

LA PERICHOLE

Composer: Jacques Offenbach
Libretto: Ludovic Halévy and Henri Meilhac
Stage director: Valérie Lesort

Category: Opéra bouffe in three acts
Language: French
Running times: 2h45 (including intermission)
Premiered: 1874 in Théâtre des Variétés, Paris
New production: 15 May 2022, Opéra Comique

Set designer: Audrey Vuong
Costume designer: Vanessa Sannino
Lighting designer: Christian Pinaud
Puppet designer: Carole Allemand
Choreography: Yohann Tété

Cast
Number of Principals : 10 + 1 member of the choir
Chorus / parts (S/A/T/B): 26 (6/6/7/7)
Extras: 6 dancers

Instrumentation
43
8-7-6-5-3 / 2(II=picc).1.2.1/2.2.1.0-timp.2perc-

Volume of the production
Set and props 3 containers

Other info
Création Opéra Comique
Last performed : Opéra Comique, 2022
Revival at Opera de Tours December 2023

CONTACT
Director of Artistic Coordination, Production and Development:
Chrysoline Dupont
chrysoline.dupont@opera-comique.com / +33 1 70 23 00 92

In a few words

At the end of the 18th century, Peru, a conquest of Spain, is ruled by an unscrupulous viceroy, surrounded by a complacent court. Will La Périchole, a beautiful street singer, allow herself to be corrupted by the monarch in order to eat her fill? Will she be able to win back her lover's esteem? Will they manage to escape from their golden prison?

Concept

“Carried by music as joyful and light as a champagne bubble, *La Périchole* depicts a Peru devastated by tyranny, poverty and the absolute power of a grotesque and egocentric viceroy. It is a dark work, a political satire, which oscillates between parody and reality, laughter and melancholy, gravity and burlesque.”

Valérie Lesort, director

Press review

“Valérie Lesort leads her carnival from Rio to Lima, this time staging Offenbach's abracadabrant-esque operetta *La Périchole* on her own. Sannino's sartorial hysteria mixes cubist forms with traditional Peruvian costumes, in the same way that Offenbach mixes the Parisian cancan with folkloric dances.”

ArtPress, 24 May 2022, Emmanuel Daydé

“The audience laughs a lot and loves everything, the exotic set, the jokesome costumes and the production full of winks, as director Valérie Lesort knows so well how to do.”

Les Soirées de Paris, 19 May 2022, Lise Bloch-Morhange

“*La Périchole* or the condition of the female artist between laughter and cruelty Valérie Lesort uses many devices in her staging. Scenic effects, costumes that can be changed as the play progresses, puppets representing dancing dogs or singing llamas. She pays homage to art and her enthusiastic cast performs a brilliant score full of surprises.”

Théâtre Actuel, 18 May 2022, Paula Gomez





