

# New Worlds

Press kit



Season  
26/27

  
Grand Théâtre  
de Genève

[gtg.ch](http://gtg.ch)

# Land ho!

by Alain Perroux  
General manager of the Grand Théâtre de Genève



Alain Perroux © Carole Parodi

Every visit to the theatre is a journey into uncharted territory. For the duration of an evening, this expedition allows us to shed the weight of the everyday and explore new worlds. The 26-27 season at the Grand Théâtre de Genève promises to be extraordinary in many respects – an invitation to travel to these varied horizons.

These are sometimes utopian realms, the island ruled by the magician Prospero, or the Eldorado of ***Candide***, and sometimes literally the New World, where New York couples from ***Company*** cross paths with Minnie, Puccini's ***Girl of the Golden West***. At other times, we explore spiritual universes, those of the early Christians in ***Theodora***, the spirits of Noh theatre summoned by composer Kaija Saariaho in ***Only the Sound Remains***, or the two choreographic pieces united in ***Océans***. All these worlds are gathered here to remind us that opera and dance have the power to unfold fantastical spaces and to transport us, in every sense of the word.

Much of the programme consists of "ensemble works": ***The Marriage of Figaro***, which depicts a microcosm of society within Count Almaviva's palace, assembles a vast array of characters, much like ***Il viaggio a Reims (The Journey to Reims)***, designed to showcase the stars of the Théâtre des Italiens in Paris, or ***The Tempest***, with its gallery of colourful figures. ***The Threepenny Opera*** is performed by another world-renowned troupe: the Berliner Ensemble, founded by Brecht, making their debut appearance in Geneva. It is also worth noting that the new choreographic work by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui highlights the collective strength of an entire people, bearing the vital and timely title, ***Dimokratía***.

As fervent advocates of this "ensemble spirit", one nurtured by the driving forces of the Grand Théâtre (its Ballet, Chorus, Young Ensemble, and its technical, creative, and administrative teams), we are committed to inviting major artists to Geneva who have yet to grace our stage. In this spirit, the GTG presents the Swiss premiere of a hypnotic opera by the late Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho. We also welcome the eminent stage directors Barrie Kosky and Peter Sellars for the first time, as well as conductor Raphaël Pichon for a landmark collaboration with another giant of world theatre, Poland's Krzysztof Warlikowski.

Alongside these established luminaries, several emerging artists make their debuts in the Lake Geneva region: stage directors Netia Jones, Jetske Mijnsen, and Marie-Ève Signeyrole, choreographer Kyle Abraham, and conductors Jader Bignamini and Marta Gardolińska. In the world of dance, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Damien Jallet remain pillars of the GTG Ballet. For the vocal line-up, newcomers as illustrious as Lise Davidsen, Sabine Devieille, Philippe Sly, Ying Fang, Philippe Jaroussky, and Anastasia Bartoli appear alongside other celebrated performers returning to Geneva, such as Stéphane Degout, Lea Desandre, Natalie Dessay, John Osborn, Lambert Wilson, and Ludovic Tézier, as well as conductors Antonino Fogliani and Guillaume Tourniaire.

Several guiding principles have shaped the architecture of this 26-27 season. Foremost is the desire to showcase the incredible diversity of music theatre to our audiences in Geneva and beyond. More than 400 years of history, coupled with a perennially dynamic creative spirit, offer a vast landscape in which we strive to cultivate a wide array of forms, languages, and stagecraft every year. Season after season, our programmes feature celebrated masterpieces, vibrant ballets, Baroque operas, forgotten treasures, flamboyant new creations, and musicals. The 26-27 season revels in these contrasts.

This exploration of new worlds marks the *opening lines* of a new chapter, one I am delighted to write together with every member of the Grand Théâtre team.

Ready to set sail?

# La Tempête

An opera by Frank Martin  
16–26 September 2026



**Conductor**  
Thierry Fischer  
**Stage direction,  
set design, costumes**  
Netia Jones  
**Cast**  
Stéphane Degout  
Catherine Trottmann  
Julien Dran  
Alex Rosen  
Edwin Crossley-Mercer

**Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Opera Chorus**

**Orchestre de la Suisse  
Romande**

Libretto by August Wilhelm  
von Schlegel and Johann Ludwig  
Tieck, based on *The Tempest*  
by William Shakespeare

French version by Pauline Martin

Premiered on 17 June 1956  
at the Vienna State Opera

New production

- Geneva-born composer Frank Martin's magnum opus, written for the Vienna State Opera
- Based on Shakespeare's final play and distilling the best of the Bard
- Captivating and approachable music, in 50 shades of modern

