

Beat: Arts

## **MARIA CALLAS - PARIS 1958, RESTORATION IN COLOR OF ONE OF HER GREATEST CONCERTS**

**VOLF PRODUCTIONS AND COMPOSITE FILMS**

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**USPA NEWS** - To celebrate Maria Callas' 100th birthday, Volf Productions and Composite Films worked from the Original Reels on the Restoration in Color, in 4K Resolution and Dolby Atmos Sound, of the Film of one of her Greatest Concerts, Exclusively for Cinema...

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Directed and Produced by the Team behind the Award-winning and Critically Acclaimed Documentary, *Maria By Callas* (2017), *CALLAS-PARIS, 1958*, selected in the "Cinema History" Category for Special Screening at the Film Festival of Rome this Year, will be released exclusively in Theaters around the World. In France, the Film will be broadcasted on Saturday December 2 and Sunday December 3, 2023.

Maria Callas was one of the most Publicized Icons of her Time, receiving even more Media Coverage than Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor. Even Today, she captivates Music Lovers, who are fascinated by her Tragic Life, but also by the Drama and Virtuosity of her Interpretations. This Cinematic Masterpiece pays Tribute to the Lasting Impact of an Opera Icon, considered "The Voice of the 20th Century", inviting his Admirers and New Generations to experience the Magic of this Historical Moment.

*CALLAS - PARIS, 1958* - An Unforgettable Evening. Maria Callas, the Quintessential Diva and Face of Opera in the 20th Century, made her Paris Debut with this Iconic Performance at the Paris Opera on December 19, 1958, for One Evening only.

It was a Major Social Event, attended by "All of Paris" (including President Coty: Jean Cocteau, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Charlie Chaplin, Brigitte Bardot, and many others). Callas appeared on the Famous Stage wearing her most Elegant Clothes and Jewelry worth a Million of Dollars.

She began with her Favorite Role, "Casta Diva" from *Norma*, followed by the Captivating Scene from "Miserere" from Verdi's *Trouvère*, before performing the Mischievous "Una Voce Poco Fa" from *The Barber of Seville*. The Climax of the Evening was reached with the Complete Act II of *Tosca*.

The Repertoire for this Show shows Callas at her Best, both in Recital and as an Actress. Visual Elements were as Important as Vocal Dimensions in its Art.

Broadcasted for the First Time in Full Color and 4K – meticulously restored from the Recently Discovered Original 16mm Reels and a Newly Discovered Sound Source – this Legendary Evening is One to experience like Never Before.

This Visual Restoration of the Film is only Part of the Story. The Equally Valuable Dolby Atmos Sound has been restored from Maria Callas' Personal Archives. Every Note, Every Nuance of his Incomparable Voice has been preserved for Posterity. Mixing and Mastering were entrusted to Miraval Studios, so that the Auditory Experience is as captivating as the Visual Experience.

Tom Volf, Director and Producer of *CALLAS PARIS, 1958*, says: "in 2021, in Basements in Athens, I made an Incredible Discovery: the Original Reels of a Historical Show, the Debut of Maria Callas in Paris . After Years of Restoration, I am honored to present this Film, not only because it is the First Time Audiences have seen a Color Performance of Maria Callas, but also because it gives us all the Chance to relive this Historic Moment as if we were there and spend the Evening with the Greatest Opera Singer of All Time."

Samuel François-Steininger, Producer of *CALLAS PARIS, 1958*, declares: "I am working on the Restoration and Colorization of Films for more than Fifteen Years and I have brought All my Experience to this Project. We have worked Tirelessly to create a Perfect

Rendition that allows the Audience to Fully Immerse Yourself in the Unique and Special Talent of Maria Callas."

Source:

- \* Filmmaker & Producer: Tom Volf
- \* Production & Restoration: Samuel Francois-Steininger
- \* Distribution: Pathé Live

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