COVID: AFTER THE INTERVAL

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indigo



philharmonia orchestra





COVENTRY UK CITY OF CULTURE 2021





Agderforskning





Shakespeare

birthplace

trust



Birmingham **MUSEUMS**













City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra







TODAY

What happened to audiences during lockdown?

What do audiences want and expect from us now?

What does that mean for the future?

WHAT HAPPENED DURING LOCKDOWN?



After the Interval / Act 2 Surveys

In Total

200K

Audience responses

In Total

>500

Cultural Organisations from across the UK and Ireland

After the Interval – April/May Act 2 – June/July

During Loc`kdown Booking NOW` for events

Returning to events

Safety & Comfort

Digital Culture

Outdoor Culture Economic Viability

During Lockdown

After the Interval

Q: Are you **missing the opportunity** to attend live events at the moment?

Responses: 86,377

93%

of respondents say they are missing attending live events at the moment

Q: What are you **most looking forward** to about attending events again in the future?

Responses: 79,042

74% want to get back to the BUZZ OF A LIVE

EVENT

67%
want to see
PERFORMERS UP
CLOSE

55%
want to SUPPORT their
LOCAL VENUE

Booking NOW for events

After the Interval and Act 2 (April – July)

Q: Are you actively booking NOW for events in the future?

Responses: 84,197

Only

17%

of respondents are booking for events

Half

of those booking are for events from NOVEMBER

Returning to events

After the Interval and Act 2

Q: If you had to say now when you think you'll be ready to start BOOKING for events again, which of the options below would you choose?

Responses: 49,357

70%

would not consider booking for events for **at least 3 months**

Q: Which of the following statements best fits how you're currently feeling about the possibility of coming out to events at a venue again?

Responses: 49,738

BUT

67%

would consider attending events if venues reopened with social distancing

They don't 'get it'

Act 2

If people can travel on planes and televised football is allowed, it is unfair not to allow theatre.

I'm willing to take a little more risk than the government is likely to allow

The more I want to see a show, the more I will be prepared to take the risk of infection by attending

Just get on with it, hand sanitizer, washing etc. The seats are too crowded in most theatres anyway for people in the 21st century...

I'm willing to try and support any arts venue that is working to safely move towards performances happening.

Safety & Comfort

After the Interval

Q: Would any of the following help you to feel safe and comfortable going to an event at a venue again?

Responses: 52,065

 $\frac{3}{4}$

Would feel safer with some form of social distancing measures

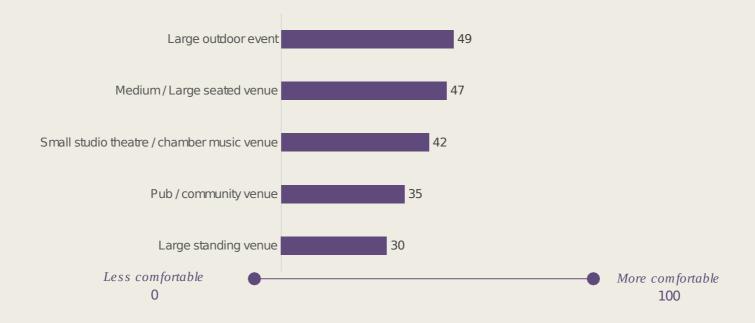


Safety & Comfort

After the Interval

Q: Are there certain **types of venues** that you would feel happier coming back to before others?

Responses: 62,952



Safety & Comfort

Act 2

Q: Would the following social distancing measures make you MORE or LESS likely to consider attending a live cultural event?

Responses: 40,510

	MORE	LESS
	Household seated together Limited capacity Socially distanced seats	Daytime performances Unreserved seating
	Hand sanitizer Covid-safe Kite Mark	Restrictions to toilet facilities
9	Queue Management Scheduled arrival time	Audience wearing masks Public transport

Performance

Hygiene

Avoiding People

Economic Viability

Act 2

Q: How concerned would you say you are about the financial survival of the organisation who sent you this survey?