## Thierry Fischer

An internationally renowned Swiss conductor, passionate about the work of Frank Martin which he knows in the most intimate detail, Thierry Fischer actively promotes Martin's exceptional musical legacy. Initiator of the *Odyssée Frank Martin* (an almost complete omnibus of the composer's works performed in Geneva between 2023 and 2026), Fischer states that "the beauty of Frank Martin's work can make the Spirit of Geneva resonate, shine and flourish in our city." Music Director of the São Paulo Symphony Orchestra since January 2020 and of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León since September 2022. He recorded *La Tempête* (in its original German version *Der Sturm*) in 2011 for Hyperion with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra.

## Netia Jones

A British director, set designer and stage director working in theatre, opera and musical theatre, Netia Jones is Associate Director of the Royal Opera House in London, responsible for programming at the Linbury Studio, as well as Director of the Lightmap Studio, whose multimedia productions are projected onto monumental outdoor venues. She has directed major opera productions, notably at the Opéra national de Paris, the Royal Opera House and the English National Opera.

# Company

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
9–16 October 2026



**Conductor**  
Larry Blank  
**Director**  
James Bonas  
**Choreographer**  
Ewan Jones  
**Set design**  
Barbara de Limburg  
**Costumes**  
Nathalie Pallandre  
**Lighting**  
Christophe Chaupin  
**Video**  
Anouar Brissel  
**Sound design**  
Unisson Design

**Orchestre de la Suisse  
Romande**

Book by George Furth

French translation of the book by  
Stéphane Laporte Musical comedy  
premiered on 24 March 1970  
at the Shubert Theatre, Boston

Originally produced and directed  
on Broadway by Harold Prince

Arrangements by Jonathan Tunick

First time at the GTG

Presented in agreement  
with Music Theatre International:  
[www.mtishows.eu](http://www.mtishows.eu) and Agence  
Drama Paris: [www.dramaparis.com](http://www.dramaparis.com)

Spoken dialogue in French  
(translated by Stéphane Laporte),  
songs in English

Delegate Producer Génération Opéra. Coproducers Opéra Grand Avignon, Théâtre du Châtelet, Opéra de Limoges, Opéra Nice Côte d'Azur, Opéra national de Lorraine, Avant-scène opéra, Neuchâtel, Clermont-Auvergne Opéra, Opéra national de Bordeaux, Théâtre impérial - Opéra de Compiègne, Opéra de Massy, Opéra de Rennes, Opéra Orchestre Normandie Rouen, Orchestre national d'Île de France. With the gracious support of the French Ministry of Culture, Fondation Orange and Fondation Signature

- The first hit musical by the lyricist of West Side Story
- An incisive and hilarious look at commitment in relationships
- Song and dance numbers packed with irresistible energy

## Larry Blank

An American conductor, orchestrator and composer on Broadway, and a leading figure in musical theatre and opera, Larry Blank has been nominated for three Tony Awards. He is one of the few American conductors to work in European opera houses, blending Broadway, symphony orchestra and opera. His work has been performed worldwide, notably in some of the Great White Way's best-loved musicals as well as at Carnegie Hall. He is resident conductor of the Pasadena Symphony & Pops and a regular contributor with the BBC.

## James Bonas

A British director working at the crossroads of theatre, opera and dance, James Bonas has staged landmark productions at major European opera houses, notably the Opéra national du Rhin, the Opéra de Lyon and the Göteborg Opera. A regular collaborator with choreographers and visual artists, his multidisciplinary practice has been acclaimed by critics. Together with Sophie Laplane, he created *Mary, Queen of Scots* for the Scottish Ballet for the 2025 Edinburgh International Festival.

# The Marriage of Figaro

An opera by W.A. Mozart  
13–31 December 2026



**Conductor**  
Marta Gardolińska  
**Director**  
Jetske Mijnsen  
**Cast**  
Jarrett Ott  
Siobhan Stagg  
Lauranne Oliva  
Philippe Sly  
Benedetta Torre

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Opera Chorus

Orchestre de la Suisse  
Romande

Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte  
based on Pierre-Augustin-Caron de  
Beaumarchais' *Le Mariage de Figaro*  
  
Premiered on 1 May 1786 at the  
Burgtheater in Vienna  
  
New production

- *A timeless masterpiece from the dawning of the French Revolution*
- *The final blaze of an ancien régime dancing on a volcano*
- *The joyful melancholy of Mozart's dazzling music*

## Marta Gardolińska

Polish conductor Marta Gardolińska, who trained under Nikolaus Harnoncourt, is the current musical director of the Opéra national de Lorraine in Nancy, making her one of the first women to lead a major French opera orchestra. A rising star in the world of conducting, she made her mark after serving as Young Conductor in Association with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra from 2018 to 2020. She champions a wide and demanding repertoire, ranging from major works to rarer pieces, with a particular focus on Central European composers.

