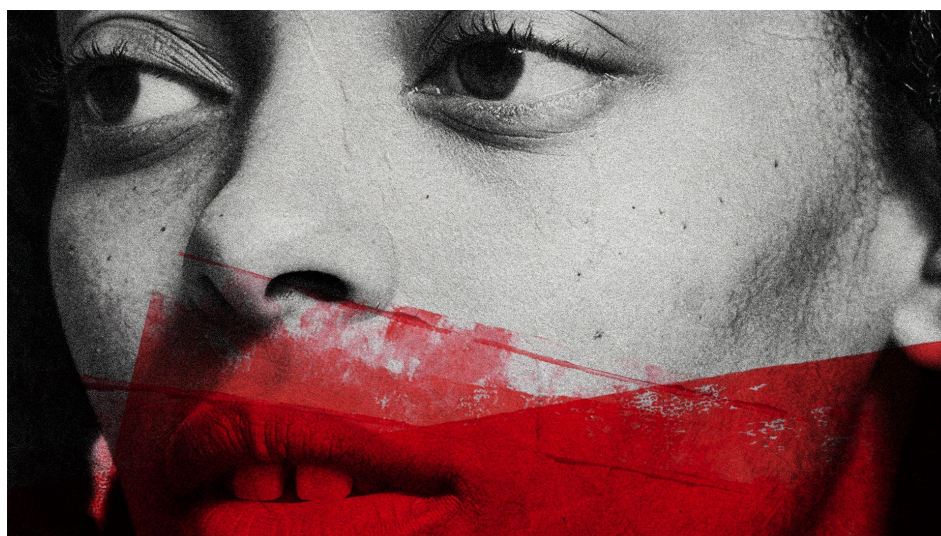


Date of Issue: 23 September 2026, 10am

English National Opera presents a new staging of Puccini's unmissable Tosca

Directed by Annilese Miskimmon

30 October – 11 December 2026 at the London Coliseum



Under 21s can get free tickets to all ENO opera productions at every level of the theatre, and 21-35 year olds can get discounted tickets. Tickets for everyone begin at £25.

This autumn, **English National Opera** (ENO) presents a new production of Puccini's ***Tosca*** at the **London Coliseum**, a timeless story of love, power and sacrifice. Directed by ENO Artistic Director **Annilese Miskimmon**, following her critically acclaimed and Olivier Award-winning production of *Dead Man Walking* (2025), this reimagining of the operatic masterpiece is set within a concert hall in an unnamed European state engulfed by civil conflict and threatened by foreign aggression at its borders. Through this contemporary setting, the production draws striking parallels between art, war and political oppression, underlining the enduring relevance of Puccini's drama.

Annilese Miskimmon says: "ENO's 2026/27 Season brings together stories of resistance, resilience and the search for freedom. I am delighted to present this new production of Puccini's *Tosca* alongside its sister production, *Adriana Mater*, and to explore both works through a contemporary lens. *Tosca* is one of opera's most iconic characters, and I look forward to placing her at the centre of her own story by revealing the urgent relevance of Puccini's opera for audiences today."



Against a backdrop of escalating conflict, opera singer Floria Tosca plans a secret meeting with her lover, the painter Mario Cavaradossi. When the corrupt police chief Scarpia intervenes, a place of music and art is transformed into a site of fear and violence. Tosca is forced to fight for her love and her life.

Under Miskimmon's direction, *Tosca*, opening on 30 October, and ***Adriana Mater***, opening on 28 November, are presented as two thematically connected new productions, which together form a prequel and sequel in a bold narrative arc exploring art, war and resilience. For one day only, on Saturday 5 December 2026, audiences can embark on a unique operatic journey: a matinee performance of *Tosca* followed by an evening performance of *Adriana Mater*. This rare pairing offers the chance to experience both productions consecutively, creating a richly layered and unforgettable day of music and storytelling.

Conducting the **Chorus** and **Orchestra of ENO** for *Tosca* is **Ben Glassberg**, who is fast becoming one of the most sought-after conductors on the international stage. He makes a welcome return to ENO following his last conducting engagement - the 2022 production of Puccini's *La bohème* where he brought out a "pulse and sparkle to the music" (The Times). He is renowned for conducting a vast repertoire with 'irresistible panache' (The Guardian). Joining the Orchestra of ENO in the pit for *Adriana Mater* is **André de Ridder**, ENO's Music Director Designate, whose specialism is in contemporary music.

Starring in the title role is the internationally acclaimed, Grammy Award-winning soprano **Axelle Fanyo**. She will be joined by tenor **Chaz'men Williams-Ali** as painter Cavaradossi. The role of the sadistic police chief Scarpia is shared by **Christopher Purves**, baritone, and **Craig Colclough**, bass-baritone. Harewood Artist and bass-baritone **Alaric Green** joins the cast as Angelotti and **Robert Hayward**, one of the UK's long established leading dramatic bass-baritones, performs the role of Sacristan. They will be joined by Harewood Artists **Osian Wyn Bowen**, tenor, and **Steffan Lloyd Owen**, baritone, as Spoletta and Sciarrone respectively.

Completing the cast is the **Chorus of ENO**, with the Children's Chorus cast from **Marlborough Primary School**, through an ENO Engage partnership with the **London West Music Hub**. ENO have worked with the school to cast 20 children aged 9-11, giving them a unique opportunity to be part of a professional production, developing their confidence, musicianship and performance skills, taking them from performing at school concerts to the London Coliseum stage in 4-months.

The creative team is completed by **Rosanna Vize** as Set Designer, **Evie Gurney** as Costume Designer, **Lee Curran** as Lighting Designer, **Imogen Knight** as Movement Director, and the translation is by **Amanda Holden**.



Tosca opens at the London Coliseum between 30 October to 11 December for 13 performances.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

For more information or to request an interview, please contact:

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Tosca

Composer: Giacomo Puccini

Librettists: Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica, after the play by Victorien Sardou

Director: Annilese Miskimmon

Conductor: Ben Glassberg

Performances:

London Coliseum

30 Oct, 5, 10*, 12, 19, 27 Nov, 2, 9, 11 Dec at 19.30. 7, 21 Nov at 18.00. 30 Nov at 17.00**. 5 Dec at 13.30.

*British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreted Performance

**Relaxed Performance

Running Time: 2 hours 15 minutes (with one interval)

Performed in English with surtitles available.

Tickets start from £25 (including all fees).

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About English National Opera:

English National Opera (ENO) is one of the UK's leading opera companies, dedicated to creating extraordinary encounters with opera, on stage and beyond. Performing in English and presenting bold, imaginative productions in an inclusive environment, ENO brings together outstanding artists, musicians and creative teams to tell powerful stories to the widest possible audience.

ENO is a dual-centre opera company, presenting a season at the iconic London Coliseum every year alongside dynamic work in Greater Manchester as part of its pioneering partnership with the city-region. Across the country, ENO runs a wide-ranging programme



of learning, participation, creative health and community engagement that supports emerging talent and opens opera to people of all ages and backgrounds.

Founded in 1931 as Sadlers Wells Opera, ENO has played a central role in the cultural life of the nation for more than 90 years.

English National Opera, creating opera without limits.

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