

The Royal Opera House Guidebook

As indispensable as it is easy to carry, the Pocket Rough Guide to London is the definitive guide to the most charismatic city in Britain. It's full of insider tips on the most memorable experiences the city has to offer: take in the views from the lofty heights of the Shard; haggle for a bargain in Portobello Road Market; explore the legacy of the Olympic Games in the East End; and enjoy all manner of world-class museums for free. Beautifully designed in full colour and packed with the best-looking maps you'll find in any guidebook - including a handy pull-out map - Pocket London's comprehensive recommendations will not only help you take best advantage of the city's famed restaurant and nightlife scenes, but also find equally brilliant places to sleep and shop. Now available in PDF format. Make the most of your time on Earth™ with the Pocket Rough Guide London.

Each of Great Britain's countries that have grown out of kingdoms, principalities, shire, fiefs, boroughs, and parishes has its own special flavor. This derives from Britain's landscape, its resources and its history, all which have shaped its peoples, too. For more information about Great Britain's history, castles, gardens, restaurants, tours, national parks, stately homes and cathedrals look to Eyewitness Travel Great Britain. Annually revised and updated with beautiful new photos and illustrations this guide includes information on local customs, currency, medical services, and transportation. Consistently chosen over the competition in national consumer market research. The best keeps getting better!

With superb photography, illustrations, and maps, this comprehensive travel guide will show you everything from the best places to visit in London-such as Buckingham Palace and the British Museum-to the spectacular castles of Wales and Scotland, the rugged coastline of Southeast England and the West Country, and the stunning natural landscape of Northern England. Explore Great Britain's beautiful national parks, including the Lake District and the Peak District, and discover the country's rich architectural heritage in its charming towns and villages, and grand stately homes and gardens. There are also practical tips, transportation information, and hotel and restaurant recommendations to help you plan the perfect trip. With hundreds of full-color photographs, hand-drawn illustrations, and custom maps that illuminate every page, DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Great Britain truly shows you this city as no one else can.

Once Upon a Tune brings you six wonderful stories from many lands, all of which inspired great music. You can battle trolls with Peer Gynt in The Hall of the Mountain King; grapple with a magic broom in The Sorcerer's Apprentice, meet the evil Witch of the North in The Swan of Tuonela, sail the seven seas with Sinbad the Sailor in Scheherazade; be a prince disguised as a bee in The Flight of the Bumblebee, and become a fearless hero in William Tell. The stories are excitingly told and stunningly illustrated by James Mayhew. Includes Musical Notes with more information about the stories and music, plus James's recommended recordings to download and listen to.

DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Great Britain is your indispensable guide to England, Scotland, and Wales. This fully updated guide includes unique cutaways, floor plans, and reconstructions of the must-see sights, such as Stonehenge and Big Ben. The uniquely visual DK Eyewitness Travel Guide will help you to discover Great Britain region by region-whether you are most interested in local festivals and markets or day trips around the countryside. Street-by-street maps of key cities and towns will help you get the most out of your trip, and insider tips and essential local information showcases the best of Great Britain's restaurants, pubs, shops, hotels, and more. What's new in DK Eyewitness Travel Guides: -New itineraries based on length of stay, regional destinations, and themes. -Brand-new hotel and restaurants listings including DK's Choice recommendations. -Restaurant locations plotted on redrawn area maps and listed with sights. -Redesigned and refreshed interiors make the guides even easier to read. With hundreds of full-color photographs, hand-drawn illustrations, and custom maps that brighten every page, DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Great Britain truly shows you this destination as no one else can. Now available in PDF format.

Provides biographical sketches for nearly 850 composers along with articles on approximately 2,000 works.

