

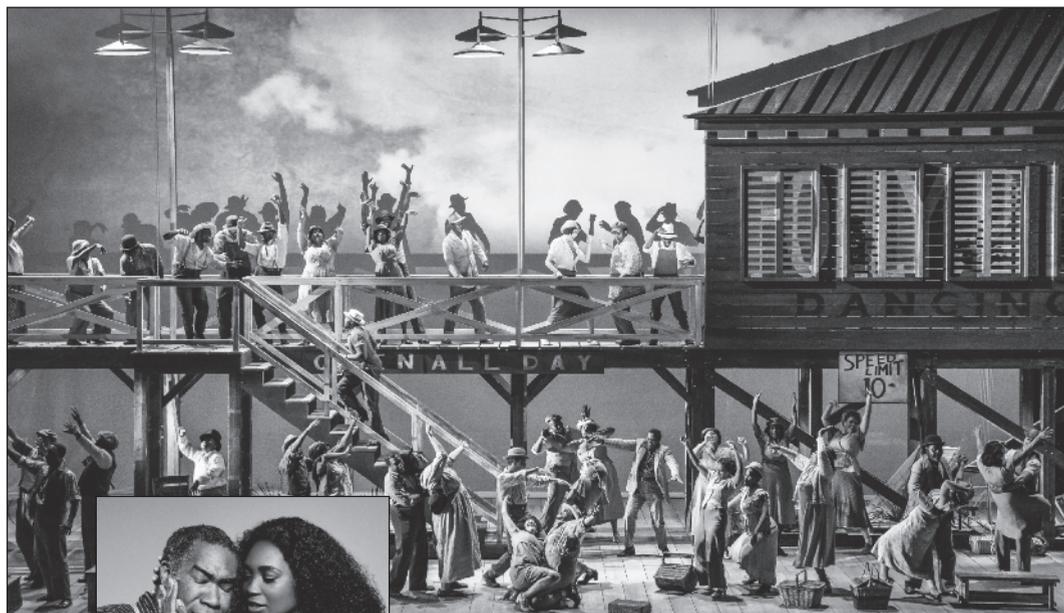
TWO NEW YORK HOLIDAYS

I. NEW YORK: OPENING OF THE NEW SEASON

Thursday, October 3rd through Sunday, October 6th

II. NEW YORK: HOLIDAY SEASON

Thursday, December 12th through Sunday, December 15th



Tristram Kenton / English National Opera



Paola Kudacki / Met Opera

Eric Owens and Angel Blue in George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*

I. NEW YORK: SEASON OPENING

Thursday, October 3rd through Sunday, October 6th

Porgy and Bess: "Though Gershwin called his music-theater classic a 'folk opera', I find it more and more simply a great opera. James Robinson's staging has a superb cast." (NY Times, Feb. '19)

II. NEW YORK: HOLIDAY SEASON

Thursday, December 12th through Sunday, December 15th

Der Rosenkavalier: "Updated to the eve of World War I and deftly toggling between wit and heartbreak, this Robert Carsen production was a revelation for me." (NY Times, Feb. '19)

The first of our annual New York Tours will mark the Opening of the Season. The operatic highlights at the MET will be the long overdue *new production* of George Gershwin's American classic, **Porgy and Bess**; Giuseppe Verdi's Shakespearean tragedy, **Macbeth**, starring **Anna Netrebko** and **Zeljko Lucic** as the protagonists; and the revival of Giacomo Puccini's **Turandot** in the sumptuous Franco Zeffirelli staging with **Christine Goerke** in the title role. Our fourth performance will be the exciting *Gala Opening Night* of **Carnegie Hall's** new season, when the revered **Cleveland Orchestra** will be conducted by Music Director **Franz Welser-Möst** in works by Beethoven and Richard Strauss.