Responses: 51,738



Q: How much do you think you will be able to spend on cultural events once they can happen again 'as normal'? (scale 0-100)

Responses: 51,738



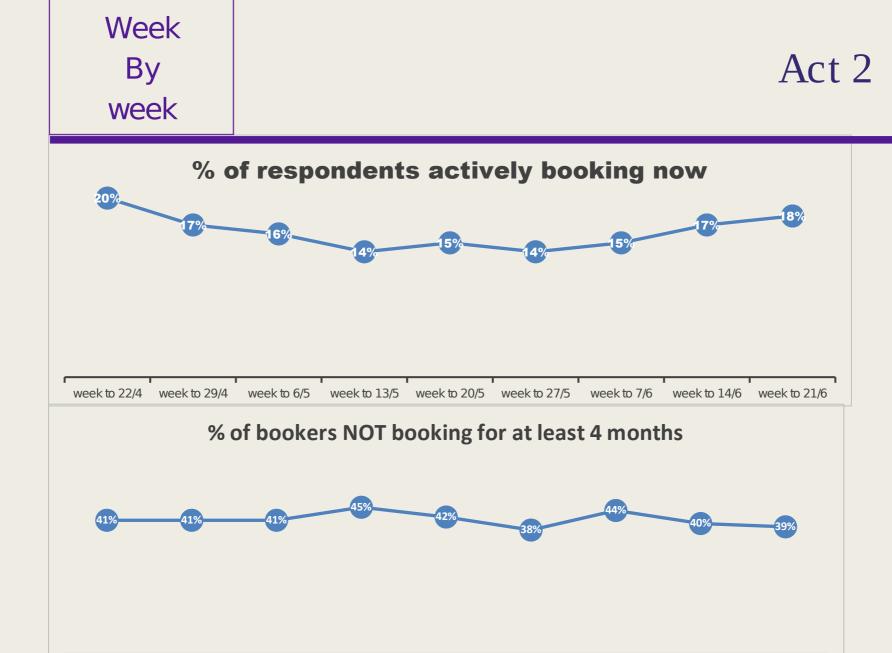
Wanting us to be bold and brave

"We are looking forward to returning to some sort of theatre experience. If this is possible in a **different**, **creative** way then we welcome it."

'Please be brave and test different options."

"I hope theatres will start to show some leadership soon and make performances available in **new** ways (not just online)"

'Time to experiment and be **bold**."



week to 13/5 week to 20/5 week to 27/5

week to 22/4

week to 29/4

week to 6/5

week to 14/6 week to 21/6

week to 7/6

Week By week

Act 2



Confidence about returning seems to have dropped

But replaced with a desire to reattend 'at a distance'

Which all pointed to....

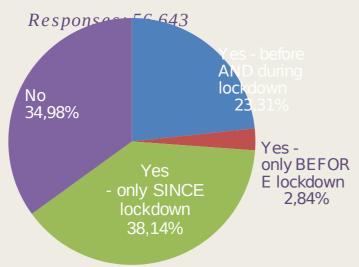
- Venues not re-opening quickly
- Those who did would need major changes to infrastructure
- Audiences needing a lot of convincing

So....what is the answer in the meantime?.....

Digital Culture

Act 2 – June / July

Q: Have you engaged with any cultural events ONLINE, either before or during the recent lockdown?



65%
Have experienced culture online

<1/3
Paid or donated

Digital Culture

Act 2 – June / July

Q: If you were unable to go to cultural events in a venue would you be interested in engaging with cultural events ONLINE?

Responses: 56,132

83%

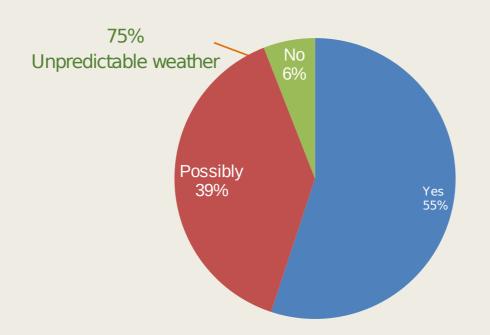
Are interested in culture online

Outdoor Culture

Act 2 – June / July

Q: If you were unable to go to cultural events in a venue for the foreseeable future, would you be interested in engaging with cultural events OUTDOORS?

