



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

3 September 2020

Take a Bow

Royal Opera House opens its doors for the first time in six months

as part of Open House London

Saturday 19 – Sunday 20 September 2020

Free access, book online, #OHL20

After six months of closure, the Royal Opera House is thrilled to be opening its doors to the public as part of **Open House London** weekend, giving visitors a taste of one of the world's most famous theatres for free.

In a specially-curated, socially-distanced programme called **'Take a Bow'**, visitors will be granted access to the Royal Opera House's two world-class stages, with a chance to glimpse the velvet, gilt and glamour of the Main Stage, built in 1858, as well as the state-of-the-art new Linbury Theatre which opened in 2018.

Visitors will be given the opportunity to tread the boards of the Main Stage from the viewpoint of a performer, take a bow and a selfie on stage. The immersive experience will also include a film screening in the Linbury Theatre of ballet and opera highlights from past Royal Opera House productions. This short film will be a celebration of opera and ballet, showcasing some of the world-class stars who have graced the Royal Opera House stages.

The Café and Shop will be open, and there will be an opportunity to tap and donate to support the Royal Opera House during what continues to be the most challenging time in the UK theatre industry's history.

Open House at the Royal Opera House will take place between 10am – 7pm across the weekend of 19 and 20 September, but **visitors must pre-book in advance**.

In order to adhere to social distancing guidelines, access can only be permitted to those who have pre-booked and visitors will be required to register their details for track and trace procedures. Cleaning throughout the building will be heightened and no access will be permitted without a prior booking.

Until then, we look forward to welcoming visitors back to our Covent Garden home, whether you're a first-time visitor, or a long-standing fan.

Ends

ROH Open House is generously supported by



Notes to Editors

Please find images available to download <https://we.tl/t-lrZDH3ndIG>

- The 'Take A Bow' experience will take place every 30 minutes.
- Four bubbles will be given access per half hour slot, with up to six people in a bubble.

Opening Times

Open House London, The Royal Opera House Bow Street, WC2E 9DD

Saturday 19 – Sunday 20 September, 10am – 8pm (last entry 7pm)

Free access but booking is essential via www.roh.org.uk

#OHL20

For more images, interviews and further information, please contact Ashley.Woodfield@roh.org.uk and Chloe.westwood@roh.org.uk

About Open House

For nearly thirty years Open House London has provided access to the beloved favourites and hidden gems of London's buildings. This September's event will be more ambitious and varied than ever before as we reconnect Londoners with a city they've been locked out of for months. Open House 2020 will help rebuild a healthy city with a special programme carefully curated around safe ways to explore the streets of London on foot and bike alongside sociable, active ways to participate in the festival from home too. Building visits and walking tours will take place in locations who have ensured that these can be done in a safe and responsible manner through implementing measures such as pre-booking, timed entry and reduced capacities. Self-led walking tours will be available to download for anyone that wants to go at their own pace.

www.open-city.org.uk/open-house

About the Royal Opera House

The Royal Opera House wants to give everyone access to exceptional ballet and opera. As The Royal Ballet, The Royal Opera and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, we bring together the world's most extraordinary artists in more than 500 performances every year on our two stages.

Across the 2018/19 Season we welcomed more than one million people through our doors as ticketholders, participants in our programme of free and ticketed daytime events, and as visitors to our bars, cafes, restaurants and shop. A further one million people enjoyed our work in cinemas, at free screenings and through streamed and televised performances up and down the UK. Our ongoing partnership with the BBC saw 11 of our productions broadcast across their platforms last Season.

During the 2018/19 Season our three flagship ROH learning programmes – Create and Sing, Create and Dance and Design and Make – supported teachers from 1,394 schools since the programmes began in 2016, 81% of which were outside London, bringing arts to children and young people the length and breadth of the country.