

**OUR  
YEAR  
AT THE  
OLD VIC**

**2024/25**

# OUR SHOWS

## THE REAL THING

By **Tom Stoppard**

*'There are no commitments, only bargains.'*

Diving through layers of play and performance, reality and deceit, Tom Stoppard's kaleidoscopic comedy of love, infidelity and the stories we tell starred James McArdle, Bel Powley, Oliver Johnstone and Susan Wokoma, directed by Max Webster.

**'The script's intelligence and passion shines through'**  
The Standard



## CHRISTMAS STORYTELLING

With **Michael Rosen**

Much-loved children's author and poet Michael Rosen took to The Old Vic stage to read from some of his own Christmas favourites for children aged 6+.

**'It was so magical'**  
Audience member

**'The whole experience was amazing'**  
Audience member



## A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A version by **Jack Thorne**

*'Those with — can afford to support those without.'*

Matthew Warchus' big-hearted, Tony Award-winning, smash hit production of Charles Dickens' classic returned to The Old Vic for its eighth year, smashing all box office records and playing to more people than ever before.

**'A magical revival'**  
The Times



## OEDIPUS

Sophocles. A new adaptation by **Ella Hickson**

*'Vengeance will be taken on the killer, then the land will be clean. The contamination will be washed away. The rains will come and the people will be healed.'*

Academy Award winner Rami Malek and Olivier Award winner Indira Varma starred in Ella Hickson's epic and revelatory version of Sophocles' transcendent tragedy, co-directed by Hofesh Shechter and Matthew Warchus.

**'Superb new staging'**  
The Guardian



## THE BRIGHTENING AIR

A new play by **Conor McPherson**

*'How much of living is really just forgetting?'*

An entrancing tale of fate, family and unseen forces in 1980s Ireland featuring an ensemble cast in this world premiere from Olivier Award-winning writer and director Conor McPherson.

**'The finest play of the year'**  
The i



## GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY

Written & Directed by **Conor McPherson**

*'Has anybody seen my love?'*

Following its world premiere in 2017, the multi-Tony and Olivier Award winner returned to where it all began with a company of 23 actors and musicians, beautifully weaving the iconic songbook of Bob Dylan into award-winning playwright Conor McPherson's smash hit show.