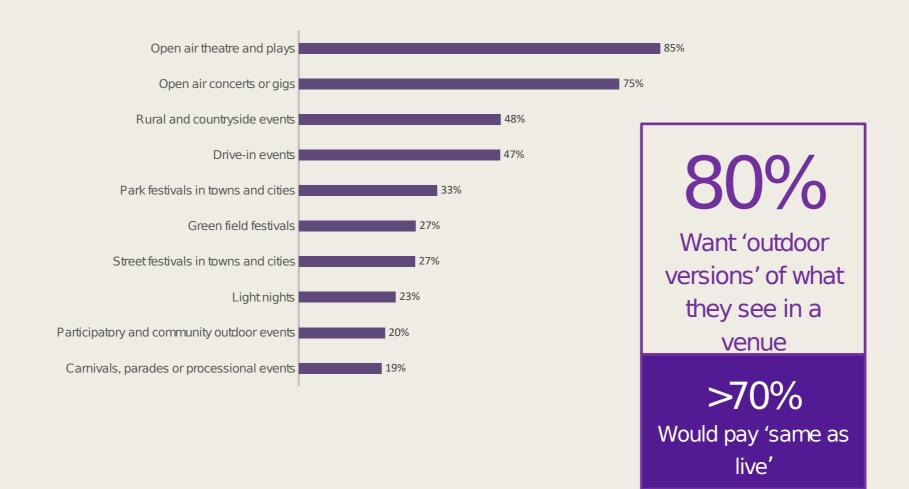
Responses: 53,739



94%
Are interested in culture outdoors

Outdoor Culture

Act 2

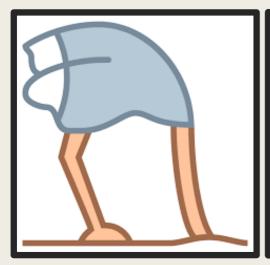


WHAT DO AUDIENCES WANT FROM US?



- What is the future for live (indoor) performances?
- How could other formats be developed that are
 - Attractive to audiences
 - Financially viable
 - Sustainable?

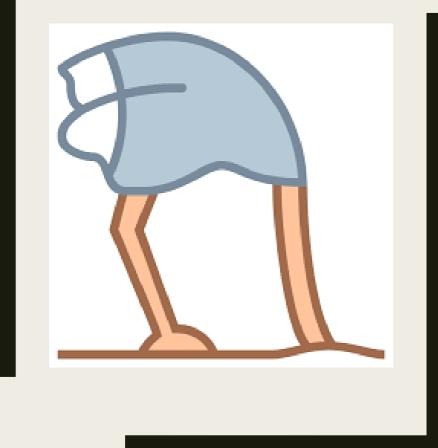
Developing new formats – my observations from the UK











MODE 1: HEAD IN THE SAND



MODE 2: HOLY GRAIL

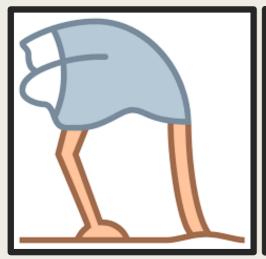


MODE 3: R&D



MODE 4: DO NOTHING

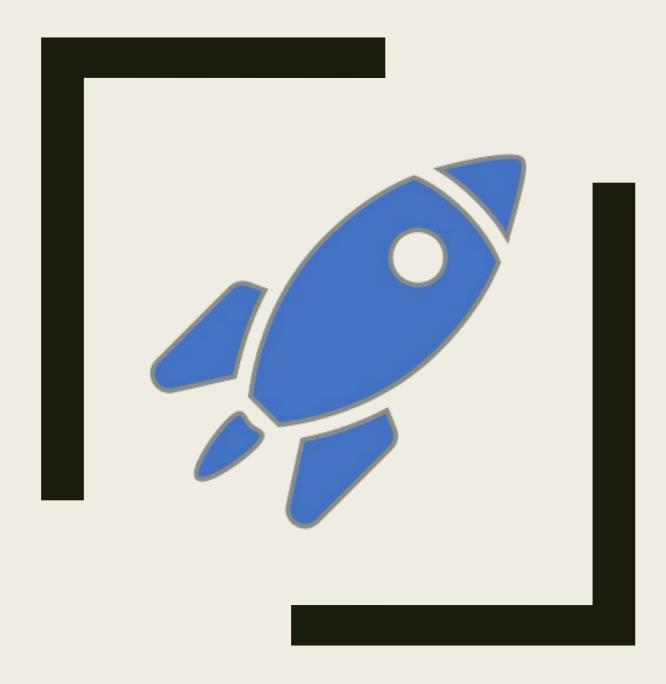
Risk?











THE FUTURE?.

Different audiences need different things

- Even pre-Covid, we knew we needed to provide different experiences for different people
- IT'S NO DIFFERENT NOW

What do different audience segments need?