## Jetske Mijnsen

Dutch opera director Jetske Mijnsen gained international recognition in 2016 with Luigi Rossi's *L'Orfeo* at the Opéra national de Lorraine. Her style is defined by a psychological approach that results in captivating interpretations of opera characters and their destinies, as well as a thoughtful musical reading of the scores. Now a frequent guest of some of the world's leading opera houses: Zurich Opera (*Dialogues des Carmélites*, *Platée*, *Hippolyte et Aricie*), Munich Opera (*Pelléas et Mélisande*), the Glyndebourne Festival (*Parsifal* in 2025), the Aix Festival (*La Calisto* in 2025) and the Royal Opera House Covent Garden (*Ariodante* in December 2026).

# Theodora

An oratorio by George Frideric Haendel  
24 January - 1 February 2027



**Conductor**  
Raphaël Pichon  
**Director**  
Krzysztof Warlikowski  
**Cast**  
Ying Fang  
Paul-Antoine Bénos-Djian  
Niamh O'Sullivan  
Laurence Kilsby

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Opera Chorus

Pygmalion Chorus and  
Orchestra

Libretto by Thomas Morell  
  
Premiered on 16 March 1750 at  
the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden,  
London  
  
First time at the GTG, new  
production

- *Haendel's penultimate oratorio, in all its poignant autumnal tones*
- *The Geneva debut of one of the finest Baroque ensembles*
- *The summit meeting of a world-class conductor and a legendary stage director*

## Raphaël Pichon

The French conductor leads his Pygmalion ensemble here, on their maiden voyage to a Handel oratorio. Well-known for his in-depth knowledge of Baroque and Classical music, he delights in original and unexpected projects that demonstrate his versatility (he is a conductor, choirmaster and former singer). His creative approach and talent have been recognised around the world, working with the greatest ensembles and opera companies. He has conducted operas at the Aix and Salzburg Festivals, at the Opéra-Comique, the Paris Opera and the Opéra national du Rhin. With his ensemble, he has led major tours across Europe, America and Australia, and published numerous recordings. In 2025, he was invited to conduct the Berlin Philharmonic.

## Krzysztof Warlikowski

A leading director and former assistant to Peter Brook, Krzysztof Warlikowski has made his mark with radical reinterpretations of Shakespeare, the Greek tragedies and the contemporary repertoire. Artistic director of the Nowy Teatr in Warsaw, he received the prestigious Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the 2021 Venice Biennale. In addition to his theatre productions staged worldwide, he has directed numerous operas in Munich, Salzburg, Paris, Aix and Berlin. His work offers audiences an intimate experience, often described as fascinating, exploring the darker aspects of human nature without compromise, approaching them with extreme psychological intensity.

# Il viaggio a Reims

(The Journey to Reims)

6–14 February 2027

An opera by Gioachino Rossini



## Conductor

Jader Bignamini

## Director

Laurent Pelly

## Cast

Martina Russomanno

Salome Jicia

Sabine Devieille

Teresa Iervolino

Maxim Mironov

Nicola Alaimo

Grand Theatre de Genève

Opera Chorus

Orchestre de la Suisse

Romande

*Il viaggio a Reims*, opera  
by Gioachino Rossini

Libretto by Luigi Balocchi, based  
on *Corinne ou l'Italie* by Germaine  
de Staël

Premiered on 19 June 1825  
at the Théâtre-Italien in Paris

First time at the GTG,  
new production

- *Bel canto pyrotechnics by Rossini for a coronation gala*
- *A work long forgotten until its revival in 1984*
- *Virtuoso revelry and operatic parody, composed for ten stars of the day*

## Jader Bignamini

The Italian conductor Jader Bignamini has been Musical Director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra since 2020. His affinity with Italian opera is reflected in a keen sense of drama, theatrical tension and great musical intensity. A regular guest at the leading opera houses in Europe and the United States, his principal strengths lie in his familiarity with the Rossinian style, as well as his energetic, expressive and charismatic conducting.

