

MATTHEW AUCOIN / LIBRETTO BY SARAH RUHL

# EURYDICE

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, DEC 4, 2021

The Metropolitan  
Opera **HD**  
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

Yannick Nézet-Séguin

PRODUCTION

Mary Zimmerman

SET DESIGNER

Daniel Ostling

COSTUME DESIGNER

Ana Kuzmanic

LIGHTING DESIGNER

T.J. Gerckens

PROJECTION DESIGNER

S. Katy Tucker

CHOREOGRAPHER

Denis Jones

DRAMATURG

Paul Cremona

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

LIVE IN HD HOST

Renée Fleming

EURYDICE

Erin Morley

ORPHEUS'S DOUBLE

Jakub Józef Orliński

HADES

Barry Banks

ORPHEUS

Joshua Hopkins

FATHER

Nathan Berg

**ACT I** Eurydice is frustrated that Orpheus's mind is elsewhere, when he proposes. Eurydice's father writes her a letter. At their wedding, Eurydice steps outside for some air. A mysterious man appears and takes her to his apartment. When she realizes the situation that she's in, she turns to leave. He reveals the letter from her father, she tries to grab it but falls into the Underworld.

**ACT II** When Eurydice arrives in the Underworld, her father greets her, but she has no idea who he is. Orpheus writes Eurydice a letter. Back down below, a letter falls from the sky. The father reads it. The name "Orpheus" triggers something in Eurydice, and she begins to remember who she is. Orpheus lowers the works of Shakespeare into the Underworld. Eurydice begins to learn language again. Orpheus resolves to bring Eurydice back. Orpheus's singing rouses the spirits of the dead, and the Stones call Hades.

INTERMISSION

**ACT III** Orpheus sings at the gates of the Underworld. Hades informs him that Eurydice can follow him out, but he must not look back at her. Eurydice is torn between following Orpheus and staying with her father. She follows Orpheus, but when she calls his name, he turns around. The lovers are pulled apart. The father decides to dip himself in the river of forgetfulness. Eurydice finds that her father has obliterated his memory. Hades reappears to claim Eurydice. She writes a letter to Orpheus and dips herself in the river. Orpheus arrives in the Underworld and loses his memory. He finds Eurydice's letter but does not know how to read it.

*Music by Matthew Aucoin, libretto by Sarah Ruhl, based on her play Eurydice*

*A co-production of the Metropolitan Opera and LA Opera*

*Commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera and LA Opera*

*Originally commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera /  
Lincoln Center Theater New Works Program*

*Production a gift of Robert L. Turner*

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