

# Upcoming Events



## The Met Opera in HD **Porgy and Bess**

Sat & Sun, Feb 1 & 2, 1 pm

The Gershwins' modern American masterpiece returns to the Met for the first time in almost three decades. It may be February, but it will feel like "Summertime."



## The Met Opera in HD **Agrippina**

Sat & Sun, Feb 29 & Mar 1, 1 pm

Joyce DiDonato leads the Met premiere of this Baroque black comedy, which finds fresh political charge with Sir David McVicar's modern update.



For tickets or more info, call the Box Office at 603.646.2422 or visit [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu). Share your experiences! #HopkinsCenter

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*Patrick Ross and Atlas Key play at the Season Launch Party cocktail hour for Hop members. (Photo credit: Ben DeFloria)*



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# Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth

presents

## The Metropolitan Opera **HD LIVE**

# Wozzeck

Alban Berg

Sat, Jan 11, 2020, 1 pm

Loew Auditorium, Black Family Visual Arts Center

Sun, Jan 12, 2020, 1 pm

Spaulding Auditorium

Sponsored by



Free tickets for Dartmouth students to attend The Met: Live in HD are supported by a gift from Cynthia and Jeffrey Manocherian P'15, '18

# Wozzeck

Alban Berg

*Duration: 1 hour, 40 minutes*

Marie ..... Elza van den Heever  
Margret..... Tamara Mumford  
The Drum Major ..... Christopher Ventris  
The Captain..... Gerhard Siegel  
Andres ..... Andrew Staples  
Wozzeck ..... Peter Mattei  
The Doctor ..... Christian Van Horn

Conductor..... Yannick Nézet-Séguin  
Production..... William Kentridge  
Co-Director ..... Luc De Wit  
Projection Designer..... Catherine Meyburgh  
Costume Designer ..... Sabine Theunissen  
Lighting Designer..... Urs Schönebaum

## Synopsis

### ACT I

The soldier Wozzeck is shaving the Captain, who urges him to work more slowly. The Captain tells Wozzeck that he is a good man but lacks morality because he has an illegitimate child. Wozzeck replies that virtue is a luxury not meant for the poor. Later Wozzeck and a fellow soldier, Andres, are cutting firewood in the fields. Wozzeck is frightened by visions: he imagines the sinking sun as a fire setting the earth aflame, then suddenly all is quiet.

Marie, the mother of Wozzeck's child, and her neighbor Margret watch a military band pass by outside their window. Marie admires the handsome Drum Major and Margret mocks her. Wozzeck arrives and tells her about his visions, which he sees as an omen of evil things to come. Marie tries to comfort him, but he rushes off to the barracks without looking at his son. Overwhelmed by her own fears, Marie runs out of the room, leaving the child.

Wozzeck visits the Doctor, who pays him for use in his pseudo-scientific research. Full of self-delusion about making a grand scientific discovery, the Doctor asks Wozzeck about his diet. Wozzeck again brings up his visions, which the doctor dismisses as mere imagination.

On the street before her door, the Drum Major makes advances toward Marie. She resists at first, then gives in to him.

### ACT II

Marie is admiring the earrings the Drum Major has given her. When Wozzeck enters, she tries to hide them, then claims she found them in the street. Wozzeck is suspicious. He gives her the money he has earned and leaves. Marie is overwhelmed by remorse.

The Captain and the Doctor meet in the street and talk morbidly of sickness and death. When Wozzeck passes by, they taunt him with allusions to Marie's infidelity. Shocked, Wozzeck asks them not to make fun of the one thing in the world that is his and rushes off. Wozzeck confronts Marie with his suspicions and tries to force her to confess. He is about to hit her but she remains defiant, telling him that she'd rather have a knife in her belly than his hand on her.

Two drunken apprentices amuse the crowd in a beer garden, where Wozzeck sees Marie and the Drum Major on the dance floor. Wozzeck has a vision of people waltzing while covered with blood--a nightmare which plagues him later that night in the barracks. When the Drum Major drunk, boasts about his conquest, the two men fight and Wozzeck is knocked down.

### ACT III

Alone with her child, Marie reads from the Bible, first about the adulteress who was forgiven, then about Mary Magdalene. She begs God for mercy. After, Marie and Wozzeck are walking together near a pond. Marie wants to hurry back to town, but Wozzeck makes her sit with him. He kisses her and makes ironic remarks about her fidelity. When she attempts to escape, he draws a knife and kills her.

Wozzeck is drinking in a tavern, shouting wildly, and dancing with Margret. When she notices blood on his arm, he is unable to explain where it has come from and rushes out to search for the knife at the pond. He throws it into the water, but suddenly imagines that the moon will reveal his crime. He wades further into the water to hide the knife in a safer place and to wash the blood off his hands. The Doctor and Captain, passing by, hear him drown.