



Madama Butterfly - Puccini **LIVE in cinema from Teatro Regio di Torino**

RISING ALTERNATIVE will broadcast this opera February 4, 2014

Madama Butterfly from Giacomo Puccini, conducted by Pinchas Steinberg and directed by Damiano Michieletto (highly acclaimed for his wonderful staging of *La Bohème* at The Salzburg Festival) will arrive LIVE in cinemas this February 4th, with Amarilli Nizza, as *Butterfly*, Massimiliano Pisapia as *Pinkerton*, Alberto Mastromarino as *Sharpless* and Giovanna Lanza as *Suzuki*.

The broadcast to cinemas is made possible by RAI (Radio Televisione Italiana), the Italian national broadcasting company and producer of major cultural events from Italy and worldwide, and RISING ALTERNATIVE, a leading distributor of classical music programs to cinemas.

Madama Butterfly – LIVE February 4th - 20 h

Giacomo Puccini

Opera in 3 acts | Sung in Italian

Creative team

Conductor	Pinchas Steinberg
Stage Director	Damiano Michieletto
Revival by	Roberto Pizzuto
Sets	Paolo Fantin
Costumes	Carla Teti
Lighting	Marco Filibeck
Chorus Master	Claudio Fenoglio

Starring

<i>Madama Butterfly</i> (<i>Cio-cio-San</i>)	Amarilli Nizza
<i>F. B. Pinkerton</i> , <i>Lieutenant in the US Navy</i>	Massimiliano Pisapia
<i>Sharpless</i> , <i>US consul at Nagasaki</i>	Alberto Mastromarino
<i>Suzuki</i> , <i>Cio-cio-san's maid</i>	Giovanna Lanza

<i>Goro, nakodo</i>	Luca Casalin
<i>Prince Yamadori</i>	Donato Di Gioia
<i>The Uncle bonze</i>	Seung Pil Choi
<i>The Imperial Commissioner</i>	Ryan Milstead

ABOUT THE OPERA

Puccini based his opera partly on the story *Madame Butterfly* (1898) written by John Luther Long and dramatized by David Belasco. Puccini also based it on Pierre Loti's novel *Madame Chrysanthème* (1887). According to other sources, the opera was based on actual events that occurred in Nagasaki in early 1890.

Puccini wrote five versions of this opera, the first of which premiered on February 7, 1904 at the Teatro alla Scala di Milano. A new version was later released at the Teatro Grande di Brescia on May 28, 1904, and his definitive version was released in 1907. According to Operabase, this version is the eighth most performed opera in the world and the fourth most performed opera in Italy. It is Puccini's third most popular opera, following *La Bohème* and *Tosca*.

STORY

The geisha Cio-Cio-San, called Madame Butterfly, has married an American naval officer, Pinkerton, who deserts her shortly after the wedding. Butterfly bears his son and patiently awaits her husband's return. One day, the American consul receives a letter from Pinkerton in which he says he has an American wife (his marriage in Japan not being legally recognized in America) and is returning to fetch his child. Pinkerton's ship finally arrives and he sets out to visit Butterfly with his wife, Kate. Filled with remorse, however, he is unable to face Butterfly and leaves Kate alone with her. Butterfly tells Kate that she will give Pinkerton his son if he comes to fetch him. Rejecting a life of disgrace, she kills herself with her father's sword. Pinkerton arrives to find her dead.

ABOUT TEATRO REGIO DI TORINO

Inaugurated on December 26, 1740, the Teatro Regio di Torino possesses a rich history of presenting the works of celebrated composers including Wagner, Massenet and Puccini. In 1936, the Teatro was destroyed by a violent fire, requiring nearly forty years to rebuild. The new Teatro Regio was inaugurated on April 10, 1973 with Giuseppe Verdi's opera *I Vespri Siciliani*, starring Maria Callas and Giuseppe Di Stefano. Since then, the opera house has thrived, celebrating its 250th anniversary in 1990, the centennial of *La Bohème* in 1996 and the extraordinary XX Winter Olympic Games and the Olympics of Culture.

RISING ALTERNATIVE, is one of the world's leading alternative content distributors and brings the extraordinary productions of many of the world's most prestigious cultural institutions to cinemas, cultural centers and other public venues worldwide. Milan's LA SCALA, OPERA DE PARIS, the SALZBURG FESTIVAL, the WIENER STAATSOPER and the SAN FRANCISCO OPERA are just a few of the opera venues in its catalogue www.risingalternative.com

The company, with offices in New York, Berlin, Barcelona and Milan is ideally positioned to support its partners in exhibition and provide cinemas and audiences with a slate of 24 programs a year, 13 of which will be broadcast LIVE in HD in 2013-2014. Its exhibition partner network includes more than 1000 screens in 40 countries. Rising Alternative management has been involved in the international distribution of cultural content to cinemas since 2006.

PUCCINI



MADAMA BUTTERFLY



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Director
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LIVE IN CINEMA

FEB 4th 2014



Barbara Berini
Business Development Manager