

## **RELEASE DATE JANUARY 2024**



Saint-Saëns Samson et Dalila The Royal Opera

Stunning singing and mesmerising music are at the fore in a new production of Saint-Saëns' greatest grand opera

"... a surging biblical epic with star turns ..." (The Times \*\*\*\*)

Pious restraint comes face to face with sensuous hedonism in **Camille Saint-Saëns**' grand-opera retelling of the Bible story of Samson and Delilah.

Multi-Olivier Award winning director **Richard Jones** returns to **The Royal Opera** to stage this spectacular fin-de-siècle masterpiece, not performed at Covent Garden since 2004. **Elina Garanča** stars as the Philistine Dalila, **SeokJong Baek** as the inspiring Jewish hero Samson and **Antonio Pappano** conducts the full forces of the **Orchestra of the Royal Opera House**. With superb singing in solos and duets of great intimacy and fervour, gorgeous music with thrilling orchestral interludes, and splendid choral numbers for the **Royal Opera Chorus** – this is a performance to remember.

Samson Dalila High Priest First Philistine Second Philistine Messenger Abimélech Samson's Rabbi	Seokjong Baek Elīna Garanča Łukasz Goliński Alan Pingarrón Chuma Sijeqa Thando Mjandana Blaise Malaba Goderdzi Janelidze
Royal Opera Chorus Chorus Director	William Spaulding
Orchestra Of The Royal Opera House Principal Guest Concert Master Vasko Vassilev	
Conductor Director Set Designer Costume Designer	Antonio Pappano Richard Jones Hyemi Shin Nicky Gillibrand

Lighting Designer Andreas Fuchs Choreography and Movement Director Lucy Burge

**Extra Features**: An introduction to Samson et Dalila; Antonio Pappano discusses the music of Samson et Dalila; Cast gallery



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ROYAL OPERA CHORUS DATE CONTRACT



Cat: OA1371D / OABD7315D UPC: 809478013716 / 809478073154 Price: D / E Duration: approx. 145 minutes Audio: Dolby Digital 2.0 + DTS Digital Surround 5.1 (DVD) / LPCM 2.0 + DTS-HD Master Audio Surround (Blu-ray) Subtitles: EN, FR, DE, JP, KO FSK: 0 (TBC)



"SeokJong Baek ... makes a mightily impressive Royal Opera stage debut. Conducted by Antonio Pappano, the orchestra relishes the melodious score without wallowing in its lushness, however great the temptation."

(The Guardian)

"Elīna Garanča's performance in Saint-Saëns' opera smoulders with vindictive passion.

Music director Antonio Pappano draws huge power and passion from Saint-Saëns' score and at the final reckoning his faith in the music is the religion that carries the day here. "

(The Financial Times)

"... a surging biblical epic with star turns ... Richard Jones' entertaining new Royal Opera staging ..."

(The Times  $\star \star \star \star$ )