

PUCCINI

TURANDOT

ORIGINALLY TRANSMITTED ON JAN 30, 2016

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD LIVE
ENCORE**

CONDUCTOR
Paolo Carignani

PRODUCTION
Franco Zeffirelli

SET DESIGNER
Franco Zeffirelli

COSTUME DESIGNERS
Anna Anni
Dada Saligeri

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Gil Wechsler

CHOREOGRAPHER
Chiang Ching

REVIVAL STAGE DIRECTOR
David Kneuss

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR
Barbara Willis Sweete

TURANDOT
Nina Stemme

LIÙ
Anita Hartig

CALÀF
Marco Berti

TIMUR
Alexander Tsymbalyuk

ACT I *Legendary Peking.* Any prince seeking to marry Princess Turandot must answer three riddles. If he fails, he will die. Among the crowd, Calàf discovers his long-lost father, Timur. As the latest failed suitor goes to his death, the crowd calls upon the princess to spare him, but Turandot orders the execution to proceed. Transfixed by her beauty, Calàf decides to win her. Timur and the slave girl Liù, as well as the ministers Ping, Pang, and Pong, try to discourage him. Calàf is determined nonetheless.

ACT II Ping, Pang, and Pong dream of their country homes, but the noise of the crowd gathering calls them back to reality. Turandot arrives for the riddle ceremony. After Calàf answers all three correctly, the princess begs her father not to give her to the stranger. Calàf offers Turandot a challenge of his own: If she can learn his name by dawn, he will forfeit his life.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Ping, Pang, and Pong try to bribe Calàf to leave the city. Soldiers drag in Liù and Timur. Despite being tortured, Liù refuses to reveal the stranger's identity. She snatches a dagger from a guard and kills herself. Turandot confronts Calàf, who impetuously kisses her. Turandot finally feels emotions, and sure of winning her, Calàf reveals his identity. Before the court, Turandot declares that the stranger's name is Love.

Production a gift of Mrs. Donald D. Harrington

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