

JEAN-JACQUES DELMOTTE

COSTUME DESIGNER

‘Costume designer Jean-Jacques Delmotte clearly had fun creating a Tim Burtonesque world of pinkish-purplish grey that manages to feel both exuberant and tragic, like an antique run-down circus – perfect for our cursed clown’

Albuquerque Journal, Rigoletto, Santa Fe Opera 2025

Jean-Jacques Delmotte is a Paris-born costume designer whose work has been seen on the world's leading stages. Trained in architecture at Beaux-Arts de Paris and fashion at La Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne, he initially designed costumes for theatre and contemporary dance companies, before establishing himself in opera. He has enjoyed a close collaboration with director Laurent Pelly for more than 20 years, co-designing costumes for more than 25 new productions. He also designs for directors including Timothy Sheader, Yves Lenoir and Julien Chavaz.

Highlights of 2025–26 included a new production of Nico Dostal's *Clivia* with Julien Chavaz at Staatstheater Magdeburg, as well as several revivals, such as *Don Pasquale* in Nice and Toulon, and *Eugene Onegin* at Palau les Arts Valencia. Other recent work includes *Macbeth* (TOBS Stadttheater Biel, with Yves Lenoir); *Rigoletto* (Irish National Opera, Opera Zuid and Santa Fe Opera) with Julien Chavaz; Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (Teatro Real Madrid, Royal Danish Opera and Brno National Opera, co-designed with Laurent Pelly); Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* (Opéra national de Lorraine with Timothy Sheader); and Korngold's *Die Tote Stadt* (Korea National Opera with Julien Chavaz). Other titles with Yves Lenoir include Verdi's *Nabucco* and Bellini's *I Capuleti ei Montecchi* (TOBS Stadttheater Biel), Verdi's *Giovanna d'Arco* (TOBS Stadttheater Biel/Opéra de Tours) and Janáček's *Jenůfa* at Opéra de Dijon. Their plans include an opera gala at Opéra national de Paris during the coming season.

His extensive catalogue of titles with Pelly includes *Il Turco in Italia* at Teatro Real Madrid, *Eugene Onegin* at La Monnaie/De Munt, *La Périochole* at Théâtre des Champs Élysées, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Opéra de Lille and a Poulenc double bill – *La Voix Humaine/Les Mamelles de Tirésias* – for Glyndebourne Festival, winner of the Best New Production at the International Opera Awards 2022. Also *La Cenerentola* (Amsterdam, Geneva, Valencia, Los Angeles), *Falstaff* (Brussels, Nikikai Tokyo, Napoli, Barcelona), *Viva la Mamma!* (Lyon, Geneva, Madrid), *Il nozze di Figaro* (Santa Fe, Matsumoto Festival Japan) and the French premiere of Mary Chase's play *Harvey*, which premiered in Lyon in autumn 2021 and toured throughout 2022–23.

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Further titles (also with Pelly) include *Manon* at Royal Opera House, London, Metropolitan Opera and Teatro alla Scala, Milan; *Cendrillon* at Santa Fe Opera, Royal Opera House, London, La Monnaie/De Munt, Opéra de Lille, Metropolitan Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera and Teatro del Liceu, Barcelona; *L'enfant et les sortilèges* at Glyndebourne Festival, Teatro alla Scala and Matsumoto Japan; *Candide* and *La traviata* in Santa Fe; *Le Roi Carotte* in Lyon and Lille; and *Il barbiere di Siviglia* at Théâtre des Champs Elysées Paris. Also *La Belle Hélène* at Théâtre du Chatelet (and at Santa Fe and English National Opera); *Don Quichotte* and *Le Coq d'Or* at La Monnaie de Munt Brussels; *Threepenny Opera* at the Comédie Française; *Love for Three Oranges* and *L'etoile* at Dutch National Opera Amsterdam; and *I Puritani* at L'Opéra national de Paris.

Delmotte designed costumes for *Benvenuto Cellini* and *Die Zauberflöte* at Staatstheater Nürnberg and Opéra national de Bordeaux, and *Les Indes Galantes* at Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse with Laura Scozzi; for *Idomeneo* at L'opéra national du Rhin with Christoph Gayral, and for *Le Misanthrope* at La Cigale, Paris. He is also an artist: jijidelpaintings.com.