

The National Opera of Ukraine in 2019-2024



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- **1867** – The founding of the Kyiv Opera as a **musical-dramatic theater**. The first production was the opera Askold's Tomb by Oleksiy Verstyovsky.
- **1896** – The **opening** of the current theater building (architect Viktor Shreter) **after the previous structure was destroyed in a fire**.
- 1934 – The theater was granted the **status of the State Academic Opera and Ballet Theater of the Ukrainian SSR**.
- **1992** – The theater was renamed the **National Opera of Ukraine, named after Taras Shevchenko**.
- **2001** – A major **reconstruction** of the theater building was carried out, preserving its historic appearance while improving technical facilities.



The Background and Activities of the National Opera of Ukraine until 2022:

1. Active support of Ukrainian culture and national identity.

- Regular performances, including classic operas and ballets, attracted a broad audience, leading to international recognition of the theater.

2. International collaboration and projects:

- In 2019, the opera participated in the international project "**Opera Europa**," which included cooperation with European opera houses on joint productions and artist exchanges.
- In 2020, it became part of the "**Digital Concert Hall**" online platform, allowing selected productions and concerts to be streamed worldwide, providing new opportunities for a global audience.

3. Collaboration with opera houses in Salzburg and Berlin (2020–2021):

- In 2020 and 2021, the opera **collaborated with prestigious European opera houses**, including the exchange of productions and support for new opera works.
- In 2021, it organized an **international symposium on opera creation**, attended by experts and artists from around the world.

4. Support for innovations in opera creation:

- Participation in **international festivals and cultural exchanges** brought new approaches and ideas to improve the creative processes within the theater.

5. Support for young talents:

- The theater provided a **platform for young Ukrainian performers and emerging composers**, enabling their growth and development in the artistic sphere.

Poster
Repertoire
About the theater



News

Persons
Visit to the
theater

Ukraine

← [All news](#)

News

02/24/2022, 1:00 p.m

WARNING! The National Opera of Ukraine temporarily stops showing performances

УВАГА!
ВАЖЛИВА ІНФОРМАЦІЯ!

Dear viewers!

In connection with the imposition of martial law on the entire territory of Ukraine by Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 64/2022 from February 24, 2022, the National Opera of Ukraine temporarily stops showing performances.

The theater will resume full operations after the suspension or lifting of martial law.

Refunds for previously purchased tickets will be announced separately.

Sincerely,
administration of the National Opera of Ukraine

The War and Its Impact on the National Opera of Ukraine

1. Disruption of Regular Performances (2022):

- The National Opera was forced to suspend regular performances and reorganize its operations due to the outbreak of full-scale war in February 2022.

2. Challenges to Safety and Infrastructure:

- The opera faced the challenge of ensuring the safety of its staff, artists, and protecting its valuable works, including historical costumes and props.
- Efforts included physical protection of the building and equipment as well as securing storage areas for costumes and artifacts.

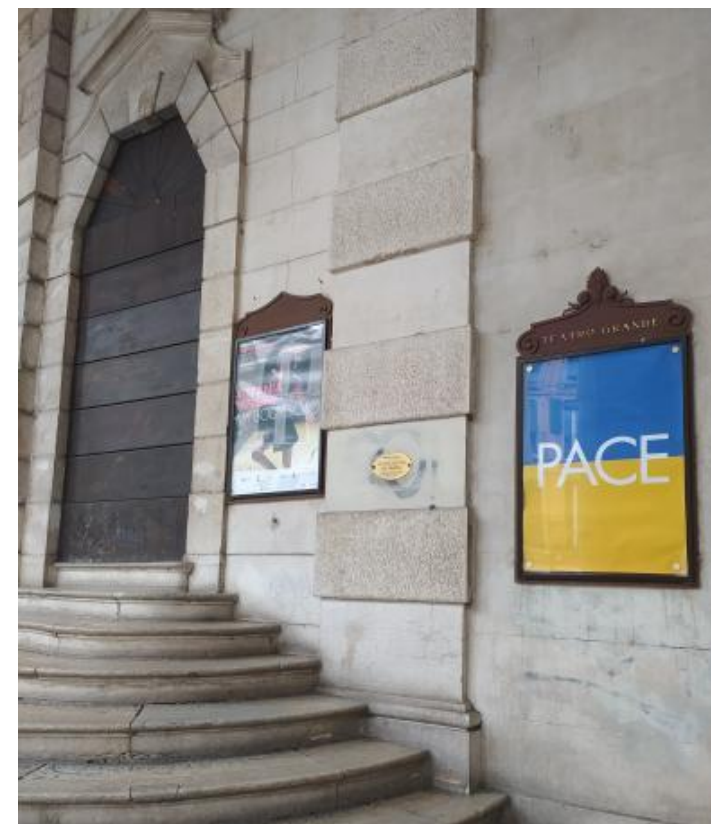
3. Financial Struggles:

