

MEDIA RELEASE

13 August 2020

2021 dates announced for Brisbane Ring Cycle



Following the announcement that the Brisbane Ring Cycle has been postponed to next year due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis, Opera Australia today advised dates have now been locked-in for October – November 2021.

Originally scheduled to run in November this year, the season will now open on Friday 29 October 2021 at Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) with three full Ring Cycles and seven performances of OA's digital production of Verdi's hugely popular *Aida*.

Artistic Director Lyndon Terracini is thrilled OA has been able to work with all its partners to be able to secure new dates for a similar time next year.

"Being able to confirm the dates so far in advance has given us the opportunity to ensure all the original talent are able to return, including Conductor Phillippe Auguin, Director Chen Shi-Zheng and the world's best and most in-demand Siegfried, German tenor Stefan Vinke.

"We really need to thank our government and artistic partners who have moved mountains to make this happen. It's testament to the level of commitment amongst the group to bring this incredible production to the stage," said Terracini.

QLD Tourism Minister Kate Jones said blockbuster events like the Ring Cycle would play an important role in the state's economic recovery.

"Major events like this pump thousands of dollars back into the local businesses, support local jobs and help to rebuild our economy," Ms Jones said.

"Brisbane is one of the most beautiful places in the world to come and visit. We're quickly building our reputation as a hub for major events, arts and cultural experiences. The Ring Cycle gives visitors a great reason to stay and explore the city and other parts of the state.

"Only the Palaszczuk Government has a plan to rebuild our economy and create local jobs. Events like this that support local businesses and local jobs are crucial to that strategy."

Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch said the Palaszczuk Government's support for major events such as the Ring Cycle reinforced Queensland's reputation as an arts and cultural leader.

"Queensland arts organisations collaborating to deliver this larger-than-life production of the Ring Cycle is a tribute to the incredible local talent we have in this state," Minister Enoch said.

"Opera Australia's decision to stage these ground-breaking performances in Queensland highlights the esteem in which our state's arts companies and QPAC are held, and the considerable demand our audiences have for experiencing some of the world's best productions.

"Like performances around the world, the arts industry here has been significantly impacted by COVID-19, so the rescheduling of this major production is welcome news for our local artists, arts organisations, audiences, and for Queensland as we deliver our plan for economic recovery.

Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* is recognised internationally as a masterpiece and the pinnacle in operatic staging that attracts devotees from around the world, who immerse themselves in 15-hours of extraordinary musical and vocal performances over four glorious nights.

This production, by visionary Chinese director Chen Shi-Zheng, will be the first large scale performance of the full Ring Cycle to be held in Queensland and also the first fully digital version ever staged. The sets will incorporate huge, LED screens suspended from the ceiling and choreographed to move seamlessly around the stage, creating a striking visual landscape.

The Ring Cycle Brisbane is supported by the Queensland Government via Tourism and Events Queensland and Brisbane City Council via Brisbane Economic Development Agency.

Opera Australia, in association with Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, Opera Queensland and Queensland Symphony Orchestra, presents the Ring Cycle Brisbane, Queensland, which features on the *It's Live! in Queensland* events calendar.

Ticket holders will be contacted by Opera Australia with further information about transferring their tickets to 2021.

2021 Dates

Cycle 1:

<i>Das Rheingold</i>	29 Oct
<i>Die Walküre</i>	31 Oct
<i>Siegfried</i>	02 Nov
<i>Götterdämmerung</i>	04 Nov

Cycle 2:

<i>Das Rheingold</i>	06 Nov
<i>Die Walküre</i>	08 Nov
<i>Siegfried</i>	10 Nov
<i>Götterdämmerung</i>	12 Nov

Cycle 3:

<i>Das Rheingold</i>	14 Nov
<i>Die Walküre</i>	16 Nov
<i>Siegfried</i>	18 Nov
<i>Götterdämmerung</i>	20 Nov

Aida

03, 05, 09, 11, 13, 17, 19 November 2021

opera.org.au/ring

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