Our annual pre-Christmas **Holiday Season** Tour will take us to the MET for a pair of not-to-be-missed performances during the period of New York's fanciful window displays and shopping opportunities prior to Christmas and New Year's. Richard Strauss's Viennese comedy, **Der Rosenkavalier**, will return under the baton of **Sir Simon Rattle**, featuring **Camilla Nylund** in her debut assignment as the Marschallin; and Tchaikovsky's gripping music-drama of Imperial Russia, **The Queen of Spades**, will be revived for the first time since 2011. A change of pace will take us to **Carnegie Hall** for a Recital by the versatile mezzo-soprano **Joyce DiDonato**, who will be accompanied at the piano by the MET's **Yannik Nézet-Séguin** in an *all-Schubert* afternoon. For our fourth performance, we will attend a thrilling program by the **Alvin Ailey Dance Theater** at New York's City Center.



Rose Callahan / Met Opera

Yannik Nézet-Séguin,
MET Music Director

Accommodations for four nights for both holidays will be at the private **New York Athletic Club (NYAC)**, beautifully located on Central Park South (59th street at 7th Avenue). The NYAC offers pleasant, comfortable bedrooms and many advantages of a large, private club: a spacious dining room overlooking Central Park from the 11th floor; friendly bars on the main floor and in the second-floor Tap Room which serves convenient meals; the best-equipped large swimming-pool and sauna/steam room complex in the city; extensive health-club features and exercise equipment; and a relaxing library with a wide collection of books and current journals. There are several appealing cafés and restaurants in the immediate neighborhood, and Carnegie Hall is only one block away from the 58th street rear entrance.

A **cocktail buffet or dinner** will be enjoyed on the first evening of each weekend, which will provide an opportunity to meet other members of the Tour. On our last evening, **dinner** will be arranged in one of the interesting restaurants in the Lincoln Center or Carnegie Hall area.



Carnegie Hall

We are pleased to offer you a Guest Pass to the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** on Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street. Your pass will allow for free entry at your own convenience into the extensive permanent galleries and all exhibitions not requiring a reserved ticket.

For our NY Tours, transfers are included for all of our performances at Lincoln Center. We always walk the short distance to Carnegie Hall, the Rose Theatre at Columbus Circle, the City Center, and any Broadway show at Studio 54.

NEW YORK: SEASON OPENING OCTOBER 3RD - 6TH

Our 'New Season' program will begin on Thursday, October 3rd, with an *early cocktail reception or dinner* to be followed by the 7:00 pm *Gala Opening Night* of Carnegie Hall's season. The visiting **Cleveland Orchestra** will be led by Austrian Music Director **Franz Welser-Möst** in a program of Otto Nicolai's spirited *Overture to 'The Merry Wives of Windsor'*, Beethoven's relatively unfamiliar *Triple Concerto*, and the exhilarating waltzes of Richard Strauss's *'Der Rosenkavalier' Suite*. The brilliant triple soloists will be violinist **Anne-Sophie Mutter**, pianist **Yefim Bronfman**, and cellist **Lynn Harrell**. *Our Dress Circle tickets are already confirmed for this prestigious event.*



Ken Howard / Met Opera

Anna Netrebko as Lady Macbeth and Zeljko Lucic in the title role of Verdi's Macbeth.

the 'Forza' Leonora in London this spring). Her rich soprano combined with coloratura flexibility are ideal for Lady Macbeth's foreboding 'La luce langue' and her haunting 'Sleepwalking Scene'. The male contingent is headed by the sought-after Serbian Verdi baritone **Zeljko Lucic** in the title role, Russian bass **Ildar Abrazakov** as Banquo, and American tenor **Matthew Polenzani** as a lyric Macduff. The Italianate conductor is **Marco Armiliato**, and the staging is directed by **Adrian Noble** and designed by **Mark Thomson**. *Sung in Italian with MET Titles.*

At 8:00 pm on Friday evening, October 4th, the first of our three MET performances will be Giuseppe Verdi's **Macbeth**. Now recognized as a major achievement in the Verdi canon, by virtue of his mature revision completed in 1865, 'Macbeth' unfolds in a series of dramatic arias, duets and ensembles which capture the demonic action precipitated Shakespeare's ambitious Macbeths. The Russian star **Anna Netrebko** is at the peak of her career and is now conquering the dramatic Verdi repertoire ('Aida' last fall, and

