

## *The Phantom of the Opera* still breaking records 40 years on from West End debut



Ahead of its opening this Friday night, Opera Australia (OA) today announced that *The Phantom of the Opera* has become its most successful Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour production, already breaking its own previous box-office record as the highest grossing season of the annual harbourside event.

In 2026 *The Phantom of the Opera* on Sydney Harbour has sold more tickets than any other year in the event's 15-year history, with more than 70,000 tickets booked and many performances of the extended five-week season already sold-out.

OA CEO Alex Budd said, "Forty years on, *The Phantom of the Opera* continues to pull audiences that most productions never attain. We're thrilled to be a part of this 40th Anniversary global celebration with our Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour season.

"Supercharged by our unique outdoor setting on the shores of Sydney Harbour, there's nowhere else in the world to see a Phantom like this."

Minister for Jobs and Tourism Steve Kamper said: "It's wonderful to welcome one of the world's most beloved musicals back to the Harbour City for its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Staged on the harbour under the stars with Sydney's iconic city skyline in the background, this is a truly world-class experience not found anywhere else.

"Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour showcases our city's unique combination of cultural vibrancy and natural wonder, highlighting Sydney's position as one of the world's premier destinations for unforgettable cultural experiences."

This epic outdoor production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic musical will be the first in a year-long program of international events to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The story of the mysterious Phantom and his ingénue Christine Daaë set in a Paris opera house continues to enthral audiences around the world, having played to more than 160 million people in 205 cities across 58 territories, and in 21 languages.

Starring newcomer Jake Lyle, making his musical theatre debut as The Phantom, soprano Amy Manford in her highly acclaimed signature role of Christine and rising musical theatre star Jarrod Draper as Raoul, alongside a brilliant cast of some of Australia's best singers, dancers and musicians, this production is overflowing with local talent.

With Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour's stunning views, live orchestra, fireworks every night and pop-up restaurants and bars, it is a guaranteed night to remember. *The Phantom of the Opera* is a strictly limited season and must close on Sunday 3 May.

STRATEGIC SPONSORS

NAMING RIGHTS PARTNER

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



DR HARUHISA HANDA



Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour is supported by the NSW Government, via its tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, and through the International Foundation for Arts and Culture as Naming Rights Partner, Dr Haruhisa Handa OA's Patron in Chief, and OA's Principal Partner HSBC.

### Creatives

Musical Supervisor **Guy Simpson**  
 Director **Simon Phillips**  
 Set & Costume Designer **Gabriela Tylesova**  
 Choreographer & Associate Director **Simone Sault**  
 Lighting designer **Nick Schlieper**  
 Sound Designer **Shelly Lee**  
 Assistant Director **Matt Heyward**

### Cast

The Phantom **Jake Lyle**  
 Christine Daaé **Amy Manford**  
 Raoul, Vicomte de Chagny **Jarrold Draper**  
 Monsieur Firmin **Brent Hill**  
 Monsieur André **Martin Crewes**  
 Madame Giry **Debora Krizak**  
 Carlotta Giudicelli **Guisseppina Grech**  
 Ubaldo Piangi **Daniel Belle**  
 Meg Giry **Jayne Jo Massoud**

### Ensemble

Jessica Bock, Mia Byrnes, Georgia Cosgrove, Mia Coutts, Matt Cranleigh, Zac de Gersigny, Anthony Garcia, Michaela Hodgson, Bianca Hopkins, Catrin Lewis, Josephine Lonergan, Natalie Lui, James MacAlpine, Imogen-Faith Malfitano, Sofia Mancini, Jake Maskill, Madeline McCartney, Ella Nonini, Ryan Ophel, Ellise Pellizzer, Matthew Reardon, Annabelle Rosewarne, Julian Seguna, Anna Stephens, Leon Vitogiannis, Vanessa You, Cathy-Di Zhang and Massimo Zuccara

### Swings

Paul Whiteley, Tom Sarah and Rachel Breeze

\* \* \*

### Performance Information

**Evenings at 7.30pm**

**27 March – 3 May**, excluding Mondays and Good Friday on 3 April.

### Running Time

Approximately 2 hours and 50 minutes with one interval.

### Bookings

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply)  
 Opera Australia Box Office  
 (02) 9318 8200  
[opera.org.au/harbour](http://opera.org.au/harbour)

**Fleet Steps,  
 Mrs Macquaries Point, Sydney**

**Rehearsal Images + Video available: [Opera Australia Media Centre](#)**

### **Media enquiries**

Caitlin Eames | Publicist | +61 433 746 644 | [caitlin@cepr.com.au](mailto:caitlin@cepr.com.au)  
 Janet Glover | Communications Manager | +61 412 601 816 | [janet.glover@opera.org.au](mailto:janet.glover@opera.org.au)