

PUCCINI

TOSCA

SAT, JAN 27

CONDUCTOR

EMMANUEL VILLAUME

PRODUCTION

SIR DAVID MCVICAR

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LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

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TOSCA

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CAVARADOSSI

VITTORIO GRIGOLO

SCARPIA

ŽELJKO LUČIĆ

SACRISTAN

PATRICK CARFIZZI

ACT I *Rome, June 1800.* The painter Mario Cavaradossi, a liberal, helps the escaped political prisoner Cesare Angelotti hide from the police. Cavaradossi's devoted but jealous lover, the singer Floria Tosca, suspects him of being unfaithful. Baron Scarpia, the sadistic chief of police who is hunting Angelotti, wants Tosca for himself and arouses her jealousy with remarks about Cavaradossi. As the crowd intones a Te Deum, celebrating Napoleon's recent defeat in battle against the Allied forces, Scarpia declares that he will bend Tosca to his will.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Unable to find Angelotti, Scarpia has arrested Cavaradossi, whom he suspects of aiding the fugitive. When Scarpia has the painter tortured, the frightened Tosca reveals Angelotti's hiding place. News arrives that Napoleon has in fact won the battle. Cavaradossi triumphantly cries out in defiance of tyranny, and Scarpia's men carry him off to be executed. Scarpia offers Tosca Cavaradossi's freedom in exchange for her love. She agrees, but the moment that he has written a safe-conduct pass for her, she grabs a knife and kills him.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Tosca comes to Castel Sant'Angelo, where Cavaradossi is imprisoned. She tells him that he is free but explains that he must go through a mock execution before they can flee. The firing squad shoots, and Cavaradossi falls. When Tosca realizes that the shots were real and he is dead, she cries out that she will meet Scarpia before God and leaps from the battlement.

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