

Richard Wagner

SIEGFRIED

November 5, 2011

Conductor **Fabio Luisi**
Production **Robert Lepage**
Associate Director
Neilson Vignola
Set Designer **Carl Fillion**
Costume Designer
François St-Aubin
Lighting Designer
Etienne Boucher
Video Image Artist **Pedro Pires**

Live in HD Host **Renée Fleming**

Brünnhilde **Deborah Voigt**
Erda **Patricia Bardon**
Siegfried **Jay Hunter Morris**
Mime **Gerhard Siegel**
The Wanderer **Bryn Terfel**
Alberich **Eric Owens**

Production a gift of Ann Ziff and the Ziff Family, in memory of William Ziff

In collaboration with Ex Machina

The Met: Live in HD series is made possible by a generous grant from its founding sponsor

The Neubauer Family Foundation

Global corporate sponsorship of *The Met: Live in HD* is provided by **Bloomberg**

The HD broadcasts are supported by Toll Brothers, America's luxury home builder.®

ACT I Siegfried has been raised in a cave in the forest by the dwarf Mime, who claims to be his father. Mime hates Siegfried but hopes that he will kill the dragon Fafner, who guards the Nibelungs' treasure, so that Mime can take the all-powerful ring from it. When Siegfried, who has realized that he can't be the dwarf's son, demands to know who his parents were, Mime tells him how he found Sieglinde in the woods. The dying woman asked him to care for her newborn son and gave him the fragments of his father's sword. Siegfried orders Mime to repair the sword and leaves. A stranger appears—Wotan, lord of the Gods, in human disguise as the Wanderer—and challenges Mime to a riddle competition. The dwarf is defeated because he can't answer the Wanderer's question as to who will re-forged Siegfried's father's sword. Telling Mime it will be "he who knows no fear," the Wanderer departs. When Siegfried returns, Mime tells him that he can't repair the sword and tries in vain to explain the concept of fear to the boy. To teach him, he proposes a visit to Fafner's cave. Siegfried agrees and enthusiastically begins to forge the sword himself, which he names Nothung. Mime, meanwhile, prepares a sleeping potion to give to Siegfried once he has killed Fafner.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Mime's brother Alberich is hiding by Fafner's cave, obsessed with winning back the ring for himself. The Wanderer appears and tells Alberich to watch out for Mime. Then he wakes Fafner and warns him that a hero is on his way to kill him. Unimpressed, the dragon goes back to sleep. Mime and Siegfried arrive. Caught up in the peaceful beauty of the woods, Siegfried thinks about his parents. He tries to imitate the song of a bird on a reed pipe but fails and blows his horn instead. This awakens Fafner, and in the ensuing fight Siegfried kills the dragon. When he accidentally touches a drop of Fafner's blood to his lips, he suddenly understands the singing of the bird, which directs him to the gold in the cave. Siegfried takes the ring and the Tarnhelm. Warned by the bird not to trust Mime, Siegfried kills the dwarf when he offers him the potion. The bird then tells Siegfried of a beautiful woman named Brünnhilde, asleep on a mountain surrounded by fire. He sets out to find her.

INTERMISSION

ACT III In the mountains near Brünnhilde's rock, the Wanderer summons Erda, goddess of the Earth, to learn the gods' fate. She evades his questions, and he resigns himself to the impending end of the gods' reign. Siegfried approaches. When the Wanderer attempts to block his path, Siegfried shatters his spear with a stroke of Nothung. Defeated, the Wanderer retreats.

Siegfried finds the sleeping Brünnhilde. Never having seen a woman before, he is overwhelmed by her beauty and finally realizes the meaning of fear. He awakens her with a kiss. Brünnhilde is overjoyed that it is Siegfried who has brought her back to life. She initially resists his declarations of passion, realizing that earthly love must end her immortal life, but finally gives in and joins Siegfried in praise of love.

COMING SOON

NOVEMBER 19, 2011
Satyagraha

DECEMBER 3, 2011
Rodelinda

DECEMBER 10, 2011
Faust

JANUARY 21, 2012
The Enchanted Island

FEBRUARY 11, 2012
Götterdämmerung

FEBRUARY 25, 2012
Ernani

APRIL 7, 2012
Manon

APRIL 14, 2012
La Traviata

Win a Trip to New Year's Eve at the Met!

Includes two tickets to the gala dinner and world premiere performance of *The Enchanted Island*, roundtrip air travel, and luxury hotel accommodations for two.

Visit metopera.org/galadrawing for official rules and to enter.

No purchase necessary. (U.S. residents only)

Join the Met

Receive a free gift with a first-time Member contribution of \$75 or more!

Visit metopera.org/HD or call 1-800-MET-OPERA to join.

To receive cast sheets for future performances, please visit metopera.org/HDfans.

The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE