

SEMPER OPER DRESDEN

RICHARD WAGNER

LOHENGGRIN

Evelyn
HERLITZIUS

Georg
ZEPPENFELD

Piotr
BECZALA

Anna
NETREBKO

Tomasz
KONIECZNY

STAATSKAPELLE DRESDEN

CHRISTIAN THIELEMANN


UNITEL



RICHARD WAGNER
LOHENGREN

Orchestra **Staatskapelle Dresden**
Sächsischer Staatsopernchor
Chorus **Dresden**
Chorus Master **Jörn Hinnerk Andresen**
Conductor **Christian Thielemann**
Director of Performance **Angela Brandt**
after the original production by
Christine Mielitz, premiered in 1983

Heinrich der Vogler **Georg Zeppenfeld**
Lohengrin **Piotr Beczala**
Elsa von Brabant **Anna Netrebko**
Friedrich von Telramund **Tomasz Konieczny**
Ortrud **Evelyn Herlitzius**
The King's Herald **Derek Welton**
Four Noblemen of Brabant **Tom Martinsen**
Simeon Esper
Matthias Henneberg
Tilmann Rönnebeck
Four Pages **Jana Hohlfeld**
Monika Harnisch
Annett Eckert
Masako Furuta

Produced by **Metisfilm Classica**
Video Director **Tiziano Mancini**

shot in
4K
ULTRA HD
(3840 x 2160)

Length: 205'
Cat. no. A 050 50310

A production of
UNITEL and Semperoper Dresden
in co-production with **ZDF/Arte**



Semperoper
Dresden



arte



"A Night to Remember in Dresden"
(*New York Times*)

Anna Netrebko and Piotr Beczala starring in their first ever Wagnerian roles as Elsa von Brabant, with the Staatskapelle Dresden in the pit (his "Wunderharfe" as Wagner called the orchestra) under the baton of Christian Thielemann, were met with standing ovations from audiences, and an equally warm acclaim from critics: "Pure bliss! Never ending applause!" (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*)

Anna Netrebko's role debut as Elsa was one of the most wildly anticipated musical events: "The soprano sang a lush, mature-sounding Elsa with undeniable bel canto shadings, utterly at home in Wagner's Romantic universe. Netrebko's finely calibrated interpretation captured the full range of Elsa's emotional development...Her plush voice seemed to glow from within", (*Opera News*). The "Primadonna assoluta" (*Die Welt*) stars across fellow Wagnerian debutant Piotr Beczala whose role debut as the eponymous Grail Knight has garnered the acclaimed tenor further plaudits from fans and critics alike: "The revelation was Piotr Beczala, who was just about perfect in the title role" says WQXR "Netrebko and Beczala are Wagner Stars" summarized the *New York Times* "and were frenetically celebrated by the audience." (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*)

Georg Zeppenfeld as a convincing and majestic Heinrich der Vogler and outstanding Wagnerians Evelyn Herlitzius and Tomasz Konieczny as the opponents Ortrud and Friedrich von Telramund complete the cast in King Ludwig II's favourite opera at the Semperoper Dresden, where operatic history has been written with the theatre playing host to three important Wagner premieres. In the pit is Wagner's "Wunderharfe", the Staatskapelle Dresden, conducted by Christian Thielemann, doubtlessly today's foremost conductor of this repertoire. "Some enthuse about their best ever "Lohengrin", but for sure this was one of the ten best opera performances in their lives" (*Die Welt*).

The staging, a revival of the timeless production by Christine Mielitz, tells the story of the evil couple Ortrud and Telramund wanting to seize power in Brabant but having to destroy Elsa, the heir to the throne after the disappearance of her brother Gottfried, first with psychologic depth, timeless setting and stunning costumes: "The star of the acclaimed stage production continues to shine bright" (*New York Times*).

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