The 4 segments for Culture



New Stuff

Contemporary



Safe & Established

Classic



Good night out

Mainstream



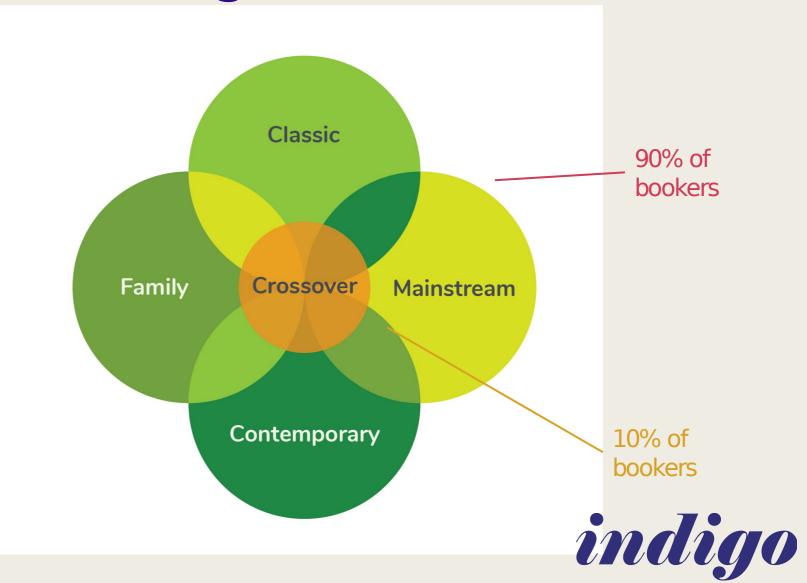
Family

Family



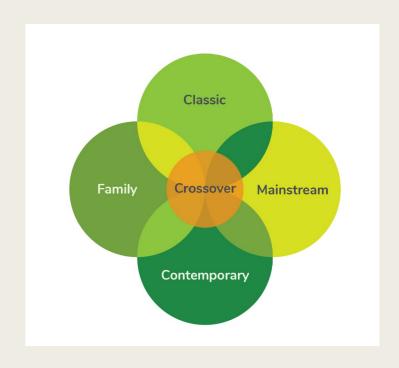
Total Audience™ Segmentation model

Audiences stick to what they know they like



Total Audience™ Segmentation model

- Which would come back to live events soonest?
- Which would embrace online experiences the most?
- What would this all mean for planning re-opening and digital content?





How the audience segments differ based on Indigo research



New Stuff

Contemporary

EXPERIENCE THINGS DIFFERENTLY

Coming back	Return soon
Content / Format	Try new formats Want you to be brave
Digital	Engage with digital in various formats Want 'wrap around' experiences





RECREATE THE LIVE EXPERIENCE



Safe & Established

Content /
Format

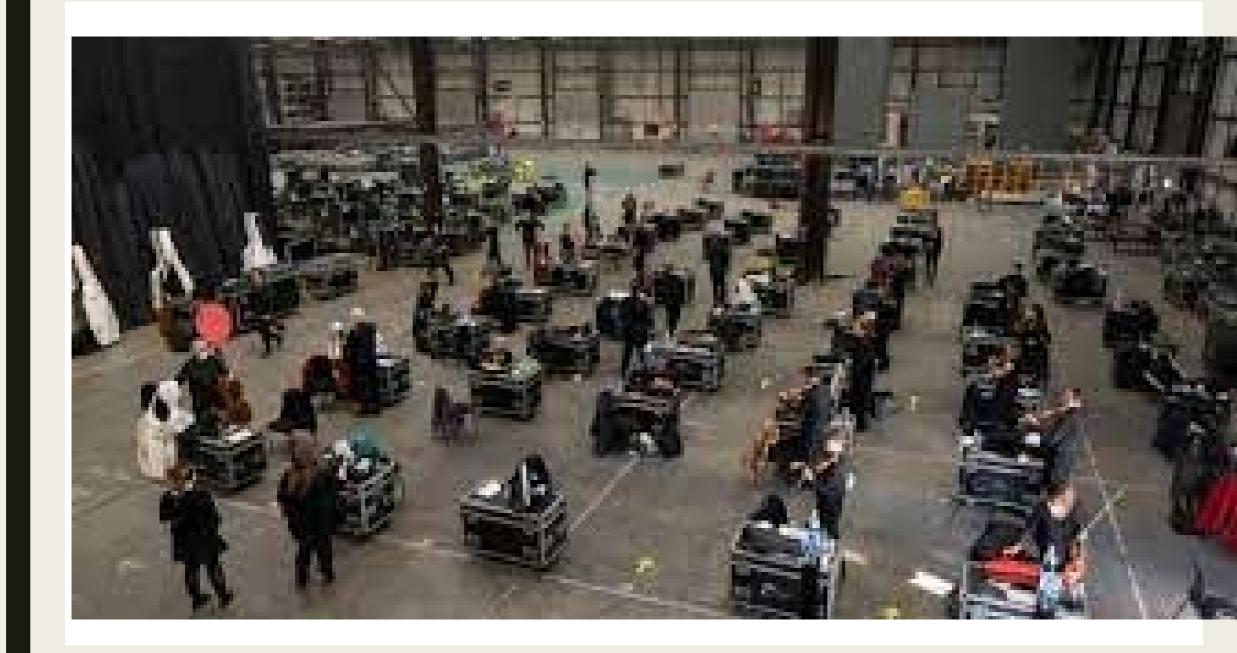
Want things to be as close to what they're used to as possible

