Press Contact:

Elizabeth Boone, The WNET Group, 212.560.8831, booneb@wnet.org

Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

*Great Performances at the Met: Boris Godunov*

Premieres Sunday, February 6 on PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/))

New York metro area premiere Sunday, February 13 at 12 p.m. on THIRTEEN

**Synopsis:**

Bass René Pape, the world’s reigning Boris, reprises his portrayal of the tortured tsar caught between ambition and paranoia. Conductor Sebastian Weigle leads Mussorgsky’s Russian masterwork in its original 1869 version. Stephen Wadsworth’s production captures the hope and suffering of the Russian people as well as the tsar himself. ***Great Performances at the Met: Boris Godunov*** premieres Sunday, February 6 on PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)) as part of #PBSForTheArts. The New York metro area premiere is Sunday, February 13 at 12 p.m. on THIRTEEN. Met Opera soprano Angel Blue hosts. The broadcast opens season 16 of ***Great Performances at the Met*** that includes 10 new operas premiering monthly February-November 2022 on PBS.

#PBSForTheArts is a multiplatform campaign that celebrates the arts in America. For more than 50 years, PBS has been the media destination for the arts, presenting dance, theater, opera, visual arts and concerts to Americans in every corner of the country. Previous ***Great Performances*** programs include *Romeo & Juliet* from the National Theatre, *The Arts Interrupted*, *Coppelia*, *From Vienna: The New Year’s Celebration 2022* and *Reopening: The Broadway Revival.* The collection of #PBSForTheArts programs is available at [pbs.org/arts](http://pbs.org/arts) and the PBS Video app. Curated conversation and digital shorts are also available on PBS social media platforms using #PBSForTheArts.

**Cast:**

* Sebastian Weigle – Conductor
* René Pape – Boris Godunov
* David Butt Philip – Grigory
* Maxim Paster – Shuisky
* Aleksey Bogdanov – Shchelkalov
* Ryan Speedo Green – Varlaam
* Ain Anger – Pimen

**Creative:**

* Modest Mussorgsky – Composer
* Stephen Wadsworth – Production
* Ferdinand Wögerbauer – Set Designer
* Moidele Bickel – Costume Designer
* Steve Rankin – Fight Director
* Duane Schuler – Lighting Designer

***Great Performances at the Met*** is produced by the Metropolitan Opera in association with PBS and The WNET Group, bringing the best of the Metropolitan Opera into the homes of opera fans across the country. ***Boris Godunov***is directed for the screen by Gary Halvorson. For the Met: Mia Bongiovanni and Elena Park are Supervising Producers and Louisa Briccetti and Victoria Warivonchik are Producers. Peter Gelb is Executive Producer. For ***Great Performances***: Bill O’Donnell is Series Producer; David Horn is Executive Producer.

Corporate support for ***Great Performances at the Met*** is provided by Toll Brothers. For ***Great Performances***, funding is provided by The Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation and The Philip and Janice Levin Foundation.

**Websites:**[http://pbs.org/gperf](http://www.pbs.org/gperf), [http://facebook.com/GreatPerformances](http://www.facebook.com/GreatPerformances), [@GPerfPBS](http://twitter.com/gperfpbs), <http://youtube.com/greatperformancespbs>, [giphy.com/great–performances](https://giphy.com/great-performances/) #GreatPerformancesPBS #PBSForTheArts

**About The WNET Group**
[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21,](http://wliw.org/) THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS,](https://www.mynjpbs.org/) New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM[; ALL ARTS,](http://allarts.org/) the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News.](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/) Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters***, ***PBS NewsHour Weekend*** and ***Amanpour and Company***and trusted local news programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***NJ Spotlight News******with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for nearly 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

**About The Met**
Under the leadership of General Manager Peter Gelb and Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin, the Metropolitan Opera is one of America’s leading performing arts organizations and a vibrant home for the world’s most creative and talented artists, including singers, conductors, composers, orchestra musicians, stage directors, designers, visual artists, choreographers, and dancers. The company presents more than 200 performances each season of a wide variety of operas, ranging from early masterpieces to contemporary works. In recent years, the Met has launched many initiatives designed to make opera more accessible, most prominently the Live in HD series of cinema transmissions, which dramatically expands the Met audience by allowing select performances to be seen in more than 2,200 theaters in more than 70 countries around the world.

###