## Laurent Pelly

A well-known figure on the international stage, Frenchman Laurent Pelly excels in a genre all his own – a blend of comedy, buffoonery and the completely unexpected. He will stage *Il viaggio a Reims* as a grand gala disguised as an opera, with sets, costumes and props finding sanctuary under the great, gilded ceilings of Geneva's Victoria Hall – the ideal setting for an opera about monarchy. A specialist in the French repertoire and Offenbach, he has also tackled Donizetti, Mozart, Verdi, Britten and even Wagner. His work as a director, presented in Paris, New York, Vienna, London, Glyndebourne and Santa Fe, has been recognised with numerous awards, including the prestigious International Opera Awards in 2016.

# La fanciulla del West

(The Girl from the Golden West)

7–20 March 2027

An opera by Giacomo Puccini



## Conductor

Antonino Fogliani

## Director

Marie-Ève Signeyrole

## Cast

Anastasia Bartoli

Arturo Chacón-Cruz

Brian Mulligan

Grand Théâtre de Genève

Opera Chorus

Orchestre de la Suisse

Romande

*La fanciulla del West*,  
opera by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Carlo Zangarini and  
Guelfo Civinini, based on the play  
by David Belasco

Premiered on 10 December 1910 at  
the Metropolitan Opera  
in New York

New production

- *The power and independence of an extraordinary female character*
- *A gripping, closed-door drama with the feel of a psychological thriller*
- *A challenge to the myths of Gold Rush America*

## Antonino Fogliani

Conductor Antonino Fogliani, a leading figure in Italian music, is a regular at the Geneva opera seasons. He will return to the GTG to conduct this lively and powerful music of extraordinary lyrical quality, following *Aida* in 2019, *La Cenerentola* in 2020, *Turandot* in 2022, *Nabucco* in 2023, *Fedora* in 2024 and *Madama Butterfly* in 2026. He has been principal guest conductor of the Deutsche Oper am Rhein since 2017 and artistic director of the Rossini Festival in Bad Wildbad since 2012.

## Marie-Ève Signeyrole

French director Marie-Ève Signeyrole is renowned for her masterful use of video and her meticulous direction of actors. She has collaborated with leading artists such as Simon Rattle and Jonathan Dove and been a guest at several major European opera houses, from the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence to the Deutsche Oper Berlin. In 2019, her remarkable production of *La Damnation de Faust* at the Staatstheater Hannover earned her a nomination for the FAUST Prize.

# Only the Sound Remains

8–25 May 2027  
An opera by Kaija Saariaho



**Conductor**  
Ernest Martínez Izquierdo

**Director**  
Peter Sellars

**Cast**  
Philippe Jaroussky  
Davóne Tines  
Nora Kimbali-Mentzos

**Vocal quartet from the  
Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Opera Chorus**

**Ensemble Contrechamps**

**Kantele: Eija Kankaanranta**

Libretto by Ezra Pound, based on the English translation by Ernest Fenolosa of the traditional Japanese plays *Tsunemasa* and *Hagonomo*

Premiered on 15 March 2016 at the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam

First time at the GTG

- *The penultimate opera by one of the most important composers in recent history*
- *Where the human and the supernatural meet in an ethereal score*
- *Inspired by Japanese Noh theatre, based on the two plays *Tsunemasa* and *Hagonomo**

## Ernest Martínez Izquierdo

Ernest Martínez Izquierdo is one of the Spanish champions of contemporary music, notably through the creation of his ensemble Barcelona 216. His work alongside Pierre Boulez has shaped his exacting standards and made him a highly sought-after conductor. He belongs to the exclusive circle of those closely associated with the operatic works of Kaija Saariaho, often collaborating with director Peter Sellars, as in *Adriana Mater* in 2008, and then with *Only the Sound Remains* in 2016.

## Peter Sellars

Since the famous Mozart-Da Ponte trilogy, which he staged in the 1980s and toured worldwide, the US American director Peter Sellars has become one of the most creative artists on the international stage. In addition to his work on the repertoire, he has devoted a large part of his career to collaborations with leading figures in composition, notably John Adams and Kaija Saariaho. His aesthetic, both abstract and contemporary, the musicality of his productions and his tireless humanistic quest make him a formidable artist for this work, staged between two gigantic canvases by the American visual artist Julie Mehretu.