At 1:00 pm on Saturday afternoon, October 5th, we will enjoy George Gershwin's beloved **Porgy and Bess** in the *new production* with the same cast assembled for the MET's *Opening Night*. Premiered in Boston in 1935, 'Porgy' has now been established as an important 20th century addition to the operatic repertoire. The libretto by DuBose Heyward is set in Charleston's Catfish Row in the 1920's, and the wide range of characters weave a sympathetic cross-section of this struggling Southern community – the crippled beggar Porgy and his dissolute lover Bess, the rough stevedore Crown (Bess's lover), the duplicitous dope-peddler Sportin'Life, the fisherman Jake and his wife Clara, and the grieving Serena. "The principals of 'Porgy and Bess' are portrayed as members of a larger community whose identity Gershwin creates through communal songs. . . The residents of Catfish Row sing their own richly varied self-portrait." (*New Grove Dictionary of Opera*). The familiar score includes such favorite numbers as 'Summertime', 'Bess, you is my woman now', 'I loves you, Porgy', 'I got plenty of nuthin', and 'My man's gone now'. The ensemble cast is headed by **Angel Blue and Eric Owens** in the title roles, **Alfred Walker** as Crown, **Frederick Ballentine** as Sportin' Life, **Latonia Moore** as Serena, **Golda Schultz** as Clara, **Denyce Graves** as Maria, and **Ryan Speedo Green** as Jake. **David Robertson** will be the conductor, and the staging is directed by **James Robinson** with sets designed by **Michael Yeargan**. The co-production with the English National Opera and the Dutch National Opera opened in London this season to unanimous acclaim. *Sung in English with English surtitles.*

At 3:00 pm on October 6th, we will take advantage of one of the MET's **new Sunday subscription performances**. This will be the renowned **Franco Zeffirelli** production of Giacomo Puccini's final opera, **Turandot**. Zeffirelli's grandiose vision and sensitive direction have caused audiences to gasp every time this production is revived. During an era when the MET is apparently abandoning most of the repertoire's grandest stagings, we are fortunate to encounter Zeffirelli's iconic 'Turandot' again before it disappears. The American Wagnerian soprano **Christine Goerke** will offer a galvanizing portrayal of the icy Princess Turandot, following her triumph as Brünnhilde in the MET's recent 'RING'. The quartet of principals will also include Italian soprano **Eleanora Buratto** as thy sympathetic slave Liu; Italian tenor **Roberto Aronica** as Turandot's ardent suitor Prince Calaf; and the MET's veteran American bass **James Morris** as Calaf's father, Timur. The MET's Music Director **Yannik Nézet-Séguin** will be our conductor. *Sung in Italian with MET titles.*



Marty Sohni / Met Opera

Christine Goerke in Puccini's Turandot.

Independent departures should be on Monday, October 7th.

II. NEW YORK: HOLIDAY SEASON DECEMBER 12TH -15TH

Our Holiday weekend will begin on Thursday, December 12th. Following our *cocktail reception or dinner*, we will attend the 7:30 pm performance of the **Alvin Ailey Dance Theater** at New York's City Center on 55th Street. The sensational primarily African-American company offers an annual holiday season which is invariably sold out night after night. The wide-ranging December repertoire usually includes "Alvin Ailey's choreographic masterpiece, *Revelations*, believed to be the best known and most often seen modern dance performance." (Wikipedia). Program TBA.