This visually stunning publication celebrates a unique collaboration between two of the UK's leading cultural institutions, the National Gallery and The Royal Ballet. Together they commissioned three contemporary artists Chris Ofili, Conrad Shawcross and Mark Wallinger to work with international choreographers and composers to create three new ballets inspired by Titian's paintings Diana and Actaeon, The Death of Actaeon and Diana and Callisto. As well as designing all the sets and costumes, the artists also produced entirely new works in response to Titian's masterpieces for a show at the National Gallery. The book tells the story of this extraordinary, complex project from conception to stage and gallery. The artists' notebooks, sketches and other material from the studio are reproduced to show how they evolved their initial ideas into working designs. Numerous views of the dancers' rehearsals, installations and production work, and dozens of unseen photographs of the performances themselves, take the reader behind the scenes to see the many processes and people involved in transforming the artists' vision into a finished production. All three creative teams offer through interviews and personal statements their own reflections on the project and on working with very different art forms. An introduction by National Gallery curator and originator of the project, Minna Moore Ede, explains how it came to fruition and how both aspects of the collaboration unfolded. A foreword by Dame Monica Mason, outgoing director of The Royal Ballet, completes the volume.

Angela Gheorghiu is one of the most passionate and talented artists working in opera today, a larger-than-life figure whose intensity and drive, on stage and off, have commanded the attention of the opera world. Largely composed of exclusive interviews with the artist, this authorized biography of the internationally acclaimed soprano, covers Gheorghiu's life and career from her childhood in Communist Romania to her spectacular Covent Garden debut in 1992 and up to the present day. In it, Gheorghiu shares new insights into the performance of many of her iconic stage roles and her collaborations with opera's leading lights. Also featured are commentaries and reminiscences by such celebrated figures in the music and art worlds as Grace Bumbry, JosŽ Carreras, Plácido Domingo, Marilyn Horne, Bryn Terfel, and Franco Zeffirelli.

Ballet is a detailed guide to creative practice and performance. Compiled by ten leading practitioners, each chapter focuses on an aspect of ballet as a performing art. Together they outline a journey from the underpinning principles of ballet, through an appreciation of different styles and schooling, into the dance studio for practice in class and beyond. With additional insights from highly acclaimed dancers, choreographers and teachers, this practical guide offers advice on fundamental and advanced training and creative development. As well as providing information from dance science research into training well-being, this book supports the individual dancer in their artistic growth, offering strategies for exploration and discovery. Topics include: principles, styles and schooling of classical ballet; fundamental technique and advanced expression; developing versatility and creative thinking; advice on injury management, nutrition and lifestyle; choreography and music and, finally, best practice in the rehearsal studio is covered. 'A wonderfully accessible and comprehensive resource about the individual disciplines involved in ballet', Leanne Benjamin OBE, former Principal of The Royal Ballet and international coach.

By making systematic use of the mostly unpublished Opera Archive, Mead fills in the missing links to previous investigations and unlocks the significance of this seminal masterpiece.

Modern Theatres 1950–2020 is an investigation of theatres, concert halls and opera houses in Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North and South America. The book explores in detail 30 of the most significant theatres, concert halls, opera houses and dance spaces that opened between 1950 and 2010. Each theatre is reviewed and assessed by experts in theatre buildings, such as architects, acousticians, consultants and theatre practitioners, and illustrated with full-colour photographs and comparative plans and sections. A further 20 theatres that opened from 2009 to 2020 are concisely reviewed and illustrated. An excellent resource for students of theatre planning, theatre architecture and architectural design, Modern Theatres 1950–2020 discusses the role of performing arts buildings in cities, explores their public and performances spaces and examines the acoustics and technologies needed in a great building.

Sketches of opera composers, opera synopses, and CD reviews.

Explore the Royal Opera House, its history, performance, architecture and backstage.

An introduction to ballet features facts on the dance discipline's history, basic steps, costumes, and famous dancers, and includes details of iconic performances from the Royal Ballet.

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Provides an introduction to opera, including performers, opera companies, and composers, and on the accompanying CD offers extracts from some of the more popular operas.

'The Oxford Handbook of Opera' captures the highly charged dynamic between opera and its audience, bringing the complexities of scholarship and the excitement of performance into the mainstream conversation. Fifty essays address an extensive range of topics.

