

2018   
EUROPEAN YEAR  
OF CULTURAL  
HERITAGE  
#EuropeForCulture

# On Stage 2018

A European celebration of the performing arts.  
onstage2018.eu

## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Berlin, 24 January 2018

### **Launch**

### **On Stage 2018**

### **A European celebration of the performing arts from January to December 2018**

A year-long, Europe-wide programme of theatre, music, opera, dance and performance to celebrate the European Year of Cultural Heritage.

**2018 is the European Year of Cultural Heritage.** It will put the spotlight on Europe's wealth of cultural heritage, showcasing its role in fostering a shared sense of identity and building the future of Europe.

**On Stage 2018** is Europe's first unique online calendar of selected high profile performing art events across the continent. [www.onstage2018.eu](http://www.onstage2018.eu) is brought to the people by the three major performing arts organisations European Theatre Convention, Opera Europa/OperaVision and PEARLE\*, connecting more than a thousand art venues.

**On Stage 2018** celebrates the rich and dynamic role played by the performing arts and music in Europe's cultural legacy with a series of theatre, opera, music, dance and other performances held across Europe throughout the year. Additional events including behind-the-scenes tours, readings, streaming video and interviews will support the performance programmes.

**On Stage 2018** events – whether presented onstage, backstage or online – are specifically chosen to represent the diversity and vitality of European performance: not only classical works of performing arts and music, but also important national productions, renowned artists and up-and-coming European talents, that demonstrate the ongoing contribution of the performing arts to contemporary European discourse and identity.

[www.onstage2018.eu](http://www.onstage2018.eu) is a distinctive selection of performances, dates, and venues to be discovered by citizens in European countries. The online guide is regularly updated with new events to the programme.

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*"Cultural heritage is at the heart of the European way of life. It defines who we are and creates a sense of belonging. Cultural heritage is not only made up of literature, art and objects but also by the crafts we learn, the stories we tell, the food we eat and the films we watch. We need to preserve and treasure our cultural heritage for the next generations. This year of celebrations will be a wonderful opportunity to encourage people, especially young people, to explore Europe's rich cultural diversity and to reflect on the place that cultural heritage occupies in all our lives. It allows us to understand the past and to build our future."*

– Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth, and Sport

Performance selections include Chekhov's "The Seagull," at the National Theatre "Marin Sorescu" in Craiova (Romania), Brecht & Weill's "The Threepenny Opera" at The Lyric Theatre in Belfast (UK), and Euripides' "The Trojan Women" at the National Theatre in Nova Gorica (Slovenia). Many opera performances will also be streamed for free on OperaVision.

## 2018 – European Year of Cultural Heritage

"Our Heritage: Where the past meets the future."

**On Stage 2018** is featured as part of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.

Cultural heritage is the fabric of our lives and societies. It surrounds us in the buildings of our towns and cities and is expressed through natural landscapes and archaeological sites. It is not only made up of literature, art and objects but also by the crafts we learn, the stories we tell, the food we eat and the films we watch. European cultural heritage allows us to understand the past and to look to our future.

More information about the European Year of Cultural Heritage is available from the [EU website](#).

## Contact

#OnStage2018 #EuropeForCulture [www.onstage2018.eu](http://www.onstage2018.eu)

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## Partners

ETC and PEARLE\*, selected organizations by the European Commission of the EU Year of Cultural Heritage stakeholder committee, have teamed up with Opera Europa/OperaVision to initiate On Stage 2018.



**On Stage 2018** is part of ETC's ENGAGE programme and co-funded by the [Creative Europe Programme of the European Union](#).



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