

Barbe & Doucet

Dramaturgy, Stage Direction, Choreography, Sets & Costumes Design



“...André Barbe and Renaud Doucet have come up with a wholly original, wildly inventive approach... Barbe and Doucet are credited, respectively, for design and direction/choreography, but trying to pigeonhole these collaborators would be senseless.”
L.L. Lash, Opera News

After separate beginnings in dance, theatre, television, circus and the opera field, Renaud Doucet, Stage director & Choreographer and André Barbe, Set & Costume Designer, have created over forty new opera productions that are recognised for their creativity, sense of spectacle and minutely detailed dramaturgy.

André Barbe received a Bachelor of Fine Arts at Concordia University then studied at the National Theatre School of Canada under the tutelage of designer François Barbeau. Up to now, he has designed over 300 productions

for theatre, television and opera. He received the Irish Times Irish Theatre Award for best designer for the production of *Pénélope* at Wexford Festival Opera as well as the Rolf-Mares Prize for best sets and costumes for the production of *La Cenerentola* at the Hamburgische Staatsoper. Since 2010, he is regularly invited to teach Set and Costume design at the National Theatre School of Canada.

Trained musician Renaud Doucet began his performing career as a solo dancer, ballet master, teacher and choreographer in international dance companies. He was introduced to the opera world as a baroque choreographer and baroque gesture specialist, coaching singers such as, Alfredo Kraus, Jaime Aragall, Raina Kabaivanska and Mirella Freni. He also worked as an actor in various films and television series. Now, he is regularly invited to teach young singers and pianists in various opera programs such as the Manhattan School of Music, the Hamburg Staatsoper Opernstudio, L'Atelier Lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal.

Their work as a team has gained international recognition with their new productions of *Die Zauberflöte* at the Glyndebourne Festival, *La Cenerentola*, *La belle Hélène* and *Die Fledermaus* at the Staatsoper Hamburg, *La fille du régiment* at Teatro La Fenice and Teatro Regio di Torino, *Il signor Bruschino* at the Rossini Opera Festival and Teatro Comunale di Bologna, *La Cenerentola* at the Latvian National Opera and Opéra National du Capitole de Toulouse, *Pelléas et Mélisande* at the Teatro Regio di Parma and l'Opéra Royal de Wallonie, *Samson and Dalila* at the Kungliga Operan in Stockholm, *Die Feen* for Oper Leipzig in coproduction with the Bayreuther Festspiele, *Les contes d'Hoffmann* at Oper Bonn and Volksoper Wien, *Pénélope*, *Si j'étais roi*, *Thérèse/La Navarraise* and *Il bravo* at the Wexford Festival Opera, *Arabella* and *La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein* at Oper Köln, *Cendrillon* at l'Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg, l'Opéra de Marseille, New York City Opera, Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe and l'Opéra de Montréal, the Viennese premiere of *The Sound of Music*, *Turandot* and *Rusalka* at the Volksoper Wien,

Benvenuto Cellini and *Iphigénie en Aulide* at l'Opéra National du Rhin, *Il Matrimonio segreto* at the Innsbrucker Festwochen der Alten Musik and Oper Köln, *Turandot* at Opera Philadelphia, Seattle Opera, Minnesota Opera, Atlanta Opera, Utah Opera, Cincinnati Opera and Vancouver Opera, *La Bohème* at Scottish Opera, Theatre St Gallen, Vancouver Opera, Opéra national du Capitole de Toulouse, *Manon* at the Scottish Opera and Malmö Opera, the entire 2009-10 season of Florida Grand Opera in Miami with *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Pagliacci*, *Suor Angelica*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Carmen*; *Don Pasquale* at Scottish Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Teatro Carlo Felice in Genova, Oper Kiel, Vancouver Opera and Canadian Opera Company.

In 2019, their production of *Il Bravo*, received the Irish Times Theatre Award for Best Opera Production.

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