

# opera europa

Opera Europa exists to connect and strengthen the opera sector. It is the leading service organisation for professional opera companies and opera festivals throughout Europe, currently serving over 240 members from 44 countries.

It is the major network for collaboration among a huge range of European opera companies, empowering them to tackle shared challenges, connect with audiences, exchange innovative practices and encourage the circulation of new works and productions.

While it primarily serves as a collaborative hub for opera companies, the organisation's inclusive approach also embraces dance companies, competitions, orchestras, academies, theatres and other entities contributing to the operatic and performing arts landscape.

Through conferences, forums, digital tools, research and special projects, Opera Europa supports its members in artistic innovation, operational excellence, and audience development.

With co-funding from the EU's Creative Europe scheme, we run Opera Europa Next Generation, a new platform launched in 2025 to give visibility and development opportunities to more than 560 artists over four years. This includes OperaVision, the leading freeview opera streaming platform, a range of in-person and online training, and much more.

Meet the members of our network: <https://opera-europa.org/members>



# NETWORKING & EXCHANGE

Opera Europa is a membership association bringing together organisations which produce opera at a professional level and on a regular basis. Our members face common issues and challenges, and it is through our main conferences that they discuss and learn from each other.



These **networking opportunities** are important for all opera professionals, as new contacts mean new opportunities of discovering different ways of operating, producing and presenting opera, while finding interesting collaboration projects.



Our thematic **specialist forums** are guided by our members to address practical topics and encourage peer-to-peer learning. Through these exchanges, the sector develops and grows stronger.

These sixteen specialist forums are currently overseen by our team:

- Artistic Administration & Producing
- Audio-visual & Digital
- CEO
- Costumes, Make-up & Wigs
- Dance
- Dramaturgy
- Education
- Fundraising
- Human Resources
- Independent Producers
- Marketing & Communications
- Music - Orchestra, Chorus and Library
- Sustainability
- Technical & Production
- Technical Managers & Set Workshops (TechSet)
- Young Artists Programme



# ONLINE TOOLS & DATABASES

Opera Europa is a service organisation, and our team is at our members' disposal to act as a global resource. This might be helping you find contacts in other institutions, recommending experts to accompany you, informing you with data and research, or organising thematic gatherings current issues at our forums.

The association curates a series of **online services** accessible to all colleagues working for a member company:

- **Operabook**, the professional production & artist search tool for companies programming opera, endorsed by professional opera networks Opera Europa and OPERA America and international artist managers organisations IAMA, AEAA, OMAI, AFAA, DOKA and ARIACS.
- **Address book** with key staff in member companies to facilitate communication and participation
- **Mailing lists** (listservs) for specialist networking opportunities and broader sharing of collegial advice among members
- Access to the **document centre** with presentations and programmes of past events, research, benchmarking and other resources
- Free placement of **job offers** on the Opera Europa website

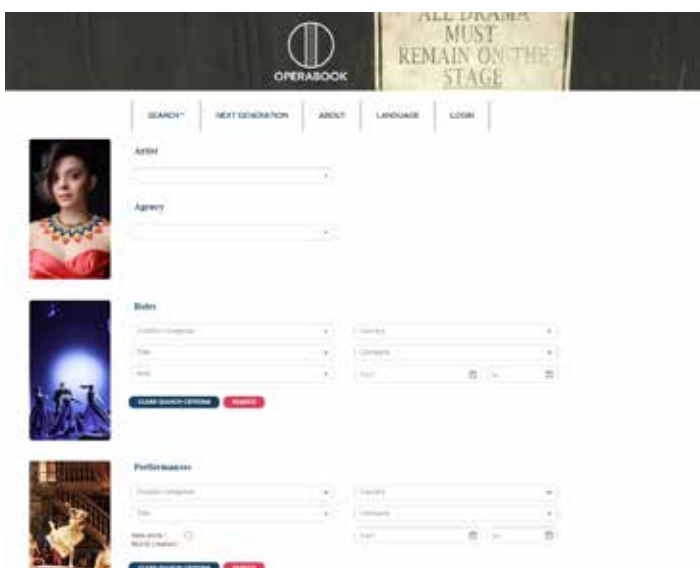
Today, **Operabook** collects data from over 500 opera companies, festivals, competitions and concert halls worldwide and is the reference search tool for artists and productions for all Opera Europa members and OPERA America Professional Company Members.

Opera Europa members benefit from:

- Access to historic production and casting data, including a search by role or by artist name
- Managing their own company's data for past and upcoming productions
- Advertising productions available for rent and sale, with photos, links and production documents
- Advertising ballet productions available to tour
- Consulting all productions available for rent, sale or tour
- Contributing and consulting the private Future New Productions database

The casting tool is now available as a downloadable app.

IAMA and the AEAA's classicalmusicartists.com are partners of the project and contribute to maintaining correct representation information.



