

WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA

THE 73RD
WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA
18 OCT | 2 NOV 2024

**EVENTS
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1 FESTIVAL | 16 DAYS | 70 EVENTS



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

OPERA	06
CONCERTS TALKS	18
WEXFORD FACTORY	26
HOW TO SUPPORT	28
BOOKING	32
CALENDAR	38
DISCOVER THE REPERTOIRE	39

LE MASCHERE

Opera in a prologue and three act acts by
PIETRO MASCAGNI

Libretto by
LUIGI ILLICA

Le Maschere

CAST INCLUDES

LAVINIA BINI Rosaura

BENOIT JOSEPH MEIER Arlecchino

IOANA PIPELEA Colombina

GILLEN MUNGUIA Brighella

RORY MUSGRAVE Dottore Graziano

MARIANO OROZCO Pantalone De' Bisognosi

ANDREW MORSTEIN Florindo

GIORGIO CAODURO Tartaglia

PETER McCAMLEY Giocadio

PRODUCTION TEAM

FRANCESCO CILLUFFO Conductor

STEFANO RICCI Director & Designer

STELLARIO DI BLASI Choreographer

DANIELE NALDI Lighting Designer

PRODUCTION SPONSOR


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 OPERA

THE OPERA

Mascagni's comic opera tells the tale of a travelling *commedia dell'arte* troupe, their impresario, and the interaction between the players and the characters they play.

It's Mascagni's homage to Rossini and to the Italian opera *buffa* and *commedia dell'arte* traditions. It was premiered simultaneously in six Italian opera houses but, apart from Rome, the reception was subdued. While it has often been held that Mascagni was a 'one opera man' who could never repeat the success of *Cavalleria rusticana*, this verdict has already been debunked by Wexford's four previous Mascagni productions, most recently Guglielmo Ratcliff in 2015.

Approx. running time: 160 minutes

NOTES

First performance: 17 January 1901
Teatro alla Scala, Milan; Teatro Carlo Felice, Genoa;
Teatro Regio, Turin; Teatro Costanzi, Rome; Teatro
La Fenice, Venice; Teatro Filarmonico, Verona.

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

TIMES

Please, note the starting times

Fri 18 Oct 8:00 pm

Sat 26 Oct 7:30 pm

Wed 23 Oct 7:30 pm

Thu 31 Oct 7:30 pm

THE PLOT

The title of *Le Maschere* refers to the masks of the *commedia dell'arte* and in the Prologue the players and their impresario present the characters they are about to play. These characters are: Brighella, a travelling salesman; Dr. Graziano, a man of law; Columbina, his maidservant (in love with Brighella); Pantalone a wealthy resident; his daughter Rosaura (in love with Florindo); a stuttering Tartaglia; Capitan Spaventa and his servant Arlecchino.

The remaining three acts are the play itself wherein after many vicissitudes, Florindo and Rosaura, aided by Columbina and Arlecchino, manage to prevent the marriage to the Capitan which Rosaura's father had planned for her and instead Pantalone agrees to the wedding of Rosaura and Florindo on the condition that in nine months a beautiful Pantaloncino will be born, while the opera ends with a joyful hymn to the Italian mask sung in chorus by all those present.

TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€35 – €160

THE CRITIC

or An Opera Rehearsed

Opera in two acts by
CHARLES VILLIERS STANFORD

Libretto by
RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN

The Critic

CAST INCLUDES

RORY DUNNE Governor of Tilbury Fort + Justice

GYULA NAGY Earl of Leicester + Beefeater

BEN McATEER Sir Walter Raleigh

OLIVER JOHNSTON Sir Christopher Hatton

DANE SUAREZ Don Feolo Wiskerandos

ANDREW HENLEY Son

AVA DODD Tilburina

HANNAH O'BRIEN Confidant + First Niece

CAROLYN HOLT Justice's Lady + Second Niece

TONY BRENNAN Lord Burleigh (Spoken role)

PRODUCTION TEAM

CIARÁN McAULEY Conductor

CONOR HANRATTY Director

JOHN COMISKEY Set Designer

MASSIMO CARLOTTO Costume
Designer

DANIELE NALDI Lighting Designer

PRODUCTION SPONSOR



THE OPERA

The Critic, or An Opera Rehearsed, is a comic opera set onstage during the final rehearsals of a new operatic work. It is a humorous take on the theatre and the people who inhabit it.

Both Stanford and Sheridan were born in Dublin but pursued their careers in England; Sheridan as a prominent playwright and one-time owner of the Theatre Royal Drury Lane and Stanford as Professor of Music at the Royal College of Music and the University of Cambridge as well as a composer best remembered for his choral works. *The Critic* was his third opera (of four) and considered one of his best, having been well received initially and later revived by Thomas Beecham.

Approx. running time: 150 minutes

NOTES

First performance: 1916
Shaftesbury Theatre, London

Sung in English with English surtitles

TIMES

Please, note the starting times

Sat 19 Oct 7:30 pm

Thu 24 Oct 7:30 pm

Sun 27 Oct 5:00 pm

Fri 1 Nov 7:30 pm

THE PLOT

The Critic takes place on the stage of a theatre, where a new opera, *The Spanish Armada*, is in rehearsal. The composer, Mr. Dangle and the librettist and impresario, Mr. Puff, have invited the eponymous critic, Mr. Sneer, to attend. Mr. Puff launches into a discussion of his profession, the theatre and the many merits of his new piece.

The rehearsal begins, and we are transported to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. At Tilbury Fort, Sir Walter Raleigh and the Governor of the fort, Sir Christopher Hatton, discuss the threat of a Spanish invasion. They have captured the extravagant Don Ferolo Whiskerandos, son of the enemy admiral, and imprisoned him. (Throughout the rehearsal, Puff, Sneer and Dangle interrupt proceedings to comment on the work.) The governor's daughter Tilburina enters and we discover that she has fallen in love with Don Ferolo. Hatton's and Raleigh's nieces, both also in love with Whiskerandos, intent on avenging his faithlessness. They are prevented by an English sea captain. He kills Whiskerandos (in a scene that requires a lot of rehearsal) and the bereft Tilburina loses her mind.

