Rayfield Allied

Rodula Gaitanou

Stage Director



"Rodula Gaitanou's smart, vivid direction…makes a virtue of austerity, projecting the drama grippingly in an abstract setting … An astonishing achievement"
Sunday Times

Rodula Gaitanou is an Athens-born, Paris-trained, London-based opera director working internationally across Europe, Australia and the United States. Her work is defined by its psychological rigour and strong visual dramaturgy, creating productions that are both musically exacting and theatrically immediate.

Recent highlights include a new production of ***La forza del destino*** at the Greek National Opera, nominated for Best Production at the 2025 International Opera Awards, alongside ***La bohème*** at Malmö Opera, ***The Turn of the Screw*** at Spoleto Festival USA. She made her US debut with Carmen at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and has directed ***Vanessa*** for the Spoleto Festival and Wexford Festival Opera.

Her work has been presented at leading houses and festivals including the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Gothenburg Opera, the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet, Opéra Royal de Wallonie–Liège, Opera North, Savonlinna Opera Festival, Malmö Opera, Estonian National Opera, Opera Hedeland and Minnesota Opera. Recent productions include ***La traviata***, ***Nabucco***, ***Rusalka***, ***Aida***, ***Andrea Chénier***, ***Madama Butterfly***, ***Ariadne auf Naxos***, ***La clemenza di Tito***, and ***La fanciulla del West*** the latter nominated for Best Opera Production at the CPH Awards.

In the 2025–26 season she directed ***Roméo et Juliette*** for State Opera South Australia in Adelaide and West Australian Opera in Perth, makes her Canadian debut directing ***Siegfried*** for Edmonton Opera, directs a new ***Tosca*** for Opera Hedeland in Denmark and revives her productions of ***Nabucco*** for Savonlinna Opera Festival and ***Un ballo in maschera*** for Opera Holland Park. In 2026-27, projects also include ***Death in Venice*** at Teatro Grande di Brescia and ***Capriccio*** at Opéra Royal de Wallonie–Liège, ***Andrea Chénier*** at Savolinna, as well as a revival of ***Roméo et Juliette*** at West Australia Opera in Perth.

Gaitanou was nominated for Best Director at the International Opera Awards in 2019 and is a recipient of the ARGO Award for services to Arts and Culture presented to exceptional members of the Hellenic Diaspora. She trained in Paris at La Sorbonne, at Université Paris 8 and at the International Theatre School Jacques Lecoq following initial studies as a violinist at the Mousikoi Orizontes Conservatory in Athens. She is an alumna of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

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For updated versions please contact
info@rayfieldallied.com

Rayfield Allied
9-12 The Stableyard
Broomgrove Road
London, SW9 9TL, UK
www.rayfieldallied.com
E-mail info@rayfieldallied.com
Telephone +44 (0) 20 3176 5500

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