



Rameau's first opera *Hippolyte et Aricie* delivered a lyrical tragedy of such extraordinary intensity it changed the course of French music, stunning and overwhelming its audiences. This breathtaking spectacle involves prince Hippolyte, who asks his mother-in-law Queen Phèdre for help in wooing the beautiful Aricie, not knowing that Phèdre secretly wants Hippolyte for herself. In a single work Rameau re-invented *tragédie en musique* with dramatic expressiveness and shocking harmonic innovations. It is seen here in an acclaimed Opéra Comique production that personifies Rameau's assertion that 'music must speak to the soul, its true aim must be to express thoughts, feelings, and passions'.

JEAN-PHILIPPE RAMEAU (1683–1764)

HIPPOLYTE ET ARICIE

Tragédie lyrique in five acts (1733/42/57)

(Third version, 1757, created for the Académie royale de musique [Opéra])

Libretto by Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin (1663–1745)

Hippolyte	REINOLD VAN MECHELEN
Aricie	ELSA BENOIT
Phèdre	SYLVIE BRUNET-GRUPPOSO
Thésée	STÉPHANE DEGOUT
CEnone	SÉRAPHINE COTREZ
Neptune / Pluton	ARNAUD RICHARD
Diane	EUGÉNIE LEFEBVRE
Prêtresse de Diane / Chasseresse / Matelote / Bergère	LEA DESANDRE
Tisiphone	EDWIN FARDINI

Chorus and Orchestra **PYGMALION**

Conductor **RAPHAËL PICHON**

Stage Director **JEANNE CANDEL**

Dramaturgy and Director of Actors **LIONEL GONZALEZ**

Set Designer **LISA NAVARRO**

Costume Designer **PAULINE KIEFFER**

Lighting Designer **CÉSAR GODEFROY**

Movement Collaborator **YANNICK BOSC**

Lea Desandre appears courtesy of Erato/Warner Classics

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A production by Opéra Comique, in co-production with Opéra Royal – Château de Versailles Spectacles

Film Director **FRANÇOIS ROUSSILLON**

Filmed on 12 and 14 November 2020 at the Opéra Comique, Paris, France,
without an audience during the Covid-19 pandemic

A co-production by ARTE France, Opéra Comique and François Roussillon et Associés
with the participation of Naxos and with the support of the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée



Total playing time: 140 minutes • NTSC 16:9 • PCM stereo and DTS 5.1 • Region: 0 (worldwide) • DVD 9
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