: the Opera Chaotique and the renowned Merlin Puppet Theatre company – which creates and animates puppet worlds in Greece and abroad since 1995.

The work is set in modern times as a musical narrative. Dionysus, 2,500 years later, is still disappointed by people's low intellectual standards, and decides to turn once more to the enlightened dead in the Underworld.

On his journey he meets not just Euripides and Aeschylus, but also Rimbaud, Bukowski, Poe, Embirikos and other brilliant minds of the past, on a quest culminating in an unexpected twist. Wars, the refugee problem, poverty, television, religious bigotry, they all aim at impoverishing the mind, the body and the soul. Can the intellectuals save humanity from this disaster? Or at least help? Is Aristophanes always topical or do we lag 2,500 years behind?

The comedy's adaptation, transferred in the modern age, approaches serious issues through humour and generates hope and optimism. The work of the ancients lives on and the work of the moderns is inspiring! They did what they could. What about us?



17, 18, 21, 23 October 2018
4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 22, 23, 29 November 2018
2, 9, 21, 23, 27, 29, 30 December 2018
2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 January 2019

Morning performances – Start at: 11.00

1, 8 December 2018

Afternoon performances – Start at: 18.30

THE EMPEROR'S NIGHTINGALE

Lena Platonos

OPERA FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

LIBRETTO: Giorgos Voloudakis
DIRECTOR: Katerina Petsatodi
ANIMATION: Eirini Vianelli
SET DESIGNER: Evangelia Therianou
COSTUMES: Alexia Theodoraki
SOUND DESIGNER: Stergios Tsirliagos

The musical fairy tale of the great Lena Platonos, *The emperor's nightingale*, a work that “has never been presented live, due to its technical difficulties and operatic structure”, as she herself has mentioned, will be presented by the Alternative Stage of the Greek National Opera as its main opera production for children and youth, for 30 performances. It is an impressive production combining opera with animation. A collaboration with the Animasyros festival!

Following the great success of Thodoris Abazis' opera *Tsarevich Ivan and the firebird*, the children's opera of Lena Platonos, whose songs of *Lilipoupoli* have raised generations of children, sets the bar of expectations even higher.

Lena Platonos wrote *The emperor's nightingale*, a “musical fairy tale with operatic elements”, as she has described it, in 1989, based on Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale of the same title, to respond to the wish of counter-tenor Aris Christofellis. The libretto was written by the poet-biologist Giorgos Voloudakis. The work's recording featured top performers, such as Aris Christofellis, Savina Yannatou, Spyros Sakkas, Frangiskos Voutsinos, etc. Platonos characterized the work's music as neo-impressionistic.

Andersen's fairy tale morphs into a parable about the relationship between art and technology, which nowadays is more topical than ever. The work's modern-day message, the co-existence of analogue and electronic music, the irresistible melodic lines of Platonos and the skilled vocal writing make *The emperor's nightingale* an ideal opportunity to acquaint children with the magical world of the lyric art.

Sponsor:  ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ
ΠΕΤΡΕΛΑΙΑ

 animasyros

Weekday performances for schools: €10

Afternoon and weekend performances: €12, €15 • Students: €8

Greek National Opera
Alternative Stage

Stavros Niarchos Foundation
Cultural Center

19, 20 October 2018

Starts at 20.30

PARAMYFIKO

MUSIC THEATRE

CONCEPT – TEXTS – DIRECTOR: Costas Lamproulis

MUSIC: Filippos Zoukas, Lefteris Gallos,
Maria Deligianni, Eleni Kiprioti

PERFORMERS – CO-CREATORS: Lefteris Gallos, Maria Deligianni,
Filippos Zoukas, Eleni Kiprioti, Apostolis Lygdas,
Katerina Bekou, Despoina Bounitsi, Thanassis Saliampouchos

COSTUME DESIGNER: Eleni Psyrra

CHOREOGRAPHY – MOVEMENT: Despoina Bounitsi

SET DESIGNER: Dimitra Exarchou

LIGHTING DESIGNER: Yannis Hadjiantoniou

A huge wedding dress and a nowhere-to-be-seen, mythic bride. A wedding celebration that turns into a carnivore carnival. A dreamy ceremony that evolves into a nightmare. These are the structural elements of *Paramyfiko*, the most emblematic production of the Larissa Synergy of Music Theatre, that was first presented in 2013 and is now revived in a more complete and renewed version, as a co-production with the Alternative Stage of the Greek National Opera.

