



BENJAMIN PRINS

Director of Opera
Stage Director

Press Review 2015 - 2025 →



LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN

J. Offenbach

THEATER // NORDHAUSEN 2025

Stage Direction

Format: Fantastic Opera, 5 Acts, 6 Scenes

Cast: 10 Soloists, 2 Extras, 19 Chorus Singers

Performances: 6

Duration: 160 min

Capacity: 319 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN



© Tony Burckhardt



*A production of great inventiveness, supported by an exceptional cast
(...) Standing ovations*

Thüringer Allgemeine, J. Kreissig, 27.09.205



*A fantastic production (...) a true theatrical masterpiece (...) standing
ovations and endless applause*

NNZ, Sabine Schröder, 27.09.205



*A theatrical and musical masterpiece. (...) inventive staging, splendid
sets and costumes, exceptional casting, and brilliant musical
interpretation. (...) A captivating production.*

Blog, Vera Lengsfeld, 28.09.205



*A completely successful new staging (...) Benjamin Prins breathes new
life into the opera in Nordhausen.*

Blog spécialisé, M. Wiesend



IDOMENEO

W.A. Mozart

THEATER NORDHAUSEN // 2024

Stage Direction

Format: Opera Seria in 2 Acts

Cast: 5 Soloists, 4 Extras, 19 Chorus Singers

Performances: 6

Duration: 140 min

Capacity: 317 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

IDOMENEO



© Tony Burchardt



A detailed and theatrical staging by opera director Benjamin Prins. (...) A skillfully constructed production, both visually and musically. (...) We must continue to closely follow what is happening in Nordhausen.

Opernwelt (magazine spécialisé), Achim Heidenreich, 03/2025



Nordhausen (a very active operatic hub in Thuringia) continues to score points on the European lyrical stage. (...) An effective adaptation, a very accurate dramatic vision.

ClassiqueNews.com,, P.A. Pham, 22/02/2025



A great tragedy, brilliantly told.

Opern.News, Werner Kopfmüller, 26/01/2025



As if the narrator, like a psychoanalyst, were unearthing the past to bring forth all those buried feelings.

ConcertClassic.com, Laurent Bury, 10/02/2025



CARMEN

G. Bizet

THEATER NORDHAUSEN // 2024

Stage Direction

Format: Comic Opera in 4 Acts

Cast: 10 Soloists, 1 Dancer, 24 Chorus Singers, 12 Children

Performances: 8

Duration: 160 min

Capacity: 317 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

CARMEN



© Tim Müller



Fiery premiere of "Carmen" at the Nordhausen Theatre. A night overflowing with a passionate spirit and truly enriching.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Jan Kreyßig, 22/09/2024



An atmosphere that evokes more of a thriller than a bullfight. (...) Despite the limited stage space, the movements are fluid. (...) A dark interpretation of the work.

Opera Magazine, Jean-Marc Proust, 06/11/2024



Cheers erupt (...) and for the director Benjamin Prins. (...) Opera lovers, as well as those who wish to become one, should not miss this production.

Blog, Vera Lengsfeld, 23/09/2024



TURANDOT

G. Puccini

FESTIVAL DE THURINGE - SONDRERSHAUSEN CASTLE SUMMER
FESTIVAL // 2024

Stage Direction, Adaptation

Format: Opera in 3 Acts

Cast: 9 Soloists, 10 Extras, 35 Chorus Singers

Performances: 8

Duration: 120 min

Capacity: 765 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

TURANDOT



© Marco Kneise



The director of the Nordhausen opera, Benjamin Prins, succeeds in highlighting the magical aspect of the story while delivering an exciting dramatic twist in a coherent interpretation. (...) a perfect staging.

Der Opernfreund, Jochen RÜth, 15.06.2024



Everything was simply perfect. (...) Spectacular both visually and acoustically. (...) long applause for the staging by Benjamin Prins as well as for the artistic performances of all the interpreters.

Kyffhäuser Nachrichten, 15.06.2024



An extremely well-crafted staging by the director of the Nordhausen opera, Benjamin Prins.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Jan Kreyssig, 18.06.2024



DON GIOVANNI

W.A. Mozart

THEATER NORDHAUSEN // 2023

Stage Direction

Form: *Dramma Giocoso*

Cast: 8 Soloists, 2 Extras, Choir of 20 Singers

Performances: 8

Duration: 140 min

Capacity: 317 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

DON GIOVANNI



© Clemens Heidrich



An astonishing Don Giovanni (...) A completely inspiring evening. (...) It works so well overall that the audience is completely thrilled at the end.

