


A wide-angle, high-angle shot of a grand opera house, likely the Grand Opéra de Paris. The theater is filled with an audience seated in multiple tiers of ornate, gilded balconies. The architecture is highly decorative, featuring classical columns and intricate carvings. The lighting is warm and focused on the audience, creating a sense of a grand, historic event. The title 'THE PARIS OPERA' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters in the center of the image.

# THE PARIS OPERA

DIRECTED BY  
JEAN-STÉPHANE BRON

A large white bull stands on a white stage in an opera house. Two men are standing next to it, one touching its head. The background shows the tiered seating of the opera house, and the foreground shows the stage floor with yellow and black diagonal stripes. The scene is lit with dramatic stage lighting.

«I wanted to film the Opera de Paris like a diver discovering an unknown world. Without hiding any of the complexities of a company that fights for the curtain to go up every evening. I tried to capture the energy of the music and the joy it brings.»

JEAN-STÉPHANE BRON

## Synopsis

Autumn 2015. At the Paris Opera, Stéphane Lissner is putting the finishing touches to his first press conference as director. Backstage, artists and crew prepare to raise the curtain on a new season with Schönberg's Moses and Aaron. But the announcement of a strike and arrival of a bull in a supporting role complicate matters. At the same time, a promising young Russian singer begins at the Opera's Academy. In the hallways of Opera Bastille, his destiny will cross paths with that of Bryn Terfel, one of the greatest voices of his time...



... As the season progresses, more and more characters appear, playing out the human comedy in the manner of a documentary Opera. But this comedy is set against a tragic backdrop when terrorist attacks plunge Paris into mourning. Even though the show must go on at all costs, there is no end of trouble for the new director. Star choreographer Benjamin Millepied jumps ship soon after taking over as director of ballet at Palais Garnier. Preparations for Richard Wagner's six-hour opera Die Meistersinger reunite the company.



THE PARIS OPERA



*In turn ironic, light-hearted and cruel, encompassing music and ballet, the Paris Opera turns the spotlight on great passions and tells the story of life behind the scenes of one of the most prestigious performing arts venues in the world.*



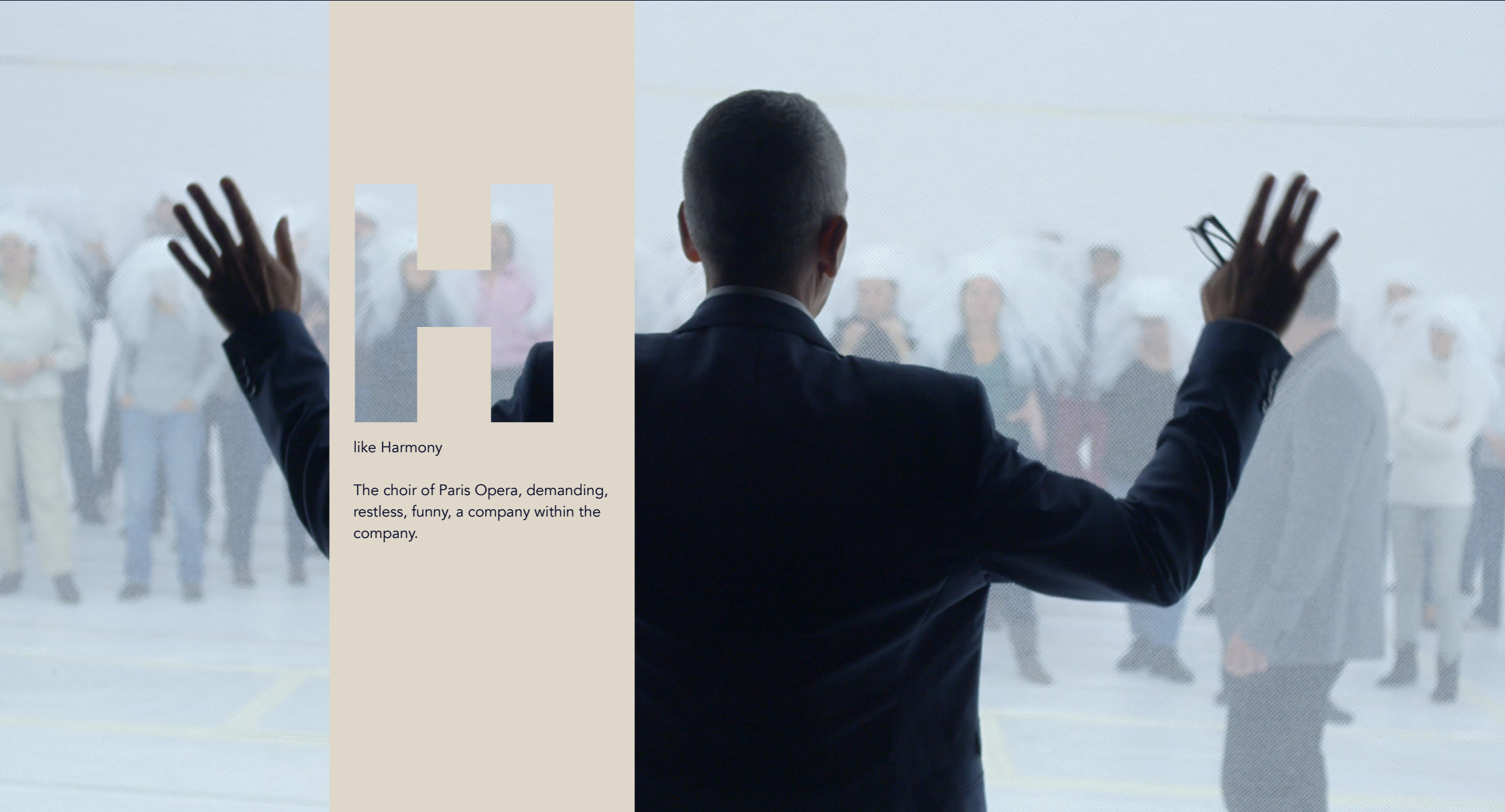
THE PARIS OPERA



like Treasure

French Republic's brightest treasures  
must be polished.





like Harmony

The choir of Paris Opera, demanding, restless, funny, a company within the company.