An incongruous masque celebrating Queen Elizabeth's famous victory over the Spanish Armada concludes the opera, before Mr. Puff has to decide if they'll need more rehearsal tomorrow...

TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€35 – €160

LE CONVENIENZE ED INCONVENIENZE TEATRALI

Opera in two acts by
GAETANO DONIZETTI

Libretto by
DOMENICO GILARDONI

*Le convenienze
ed inconvenienze teatrali*

CAST INCLUDES

PAOLO BORDOGNA Donna Agata Scannagalli

SHARLEEN JOYNT Daria Garbinati

GIUSEPPE TOIA Procolo

ALBERTO ROBERT Guglielmo Antolstoinoff

PAOLA LEOCI Luigia Castragatti

MATTEO LOI Biscroma Strappaviscere

WILLIAM KYLE Cesare Salzapariglia

PRODUCTION TEAM

DANILO GRASSI Conductor

ORPHA PHELAN Director

MADLINE BOYD Set & Costume
Designer

AMY SHARE KISSIOV Choreographer

DANIELE NALDI Lighting Designer

THE OPERA

A riotous spectacle and one of the wittiest operatic parodies of opera itself. A regional opera company faces numerous obstacles and much quarrelling as various singers threaten to walk out and chaos ensues.

The opera was originally a one-act farsa which premiered at the Teatro Nuovo in Naples in 1827, before Donizetti revised it as a two-act work with added recitatives and other material. Inspired by two comedies written by Antonio Simone Sografi between 1794 and 1816 it follows the theatrical traditions of Goldoni, Gozzi and Metastasio, subjecting the bad habits of the operatic world to biting criticism. *Convenienze* has appeared in a number of translations and under various titles such as *Viva la Mamma* and *Viva la Diva*.

Approx. running time: 150 minutes

NOTES

First performance: 20 April 1831
Teatro della Canobbiana, Milan

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

TIMES

Please, note the starting times

Sun 20 Oct 7:30 pm

Fri 25 Oct 7:30 pm

Mon 28 Oct 5:00 pm

Sat 2 Nov 7:30 pm

THE PLOT

Le convenienze ed inconvenienze teatrali (Conventions and Inconveniences of the Stage) is a two-act farce that shines an exaggerated spotlight on the behind-the-scenes working of a theatre and the rehearsal process, showing what can go wrong when the egos of the performers get in the way of putting on a good show. The title refers to the 'convenienze', which were the rules relating to the ranking of singers (primo, secondo, comprimario) in 19th century Italian opera and the number of scenes and arias that they were each entitled to expect.

A regional (and mediocre) opera company is producing a new work, but faces numerous obstacles. The Prima Donna acts every bit the diva and refuses to rehearse. The Tenor finds himself in the wrong production and quite out of his depth. The Seconda Donna's mother (played by a baritone) demands that her daughter be given a more prominent role, before deciding to take on several roles herself. Not to be outshone, the Prima Donna's husband takes to the stage too. When the show eventually collapses and the company tries to flee under cover of night, rather than pay back all the investors (whose money has already been spent), the Impresario has other plans...

TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€35 – €160

PAGLIACCI

Opera in a prologue and two acts by
RUGGERO LEONCAVALLO

Libretto by
RUGGERO LEONCAVALLO

Pagliacci



CAST INCLUDES

WEXFORD FACTORY ARTISTS

PRODUCTION TEAM

EMANUELE QUARANTA Conductor

STEFANIA PANIGHINI Director

DANIELE NALDI Lighting Designer

THE OPERA

It's easy from this distance to overlook the fact that *Pagliacci* was one of the earliest operas (along with *Carmen* and, of course, its fellow *Cavalleria rusticana*) to ennoble the feelings and emotions of their lowborn characters. But *Pagliacci* stands out especially for doing so while also making extremely sophisticated musical and dramatic points about theatrical illusion and reality.

SEMI-STAGED OPERA

Approx. running time: 60 minutes

NOTES

First performance: 21 May 1892
Teatro Dal Verme, Milan

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

TIMES

Thu 24 Oct 3:00 pm

Sat 26 Oct 3:00 pm

Tue 29 Oct 11:00 am

Wed 30 Oct 7:30 pm

Fri 1 Nov 3:00 pm

THE PLOT

Pagliacci is a dramatic tale of love and betrayal centred around a *commedia dell'arte* troupe. Canio and Nedda are married, and Nedda has a secret affair with Silvio.

Fearing Canio's jealous anger, Nedda hides the entanglement and even attempts to break it off with Silvio. Yet, their love is strong, and they plan to run away together. Tonio, also in love with Nedda, admits his love for her, but she turns him away, humiliating him. In an act of revenge, Tonio tells Canio that Nedda is having an affair, as he suspected. During a performance, Canio confronts Nedda and stabs her. Silvio attempts to save Nedda, running up on stage but is also stabbed by Canio. The audience, not realising the reality in front of them, claps until Canio screams, "the comedy is ended."

WEXFORD FACTORY SPONSOR



TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€25 – €50



Art imitates life in a new dramatic work commissioned by WFO to commemorate the centenary of Puccini's death in 1924. Morris uncovered a complex web of infidelity and jealousy which almost destroyed the composer's career.

In the early days of his career, success came quickly for Giacomo Puccini. La Bohème, Tosca and Madama Butterfly were all created within less than eight years. He enjoyed the trappings of his new-found wealth and fame, shooting, sailing and fishing on the lake opposite his Tuscan mansion. One day, in 1909, disaster struck and his idyllic life began to unravel. Guilt-ridden and devastated by this terrible tragedy, Puccini searched for salvation in the only place he knew: by composing an opera that would finally set him free.

