

Our House: Open Day 2015

– Sydney Opera House opens its doors to all with a free day of fun this October –

Sydney – Wednesday, 23 September, 2015: Australia’s most famous building will open its doors to the public on Sunday 18 October for the Sydney Opera House’s 10th Open Day.

Open Day is an opportunity for visitors to walk in the footsteps of their favourite performers, from backstage rehearsal spaces all the way to the Concert Hall stage.

It will feature impromptu performances; special exhibits by some of the Opera House’s seven resident music, dance, opera and theatre companies; and technical demonstrations by the Opera House production team.

Thousands of visitors can explore the many venues beneath the Opera House’s famous sails through free, self-guided walk through experiences between 9am and 3pm.

NSW Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said: “Open Day is a chance for everyone to experience and celebrate the building that has come to symbolise modern Australia. The Opera House belongs to the people of NSW; it is a place of pride, a place that showcases our best artists, draws millions of visitors a year and encapsulates what NSW can do.”

Discover the set of Opera Australia’s hit musical *Anything Goes* in the Joan Sutherland Theatre, view a backstage exhibition by The Australian Ballet in the Opera House’s rehearsal room, take in foyer projections by Bangarra Dance Theatre and see the set of Sydney Theatre Company’s latest production, *Arms and the Man*. Visitors will also be able to learn more about the Opera House’s renewal plans, which will ensure it continues to meet the needs of future generations of artists, audiences and visitors.

Sydney Opera House CEO Louise Herron AM said: “We look forward to welcoming as many people as possible on Open Day. It is a wonderful chance to venture into the heart of the Opera House and explore behind the scenes. Millions of people admire this architectural masterpiece from afar, but it’s what we do inside that brings it to life - from contemporary music and the world’s most intriguing speakers to the very best of classical arts and creative shows for children and families.

“We hope visitors will enjoy this free opportunity to find out more about the stages, the stories and the scope for the future of this World Heritage building, which we are renewing so it remains vital for their children and grandchildren, too.”

Members of the public are encouraged to register online in advance of Open Day via www.sydneyoperahouse.com/OpenDay. People can join in the online conversation and share their moments from the day using #SOHOpen15.

EVENT INFORMATION:

- What:** Sydney Opera House – Open Day 2015
- When:** Sunday 18 October, 9am to 3pm (last entry)
- Where:** Entry point – main entrance under vehicle concourse
- Entry:** Free. Registration encouraged online [here](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/OpenDay)
- Accessibility:** For more information visit www.sydneyoperahouse.com/OpenDay

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MEDIA RELEASE



For further media information, please contact:

Jess Gooch, Communications Manager, Sydney Opera House
+61 2 9250 7428 | +61 415 403 135 | jgooch@sydneyoperahouse.com

Sydney Opera House

The Opera House is a masterpiece that belongs to all Australians. One of the world's most recognised and celebrated buildings, it contributes significantly to the cultural life of the city. The World Heritage-listed Opera House welcomes more than 8.2 million visitors on site every year and hosts 1,800 performances attended by 1.4 million people. It is one of the world's busiest cultural precincts.