The performance, which is the result of a months-long, collective research and creative process, is a stage composition that employs all musical theatre means of expression and places special emphasis on the visual effect, creating thus a theatre that triggers a free game of associations. Behind the forms of the fairy tale, lyricism and allegory, *Paramyfiko* unfolds into a modern and ruthless social critique: the always present –yet never witnessed– bride in *Paramyfiko* may be a human being, as well as an idea, a belief or a situation. For the audience, it may be anything that is superficially praised and then discarded, a guilty truth or a convenient myth.



3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18 November 2018

Starts at 20.30

WEISSE ROSE

Udo Zimmermann

CONTEMPORARY REPERTOIRE OPERA

CONDUCTOR: Nicolas Vassiliou
DIRECTOR: Themelis Glynatsis
SET – COSTUME DESIGNER: Alexia Theodoraki
LIGHTING DESIGNER: Stella Kaltsou

PERFORMING:

Christos Kechris, Aphrodite Patoulidou

ACTOR:

Antonis Gritsis

With the participation of a 15-member music ensemble

Ticket prices: €15, €20
Students, children: €10

The famous opera *Weisse Rose* (1986) by the great German composer Udo Zimmermann receives its first national premiere at the GNO Alternative Stage, conducted by Nicolas Vassiliou and directed by Themelis Glynatsis, one of the most outstanding directors of his generation.

“We will not remain silent, we are your bad conscience, the White Rose will not leave you in peace...” These are the closing words of the fourth manifesto of the anti-nazi student group named “The White Rose” (*Die weisse Rose*), formed at the University of Munich. This particular manifesto was the cause for the arrest of the group’s leaders, Hans Scholl and his sister Sophie. After a long-hour interrogation by Gestapo, the siblings were executed by guillotine on 22 February 1943.

This is the historical framework surrounding Udo Zimmermann’s opera *Die weisse Rose*, whose first version was written in 1967. However, the composer reworked his material in 1986. In the new version, titled *Weisse Rose*, the action is no longer linear, and the characters are limited to the two Scholl siblings. Centred around the wait before their execution, Zimmermann creates a musical theatre work, where historical re-enactment gives its place to a heart-wrenching, deeply personal exploration of morality, death and political responsibility.

The play’s core is an “architectural” dramaturgy, during which the stage becomes the construction site of a detention cell and, at the same time, the place where the prison is demolished through the near-death, poetic reverie of the two characters. In the end, a new, hidden landscape of emotion, freedom and disobedience is revealed.

“At the heart of the performance lies the solitude of the two characters, which does not allow the audience to decide whether they really coexist in the same vast space, or whether they communicate in another, more mystical way. Solitude, which imposes a second reality between memory and religious vision, leads to the need for redemption, and at the same time, to political aggression”, notes the director Themelis Glynatsis.

PIANO & JAZZ

2018 GNO Alternative Stage Piano Festival

Starts at 20.30

ARTISTIC CURATOR: Charalambos Angelopoulos

RECITAL

6, 7, 13, 20, 21 November 2018

Alexandra Papastefanou (6.11), Giorgos Kontrafouris (7.11),
Nikolas Anadolis (13.11), Achilleas Wastor (20.11), Lola Totsiou (21.11)

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GERSHWIN

24, 25 November 2018

WITH:

Antonis Anisegos, Charalambos Angelopoulos, Dimitris Theocharis (piano)
Maria Mitsopoulou (voice)

With the participation of select members of the Athens Youth Symphony Orchestra

CONDUCTOR: Vladimiros Symeonidis

Ticket prices: €12, €15
Students, children: €8

For a second year, the GNO Alternative Stage Piano Festival, in collaboration with the Thessaloniki Piano Festival, revisits a theme that has determined the course of “the king of instruments” over the 20th century: Piano & Jazz. The Festival’s inclusive programme comprises five recitals by outstanding soloists with an international career and two major concerts dedicated to the top jazz composer, George Gershwin.