THE PARIS OPERA



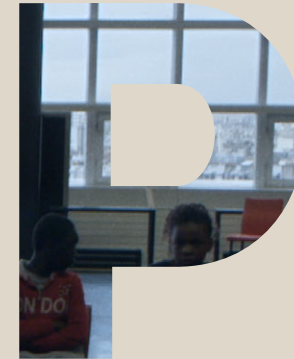
**E**

like Emotion

Two star dancers rehearse the roles of two lovers under the direction of Benjamin Millepied.

DIRECTED BY JEAN-STÉPHANE BRON





like Plurality

The little violins are given a warning: the season's final performance must be every bit as beautiful as last year's.



like Ambition

Micha, a Russian singing prodigy: we follow his progress from new arrival at the Academy to his first success.

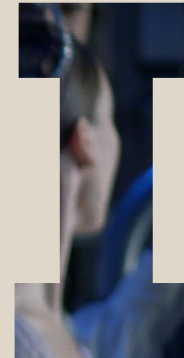


R

like Radiance

The finale of Die Meistersinger, total entertainment with the show in the wings rivaling the one on stage.





like Inspiration

Benjamin Millepied supervises the opening gala of the new season. Nobody, not even the head of state applauding from the presidential box, can predict that in a few months, Benjamin Millepied will be gone.

# S

like School

The little violins: a class from an underprivileged district is sponsored by a rich philanthropist. For the duration of a concert, music unites rich and poor.





like Opening

Director Stéphane Lissner, the solitude of power and first night nerves.



P

like Power

Portraits of a wardrobe mistress and a diva, alternating between wings and stage, shadow and light.



E

like Economy

The Palais Garnier brings in 250,000 euros per night when the theater is full (zero when a strike closes it down).







R

like Relief

Following the terrorist attacks, the theatre opens its doors after four days of national mourning. A dancer collapses in the wings, out of breath after her solo.



like Adventure

A gigantic stage and 1,700 employees, the full scale of the Paris Opera, every night after Moses and Aaron, hundreds of liters of black paint have to be cleaned from the stage, as well as the bull !



## Jean-Stéphane Bron / Director

2016 – THE PARIS OPERA – Documentary

2015 – DISORDER – Long-feature fiction (script collaboration)

Directed by Alice Winocour

AFI 2015 – Special Jury Award for Outstanding Achievement in Direction

Cannes Film Festival 2015 – Nomination for Un Certain Regard

Stockholm 2015 – Nomination for Best Film

2013 – THE BLOCHER EXPERIENCE – Documentary

Locarno International Film Festival 2014 – Piazza Grande

Festival One World – Czech Republic 2014 – Special Mention

Buenos Aires Festival International de Cine Independiente 2014

Les Arcs European Film Festival 2014

2010 – CLEVELAND VERSUS WALL STREET – Documentary

Cannes Film Festival 2010 – The Director's Fortnight

César 2011 – Nomination for the Best Documentary Film

Swiss Film Prize 2011, Best Documentary

Munich Film Festival 2010 – One Future Prize – Honorable Mention

2006 – MY BROTHER IS GETTING MARRIED – Feature Film

Locarno International Film Festival 2006 - Piazza Grande

Swiss Prize 2007 – Best Performance in a Leading Role

Namur International Festival of French-Speaking Film 2006 –

Golden Bayard for Best Actor, Best Script, Best Screenplay, Best Film

1999 – LA BONNE CONDUITE – Documentary

Locarno International Film Festival 2000

Double Take Documentary Film Festival, Durham, 2000 – Jury Award

Prize « Original vision » awarded by the New York Times, Newport

Newport International Film Festival, Rhode Island, 2000 – Award for Original Vision

1997 – CONNU DE NOS SERVICES – Documentary

Locarno International Film Festival 1997 – Piazza Grande



**THE  
PARIS  
OPERA**

DIRECTOR : JEAN-STÉPHANE BRON

PRODUCERS : PHILIPPE MARTIN - DAVID THION

COPRODUCERS : LIONEL BAIER - URSULA MEIER - FRÉDÉRIC MERMOUD

CINEMATOGRAPHY : BLAISE HARRISON

FILM EDITING : JULIE LENA

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR : JOANNA CARLINI

SOUND EDITING : ETIENNE CURCHOD ET JÉRÔME CUENDET

SOUND MIXER : STÉPHANE THIÉBAUT

PRODUCTION MANAGER : JULIETTE MALLON

PRODUCTION : LES FILMS PELLÉAS

COPRODUCTION : BANDE À PART FILMS, FRANCE 2 CINÉMA  
RTS RADIO TÉLÉVISION SUISSE, ORANGE STUDIO,  
L'OPÉRA DE PARIS, JOUROR PRODUCTIONS

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF :FRANCE TÉLÉVISIONS, CINÉFORUM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH : CINÉMAGE 10, PALATINE ETOILE 13

WITH THE SUPPORT OF : LA RÉGION ILE-DE-FRANCE, CNC

AND OF : FEDERAL OFFICE OF CULTURE (DFI SUISSE)  
SUCCÈS CINÉMA, LA LOTERIE ROMANDE

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