# The Threepenny Opera

5–13 June 2027  
An opera by Kurt Weill



**Conductor**  
Adam Benzwi

**Director**  
Barrie Kosky

**Cast**  
Tilo Nest  
Paul Herwig  
Constanze Becker  
Pauline Knof  
Kathrin Wehlisch  
Sebastian Zimmerer

**Berliner Ensemble Orchestra**

*Die Dreigroschenoper*,  
a song-opera by Kurt Weill

Libretto by Bertolt Brecht in collaboration with Elisabeth Hauptmann

Premiered on 31 August 1928 at the Theater am Schiffbauerdamm in Berlin

First time at the GTG, a Berliner Ensemble production

- *An explosive and exhilarating production – quite simply breathtaking*
- *Popular musical theatre in the noblest sense of the term*
- *The Berliner Ensemble's first appearance in Geneva*

## Adam Benzwi

A regular collaborator with the Komische Oper Berlin, the American conductor is one of the leading figures in musical theatre and operetta in Germany. He works closely with directors such as Barrie Kosky and Andrea Breth. His focus on rediscovering the repertoire of the 1920s and 1930s makes him a unique specialist in this theatrical repertoire, and his collaborations with Barrie Kosky have contributed significantly to the international revival of Berlin operetta.

## Barrie Kosky

The award-winning Australian director, whose prizes include an Olivier Award in 2011 for his production of *Castor et Pollux* at the English National Opera, was Artistic Director of the Komische Oper Berlin from 2012 to 2022, where he staged countless landmark hits, including *The Magic Flute*, which led to a phenomenal tour and is still being performed around the world. He is a regular guest at the opera houses of Munich, Vienna, London and Paris, and at the festivals of Salzburg, Aix and Glyndebourne. His iconic style is characterised by a thorough yet respectful reinterpretation of the repertoire and is recognisable by its flamboyant theatricality and a distinct taste for the burlesque.

# Candide

An operetta by Leonard Bernstein, given in concert version  
24–25 June 2027



**Conductor**  
Guillaume Tourniaire  
**Cast**  
Lambert Wilson  
Michael Porter  
Kathryn Lewek  
Natalie Dessay

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Opera Chorus

Orchestre de la Suisse  
Romande

Libretto by Lillian Hellman  
and Hugh Wheeler, based  
on Voltaire's novella

Premiered on 1st December 1956  
at the Martin Beck Theatre  
in New York

Concert version, first time  
at the GTG

- *Voltaire's classic, first published in Geneva in 1759, reimagined here for Broadway*
- *A true American operetta in the spirit of Offenbach*
- *A delightful operatic and symphonic journey into absurdity*

## Guillaume Tourniaire

A French conductor specialising in the Romantic, Verismo and French repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries, he served successively as chorus master of the Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Teatro La Fenice in Venice before being appointed musical director of the Prague State Opera. He has conducted productions for Opera Australia on a very regular basis and remains a regular

guest on the international stage, where he conducts operas and symphonic concerts. He is particularly renowned for his work in discovering or reconstructing rare or forgotten works, such as Saint-Saëns's *Ascanio* and Erlanger's *La Sorcière*, which have resulted in acclaimed recordings.



# Océans

## Brise-lames (part I)

Choreography by Damien Jalet  
19–24 November 2026



**Choreography**  
Damien Jalet  
**Associate choreographer**  
Aimilios Arapoglou  
**Set design and costumes**  
JR  
**Lights**  
Fabiana Piccioli  
in association with  
Elena Gui for the reprise  
**Music**  
Koki Nakano  
**Additional music**  
Olafur Arnalds  
and Nils Frahm

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Ballet

Revival of the production first  
staged at the Paris Opera in 2020  
First time at GTG

- A stunningly beautiful piece, between solar radiance and twilight
- Featuring the renowned visual artist JR
- A metaphor for power, vulnerability and resilience

### Damien Jalet

A leading choreographer in contemporary dance and an associate artist of the Geneva Ballet, Damien Jalet stands out for the spectacular nature of his stage designs and his highly sensorial approach to movement, in a quest for catharsis. The multidisciplinary nature of his choreographies leads him to work closely with some of the most prominent artists, notably with Kohei Nawa on the world premiere of *Mirage* in 2025 at the GTG and the artist JR in the monumental *Chiroptera* project in 2023.

### JR

Known for his monumental photographic collages installed in public spaces, French artist JR began his career in the world of graffiti before gaining recognition in the street art scene with his two series, *Portrait of a Generation* and *Face 2 Face*. His global participatory project *Inside Out*, launched following his TED Prize in 2011, involved nearly 200,000 participants worldwide, making this project a platform for citizens to have their say.

