

2019 CAPITALE national arts FESTIVAL

The Barber of Seville

STAGED BY NEW ZEALAND OPERA

CIRCA THEATRE

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What is this pack for?

This information pack is to help prepare you for your visit.

Front of venue

Circa Theatre is situated on Taranaki Street. Its front entrance is accessed on the opposite side, facing the Te Papa forecourt. You'll be coming into the theatre through a large, white doorway which has the words 'Circa Theatre' written above it. There will be posters of other theatre shows on the front of the building and there may also be flags hanging on either side of the doorway with the Circa theatre logo.

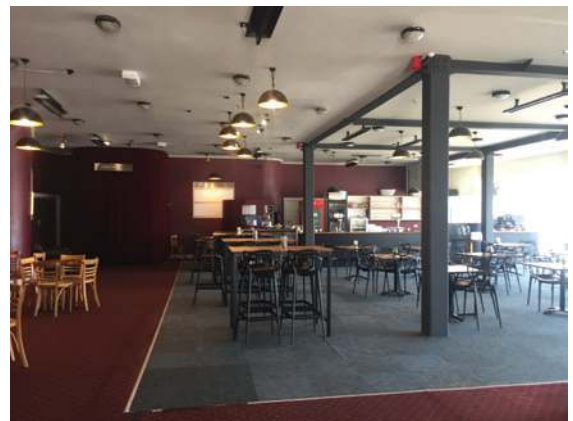


Inside

When you enter Circa you will be standing in the dining area of the Circa Theatre Café.

There are dining tables and chairs in this area and the food counter is at the back, directly ahead.

To your right is the Box Office/front desk of the theatre. On your left is the entrance to Circa One.



How to get to the theatre

Once inside, you will see red velvet curtains on your left with a large gold sign above saying Circa Theatre One.

Behind these curtains is the door way to the theatre. The curtains will be drawn once theatre is ready for you to take your seat.

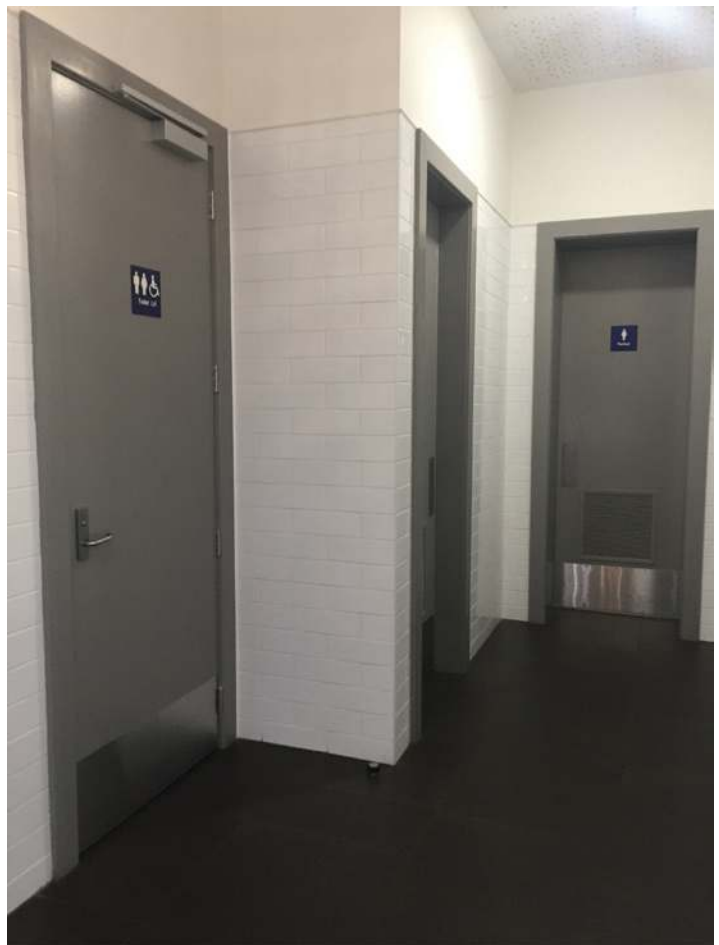


Where are the toilets?

