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Opera Hong Kong Proudly Presents Mozart's *The Magic Flute*An International Co-Production with a Unique East-Meets-West Interpretation

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Hong Kong, 7 Apr 2025 – Opera Hong Kong is proud to present a new production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at the Grand Theatre of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre from 15 to 18 May 2025. This two-act opera is a special collaboration between Opera Hong Kong, China National Opera House, and State Opera South Australia. Directed by visionary Chinese director Shuang Zou and featuring stunning stage sets and costumes by acclaimed designer Dan Potra, the production offers a fresh and imaginative interpretation of Mozart's timeless masterpiece, delivering a magical and unparalleled visual and musical treat.

This co-production is a cultural milestone, underscoring Hong Kong's role as a global hub for cultural exchange in line with the HKSAR's mission to position itself as a Chinese and Western Cultural Exchange Centre. After its Hong Kong premiere, the production will tour internationally and will be performed by China National Opera House and State Opera South Australia, further showcasing Hong Kong's vibrant artistic contributions on a global stage.

A Visionary Reinterpretation of Mozart's Masterpiece

Directed by Shuang Zou of China National Opera House, this new production of *The Magic Flute* takes audiences on a surreal journey that bridges culture and redefines the classic opera. Her bold



reinterpretation transforms the story's mythical quest into a contemporary exploration of Eastern philosophy and modern urban life.



Director Shuang Zou

"It was a very easy choice from the beginning for us to step away from the many freemasonry references, because of the richness of eastern mythological philosophies," explains Shuang Zou. "Concepts such as the non-dual aspects of the self-awakening process, the idea that truth is found from within, that faith and compassion are the essential method in finding love and truth — all of these are right there in the story. So, the tipping point for all of us in the creative team for this production of *The Magic Flute* was clear: we are going to take our characters somewhere into the deep 'East'," she said.

A Stellar Creative Team and International Collaboration

This production of *The Magic Flute* brings together a prestigious international creative team. In addition to Shuang Zou's direction, the stage and costume design is helmed by Dan Potra, one of the most acclaimed designers from State Opera South Australia. Potra, whose work has been featured in the Sydney Olympic Games opening ceremony and numerous international opera productions, introduces a fresh and contemporary aesthetic to the opera. His lifelike sets and costumes create a magical world that balances the surreal and the relatable.

Leading the operatic performance will be Conductor Dane Lam, whose extensive international experience includes collaborations with Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and other top-tier ensembles. His leadership ensures a world-class musical experience that complements the production's innovative vision.

This co-production reflects a shared commitment to artistic excellence and cultural exchange. The collaboration between China National Opera House, State Opera South Australia, and Opera Hong Kong unites creative talents from across the globe, demonstrating the power of cross-cultural partnerships in bringing fresh interpretations to timeless classics.



Producer Warren Mok



Stage and Costume Design

Dan Potra



Conductor **Dane Lam**



The production boasts a stellar cast, led by Mexican-German tenor Andrés Moreno García as Tamino, American soprano Sofia Troncoso as Pamina, American baritone John Chest as Papageno, and Russian soprano Aigul Khismatullina as the Queen of the Night. They are joined by outstanding local talent, including Freddie Tong, Candice Chung, Ashley Chui, Carol Lin, Henry Ngan, Rachel Kwok, Wesley Lam, and Lam Kwok Ho, celebrating the richness and vibrancy of Hong Kong's operatic scene.



Tamino
Andrés Moreno García



Pamina Sofia Troncoso



Papageno John Chest



Queen of the Night Aigul Khismatullina

Additionally, Opera Hong Kong Orchestra and Opera Hong Kong Chorus will provide full support for this production, working together to present an unparalleled visual and musical feast for the audience.

Tickets Now on Sale!

Tickets for *The Magic Flute* are now available for booking online via URBTIX https://bit.ly/TheMagicFlute2025. Prices range from \$1,280, \$1,080, \$880, \$680, \$480, to \$280. A limited number of concession tickets are also available for full-time students, senior citizens aged 60 or above, persons with physical impairments, and recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA).

#TheMagicFlute #OperaHongKong #OHK #Mozart @operahongkong

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About Opera Hong Kong

Founded in 2003, Opera Hong Kong (OHK) is Hong Kong's first professional opera company. Over the years, the company has gone from strength to strength under the artistic direction of Dr. Warren Mok, the internationally acclaimed Hong Kong tenor. OHK has elevated opera in Asia's world city, with many world-class productions covering all major works in the operatic canon and has collaborated with opera houses and festivals around the world.

In 2019, OHK was selected by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council as one of the three recipients of the coveted "Eminent Arts Group Scheme". The Scheme's consecutive five-year funding has become a boost to further the company's development. In 2024, OHK was named as a recipient of the "Eminent Arts Group Scheme" for a further five years.

OHK is committed to promoting the city's brightest, young opera singers. In 2015, OHK launched the Jockey Club Opera Hong Kong Young Artist Development and Education Programme, a three-year



opera training programme designed to nurture ten young local artists. The success of the Programme led to its renewal by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust for another three years from 2019 to 2022.

In 2024 OHK launched the inaugural "LKSFOHK Young Artist Overseas Fellowships" Programme, generously sponsored by the Li Ka Shing Foundation, to provide short-term international residencies for six selected young artists who are Hong Kong residents to elevate their vocal artistry. OHK also places a strong emphasis on education and community activities. Opera school tours, summer schools and master classes are held regularly to reach young audiences. The music centre in Wanchai provides a wide range of courses for early-age children to adults in addition to Children Chorus classes. The OHK Chorus and the OHK Children Chorus were established in 2004 and 2008 respectively and are recognised contributors to the local choral scene.

The recent development of the Greater Bay Area has created an environment for OHK to initiate more collaborations and bring the art of opera to a wider audience.

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