- A significant loss of income from ticket sales led to financial difficulties, increasing reliance on government support and charitable contributions.
- To attract audiences, ticket prices were significantly lowered, with some tickets priced as low as 100 UAH (2.5 EUR) for the back rows.

4. Alternative Communication with the Audience:

- The opera adapted by finding alternative ways to engage with audiences, including online streaming and special charity performances to maintain artistic activity.
- These initiatives included streaming performances, artist interviews, virtual backstage tours, and showcasing the opera's historical collections.

5. International Collaboration and Global Support:



Concert for Ukraine

Monday 4 April 2022, 6pm, FREE

A special fundraising concert for the people of Ukraine featuring current and former Young Artists from the National Opera Studio.

Book tickets and donate to our fundraising appeal:
nationaloperastudio.org.uk

St Stephen Walbrook
39 Walbrook, London, EC4N 8BN

Scan to donate:



Impact on the Repertoire and Creative Process of the National Opera of Ukraine



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News

01/28/2022, 12:40 p.m

February 13. For Valentine's Day: Romeo and Juliet ballet



"Love is the smoke that rises from the mouths of sighers, but purified is the fire in the eyes

"Romeo and Juliet".

Eternal as the world, the story of unconditional, loyal, pure feeling – Sergei Prokofiev's ba Shekera based on the tragedy of the same name by William Shakespeare. To the Day of all lovers. Without waiting for Monday, Sunday, February 13, at the National C

Yulia Moskalenko and Vladyslav Romaschenko are in the main parties.

Tickets are already [on sale](#)

Photo from Oksana Orlova's performance.

Ukrain

Poster
Repertoire
About the theater



News
Persons
Visit to the
theater

Ukrain

← [All news](#)

News

01/06/2022, 11:32

"Aleko" and "Carmen Suite" on January 14: invited guests and first performances in the main parties



Invited guests of the theater and the first performances in the main parties will be waiting for you on the evening of January 14.

We will show two one-act plays: the opera by S. Rachmaninov's "Aleko" and "Carmen Suite" Zh. Bizet – R. Generosity
Both performances will be conducted by Dmytro Logvin, artistic director and chief conductor of the "Seasons" chamber orchestra, artistic director of the International Music Festival "Music without Borders" .
Ballet connoisseurs will welcome the leading soloist of the Lviv National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet Yevhenii Svetlitsa in the role of Jose in the "Carmen Suite" .
Olena Karandeeva will appear on the Kyiv stage for the first time in the Carmen party .