# Océans

## River Without Banks (part II)

Choreography by Damien Jalet  
19–24 November 2026



**Choreography**  
Kyle Abraham  
**Set design and lighting**  
Dan Scully  
**Costumes**  
Reid & Harriet Design  
**Music**  
Leo Svirsky  
**Assistant choreographers**  
Stephanie Terasaki  
and Donovan Reed  
**Pianists**  
Leo Svirsky, Reinier van  
Houdt and Réginald Le Reun

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Ballet

World premiere by the Grand  
Théâtre de Genève Ballet,  
November 2026

World premiere of  
*River Without Banks*  
with the support of

**DANCE** BY  
**REFLECTIONS**  
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS

- A world premiere in Geneva by one of the most sought-after choreographers of his generation – world premiere in Geneva
- Fluidity expresses in a blend of street dance, hip-hop and classical ballet
- An artist whose works explore memory, community dynamics and African-American history

### Kyle Abraham

An American choreographer and dancer, he founded his company A.I.M by Kyle Abraham in 2006. His works, inspired by Black culture in the United States, have been performed internationally, notably at the New York City Ballet, the Royal Ballet and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Winner of several awards, including a Bessie Award in 2012, he is a key figure in the contemporary dance landscape.

### Leo Svirsky

Composer, pianist, accordionist and improviser, his collaborations span the contemporary scene and the Wandelweiser movement, working with leading figures in improvisation such as Onno Govaert and Veyran Weston. He moves between experimental music, contemporary composition and free improvisation. His recordings for international labels bear witness to a psychoacoustic exploration that creates soundscapes of rare intensity.

# Dimokratía

Choreography by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui  
13–18 April 2027



**Choreography**  
Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui  
**Set design**  
Antony Gormley  
**Music**  
Dimitris Skyllas  
**Costumes**  
Jan-Jan Van Essche  
**Lighting**  
Fabianna Piccioli  
**Conductor**  
Margaryta Grynivetska  
**Pianist**  
Dimitris Skyllas  
**Vocals**  
*Trio Alkanna Graeca*  
Alexandra Achillea  
Irina Arabatzi  
Dunja Botic

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Ballet

Orchestre de la Suisse  
Romande

Co-production with  
Festspielhaus St. Pölten,  
Eastman

World premiere by  
the Grand Théâtre de  
Genève Ballet, April 2027

- *A highly anticipated world premiere*
- *A reflection in dance on individuals and power*
- *Set design by Antony Gormley, one of the greatest visual artists of our time.*

## Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

A leading figure on the contemporary scene and artistic director of the GTG Ballet since 2022, he founded his company Eastman in 2010. His spiritually imbued creations, which weave an intercultural dialogue, have been honoured with numerous awards, including the Nijinsky Prize, the Benois de la Danse and several Olivier Awards. His choreographic works for ballet and opera are marked by the dialogue between bodies, languages and cultures.

## Dimitris Skyllas

The music of this Greek-British pianist and composer fuses Byzantine music, sacred traditions and contemporary language. The first Greek composer to be commissioned by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, his works are performed in iconic venues such as the Ancient Theatre of Epidauros, Westminster Abbey, the Royal Albert Hall and the Victoria & Albert Museum. His life was the subject of a 2022 documentary, *Afterpop*, produced by the Onassis Foundation. He composes for the stage as well as for film and the visual arts.

# Forces

BUSK (part I)

Choreography by Aszure Barton  
9–11 June 2027



**Choreography and musical arrangements**  
Aszure Barton  
**Set design and lighting**  
Nicole Pearce  
**Costumes**  
Michelle Jank  
**Music**  
Daniel Bélanger, Slava Greigoryan, Moondog, Camille Saint-Saëns, August Soderman, David Wikander, Lev "Ljova" Zhurbin

Grand Théâtre de Genève  
Ballet

Co-produced with Concorde  
Espace Culture

Created in 2009 by Aszure Barton  
& Artists, Sarasota, Florida  
Revival from the GTG 23–24 season

- *Expressive virtuosity with a touch of burlesque*
- *A work with an organic, wild and instinctive atmosphere*
- *An array of mysterious characters in hoodies*

## Aszure Barton

She founded the collective Aszure Barton & Artists in New York in the 2000s. Her work has been performed by some of the most renowned companies, from the American Ballet Theatre to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and the Nederlands Dans Theater. An artist-in-residence at the Baryshnikov Arts Center, she was honoured in her native Canada with the Arts & Letters Award in 2012 for the uniqueness of her artistic language.

