

# PORGY AND BESS

ORIGINALLY TRANSMITTED ON FEB 1, 2020

The Met  
ropolitan  
Opera **HD LIVE  
ENCORE**

## CONDUCTOR

David Robertson

## PRODUCTION

James Robinson

## SET DESIGNER

Michael Yeargan

## COSTUME DESIGNER

Catherine Zuber

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

Donald Holder

## PROJECTION DESIGNER

Luke Halls

## CHOREOGRAPHER

Camille A. Brown

## FIGHT DIRECTOR

David Leong

## LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

## BESS

Angel Blue

## CLARA

Golda Schultz

## SERENA

Latonia Moore

## MARIA

Denyce Graves

## SPORTIN' LIFE

Frederick Ballentine

## PORGY

Eric Owens

## CROWN

Alfred Walker

## JAKE

Donovan Singletary

**ACT I** *Catfish Row, a tenement neighborhood of Charleston, in the 1920s.* Clara sings a lullaby to her baby. Porgy arrives and is about to join a craps game when Crown and Bess appear. Crown loses, starts a fight, and kills Robbins. The community shuns Bess. Only Porgy offers her protection. The next day, Serena leads the mourners at Robbins's funeral. Later, everyone is preparing to leave for a picnic. Porgy and Bess reflect on their happiness. On Kittiwah Island, Sportin' Life describes his own cynical view of religion. The steamboat whistle announces that it's time to leave. Bess hurries along until Crown calls out to her. She explains that she has a new life with Porgy, but he forces her to stay with him.

## INTERMISSION

**ACT II** Bess has been ill since returning from Kittiwah Island. Serena leads the others in prayer, and Bess is healed. Porgy tells her that she doesn't have to go with Crown. A hurricane approaches. Crown appears. Clara sees Jake's boat has overturned and rushes out to save him, followed by Crown. Once the storm has passed, the community grieves for those who have been lost. Crown enters under the cover of darkness, and Porgy confronts and kills him. The next day, detectives arrive and take Porgy to identify Crown's body. Sportin' Life forces some dope on Bess, and she can't help but follow him to New York. Porgy returns, and resolves to follow her.

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