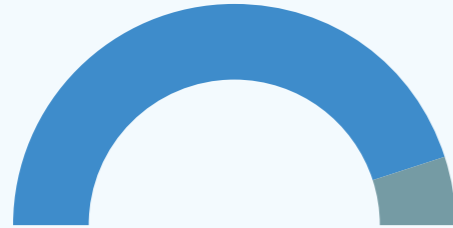
**'Triumphant return'**  
The Stage



# OUR NUMBERS

**89%**

Total seated capacity



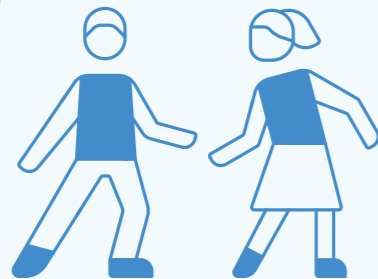
**338,180**

Total tickets issued



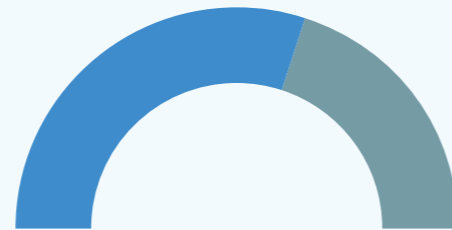
**9,026**

Participants worked with



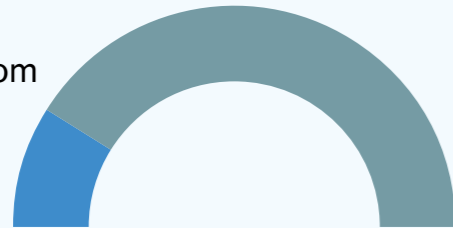
**52%**

First time attendees



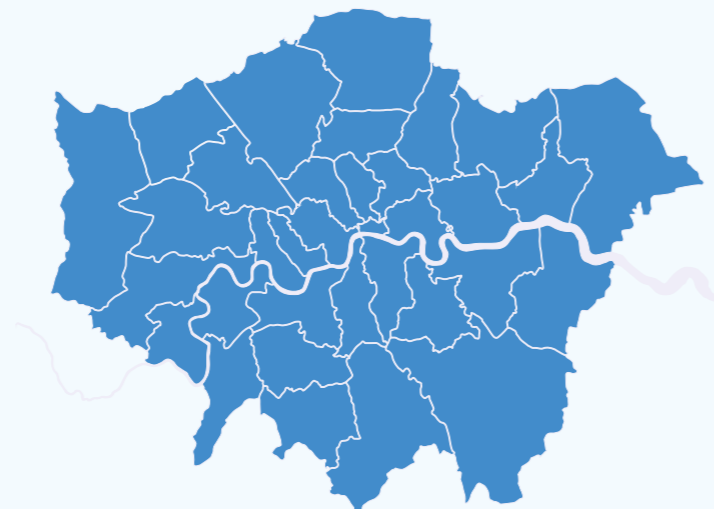
**18%**

Audiences from Lambeth and Southwark



**32**

Boroughs worked in by our Education & Community team



**12,478**

PwC £10 Tickets sold

## INCOME

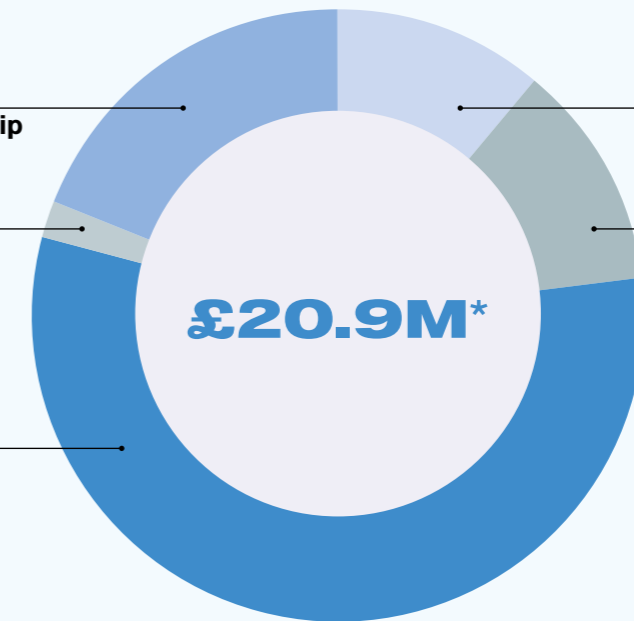
**Fundraising and Sponsorship**  
19% (£4.0M)

**Investment Income**  
3% (£0.5M)

**Box Office Receipts**  
57% (£11.9M)

**Commercial**  
10% (£2.1M)

**Other Income**  
11% (£2.3M)



These figures exclude in-year restricted capital fundraising for Backstage of £4.6m which is shown in the statutory accounts and has been spent in 2024/25.

## EXPENDITURE

**Administration and Governance**  
5% (£1.0M)

**Premises and Depreciation**  
17% (£3.4M)

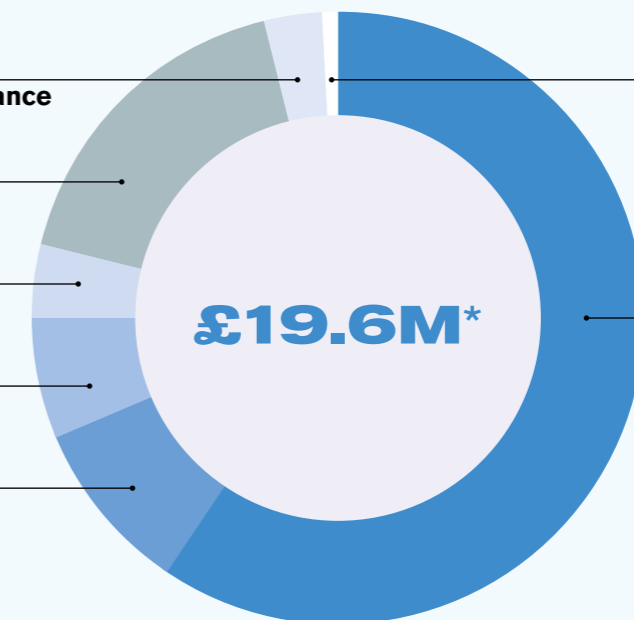
**Education**  
4% (£0.8M)

**Fundraising**  
7% (£1.3M)

**Commercial Services**  
10% (£2.0M)

**Interest Payable**  
1% (£0.2M)

**Performance**  
55% (£10.8M)



\*Figures rounded up.

# OUR PROJECTS

## 12 CHOIRS

12 Choirs of Christmas supports mental health and wellbeing by partnering 12 community groups for people aged 50+ with 12 primary schools across London to create intergenerational choirs.



## FRONT LINE

Front Line gives 16–30-year-olds the opportunity to discover more about careers in theatre and develop key transferable skills through paid placements with our Front of House team.



## OV BACKSTAGE

OV Backstage offers paid placements on an Old Vic Production to six 18–30-year-olds from underrepresented backgrounds in the arts, offering a route into the industry for those who have not undergone formal training.



## OV THEATRE MAKERS

OV Theatre Makers is a free, six-month training programme for young people aged 18–30 from across the UK who are interested in creating their own work but have not had formal training and face barriers accessing the arts.



## PRIMARY TAKE THE LEAD

Primary Take the Lead uses theatre techniques and drama practices to support Year Six students to take ownership over their next steps and support them in the move from primary to secondary education.



## SCHOOLS CLUB

Schools Club works with 40 London state secondary schools to encourage the next generation of theatregoers and theatre makers through free bespoke workshops, theatre tickets and educational resources.



## TAKE THE LEAD

A free employability programme for students in Years 11–13, Take the Lead uses theatre techniques and creative workshops to build on five core skills: self-belief, teamwork, communication, self-management and problem-solving.



## THEATRE CLUB

Designed for adults aged 18+ who face barriers to accessing the arts, Theatre Club is a free eight-week course that uses theatre skills to build confidence, foster connections and support wellbeing.



# OUR FUTURE

## THE OLD VIC BACKSTAGE: A SPACE FOR TOMORROW

In Autumn 2025, our iconic theatre will finally realise the long held ambition to expand the physical footprint of our building for the first time in 200 years. The creation of Backstage will enable us to go beyond our work on stage in amplifying our mission to be a civic, creative and cultural hub in the heart of Waterloo.

Backstage will help us achieve this through:

- The Clore Learning Centre, a dedicated space for our award-winning education and outreach work
- A Writers' Room where creatives can work
- A modern and flexible rehearsal room which can transform into a Studio theatre
- A free to use Script Library for anyone to browse, borrow and bring back the scripts for others to read
- A welcoming daytime cafe and workspace which evolves into a vibrant bar and restaurant at night, featuring an external balcony
- A hireable events space with spectacular views of the London skyline from a private terrace.

In addition to entering the next chapter of The Old Vic's story through the evolution of our building, we are also preparing for artistic evolution as Matthew Warchus' will finish his 11-year tenure in 2026 to be succeeded by Rupert Goold.

