Hamlet
OPERA IN FIVE ACTS BY AMBROISE THOMAS

Libretto by Michel Carré and Jules Barbier
based on William Shakespeare’s play Hamlet
Musical direction: Marc Minkowski
Director: Olivier Py

FILMED AT Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie / de Munt – Brussels
IN December 2013
TV DIRECTOR Stéphane Vérité
RUNNING TIME 1x166’
Artistic Information

Synopsis
The famous story of Hamlet and Ophelia is played out between the opposite poles of real and feigned madness, love and avenge. After the murder of his father, Hamlet opposes the marriage of his mother and his uncle, at the expense of his beloved and himself. When Ambroise Thomas chose Shakespeare's Hamlet as the subject of his new opera, France had been under the spell of the English bard for many years, and Ophelia had inspired romantic artists. The librettists Carré and Barbier distilled a straightforward story from Shakespeare's abundant characters and situations, which, although it was clearly far removed from the original, inspired Thomas to write a coherent score that demonstrated his mastery of musical atmosphere. After their unanimously acclaimed Les Huguenots in 2011, Marc Minkowski and Olivier Py are continuing their highly personal exploration of the 19th century French Grand Opéra repertoire.

Performers
Claudius............................................................... Vincent Le Texier
Queen Gertrude .............................................. Sylvie Brunet-Grupposo
Hamlet ............................................................... Stéphane Degout
Polonius .............................................................. Till Fechner
Ophélie .............................................................. Lenneke Ruiten
Laërte ............................................................... Rémy Mathieu
Horatio / First gravedigger .............................. Henk Neven
Marcellus / Second gravedigger ........................ Gijs Van der Linden
Ghost of the late King ........................................ Jérôme Varnier

La Monnaie / de Munt Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

Artistic Staff
Musical direction Marc Minkowski
Director: Olivier Py | Rehearsals of the staging: Andreas Zimmermann | Set design & costumes: Pierre-André Weitz | Light: Bertrand Killy | Chorus direction: Martino Faggiani

Production
Production companies Oxymore, La Monnaie / de Munt, in association with Mezzo and the support of the CNC
Associate producer Jean-Romain Sales

Distribution
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Video format HDCAM, Digibeta, stereo sound and dolby 5.1

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