Aida
MUSIC BY GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 – 1901)

Opera in four acts
Libretto: Antonio Ghislanzoni after Auguste Mariette
Musical direction: Philippe Jordan
Stage direction: Olivier Py

FILMED AT Opéra national de Paris
IN November 2013
TV DIRECTOR Vincent Massip
RUNNING TIME 1x140'
Aida

SYNOPSIS
With its fascination for Egypt, 19th century Europe seems to have embarked on an intoxicating voyage down the Nile, marvelling at the colours of that great river and of the Egyptian sky, rediscovering monuments that are not so much palaces and towns but enigmatic sanctuaries of both the genius and the folly of humanity. Aida is one of the most celebrated examples of this «Egyptomania» albeit one of the most contradictory: commissioned by Ismail Pasha, the project of a work to be performed in honour of the inauguration of the Suez Canal was initially rejected by Verdi. However, a second commission for an operatic work to be performed in the new theatre in Cairo was later, somewhat condescendingly, accepted. Verdi had no inclination for exoticism and any concessions were, for him, out of the question. This opera, intended as a celebration of universal concord and harmony between nations with all the pomp and ceremony appropriate to such solemn occasions, is in fact entirely about conflict: the war between Egypt and Ethiopia is nothing compared to that which opposes the characters to each other. Their bloody confrontations give way, in turn, to the conflict within each individual. A work both flamboyant and hieratic, spectacular and intimate, and one of Verdi’s most beautiful masterpieces, Aida returns to the Paris Opera after more than half a century’s absence.

PERFORMERS
Carlo Cigni .................................................. Il Re
Luciana D’Intino ........................................ Amneris
Oksana Dyka .............................................. Aida
Marcelo Alvarez ........................................ Radamès
Roberto Scandiuzzi .................................... Ramfis
Sergey Murzaev .......................................... Amonasro
Elodie Hache ............................................... Sacerdotessa
Oleksiy Palchykov ...................................... Un Messaggero
Paris Opera Orchestra and Chorus

ARTISTIC STAFF
Conductor  Philippe Jordan
Staging  Olivier Py  |  Sets and costumes  Pierre-André Weitz
Lighting  Bertrand Killy  |  Chorus master  Patrick Marie Aubert

PRODUCTION
PRODUCTION COMPANIES  Opéra de Paris Production, Telmondis, and the support of the CNC
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS  Antoine Perset – Denis Morlière

DISTRIBUTION
DISTRIBUTION COMPANY  Telmondis Distribution
7, Rue du Dôme  |  F – 92100 Boulogne Billancourt
Tel/Fax: + 33 1 40 74 76 20 / 09  |  www.telmondis.fr
VIDEO FORMAT  HDCAM, Digibeta, stereo sound and dolby 5.1

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