While the triumphant advent of jazz led it to appropriate piano as its main instrument, an opposite influence became manifest on the composers of intellectual music. Impressed by the dynamism of the new folk music idiom, intellectual music composers quickly integrated the harmonic and rhythmic elements of jazz into their compositions, breathing thus new life into classical music.

The 2018 GNO Alternative Stage Piano Festival will centre both on the jazz-influenced repertoire of intellectual music composers, and on jazz pianists who will present their own personal approach to the classical piano repertoire. The Festival’s two main concerts constitute a tribute to the work for piano and orchestra of one of the greatest 20th-century American composers, George Gershwin. Starting from some of Gershwin’s most popular compositions such as the *Rhapsody in Blue* and the *Concert in F*, an osmosis of the classical repertoire with the jazz culture and improvisation will be attempted.

The Festival’s parallel actions include a three-day masterclass with members of the Piandaemonium ensemble, afternoon concerts of up-and-coming soloists, as well as concerts of young artists that will be selected through auditions.



30 November, 2 December 2018

29, 31 January 2019

2 & 5 May 2019

Starts at 20.30

LA VOIX HUMAINE

Francis Poulenc

One-act opera based on Jean Cocteau's play of the same title

DIRECTOR: Panaghis Pagoulatos

PIANO: Sophia Tamvakopoulou – Frixos Mortzos

In the role of Woman, Elena Kelessidi

“Elle”, She, through a long telephone call with interruptions and pauses, experiences the painful epilogue of a love affair with her beloved one, “son chéri”.

A monologue about betrayed love and the absolute loneliness beyond gender, age and time.

After forty years of friendship with Jean Cocteau, Francis Poulenc composed in 1958 this one-act “lyric tragedy” based upon the theatrical monologue of the same title that the author wrote in 1928.

The inspiration for both these creators was the end of a painful love affair.

In the beginning, his publisher had proposed that Poulenc composed the monologue for Maria Callas, who at that time was at the apogee of her fame. However, the composer chose to collaborate with the French soprano Denise Duval, whose tempestuous love life he knew of and who had just recently performed Blanche in his opera *Dialogues des Carmélites*, which had been successfully presented at La Scala in Milan in 1957. Duval helped to transcribe the play for the opera and later on she was also the first one to interpret the role.

Elena Kelessidi, after the three hundred years of loneliness she experienced as Emilia Marty in Leoš Janáček's opera *Věc Makropulos*, is called upon this year to live the last forty minutes of a relationship and maybe of a life...

MANOS HADJIDAKIS' WORKS AT THE ALTERNATIVE STAGE

CONCERT

6, 7 December 2018

MAGNUS EROTICUS

BROKEN CONSORT TRANSCRIPTION

ARTISTIC CURATOR: Andreas Linos

PERFORMING:

Rachel Redmond (soprano), Kevin Skelton (tenor)

6, 19, 20, 21 February 2019

COMMON LIFE

CHILDREN AT COLONUS

THE SONGS OF SIN

ARTISTIC CURATOR: George Hadjidakis

DIRECTOR: Yannis Skourletis / bijoux de kant

Starts at 20.30

Ticket prices: €18, €25

Students, children: €15

Manos Hadjidakis travels back in time and *Magnus Eroticus* meets the English baroque, highlighting thus the universal aspect of one of the greatest song cycles in the history of Greek music.

