



The 2024/2025 Season



CONTENTS

OPERA AND BALLET
PREMIERES IN THE 2024/2025
SEASON

PERFORMANCES FROM
PREVIOUS SEASONS

ADDITIONAL
PROGRAMME

ON TOUR

OPPORTUNITIES
FOR TOUR

OPERA PREMIERES IN THE 2024/2025 SEASON

Giuseppe Verdi: *Falstaff*

A Comic Opera in Three Acts

Libretto: Arrigo Boito based
on Shakespeare's *The Merry
Wives of Windsor* and *Heric
IV*.

Premiere: 3. 10. 2024

Conductor: Marco Guidarini
Stage Director: Emanuele
Gamba

Opera Soloists, Chorus and
Orchestra of the SNG Opera
in Balet Ljubljana

Hector Berlioz: *The Damnation of Faust, Op. 24*

A Dramatic Legend

Libretto: Hector Berlioz

A Co-production with the
Opera in Graz and Cankarjev
dom in Ljubljana

Premiere: 23. 1. 2025

Conductor: Marko Letonja
Stage Director: Lorenzo
Fioroni

Soloists, Guest Soloists, Chorus
and Orchestra of the SNG
Opera in balet Ljubljana



OPERA PREMIERES IN THE 2024/2025 SEASON

Kurt Weill: The Threepenny Opera

Play with Music in Eight Pictures and a Prelude

Libretto: Bertolt Brecht after John Gay

A Co-Production with SNG Drama
Ljubljana

Premiere: 20. 3. 2025

Conductor: Marko Letonja
Stage Director: Mateja Koležnik

Actors of the SNG Drama Ljubljana, Opera
Chorus and Orchestra of the SNG Opera in
balet Ljubljana

Giacomo Puccini: Manon Lescaut

An Opera in Four Acts

Libretto: Luigi Illica, Marco
Praga, Giuseppe Giacosa,
Domenico Oliva, Giulio
Ricordi, Giacomo Puccini

Premiere: 15. 5. 2025

Conductor: Ayrton
Desimpelaere



BALLET PREMIERES IN THE 2024/2025 SEASON

Ludwig Minkus: Don Quixote

A Ballet in Two Acts

Premiere: 7. 11. 2024

Conductor: Kevin Rhodes
Choreographer: Denis
Matvienko

Ballet Soloist, Ballet
Ensemble and Orchestra of
the SNG Opera in balet
Ljubljana

William Shakespeare – Leo Mujić: Hamlet

A Ballet in Two Acts

Premiere: 20. 2. 2025

Choreographer and Stage Director: Leo
Mujić

Music: Petar Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Camille
Saint-Saëns

Set Designer: Stefano Katunar
Costume Designer: Manuela Paladin
Šabanović

Dramaturge, Assistant Choreographer and
Music Selector: Bálint Rauscher



Preformances from Previous Seasons

Alojz Ajdič: Mice in the Opera House

Stage Director: Eva Hribernik

Premiere: 28. 9. 2023

Choreographer: Lukas Zuschlag

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

Set Designer: Jaro Ješe

Costume Designer: Sandra Dekanić

Lighting Designer: Jaka Varmuž

**A comic opera on the
amusing libretto by Vinko
Moderndorfer also featuring
enchanted ballet and
pantomime elements is
equally attractive for both
young and adult audiences.**





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Giacomo Puccini: La Bohème

Stage Director: Frédéric Roels

Premiere: 11. 4. 2024

Set Designer: Lionel Lesire

Costume Designer: Lionel Lesire

Lighting Designer: Arnaud Viala

A Co-Production with the Opéra Grand Avignon

A great, highly romantic and emotional piece of music unveiling a story of all the cruelty and poverty of life of Parisian bohemians, full of hopes and dreams, joys and disappointments.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Gioacchino Rossini: The Barber of Seville

Stage Director: Krešimir Dolenčić

Premiere: 22. 5. 2014

Choreographer: Mateja Pučko

Set Designer: Dinka Jeričević

Costume Designer: Ana Savić Gecan

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

A catching opera, composed after the libretto based on the eponymous comedy by Pierre Augustine Caron de Beaumarchais, which remains even today one of the most frequently performed works from the world operatic literature.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Giuseppe Verdi: La Traviata

Stage Director: Lutz Hochstraate

Premiere: 17. 5. 2003

Choreographer: Ivo Kosi

Set Designer: Rudolf Rischer

Costume Designer: Bettina Richter

Lighting Designer: Edi Martinčič

La traviata is one of those masterpieces, which were created in a swing, as the composer managed to write it within just a month and a half. Verdi presented on stage the fallen Parisian courtesan Violetta, overwhelmed with pure and unselfish love, who presents an archetype of a female, whose frontiers of personal liberty can be moved only by love.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Giuseppe Verdi: Nabucco

Stage Director: Detlef Soelter

Premiere: 2. 2. 2012

Choreographer: Berta Vallribera

Set Design: Detlef Soelter

Costume Designers: Bernd Leistner and Leo Kulaš

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

The success of this opera rests on the expressive recitatives, elapsing into the melodious arias, ensembles and solemn choruses.

