Doctor Atomic
JOHN ADAMS

FILMED AT Opéra national du Rhin
IN May 2014
TV DIRECTOR: Stéphane Vérité
RUNNING TIME: 1x168'

French creation – New production
Opera in two acts
Music by John Adams
Libretto by Peter Sellars

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Doctor Atomic

**ARTISTIC INFORMATION**

**SYNOPSIS**

Doctor Atomic arose from a series of orders of the Opera of San Francisco on the theme of Faust in a country as the United States. John Adam and his librettist Peter Sellars then had the idea to connect Faust with the Project Manhattan (the elaboration of the atom bomb). Its inventor, the physicist Julius Robert Oppenheimer (Dietrich Henschel), makes the world fall over in the era of nuclear power. A man who puts in danger the whole humanity, embodied by the concerns of his wife, Kitty (Anna Grevelius).

Attached to the reality, several of the present texts in the opera were adapted by documents declassified by the government of the United States. They resume the dialogues between the scientists, the officials and the military staff. Lucinda Childs signs an un-spectacular approach to staging, close to the cinema, for this countdown in the form of thriller.

« ... Now I am Shiva the destroyer of the worlds » said Oppenheimer at the time of the explosion of Gadget, the bomb of the first essay. And his assistant Bainbridge to answer him: « from now on, we are all sons of a bitch ».

**PERFORMERS**

Dietrich Henschel .............................................. J. Robert Oppenheimer  
Robert Bork ........................................................ Edward Teller  
Marlin Miller .......................................................... Robert Wilson  
Anna Grevelius ................................................... Kitty Oppenheimer  
Jovita Vaskeviciute .............................................. Pasqualita  
Peter Sidhom ...................................................... General Leslie Groves  
Brian Bannatyne-Scott ....................................... Jack Hubbard  
John Graham-Hall ............................................. Captain James Nolan  
Opéra national du Rhin Chorus  
Mulhouse Symphony Orchestra

**ARTISTIC STAFF**

**Musical direction:** Patrick Davin  
**Staging:** Lucinda Childs  
**Sets and costumes:** Bruno de Lavenère  
**Lighting:** David Debrinay  
**Video:** Etienne Guiol

**PRODUCTION**

**Production companies** Oxymore, Opéra national du Rhin, with the participation of France Télévisions and Medici TV and the support of the CNC

**DISTRIBUTION**

**Distribution company** Telmondis Distribution  
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**Video format** HDCAM, Digibeta, stereo sound and dolby 5.1

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