

Dean

HAMLET

Glyndebourne

The world premiere recording of Brett Dean's new opera based on Shakespeare's best-known tragedy: To be, or not to be. This is Hamlet's dilemma, and the essence of Shakespeare's most famous and arguably greatest work, given new life in operatic form in this original Glyndebourne commission. Thoughts of murder and revenge drive Hamlet when he learns that it was his uncle Claudius who killed his father, the King of Denmark, then seized his father's crown and wife. But Hamlet's vengeance vies with the question: is suicide a morally valid deed in an unbearably painful world?

Dean's colourful, energetic, witty and richly lyrical music expertly captures the modernity of Shakespeare's timeless tale, while also exploiting the traditional operatic elements of arias, ensembles and choruses. Matthew Jocelyn's inspired libretto is pure Shakespeare, adhering to the Bard's narrative thread but abridging, reconfiguring and interweaving it into motifs that highlight the main dramatic themes: death, madness, the impossibility of certainty and the complexities of action.

Hamlet	Allan Clayton
Gertrude	Sarah Connolly
Ophelia	Barbara Hannigan
Claudius	Rod Gilfry
Polonius	Kim Begley
Ghost of Old Hamlet	John Tomlinson
Horatio	Jacques Imbrailo
Laertes	David Butt Philip
Rosencrantz	Rupert Enticknap
Guildenstern	Christopher Lowrey

London Philharmonic Orchestra
The Glyndebourne Chorus

Conductor Vladimir Jurowski
Director Neil Armfield

Catalogue numbers: OA1254D (DVD) / OABD7231D (BLU-RAY)

Barcodes: 809478012542 (DVD) / 809478072317 (BLU-RAY)

Subtitles: EN/FR/DE/ KO

Running time: 185 minutes

Sound format: LPCM 2.0, DTS Digital Surround (DVD) / LPCM 2.0, DTS-HD 5.1 Master Audio (BLU-RAY)



1 X DVD / 1 X Blu-ray

- Extra Features: Extra Features: Creating a World Premiere, A Theatre of Sound and a cast gallery.

What the press said:

“With a reverent but mischievous take on the text and a superb cast led by tenor Allan Clayton, this world premiere production rises to the challenge set by Shakespeare's great play” (The Guardian ****)

“Brilliant music, rapturously received Dean's music offers great brilliance.” (The Daily Telegraph ****)

