



FAREWELL TO THE OPERA STAGE BY OUR GREAT DIVA – DUNJA VEJZOVIĆ

The fact that our great opera singer Dunja Vejzović (80) was on the stage, not only as a singer, but also as a codirector promised an unusual and brilliant performance. She was a Countess, a small but very important role in the Tchaikovsky's famous opera The Queen of Spades. The Rijeka CNT production was a lavish one, with some brilliant scenes. Our diva Duna Vejzović sang a rather small role, a countess who is hiding secrets in cards. Her two scenes were memorable and that was an emotional farewell to the opera stage after decades of great national and international career. The orchestra was excellent with young and immensely talented conductor Valentin Egel who has achieved an outstanding performance in this opera evening to remember.

 Jagoda Martinčević, *Jutranji list*, Zagreb

ZAGREB BECAME THE REAL MEETING POINT OF THE OPERA ART

Croatia finally has got a new festival named Zagreb Opera Festival which will help to promote the national opera art in Europe. This new festival hosted some of the best national opera productions and a guest performance of the National Opera Ljubljana. Split CNT gave a performance of Mascagni's Cavalleria rusticana with great success.

 Siniša Vuković, *Slobodna Dalmacija*, Split

CROATIAN NATIONAL THEATRE IN ZAGREB / SEASON 163 2023/2024

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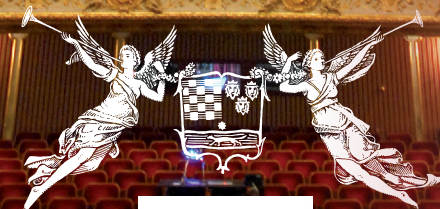
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ZAGREB OPERA
FESTIVAL



CROATIAN
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IN ZAGREB

SEASON 163

ZAGREB OPERA FESTIVAL

Zagreb Opera Festival's second edition is organized in a central theatre institution in Croatia. The Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb is a theatre with a long-standing opera tradition with artists who have confirmed their artistic reputation not only on their's home stage in Zagreb, but also on foreign opera stages in Europe and elsewhere. Therefore, Zagreb and it's Opera deserves its own opera festival. The concept of the festival is to present the best opera productions of other Croatian national theatres as well as European ones.

This festival means a lot to the CNT Opera. In addition to the fact that this is a serious step forward in our artistic offer to the wide audience, this Festival will be a meeting point of international opera artists and theatres who will gather in Zagreb and present some of their best opera productions.

The festival will take place in Zagreb, in the CNT building from September the 10th until September the 20th 2024, with the focus on the international opera productions. During the festival a lot of side programs will be available for the audience. Each day, at 18,45 h in front of the CNT a meeting with the protagonists of the evening opera production will be organized. During the intermission in the theatre foyer on the first floor an opera-quiz will take place. Beside these events, the audience can go before and after each performance to the Theatre Caffe, in vicinity of the CNT building where they could get drinks and food with special prices. Briefly, Zagreb Opera Festival will host the best national and international opera productions enabling the audience to enjoy the opera, as well as to meet the protagonists of the productions, together with different events organized in and around the CNT in Zagreb.

We hope that all of you will enjoy these opera productions and thereby enhance the Zagreb Opera Festival.



ZAGREB OPERA FESTIVAL ENCHANTED THE AUDIENCE

This festival was a real sensation. It enchanted the audience as well as numerous guests and journalists. One can say that the Croatian opera is at the high artistic level. The orchestras and the choirs are good and we could see many young opera singers on the stage. It will be excellent to have them in some other opera productions as well. The first production was Verdi's Nabucco of the CNT in Zagreb. It was followed by Split CNT with Mascagni's Cavalleria rusticana, Rijeka CNT presented Queen of Spades by P.I. Tchaikovsky, Osijek CNT performed The Elixir of Love by Donizetti and Ljubljana National Opera concluded the festival with Gounod's Faust. Although it was a first edition of the Zagreb Opera Festival we are looking forward to the second edition in the 2024 with more excellent national and international opera productions.

 Davor Schopf, Vijenac, Zagreb

THE FESTIVAL WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

More than 3,500 thousands spectators has seen the opera productions from all CNT in Croatia, as well as a guest performance of the Slovene National Opera Ljubljana with Gounod's Faust. Our audience was enchanted and it was said that they would very much like to come next year. Therefore we have already began with the preparation for the second edition of the Zagreb Opera Festival 2024.

 Željka Barišić Pulig, artistic director of the Opera of the CNT in Zagreb

