

RICHARD STRAUSS

SALOME

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, MAY 17, 2025

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

Yannick Nézet-Séguin

PRODUCTION

Claus Guth

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Ursula Kudrna

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rocafilm/
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LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

LIVE IN HD HOST

Aigul Akhmetshina

SALOME

Elza van den Heever

HERODIAS

Michelle DeYoung

HEROD

Gerhard Siegel

NARRABOTH

Piotr Buszewski

JOCHANAAN

Peter Mattei

Narraboth admires the princess Salome, who is disgusted by Herod's advances and bored by his guests. The voice of Jochanaan, John the Baptist, is heard from below. Narraboth, unable to resist Salome, allows her to descend into Jochanaan's cell. Salome is fascinated with the prophet's body and begs for his kiss. He rejects her, and she returns to the palace above. Herod appears. He offers Salome food and wine, but she refuses. From below, Jochanaan cries out against Herodias, who demands that Herod turn the prophet over to the Jews. Herod refuses, maintaining that Jochanaan is a holy man who has seen God. Herod asks Salome to dance for him. She refuses, but when he promises to give her anything she wants, she makes him swear to keep his word and agrees. She dances for her stepfather, and Herod is horrified when Salome, with her mother's prompting, asks for Jochanaan's head on a silver platter. Herod instead offers her riches, half of his kingdom, even the holy curtain of the temple, but Salome insists he fulfill his oath. Herod finally relents. Salome descends into the cell, where she finds a decapitated Jochanaan. She passionately addresses Jochanaan and finally kisses his lips. Herod orders his soldiers to kill Salome, before collapsing to the ground.

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