

CULTURE SPECIAL **newsflash**

T+L PICKS: WHAT'S ON STAGE

LONDON

Fiona Shaw, the British stage and film actress (Petunia Dursley in the Harry Potter films), returns to the English National Opera to stage *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mozart's classic bittersweet comedy (Oct. 5–Nov. 10; eno.org).

ZURICH

José Saramago's novel *Blindness* was made into a film in 2008 starring Julianne Moore. Now German composer Anno Schreier, 32, has set it to music as *Die Stadt der Blinden* for the Zurich Opera (Nov. 12–Dec. 4; opernhaus.ch).

SAN FRANCISCO

Composer Christopher Theofanidis's pow-

erful work, *Heart of a Soldier*, commemorating the 10th anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks, is based on the life of Rick Rescorla, who helped guide thousands of people out of Tower 2 before it collapsed. Baritone Thomas Hampson plays Rescorla. (Sept. 10–30; sfopera.com).

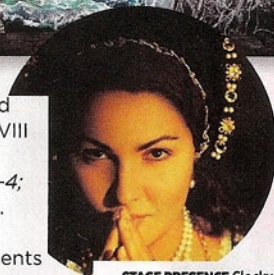
MINNEAPOLIS

The Minnesota Opera presents the

world premiere of *Silent Night*, by the composer Kevin Puts, based on the film *Joyeux Noël*, about a Christmas Eve truce between soldiers in World War I (Nov. 12–20; mnoopera.org).

NEW YORK CITY

The multimedia project *Portals* features the violinist Tim Fain and video and choreography by Benjamin Millepied in Philip Glass's seven-movement *Partita for Solo Violin* at Symphony Space (Sept. 24; symphonyspace.org). • On September 26, the Metropolitan Opera opens its season with Donizetti's rarely produced *Anna Bolena*, with soprano Anna Netrebko as the



ill-fated second wife of Henry VIII (through Oct. 28; also Feb. 1–4; metopera.org). Later, the company presents *The Enchanted Island*, a Baroque pastiche with music by Handel, Vivaldi, and Rameau and starring David Daniels and Joyce Daniels (opens Dec. 31).

—ANNE MIDGETTE

STAGE PRESENCE Clockwise from top: A design for *The Enchanted Island* at the Metropolitan Opera, in New York City; soprano Anna Netrebko as *Anna Bolena*, also at the Met; Rick Rescorla in Vietnam, 1965 (left), and portrayed by Thomas Hampson (right), in *Heart of a Soldier* at the San Francisco Opera; Michael Simonson, director of *Silent Night*, at the Minnesota Opera, in Minneapolis.