Klassikinfo, Bernd Feuchtner, 29.1.2023



An intelligent and humorous adaptation that works wonderfully.

Concert Classic, Laurent Bury, 13.02.2023



The director of the Nordhausen opera, Benjamin Prins, offers a very original interpretation of Mozart's libertine.

Wolfgang Hirsch, Thüringer Allgemeine, 06.02.2023



The new opera director of the Theater Nordhausen, Benjamin Prins, delivered a magnificent directorial debut. What the audience experienced was great art.

Vera Lengsfeld, NNZ, 29.1.2023



THE WHITE HORSE INN

Ralph Benatzky

THEATER NORDHAUSEN // 2023

Stage Direction, Adaptation

Format: Singspiel

Cast: 11 Soloists, 6 Dancers, 20 Chorus Singers

Performances: 13

Duration: 130 min

Capacity: 317 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

THE WHITE HORSE INN



© Tim Müller



A gigantic laugh. (...) Benjamin Prins stages it, so to speak, in the spirit of Klotz: self-deprecating, satirical, anarchic. There is no trace of petty bourgeois spirit or even conservatism. (...) He blows everything up as expected, drawing inspiration from the traditions of French entertainment theater. (...) An evening full of ideas, surprises, and gags. (...) Fully booked until the end of the year.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Michael Helbing, 03.12.2023



The staging by opera director Prins is magnificent. (...) particularly fresh, ironic, and cheeky. (...) If you want to treat yourself and please your loved ones, head to Nordhausen.

NNZ, Vera Lengsfeld , 4. 12. 2023



ORPHÉE AUX ENFERS

J. OFFENBACH

OPERA ZUID // 2023

Stage Direction, Adaptation

Format: Operetta

Cast: 12 Soloists, 5 Dancers, 20 Chorus Singers

Performances: 14

Duration: 105 min

Capacity: 1000 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

ORPHÉE AUX ENFERS



© Joost Milde



A production of unprecedented sumptuousness with grand scenes.

DE VOLKSKRANT, Merlijn Kerkhof, 22.5.2023



First-class entertainment.

DE LIMBURGER, Maurice Wiche, 21.05.2023



A successful new production (...) with a surprisingly contemporary character.

NRC HANDELSBLAD, Joost Galema, 22.5.2023



ROMÉO & JULIETTE

C. Gounod

THEATER NORDHAUSEN // 2024

Stage Direction

Format: Opera in 5 Acts

Cast: 12 Soloists, 2 Extras, 20 Chorus Singers

Performances: 16

Duration: 145 min

Capacity: 317 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

ROMEO & JULIET



© Clemens Heidrich



Standing ovation at the premiere for a show that immediately resonates.

MDR KLASSIK, Bernhard Doppler, 29.01.2024



Opera director Benjamin Prins transposes Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet" into the mafia milieu. (...) At the premiere at the Nordhausen theater, a curious magic spreads through the hall." Benjamin Prins stages this demanding production with great expertise.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Wolfgang Hirsch, 27.1.2024



DOCTOR ZHIVAGO

Lucy Simon

THEATER NORDHAUSEN - SONDRERSHAUSEN CASTLE SUMMER
FESTIVAL // 2023

Stage Direction

Format: Broadway Musical

Cast: 25 Soloists, 12 Dancers, 4 Actors, 2 Extras, 30 Chorus Singers

Performances: 14

Duration: 120 min

Capacity: 765 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO: THE MUSICAL



© Marco Kneise



Brilliant opening of the Thuringia Castle Festival in Sondershausen. (...) High artistic quality.

Vera Lengsfeld, Blog, 25.6.2023



A thrilling time travel. (...) Standing ovation.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Andrea Hellmann, 25.6.2023



The production is technically well done and the journey to Thuringia is worth it. (...) The Sondershausen Castle Festival generates excitement.

Blickpunkt Musical, Stefan Schön, 04/2023



BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE

B. Bartók

ANHALTISCHES THEATER // DESSAU 2016

KURT WEIL FEST // DESSAU 2017

Stage Direction

Format: Symbolic Drama, 1 Act, 9 Scenes

Cast: 2 Soloists, 5 Dancers, 3 Extras, Philharmonic Orchestra

Performances: 9

Duration: 60 min

Capacity: 1200 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Bluebeard's Castle



© Claudia Heyser



A breathtaking journey into the darkness of Bluebeard. An impressive evening not to be missed.

