

PUCCINI

# MADAMA BUTTERFLY

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, NOV 9

The Met  
ropolitan  
Opera **HD**  
LIVE

CONDUCTOR  
Pier Giorgio Morandi

PRODUCTION  
Anthony Minghella

DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER  
Carolyn Choa

SET DESIGNER  
Michael Levine

COSTUME DESIGNER  
Han Feng

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
Peter Mumford

PUPPETRY  
Blind Summit Theatre

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR  
Habib Azar

LIVE IN HD HOST  
Christine Goerke

CIO-CIO-SAN  
Hui He

SUZUKI  
Elizabeth DeShong

PINKERTON  
Bruce Sledge

SHARPLESS  
Paulo Szot

**ACT I** *Japan, at the turn of the 20th century.* The 15-year-old geisha Cio-Cio-San, called Butterfly, enters into an arranged marriage with U.S. Navy Lieutenant Pinkerton. He just wants to enjoy himself, but she takes the union seriously, even converting to Christianity. On her wedding day, she endures the scorn of her entire family, who denounces her for betraying their traditional faith.

## INTERMISSION

**ACT II** Three years later, Butterfly is still waiting for Pinkerton, who returned to America shortly after the marriage. A rich Japanese prince asks her to marry him, but she rejects his proposal, claiming that her husband has not deserted her. When the American consul Sharpless visits to break the news that Pinkerton will soon arrive with his new American wife, Butterfly triumphantly shows him her young son. Sharpless can't bring himself to tell her the truth. Pinkerton's ship lands at the harbor, and Butterfly, her maid, and the child settle into an all-night vigil.

## INTERMISSION

**ACT III** Dawn breaks, and Butterfly is still waiting. When she is confronted with the truth in the person of Kate Pinkerton, she agrees to give up her child if Pinkerton will come for him. Knowing that she cannot continue to live without honor, she says goodbye to her son, blindfolds him, and kills herself as Pinkerton arrives, calling her name.

*A co-production of the Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, and the Lithuanian National Opera*

*Production a gift of Mercedes and Sid Bass*

*Revival a gift of Barbara Augusta Teichert*

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AKHNATEN  
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