Starting from the sui-generis instrumental ensemble of Hadjidakis' original work, gambist, director and visual artist, Andreas Linos, alongside an exquisite group of musicians, proposes a paradoxical, yet attractive reading of what is perhaps the composer's most important song cycle, viewed from the most typical English baroque music ensemble, the Broken consort. Translated into the English of the Restoration period, *Magnus Eroticus* proves its universality.

In February, three emblematic, yet largely unknown, song cycles by Manos Hadjidakis, *Common life*, *Children at Colonus* and *The songs of sin*, come to light at the Alternative Stage of the Greek National Opera, as part of the GNO Manos Hadjidakis Cycle.

Manos Hadjidakis Cycle Sponsor:  attica bank

20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 December 2018
2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
January 2019

Starts at 20.30

ONCE

MUSICAL

Book: Enda Walsh

Music – Lyrics: Glen Hansard, Markéta Irglová

Based on the motion picture

written and directed by John Carney

DIRECTOR: Akyllas Karazisis
MUSIC COACHING: Achilleas Wastor
TRANSLATION: Dimitris Dimopoulos
CHOREOGRAPHER: Amalia Bennett
SET DESIGNER: Eva Manidaki
COSTUME DESIGNER: Ioanna Tsami

PERFORMING:

Ilia Algaer, Taxiarchis Vasilakos, Aris Kallergis, Nefeli Markaki, Tassos
Misyrlis, Maria Nika, Alkis Panagiotidis, Marina Satti,
Giorgos Tzavaras, Ioanna Forti, Apostolis Psyhramis

Ticket prices: €18, €25
Students, children: €15

The multi-awarded musical *Once*, Broadway's absolute triumph, comes for the first time to Greece, as a major production of the Greek National Opera Alternative Stage. Written by Enda Walsh, with music and lyrics by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, *Once* is based on the motion picture of the same title, scripted and directed by John Carney. A modern love story is brought to life on stage through wonderful songs, such as the Oscar winning "Falling Slowly", and an excellent cast of talented actors, musicians and singers of the younger generation. A hymn to the faith in dreams and the power of music, directed by Akyllas Karazisis.

The leading roles are performed by the charismatic Marina Satti, who has astonished everyone in the role of Aretoussa in Dimitris Maramis' *Erotocritus*, and the experienced performer Apostolis Psyhramis. Marina Satti is the new star of our time, with millions of views on YouTube, involved both in large musical productions and improvisation performances with the project "Fonés". What's interesting about this musical is that the actors will also take on the role of the orchestra musicians and will perform live music on stage.

The musical *Once*, written by Enda Walsh, is the theatrical adaptation of the awarded movie that was directed by John Carney in 2007. It tells the love story between an Irish musician and a Czech immigrant woman in the streets of Dublin. The film is a tribute to classical musicals, written in modern language, that has been honoured with the Audience Award at the Sundance and Dublin festivals. Like in the movie, the music is by Glen Hansard, singer of the Irish rock band The Frames, and the lyrics by the Czech singer, pianist and actress Markéta Irglová. Their song, "Falling Slowly", recorded by The Frames and performed by the two artists as a duet on stage at live shows across Europe, was a huge success and won the 2008 Academy Award for Best Original Song.

The musical premiered at the New York Theatre Workshop theatre in 2011 and a year later it was remounted with great success on Broadway. The production received 11 Tony Award nominations in 2012 – an institution that rewards the best Broadway productions since 1949 – and won eight awards in total, among others, for Best Musical, Best Actor and Best Book. In 2012, the musical won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Musical, while in 2013 it was awarded with the famous Grammy for Best Musical Theatre Album. At that time, it also became a theatre production for the first time in London, while in October 2013 it went on a grand tour in America that continued in 2016 as well. A busker in Dublin is ready to give up his dreams, when a young Czech musician, an immigrant woman in Dublin, shows a sudden interest in his obsessive love songs. As the attraction between them heats up, the artist's musical inspiration reaches its apogee... However, their unusual relationship proves to be deeper and more complex than just any simple everyday romance. It is a moving, unique story about the faith that we need to have in our dreams, and the power of music that connects us all together!

Presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe): www.mtishows.co.uk

25, 26, 27 January 2019

1, 2, 3 February 2019

Starts at 20.30

HEDDA GABLER

Giorgos Dousis

OPERA

LIBRETTO: Eri Kyrgia, based on Henrik Ibsen's play of the same title

CONDUCTOR: Andreas Tselikas

DIRECTOR: Raia Tsakiridi

SET – COSTUME DESIGNER: Pavlos Thanopoulos

MOVEMENT: Korina Kokkali

PERFORMING:

Irena Athanasiou, Harris Andrianos, Giorgos Roupas,
Julia Rutigliano, Gina Fotinopoulou, Michalis Psyrras

Ticket prices: €15, €20

Students, children: €10

The GNO Alternative Stage and The Medium Project musical theatre company co-produce the new chamber opera of the composer and pianist Giorgos Dousis, on a libretto by Eri Kyrgia based on Henrik Ibsen's masterpiece *Hedda Gabler*.

Hedda Gabler is unprepared to "suffer" the life she has imposed upon herself by agreeing to marry the academician Jörgen Tesman. Just a few hours after their return from their honeymoon, Hedda has the chance to dispel her boredom, by playing games with the fate of those close to her. However, walls are closing in on her too, when she is brought face to face with her greatest fears. The tragic ending appears to be the only choice...

Figment of imagination, monster, paranoid, individualist, ruthless, jealous, visionary, feminist, idealist, a victim of circumstance, are only few of the names used by critics to describe Ibsen's heroine. From its first-ever presentation in 1891 to this day, the work has drawn disapproval and appraisal, as well as repulsion and admiration, without ever leaving room for easy answers.

The work aims at making us reflect and awaken us to the standards and the quality of our modern-day social relationships, in the age of globalisation and technological evolution. At the same time, it is a topical psychogram of woman's nature, human relationships and their problems. The multiple aspects of our social relationships and the imaginative habits of our daily life are put under the microscope in a direct, realistic and humorous way.

The music of this opera is marked by the personal musical identity of Giorgos Dousis, with a direct, unadorned and clear melodic writing.

THE MEDIUM
PROJECT

7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23 March 2019

Starts at 20.30

THE WAX DOLL

Tasos Rosopoulos

OPERA

LIBRETTO: Yannis Svolos, based on
Konstantinos Christomanos' novel of the same title

CONDUCTOR: Nicolas Vassiliou

DIRECTOR: Simos Kakalas

PERFORMING:

Lydia Angelopoulou, Stelina Apostolopoulou, Yannis Kalyvas,
Sofia Kyanidou, Theodora Baka, Dimitris Nalbandis, Arkadios Rakopoulos,
Julia Souglakou, Nikos Spanos, Margarita Syngenioutou,
Dionysos Tsantinis, Yannis Filias

With the participation of Ergon Ensemble

Ticket prices: €18, €25

Students, children: €15

The famous *Wax Doll*, the novel with which Konstantinos Christomanos breathed new life into the early 20th-century Greek literature, is refashioned into an opera by the celebrated composer Tasos Rosopoulos, commissioned by the Alternative Stage of the Greek National Opera and based on a libretto by Yannis Svolos.

