THE NIGHTINGALE

SOCIAL STORY WEST AUSTRALIAN OPERA 3, 4 OCTOBER HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE

I am going to see an opera called The Nightingale by West Australian Opera.



Opera is a type of classical music that combines theatre, music and dance. Opera singers act out a story on a stage like actors do.

The opera will be performed at His Majesty's Theatre.



His Majesty's Theatre is in the city. The outside looks like this.



His Majesty's Theatre looks like this inside.

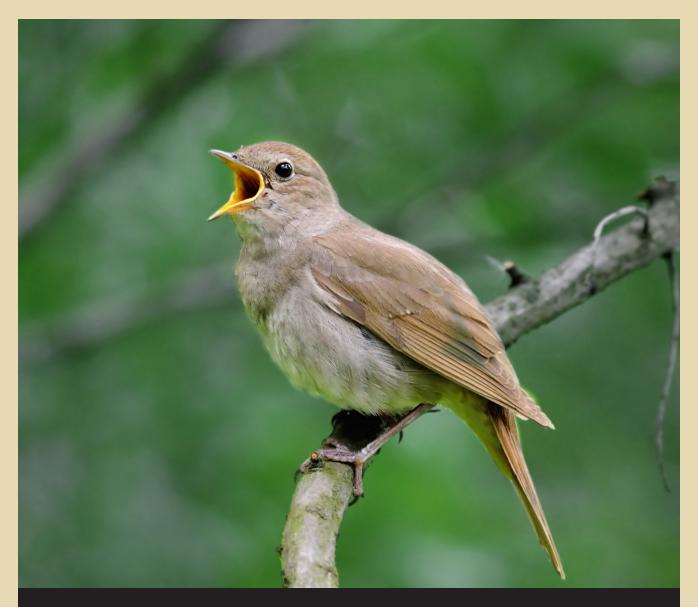
THE STORY

The Nightingale is a traditional fairy tale written by a popular children's author Hans Christian Andersen.

The Nightingale tells the story of an Emperor enchanted by the singing of a Nightingale bird. He gets The Nightingale to sing for him whenever he can.

However, one day the Emperor receives a fancy mechanical Nightingale that sings for him whenever he wants.

The real Nightingale flies away.



A Nightingale is a small bird with a beautiful voice. Nightingales live in the woodlands.

THE STORY (continued)...

The mechanical Nightingale breaks down and the Emperor becomes very ill.

Death comes to get him.

When the real Nightingale hears of how sick the Emperor is, she returns to visit him and sings. Death is so moved by The Nightingale's song that she allows the Emperor to live.

The Nightingale agrees to continue to sing for the Emperor if he allows her to sing for all the people.



In an opera, instead of speaking, they sing. In The Nightingale, there will be a choir singing on stage.

The choir will be the voice of The Nightingale and some of the other characters.

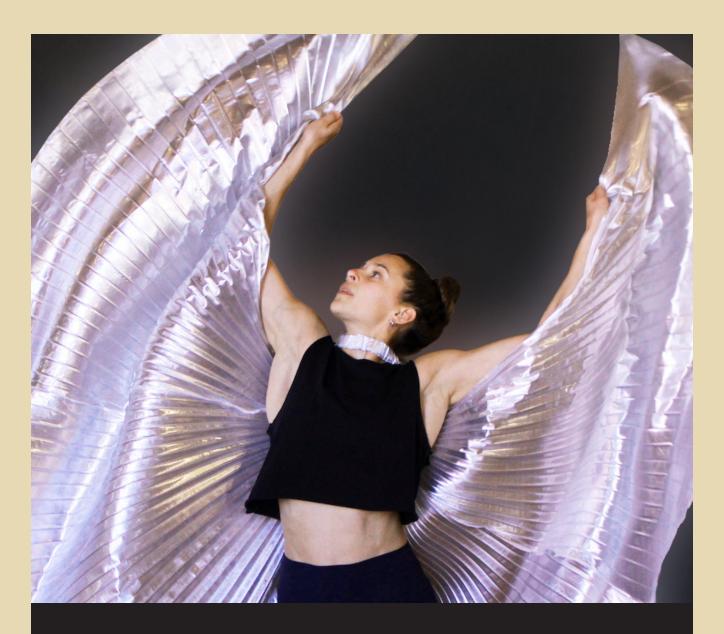


The Choir sings the voice of The Nightingale.

In The Nightingale there will also be actors and a dancer.