Directed by
WILLIAM NIAL MORRIS

PUCCINI: MAN OF THE THEATRE

Devised and written by
WILLIAM NIAL MORRIS

with music by
GIACOMO PUCCINI

Spoken words in English
Operatic extracts sung in Italian

Approx. running time: 75 minutes



TIMES

Sat 19 Oct	3:00 pm
Mon 21 Oct	11:00 am
Wed 23 Oct	11:00 am
Fri 25 Oct	11:00 am

Sun 27 Oct	11:00 am
Tue 29 Oct	3:00 pm
Thu 31 Oct	11:00 am
Sat 2 Nov	11:00 am

TICKETS

Jerome Hynes Theatre | NOH
€25

LADY GREGORY IN AMERICA

Opera in one act by
ALBERTO CARUSO

Libretto by
COLM TÓIBÍN

Newly Commission Opera

Sung in English Approx. running time: 80 minutes



TIMES

Sun 20 Oct	11:00 am	Sat 26 Oct	11:00 am
Tue 22 Oct	3:00 pm	Mon 28 Oct	11:00 am
Thu 24 Oct	11:00 am	Wed 30 Oct	11:00 am
		Fri 1 Nov	11:00 am

 **POCKET OPERA**
opera beag

The novelist Colm Tóibín may need no introduction, but his deep love and appreciation of opera may still catch some unaware. There is nowhere better to make this discovery than in Wexford, since Tóibín's family had connections with the Festival from its very start.

Lady Gregory in America, Tóibín's third opera, reuniting him with the composer Alberto Caruso, reflects another of the author's literary fascinations. It's a portrait of Augusta Gregory, the redoubtable Irishwoman who as founder (together with Y.B. Yeats) of Dublin's Abbey Theatre was so hugely influential in shaping Irish cultural history. His operatic comedy follows her American adventures with other revolutionary Irish women.

Conductor
ALBERTO CARUSO

Stage Director
AOIFE SPILLANE-HINKS

Generously supported by
Mark Villamar & Esther Milsted

TICKETS

Jerome Hynes Theatre | NOH

€25

THE ELIXIR OF LOVE

Opera in two acts by
GAETANO DONIZETTI

Libretto by
FELICE ROMANI

First performance: 12 May 1832
Teatro della Cannobiana, Milan

Sung in English Approx. running time: 70 minutes

This year we have developed another community-based adaptation of opera's most heartwarming comedy, filled with Donizetti's delectable music, which is sure to bring nonstop smiles.

Following its sell-out success in 2023, our local community will again take part in workshops throughout 2024 and, together with Wexford Factory artists, will create and present an immersive performance of music and dialogue, in a non-theatrical setting. The audience will move with the action, experiencing the opera as both audience and participant.

PRODUCTION SPONSOR

energía group

VENUE PARTNER

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COLLECTION



TIMES

Fri 18 Oct	5:00 pm	Mon 28 Oct	7:30 pm
Tue 22 Oct	7:30 pm	Thu 31 Oct	4:30 pm
Fri 25 Oct	4:30 pm	Sat 2 Nov	4:30 pm

TICKETS

The Grain Store at Stonebridge
€15

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Karina Daly
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Wexford Festival Opera
1951-2021

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LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Approx. running time: 55 minutes

The Lunchtime Recitals are a fantastic opportunity for music lovers to experience the excitement and surprise of live performances.

Soloists and the accompanying pianists will showcase their musical versatility by performing a wide range of music from various genres, including operatic arias, lieder, oratorio, concert, and popular songs. The diversity in the repertoire ensures that there is something for everyone's musical taste.

Unsurprisingly, the Lunchtime Recitals sell out very quickly; therefore, early booking is strongly advised.



TIMES

TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH
St Iberius Church | North Main Street
€20

St Iberius Church

Sat 19 Oct 1:00 pm
Mon 21 Oct 1:00 pm
Tue 22 Oct 1:00 pm
Thu 24 Oct 1:00 pm
Sat 26 Oct 1:00 pm
Tue 29 Oct 1:00 pm
Fri 1 Nov 1:00 pm

O'Reilly Theatre

Wed 23 Oct 1:00 pm
Fri 25 Oct 1:00 pm
Sun 27 Oct 1:00 pm
Wed 30 Oct 1:00 pm
Thu 31 Oct 1:00 pm
Sat 2 Nov 1:00 pm

GALA CONCERT

 CONCERTS &
RECITALS

Approx. running time: 90 minutes



For many years, the Gala Concert has been the most requested event by our Friends and patrons.

All performers generously donate their time and talent for this Gala Night, a fun ride through opera repertoires and songs, just to create a magic and unforgettable night.

Conceived on the night when the hands of your watch turn back an hour, this is an unrepeatable chance to enjoy yourself and show your support to the Festival,

Early booking is advised.

TIMES

Sun 27 Oct

9:00 pm

TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€30 – €90

CELINE BYRNE | soprano
SHARON CARTY | mezzo
ANDREW MORSTEIN | tenor
PAOLO BORDOGNA | baritone

The RTÉ Concert Orchestra has built a strong connection with the public, at home and abroad, which saw it voted the World's Favourite Orchestra in a 2015 Bachtrack.com poll.

We can expect an evening of thrilling emotional highs as we run the gamut from pleasure to despair, to ecstasy with some of opera's most ravishing arias.

Conducted by Wexford Festival Opera's guest conductor Francesco Cilluffo, and featuring four of opera's extraordinary singers, this concert is set to bring audiences on a journey infused with passion, romance and drama, with orchestral favourites for sure to be as familiar to everyone.

A special treat for all music lovers everywhere.