Mitteldeutsche Zeitung, Joachim Lange, 01.05.2016



Exceptional and a must-see. (...) An excellent and intensely captivating evening.

Deutschland Radio Kultur, Franziska Stürz, 29.05.2016



An emotionally stirring musical theater experience in every aspect.

Der Opernfreund, Jochen RÜth, 30.04.2016



COSÌ FAN TUTTE

W.A. Mozart

THEATER // ERFURT 2016

Stage Direction

Format: Dramatic Comedy, 2 Acts, 13 Scenes

Cast: 6 Soloists, 35 Chorus Singers, 12 Extras, Classical Orchestra

Performances: 8

Duration: 160 min

Capacity: 800 seats



PRESS REVIEW

Così fan tutte by
Wolfgang Amadeus
Mozart



© Tamtam Stadtmagazin



What a striking metaphor for the irrevocability of destroyed ideals.

Das Opernglas, J. Gahre, 19.11.16



Bunny orgy in a pop-art paradise. [...] Prins brings out the big guns.

[...]

One gag after another. A carnival-like frenzy.

Der Opernfreund, Jochen Rùth, 30.04.2016



FAUST

C. Gounod

THEATER // ERFURT 2015

Stage Direction.

Format: Grand Opera, 5 Acts, 12 Scenes.

Cast: 7 Soloists, 3 Acrobatic Dancers, 35 Chorus Singers, Symphony Orchestra.

Performances: 6

Duration: 150 min

Capacity: 800 Seats



PRESS REVIEW.

Faust by Charles
Gounod



© Lutz Edelhoff



*With Mephisto, the inspiration of young director Benjamin Prins seems
boundless.*

[...]

He overflows with brilliant ideas.

Thüringer Allgemeine, Ursula Mielke, 13.04.2105,



It's as if the devil himself directed the show.

[...]

We've never seen such a version of Charles Gounod's opera Faust.

Thüringische Landes Zeitung Kultur, Frauke Adrians, 13.04.2015,



WERTHER

J. Massenet, After Goethe

STAATSTHEATER // BRAUNSCHWEIG 2017

Stage Direction

Format: Lyric Drama, 3 Acts, 3 Scenes

Cast: 4 Soloists, 9 Extras, Symphonic Orchestra

Performances: 15

Duration: 120 min

Capacity: 1100 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Werther by Jules
Massenet - After
Goethe



© Volker Beinhorn



A refined and very convincing production.

Das Opernglas (Monthly Journal), J. Gahre, 03.2017



An outstanding production.

Braunschweiger Zeitung, Andreas Berger, 22.01.2017



THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR

by O. Nicolai, After Shakespeare

ANHALTISCHES THEATER // DESSAU 2017

THEATER FÜRTH // FÜRTH 2017

Stage Direction

Format: Comical-Fantastical Opera, 3 Acts, 10 Scenes

Cast: 9 Soloists, 35 Chorus Singers, 4 Extras, Symphonic Orchestra

Performances: 10

Duration: 160 min

Capacity: 1200 Seats



PRESS REVIEW.

The Merry Wives of
Windsor by Otto
Nicolai based on
Shakespeare



© Claudia Heyser



*Completely wacky and wonderfully eccentric.
(...)
Rich in stunning details.*

Zerbstervolksnachrichten, Andreas Behling, 09.11.2017



Hilarious.

Mitteldeutsche Zeitung, Johannes Killyen, 30.10.2017



THE BEGGAR'S OPERA

B. Britten

OPÉRA NATIONAL // MONTPELLIER

Stage Direction, Lighting, Libretto Adaptation & New Translation (from English to French)

Format: Neo-Baroque Ballad-Opera, 3 Acts, 16 Scenes

Cast: 12 Soloists, 30 Chorus Singers, Chamber orchestra of 13 Musicians

Performances: 3

Duration: 100 min

Capacity: 1200 Seats



PRESS REVIEW.

The Beggar's Opera by Benjamin Britten



© Lola Kirchner



Benjamin Prins's production seems to be, at least, one of the best of the season.

La Gazette de Montpellier, Robert Sabatier, 12.04.2013



A constant dynamism and a palpable joy of being on stage.

L'Hérault du Jour, Alain Breton, 09.04.2013



A show that really moves.

