



Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of the City of London Livery Committee

71st Wexford Festival Opera ~ Magic & Music

O'Reilly Theatre, National Opera House

Friday 21st – Tuesday 25th October 2022

Wexford is a charming ancient Viking seaport on the River Slaney in Ireland's sunny South-East. At festival time the streets are abuzz with excitement amid the art galleries, craft shops and hostelrys and pop-up entertainments.

We will arrive on the opening day, Friday 21st, attending the main stage opera productions (see below) on the following three nights. *Dress code: black tie.* Dinner is included each night with two pre-theatre dinners in the opera house restaurant.

Daytime events are not timetabled leaving participants free to choose to attend additional performances including daily lunchtime recitals and the afternoon pocket operas. Night owls may wish to attend the Late Night Cabaret des Artistes. See <https://www.wexfordopera.com> for details of all events.

There will also be free community events to enjoy, with pop-up performances featuring music, drama, singing and dance, performed around the town.

Participants have the choice of joining the group flying from London or making their own way to Wexford.

Accommodation (bed and breakfast) will be at the 4-star Talbot Hotel located by Wexford Harbour in the town centre, and less than 10 minutes' walk from the Opera House. See <https://www.talbotwexford.ie>

Booking Deadline Thursday 30th June, 2022 (originally 15th May)

Please note that even if the stated deadline has passed, bookings will be accepted at any time so long as there is availability for hotel, opera tickets and airline (if needed) etc.

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BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

Millennium Tours will be handling bookings and payments for the hotel, dinners and opera package. The cost is £895 per person sharing (solo traveller supplement £315), plus £25 booking charge and 15% Service fee. Millennium Tours will also be arranging optional transportation to and from the Wexford event. Enquiries to tony@millenniumtours.co.uk

Please contact eithnemaahon@gmail.com to provisionally reserve a place and to receive booking forms. Payment of £250 deposit is required by Sunday 15th May to confirm each reservation. Please note that in addition to your initial deposit payment, a further £200 per person needs to be paid by the end of June to cover the full cost of the opera tickets. You will be reminded by Millennium tours close to the payment date. The deadline for booking and initial payments is 30th June, after which date both these payments are non-refundable.

The Programme

The programme is built around the theme of *Magic & Music* and featuring the three main stage opera productions we will be attending on the dates indicated:

Saturday 22 October 2022

LALLA ROUKH (1862) composed by Felician David, with a libretto by Michael Carré and Hippolyte Lucas. The production will be conducted by David Angus and staged by the Irish director Orpha Phelan. The first performance was at the Opéra-Comique on 12 May 1862.

Sunday 23 October 2022

ARMIDA (1904) by Antonín Dvořák, with a libretto by Jaroslav Vrchlický. Armida was first performed at Prague's National Theatre on 25 March 1904, and the production will be conducted by Norbert Baxa and directed by Dmitry Bertman. A co-production with Pilsen Theatre (Czech Republic).

Monday 24 October 2022.

LA TEMPESTA (1850), composed by Fromental Halevy, with a libretto by Eugene Scribe after Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. It was first performed at Her Majesty's Theatre London in June 1850. The production will be conducted by Francesco Cilluffo and directed by Roberto Catalano, sung in Italian. A co-production with Teatro C. Coccia, Novara, Italy.