RTÉ CONCERT ORCHESTRA GALA CONCERT

Conducted by
FRANCESCO CILLUFFO

Approx. running time: 90 minutes



TICKETS

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH
€20 – €50

TIMES

Tue 29 Oct 7:30 pm

CHORAL CONCERT

NEW DUBLIN VOICES

Conducted by
BERNIE SHERLOCK

Approx. running time: 80 minutes

 **CONCERTS & RECITALS**

New Dublin Voices are back. After last year's successful concert, the leading chamber choir, founded in 2005, will perform again in the solemnity of Rowe Street Church, conducted by Bernie Sherlock.

The ensemble takes particular pleasure in exploring the music of living composers, having given numerous Irish and world premieres.

TIMES

Mon 28 Oct 2:00 pm

TICKETS

Church of the Immaculate Conception
Rowe Street **€25**

BACH AT MIDNIGHT (NEARLY)

Cello
ADRIAN MANTU

Dancer
LUIA BALDINETTI

 **CONCERTS & RECITALS**

Renowned cellist Adrian Mantu (principal cellist in the WFO Orchestra) guides you through the wonderfully expressive Bach's Cello suites together with choreographer and dancer Luisa Baldinetti, who will perform one Suite for Cello each night.

TIMES

Sun 20 Oct Fri 25 Oct
Wed 23 Oct Tue 29 Oct 11:00 pm
Thu 24 Oct Thu 31 Oct

TICKETS

HOSPITALITY PARTNER



Green Acres
€20 (including a glass of wine)

DR TOM WALSH LECTURE

We are thrilled to invite you to an exclusive event that promises to be both enlightening and mysterious. Our distinguished guest lecturer, a person of immense importance, will share insights that will leave you inspired and intrigued.

His identity remains shrouded in secrecy. We intentionally withhold his name to preserve the element of surprise. Suffice it to say that his accomplishments and influence are unparalleled in Irish life.

Prepare to be captivated, as this lecture promises to be an unforgettable experience. Join us for a talk of discovery, curiosity, and anticipation.

Stay tuned for further updates, and mark your calendars! Let the intrigue begin!



TICKETS

National Opera House

€15

TIMES

Sat 19 Oct

11:00 am

IMPOSSIBLE INTERVIEW

 TALKS

Approx. running time: 50 minutes



MICHAEL DERVAN
meets
CHARLES VILLIERS STANFORD

Written and hosted by
MICHAEL DERVAN

In a realm where time bends and music transcends, the celebrated critic Mr. Michael Dervan orchestrates an ethereal encounter with the legendary Charles Villiers Stanford, who composed one of this year main stage operas: *The Critic*. Prepare for revelations that defy mortality - a symphony of secrets awaits.

TIMES

Wed 30 Oct

3:00 pm

TICKETS

Jerome Hynes Theatre | NOH

€10



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DAYTIME EVENTS PACKAGES



EVENTS



PHOTO: ©2023 WFO | PÁDRAIG GRANT

Discover the world of opera with our Daytime Events Package, enjoyed over a few hours in Wexford, individually or as a group.

Each package includes a Lunchtime Recital in either the beautiful surrounds of St. Iberius Church or our very own O'Reilly Theatre in The National Opera House and a lunch in Clayton Whites Hotel.

Come and find out more about an art form that has captivated Wexford audiences for more than seventy years.

For groups of 10 or more, the group organiser receives a complimentary package ticket.

All booking (group and individual) must be made through the Box Office: +353 53 912 2144

TIMES

- 1:00 pm Lunchtime Recital at St. Iberius Church or The O'Reilly Theatre in The National Opera House, given by one of the principal artists of the Festival.
- 2:15 pm Lunch at Clayton Whites Hotel

TICKETS

€45

The schedule of performers will be announced closer to the Festival. (see schedule for locations)



We are now entering the third biannual cycle of the Wexford Factory, the Academy for young Irish singers and répétiteurs founded five years ago. The behind-the-scenes job, demanding and exciting, starts in early September when our artists are tutored by familiar names as well as by great international singers in preparation of the Factory Concert and the 2024 Festival.

Affording the opportunity to immediately jump into the professional world through their involvement in the operas of WFO, in 2023 the Wexford Factory artists appeared in various Festival productions, including the community opera Gianni Schicchi and, around Wexford, the Pop-Up Events, bringing the joy of opera to all.

SINGERS:

Laura Ahearne | Connor Campbell Kathleen Nic Dhiarmada | Amiee Kearney | David Kennedy | Rory William Lynch | Anna Helena MacLachlan | Alexander Marev | Maria Matthews | Paolo Nevi | Ioana Constantin Pipelea | Samuel White

PIANISTS:

Frasier Hickland | Laura McLaughlin Declan Murphy | Doireann O'Carroll

The Wexford Factory is supported by the Vivien and Peter Beckwith Young Musicians' Trust

To support this exciting initiative, please contact

Ann Marie Dalton - Head of Development
telephone: +353 87 901 2925
email: adalton@wexfordopera.com



PHOTO: ©2023 WFO | PÁDRAIG GRANT

Pianists and répétiteurs are vital to any production, even if they remain invisible to most of the public.

In 2022, the Wexford Factory added an extra initiative to its programme: international artists and professionals will train young pianists/ répétiteurs through intensive master-classes.

The collaboration, with RIAM (Royal Irish Academy of Music) and TUD (Technological University Dublin) will be vital for achieving these aims.

IN COLLABORATION WITH



REPETITEUR PROGRAMME SUPPORTER



WEXFORD FACTORY SPONSOR



WEXFORD FACTORY SUPPORTER



THE FACTORY CONCERT



WEXFORD
FACTORY



PHOTO: ©2023 WFO | PÁDRAIG GRANT

For the first time, the Factory Concert is officially included in the Festival program.

