

The Met ropolitan 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 Mimì 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. □



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.