Find more information about performances and artists, complete lineups of performers at [the link](#)

Tickets at the box office of the National Opera of Ukraine and [online](#) (until 11 a.m. on the day of the performance)

List of Russian Works Previously Performed by the National Opera of Ukraine:

1. Ballets:

- Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: *The Snow Queen, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake, The Nutcracker*
- Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov: *Scheherazade*
- Rodion Shchedrin: *Carmen Suite*
- Alexander Glazunov: *Raymonda*
- Igor Stravinsky: *The Rite of Spring, Pulcinella*
- Sergei Prokofiev: *Romeo and Juliet*

2. Operas:

- Sergei Rachmaninoff: *Aleko*
- Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov: *Mozart and Salieri*

List of Ukrainian Works Prioritized After the Outbreak of War:

1. Ballets:

- Yurii Shevchenko: *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (2007), *Chasing Two Hares* (2017), *Puss in Boots* (2019)
- Yevhen Stankovych: *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka* (1990)
- Kostiantyn Dankevych: *Lileya* (1940)
- Mykhailo Skorulskyi: *The Forest Song* (1936)
- Valentyn Sylvestrov: *Elegy of Wartime* (2024)

2. Operas:

- Heorhii Maiboroda: *Yaroslav the Wise* (1973)
- Semen Hulak-Artemovskiy: *Zaporozhian Beyond the Danube* (1863)

Psychological and emotional dimension for artists

1. Psychological Challenges for Artists:

- The war brought psychological tension and trauma, significantly impacting the professional lives and mental health of artists.
- Artists faced personal losses, including the loss of loved ones and homes.

2. Mental Health Support:

- The theater introduced regular counseling and therapeutic sessions to support the emotional balance of its performers.
- The team of psychologists was expanded to provide personal consultations.

3. Collective Solidarity:

- Activities were organized within the theater to foster team unity and mutual support during the crisis.

4. Therapeutic Workshops:

- Creative and therapeutic workshops were held to promote emotional expression and overcome psychological blocks.
- Art was used as a tool to transform traumatic experiences into new creative formats.

5. New Management Strategies:

- The mental health crisis led to the development of strategies prioritizing the overall well-being of employees.
- The approach to artists' work shifted, focusing on the human aspect and emotional support.

Financing and prospects for restoration

1. Financial Challenges and Limited Resources:

- The National Opera of Ukraine faced significant financial pressures due to the war and economic instability.
- Limited funding from the state and international organizations required difficult decisions and alternative income sources.

2. Exploration of Alternative Funding Models:

- New strategies included participating in international festivals, organizing benefit concerts, and launching crowdfunding campaigns.
- International support and cultural initiatives abroad became essential for financial stability and recovery.

3. Short-term and Long-term Strategic Planning:

- The opera developed adaptable financing models to address immediate and future challenges.
- Collaborative efforts with cultural organizations and sponsors contributed to mitigating financial difficulties.

4. Role of International Collaboration:

- Ongoing international partnerships are viewed as a cornerstone for rebuilding Ukraine's cultural scene post-conflict.
- Investments in cultural diplomacy and infrastructure are critical for long-term stability and growth.

5. Survival Through Diverse Funding Networks:

- Expanding donor and partner networks proved essential for maintaining artistic institutions during the war.
- Flexibility in financial planning became a key factor for resilience amid economic uncertainties.



Thank you for your attention!

International support and tours

1.International Support and Collaboration:

- The war pushed the National Opera of Ukraine to seek stronger international support and engage in cultural exchanges.
- Participation in international projects and solidarity events became vital for preserving Ukrainian cultural heritage globally.

2.Cultural Representation on Global Stage:

- Ukrainian artists participated in international festivals and gala events to showcase their artistry and spread messages of Ukrainian culture and identity.
- Special performances and concerts were organized, with proceeds supporting humanitarian aid for Ukraine.

3.Strengthening Cultural Diplomacy:

- Collaborations with international partners provided a platform for artistic exchange and reinforced Ukraine's cultural diplomacy.
- Performances abroad allowed the development of new artistic and cultural relationships, enhancing Ukraine's visibility on the global cultural map.

4.Message of Resilience:

- The presence of Ukrainian opera ensembles on international stages demonstrated the resilience of Ukrainian culture during times of crisis.

5.Humanitarian and Political Impact:

- Cultural exchanges highlighted international solidarity with Ukraine, combining artistic, humanitarian, and political dimensions.
- These efforts not only supported the opera company's continuity but also raised awareness of Ukraine's challenges on the global stage.