

Opera Co

Hackney Empire Season
3 - 7 September 2013

Hackney Empire 291 Mare Street, London E8 1EJ



Co-Opera Co. Presents

MADAMA
BUTTERFLY

3 & 6 September

Conductor: MARTIN HANDLEY
Director: JACOPO SPIREI

THE
MIKADO

4 & 7 September

Conductor: JOHN ANDREWS
Director: JAMES BONAS

A GRAND NIGHT FOR
SINGING

5 September

Conductor: STEPHEN HIGGINS
Plus: SPECIAL GUESTS

with the Co-Opera Co. Orchestra

Box Office 020 8985 2424
www.hackneyempire.co.uk



Co-Opera Co. was recently described in the press as "..... a revolutionary opera company whose values are firmly rooted in the time-honoured, traditional values of a good, old-fashioned, hands-on Apprenticeship" and " a ground breaking opera company helping to nurture the operatic stars of the future through a pioneering series of inspiring and exciting operatic productions."

Co-Opera Co. are proud to be opening their 2013 UK Tour at
The Hackney Empire
with

Madama Butterfly

The Mikado

A Grand Night for Singing

for one night only

A special Gala Night featuring Star Guests and children from the Hackney area
Accompanied by the Co-Opera Co. Orchestra.

Madama Butterfly

Here is Puccini at his best - a gloriously passionate tale of misplaced love and betrayal. A young Japanese girl, Cio Cio San, catches the eye of B.F. Pinkerton, an American Naval Officer. Secretly she converts to Christianity, crossing cultural boundaries and alienating her family, to become his bride. Butterfly is the name he calls her and they spend one night together before he sets sail for the US. During three years of enforced separation she grapples with a serious dilemma whilst faithfully awaiting his return. In the famous haunting aria "Un Bel Di" she tells her friend Suzuki of the dream she has of seeing his ship appear one day on the far horizon. But when his ship eventually does arrive in the harbour it brings with it a horrible reality - one which Butterfly faces with immense courage and dignity.

This timeless human story is sure to stir the hearts of opera aficionados and novices alike in Director Jacopo Spirei's inspired production which combines unflinching beauty with unflinching passionate honesty.

The Mikado

There's too much hanky panky going on in the town of Titipu and The Mikado is not happy! After all, flirting is against the law and punishable by beheading! Heads must roll! Making sure that the punishments do fit the crimes - complete with boiling in oil, beheading and burial alive - Director James Bonas brings this joyful romp to life in his wickedly funny production. Rest assured you will be charmed from the moment the curtain goes up and humming the tunes for ages afterwards.

Co-Opera Co. can promise you an evening filled with marvellous music, sung and played by a young and vibrant company whose sole aim is to enchant, enthral and entertain their audiences.

In the words of the critic George Hall from Opera Now.....

"Whether you are an incurable opera lover or an innocent opera virgin - Co-Opera Co. has something for you - a fresh, youthful take on beloved operatic gems."