



## Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival London

### How, What, Where, When 2021

As of April 2021

## Festival Management

Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival is programmed, managed and staffed by producing opera company [Tête à Tête](#).

## Dates & Venues

The window for 2021 performances looks like:

27-31 July and 2-8 August: [The Cockpit](#) Marylebone

12 August – 29 August: [Cubitt Sessions](#) Coal Drops Yard King's Cross, [Kings Place](#) King's Cross and potentially other venues sourced by participating artists.

## Programming

The programming process for The Cockpit is under way, aiming to be completed April 2021. As part of our very strong commitment to inclusion, we urge you to ensure that your company embraces the joyously diverse public we aspire to attract. We also want to remove all barriers for disabled people who wish to enjoy or to work in opera, and would urge you to take this very seriously too. Kings Place and Cubitt sessions are programmed in collaboration with our partners by invitation.

## Production Formats

From 2007-2019, we would typically programme two or three productions for one performance each in the same space in one evening, so with an optimal length of around 40 minutes per performance. We'd make an archive video of each one and keep it on line permanently. You can now enjoy this wonderful *Netflix* of new opera [here](#).

In 2020, like everyone, we were thrown into a crazy frenzy of short-term emergencies. This involved layered contingency planning for each company, what we'll do if we can have a live audience, use the theatre but without a live audience (ie film for online), film for online outside the theatre, postpone or cancel. Each option was a valid artistic decision, based on how best to fulfil the dream behind each production. This in itself became a very creatively fulfilling experience.

This also meant that we had to monetise online presentations, so to make a better offer, we created the *Interactive Broadcasts*, where the audience not only saw a video of the production together online at a fixed time but could also enjoy panel discussions and Q&A's with the company. These were a real discovery, and we'll certainly present the videos like this again for 28 days after its first performance.

**2021:** It feels unwise to be too certain about what can happen in July/August, so we are welcoming proposals we can then work together to realise as best as conditions allow, keeping plans dynamic and shared through weekly zoom meetings on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

## Ticketing & Donations

*Indoor Live Performance* tickets will be £5/£15, audience chooses which price to pay.

*Interactive Broadcasts* will be £1 + shout outs for donations.

All ticketed performances across the Festival are charged at the same price.

**Tête à Tête** provides you with the following:

- Performing space <https://www.thecockpit.org.uk/node/1639>
- Tech support and in-house kit dependent on needs
- 50% of net box office receipts for indoor ticketed shows, a fee for Cubitt Sessions, 100% of net box office receipts for Interactive Broadcasts
- 100% of net donations
- Multi-camera edit video of your show posted at [www.tete-a-tete.org.uk](http://www.tete-a-tete.org.uk) & [www.mynewopeara.com](http://www.mynewopeara.com),
- Audience feedback on your work
- [Production photos to download from flickr](#)
- Subsidised tickets to see other performances a part of the *Participants Sharing Scheme* – assuming we can once again play to decent capacities!
- A degree of mentoring to help develop artistic and management skills of your company
- Collective problem solving and management in twice-weekly Zoom meetings
- Festival management
- Box office services
- Donation collection service
- Front of house welcome
- Inclusion in Festival marketing and press
- Promotion to the industry as part of the *Tête à Tête: The Promoters Scheme*

**You** undertake to:

- Provide the performance, which must be a world- [or at least London-] Première and not to perform the work within 30 miles within 6 weeks of your appearance at the Festival
- Acknowledge *Tête à Tête* in programme material for all further performances of the work
- Secure the agreement of all involved in your company and work to the free distribution of the video of your performance as per your contract
- Support our work as an Arts Council National Portfolio organisation with regard to our commitments to:
  - encourage environmentally sustainable actions
  - encouraging appropriate rates of pay for all working in the arts
  - diversity & inclusion

**Bill Bankes-Jones, Artistic Director • Timothy Burke, Music Director**  
**Anna Gregg, Administrative Director**

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