

Press Text: Crystal Workshop: *Tosca*



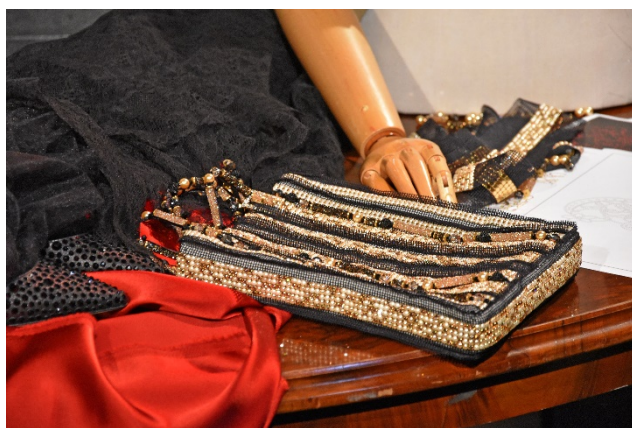
*Tosca* costume designer Renate Martin, Festival President Helga Rabl-Stadler and Director of Costumes Jan Meier present the dress and accessories for Floria Tosca, embodied by Anna Netrebko. Photos: SF/Anne Zeuner

(SF, 6 August 2021) Enchantment, magic, innovation and glamour – those are the watchwords when two such world-renowned brands as Swarovski and the Salzburg Festival collaborate, says Festival President Helga Rabl-Stadler when the crystal workshop opens for a glimpse into the work on costumes for the opera *Tosca*. Costume designer Renate Martin has created three costumes for Anna Netrebko, who sings the role of Floria Tosca. One of them, the red concert dress, was conceived as “restrained fireworks”. Anna Netrebko wears it in the scene in which she murders Barone Scarpia. The red colour of the dress is replicated in the stage sets too, the costume designer explains. The colour is associated with love, but also with the tragedy and drama of this scene. 40,000 Swarovski crystals in four different shades of red have been attached to the satin dress. The crystals are arranged in a lace pattern. Over the shining satin, there is a layer of black lace, so that the skirt allows for ample movement, Jan Meier, the Costume Director of the Salzburg Festival, explains. “This dress does not need many crystals to shine and glitter,” he adds. His staff required approximately 100 hours in the workshop to produce the dress from 30 metres of fabric. And the fitting with Anna Netrebko was the quickest ever. In 40 minutes, the three costumes for *Tosca* were tried on and fitted. “Our Anna is very



uncomplicated and quick when she likes something,” the Festival’s President says. A necklace with matching earrings was also made from Swarovski crystals especially for this performance.

In total, approximately 50,000 Swarovski crystals have been used for the revival of the Salzburg Easter Festival’s 2018 production of *Tosca*. During Anna Netrebko’s first entrance,



about 10,000 crystals light up her handbag – in off-white, gold, silver and bronze hues. “Sparkling but restrained” is the motto of Floria Tosca’s first appearance in the church scene. She wears a dress of black lace, a white coat and the sparkling handbag as well as a cross around her neck which is also studded with cut Swarovski beads. The third costume is modern and tough, says Jan Meier: a leather jacket combined with Swarovski sunglasses and watch.

This is the ninth time Swarovski partners with the Salzburg Festival: in 2013, 2014 and 2015, Swarovski crystals made the Paramour’s costumes in *Jedermann* glitter. The concert performance of *Manon Lescaut* in 2016 was supported by Swarovski too – at the time, it was also Anna Netrebko whose dress lit up the house to the very last row of the audience. In 2017 it was the opera *Aida*, in 2018 Mozart’s *Zauberflöte* which the Austrian company supported. In 2019 both *Orphée aux enfers* and the concert performance of *Adriana Lecouvreur* benefitted. The production of *Tosca* originally planned for 2020 had to be postponed to 2021 due to the coronavirus. And although there were no sparkles visible on stage in 2020, Swarovski generously supported the Salzburg Festival financially.



Press Office of the Salzburg Festival/Anne Zeuner

Photographs are available at:  
<https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/presse/fotoservice>

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**100 JAHRE**

**SALZBURGER FESTSPIELE**  
**17. Juli – 31. August 2021**

**Giacomo Puccini (1858 - 1924)**

## **Tosca**

Melodramma in three acts (1900)  
Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa  
based on the drama *La Tosca* by Victorien Sardou

**Marco Armiliato** Conductor  
**Michael Sturminger** Director  
**Renate Martin, Andreas Donhauser** Sets and Costumes  
**Urs Schönebaum** Lighting

**Anna Netrebko** Floria Tosca  
**Yusif Eyvazov** Mario Cavaradossi  
**Ludovic Tézier** Il Barone Scarpia  
**Michael Mofidian** Cesare Angelotti  
**Matteo Peirone** Sagrestano  
**Mikeldi Atxalandabaso** Spoletta  
**Rupert Grössinger** Sciarrone  
**Alexander Köpeczi** Un carceriere

**Salzburger Festspiele und Theater Kinderchor**  
**Wolfgang Götz** Chorusmaster  
**Concert Association of the Vienna State Opera Chorus**  
**Ernst Raffelsberger** Chorusmaster  
**Vienna Philharmonic**

Revival of a production of the Salzburg Easter Festival

**Supported by SWAROVSKI**

**Premiere: 21 August 2021**

**Further performances: 24, 27 and 31 August 2021**

Kind regards,

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