

RICHARD STRAUSS

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, MAR 12, 2022

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

Marek Janowski

PRODUCTION

Elijah Moshinsky

SET AND

COSTUME DESIGNER

Michael Yeargan

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Gil Wechsler

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

LIVE IN HD HOST

Matthew Polenzani

ARIADNE

Lise Davidsen

ZERBINETTA

Brenda Rae

COMPOSER

Isabel Leonard

BACCHUS

Brandon Jovanovich

HARLEQUIN

Sean Michael Plumb

MUSIC MASTER

Johannes Martin
Kränzle

MAJOR-DOMO

Wolfgang Brendel

PROLOGUE Preparations are in progress for the opera *Ariadne auf Naxos*. The major-domo informs the music master that an Italian comedy will be performed after the opera, followed by fireworks. Confusion ensues, and in the midst of the hustle and bustle, the major-domo announces that, in order for the fireworks to begin on time, the opera and the comedy are to be performed simultaneously. The music master persuades the composer to trim the score, while the two lead singers urge him to abridge the other's part. Zerbinetta prepares her troupe and then proceeds to flirt with the composer. The young man finds new hope, but when he sees the comedians ready to go on stage, he realizes with horror what he has agreed to.

INTERMISSION

THE OPERA Three nymphs look on while Ariadne despairs, and the comedians are doubtful whether they will be able to cheer her up. Ariadne resolves to await Hermes, messenger of death. Zerbinetta addresses her directly, woman to woman, advising that she change an old love for a new one. The nymphs announce the approach of a ship carrying the god Bacchus. Ariadne prepares to greet her visitor, whom she thinks must be death. Entranced by Ariadne's beauty, Bacchus professes his love for her, and together, they ascend to the heavens—leaving Zerbinetta with the last word.

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