The rivalry between Nabucco's daughters Fenena and the intriguing Abigaille, fighting for the love of Ismaele – the nephew of the King of Israel – thickens the plot additionally.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Giuseppe Verdi: *The Troubadour*

Stage Director: Yulia Kristoforova

Premiere: 23. 3. 2023

Choreographer: Ana Pandur

Set Design: Vasilija Fišer

Costume Designer: Belinda Radulović

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Video Animation: Neli Maraž

Dramaturges: Yulia Roschina, Ana Pandur

With the pearl of his oeuvre *The Troubadour*, the Shakespeare of the musical theatre Giuseppe Verdi, transformed from an internationally successful Italian maestro into a genuine King of Opera, who won and convinced hearts in every part of the world.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker – A Christmas Carol

A Ballet by Youri Vámos

Premiere: 28. 11. 2002

Choreograph and Stage Director: Youri Vámos

Assistant Choreographer: Joyce Cuoco

Set Designer and Costume Designer: Michael Scott

**One of the most beautiful white
ballet fairy tales fused by the
choreographer with the
timeless story by Charles
Dickens.**





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

The Great Gatsby, a Ballet by Leo Mujić

Premiere: 7. 11. 2019

Stage Adaptation and Choreography: Leo Mujić

Set Designer: Stefano Katunar

Costume Designer: Manuela Paladin Šabanović

Lighting Designer: Aleksandar Čavlek

Dramaturge: Bálint Rauscher

A splendid ballet story of a mysterious rich man who becomes a victim of his love and beliefs, also focusing its attention on the two passionate lovers not destined to be together.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

María de Buenos Aires

Premiere: 15. 2. 2024

Choreographer: Renato Zanella

Stage Director: Yulia Kristoforova

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

Set Designer: Vasilija Fišer

Costume Designers: Alexandra Burgstaller and Anne Marie Legenstein

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Original Painting: Gregor Smukovič

An original ballet depiction by Renato Zanella based on an unconventional tango opera *María de Buenos Aires* by one of the most versatile composers of the 20th century Astor Piazzola.





Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Bolero

Premiere: 16. 11. 2023

Choreographers: Renato Zanella, Edward Clug

Set Designers: Renato Zanella, Thomas Mika

Costume Designers: Renato Zanella, Thomas Mika

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak, Tomaž Premzl

An inspring ballet evening by Edward Clug and Renato Zanella to the stunning music by Maurice Ravel, Frédéric Chopin and Igor Stravinsky.