At 7:00 pm on Friday evening, December 13th, our performance at the MET will be Richard Strauss's **Der Rosenkavalier** in the 2017 production directed by **Robert Carsen** with scenic designs

by **Paul Steinberg** (a co-production with Covent Garden and Torino's Teatro Regio.) Strauss's exuberant score evocatively captures the ambience of librettist Hugo von Hofmannsthal's human comedy, set in Vienna in the mid-18th century during the reign of Empress Maria Theresa. The Marschallin's Act I 'Monologue', the soaring lyricism of the Act II 'Presentation of the Rose', and the heart-breaking Final Trio in which the Marschallin gracefully relinquishes her Cavalier are among the supreme achievements of the entire Strauss/von Hofmannsthal partnership. A superb international cast is headed by Finnish soprano **Camilla Nylund** making her MET debut as the Marschallin (following her triumph as the Empress in Vienna's new 'Frau Ohne Schatten'), the Czech mezzo-soprano **Magdalena Kozena** offering her 'trouser' portrayal of Octavian, South African soprano **Golda Schultz** as Sophie, and German bass **Günther Groissböck** returning as Baron Ochs. The high-tessitura for the Act I Italian tenor will be sung by **Matthew Polenzani**. Our conductor will be the Berlin Philharmonic's recent Music Director, **Sir Simon Rattle**. *Sung in German with MET Titles.*



Tchaikovsky's The Queen of Spades

Ken Howard / Met Opera

Saturday afternoon, December 14th, we will return to the MET for the 1:00 pm performance of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's **The Queen of Spades ('Pique Dame')**. Tchaikovsky's most dramatic opera is based on Pushkin's classic Russian tale of the obsessed gambler who causes the death of the old Countess (who alone guards the secret of the winning three cards) as well as the vulnerable young Lisa. The final dénouement which leads to his own demise is caused by the appearance of the queen of spades as the ghost of the Countess derides his folly. The cast is headed by the stentorian Latvian tenor

Aleksandrs Antonenko's shattering portrayal of



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in Alvin Ailey's Revelations

Christopher Dugan



Metropolitan Opera and David Geffen Hall



Strauss's Der Rosenkavalier

Ken Howard / Met Opera

Hermann, Norwegian soprano **Lise Davidsen** in her debut as Lisa, and contralto **Larissa Diadkova** in the pivotal role of the old Countess. A largely Russian supporting cast will include baritone **Alexey Markov** as Tomsy, mezzo-soprano **Elena Maximova** as Lisa's sister Pauline (whose brooding opening-scene aria intones classic Russian darkness), and baritone **Igor Golovatenko** as Prince Yeletsy (to whom Tchaikovsky assigned one of the most beautiful arias of his entire output). The conductor is **Vasily Petrenko**, and the production is directed by **Elijah Moshinsky** with sets designed by **Mark Thompson**. *Sung in Russian with MET titles.*

On Sunday, December 15th, our final performance will be at **Carnegie Hall** at 2:00 pm. The consummate American mezzo-soprano **Joyce DiDonato** has endeared herself to audiences throughout the world with her 'bel canto' artistry in the operas of Rossini, Bellini and Donizetti. She is equally acclaimed for her Recitals of German lieder and French chansons. Her concert today, a highlight of Carnegie's Great Singers series, will be an *all-Schubert* program of the great song cycle *Die Winterreise ('Winter Journey')*. Usually performed by a tenor or baritone, this promises to be a 'tour-de-force' interpretation by a beloved artist at the peak of her powers. Of particular note, her piano accompanist will be the MET's multi-talented Music Director, **Yannick Nézet-Séguin**.



Joyce DiDonato

Simon Pauly

Independent departures should be on Monday morning, December 16th.

Two New York Holidays:

I. October 3rd – 6th

Price per person, based on double occupancy	\$ 3,380*
Single room supplement	\$ 680*

II. December 12th – 15th

Price per person, based on double occupancy	\$ 3,380*
Single room supplement	\$ 680*

**Because the New York Athletic Club has a limited number of king-bedded rooms, couples requesting a one-bedded room will be accommodated in a queen-sized bed. For any couple requesting a king bed, there will be an additional charge of \$65 per night (\$260 for the Tour) for this upgrade, depending on availability.*

IMPORTANT: For the MET, our tickets will alternate between the Prime Orchestra and the Grand Tier, where sightlines and acoustics are optimal. For Carnegie Hall, our tickets will be on the main floor or in the Dress Circle.