Explore the musical wonders of Europe! This guide is a unique resource for music lovers with a passion for travel. Selected on the basis of international reputation, architectural appeal, historical and cultural significance and performance quality, Europe's foremost concert halls and opera houses are presented here in a comprehensive, accessible and attractive collection. Brimming with up-to-date information on everything from ticket prices to dining opportunities and from special exhibitions to disabled access, this helpful guide caters for a variety of music enthusiasts - from box patrons at La Scala to students on a budget. Beautifully illustrated throughout, offering concise venue descriptions, directions and historical information, "Anthem Guide to the Opera, Concert Halls and Classical Music Venues of Europe" is essential reading for holidaymakers with a desire to experience the European classical music scene. Foreword author Steven Isserlis is an acclaimed cellist whose passion for music transcends conventional divisions.

This definitive insiders' handbook to London covers all the sights from the old favorites to new wonders such as the London Eye and Tate Modern Gallery at Bankside. Includes additions to listings for clubs, shopping, dining, and performing arts. 35 maps. color maps.

'Be quiet and be calm, my countrymen, for what is taking place is exactly what you came to do ... Brothers, we are drilling the death drill.' – Reverend Isaac Wauchope Dyobha Paris, 1958. A skirmish in a world-famous restaurant leaves two men dead and the restaurant staff baffled. Why did the head waiter, a man who's been living in France for many years, lunge at his patrons with a knife? As the man awaits trial, a journalist hounds his long-time friend, hoping to expose the true story behind this unprecedented act of violence. Gradually, the extraordinary story of Pitso Motaung, a young South African who volunteered to serve with the Allies in the First World War, emerges. Through a tragic twist of fate, Pitso found himself on board the ss Mendi, a ship that sank off the Isle of Wight in February 1917. More than six hundred of his countrymen, mostly black soldiers, lost their lives in a catastrophe that official history largely forgot. One particularly cruel moment from that day will remain etched in Pitso's mind, resurfacing decades later to devastating effect. Dancing the Death Drill recounts the life of Pitso Motaung. It is a personal and political tale that spans continents and generations, moving from the battlefields of the Boer War to the front lines in France and beyond. With a captivating blend of pathos and humour, Fred Khumalo brings to life a historical event, honouring both those who perished in the disaster and those who survived.

This beautifully produced new book by Royal Ballet dancer Andrej Uspenski is a collection of exclusive photographs which shines the spotlight on ballet, the most beautiful of art forms. These exquisite photographs feature some of the finest dancers on stage today, bringing the reader into the magical world of ballet. As a Royal Ballet dancer himself, Andrej Uspenski has a unique perspective on photographic composition of dance imagery, as well as unrivalled access not only to the Royal Ballet's productions, but also to the dancers who perform in them. This gives the reader an exclusive insight in to the Royal Ballet's work. Dancers includes exclusive, backstage photographs, as well as a number of breathtaking images taken from the wings during live stage performances, making this a unique photographic record, perfect for all ballet fans.

David Hallberg, the first American to join the famed Bolshoi Ballet as a principal dancer and the dazzling artist The New Yorker described as "the most exciting male dancer in the western world," presents a look at his artistic life—up to the moment he returns to the stage after a devastating injury that almost cost him his career. Beginning with his real-life Billy Elliot childhood—an all-American story marred by intense bullying—and culminating in his hard-won comeback, Hallberg's "moving and intelligent" (Daniel Mendelsohn) memoir dives deep into life as an artist as he wrestles with ego, pushes the limits of his body, and searches for ecstatic perfection and fulfillment as one of the world's most acclaimed ballet dancers. Rich in detail ballet fans will adore, Hallberg presents an "unsparing...inside look" (The New York Times) and also reflects on universal and relatable themes like inspiration, self-doubt, and perfectionism as he takes you into daily classes, rigorous rehearsals, and triumphant performances, searching for new interpretations of ballet's greatest roles. He reveals the loneliness he felt as a teenager leaving America to join the Paris Opera Ballet School, the ambition he had to tame as a new member of American Ballet Theatre, and the reasons behind his headline-grabbing decision to be the first American to join the top rank of Bolshoi Ballet, tendered by the Artistic Director who would later be the victim of a vicious acid attack. Then, as Hallberg performed throughout the world at the peak of his abilities, he suffered a crippling ankle injury and botched surgery leading to an agonizing retreat from ballet and an honest reexamination of his entire life. Combining his powers of observation and memory with emotional honesty and artistic insight, Hallberg has written a great ballet memoir and an intimate portrait of an artist in all his vulnerability, passion, and wisdom. "Candid and engrossing" (The Washington Post), A Body of

Work is a memoir “for everyone with a heart” (DC Metro Theater Arts).