In Athens, during the Belle Époque, Nikos and Verginia, a newlywed couple, have set up their home at the working-class district of Gargaretta. He works as a carpenter. She, many years older than him, has a failing health, as a result of a miscarriage in her first pregnancy. When at some point she collapses, young Liolia, a lovely, beautiful, sixteen-year-old girl is brought home to help. Under the eye of the helpless Verginia, her hale husband and the inexperienced girl are romantically attracted to each other. During the wild festivities of the Athenian Carnival the two of them come closer. Verginia suffers in silence, but out of love, she makes it easier for them to be together, by sending them to the spring fields to bring flowers. The healthy youths succumb to the irresistible calling of their desire and romantically unite in nature. The malicious neighbours gossip incessantly and the sick woman, sensing what is going on, surrenders to the embrace of death. One evening, as she wakes up, she sees the couple cuddled in the moonlight, becomes upset and passes away. A few months after the funeral, Nikos marries the pregnant Liolia but the past is haunting their relationship. The unfortunate young woman gives birth to a seven-months premature baby girl, pale like a wax doll, who looks like the deceased Verginia. Despite her supplications at the dead woman's tomb, the newborn dies. While hopes for a new life arise, Nikos is stabbed to death by a friend who had long coveted Liolia. In the dusty poor districts of a deceptively idyllic Athens, the lyrical and emotionally invasive words of Christomanos unfold in a pessimistic mood the usual love story of some humble people until its tragic ending. Inspired by his writing, the composer remoulds the *Wax Doll* into a music full of symbols, lyricism and a passionate lust for life, while revealing to us the pace at which Nature alternates death with resurrection.

26, 27, 28, 29 March 2019

Morning performances (26, 27 March) – Start at 11.00

Afternoon performances (28, 29 March) – Start at 20.30

MUSICA! or THE BATTLE OF SOUNDS

Thodoris Economou

MUSICAL FOR CHILDREN

LIBRETTO: Marivita Grammatikaki
ORCHESTRATION:..... Yiannis Antonopoulos
CONDUCTOR: Katia Molfesi
DIRECTOR: Io Voulgaraki
SET – COSTUME DESIGNER: Magdalini Avgerinou

With the participation of The City of Athens Symphony Orchestra
In collaboration with the GNO Youth Opera

Weekday performances for schools: €10
Afternoon performances: €12, €15 • Students: €8

Every musical instrument has inside it a little component called Soul.

In a music city, a maestro and an orchestra are preparing for a big concert. The music city, however, is divided in two parts. On the one hand, there is the classical part, with its rigid rules, and on the other hand, there is the jazz part with its freedom of improvisation. Could these ends ever find common ground and melodies, and be united? What role will the maestro play? The instruments of the orchestra morph into human characters and form a contemporary society.

“The moment when a Maestro and an orchestra are preparing for a big concert, restless Viola runs away to the unknown and free world of jazz. She falls in love, revolts and is tested to discover that Music is one and the same, and that it is us who build the walls between us. Viola’s strange adventure, sometimes funny sometimes hard, in a libretto by Marivita Grammatikaki and with music by Thodoris Economou, walks the line between different musical genres and styles and takes both children and adults on a trip toward the beauty that is hidden inside us, when we overcome our stereotypes and fears”, notes the director Io Voulgaraki.

In collaboration with:



GNO Youth Opera is funded by:



5, 6, 7 April 2019

Starts at 20.30

VISIONS AND WONDERS

Dimitris Maragopoulos

OPERA

LIBRETTO: Alekos Lountzis, based on *Visions and wonders*
by Ioannis Makriyannis

CONDUCTOR: Markellos Chryssicos
DIRECTOR: Maria Gyparaki
SET – COSTUME DESIGNER: George Vafias
CHORUS MASTER: Stavros Beris

Makriyannis will be performed by Vassilis Agrokostas
With the participation of the Athens Mixed Municipal Choir

Ticket prices: €15, €20
Students, children: €10

Dimitris Maragopoulos' opera *Visions and wonders* is a modern-day functional event unfolding in a field where the hero's mental life meets with History, while imaginary or real persons appear unexpectedly – such as his wife, the mystic oneiromancer, Otto, the military judge and Saint John.

The plot and the libretto follow as if through a prism, sometimes from a close distance other times from a security distance, the General's immersion into his inner world, his visions and memories of overwhelming historic events, like the siege of the Acropolis, his stoning by fanatics and his notorious trial.

