

Orchestra NovAria Fi
Adolf Gassol *musical c*

same direction
or

Laura B
Alberto

Xavier Casademont, *Schaunara*
Christian Vallester, *Colline*
Jordi Clos, *Benoit/Alcindoro*
Jose Cabrero, *Parpignol*

Chorus NovAria:

Mezzosopranos: Pamela:

Aprenetesii, Sara B. Garcia,
Carme Berenguel

Ballet NovAria:

Núria Serra	Yeferson Velasquez
Alina Quintana	Airam Arencibia
Eduard Lacueva	Leonardo González

Orquestra NovAria Filharmònica

Marc Armengol

Meritxell Tiana

2nd Violins:
Maria Ruano, solista
Elisenda Prats
Aloma Ruiz
Laia Ferrer

Violas:
Joan Ignasi Ferrer, solista
Jordi Bonab
Alfons Casas

Gratitudes
Laura Planas, honorary president

Double basses:
Oriol Casadevall
Joan Palet

Winds and percussion:
Flute **Iulian Gogu**
Flute + Pic **Joan Pons**
Oboe **Maria Gil**
Clarinet **Núria Querol**
Bassoon **Laura Guastevi**
Trumpet 1 **Gonzalo Álvarez**
Trumpet 2 **Santiago Gonzálbez**
Trompa 1 **Sebastià Rio**
Trompa 2 **Gerard Comellas**
Trombone 1 **Meritxell Lanau**
Trombone 2 **Miquel R. Berenguer**
Percussion **Daniel Palou**
Arpa **Elsa Garcia de Andrés**

Program

La Bohème, by Giacomo Puccini
 Staged opera in two acts

Giacomo Puccini composed *La Bohème* in 1896, an opera in four acts that premiered on February 1, 1896 at the Teatro Regio in Turin. The story takes place in the 1830s in Paris, France. The opera is based on a collection of intertwined stories by Henri Murger, published in 1851, and follows the standard format of Italian opera; it consists of world-

More than 70 a

Synopsis

ACT I. A studio in Paris, December

Marcello is painting while Rodolfo gazes out of the window. They complain of the cold. In order to keep warm, they burn the manuscript of Rodolfo's drama. Colline, the philosopher, enters shivering and disgruntled at not having been able to pawn some books. Schaunard, the musician of the group, arrives with food, wine and cigars. He explains the source of his riches: a job with an eccentric English gentleman, who ordered him to play his violin to a parrot until it died. The others hardly listen to his tale as they set up the table to eat and drink. Schaunard interrupts, telling them that they must save the food for the days ahead: tonight they will all celebrate his good fortune by dining at Café Momus, and he will pay.

The friends are interrupted by Benoît, the landlord, who arrives to collect the rent. They flatter him and ply him with wine. In his drunkenness, he begins to boast of his amorous adventures, but when he also reveals that he is married, they thrust him from the room—without the rent payment—in comic moral indignation.

Marcello, Schaunard and Colline go out, but Rodolfo remains alone for a moment in order to finish an article he is writing, promising to join his friends soon. There is a knock at the door. It is a girl who lives in another room in the building. Her candle has blown out, and she has no matches; she asks Rodolfo to light it. She is briefly overcome with faintness, and Rodolfo helps her to a chair and offers her a glass of wine. She thanks him. After a few minutes, she says that she is better and must go. But as she turns to leave, she realizes that she has lost her key.

Rodolfo, eager to spend time with the girl, to whom he is already attracted, finds the key and pockets it, feigning innocence. He takes her cold hand (Che gelida manina "What a cold little hand") and tells her of his life as a poet, then asks her to tell him more about her life. The girl says her name is Mimi, and describes her simple life as an embroiderer. Impatiently, the waiting friends call Rodolfo. He answers and turns to see Mimi bathed in moonlight. They realize that they have fallen in love.

Rodolfo suggests remaining at home with Mimi, but she decides to accompany him to the Café Momus. As they leave, they sing of their newfound love.

