FUNDRAISING FORUM MEETING
16-18 November 2026
Oper Leipzig

Programme

Tickets for the highlighted activities are not included in the registration fee. Please refer to the registration form if you wish to add these performances to your schedule (all tickets subject to availability).

Sunday 15 November

17:00	***La Bohème**, G. Puccini* Conducted by Friedrich Praetorius and directed by Peter Konwitschny

Monday 16 November

13:30	Registration opens
14:00	**Welcome** by Dr. Skadi Jennicke (Deputy Mayor for Culture, City of Leipzig) and Lydia Schubert (Managing Intendant and Administration Director, Oper Leipzig)
14.15	**Institutional Readiness: Aligning the Whole House Behind Fundraising** Martin Bonhard (Wiener Staatsoper), Lydia Schubert and Stefania Abbondi (Oper Leipzig), moderated by Karen Stone (Opera Europa)
15:30	Coffee break
16:00	**Meet & Greet – Peer Speed-Dating**
17:00-18:15	**Building the Team: Department Structures, Roles, and Realities** With Mario Gigović (Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb), Anna Hårleman (Drottningholms Slottsteater), Severin Hosang (Deutsche Oper Berlin) and Monta Tīģere (Latvian National Opera and Ballet)
19:00	**Dinner at Donna** (Katharinenstraße 12)

Tuesday 17 November

09:15	**Stop asking for money – Best Practices and Learnings From Misses** Discussion between Rosa Haker (Dutch National Opera), Jean-Yves Kaced, Florian Vuillaume (Erda/Insula Orchestra) and Tim Beernaert **Followed by group discussion**

11:00	Coffee break
11:30	**Engaging Donors: Value-Added Activities** Discussion between Dan Cooperman (Dolce Cultural), Guillaume Descottes (Vialma), Michaela Orizu (Komische Oper Berlin) and Simona Škarabelová (National Theatre Brno)
12:30	**Lunch at Brauhaus an der Thomaskirche** (Thomaskirchhof 3–5)
13:45	**Workshop Fundraising Strategies – Part 1** Led by Stefania Abbondi (Oper Leipzig)
15:00	Coffee break
15:30	**Workshop Fundraising Strategies – Part 2**
17:00 – 18.00	**Tour of the Oper Leipzig**
19:00	**Dinner at Macis** (Markgrafenstraße 10)

Wednesday 18 November

09:00	**Open Tables: Peer Challenges, Peer Solutions** *(Submit your topic suggestions via the registration form)*
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	**Public and Private Funding Sources** With Barbara Gessler (Head of the European Commission's Representation in Germany), Elisabeth Brunmayr (Stiftung zur Förderung der Hamburgischen Staatsoper), Marisa Vázquez-Shelly (Teatro Real, Madrid), moderated by Edilia Gänz (FEDORA)
12:30 – 13:00	**Conclusions and next steps for the Fundraising forum** led by Gemma Coll Torra (Opera Europa)
15:00	***Die Zauberflöte,*** W.A. Mozart Conducted by Sebastian Camaño Saavedra / Yura Yang and directed by Matthias Davids
15:00	***Der Hase mit den Bernsteinaugen*** (The Hare With Amber Eyes), T. Zaufke and H. Mason **at the Musikalische Komödie** Conducted by Michael Nündel / Christoph-Johannes Eichhorn and directed by Henry Mason ***How to get to the Musikalische Komödie: https://www.oper-leipzig.de/en/directions*** ***Aproximately 30 minutes from the city centre by public transport.***

In collaboration with FEDORA

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This programme will be updated regularly until the opening of the forum meeting.

As part of the SHIFT certification for sustainable cultural networks, our forum meeting will be paperless.

Please return your badge to the registration desk when leaving the forum meeting