The opera could be subtitled "What reaches us from General Makriyannis to this day": What perseveres to the first quarter of the 21st century from this late, "crazy" work of his, as its most passionate scholar (Giannis Vlachogiannis) described it in fear. What stays and what is superfluous from his personality and its reflection, from his writings and their secondary elaboration, the extensive studies and interpretations, from the unlocking, the sanctification and the deconstruction of his myth?

In collaboration with:



FESTIVAL

SACRED MUSIC DAYS 2019

Visions and wonders

April 2019

Drawing inspiration from General Makriyannis' book, the third cycle of Sacred Music Days will approach two basic components of the worship experience: vision and wonder. With new works presented for the first time, and thematic concerts of key works from the worship music tradition, this Festival will continue to give a special colour to the period preceding Easter.

MUSICAL THEATRE DAYS 2019

Light Musical Theatre's

Lost Treasures

May – June 2019

Greek National Opera Alternative Stage
Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center
Starts at 20.30

Musical Theatre Days 2019 focus on one of the most beloved and at the same time most misunderstood genres of the Greek cultural repository: the light musical theatre.

Operetta and revue were for entire decades the most productive genres of stage creation, which brought on stage during the interwar period nearly one thousand works, mounted not only at the theatres of Athens but also in major cities of the Greek territory.

After the war, they progressively fell into disrepute and their wide repertoire into oblivion. Bringing some of the most important works among them back to life, works that marked the history of performative arts in our country, is a duty of our time and forms part of the mission of the only opera house in the country, which in the last years has revived several works from the repertoire of the Greek operetta.

During the 2019 Musical Theatre Days new, fresh approaches to some of the hitherto unknown repertoire works will be presented to the audience.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

December 2018 – May 2019

Sunday mornings at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center are weekly meetings of the "tribes" of Athens. "Sunday Mornings" of the GNO Alternative Stage are aimed at the diverse and colourful people flooding the Park and all the venues around the SNFCC, and mainly, at the families seeking culture and entertainment alternatives. The key objective of this cycle of events is to bring this target-group in contact with the arts served by the Greek National Opera: opera, classical music and dancing, through a series of original concerts, workshops and events.

Free admission upon priority vouchers



FESTIVAL

TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PELIONFESTIVAL VIOLONCELLO FESTIVAL

12, 13, 14 March 2019

Greek National Opera Alternative Stage
Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center
Starts at 20.30

A great tribute of the GNO Alternative Stage to the International PelionFestival Violoncello Festival. This unique Festival in Greece is a meeting point for both Greek and foreign violoncellists and has enjoyed great success.

Ticket prices: € 10 • Students: € 5

TRIBUTE

QUEER APPROACHES TO LENA PLATONOS

CURATOR: Fil Ieropoulos

1 December 2018

Greek National Opera Alternative Stage
Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center
Starts at 20.30

Lena Platonos has been a landmark in the Greek LGBT community since the '80s. Both her lyrics, which express distinct, often lonely subjectivities, and her peculiar electro theatre music, keep on enchanting and inspiring queer music scenes and collectives across the world. The event will venture a series of queer readings of Platonos' work.

In the first part, the musicologist and cultural studies theoretician Nikos Vourdoulas focuses on Platonos' electronic song-writing, by probing into the ways in which she expresses and emotionally brings together groups of people from the Greek and the international LGBT communities.

In the second part, there will be a variety show with artists from the domestic queer music scene and in particular from the Fytini music label. Andriana Minou, Louiza Doloxa, Alexandros Drosos, Filtig, etc will present covers that reinterpret Platonos' work at another sound, lyrics and performance level.

The event is organized in collaboration with the Atopos CVC cultural organization, as part of the TextMe Lab project, and with the Athens Municipality-run "Athens 2018 World Book Capital" project, a great donor of which is the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

Free admission upon priority vouchers

ΑΤΟΠΟΣ
CONTEMPORARY
VISUWL CULTURE



