



FONDATION DES AMIS DE  
**L'OPÉRA ROYAL**  
ACADÉMIE DES BEAUX-ARTS

## COMMUNIQUE

Paris, January 30th, 2024

### THE FOUNDATION OF THE ROYAL OPERA RECEIVES THE BEST BENEFACTOR OPER! AWARD 2024

**The Foundation of the Friends of the Royal Opera - Académie des beaux-arts is delighted to have been awarded the BEST BENEFACTOR OPER! AWARD 2024. This award recognizes the leading role that the Royal Opera season has taken on in the European musical landscape.**

During a gala evening held Monday January 29 at the Dutch National Opera & Ballet in Amsterdam, broadcasted live on OperaVision, the BEST BENEFACTOR OPER! AWARD, awarded to the Foundation of the Royal Opera, was presented to Catherine Pégard, President of the Château de Versailles, Laurent Brunner, Director of the Royal Opera and Château de Versailles Spectacles, and Wilfried Meynet, President of the Friends of the Royal Opera (ADOR).

With this award the OPER! AWARDS jury wanted to salute ADOR and the Académie des Beaux-Arts, who have created the Foundation of the Royal Opera to ensure the long-term future of the Chateau de Versailles musical season of operas and concerts season - an artistic season of excellence that has become an integral part of the Château's worldwide reputation. The Foundation also supports educational projects linked to the Royal Opera's programming.

Laurent Brunner, who attended the awards ceremony, declared: "It is a great honor for the Foundation to receive this award, which coincides with the 400th anniversary of the construction of the Château de Versailles and the 10th anniversary of ADOR. Today, the Royal Opera is an indispensable venue for a whole section of the public, who comes from all over France and abroad to enjoy artistic projects linked to the history of France and Versailles. The Foundation is at our side to perpetuate and strengthen our musical season, and enable a growing audience to discover the wonders of Versailles' spectacles."

The **OPER! AWARDS** are organized by the German magazine Oper! Magazin, the leading opera publication in the German-speaking world, and are awarded by an international jury of journalists and opera professionals.

**The Royal Opera** does not benefit from any public subsidy. Its financing is ensured by its ticket revenues and the strong commitment of its patrons attached to the influence of the Château de Versailles through music, theater and ballet.

**The Royal Opera Foundation** is entitled to receive donations and bequests, donations in cash, IFIs, real estate, furniture, securities, stocks and life insurances, which give right to tax reductions. Its accounts are under the strict control of the Académie des beaux-arts.