The Concert is an unmissable and unique showcase featuring the singers and repetiteurs who participate in the Festival's Wexford Factory programme.

If you're curious about the operatic future, this is an opportunity you shouldn't overlook.

TIMES

WEXFORD FACTORY SPONSOR



TICKETS

Mon 21 Oct

7:00 pm

O'Reilly Theatre | NOH

€20

POP-UP EVENTS



PHOTO: ©2023 WFO | PÁDRAIG GRANT

Now one of the most popular treats of Wexford Festival Opera, Pop-Up Events involve WFO artists in spontaneous music and theatrical moments in unexpected locations around Wexford.

An essential part of the Festival experience.

Admission is free to these events with a pop-up calendar published at the beginning of the Festival.

TIMES

Every day
The detailed programme will be printed separately

TICKETS

Various Locations | Wexford Town

Free

THE IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

Giving forms the basis of what makes the Wexford Festival Opera unique. Our donors, Friends and partners are the heart of our organisation without whom we would not exist. Founded in 1951, and managed for many years, by a group of individuals who gave freely of their time, talents, and what limited funds they had, the Festival has evolved to be a leader in national and international opera; praised worldwide by audiences and critics alike.

Your vital support for Wexford Festival Opera enables us to:

- Bring forgotten gems of the operatic world back to the stage
- Discover and promote emerging national and international artistic talent
- Pursue our mission to support and promote artists and to invest in their future careers

THE FRIENDS OF WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA

As a Friend, your contribution directly funds vital elements of each Festival, including the Chorus, Young Artist Bursary, and mainstage opera performances.

Please consider joining one of the dedicated groups of Friends who enable the production of world-class opera in Wexford. Gifts can be made in a tax-advantageous way through our Irish, UK, and US Charitable Trusts.

Make your Friends Support Go Even Further

Tax Relief (Ireland) & Gift Aid (UK)

Support at all levels is greatly appreciated and vital to sustaining the work of the Festival. By increasing your Friends level to Ensemble+ or above for the coming season, you will be providing the Festival with much needed additional funds. At these levels, contributions from Friends based in Ireland attract added value of up to 45% at no additional cost to themselves. Friends in the UK can increase the value of their gift by 25% when they renew through the Wexford Festival UK Trust, with mutual benefits available to higher rate taxpayers.

Endow a Seat or Theatre Box

Did you know that you can have your name or that of loved one enshrined in the home of Wexford Festival Opera? Dedicating a seat or theatre box is the perfect way to support Wexford Festival Opera and become a festival fixture.



BECOME AN ARTISTIC BENEFACTOR

The Artistic Benefactors programme enables Wexford Festival Opera to attract some of the opera world's most exciting singers, directors, and conductors. Artistic Benefactors receive recognition in the Festival Programme as well as complimentary mainstage Festival tickets to see the artist or creative team member they are sponsoring. Artistic Benefactors receive a special opportunity to engage with the artists while gaining insight into the world of opera from the artist's perspective.

- **Maestro level benefactors (€10,000)** provide support for Wexford Festival Opera's engagement of top-level directors, conductors, and producers for the mainstage operas.
- **Principal level benefactors (€5,000)** support either a young/emerging artist or a well-established singer of their choice. At all stages, opera is a vocation that demands intense personal investment, and it is encouraging for a performer to know that someone in the audience is behind them in this most practical way. Lasting friendships have blossomed between artists and benefactors since the beginning of this initiative, and we would be delighted to supply more information about this unique sponsorship opportunity. See contract details for more information.
- **Joining a Production Consortium** is a unique and rewarding way of supporting Wexford's large-scale productions. As a member of a Production Consortium, you will join with other like-minded patrons to become part of the journey from score to stage. This group is involved throughout the creative process, gaining in-depth insights as they watch the artistic team bring the production to life.

Make a major impact by becoming a member of the President's Circle.

Help to bring extraordinary opera productions to life in a direct and meaningful way. Support at this level gives the artistic team scope to attract exciting and innovative artists and co-productions – thereby raising the bar to new heights.

Gifts may be directed towards specific performances and activities including:

- Mainstage Opera Productions
- Wexford Factory
- Festival Concerts
- The Orchestra of Wexford Festival Opera
- The Chorus of Wexford Festival Opera
- Festival Education Community Access Projects
- Any other donor-advised performance, project or activity

For further information on The President's Circle please contact
Ann Marie Dalton
(phone: +353 87 9012 925
email: adalton@wexfordopera.com).



PLANNED GIVING

YOUR PASSION,
YOUR LEGACY

Securing the Future with the 1951 Endowment Fund

Wexford Festival Opera remains committed to the founding vision and legacy of Dr Tom Walsh to ensure the forgotten gems of the operatic repertoire are given a chance to glitter and shine once more.

By planning a legacy gift to the 1951 Endowment Fund, your thoughtfulness and generosity will help sustain the Wexford Festival and its dedication to rare opera into the future.

To learn how to help build the 1951 Endowment Fund, contact Ann Marie Dalton (phone: +353 87 9012 925 email: adalton@wexfordopera.com) who will be happy to discuss the matter with you on a confidential basis.

Your bequest can be directed to help a project of your choice and will be recognised in a manner that suits your wishes.

Thank you to our Impact Donors

We would like to highlight our Impact Donors who have made a considerable contribution to Wexford Festival Opera over the past 20 years.

As a thank you these individuals names are carried on our Impact Donor board which is in the main foyer of the National Opera House to recognise the impact they have made and, in some cases, continue to make to WFO.

This support has led to Wexford becoming the internationally renowned festival that it is today for which we are eternally grateful.

