

Elijah Moshinsky

Director

Director Elijah Moshinsky and his designer Russell Craig have plausibly and unfussily updated the setting to the revolutionary horrors of modern South America.... the basic narrative is firmly etched and I defy anyone to come up with a better solution.

Telegraph, Alzira, Buxton International Festival

Elijah Moshinsky has enjoyed a long and prolific career spanning more than thirty years as a director of both opera and theatre. Renowned particularly for his interpretations of Verdi, his productions have been seen throughout the world and enjoy frequent revivals. His work encompasses a large and diverse repertoire, with a focus on Mozart, Janáček, Britten, Tchaikovsky, Wagner and Strauss, but also including Mussorgsky, Poulenc and Ligeti. He has three times been the winner of the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Opera, for his productions of *Lohengrin*, *Stiffelio* and *The Rake's Progress*.

Elijah Moshinsky has developed relationships with opera houses throughout the world, including, in particular, the Royal Opera House, London and the Metropolitan Opera, New York, for whom he has directed many celebrated productions. His first major opera production was *Peter Grimes* for the Royal Opera House in 1975, and subsequent work there includes *Lohengrin*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Macbeth*, *Samson et Dalila*, *Samson*, *Tannhäuser*, *Tristan und Isolde*, *Otello*, *Attila*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Stiffelio*, *Aida*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *I Masnadieri* and *Il trovatore*. His most recent work at ROH has included revival productions of *Otello* and *Lohengrin*, and a further revival of his *Simon Boccanegra*, conducted by Sir Antonio Pappano. Recent productions at the Metropolitan Opera include revival stagings of *The Makropulos Case*, *Ariadne auf Naxos* and *Otello*, whilst other productions in New York include *Un ballo in maschera*, *Nabucco*, *Queen of Spades*, *Lohengrin*, and *Luisa Miller*.

Moshinsky has also enjoyed ongoing relationships with opera companies including Opera Australia (*Boris Godunov*, *Il trovatore*, *Werther*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Les dialogues des Carmélites* and *Barber of Seville*). In 2018 he was honoured with the Opera Australia Trophy in recognition of his unrivalled contribution to the country's operatic industry - Opera Australia's highest honour.

Other houses include The Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Welsh National Opera, English National Opera (including the British première of Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre*), Wiener Staatsoper, Grand Théâtre de Genève, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, and the Adelaide and Holland Festivals.

Recent projects include a trilogy of early Verdi for the Buxton International Festival; *Alzira* (2018), the UK premiere of the original 1847 version of *Macbeth* (2017) and *Giovanna d'Arco* (2015). Other recent productions include *Roméo et Juliette* and *Don Carlo* for the Korea National Opera, and *Simon Boccanegra* at the National Centre for Performing Arts. 2018-19 saw revivals of his *Simon Boccanegra* at the Royal Opera London and in Athens, of *Werther* in Australia, and of *I Paclaggi* in Omaha.

Moshinsky has directed a large range of theatre and TV productions. Among his West End productions are *Troilus and Cressida* and *The Force of Habit* for the National Theatre, *Three Sisters* (Albery), *Shadowlands* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Haymarket) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Strand). For the BBC,

his directing work includes *Genghis Cohn*, *Brazen Hussies*, *Anorak of Fire*, *Mozart in Turkey*, as well as an Omnibus documentary on divas.

Born in Shanghai, and raised in Melbourne Australia, Elijah Moshinsky graduated from the University of Melbourne and studied subsequently at St Anthony's College Oxford. Whilst there, he directed a production of *As You Like It* for the Oxford and Cambridge Shakespeare Company, which resulted in him being offered a position as a staff producer at the Royal Opera House.