

Creative Workshop Opportunity for Young Adults (18-25)

Mahogany Opera is looking for young adults, aged 18-25, to be involved in the development of a new piece of Music Theatre as part of the Various Stages Festival. If you have an interest in theatre, performance and the processes behind creating new work this is the perfect opportunity for you! Keep reading for more info!

ABOUT US

[Mahogany Opera](#) is a leading UK opera and music theatre company stretching the boundaries of what opera can be and who it is for. A major strand of what we do is developing work and talent for the here and now, and the artists and audiences of the future. [Various Stages](#) is our distinctive research and development programme through which we test ideas, creating new work that challenges and provokes. Throughout February and March, Mahogany Opera will be supporting 7 creative teams in the development of new creative projects which will be showcased as part of the [Various Stage Festival 2020](#) at the Institute of Contemporary Arts on Thursday 19th March. For one of these projects we are looking to create a community chorus of young voices, to help with the creative process and to perform as part of the showcase.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Hooligan is a music-driven, multidisciplinary performance project created by an international team of British and Ukrainian artists, led by director Peter Cant and composer Jessie Maryon Davies. The piece is inspired by a 25-year-old Ukrainian actor who grew up in the east of Ukraine, where he became a teenage football hooligan, fighting in brutal clashes in forest clearings at the city's periphery. As he was fighting, he was also studying in the arts lyceum and dreaming of becoming an actor. He would go on stage at the local opera house and present evenings of music, poetry and dance, his bruises covered with make-up. The piece will address themes of violence, vulnerability & belonging, explored through a process of openness & collaboration using movement & voice.

Peter Cant is a director, librettist and performance maker. A graduate of the Jerwood Opera Writing Programme, Peter works internationally, devising interdisciplinary performances which create spaces for encounters between artists, communities and audiences. He has worked with some of the UK's leading arts organisations including, ENO, Mahogany Opera, Glyndebourne and the Barbican, as well as working across Europe.

Jessie Maryon Davies is a pianist, composer and animateur. Jessie works for many of the UK's leading arts organisations as musical director, composer, concert-presenter and workshop-leader – engaging people of all ages and abilities in making music. In 2018, she was awarded The Unsung Hero award by Time Out, recognising her achievements in building community through music.

ABOUT YOU

We are looking for up to 20 young adults to form a “hooligan” chorus that will, in a series of workshops, work with the composer, director & the wider team to test ideas and develop new musical material that will become central to the piece.

You will be:

- Aged between 18-25 years old
- Live in London
- Have an interest in music, voice, sound, physicality and performance, with some experience in one or more of these areas
- Committed to attending all of the workshops and performances (further details below)
- Willing to collaborate with a diverse group of artists and participants.
- You do not have to be a trained singer, but you should enjoy singing and be open to experimenting with different ways of using the voice. You should also be open to experimenting with movement.

Beyond this, we are open to expressions of interest from young adults of all walks of life and backgrounds. This is an ideal opportunity to gain a greater understanding of creative processes, so is great for those interested in a career in the arts as a performer, creator or producer.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

Drawing inspiration from football chants, vocal soundscapes, minimalism and 80s pop, you will be creating music for a 'Hooligan Chorus'. Guided by composer Jessie Maryon Davies, participants will work together as a Chorus to co-devise a soundscape of music using your voices, bodies and breath. You will explore how this human chorus can clash and merge with the electronic sounds of Olesia Onykienko. Working collaboratively with a team of professional artists and artistic advisors, all participants are expected to show a level of professionalism, with an openness to exploring new ideas and responding to feedback and guidance.

Following the workshops, the young community chorus will also be included in a sharing of the workshopped material at the Various Stages Showcase, to public audience including industry professionals from across the UK.

Activity	Date	Times	Location
Workshop 1	Wednesday 11 th March	10:30-17:30	Battersea Arts Centre, London, SW11 5TN
Workshop 2	Tuesday 17 th March	10:30-18:00	Location TBC
Workshop 3	Wednesday 18 th March	10:30-18:00	Location TBC
Showcase	Thursday 19 th March	10:30-19:00	Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, SW1Y 5AH

Participants must be able to attend all sessions, including workshops and the showcase performance.

Expenses:

This is an unpaid opportunity, but we do not want participation to leave you out of pocket. All participants will receive £10 per day to cover lunch and travel. Additional expenses may also be covered for participants with additional access needs.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

If you would like to get involved in this exciting opportunity, or have any questions about the project, please email Mahogany Opera's Producer, Marc Dunleavy on marc@mahoganyopera.co.uk for more details.

All interested participants will be asked to complete a short questionnaire as part of the application process, to establish their suitability for the project. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis to suitable applicants.

Deadline for expressions of interest: Midday on Friday 21st February 2020
Deadline for completed applications: Midday on Monday 24th February 2020
Confirmation/places offered: Friday 28th February 2020



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mahoganyopera.co.uk



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