



Semperoper Ballett

The Return of »Carmen« on 18 March 2023

PRESS RELEASE



»Carmen« Ayaha Tsunaki, Jón Vallejo ©Semperoper Dresden, Photo: Ian Whalen

Cruelty and innocence – Inger's »Carmen« returns to the Semperoper

Dresden, 2 March 2023: Following »Walking Mad« and »Empty House«, this interpretation of »Carmen« has been the third work by international shooting star Johan Inger to be presented in Dresden by ballet director Aaron S. Watkin and his company in January 2019. Now Inger's Prix du Benois de la Danse awarded choreography will be back on Semperoper's stage up from 18 March 2023.

The Swedish Star-choreographer's vision of this tale of erotic passion, the atavistic thirst for freedom and deadly jealousy is much closer to the original novella by Prosper Mérimée, published in 1847, than the world-famous opera by Georges Bizet. Johan Inger places the inherent cruelty of Mérimée's story at the heart of his choreography to create a sombre, mesmerizing atmosphere without renouncing the ecstatically volatility of Bizet's music.

As in his in Dresden last seen work »Peer Gynt«, Inger concentrates his gaze on the emotional struggle of the protagonist and his childhood. However, the Swede updates the drama, creating a unique interpretation through his transcription into contemporary dance. In addition to the well-known operatic motifs, the accompanying score incorporates themes by Rodion K. Shchedrin and a specially commissioned composition by the Spaniard Marc Álvarez.

Ayaha Tsunaki will dance the title role of the Spanish *femme fatale* as well as Jón Vallejo the role of *Don José* on 18 March 2023. Kristóf Kovács and Swanice Luong will give their role debuts as *Zúñiga* respectively as *The young boy* on 9 April 2023. The Sächsische Staatskapelle will perform under the baton of Benjamin Pope.

»Carmen« Johan Inger
Revival on 18 March 2023
Further performances in March and April 2023

With the kind support of the Semperoper Foundation.

Tickets for performances are available at the Schinkelwache on the Theaterplatz (T +49 (0)351 4911 705) and online. For more details, check out semperoper.de

Please direct your press enquiries, requests for interviews as well as press tickets (with editorial assignment, details of the media outlet and likely publication date) to presse@semperoper.de

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