Midi Libre, Michel Fizaine, 05.04.2013



ANTIGONE

Sophocle

NOUVEAU THÉÂTRE MUSICAL POPULAIRE // MONTPELLIER 2015

Stage Direction, Text adaptation, Production

Form: Greek Tragedy

Cast: 4 Actors, 1 Musician, Acousmatic Orchestra of 30 speakers

Performances: 4

Duration: 60 min

Capacity: 300 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Antigone by
Sophocles



© Lola Kirchner



*Total spectacle. The spectator is at the heart of the experience.
Immersed.*

(...)

A brilliant signature.

La Gazette de Montpellier, Valérie Hernandez, n°1422, 09.2015



An astonishing and committed version for four actors.

Midi Libre, Michèle Fizaine, 19.09.2015,



THE ODYSSEY

D. Terzakis After Homère

WUPPERTALER BÜNEN // WUPPERTAL 2013

ANHALTISCHES THEATER // DESSAU 2018

Stage Direction, Set Design, Costumes, Lighting

Form: Performance

Cast: 1 Soprano, 1 Actor, 6 Chamber Musicians

Performances: 20

Duration: 50 min

Capacity: 80 to 400 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

The Odyssey
by Dimitri Terzakis
After Homer



© Uwe Strahmann



The ensemble is truly powerful and astonishingly simple.

Theater Pur: in NRW, Andreas Valentin 19.10.2013



It was spectacular lyrical theater, carefully staged.

Engels-Kultur.de, Peter Ortmann, 31.10.2013



A great moment of pleasure... Between nostalgia and modernity.

Westdeutsche Zeitung, Veronika Pantel, 19.10.2013



Intelligent, rhythmic, and mischievous direction by Benjamin Prins.

Mitteldeutsche Zeitung, Andreas Montag, 22.03.18



MAE MONA

C. Ehrenfellner

FORUM NEUES MUSIKTHEATER // WIEN 2009

World Premiere, Stage Direction

Form: Chamber Opera, 8 Scenes

Cast: 6 Soloists, 10 Extras

Performances: 3

Duration: 100 min

Capacity: 250 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Mae Mona
by Christoph
Ehrenfellner



© Manuela Fiala



The direct and skillful staging by Benjamin Prins fully conveys the lyrical violence of the work.

Die Presse, Wilhelm Sinkovicz 28.05.09



The direction of the actors is brilliant.

Wiener Zeitung, Reiner Elstner, 29.05.09



THE FORCE OF DESTINY

G. Verdi

OPER // KÖLN 2012-14-18-19

Olivier Py Assistant

Format: Opera, 4 Acts

Cast: 80 Chorus Singers, 8 Soloists, 8 Extras

Performances: 16

Duration: 140 min

Capacity: 1000 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

The Force
of Destiny by
Giuseppe Verdi



© Paul Leclair



Olivier Py's direction of actors perhaps gains even more momentum thanks to Benjamin Prins's scenic work for the revival.

Opernnetz, Christoph Broermann, 24.01.2014

PRESS REVIEW

A Christmas Carol by
Susanne F. Wolf, After
Charles Dickens



© Sébastien Grébillé



A very amusing production that is certainly far from all clichés.

Tageszeitung Luxemburger Wort, Marc Thill, 10.12.2018



DIANE OR THE REVENGE OF CUPID

R. Keyser

LE PARLEMENT DE MUSIQUE // ALSACE & GERMANY 2018

Stage Direction, Dramaturgy, Stage Performance Training

Format: Baroque Opera, 3 Acts

Cast: 6 Soloists and an Orchestra of 9 Musicians

Performances: 5

Duration: 120 min

Capacity: 200 to 400 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Diane or the Revenge
of Cupid by Reinhard
Keyser



© Génération Baroque



An extraordinary performance.

[...]

A fantastic staging.

[...]

An impressive dramatic interpretation.

Tageszeitung Luxemburger Wort, Marc Thill, 10.12.2018



ALL IS LIGHT (TOUT EST LUMIÈRE)

B. Prins

ORCHESTRE LE PALAIS ROYAL // SEINE MUSICALE, HISTORIC HALL OF THE FIRST CONSERVATORY, MUTUALITÉ... 2018-19

Stage Direction, Dramaturgy, Dialogue, Set Design, Costumes, Lighting

Format: Theatrical Concert

Cast: 30 Singers, 1 Actor, 1 Pianist, Orchestre Le Palais royal

Performances: 10

Duration: 85 min

Capacity: 150 to 1800 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

All is Light by
Benjamin Prins



© Laurent Prost



A genius staging.

goutsetpassions.com, Olivier de Félice, 03.2018,



A grand immersive experience. [...] Rich in scenic innovations.

goutsetpassions.com, Olivier de Félice, 01.2018,



An aesthetic shock [...] A magnificent concert.

