



Press release

Geneva, June 10, 2025

Change of Stage Director for Wagner's *Tannhäuser*

Due to a health issue, stage director Tatjana Gürbaca has regrettably had to withdraw from the Grand Théâtre de Genève's new production of *Tannhäuser*, which was to open the 2025/26 season.

We are pleased to announce that acclaimed German stage director Michael Thalheimer has agreed to step in at short notice to take on the production. Geneva audiences will remember his striking stagings of *Parsifal* (2023) and *Tristan und Isolde* (2024) at the GTG.

Having previously worked with set designer Henrik Ahr and costume designer Barbara Drosihn, Thalheimer is ideally placed to collaborate closely with the creative team originally assembled for this production.

Resident stage director and member of the artistic team at the Berliner Ensemble since 2017, his work is regularly seen at major international festivals including the Salzburg Festival and the Wiener Festwochen, and has been recognised with numerous awards. His minimalist yet powerful opera productions have captivated audiences at the Staatsoper Berlin (*Der Freischütz*), Hamburg State Opera (*Les Troyens*, *The Flying Dutchman*), Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf (*Macbeth*, *Eugene Onegin*), Opera Ballet Vlaanderen (*Macbeth*) and the Grand Théâtre de Genève (*Parsifal*, *Tristan und Isolde*).

Thalheimer will continue the 2nd part of his 2025/26 season at the Comédie-Française, where he is set to direct Heinrich von Kleist's *Penthésilée*.