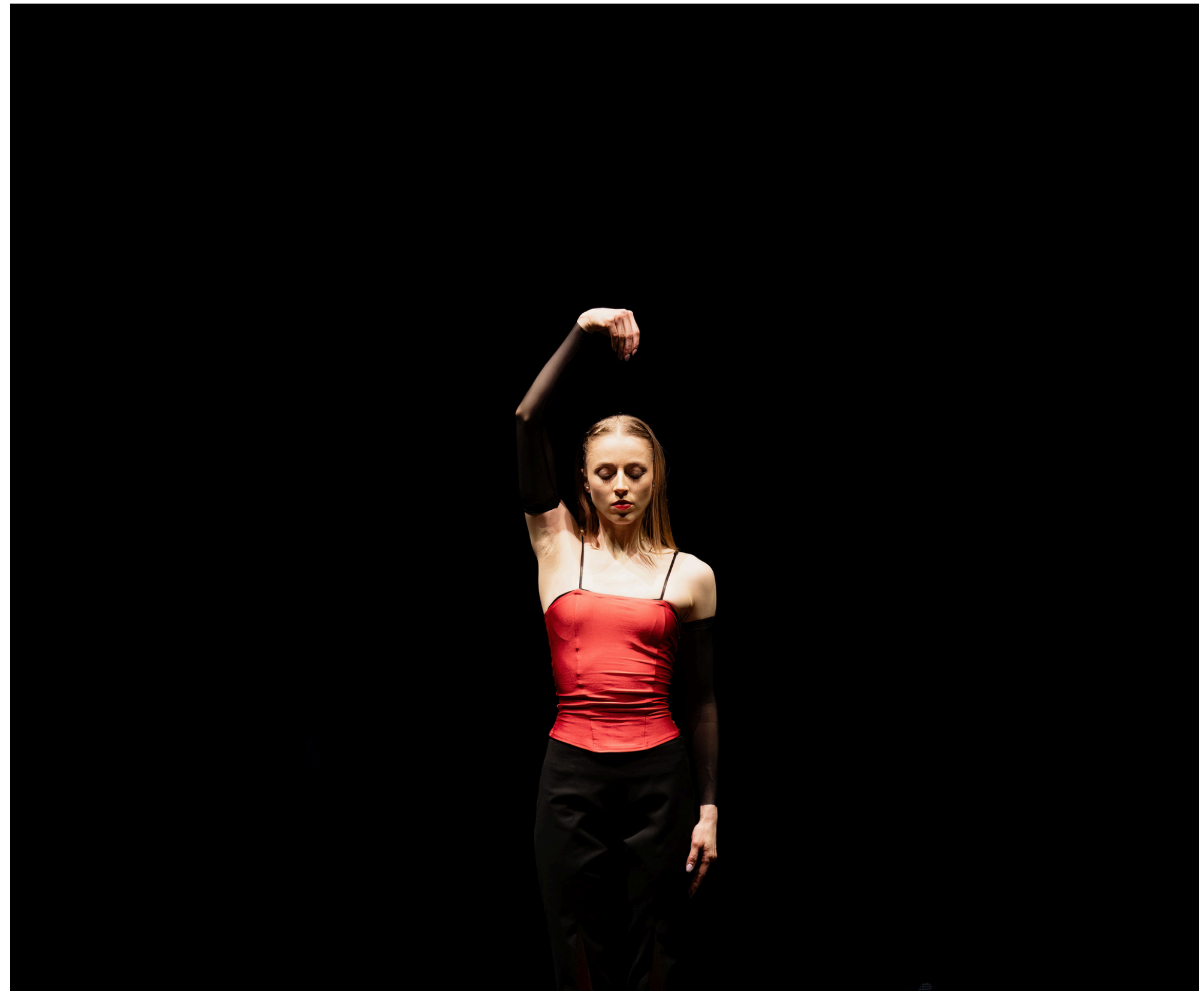




Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

Preformances from Previous Seasons

Adolphe Adam: Le Corsaire

Premiere: 22. 9. 2020

Choreographer: José Carlos Martínez (after M. Petipa)

Set Designer: Matej Filipčič

Costume Designers: Iñaki Cobos Guerrero

Lighting Designer: Jasmin Šehić

Drawings: Dejan Mesarič

The story of this classical ballet fairy tale revolves around a sea Captain Conrad, who is outlawed by the society and thus forced into piracy. His fate, however, turns around quickly: a beautiful girl, Medora, who is held captive in Seid Pasha's harem, and into whom Conrad falls in love, faces him with yet another trial.



Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu



Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMME

The Little Prince

Premiere: 6. 9. 2024

Concert with The Academy of Music

13. 9. 2024

Season Opening Concert

19. 9. 2024

Concert in Memory of Jože Gostič

13. 10. 2024, Homec

New Year's Gala

31. 12. 2024

Antonín Dvořák: Stabat Mater

17.-18. 4. 2025

ON TOUR

BALLET ENSEMBLE ON TOUR IN TRIESTE

**Ludwig Minkus:
Don Quixote**

3.-8. 12. 2024

**The Great Gatsby,
a Ballet by Leo
Mujić**

11.-13. 7. 2025

Opportunities for Tour

Jacques Offenbach: Orpheus in the Underworld

Stage Director: Vito Taufer

Premiere: 8. 10. 2015

Set Designer and Costume Designer: Samo Lapajne

Lighting Designer: Pascal Mérat

Choreographer: Miha Krusič

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

A comical and satirical rendering of the classical myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, whose marriage has stumbled upon some challenges and thus involves an entire Olympus into their story.



Opportunities for Tour

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Eugene Onegin

Stage Director: Vinko Möderndorfer

Premiere: 25. 5. 2023

Choreographer: Rosana Hribar

Set Designer: Branko Hojnik

Costume Designer: Alan Hranitelj

Lighting Designer: Pascal Mérat

Dramaturge: Blaž Lukan

An opera reflecting the souls of the two Romantic giants, Pushkin and Tchaikovsky and awakening the fascination of every opera lover time and again.