## Nicole Pearce

A multidisciplinary artist working across lighting, visual arts and scenography, her lighting designs evoke a sense of magic, enveloping the dancers in a halo from which they seem to float or emerge from the darkness. Her installation *Tiny Paintings for Big Hearts*, a collection of a thousand paintings paying tribute to carers during the pandemic, cemented her reputation and established her as one of the most sought-after creators on the contemporary art scene.

# Forces

## Strong (part II)

Choreography by Sharon Eyal  
9–11 June 2027



**Choreography**  
Sharon Eyal  
**Co-choreography**  
Gai Behar  
**Set design**  
Sharon Eyal  
and Gai Behar  
**Music**  
Ori Lichtik  
**Lighting**  
Alon Cohen  
**Costumes**  
Rebecca Hytting

Grand Théâtre  
de Genève Ballet

Co-produced with Concorde  
Espace Culture

Created in December 2019  
for the Staatsballett Berlin,  
Germany

Revival from the GTG's 23–24  
season

- *An unforgettable ecstatic, intense, hypnotic dance*
- *Precision, minimalism and endurance at a virtuoso level*
- *A techno beat that builds up to a spellbinding robotic dance*

### Sharon Eyal

A dancer with the Batsheva Dance Company before becoming its resident choreographer, her style blends extreme rigour, collective pulsation and trance-like states. She has been commissioned by the most prestigious institutions, such as the Nederlands Dans Theater and the GöteborgOperans Danskompani. Winner of numerous awards, including the FAUST in 2018, she is one of the most influential choreographers on the contemporary scene today.

### Gai Behar

An artist and creator from the underground and electro scene, he has been co-creating works with Sharon Eyal since 2005, blending electronic beats with physical tension. In 2013, the duo founded the company L-E-V, now known as S-E-D. He contributes to the visual and sensory dramaturgy of the works by incorporating influences from the club scene. He is a leading figure at the intersection of club culture and contemporary dance.

# Selected dates for the Grand Théâtre de Genève Ballet on tour

## Ihsane

Choreography by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Edinburgh International Festival  
Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom  
18, 19, 20 August 2026

Amare  
The Hague, Netherlands  
28, 29 January 2027

Theater Im Pfalzbau  
Ludwigshafen, Germany  
4, 5 February 2027

Théâtre royal de la Monnaie  
Brussels, Belgium  
13, 14, 15 May 2027

Château Rouge  
Annemasse, France  
21, 22 May 2027

## Noetic, Faun

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Dubai Opera House  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
2, 3, 4 October 2026

## Boléro

Choreography by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui &  
Damien Jalet

Dubai Opera House  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
2, 3, 4 October 2026

## Noetic

Choreography by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

4, 5 December 2026  
Royal Opera House, Rabat  
Rabat, Morocco

## Outsider

Choreography by Rachid Ouramdane

Shanghai, China  
15, 16, 17 October 2026

Sydney, Australia  
12, 13, 14 January 2027

Presented by

**DANCE** BY  
**REFLECTIONS**  
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS

## Mirage

Choreography by Damien Jalet

Centro Danza Matadero  
Madrid, Spain  
21, 22, 23 January 2027

Centro Cultural de Belém  
Lisbon, Portugal  
12, 13 February 2027

Théâtre national de Bretagne  
Rennes, France  
22, 23, 24, 25 June 2027

## Dimokratía

Choreography by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Festspielhaus St. Pölten  
St. Pölten, Austria  
8 May 2027

# Recitals & Concerts



## Lise Davidsen

soprano

**James Baillieu, piano**

Lise Davidsen and James Baillieu explore the works of Schubert and his deep connection to the poetry of Goethe, ranging from intense drama to the ethereal light of the Lied.

12 November 2026



## Lea Desandre

mezzo-soprano

**Thomas Dunford, lute**

*Idylle* A dialogue between voice and lute, featuring French songs across the ages on the timeless theme of love.

16 December 2026



## Sabine Devieille

soprano

**Laurent Pelly, Stage Director**  
**Pauline Buet, cello**  
**David Violi, piano**

*Smile!* An intimate yet bold new production that plunges the audience into the vibrant worlds of music halls, French chanson, and musical theatre.

24 and 25 March 2027



## John Osborn

tenor

**Beatrice Benzi, piano**

John Osborn and Beatrice Benzi lead us on a spirited musical journey from Beethoven to De Falla, and Chausson to Fauré, where the traditions of Lied and French art song meet in a brilliant display of artistry.