This volume, a revised and extended version of two well-reviewed books published in German and Czech, explores the social and political background to this “opera mania” in nineteenth century Central Europe.

Professional dance is an exciting but demanding career to choose, and the dancer of today needs to be physically prepared for the stress on the body that a performing life entails. Pilates and Conditioning for Dancers is a practical guide to exercises designed specifically for dance students and professionals alike. The focus on how to choose exercises that suit the individual offers dancers the freedom to optimize their performance potential in a flexible environment. Key topics covered are Core Control; Turnout; The Healthy Spine; Footwork; Jumping and Landing. This new book covers each area of the body, relating the exercises closely to dance technique and providing movement solutions for dancers of all styles and at all stages of their performing career.

Practical advice (supported by extensive case studies) for fixing troubled arts organizations

From its modest beginnings in the 1960s in a Harlem church basement, to its meteoric rise to international fame, the Dance Theatre of Harlem ignited the world with one simple, still-revolutionary statement: All can do ballet. Into the 21st century, as the world, and the country, continue their historical struggles and triumphs, the story of this haven for dancers of all colors and backgrounds resonates more than ever. Here, for the first time, is the definitive portrait of the one-of-a-kind community dance company that reflected--and shaped--our times, and whose enduring principle continues to inspire the future. With exclusive backstage stories from its legendary dancers and staff, and unprecedented access to its archives, Dance Theatre of Harlem is a striking chronicle of the company's amazing history, its fascinating daily workings, and the visionaries who made its legacy. Here you'll discover how the company's founders--African-American maestro Arthur Mitchell of George Balanchine's New York City Ballet, and Nordic-American Karel Shook of The Dutch National Ballet--created timeless works that challenged Eurocentric mainstream ballet head-on--and used new techniques to examine ongoing issues of power, beauty, myth, and the ever-changing definition of art itself. Gaining prominence in the 1970s and 80s with a succession of triumphs--including its spectacular season at the Metropolitan Opera House--the company also gained fans and supporters that included Nelson Mandela, Stevie Wonder, Cicely Tyson, Misty Copeland, Jessye Norman, and six American presidents. Dance Theatre of Harlem details this momentous era as well as the company's difficult years, its impressive recovery as it partnered with new media's most brilliant creators--and, in the wake of its 50th anniversary, amid a global pandemic, its evolution into a worldwide virtual performance space. Alive with stunning photographs, including many from the legendary Marbeth, this incomparable book is a must-have for any lover of dance, art, culture, or history.

Steven McRae - Dancer in the Fast Lane gives a close up look at the ballet and dance world's newest, flame-haired star. Born and raised in the world of Australia's high octane, drag-racing circuit, Steven effortlessly moves between the sophistication of his interpretations of the greatest ballet roles as a Principal of The Royal Ballet, to full throttle blasts of tap. Once again photographer Andrej Uspenski has used his exclusive vantage point as a First Artist with The Royal Ballet to give us glimpses of a dancer becoming a true dance supernova.

How can certain songs carry us through a tough workout, comfort us after a breakup, or unite 50,000 diverse fans? In this fascinating field guide, neuroscientist and opera singer Indre Viskontas investigates what music is and how it can change us for the better—from deep in our neurons to across our entire society. Whether hip-hop fans, classically trained pianists, or vinyl collectors, readers will think about their favorite songs in a whole new way by the end of this book. This is a vibrant and smart gift for any audiophile.