Only access digital if 'like' the live experience Will ditch digital once live is back

Classic









SHARE THE EXPERIENCE WITH OTHERS



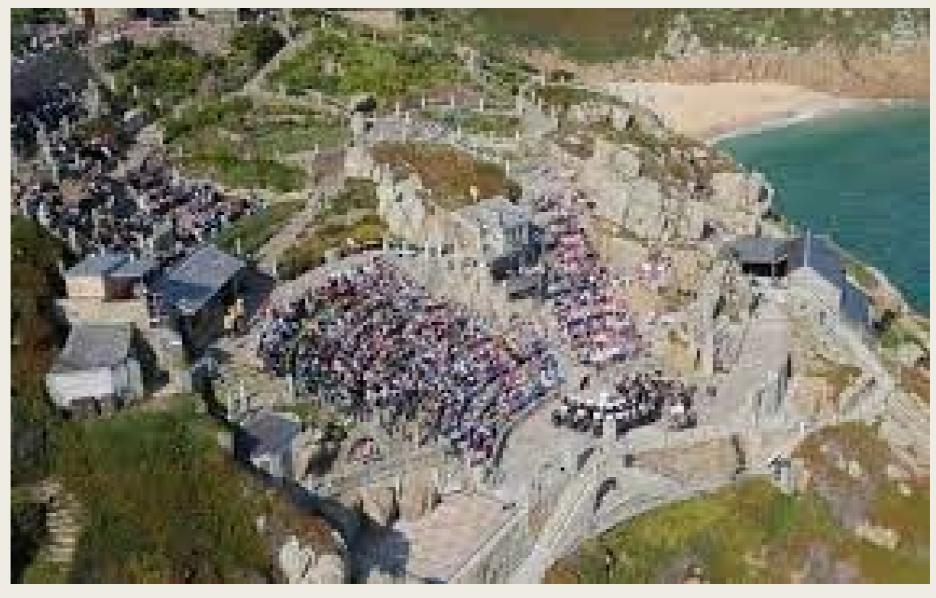
Good night out

Mainstream

Coming back	Refunds/exchanges important Attend with other households
Content / Format	Need to know it will still be fun! (Attending for <u>social</u> reasons)
Digital	Only engage with digital if live or event-based – social interaction











PARTICIPATE AND INTERACT



Family

Family

Coming back	Reluctant to be in socially distanced seating
Content	Concerned that family content will disappear
Digital	Participation, interaction Much higher value to this segment



Examples or thoughts

- Escape room
- Puppet theatre/Little angel?

INSTEAD OF....



HOW DO I GET MY ART TO PEOPLE IF THEY CAN'T COME TO A VENUE?

HOW DO I CREATE EXPERIENCES FOR AUDIENCES WHO WANT TO

EXPERIENCE THINGS DIFFERENTLY

RECREATE THE LIVE EXPERIENCE

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE WITH OTHERS

PARTICIPATE AND INTERACT

Some final thoughts

- Involving audiences in your journey is important
- Be bold but show them your workings

- Don't lose your personality or identity
- Keep the essence or 'fun' in the brand
- Keep monitoring and listening



THANK YOU

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