Wexford Festival Opera Impact Donor 2002 - 2023

Anonymous

Michael & Giancarla Alen-Buckley

Anthony & Mayca Arnhold

Vivien & Peter Beckwith

Loretta & Lewis Brennan Glucksman

Sir David Davies

Jean Delaney

The Desmond Family

Liam & Eithne Healy

Frank A. & Ursula Keane

Judith Lawless & Kevin Egan

Freddie & Ursula Linnett

Michael Maude

Patricia & John Mellon

Carmel Naughton

Terry & Marjorie Neill

Tony & Chryss O'Reilly

Brenda & Lochlann Quinn

Peter D. Sutherland SC

Stephen Vernon

Mark Villamar & Esther Milsted

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

DEVELOPMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

To support Wexford Festival Opera through any of the options mentioned previously or to learn more, please contact a member of the development team:

Artistic Benefactors, Wexford Factory and Seat Endowments

Nuala Sheedy
Donor Development Manager
+353 86 2081354
nuala@wexfordopera.com

Corporate Partnerships and Corporate Hospitality

Adeline Minchin
Sponsorship Manager
+353 85 7088031
adeline@wexfordopera.com

Major Gifts, Production Consortium and Legacy Giving

Ann Marie Dalton
Head of Development
+353 87 901 2925
adalton@wexfordopera.com

PRELUDE €80

Prelude is designed for music enthusiasts under 40 to encourage them to develop a love for opera.

ENSEMBLE €185

Ensemble supporters are at the heart of the Festival, bringing the warmth and camaraderie synonymous with the 'Wexford Experience'. Ensemble Friends contribute directly to the wonderful Festival Orchestra.

ENSEMBLE+ €300

Ensemble+ provides additional benefits for those seeking the best seating and priority upgrade privileges. Contributions at this level (and above) may attract a potential tax rebate up to 45%, making your gift to Wexford Opera more impactful.

ARIA €500

Through their support, Aria Friends provide wonderful opportunities for a range of promising young artists selected from members of the chorus and/or principal singers. They ensure the continued development of singing talent.

CABALETTA €1000

Cabaletta Friends are provided with the highest access to priority booking, coupled with VIP access to both the Friend and Founders interval lounges, in recognition of their support of the Festival's Pocket Opera performances.

BRAVURA €2000

Our premium Friends membership provides funding support for one main-stage production each year, helping to maintain the highest possible standards of artistic programming. Bravura Friends are recognised online and in the Festival Programme Book. They also have the opportunity to have a group lunch with a select number of the cast and creative team of our main-stage opera.

For more details please contact
Friends Team
on +353 53 916 3525
friends@wexfordopera.com

BOOKING INFO

GENERAL INFO

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission and to change or cancel the advertised programme.

Latecomers cannot be admitted once the performance has commenced.

Please, allow ample time for traffic and parking delays.

BOX OFFICE INFO

*Box Office opening hours:
Monday – Saturday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

***FACILITIES FEE

We now must charge a Facilities Fee for every ticket booked, as follows:

Ticket Price	Facilities Fee
€0 – 20	€2
€21 – 30	€3
€31 +	€4

BOOKING METHODS

Tickets may be booked using the following methods:

- Online: wexfordopera.com
- E-mail: boxoffice@wexfordopera.com
- Telephone: +353 53 912 2144*
- In-person: The National Opera House Box Office*

Additional transaction charges and postage fees, if applicable, will apply to purchases paid by credit/debit card. A charge of €2 for postage and packaging will apply.

















Please note: if you have opted to have your tickets posted, you will receive them a minimum of six weeks prior to the event.

SPECIAL ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

The National Opera House is fully accessible for persons with restricted movement, both ambulant and wheelchair-bound

There is convenient lift access to all public spaces. Provision has been made to accommodate up to five wheelchair users and their companions in a variety of locations, each with sightlines as good as any on their respective levels. The wheelchair accessible seating areas are indicated on the seating plan.

To book these tickets, you must contact the Box Office directly by telephone (+353 53 912 2144) or e-mail (boxoffice@wexfordopera.com). If you are a wheelchair user and wish to attend Festival events in venues other than the National Opera House, please advise the Box Office at the time of booking so that we can ensure your visit is as enjoyable as possible.

Operas & Mainstage Concerts		OCT 23, 24, 28	OCT 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 31 NOV 1, 2	GALA CONCERT	PAGLIACCI	RTÉ ORCHESTRA GALA
Stalls						
	Rows A–B	€105	€115	€75	€35	€50
	Rows C–P	€115	€125	€75	€35	€45
	Side Seats 1–6 13–18	€100	€110	€75	€35	€20
	Side Seats 7–12 19–24	€75	€85	€75	€35	€20
Founders Circle						
	A2 – A27 B & C	€160	€160	€90	€50	€50
	A1 A28	€150	€150	€85	€45	€45
	Side Seats	€140	€140	€90	€50	€20
	Boxes A–B D–E **	€65	€65	€60	€35	€20
	Boxes C–F **	€45	€45	€60	€35	€20
Upper Circle						
	Rows A–B	€125	€135	€75	€40	€35
	Rows C–E	€110	€125	€70	€35	€30
	Rows F–G	€90	€105	€70	€35	€30
	Row H *	€80	€80	€70	€35	€30
	Side Seats I12–I18 J1–J7	€70	€70	€70	€35	€20
	Side Seats I19 –I22 J8–J11	€40	€40	€35	€35	€20
	Boxes**	€35	€35	€30	€25	€20
Other Events						
Pocket Operas	€25	Lunchtime Recitals	€20	Community Opera	€15	
The Factory Concert	€20	Dr Tom Walsh Lecture	€15	Impossible Interviews	€10	
Choral Concert	€25	Bach at Midnight	€20	Daytime Events Packages	€45	
* Reserved at €40 during all opera performances exclusively for Prelude Friends of Wexford Festival Opera until September 1st						
** Restricted view, prices per seat						
*** A Facilities Fee will be applied to all tickets*						

