

GIUSEPPE VERDI

RIGOLETTO

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, JAN 29, 2022

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

Daniele Rustioni

PRODUCTION

Bartlett Sher

SET DESIGNER

Michael Yeargan

COSTUME DESIGNER

Catherine Zuber

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Donald Holder

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

LIVE IN HD HOST

Isabel Leonard

GILDA

Rosa Feola

MADDALENA

Varduhi Abrahamyan

DUKE OF MANTUA

Piotr Beczała

RIGOLETTO

Quinn Kelsey

SPARAFUCILE

Andrea Mastroni

ACT I The embittered, hunchbacked Rigoletto serves as court jester to the womanizing Duke of Mantua. His sole joy in life is his daughter, Gilda, whom he has raised in seclusion from the world. When Rigoletto mocks Count Monterone, whose daughter has been seduced by the duke, the old man curses the jester. The duke, incognito, has flirted with Gilda at church. During a visit he pays her at night outside Rigoletto's home, she confesses her love. The courtiers, thinking Gilda is the jester's mistress, decide to play a prank on him and trick Rigoletto into assisting in the abduction of his own daughter.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Gilda has been brought to the duke's palace, where she becomes another of his conquests. When Monterone passes by on his way to execution, Rigoletto swears that both he and Monterone will be avenged. Gilda begs her father to forgive the duke.

ACT III Rigoletto hires the assassin Sparafucile to kill the duke, using Sparafucile's sister, Maddalena, to lure him to an inn on the outskirts of town. Gilda, still in love with the duke, overhears the plan and decides to sacrifice herself to save the duke's life. When Rigoletto comes to collect the victim's body, he finds not the duke but his dying daughter. Horrified, he remembers Monterone's curse.

In cooperation with Staatsoper Berlin

Production a gift of C. Graham Berwind, III – Director, Spring Point Partners LLC; Gramma Fisher Foundation, Marshalltown, Iowa; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Montrone

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