# **Carmen** Georges Bizet

## NOVARIA

# Performers

Orchestra NovAria Filharmonia Adolf Gassol, musical conductor Marta Finestres, choir conductor Sergi Giras, stage management Mar Lorca, stage direction Mambana Martinez, costume direction Núria Serra, choreography Álvaro Duran, stage director Imesde, lightning Rafató teatre, costume designer Ana Cortés, characterization Laura Barbieri, subtitles translation English subtitles: www.subtitols.novaria.cat Courtesy of: OPTENT TEATRO ACCESIBLE

With the support of: Generalitat de Catalunya

Laura Planas, subtitles production Ben aisit, production and communication

## Cast

Sophie Burns, Carmen Vicenç Esteve, Don José Alberto Cazes, Escamillo Katerina Estrada Tretyakova, Micaela Juhee Nam, Frasquita Olha Shvydka, Mercedes Rodrigo Aguilar, Dancairo Jose Cabrero, Remendado Lluís Vergés, Zúñiga

#### Chorus NovAria:

Sopranos: Carme Gutiérrez, Júlia Jiménez, Ayelen Seras, Alexia Vázquez, Natalyia Tyurina Mezzosopranos: Marta Finestres, Rocío Seras, Grissel Ruiz, Edith López, Pamela Guidi, Nadia V. Ruseva Tenors: : Jose Cabrero, Albert Valero, Jacob Rifà, Elías Gallego, Edgard Arocena Bass: Víctor Alonso, Rodrigo Aguilar, Ferran Jiménez, Germán Casetti, Rocco Abi

### **Ballet** NovAria:

Núria Serra Marian Galarza Laura Rodríguez Heyler Lameda Noel Romero Leonardo González

Orchestra NovAria Filharmonia:

1st Violins: Oleg Lachugin, Concertino Joan Bosch Nausica Berni Canòlich Prats Francesc Puche

2nd Violins: Maria Ruano, cap de segons Aloma Ruiz Meritxell Tiana Elisenda Prats

Violas: Joan Ignasi Ferrer, cap Jordi Nabona Alfons Casas

*Cellos*: **Esther Vila**, cap **Olga Mensenin Aleix Sala** 

Gratitudes: Laura Planas, honorary president Double basses: Oriol Casadevall Joan Palet

Winds and percussion: Flute Iulian Gogu Flute Núria Monzonis Oboe 1 Julián Manjarres Oboe 2 Berta Gasull Clarinet 1 Núria Querol Clarinet 2 Montse Margalef Bassoon 1 Laura Guastevi Bassoon 2 Elena López Trumpet 1 Héctor Molina Trumpet 2 Susana Marco Trompa 1 Sebastià Rio Trompa 2 Gerard Comellas Trombone 1 David Calvet Trombone 2 Miquel R. Berenguer Percussion 1 Daniel Palou Percussion 2 Xandri Montasell

## Program

**Carmen, by Georges Bizet** Staged opera in two acts

Carmen is one of the most acclaimed and daily performed operas internationally. Few operas in the great repertoire move and excite the public like this one. Its original, penetrating and seductive music is a combination of different styles ranging from the most classic French romanticism to the most beautiful melodies inspired by Spanish folklore. Staged version of two hours and a quarter with 15 minutes of intermission. Symphony orchestra, solo singers, chorus, Spanish dance troupe, costumes, unique and brilliant lighting complementing to the special characteristics of the Palau de la Música Catalana. The play has more than 70 artists on stage!

# Synopsis

Sevilla and the Andalusian countryside of Spain in the early nineteenth century.

#### FIRST ACT:

Some soldiers stand guard. Brigadier Morales sees a young woman with golden hair arrive: it is Micaela, who is looking for her fiance, Brigadier Don José. Morales announces to Don José that a "beautiful girl has come asking for him" and that she will return. Lieutenant Zúñiga, new in the province, asks Don José what he knows about the building located on the other side of the square. It is a tobacco factory, in which only women work. He rings the bell. It's break time for the cigarette makers at the factory. A worker, the most awaited of all, does not take long to appear: it is Carmen, and all the men court her. She notices Don José, approaches him and they start a brief conversation. Micaela arrives and announces to Don José that she comes on behalf of her mother. She sends him a letter in which she advises him to marry the messenger of the letter, because "there is no one better and nicer." A big argument takes place in front of the factory. Carmen makes fun of a worker, who has attacked her, and then she scratched the worker's face with a knife. Therefore Zúñiga interrogates Carmen and arrests her. Don José will be in charge of taking her to prison. Carmen begins to seduce her friendly guardian. She finally convinces the brigadier to let her run away, and she manages to escape.

#### SECOND ACT:

Two months later, some officers find themselves in the Lillas Pastia tavern, a notorious meeting point for smugglers, where Carmen is singing. There is also Lieutenant Zúñiga, who informs Carmen that Don José was demoted and arrested for letting her run away and that he has just completed his punishment. Don José, who has already been released from prison, appears and tells Carmen his love for her. The bugle sounds, and Don José must return to the unit. Carmen tells him that if he really loves her, he has to follow her with the smugglers. But for Don José, this means the shame and infamy of deserting, and for a moment he decides to abandon her. At that moment, Lieutenant Zúñiga arrives, who enters forcing the door. He wants to throw Don José out for being with Carmen. Don José, enraged, draws his sword. The smugglers immobilise and disarm Zúñiga and decide to hold him for a while. "Are you one of us now?" Carmen asks Don José, who answers: "I have no other choice." Carmen, the gipsies and the smugglers promise Don José a life full of freedom.

#### THIRD ACT:

We are on the mountain, where the smugglers' camp is. Carmen and Don José argue. She says that his love is not like before. Don José thinks of his mother. Carmen tells him to leave, because he is definitely not made for this type of life. The smugglers start the operation when, suddenly, Micaela arrives at the camp together with a guide. Don José, who is on guard, shoots at an unknown man, but he misses it. It is Escamillo, the bullfighter, who explains to Don José that he is coming to meet Carmen, because according to what they have told him, she no longer loves the soldier he had abandoned. Both men engage in a knife fight. Escamillo slips and falls. When Don José is about to hurt him, Carmen enters and stops him. Micaela appears, who has come to look for Don José because her mother is about to die. Carmen encourages Don José to leave, but the idea of giving away to a new lover is unbearable for Don José. Finally, Don José leaves but promises Carmen that they will see each other again.

#### FOURTH ACT:

A square in Seville, in front of the Plaza de Toros. Street vendors offer their wares. Lieutenant Zúñiga is surprised not to see Carmen. Suddenly the spectacular entrance of the gang of bullfighters takes place, which Escamillo closes together with the radiant Carmen. Don José appears and, seeing Carmen, begs her to start a new life, proclaiming her love for her, but Carmen rejects him. Don José, blinded by her anger, stabs her to death. At that moment, Escamillo emerges victoriously, while the enthusiastic audience cheers for him.

## Upcoming events

- 03/08/2025 Carmen
- 10/08/2025 Carmen
- 17/08/2025 La Traviata
- 06/09/2025 Madama Butterfly
- 11/09/2025 La Traviata
- 21/09/2025 Tosca
- 23/11/2025 Madama Butterfly
- 06/12/2025 Madama Butterfly
- 14/12/2025 Carmen
- 28/12/2025 Madama Butterfly

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