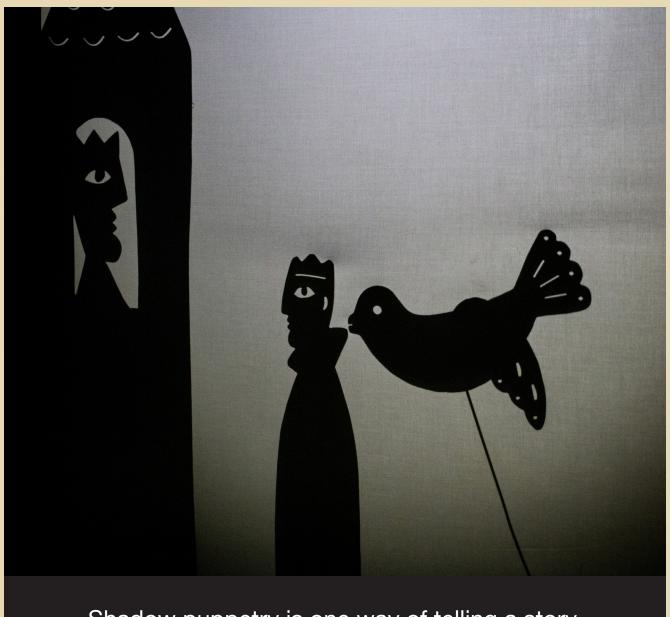
Before the show begins, the actors, choir, musicians, and dancer will come on stage and introduce themselves.

The actors play different characters and use costumes to help explain their part.



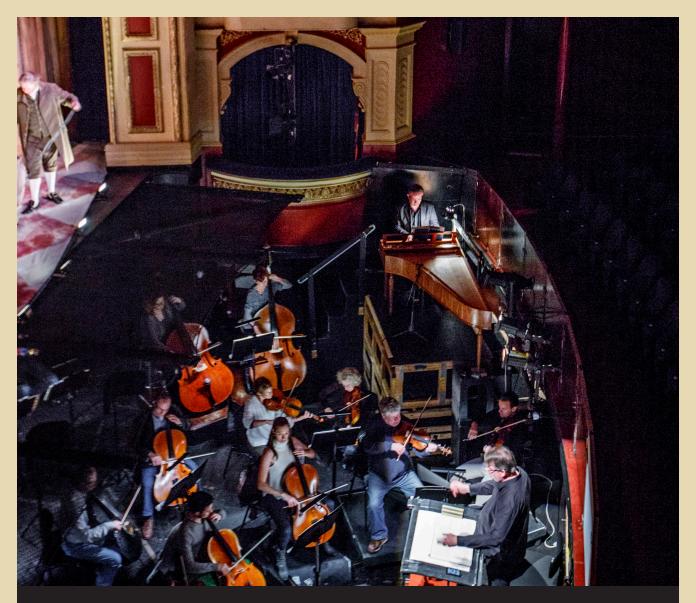
A dancer plays the role of The Nightingale.

The Nightingale opera will use puppets, lights, shadows, sounds and music to help tell the story in a way that may seem real.



Shadow puppetry is one way of telling a story.

Operas have musicians in an orchestra playing music.



The orchestra plays in the orchestra pit in the lower part, in front of the stage

Operas are full of emotion and people react to them in different ways.

Clapping is the way the audience tell the performers that they are enjoying the show.

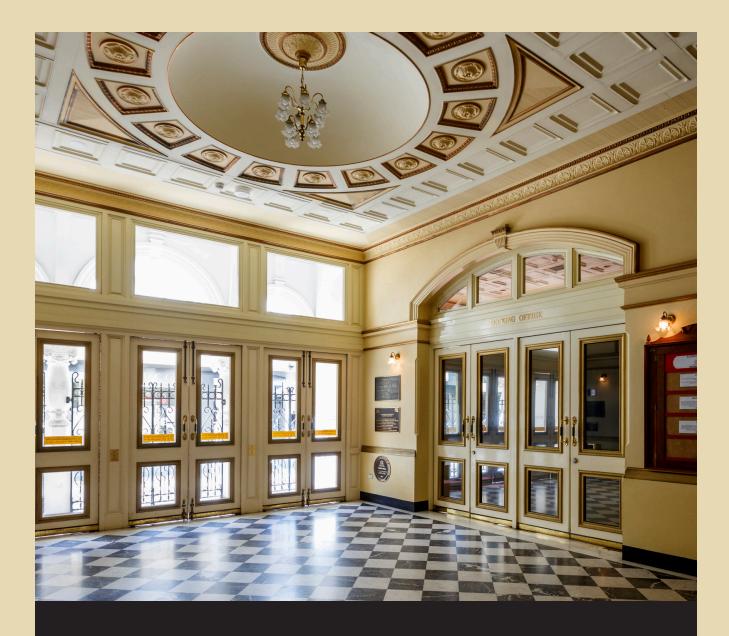
I can clap if I want to.



At the end of the show, I will see lots of people getting up to leave.

I may not feel comfortable leaving with everyone and can stay in my seat a little bit longer.

I can then leave when I am ready.



These are the doors that people leave the theatre from.

We hope that you have a fantastic time seeing The Nightingale.

NB: Death in this performance is represented by offstage singing voice and visual lighting changes



WEST AUSTRALIAN OPERA 2020













