Guido Martin-Brandis -- Director and Cellist

Guido Martin-Brandis is a director and cellist based in London. His imaginatively detailed, character driven, musically sensitive productions have garnered excellent reviews in the press, marking him out as a rising talent amongst British opera directors. His last three shows reviewed in Opera Now Magazine all received five star reviews, and his shows have been nominated for the OffWestEnd Awards and also the Standing Ovation Awards.

He is particularly passionate about the German and Slavic operatic repertoire, alongside the operas of the French Baroque, and formed The Opera Company in 2017 to put on productions of these works. His first two shows with the company, *Onegin and Tatiana*, and *The Cunning Little Vixen*, enjoyed sell out runs at the Arcola Theatre as part of the Grimeborn Festival. In 2022 with The Opera Company he directed the professional UK premiere of the 1737 version of Rameau's *Castor et Pollux*, and a double bill of Rameau's *Pigmalion* and *Nélée et Myrthis*. Other recent directing projects have included critically acclaimed productions of *L'elisir d'amore* for Wild Arts and *La Cenerentola* for Opera Kipling, the world premiere of *A Child in Striped Pyjamas* based on John Boyne's bestselling novel, and *La Serva Padrona*, and *Bastien et Basteinne* (Opera de Baugé).

In 2021 he directed the UK premiere of the 1933 version of Strauss' *Die Ägyptische Helena* for Fulham Opera, a production which was critically acclaimed, a newly devised show called *Rameau's Roots*, a Menotti double bill for Opera Diaspora, and created a Lego stop motion animation of *Rusalka*. Future plans include Opera Scenes at Guildhall School of Music and Drama, further revivals of *A Child in Striped Pyjamas*, and a production of *Der Rosenkavalier* for The Opera Company.

As Assistant, Associate, and Co-Director he has worked with Garsington Festival Opera (*Capriccio*), Opera de Baugé (*Rigoletto, Idomeneo, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, Faust, Die Zauberflote, Orphée aux Enfers, Alfonso und Estrella, Die Lustige Witwe*), The Royal Academy of Music (*The Rape of Lucretia*), Guildhall School of Music and Drama (*Pedro Paramo*), Fulham Opera (*Don Carlo*), and Darker Purpose Theatre (*King Lear, The Marriage of Figaro, La Boheme, The Four Note Opera, Boris Johnson the Musical*).