

# co-creating opera

## Some results of the Traction Project

Over  
8,000  
audience  
members at  
live music

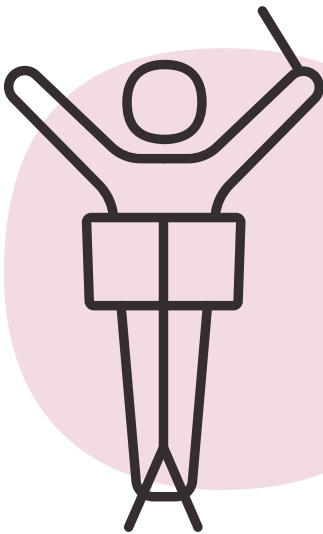


11  
opera  
performances

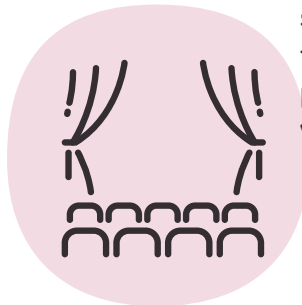
5 hours  
of new  
contemporary  
music composed



3  
new co-created operas  
performed in an opera house,  
a prison, concert halls,  
schools, public squares—  
and VR headsets. Opera  
created in: Catalan, Creole,  
English, Gaelge, Portuguese  
and Spanish



Over 20  
small concerts,  
film screenings and  
performances of  
work in progress



30  
researchers  
following  
the process



2  
new digital tools used  
during the process and  
performances with over  
20,000 user interactions:  
Co-Creation Space  
& Co-creation Stage



766,000  
people watched opera  
co-creation and  
performances on TV



1,300  
non-professional artists  
and community members participating  
in singing, poster design, construction,  
music, VR animation, story-telling,  
photography printing, costume making  
etc. from teenagers to retired people



## What the participants thought of the co-creation process

**94%** felt actively involved

**86%** felt motivated

**89%** learned from other people

**86%** would like to do it again

**84%** feel more confident

**95%** said that everyone was respectful of each other

**77%** thought the project had changed their ideas

**75%** said that taking part was good for their wellbeing

There was a sense of community while we were doing everything.

I met so many new people and I learnt so many things—it's all new for me but I really love it.

I learned, not to sing, but to give meaning to what I sang.

## What audiences thought

**93%** 'It was well made and performed'

**82%** 'It was different from anything I've seen before'

**80%** 'It was about things that really matter to me'

'It was a new thing for me, it was a good experience. We learned new things—that's the most important thing.'

I'd do it again right now. Right now. With the pros and cons. I'd do it again, right away.

'If someone told me I would be singing at the Liceu at 78 years of age, I'd say "You're crazy", but it was very good.'

'This understanding that we all had is honestly one of the most positive things to come out of this.'

'It's like going from a darkened room out into the sunlight. It's really great, and I'm more comfortable now working with people.'

'The opera became the good bit we spent in here and that for us was a relief. We're very grateful that it happened that way and gave us the opportunity.'

Traction was a research project to explore how new digital tools could support the co-creation of new operas with communities in Barcelona, Portugal and Ireland. Between 2020 and 2022, artists and researchers worked on co-creation, social inclusion, digital technologies and learning.



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