16 April 2027



## Ludovic Tézier

baritone

**Julius Drake, piano**

A leading figure of the Verdian and French repertoires, Ludovic Tézier is joined by Julius Drake, one of the world's most distinguished collaborative pianists and a renowned authority on the art of Lied and French art song.

23 June 2027

## Thaïs

Opera by Jules Massenet  
(Concert Performance)

24 March 2027

Libretto by Louis Gallet, based on the novel by Anatole France

In this landmark opera, Massenet explores the unsettling encounter between two opposing worlds: that of an adored courtesan and that of an uncompromising ascetic. Egyptian-New Zealand soprano Amina Edris performs in the lead role, starring alongside the acclaimed Samoan-New Zealand tenor Pene Pati. They are joined by the Chorus of the Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Orchestre de chambre de Genève for this concert performance of a masterpiece of French Romanticism.

**Conductor**

Marc Leroy-Calatayud

**Thaïs**

Amina Edris

**Athanaël**

Lionel Lhote

**Nicias**

Pene Pati

**Chorus of the Grand Théâtre de Genève**

**Orchestre de chambre de Genève**

Featuring students from the Haute école de musique de Genève - Neuchâtel

A co-production by the Orchestre de chambre de Genève and the Grand Théâtre de Genève

## Euphoria

Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125  
by Ludwig van Beethoven

29 and 30 May 2027

New choreographic, theatrical,  
and musical performance

With its unifying power and message of peace, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* has become a universal anthem. To mark the bicentenary of the composer's death, David Greilsammer and Juan Kruz Díaz de Garaio Esnaola reimagine the work as an intense collective performance, fully staged and danced by the soloists, the Chorus of the Grand Théâtre de Genève, and the musicians of the Geneva Camerata.

**Conductor**

David Greilsammer

**Stage Director and Choreographer**

Juan Kruz Díaz de Garaio Esnaola

**Soprano**

Iulia Elena Surdu

**Alto**

Negar Mehravaran

**Tenor**

Rémi Garin

**Baritone**

Seong Ho Han

**Chorus of the Grand Théâtre de Genève**

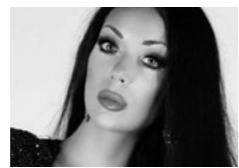
**Geneva Camerata**

A co-production by Geneva Camerata and the Grand Théâtre de Genève

# Focus on some of the season's artists



**Kyle Abraham**  
Choreographer  
*River Without Banks*



**Anastasia Bartoli**  
Soprano  
*La fanciulla del West*



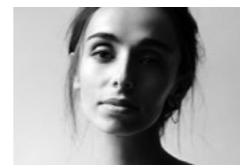
**Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**  
Choreography  
*Dimokratia*



**Lise Davidsen**  
Soprano  
Recital



**Stéphane Degout**  
Baryton  
*The Tempest*



**Lea Desandre**  
Mezzo-soprano  
Recital



**Natalie Dessay**  
Soprano  
*Candide*



**Sabine Devieille**  
Soprano  
*Il viaggio a Reims*



**Ying Fang**  
Soprano  
*Theodora*



**Antonino Fogliani**  
Conductor  
*La fanciulla del West*



**Marta Gardolińska**  
Conductor  
*The Marriage of Figaro*



**Damien Jalet**  
Chorégraphie  
*Brise-lames*



**Philippe Jaroussky**  
Countertenor  
*Only The Sound Remains*



**Netia Jones**  
Director, scenography and  
costume  
*The Tempest*



**Barrie Kosky**  
Director  
*The Threepenny Opera*



**Jetske Mijnsen**  
Director  
*The Marriage of Figaro*



**Lauranne Oliva**  
Soprano  
*The Marriage of Figaro*



**John Osborn**  
Tenor  
Recital



**Laurent Pelly**  
Director, scenography  
and costume  
*Il viaggio a Reims*



**Raphaël Pichon**  
Conductor  
*Theodora*



**Peter Sellars**  
Director  
*Only the Sound Remains*



**Marie-Ève Signeyrole**  
Director and video creation  
*La Fille du Far West*



**Philippe Sly**  
Bass-baritone  
*The Marriage of Figaro*



**Ludovic Tézier**  
Baritone  
Récital



**Guillaume Tourniaire**  
Conductor  
*Candide*



**Krzysztof Warlikowski**  
Director  
*Theodora*



**Lambert Wilson**  
Baritone  
*Candide*

# Contacts

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