

Annual Report

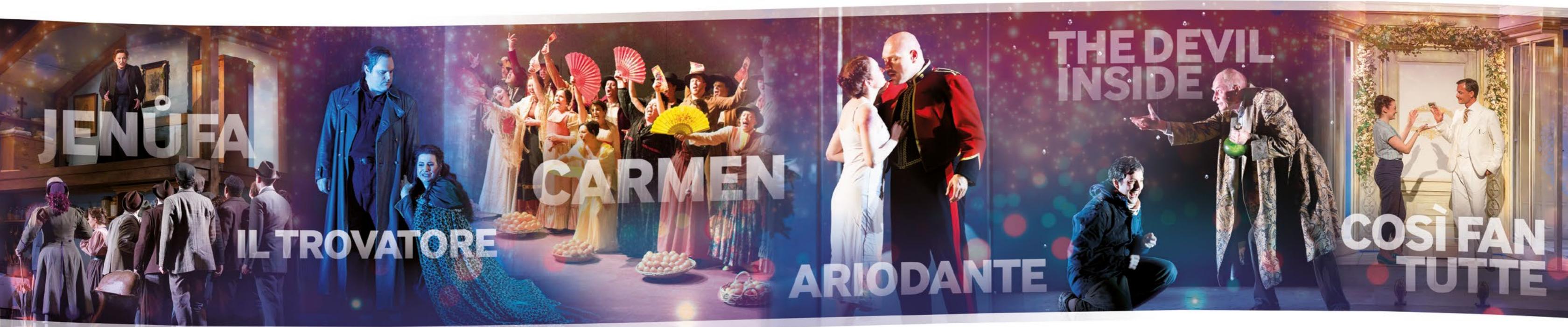
April 2015-March 2016



Scottish
Opera

A year in the life
of Scotland's
national opera
company





APRIL 2015 – MARCH 2016

New People

Stuart Stratford was appointed Music Director in April, following his five-star conducting debut with the Company in *Jenůfa*. He took up post in June, immediately curating **The Sunday Series**: afternoon concerts with The Orchestra of Scottish Opera on stage at the Theatre Royal, made possible with a specially-designed acoustic shell built in the Company's own workshops.

Co-commissioned and co-produced with Music Theatre Wales, Scottish Opera gave the world premiere of **The Devil Inside** by composer **Stuart MacRae** and librettist – and renowned novelist – **Louise Welsh**. Following performances across the UK, the opera was presented in Toronto – the Company's North American debut.

Two new student works were premiered at Sound Festival as part of the Company's **Encouraging New Opera** project. Scottish Opera's **New Commissions Circle** was founded, with a number of individuals collectively giving over £19,000 to support *The Devil Inside*.

New Work

New Talent

Ben McAteer, the John Mather Charitable Trust Scottish Opera Emerging Artist 2015/16, took a lead role in *The Devil Inside*. Three former Emerging Artists sang roles in *Carmen*, and the music of Composer in Residence **Liam Paterson** received wide exposure through inclusion in the *Opera Highlights* tour and the premiere of a new work at Glasgow's Aye Write! Festival. The **Connect Company** expanded from aspiring young singers and players to include a trainee stage management strand for the first time.

The Company furthered its Gilbert and Sullivan credentials with a concert performance of *HMS Pinafore* at the Edinburgh International Festival, recorded for release by Linn Records. The **Pop-up Opera Roadshow** took a miniature Theatre Royal to festivals and locations around Scotland as the touring trailer hit the road for the first time, with 25-minute versions of *Carmen* and *The Barber of Seville*.

Kids' Opera

The **Primary Schools Tour** visited 26 of Scotland's 32 local authority areas, engaging with 7,956 pupils, with key support from The Gannochy Trust and The Robertson Trust. A further 204 secondary school pupils attended workshops based on *The Devil Inside*. The ever-popular *KidO*, for 3 and 4 year olds, toured Scotland and the Education Department – hailed in BBC Music Magazine in January 2016 as leaders in their field – also led projects in Singapore and Hong Kong.

Festival Opera

Across the Nation

A cast of six up-and-coming young singers, including the Company's three 2015/16 Emerging Artist singers, performed in a piano-accompanied **Così fan tutte** in 19 venues across Scotland, from Kelso to Kirkwall.

