



THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA  
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS

# Tosca

MELODRAMMA IN THREE ACTS

Music GIACOMO PUCCINI  
Libretto GIUSEPPE GIACOSA and LUIGI ILLICA  
after VICTORIEN SARDOU's play *La Tosca*

Conductor JAKUB HRŮŠA  
Director OLIVER MEARS  
Set Designer SIMON LIMA HOLDSWORTH  
Costume Designer ILONA KARAS  
Lighting Designer FABIANA PICCIOLI  
Movement and Intimacy Director  
ANNA MORRISSEY

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS  
Chorus Director WILLIAM SPAULDING

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
Principal Guest Concert Master  
by arrangement with Trittico VASKO VASSILEV

Directed for the screen by PETER JONES

Exceptional philanthropic support from  
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Broadcast from the Royal Opera House on  
WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2025

## Approximate Timings

PRE-SHOW 10 minutes  
ACT I 45 minutes  
Interval 25 minutes  
ACT II 45 minutes  
INTERVAL 25 minutes  
ACT III 30 minutes  
CURTAIN CALL 10 minutes

## Language

Sung in Italian with English subtitles

## Guidance

This production contains depictions of violence, blood, gore, murder, sexual assault, implied torture and suicide. There are gunshots in Act III.

## Cast

Floria Tosca ANNA NETREBKO  
Mario Cavaradossi FREDDIE DE TOMMASO  
Baron Scarpia GERALD FINLEY  
Spoletta CARLO BOSI  
Cesare Angelotti OSSIAN HUSKINSON\*  
Sacristan ALESSANDRO CORBELLI  
Sciarrone SIPHE KWANI\*  
Young Shepherd ESMAE FROUD  
Gaoler OLLE ZETTERSTRÖM  
\*Jette Parker Artist

Extra Chorus  
Sopranos REBECCA GOULDEN, JANET FAIRLIE,  
CELESTE GATTAI, VANESSA WOODFINE  
Mezzo-sopranos MARIA BROWN,  
STEPHANIE CORLEY, SIOBHAIN GIBSON,  
CLARE MCCALDIN, JENNIFER WESTWOOD  
Tenors RICHARD MONK, ROBERT AMON,  
SIMON BIAZECK, SIMON PREECE  
Basses OSCAR CASTELLINO, OLIVER GIBBS,  
GAVIN HORSLEY

Actors DAVID GALEA, SULEIMAN SULEIMAN,  
JAMES UNSWORTH, CHARLIE VENABLES,  
ADDIS WILLIAMS

Children's Chorus  
CARDINAL VAUGHAN SCHOOL  
Music Director SCOTT PRICE  
GREY COAT HOSPITAL SCHOOL  
Music Director STEVE HILL

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## Synopsis

### ACT I

Cesare Angelotti, a politician of the former Roman Republic, has escaped prison and seeks refuge in a church. The painter Mario Cavaradossi, a Republican sympathizer working in the church, promises to help him. Angelotti hides as Cavaradossi's lover Floria Tosca arrives. The lovers' meeting reveals Tosca's passionate love and jealousy. When Tosca has gone, Cavaradossi instructs Angelotti to hide at Cavaradossi's villa. Baron Scarpia, a police commander, arrives at the church, interrupting the congregation's celebrations of a victory at the Battle of Marengo. He suspects Cavaradossi of hiding Angelotti. When Tosca returns, Scarpia uses a fan left by Angelotti to make her believe that Cavaradossi is having an affair. The congregation sings a prayer: the Te Deum. Tosca leaves for Cavaradossi's villa, and Scarpia instructs his assistant Spoletta to follow her and track down Angelotti.

### INTERVAL

### ACT II

Scarpia has arrested Cavaradossi. He summons Tosca and forces her to listen as Cavaradossi is tortured in the next room. Tosca reveals Angelotti's hiding place. Scarpia condemns Cavaradossi to death but tells Tosca that he will free her lover if she will offer herself to him. In agony, Tosca agrees and Scarpia tells her he will arrange a mock execution. As Scarpia embraces Tosca, she kills him.

### INTERVAL

### ACT III

As dawn approaches, Cavaradossi waits for his execution in the Castel Sant'Angelo. Tosca arrives and tells him what she has done. She instructs him on how to pretend to die in the mock execution. When Cavaradossi is shot, Tosca is impressed with her lover's acting. But Scarpia has double-crossed her: Cavaradossi really is dead. As Spoletta's men arrive to arrest her for Scarpia's murder, she kills herself.

## Production

Music preparation NICK FLETCHER, RICHARD FU\*,  
PEGGY WU\*, ALEKSANDRA MYSLEK,  
NICHOLAS ANSDELL-EVANS  
Assistant Directors SIMON IORIO, ISABELLE KETTLE  
Language Coach BARBARA DIANA  
Fight Director BRET YOUNT  
Sound Effects EMMA LAXTON  
\*Jette Parker Artist

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## The Royal Opera

Patron HM THE KING  
Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA  
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS  
Director of Casting PETER MARIO KATONA  
Associate Director NETIA JONES  
Administrative Director CORMAC SIMMS

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