

Agathe Mélinand

Librettist/Dramaturg

The first half surged along, driven largely by the stage business and with the spoken scenes, intelligently adapted for a modern audience by Agathe Mélinand.

Flora Willson, Opera, Béatrice & Bénédicte, Glyndebourne Festival

Agathe Mélinand enjoys a career as director, dramaturg and librettist in both opera and theatre. She was Co-Director with Laurent Pelly of the Théâtre national de Toulouse from 2008-2018. Prior to that, from 1997-2007, she was Deputy Artistic Director and Director of Communication of the Centre Dramatique National des Alpes in Grenoble, and Co-Director with Laurent Pelly of theatre company Le Pélican from 1989-1994.

Highlights in Toulouse include translations of Carlo Goldoni's *Le menteur*, Carlo Gozzi's *L'Oiseau vert* – also seen at the Théâtre de la Porte-Saint-Martin in Paris in 2018 – and Aristophane's *Les Oiseaux*. All three productions were directed by Laurent Pelly. Other work in Toulouse includes the translation, adaptation and writing and realisation of works including *Monsieur le 6*, *Tennessee Williams - Short Stories*, *Histoire de Babar le Petit Elephant*, *Erik Satie - Mémoires d'un Amnésique*. In 2017 she created an adaptation of Marcel Proust - *Enfance et Adolescence de Jean Santeuil*.

In the opera house Agathe works as librettist and dramaturg and has produced new dialogues and adaptations of numerous libretti. Recent work includes new dialogues for Johan Strauss' *Le Baron Tzigane* at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, an adaptation of Offenbach's *Le Roi Carotte* for Opéra de Lyon directed by her long-term collaborator Laurent Pelly – winner of the Best Rediscovered Work category at the 2016 International Opera Awards - as well as new dialogues for Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédicte* for the 2106 Glyndebourne Festival. Current projects include new dialogues for Offenbach's *Barbe Bleue*.

Her collaboration with Laurent Pelly also includes new dialogues and adaptations of Donizetti's *La fille du régiment* (co-production Royal Opera London, Metropolitan Opera New York, Wiener Staatsoper and in constant revival throughout the world including San Francisco, Madrid, Barcelona and Paris), as well as Chabrier's *L'étoile* for De Nationale Opera and *Le roi malgré lui* for L'opéra de Lyon and l'Opéra Comique.

Renowned also for her work on Offenbach, in addition to *Le Roi Carotte*, she has collaborated with Laurent Pelly to create new versions of Offenbach's *La vie parisienne*, (Opéra de Lyon), *Les contes d'Hoffmann* (Lausanne Opera, San Francisco, Barcelona, Lyon, on tour in Japan and next season at Deutsche Oper, Berlin), *La Périchole* (Opéra de Marseille), *Le voyage dans la lune*, *L'île de Tulipatan*, *Monsieur Choufleury ne rentrera pas chez lui* (Opéra de Lyon), *La grande-duchesse de Gérolstein* (Théâtre du Châtelet and Grand Théâtre de Genève), *Orphée aux enfers* (Grand Théâtre de Genève and Opéra de Lyon), and *La belle Hélène* (Théâtre du Châtelet), plus a new English translation of this for Santa Fe Opera). Other Offenbach projects include a concert and recording with Sir Mark Elder, Opera Rara and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment of *Fantasio*, winner of the CD (Complete Opera) category at the 2015 International Opera Awards.