



Gran Teatre del Liceu

**THE GRAN TEATRE DEL LICEU, BARCELONA**

**Returns to cinema screens with**

**Bellini's NORMA**

**LIVE in HD**

**February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**NORMA**, the masterpiece of Bellini's bel canto, the summit of the Romanticism, will be broadcast LIVE to cinemas across the globe on February 17<sup>th</sup> 2015, from the Gran Teatre del Liceu, one of the most prestigious theatres in the world and the first opera house to begin LIVE transmissions to cinemas.

In 2001 the Liceu pioneered the era of "opera in cinema" with the broadcast of LA TRAVIATA. Over the following 10 years, operas from this historic Barcelona venue were shown in hundreds of cinemas in more than 40 countries worldwide.

Now, after two years of silence, the Liceu, in collaboration with Rising Alternative, a leading international distributor of event programs, will present LIVE from Barcelona, a new production of **Norma**, starring soprano Sondra Radvanovsky as a "Powerful... elegant" *Norma* (*New York Times*), Gregory Kunde as *Pollione*, Raymond Aceto as *Oroveso*, Ekaterina Gubanova as *Adalgisa*, Anna Puche as *Clotilde* and Francisco Vas as *Flavio*. The Italian conductor, Renato Palumbo and the Grammy award-nominated opera, theatre and film director, Kevin Newbury (winner of the Irish Times Theatre Award 2010) completes this great team of artists.

"The return of the Liceu to cinemas around the world will let us accomplish one of our main goals, granting the internationalisation of the theatre, its activity, influence and prestige." says Liceu's General Director, Roger Guasch.

"At last, opera fans in cinemas all over the world can once again be transported to the to the splendor of the Liceu in the magical Barcelona." Giovanni Cozzi, President, Rising Alternative.

## **About NORMA**

*NORMA* is an opera of two acts, sung in Italian. Running time 3hrs 15mins. Libretto by Felice Romani based on the play by Alexandre Soumet. Music by Vincenzo Bellini.

“If we weep from emotion on hearing it, it’s nothing to be ashamed of” Richard Wagner on Bellini’s famous most opera.

The production, by up-and-coming New York-based director Kevin Newbury, stresses the ritual aspects of the drama. In Roman-dominated Gaul, the high priestess Norma has broken her vow of chastity by entering a relationship with the Roman pro-consul, Pollione. The birth of their two children has been kept secret, but when she discovers she has a rival, jealousy sets in.

*NORMA* is a classical heroine, passionate and revengeful, and her dilemma provides the starting point for the most successful work by the last and greatest composer of bel canto.

*NORMA* was first performed in the Liceu in 1847, not long after its official opening.

### **Creative Team**

Conductor	Renato Palumbo
Director	Kevin Newbury
Scenography	David Korins
Costumes	Jessica Jahn
Lighting	D.M. Wood

### **Artistic Team**

Pollione	Gregory Kunde
Oroveso	Raymond Aceto
Norma	Sondra Radvanovsky
Adalgisa	Ekaterina Gubanova
Clotilde	Anna Puche
Flavio	Francisco Vas

**For further information, please contact:**

Giovanni Cozzi - [gcozzi@risingalternative.com](mailto:gcozzi@risingalternative.com) [www.risingalternative.com](http://www.risingalternative.com)