SEATING PLANS

STALLS

- Rows A-B
- Rows C-P
- Side Seats 1-6 | 13-18
- Side Seats 7-12 | 19-24
- Wheelchair accessible Seat

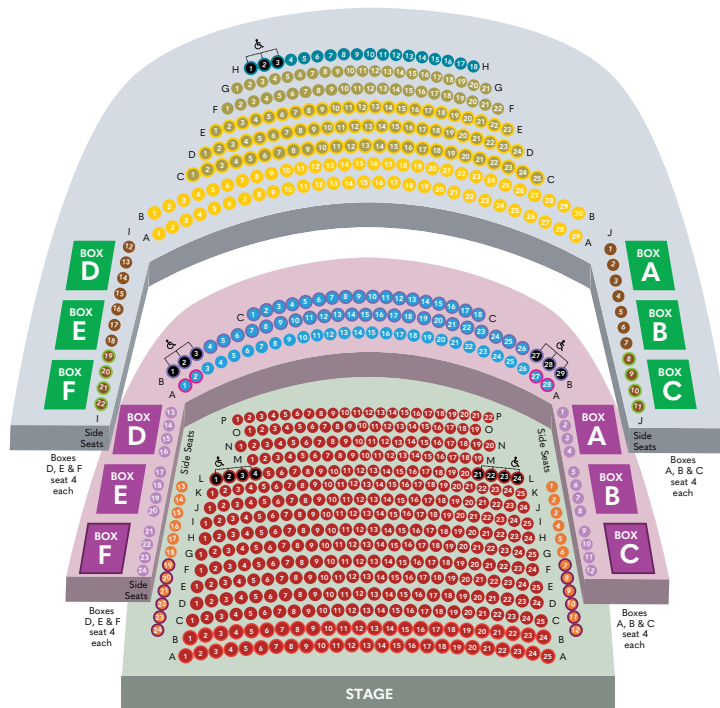
FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

- A3-A27 | B-C
- A1 | A28
- Side Seats
- Boxes A-B | D-E
- Boxes C | F

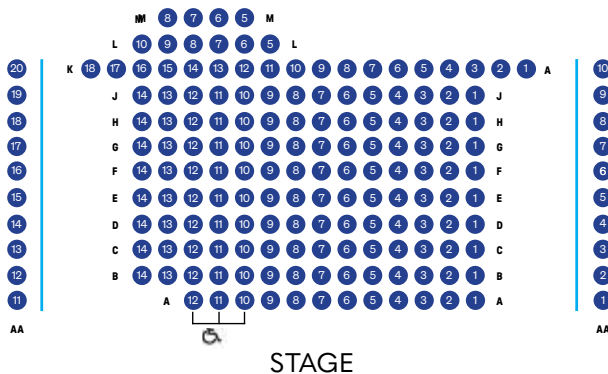
UPPER CIRCLE

- Rows A-B
- Rows C-E
- Rows F-G
- Row H
- Side Seats I12-I18 | J1-J7
- Side Seats I19-I22 | J8-J11
- Boxes

O'REILLY THEATRE | NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE



JEROME HYNES THEATRE | NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE



TRAVEL TO WEXFORD

TRAVELLING BY CAR FROM DUBLIN AIRPORT/DUBLIN

Wexford Town is a two-hour drive from Dublin Airport. If you are travelling from Dublin Airport you can avoid Dublin city centre by two routes:

Route 1: Follow the M50 Southbound and join the M11 heading towards Wexford/Rosslare.

Route 2: Follow the signs for the City Centre and take the route for the Port Tunnel, follow signs for the East Link Bridge and the M11.

Continue on the M11, and at the Gorey bypass you can choose to stay on the M11 and travel through Oylegate to Wexford via Ferrycarrig Bridge, or you can take Exit 23 to R741 and follow the signs for Ballycanew, and this route will bring you into Wexford Town via Wexford Bridge.

Travel options to Wexford from Dublin Airport include car hire, train (irishrail.ie) and express coach (buseireann.ie and wexfordbus.com).

WEXFORD BUS FROM DUBLIN CITY AND AIRPORT

Wexford Bus offers the fastest, most reliable bus service between Wexford and Dublin city and airport. It is the ideal option for overseas visitors to the Festival.

With up to twelve daily services each way, a range of great value tickets and free wi-fi on board, Wexford Bus is a comfortable and efficient way to travel to and from Dublin Airport.

For details of the timetable and fares visit wexfordbus.com

TRAVELLING BY FERRY TO/FROM ROSSLARE HARBOUR

The international ferry port of Rosslare is 20 minutes away by car. Connections can be made to UK and mainland Europe.



WEXFORD FESTIVAL HISTORICAL TOURS

As we set off on our journey to experience Wexford, we must not forget its rich heritage, from Viking settlements and Norman mercenaries to rebellions and much more. All part of Ireland's Ancient East we may even discover new treasures along the way! There is a never ending amount of unforgettable experiences for you here when you explore our vibrant history and legendary tales!



As part of your Festival experience, why not explore Ireland's Ancient East and join one of the very popular Festival Historical tours, curated by local historian and 'Friend' of Wexford Festival Opera, Bernard Browne on behalf of Wexford Historical Society.

Part of the Festival since the early 1950's, the tours are led by expert guides and explore places of historical interest in the Town, County and Ireland's Ancient East – some well known, some lesser-known.

Unless otherwise stated, the tours leave the Talbot Hotel car park at 10:30 am sharp and are scheduled to return to Wexford at 1:00 pm, in time to enjoy the afternoon Festival events.

No car? – don't worry. People who have cars make room for those without. Another chance to make new friends!

The tours are free and open to all.

Also visit
wexfordhistoricalsociety.com

Full tour details will be
announced in September.

