

Conductor Marc Albrecht

Orchestra Wiener Philharmoniker

Lulu Patricia Petibon

Countess Geschwitz Tanja Ariane Baumgartner

A Theatrical Dresser / Cora Burggraaf

A High-School Boy /

A Groom

The Painter / A Negro **Pavol Breslik** Dr. Schön, editor-in-chief / **Michael Volle** 

Jack the Ripper

Alwa Thomas Piffka

Schigolch Franz Grundheber

An Animal Tamer / Thomas Johannes Mayer

An Athlete

The Prince / Heinz Zednik

The Manservant

The Marquis **Andreas Conrad** 

The Theatre Manager / Martin Tzonev

The Banker

A Fifteen-year-old Girl Emilie Pictet

Her Mother Cornelia Wulkopf

Staged by Vera Nemirova

Video Director Brian Large

Length 180'

Shot in HDTV 1080

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Iban Berg's "Lulu" is a rarely performed work that calls for a very large orchestra as well as a large cast of vocal soloists. Written in the 1930s, "Lulu" is the story of a lower-class girl who uses men as stepping-stones on her path to fame and fortune and who ultimately meets her own fate at the hands of Jack the Ripper. Lulu, a tragic creature and femme fatale – nobody could allegorize such a role better then Patricia Petibon. As a sensual, ethereally beautiful Lulu, she commands the public's attention in every scene.

Leading the Wiener Philharmoniker, conductor Marc Albrecht treats the rich sonorities of Berg's music as a natural extension of Wagner, Brahms and Strauss. He thus provides an ideal support for the two main protagonists of the work, which is next to Patricia Petibon's Lulu Michael Volle's Dr. Schön. She is complemented by Volle's powerful baritone as well as tenor Pavol Breslik, bassbaritone Franz Grundheber and Tanja Ariane Baumgartner as a heartrending Countess Geschwitz.

A particularly stunning feature of this production are the painted backdrops by Daniel Richter, one of the most internationally prized German painters of today. Whether depicting Lulu herself, a horde of menacing, grimacing faces or an eerie, stylized winter landscape, the gigantic backdrops dominate the stage and set the tone for the story.

Since the work was left incomplete at Berg's death, the missing third act was completed on the basis of Berg's sketches by Austrian composer Friedrich Cerha, who was awarded the renowned "Salzburg Music Award" in 2010.