Opportunities for Tour

Charles Gounod: Faust

Stage Director: Frank Van Laecke

Premiere: 17. 3. 2022

Choreographers: Ingrid Coppieters, Frank Van Laecke

Choreography Revival: Lukas Zuschlag

Set Designer: Paul Gallis

Costume Designer: Yan Tax

Lighting Designer: Marc Heinz

A musical rendering of Goethe's masterpiece unveiled through a prism of the transformative power of love and considered one of the most picturesque and romantic pieces of the world operatic literature.



Opportunities for Tour

Vincenzo Bellini: The Capulets and The Montagues

Stage Director: Frank Van Laecke

Premiere: 21. 10. 2021

Choreographer: Lukas Zuschlag

Set Designer: Philippe Miesch

Costume Designer: Belinda Radulović

Lighting Designers: Frank Van Laecke, Jasmin Šehić

An opera, distinguishing itself from its most famous Shakespearean version by not conveying the entire story but only the last day of the life of the two admired lovers, thus unwinding a feeling of an unequalled melancholy in its astonishing ending.



Opportunities for Tour

Gioachino Rossini: The Italian Girl in Algiers

Stage Director: Emanuele Gamba

Premiere: 9. 2. 2023

Choreographer: Lukas Zuschlag

Set Designer: Massimo Checchetto

Costume Designer: Carlos Tieppo

Light Designer: Milčo Aleksandrov

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

An operatic gem showcasing the oriental colourfulness of a bey's castle in Algiers, coloratura escapades of the singing roles and a comical unfolding of its entangled story.



Opportunities for Tour

Gaetano Donizetti: The Elixir of Love

Stage Director: Krešimir Dolenčić

Premiere: 20. 1. 2022

Choreographer: Claudia Sovre

Set Designer: Andrej Stražišar

Costume Designer: Alan Hranitelj

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

A picturesque opera intertwining its light-hearted story with polished humour and showcasing the distinct Donizetti melody that culminates in the famous cavatina *Una furtiva lagrima*.



Opportunities for Tour

Jules Massenet: Werther

Stage Director: Luis Ernesto Doñas

Premiere: 18. 1. 2024

Set Designer: Chiara La Ferlita

Costume Designer: Elisa Cobello

Lighting Designer: Camilla Piccioni

Dramaturge: Tatjana Ažman

A pearl among French romantic operas, in which Massenet created extensive dramatic situations based on a series of finely nuanced moments, intertwined by a keen sense of their passing.



Opportunities for Tour

Pietro Mascagni, Ruggiero Leoncavallo: Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci

Stage Director and Author of Visual
Concept: Manfred Schweigkofler

Premiere: 8. 10. 2020

Choreographer: Lukas Zuschlag

Set Designers: Manfred Schweigkofler, Matjaž Arcan

Costume Designer: Mateja Benedetti

Lighting Designer: Andrej Hajdinjak

Dramaturges: Franc Braun, Tatjana Ažman

A 'double bill' of the classical Italian
operatic pieces related to the tradition
of verismo, depicting everyday stories
and passions of ordinary people that
enthralled the audiences from many
musical theatre stages at the end of the
19th century.



Photo: Darja Štravs Tisu

CONTACTS

Production

Nives Fras, Head of Production

M: +386 41 937 837

E: nives.fras@opera.si

Brigita Gojić, Cultural Programme
Coordinator

M: +386 51 318 078

E: brigita.gojic@opera.si

Polona Kante Pavlin, Producer

E: polona.kante@opera.si

Simon Stanojevič, Coordinator

M: +386 51 618 186

E: simon.stanojevic@opera.si

Marketing and Public Relations

Barbara Čepirlo Čičigoj, Head of Public
Relations

M: +386 41 218 557

E: info@opera.si, barbara.cepirlo@opera.si

Janez Rozman, Head of Marketing
Department

M: +386 51 244 672

E: janez.rozman@opera.si



SLOVENSKO NARODNO GLEDALIŠČE OPERA IN BALET LJUBLJANA

Župančičeva 1, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

T: +386 (0)1 24 15 900, F: (0)1 24 11 735, E: info@opera.si, www.opera.si

Director General

Staš Ravter

Artistic Director of the Opera

Marko Hribernik

Artistic Director of the Ballet

Renato Zanella

Conceived by: Tamara Šmit

Texts: Tatjana Ažman, Tamara Šmit

Language Editing: Nataša Jelić

Photos: Darja Štravs Tisu

The redaction was completed on: 29. 05. 2024