

PUCCINI

MADAMA BUTTERFLY

TRANSMITTED LIVE ON SAT, NOV 9

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

Pier Giorgio Morandi

PRODUCTION

Anthony Minghella

DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER

Carolyn Choa

SET DESIGNER

Michael Levine

COSTUME DESIGNER

Han Feng

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Peter Mumford

PUPPETRY

Blind Summit Theatre

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Habib Azar

LIVE IN HD HOST

Christine Goerke

CIO-CIO-SAN

Hui He

SUZUKI

Elizabeth DeShong

PINKERTON

Andrea Carè

SHARPLESS

Paulo Szot

ACT I *Japan, at the turn of the 20th century.* The 15-year-old geisha Cio-Cio-San, called Butterfly, enters into an arranged marriage with U.S. Navy Lieutenant Pinkerton. He just wants to enjoy himself, but she takes the union seriously, even converting to Christianity. On her wedding day, she endures the scorn of her entire family, who denounces her for betraying their traditional faith.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Three years later, Butterfly is still waiting for Pinkerton, who returned to America shortly after the marriage. A rich Japanese prince asks her to marry him, but she rejects his proposal, claiming that her husband has not deserted her. When the American consul Sharpless visits to break the news that Pinkerton will soon arrive with his new American wife, Butterfly triumphantly shows him her young son. Sharpless can't bring himself to tell her the truth. Pinkerton's ship lands at the harbor, and Butterfly, her maid, and the child settle into an all-night vigil.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Dawn breaks, and Butterfly is still waiting. When she is confronted with the truth in the person of Kate Pinkerton, she agrees to give up her child if Pinkerton will come for him. Knowing that she cannot continue to live without honor, she says goodbye to her son, blindfolds him, and kills herself as Pinkerton arrives, calling her name.

A co-production of the Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, and the Lithuanian National Opera

Production a gift of Mercedes and Sid Bass

Revival a gift of Barbara Augusta Teichert

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