Celebrating success & looking forward to 2018 - 2022

Great homegrown theatre at the heart of a changing community

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2016-17 Facts and Figures

210,711 people reached
(40% increase on 15/16)

141,687 people attended ticketed events
(5% increase on 15/16)

68% capacity achieved
(64% 15/16, national average 59%)

24,631 participated in classes & workshops
(58% increase on 15/16)

44,402 saw QTH productions on tour in 10 different cities
40% increase in number of schools engaged with

New website resulted in

12% increase in traffic
28% increase in mobile device interaction

Facebook followers increased by
21%

Twitter followers increased by
14%

773 performances

11 new productions
(including 4 co-productions)

121 visiting companies

1,072 participatory sessions

introduction of dementia friendly & relaxed performances

approach to talent development: ‘Outer Limits’

31% increase in core earned income

14% increase in box office income

10% increase in catering turnover

Public subsidy 20%
(24% 15/16, national average 32%)

Turnover increased by 13% to £3.5 million

More & new Activity

Significant Increase in digital reach
Introduction to Queen’s Theatre Hornchurch

Queen’s Theatre Hornchurch is a vibrant regional theatre with a rich heritage, working in Outer East London, Essex and beyond, celebrating its 65th birthday in 2018. As the cultural hub of the region, over 200,000 people enjoy the programme each year, including the best in home grown theatre, visiting live entertainment and inspiring Learning and Participation projects. Behind the scenes, sets and costumes are lovingly created on-site by a highly skilled carpentry workshop, scenic artists, prop makers and wardrobe team. Audiences are guaranteed a warm welcome from a winner of UK Theatre’s Most Welcoming Theatre 2016.

Autumn 2016 saw Douglas Rintoul’s first season as the Queen’s Theatre new Artistic Director, opening with the critically acclaimed regional premiere of musical *Made in Dagenham*, a co-production with the New Wolsey Ipswich, and the largest show in the Theatre’s history to date. In Spring 2017 Doug’s production of Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*, co-produced with Selladoor Productions and Les Théatres de la Ville de Luxembourg, opened in Hornchurch before embarking on a 5 month, 12 date international tour, seen by 35,231 people.

The Queen’s Theatre is at the heart of the local community, and offers a wide range of life enhancing workshops and classes for people of all ages. In 2017, the Theatre celebrated 25 years of Youth Theatre, and the 95,000 young people who have engaged to date, with a world premiere new adaptation of *The Wind in the Willows* that saw 120 participants performing together on stage.

The Queen’s Theatre has recently launched a fresh approach to talent development, titled *Outer Limits*, connecting with some local and regional professional artists for the first time, offering essential support that hasn’t previously existed. The Theatre is ensuring that the next generation of theatre makers are equipped to move from making work in studio spaces to the main stage, providing valuable commissions and directing and design opportunities.

As a much loved registered charity, Queen’s Theatre receives regular funding from the London Borough of Havering and in June 2017 heard news that it will continue to receive Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding for the next four years. This is alongside ongoing support from a generous range of donors and corporate supporters, and regular gifts from the long established Queen’s Theatre Club.

“...In scale and ambition the staging achieves a new level of unflashy sophistication that suggests Rintoul plans to give the Queen’s a long overdue creative shake-up.”

*The Times*

“It’s good to see Hornchurch’s Queen’s Theatre putting itself back on the map for serious theatre, seriously done.”

*The Stage*
Between 2018 and 2022, Queen’s Theatre Hornchurch has a range of ambitious plans to:

- Change the way programming responds to the narratives of place and community
- Make and present a widening range of theatre that connects with different people
- Strategically develop the participatory programme so that it engages existing and new people in deeper ways
- Enhance the talent development offer to meet local and national needs
- Modernise and ensure best practice is adopted in every aspect of the ways in which the organisation and its staff operate

Here are some of the Theatre’s exciting aspirations around programming, participation and audiences:

**Programme**

- Become the theatre that celebrates fresh working class stories of the south east
- Offer a new home for developing popular theatre that reflects British Asian experience
- Inspire pride in local audiences through hit productions that live beyond Hornchurch
- Generate creative ideas inspired by the Outer East London-Essex identity
- Nurture new mainstream theatre with deaf and disabled performers at the heart
- Make and share classical drama with contemporary theatre makers that speaks for the here & now
- Create art that explodes the stories from the stage into digital spaces
- Support aspiring homegrown artists to create new theatre to be seen more widely
- Stage theatre outside the building in places where it can generate new engagement
- Foster the next generation of female lighting and sound designers
- Widen the breadth of the visiting programme for audiences that genuinely reflect the local community

**Learning and participation**

- Produce more theatre where participants perform closely alongside professionals
- Shift towards work being co-created with participants
- Focus on projects with disadvantaged and changing communities
- Deepen the impact of activity in schools through strategic relationships

**Audiences**

- Forge deeper relationships through long term projects
- Increase the number of younger people attending main stage work
- Reach more South Asian audiences through increasingly relevant programming
- Deliver activity that ensures older people retain access to theatre
From 2018, the Queen’s Theatre Hornchurch will begin to fundraise in order to celebrate the Theatre’s 65th Birthday with a refreshing facelift for artists and audiences that we can only make possible with your support.

**QRehearsal Space**
A fresh flexible rehearsal and performance space would be developed behind the stage, meaning productions and co-productions can now be **rehearsed on site**, in a **newly accessible space**, putting the making of theatre at the core of the organisation’s work.

**QArtist Space**
The old rehearsal room would be repurposed as a specially equipped intimate **space to develop new work**, available to a **range of artists** throughout the year for research and development, readings and sharings, increasing the support the Queen’s Theatre can offer to emerging regional theatre companies and local talent.

**QLearning Space**
Would be a new and energising dedicated space for the Theatre’s expanding range of **learning and participatory work** with young people and the local community, situated in the **heart of the theatre** and easily **accessible to all** members of the public.

**QCafé & QBar**
The public areas would be refurbished to enhance visitors experience and extend **audience comfort**, with refreshing new air conditioning, a **ground floor QBar** to compliment QCafé, a newly equipped foyer stage for **informal performances** and opportunities for members of the public to engage with the Theatre’s **work digitally**.

**QBackstage**
A range of **outdated** capital equipment and building plant would be **replaced**, helping to make the Queen’s Theatre more **environmentally sustainable**, cost effective and safer to run.

With plans to **decorate the auditorium** and make the **outside** of the theatre more welcoming and visible, **QNew 2018** offers an exciting range of ideas to help the Theatre meet its aims for artists, audiences and participants alike.

To find out more about how you can get involved in supporting QNew 2018, please contact **development@queens-theatre.co.uk** or call **01708 462 349**.
You can support the Queen’s Theatre by:

• Becoming a Queen’s Angel
  Regular donations, which are credited in the brochures, programmes and front of house, make an important contribution to the Theatre planning ahead

• Naming a Seat
  Celebrate a special occasion, remember a loved one or give a unique gift by dedicating a seat in the auditorium

• Leaving a Legacy
  Remembering the Queen’s Theatre in your will is a great way of supporting future generations to get involved

• Offering Corporate Support
  Through a combination of advertising, sponsorship or client entertainment, you can associate your company with some of the best theatre in the region

• Joining the Queen’s Theatre Club
  Meet like-minded people and have some fun on days out, theatre visits and at monthly meetings, whilst helping the Queen’s Theatre to thrive

To find out more, please visit queens-theatre.co.uk, email development@queens-theatre.co.uk or call 01708 462 349.

All donations great and small can make a huge difference – whatever you give is really appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your support.