

TCHAIKOVSKY

# EUGENE ONEGIN

WED, JUL 11 | ORIGINALLY TRANSMITTED FEB 24, 2007

CONDUCTOR

Valery Gergiev

PRODUCTION

Robert Carsen

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER

Michael Levine

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Jean Kalman

CHOREOGRAPHER

Serge Bennathan

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Brian Large

TATIANA

Renée Fleming

OLGA

Elena Zaremba

LENSKY

Ramón Vargas

ONEGIN

Dmitri Hvorostovsky

GREMIN

Sergei Aleksashkin

**ACT I** *19th-century Russia.* The widowed Madame Larina has two daughters: The romantic Tatiana spends her time reading novels; the spirited Olga is being courted by their neighbor, the poet Lenski. When he visits with his friend Eugene Onegin, Tatiana falls in love with Onegin and writes him a passionate letter. In response, Onegin declares he can only offer her friendship and condescendingly advises her to control her emotions, lest another man take advantage of her innocence.

## INTERMISSION

**ACT II** Onegin has reluctantly accompanied Lenski to Tatiana's name day celebration. Bored by the occasion, he takes his revenge by flirting with Olga. Lenski's jealousy is aroused to such a degree that he challenges Onegin to a duel. Both men are full of remorse, but neither stops what is happening. Onegin kills Lenski.

**ACT III** After travelling abroad, Onegin has returned to the capital. At a ball, Prince Gremin introduces his young wife. Onegin is astonished to recognize her as Tatiana and to realize that he is in love with her. Now it is he who sends her a letter and begs her to run away with him. Tatiana admits that she still loves him but that she has made her decision and will not leave her husband, leaving Onegin desperate.

*Production a gift of the Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Fund, established by the founders of The Reader's Digest Association, Inc.*

*Revival a gift of gift The Dr. M. Lee Pearce Foundation and the Jane W. Nuhn Charitable Trust*

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