



OPUS ARTE



WRITTEN ON SKIN

Music: **GEORGE BENJAMIN** · Text: **MARTIN CRIMP**

With score by George Benjamin and text by Martin Crimp, *Written on Skin* has been hailed as 'magic and irresistible ... the best opera written over the last twenty years' (*Le Monde*). The composer himself conducts as Christopher Purves' cruel and powerful Protector asks the Boy (Bejun Mehta) to create an illuminated book in honour of the Protector's life and success. He invites the Boy into his home, leading to a journey of self-discovery for the Protector's oppressed and much younger wife Agnès (Barbara Hannigan), with tragic – and gruesome – consequences. Acclaimed director Katie Mitchell brings this dark and intense story to life in a strikingly inventive production that skilfully combines elements of the past and present. Filmed in High Definition and recorded in true Surround Sound.

Sung in English with English, French, German and Japanese subtitles

The Protector **CHRISTOPHER PURVES**
 Agnès **BARBARA HANNIGAN**
 Angel 1/The Boy **BEJUN MEHTA**
 Angel 2/Marie **VICTORIA SIMMONDS**
 Angel 3/John **ALLAN CLAYTON**
 Angel Archivists **DAVID ALEXANDER,**
LAURA HARLING, PETER HOBDDAY,
SARAH NORTHGRAVES

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
 Co-Concertmaster **SERGEY LEVITIN**

Conductor **GEORGE BENJAMIN**
 Director **KATIE MITCHELL**
 Designs **VICKI MORTIMER**
 Lighting design **JON CLARK**
 Fight Director **KATE WATERS**

Produced and directed for the screen by **MARGARET WILLIAMS**



A Royal Opera House production
 Co-commission and co-production with Festival d'Aix-en-Provence,
 De Nederlandse Opera (Amsterdam), Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse
 and Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino
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EXTRA FEATURES

An Introduction to *Written on Skin*
 Interview with George Benjamin
 Cast Gallery

ALL REGIONS

OPERA

AUDIO FORMATS



MUSIC



16:9 ANAMORPHIC

RUNNING TIME APPROX 90 MINUTES
 (OPERA); 8 MINUTES (BONUS)

SUBTITLES: ENGLISH, FRANÇAIS, DEUTSCH,
 JAPANESE

This NTSC DVD is designed for worldwide playback. In PAL regions, please ensure your DVD player and TV are NTSC compatible. If in doubt, consult your dealer.

Recorded and mastered for DVD in stereo and surround sound.

1 x DVD-9 double layer disc (the feature may experience a slight pause upon layer change).

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BENJAMIN WRITTEN ON SKIN CRIMP



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OPUS ARTE



THE ROYAL OPERA



MUSIC **GEORGE BENJAMIN**
 TEXT **MARTIN CRIMP**

WRITTEN ON SKIN

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VICTORIA SIMMONDS | ALLAN CLAYTON

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
CONDUCTOR GEORGE BENJAMIN | DIRECTOR KATIE MITCHELL

