

BUNDESKUNSTHALLE

Invitation to a Media Conference
Thursday, 29 September 2022, 11 a.m.

OPERA IS DEAD – LONG LIVE OPERA!

30 September 2022 to 5 February 2023

Opera: in the 400 years of its existence, it has been declared dead a hundred times and yet, to this day, it is always innovative and full of resilience, highly esteemed by some, dismissed by others as elitist and dusty, you either love it or you hate it ...

After the summer break, the Bundeskunsthalle is dedicating an opulent exhibition to what is probably the most emotional of all art forms, a sensual experience of the 'gesamtkunstwerk' opera and at the same time, in the truest sense of the word, a look behind the scenes that will offer even opera connoisseurs something surprising and new.

Opera combines several forms of art (music, singing, acting, dance) and artisanry (costume, stage, lighting) to create a spectacular gesamtkunstwerk. It transcends the boundaries of reality, thrives on dramatic extremes, the magical and the irrational and, as an event, is as unique as it is ephemeral.

Starting from the beginnings of opera in Italy, our exhibition stages a kaleidoscopic panorama of different forms of opera. It presents the baroque spectacles at the courts of Europe and explores the diversity of commercial venues in 17th century Venice. Drawing on the example of famous opera houses such as La Scala in Milan, the Vienna State Opera or the New York Met, it traces the growth and change of the institution in the 19th and 20th century and sheds light on the people who come together to cast their vision in the sumptuous form that the audience gets to see and hear.

A selection of paintings and costumes, posters and stage design models, caricatures and programmes – complemented by recordings of numerous operas – tells known and unknown stories of a genre and an institution that is constantly reinventing itself.

We cordially invite you to a media conference on
Thursday, 29 September 2022 at 11 a.m. in the Forum of the Bundeskunsthalle.

Your discussion participants:

- Eva Kraus, Director of the Bundeskunsthalle
- Katharina Chrubasik, Curator of the Bundeskunsthalle
- Alexander Meier-Dörzenbach, Curator, Berlin
- Pierluigi Ledda, Managing Director of the Archivio Storico Ricordi, Milan
- Sven Bergmann, Press Officer of the Bundeskunsthalle

Please accredit by email: presse@bundeskunsthalle.de

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For interviews and filming requests, please send an email to presse@bundeskunsthalle.de
or contact Angelica Francke by telephone on +49 228 9171-289.
Text and image material is available at www.bundeskunsthalle.de/en/press.

We look forward to your participation and visit.

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The exhibition is supported by:



Media partner



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Please save the dates:

RIDICULOUSLY YOURS!
ART, AWKWARDNESS AND ENTHUSIASM
11 November 2022 to 10 April 2023
Media conference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, 11 a.m.

THE LAST OF THEIR KIND
CRAFTS AND PROFESSIONS IN TRANSITION
3 December 2022 to 2 April 2023
Media conference: Thursday, 1 December 2022, 11 a.m.