ACCOMMODATION IN WEXFORD

4-STAR CLAYTON WHITES HOTEL

Clayton Whites Hotel stands as a distinguished 4-star establishment in the heart of Wexford, positioning itself as a premier choice for accommodation during the Wexford Festival Opera 2023. Centrally situated in Wexford town, the hotel provides an optimal hub for festival attendees. A mere 3-minute walk from the doorstep of the National Opera House, while also having the convenience of underground parking, a well-appointed Leisure Centre, and rejuvenating Spa facilities further enhance the overall experience.

Throughout the festival dates, Clayton Whites Hotel presents an array of dining options to complement the operatic indulgence. Guests can indulge in pre-opera dining at the Teerace Restaurant, soaking in culinary delights. Post-opera, the Library Bar awaits, offering a sophisticated ambience for unwinding and reflecting on the evening's performances.

T: +353 53 912 2311

E: info.whites@claytonhotels.com

W: claytonwhiteshotel.com

4-STAR TALBOT HOTEL WEXFORD

The 4-star quay front Talbot Hotel is ideally located in the heart of Wexford town. This is one of the finest hotels in Wexford, boasting panoramic views of the quays and the River Slaney.

This year enjoy your stay at Talbot Hotel
One Night Bed & Breakfast from €275 pps

T: +353 53 912 2566

E: reservations@talbothotel.ie

W: talbotwexford.ie

4-STAR FERRYCARRIG HOTEL

The nationally and internationally renowned 4-star Ferrycarrig Hotel boasts one of the most inspiring locations of any hotel in Wexford or, indeed, Ireland, with sweeping views across the River Slaney. The hotel is the perfect location for your visit to the 2024 Festival.

One Night Bed & Breakfast with dinner and evening transfers to the Opera from €120 pps midweek.

T: +353 53 915 3623

E: reservations@ferrycarrighotel.com

W: ferrycarrighotel.ie

4-STAR KELLY'S RESORT HOTEL

The 4-star Kelly's Resort Hotel is uniquely situated along five miles of safe sandy beach in Rosslare, Co. Wexford.

One Night B&B with dinner and evening transfers to the Opera from €175 pps.

T: +353 53 913 2114

E: info@kellys.ie

W: kellys.ie

CROWN QUARTER WEXFORD

The newly launched Crown Quarter is Wexford's newest accommodation, located on the vibrant, energetic pedestrianised and newly covered Monck Street in the heart of Wexford Town. Only a 5-minute walk from The National Opera House it is a perfect location to stay when attending the Festival.

Rooms from €109 Midweek and €159 Weekend.

T: +353 912 1480

E: info@crownquarter.com

W: www.crownquarter.com

FESTIVAL CALENDAR

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

EVENTS	18 FRI	19 SAT	20 SUN	21 MON	22 TUE	23 WED	24 THU	25 FRI	26 SAT	27 SUN	28 MON	29 TUE	30 WED	31 THU	1 FRI	2 SAT
LE MASCHERE	8:00 PM					7:30 PM			7:30 PM					7:30 PM		
THE CRITIC		7:30 PM					7:30 PM			5:00 PM					7:30 PM	
LE CONVENIENZE ED INCONVENIENZE TEATRALI			7:30 PM					7:30 PM			5:00 PM					7:30 PM
PAGLIACCI							3:00 PM		3:00 PM			11:00 AM	7:30 PM		3:00 PM	
PUCCINI: MAN OF THE THEATRE		3:00 PM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		3:00 PM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM
LADY GREGORY IN AMERICA			11:00 AM		3:00 PM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM		11:00 AM	
THE ELIXIR OF LOVE	5:00 PM				7:30 PM			4:30 PM			7:30 PM			4:30 PM		4:30 PM
RTÉ ORCHESTRA GALA CONCERT												7:30 PM				
CHORAL CONCERT											2:00 PM					
GALA CONCERT										9:00 PM						
LUNCHTIME RECITALS (ST: IBERIUS)		1:00 PM		1:00 PM	1:00 PM		1:00 PM		1:00 PM			1:00 PM			1:00 PM	
LUNCHTIME RECITALS (O'REILLY THEATRE)						1:00 PM		1:00 PM		1:00 PM			1:00 PM	1:00 PM		1:00 PM
FACTORY CONCERT				7:00 PM												
DR TOM WALSH LECTURE		11:00 AM														
IMPOSSIBLE INTERVIEWS													3:00 PM			
BACH AT MIDNIGHT			POST OPERA			POST OPERA	POST OPERA	POST OPERA				POST CONCERT		POST OPERA		

DISCOVER THE REPERTOIRE

Music extracts used in the CD by kind permission of the record companies:

Track 1: LE CONVENIENZE ED
INCONVENIENZE TEATRALI

Track 2: THE CRITIC

Track 3: LE MASCHERE



Written and presented by Ian Fox
Recorded at Windmill Lane Studio
Sound Engineer: Michael O'Brien

The Discover the Repertoire CD is an introduction to the 2024 WFO programme and provides background information on the three main operas performed this year and on their composers.

You can listen to the CD Tracks by clicking on the links above.

We hope that it will enhance your enjoyment of this year's Festival.



**WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA
THE NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE
HIGH STREET, WEXFORD
Y35 FEP3, IRELAND**

WEXFORDOPERA.COM

**BOX OFFICE
TEL: +353 53 912 2144
BOXOFFICE@WEXFORDOPERA.COM**

PATRON	MICHAEL D HIGGINS (PRESIDENT OF IRELAND)
PRESIDENT	SIR DAVID DAVIES
CHAIRMAN	PAUL CLEARY
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	ROSETTA CUCCHI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	RANDALL SHANNON



Wexford Festival trust is a registered charity in Ireland. Charity number: chy 6132.

Wexford Festival Opera UK foundation is a charitable trust, registered with the UK charity commission - number 118918, and is also registered with the inland revenue for the purposes of claiming refunds on gift aid donations.