In collaboration with



With support from



# DRIVER FOR CHANGE

**Opera, as an art form is in constant development– on stage but also on an operational level. In an ever-changing world, new priorities and opportunities arise. Opera Europa acts as a driver for change and contributes to building a more resilient opera sector.**

We aim to inspire, guide and implement concrete actions within Opera Europa operations and its membership, which are related to sustainability, diversity and digital transformation by encouraging **discussions and debates** on current issues, showcasing best practice initiatives and supporting innovation in the production process and on stage.

## INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

A thriving opera sector needs exceptional talent – on stages, in rehearsal rooms, workshops and offices. Opera Europa supports emerging talent across the board:

- Our annual **Opera Management Course** presents a unique opportunity to discover and explore the essentials of opera management alongside peers from across Europe. It is open to talented young professionals from any discipline or specialism within opera management.
- **Step Up** enables selected alumni from the Opera Management Course to take the next step on their personal and professional development with a deep dive into leadership.
- The **European Opera-directing Prize** is a major international competition. It identifies, develops and promotes talented stage directors and their collaborators, helping them to establish their careers while encouraging members discover extraordinary new talent.
- Under the banner of **Opera Europa Next Generation**, we offer a range of training opportunities to Emerging Artists. This includes the annual Career Management Course, which guides participants through vital skills, knowledge and tools to develop their careers.
- Through the **Eva Kleinitz Scholarship**, applications are invited each year for grants available to singers still in full-time further education.



Opera Europa is part of the SHIFT initiative, an **eco-certification for cultural networks**, which provides a scheme to improve, measure, monitor and evaluate efforts toward sustainability.

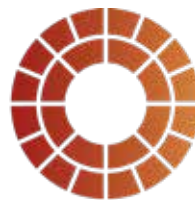


Opera Europa is a partner of the INSPIRE **learning platform** which aims at transforming the performing arts sector by enhancing resilience, sustainability and digitalisation.

This Erasmus+ project will allow production managers, set designers, artistic and stage directors, facilities managers and stage technicians to access online vocational training.



OPERA EUROPA  
NEXT GENERATION



OPERA VISION

Opera Europa Next Generation is a programme of promotion and training for emerging artists working in opera and dance. Giving visibility and development opportunities to over 560 emerging artists between 2025 and 2028, this programme is run by Opera Europa together with a consortium of 44 opera companies and talent development organisations from 17 European countries, thanks to investment secured by Opera Europa from the European Union's Creative Europe programme. It includes OperaVision, the streaming platform offering weekly new productions from across Europe - all for free, live and on demand.

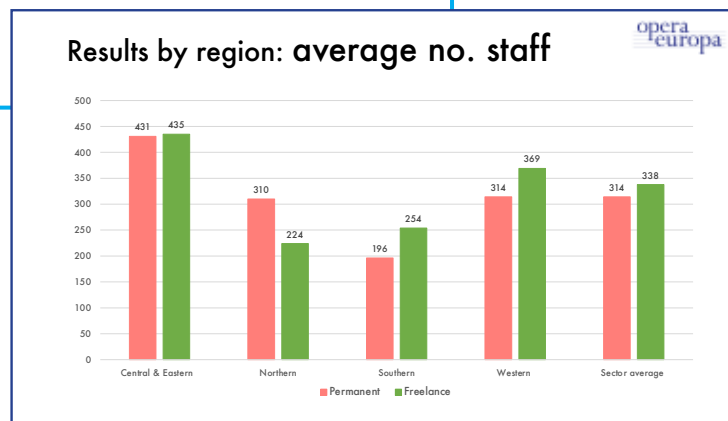


Together with FEDORA, the European Circle of Philanthropists of Opera and Ballet, Opera Europa has launched the **NEXT STAGE initiative** in response to the need for opera companies to appreciate if and how to evolve. Sessions on green theatre initiatives, inclusion and digital transformation are curated for many Opera Europa events. Dedicated grants are offered periodically to projects building on these strands.

# RESEARCH & INTELLIGENCE

Over the past two decades, Opera Europa has conducted, commissioned and gathered a significant body of research about our members and the sector. This enables Opera Europa and our membership to strengthen our collective understanding of important developments and trends, plan effectively for the future and carry out benchmarking. Members are also welcome to discuss their own research needs and interests, with a view to collaborative pieces of work.

- Opera Europa's **annual members' survey** is a longitudinal study, capturing key data on finances, staffing, productivity and audiences. We share the results with members each autumn, with insights into opera and ballet sector set against the wider political, social and economic contexts in which we work.
- When individual members commission Opera Europa to conduct bespoke **research** on their behalf, everyone benefits. We are often able to share anonymised results with the wider membership, enriching everyone's understanding of the environment in which we are operating.



Members are welcome to consult Executive Director Karen Stone and the wider Opera Europa team. We are happy to draw on our expertise and signpost relevant resources to address specific issues.



# ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIPS

Opera Europa has a significant network of partners, including global, European and national institutions and cultural organisations.

Opera Europa is an active and passionate advocate for opera and ballet at European level. Through participation in policy consultations, high-level roundtables and other interactions with key EU institutions, Opera Europa aims to protect and strengthen the interests of opera and ballet.

We also support members in their own advocacy activities with key stakeholders, through dedicated tools and support. This includes our own comprehensive **Advocacy Toolkit for Opera Organisations**, designed for companies operating at a range of scales, in diverse national contexts, and by colleagues with varying degrees of previous experience in advocacy. Together, we can set opera up to thrive for years to come.

Opera Europa works in close **collaboration** with European and International opera organisations.

**OPERA  
AMERICA**

**ola** | ÓPERA  
LATINOAMÉRICA

**FEDORA**

**RESEOD**  
EUROPEAN NETWORK  
FOR OPERA, MUSIC AND  
DANCE EDUCATION

**CE** culture  
action  
europe

**PEARLE**  
LIVE PERFORMANCE EUROPE

Opera Europa is a member of Culture Action Europe and Pearle\* – Live Performance Europe, the Performing Arts Employers Association League Europe, representing the sector at the European Union.

Their expertise, resources and events are – in turn – available to all Opera Europa members, opening up the bigger picture.

**WORLD  
OPERA DAY**

**World Opera Day**, on 25 October, is the annual date to celebrate – live or online – our beloved art form. For our members, our partners and anyone who is willing to join, it is global opportunity to make the case for opera and advocate for its social, emotional, aesthetic, cultural values.

Opera Europa Next Generation and Next Stage benefit from the support of the European Union's Creative Europe programme.



Co-funded by the  
Creative Europe Programme  
of the European Union

# OUR ORGANISATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



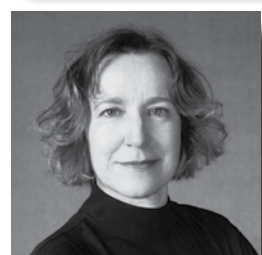
**President**  
**Serge Dorny**  
Intendant,  
Bayerische Staatsoper



**Vice-President**  
**Valenti Oviedo**  
General Director,  
Gran Teatre del Liceu



**Vice-President**  
**Iva Hraste-Sočo**  
General Manager & Artistic Director,  
Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb



**Secretary**  
**Ina Karr**  
Intendantin,  
Luzerner Theater



**Treasurer**  
**Matthieu Dussouillez**  
General Director,  
Opéra national de Lorraine

## Board members

**Anne-Sophie Brandalise** – Deputy Director, Opéra Comique

**Laura Canning** – General Director, Opera North

**Guy Coolen** – Artistic Director, O. Festival for Opera. Music. Theatre.

**Cristian Della Chiara** – General Director, Rossini Opera Festival

**Plamen Kartaloff** – General & Artistic Director, Sofia National Opera and Ballet

**Beata Klatka** – Head of the Opera Academy / Moniuszko competition, Teatr Wielki - Polish National Opera

**Ott Maaten** – Director General, Estonian National Opera

**Fulvio Macciardi** – Sovrintendente, Teatro San Carlo

**Lilli Paasikivi** – Intendant, Bregenzer Festspiele

**Christina Schepelmann** – General & Artistic Director, La Monnaie / De Munt

**Fergus Sheil** – Artistic Director, Irish National Opera

**Achim Sieben** – Personal Assistant to the Director, Staatsoper Hamburg

**Cormac Simms** – Administrative Director, Royal Opera London

**Randi Stene** – Artistic Director, Den Norske Opera og Ballett

## OPERA EUROPA TEAM



Executive Director

**Karen Stone**

karen@opera-europa.org



Managing Director

**Audrey Jungers**

audrey@opera-europa.org



Associate Director, Development & Collaborations

**Hannah Griffiths**

hannah@opera-europa.org



Associate Director, OperaVision

**Luke O'Shaughnessy**

luke@opera-europa.org



Communications & Operations Manager

**Aline Chif**

aline@opera-europa.org



OperaVision Platform Manager

**Matthieu Fons**

matthieu@opera-europa.org



Membership & Services Manager

**Gemma Coll Torra**

gemma@opera-europa.org



OperaVision Translations

**Hannes Föst**

hannes@opera-europa.org



Sustainability & Special Projects Manager

**Célia Grau**

celia@opera-europa.org



OperaVision Digital & Social Media Coordinator

**Joan Ramirez Soley**

joan@opera-europa.org



Operabook team

Marioli Álvarez

Nicolas Bauchau

Eugenio Giorgetta

Ewelina Mikluszka

Gérald Philippe

Ekaterina Przhigodzkaya

Gracia Terrén

Barbara Zamek-Maińska