



A new work inspired by the Baroque pastiches of the 18th century, *The Enchanted Island* features a trove of vocal gems by Handel, Vivaldi, Rameau, and others and a delightful new libretto in English by Jeremy Sams. This fresh and entertaining celebration of the Baroque has been created by Sams, a noted director, translator, and composer, to showcase the talents of conductor William Christie and a cast of remarkable Baroque singers: David Daniels, Joyce DiDonato, Danielle de Niese, Luca Pisoni, and Plácido Domingo. The production will be directed by Phelim McDermott and associate director/designer Julian Crouch (*Satyagraha*, *Shockheaded Peter*, and the Met's 125th Anniversary Gala). *The Enchanted Island* will have its premiere at the Met on New Year's Eve 2011.

*The Enchanted Island* combines elements of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Exiled to a remote island, the character of Prospero, from *The Tempest*, seeks to reconcile with his family and ensure his daughter Miranda's future through her marriage to Prince Ferdinand. He promises to grant his sprite servant Ariel his freedom if he can bring Ferdinand's ship to the island. But instead, Ariel shipwrecks the four honeymooning lovers from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by mistake, mismatching them romantically with Miranda and Caliban, Prospero's slave. Meanwhile, Caliban schemes with his mother, the disgraced sorceress Sycorax, to regain control of the island, which Prospero seized from her. In the end, it is left to the sea god Neptune to intervene and bring Ferdinand's ship to the island, where the young prince delivers the king's pardon to Prospero and falls in love with Miranda on first sight. Prospero must then seek forgiveness from Sycorax so that peace may reign and all may celebrate a new time of peace and joy.

# THE ENCHANTED ISLAND

WORLD PREMIERE DECEMBER 31, 2011

The Metropolitan Opera, ten performances, ending Feb. 1, 2012

## CREATIVE TEAM

LIBRETTO AND LYRICS

**Jeremy Sams**

CONDUCTOR

**William Christie**

DIRECTOR

**Phelim McDermott**

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
AND SET DESIGNER

**Julian Crouch**

COSTUME DESIGNER

**Kevin Pollard**

LIGHTING DESIGNER

**Brian MacDevitt**

CHOREOGRAPHER

**Graciela Daniele**

MUSICAL ADVISOR

**Ellen Rosand**

## CAST

PROSPERO **David Daniels** *Countertenor*

SYCORAX **Joyce DiDonato** *Mezzo Soprano*

ARIEL **Danielle de Niese** *Soprano*

CALIBAN **Luca Pisoni** *Bass-baritone*

MIRANDA **Lisette Oropesa** *Soprano*

NEPTUNE **Plácido Domingo** *Tenor*

FERDINAND **Anthony Roth Costanzo** *Countertenor*

HELENA **Layla Claire** *Soprano*

HERMIA **Elizabeth DeShong** *Mezzo Soprano*

DEMETRIUS **Paul Appleby** *Tenor*

LYSANDER **Elliot Madore** *Baritone*

## ORCHESTRATION

2(2pic)+2rec.2.0.2/2.3.0.0/timp/hpd(chbr org)/str  
(10.8.6.7.3 players)

SATB chorus (40 voices)

28 Dancers, 6 Supernumeraries

## DURATION

2:50 (Act I: 1:35; Act II: 1:15)





## Ordering Information

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SET DESIGNS: JULIAN CROUCH, PHOTO (JOYCE DIDONATO AND DAVID DANIELS); NICK HEAVICAN/METROPOLITAN OPERA

# THE ENCHANTED ISLAND

*Devised and Written  
by Jeremy Sams*

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