

# The Metropolitan Opera

April 2013



## NEW PRODUCTION

Dessay and Daniels  
Star in *Giulio Cesare*

The *Ring* Returns

A Look at the  
2013-14 Season

David Daniels and Natalie Dessay  
in *Giulio Cesare*

PLAYBILL®

Stevens first appeared with the company as Octavian in a 1938 tour performance of *Der Rosenkavalier* and a few weeks later made her house debut in the title role of Thomas's *Mignon*. But she is best remembered for her portrayal of Bizet's *Carmen*, a role she sang a record 121 times at the Met, including in the famous 1952 production directed by Tyrone Guthrie. It was also her farewell role in 1961. Italian-born Albanese came to the Met in 1940 singing what would become her signature role: Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly*. She was also a celebrated Mimi in *La Bohème* and Violetta in *La Traviata* (for which she holds the company record with 87 performances). Albanese—who was Micaëla to Stevens's *Carmen* in several performances during the 1940s—made history on Opening Night 1948 when she appeared as Desdemona in *Otello* in the first live telecast from the Met stage.

## Fans of the Future

Last December a package containing fan letters, drawings, and \$800 in donations arrived at the Met. It was an unexpected gift spearheaded by nine-year-old Layla Felder, who had been inspired

by the Met's *Live in HD* transmissions in her hometown of Atlanta to start the Kids Opera and Art Posse. The club is made up of Layla and a group of her friends, each of whom made a gift to the Met in order to join. This past February, club members visited the opera house to attend a performance of *Le Comte Ory*, followed by a backstage tour and a meeting with stars Pretty Yende and Juan Diego Flórez. **M**



Pictured from left (front row): Megan Walter, Lia Paprocki, Jordan Walter, Lexi Elias, Layla Felder, and Grace Thomas; (back row) Ana Stewart, Maya Stewart, Isabel Seward, Lucy Seward, Managing Director Jeanette Lerman-Neubauer, founding sponsor of the HD transmissions, and General Manager Peter Gelb.

## DOWN THE LINE

For a look at 2013-14's new productions, turn to page 8. The first weeks of the new season also feature some exciting revivals.

### Mozart's *Così fan tutte*

OPENS SEPTEMBER 24

Music Director James Levine returns to the company for his first performances in more than two years, leading an ensemble cast of young Met stars.

### Shostakovich's *The Nose*

OPENS SEPTEMBER 28

The hit of the 2009-10 season is back with Paulo Szot in William Kentridge's inventive production. Valery Gergiev conducts.

### Bellini's *Norma*

OPENS SEPTEMBER 30

Sondra Radvanovsky takes on the title role in one the greatest bel canto operas.