This beautifully produced new Royal Ballet branded book with photographs by Bill Cooper is a collection of exclusive photographs which shines the spotlight on Swan Lake. These exquisite photos feature some of the finest dancers on stage today and give an exclusive insight into the Royal Ballet's work. Swan Lake was Tchaikovsky's first score for the ballet. Given its status today as arguably the best-loved and most admired of all classical ballets, it is perhaps surprising that at its premiere in 1877 Swan Lake was poorly received. It is thanks to the 1895 production by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov that Swan Lake has become part of not only ballet consciousness but also wider popular culture. That success is secured not only by the sublime, symphonic sweep of Tchaikovsky's score but also by the striking choreographic contrasts between Petipa's royal palace scenes and the lyric lakeside scenes created by Ivanov. Swan Lake has had a special role in the repertory of The Royal Ballet since 1934. Since then there has been a succession of productions, the most recent of which was overseen by Anthony Dowell. The 2019 Season sees a new production with additional choreography by ROH Artist-in-Residence Liam Scarlett. Scarlett, while remaining faithful to the Petipa-Ivanov text, will bring fresh eyes to the staging of this classic ballet, in collaboration with his long-term designer John Macfarlane. In January 1991, when civil war came to Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, two-thirds of the city's population fled. Among them was eight-year-old Asad Abdullahi. His mother murdered by a militia, his father somewhere in hiding, he was swept alone into the great wartime migration that scattered the Somali people throughout sub-Saharan Africa and the world. This extraordinary book tells Asad's story. Serially betrayed by the people who promised to care for him, Asad lived his childhood at a skeptical remove from the adult world, his relation to others wary and tactical. He lived in a bewildering number of places, from the cosmopolitan streets of inner-city Nairobi to the desert towns deep in the Ethiopian hinterland. By the time he reached the cusp of adulthood, Asad had honed an array of wily talents. At the age of seventeen, in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, he made good as a street hustler, brokering relationships between hard-nosed businessmen and bewildered Somali refugees. He also courted the famously beautiful Foosiya, and, to the astonishment of his peers, seduced and married her. Buoyed by success in work and in love, Asad put twelve hundred dollars in his pocket and made his way down the length of the African continent to Johannesburg, South Africa, whose streets he believed to be lined with gold. And so began a shocking adventure in a country richer and more violent than he could possibly have imagined. A Man of Good Hope is the story of a person shorn of the things we have come to believe make us human—personal possessions, parents, siblings. And yet Asad's is an intensely human life, one suffused with dreams and desires and a need to leave something permanent on this earth.

A Royal Ballet week-to-view desk diary featuring incredible photography of some of the most vibrant and visually stunning ballet performances to grace London's Royal Opera House. It showcases the elegant poise of dancers such as Fumi Kaneko as Princess Aurora in The Sleeping Beauty and Sarah Lamb as Giselle in Giselle. This week-to-view desk diary is a stunning gift or a treat for yourself.

“Delightful and anti-reverential”—Sunday Times (London) With an encyclopedic knowledge of opera and a delightful dash of irreverence, Sir Denis Forman throws open the world of opera—its structure, composers, conductors, and artists—in this hugely informative guide. A Night at the Opera dissects the eighty-three most popular operas recorded on compact disc, from Cilea's Adriana Lecouvreur to Mozart's Die Zauberflöte. For each opera, Sir Denis details the plot and cast of characters, awarding stars to parts that are “worth looking out for,” “really good,” or, occasionally, “stunning.” He goes on to tell the history of each opera and its early reception. Finally, each work is graded from alpha to gamma (although the Ring cycle gets an “X”), and Sir Denis has no qualms about voicing his opinion: the first act of Fidelio is “a bit of a mess,” while the last scene of Don Giovanni “towers above the comic finales of Figaro and Così and whether or not [it] is Mozart's greatest opera, it is certainly his most powerful

finale.” The guide also presents brief biographies of the great composers, conductors, and singers. A glossary of musical terms is included, as well as Operatica, or the essential elements of opera, from the proper place and style of the audience's applause (and boos) to the use of subtitles. A Night at the Opera is for connoisseurs and neophytes alike. It will entertain and inform, delight and (perhaps) infuriate, providing a subject for lively debate and ready reference for years to come.

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