L'éclaireur du Gâtinais, Laredj Djerbar, 21/03/2018



VOUS QUI SAVEZ CE QU'EST L'AMOUR

de R. Estèves,
After Les Noces de Figaro by Mozart

THÉÂTRE DE L'ATHÉNÉE, OPÉRA DE LIMOGES, THÉÂTRE D'AGEN,
OPÉRA DE VICHY, OPÉRA DE SAINT-ETIENNE... 2018-2025

Stage Direction, Dramaturgy, Co-Author

Format: One-Woman-Opera

Cast: 1 Singer, 1 Guitarist

Performances: 35

Duration: 110 min

Capacity: 350 to 900 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

Vous qui savez ce
qu'est l'amour by
Romie Estèves
After Les Noces de
Figaro by Mozart



© Amber Vandenhoek



A theatrical UFO destined for a bright future.

Figaroscope, T. Hillériteau, 20/02/2019



A delightful and unclassifiable musical theater piece.

concertclassic.com, A. Cochard, 17/02/2019



A particularly enjoyable frenetic marathon.

Libération, G. Tion, 21/02/2019



BERLIOZ THE FANTASTIC: EPISODES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ARTIST

Libretto by Emmanuel Reibel
With music by Berlioz, Gluck, Salieri

**LE PALAIS ROYAL // HISTORIC HALL OF THE FIRST CONSERVATORY
OF PARIS 2019**

Stage Direction, Co-Adaptation of the Libretto, Set Design, Costumes, Lighting

Format: Theatrical Concert

Cast: 30 Chorus Singers from the Palais Royal, 1 Actor, 1 Pianist

Performances: 5

Duration: 120 min

Capacity: 500 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

BERLIOZ THE FANTASTIC:
EPISODES FROM THE LIFE OF
AN ARTIST
Libretto by Emmanuel Reibel set
to music by Berlioz, Gluck,
Salieri



© Mylène Natour



*The staging is remarkably fluid.
So much so that it sometimes seems magical.*

Forum opéra, Brigitte Cormier, 15/03/2019



*The two hours of the show pass
without us even noticing.*

Webthéâtre, Christian Wasselin, 13/03/2019



*The direction is undoubtedly a success:
aesthetic and fluidity are its best descriptors.*

Gangflow, le média de la musique classique, Anne-Sandrine Girolamo, 16/03/2019



THE LUCKY HAND (DIE GLÜCKLICHE HAND) & GIANNI SCHICCHI

A. Schönberg & G. Puccini

MAINFRANKEN THEATER WÜRZBURG // 2021

Stage Direction

Format: Combination of 2 One-Act Operas (Drama in 4 Scenes and Comedy in 1 Act)

Cast: 14 Soloists, 3 Extras

Performances: 16

Duration: 80 min

Capacity: 600 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

The Lucky Hand (Die Glückliche Hand) & Gianni Schicchi



© Nik Schöze



Director Benjamin Prins skillfully combines the two works into a single narrative in a truly ingenious way (...) Unyielding direction.

Main Echo, Michaela Schneider 19/09/2021



A connecting thread from Schönberg to Puccini.

Opern-News, Stephan Burianek, 20/09/2021



Disturbing and delightful. (...) An exhilarating theater evening with many facets.

Mainpost, Mathias Wiedemann, 19/09/2021



FANTASIO

J. Offenbach, After A. de Musset

OPERA SOUTH MAASTRICHT // 2019
TOUR IN 15 THEATERS INCLUDING THE HAGUE, COLOGNE
PHILHARMONIC, UTRECHT, MAASTRICHT, BREDA... (LIVE STREAM)

Stage Direction, Dialogues Adaptation

Format: Romantic Fantasy, 3 Acts, 27 Scenes

Cast: 11 Soloists, 24 Chorus Singers, 4 Dancers, Philharmonic Orchestra

Performances: 15

Duration: 145 min

Capacity: Between 900 and 8000 Seats



PRESS REVIEW

FANTASIO

J. Offenbach, After
A. de Musset



© Bjorn Frins



Where genius abounds, grace overflows. [...] A complete success.

Forum opéra, Brigitte Cormier, 15/03/2019



A superb, incisive work that gives Fantasio all its depth and uniqueness.

Opéra Magazine, José Pons, 09/2019



Benjamin Prins delivers one of the best productions for an opera performance.

Classiquenews, Pedro Octavo-Diaz, 23/05/2019