The **Opera Highlights** tour took in a further 18 venues, including the Company's first visits to Cove, Markinch, Dunblane and Braemar. The four-star show was directed and accompanied by two 2015/16 Emerging Artists – Jack Furness and Philip Voldman.

In the Community

The **Memory Spinners** project for people affected by dementia entered its third successful year. The **Community Choir** continued to grow, moving to rehearse in the new education rooms at Theatre Royal Glasgow, and gave performances at the theatre's open day as well as joining forces with Killin Community Choir for a day-long opera workshop in May.

Award-winning work

The **Theatre Royal's** new foyers won a clutch of awards, including Cultural Building of the Year at the RIAS Awards 2015 and Best Leisure/Culture Building at the Scottish Design Awards 2015. *Jenůfa* was shortlisted for a UK Theatre Award in the Achievement in Opera category and the show's Props Supervisor, Robin Morgan, won a 2015 Technical Theatre Award for Outstanding Achievement in Props.

The year in numbers

194 public performances...

...in 57 towns, cities and villages

64,640 tickets issued

31 of 32 Local Authorities visited

7,455 free *Unwrapped* tickets

15 education projects

4,337 under 26 tickets



The Herald
Jenůfa



Scottish Daily Mail
Il trovatore



The Guardian
The Devil Inside



Scottish Daily Express
Così fan tutte



The Scotsman
Carmen



The Herald
The Sunday Series



Scottish Daily Express
Opera Highlights



The Times
Ariodante

**'Regularly the best evening's
entertainment of the year.'**

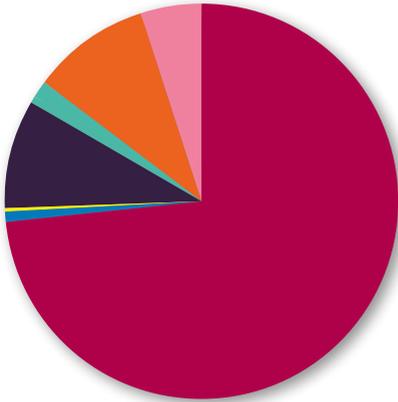
Audience Member on
Opera Highlights 2016

**'Forget what you may think
you know about opera...
there is something for
everyone here.'**

Blgger on *The Devil Inside 2016*

INCOME

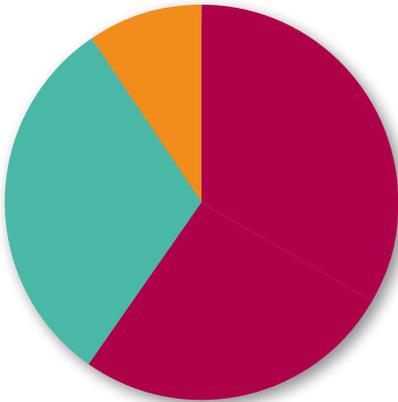
In the financial year 2015/16, Scottish Opera's total income was just over £11.2 million, made up as follows:



	Scottish Government	73.4%
	International Touring Fund	1%
	Local Authorities	0.2%
	Box Office	9.4%
	Education	1.3%
	Fundraising	9.8%
	Other	4.9%

FUNDRAISING

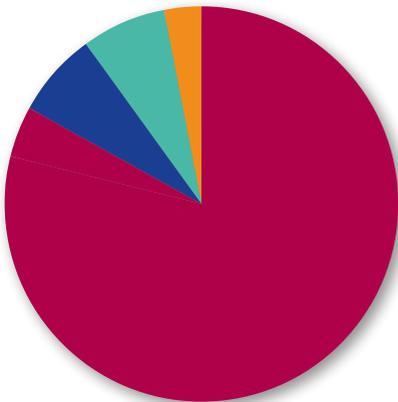
The total amount raised through fundraising (shown above) is made up as follows:



	Individuals	59.9%
	Trusts & Foundations	30.7%
	Corporate (incl. in-kind)	9.4%

EXPENDITURE

In the financial year 2015/16, Scottish Opera's total expenditure was just under £11.2 million, made up as follows:



	Productions	83.1%
	Education	6.9%
	Support Costs (incl. Governance)	7%
	Fundraising	3%