ACT II. That same evening, outside Café Momus, in the Quartier Latin.

A great crowd, including children, has gathered with street sellers announcing their wares. The friends arrive; Rodolfo buys Mimi a bonnet from a vendor, while Colline buys a coat and Schaunard a horn. Parisians gossip with friends and bargain with the vendors; the children of the streets clamor to see the wares of Parpignol, the toy seller. The friends enter the Café Momus.

As the men and Mimi dine at the café, Musetta, Marcello's former mistress, arrives with her maid (and black) and her two friends, the

recognizes that Musetta truly loves Marcello. To be rid of Alcindoro for good, Musetta pretends to be suffering from a tight shoe and sends him

Marcello fall rapturously into each other's arms. The friends are presented with their bill. However, Schaunard's purse has gone missing and no one else has enough money to pay. The sly Musetta has the entire bill charged to Alcindoro. The sound of a military band is heard, and the friends leave. Alcindoro returns with the repaired shoe seeking Musetta. The waiter hands him the bill and, dumbfounded, Alcindoro sinks into a chair.

ACT III. At the toll gate at the Barrière d'Enfer (late February).

Peddlers pass through the barriers and enter the city. Mimì appears, coughing violently. She tries to find Marcello, who is currently living in a

hard life with Rodolfo, who abandoned her the night before, and of Rodolfo's terrible jealousy. Marcello tells her that Rodolfo is asleep in bed and expresses concern about Mimì's cough. Rodolfo wakes up and sees

but looking for Marcello. Mimi hides and overhears Rodolfo first telling Marcello that he left Mimi because of her coquettishness, but finally confessing that his jealousy is a sham: he fears she is slowly being consumed by a deadly illness. Rodolfo, in his poverty, can do little to help Mimi and hopes that his pretended unkindness will inspire her to seek another, wealthier suitor.

Out of kindness towards Mimi, Marcello tries to silence him, but she has already heard all. Her weeping and coughing reveal her presence, and Rodolfo hurries to her. Musetta's laughter is heard and Marcello goes to find out what has happened. Mimi tells Rodolfo that she is leaving him, and asks that they separate amicably; but their love for one another is too strong for the pair to part. As a compromise, they agree to remain together until the spring, when the world is coming to life again and no one feels truly alone. Meanwhile, Marcello has found Musetta, and the couple quarrel fiercely about Musetta's flirtatiousness.

ACT IV. Back in the garret, early summer.

Marcello and Rodolfo are trying to work, though they are primarily talking about their girlfriends, who have left them and found wealthy lovers. Rodolfo has seen Musetta in a fine carriage and Marcello has seen Mimi dressed like a queen. The men both express their nostalgia.

Schaunard and Colline arrive with a very frugal dinner and all parody eating a plentiful banquet, dance together and sing, before Schaunard and Colline engage in a mock duel.

Musetta suddenly appears; Mimi, who took up with a wealthy viscount after leaving Rodolfo in the spring, has left her patron. Musetta found her that day in the street, severely weakened by her illness, and Mimi begged

leave to sell Musetta's earrings in order to buy

and Rodolfo some time together. Mimi tells Rodolfo that her love for him is her whole life.

To Mimi's delight, Rodolfo presents her with the pink bonnet he bought her, which he has kept as a souvenir of their love. They remember past happiness and their first meeting—the candles, the lost key (Mimi playfully confesses that she had figured out that Rodolfo had pocketed it). Mimi is overwhelmed by a seizure of coughing. The others return, with a gift of a muff to warm Mimi's hands and a cordial to soothe her cough. Mimi gently thanks Rodolfo for the muff, which she believes is a present from him, reassures him that she is better, and falls asleep. Musetta prays. Schaunard discovers that Mimi has died. Rodolfo rushes to the bed, calling Mimi's name in anguish. He sobs helplessly as the curtain falls.

Upcoming events

- 21/07/2024 - Madama Butterfly
- 02/08/2024 - Carmen
- 03/08/2024 - Carmen
- 25/08/2024 - La Traviata

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