The toilets are on the ground floor, right next to the entrance to Circa Theatre One. When you first enter Circa, you can get to the toilets by turning left. There, you will see a white doorway next to some pamphlet stands and leather couches.

This doorway will take you into a corridor with white brick walls, grey tile floors and a large chandelier on the ceiling.

Here, you will find three restrooms. The door on your left is for both males and females and is wheelchair accessible. The next door on the left leads to the male toilets. The door directly ahead of you leads to the female toilets.

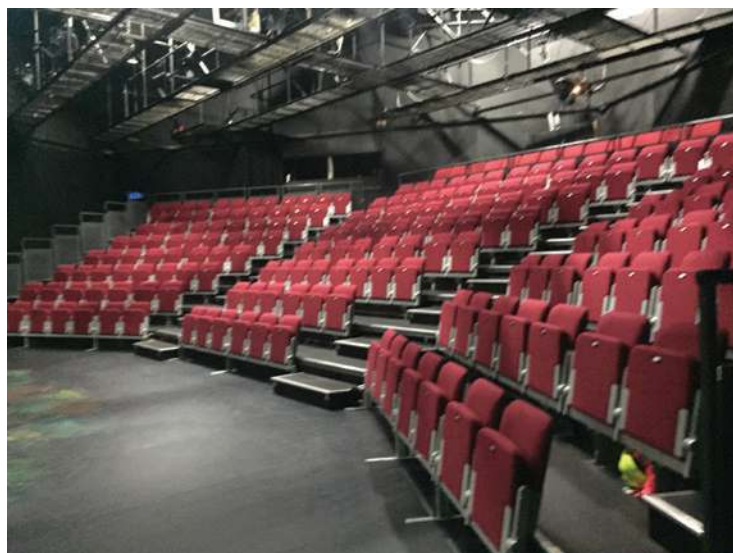


Inside the theatre

Once the team have drawn the red curtains and opened the door, your guide will take you into the Circa One theatre.

You will come in along the side of the theatre and the stage will be set up right in front of the seats. This is where the actors will be performing!

There are rows of fold-down seats with stairs down either side and down the middle. When you arrive in the theatre the lights will be on so you can see where to go. Lots of other adults and children will also be coming in to see the show so make sure to pay attention to your guide when they tell you where you will be sitting!



Show Synopsis

Act I – Outside Dr Bartola’s House, sunrise: Count Almaviva has arrived in Seville on holiday. As he passes down a street, he sees Rosina through a window, and he instantly falls in love with her. However, he is worried she will not take him seriously (he has a reputation for having a lot, and I mean a lot, of girlfriends!), so he disguises himself as a student called Lindoro. An old friend of the Count arrives at the house – it is Figaro, a barber and hairstylist around town. He explains that Rosina has a step-mum, Dr Bartola, who doesn’t let her go out by herself. Figaro quickly comes up with a plan to help his friend – by disguising himself as a visiting cricket player with orders to be billeted at Bartola’s house, the Count will be able to get to know Rosina right under the Doctor’s nose! The Count quickly agrees, and Figaro looks forward to a nice cash pay-off.

Inside Dr Bartola’s House, afternoon: Rosina is writing a letter to the man she saw through the window – she too has fallen instantly in love (remember – this is opera!) and is desperate to meet Lindoro. However, her step-mum has chosen a husband for Rosina and decides that today is the day that Rosina will get married. Figaro, who has overheard Bartola’s plan, warns Rosina and promises to deliver her letter to ‘Lindoro’, and that he will help get them together. Bartola suspects that Rosina has indeed written a letter, but Rosina outfoxes her. Angry at her rebelliousness, Bartola warns Rosina not to mess with her. The Count arrives, disguised as a cricket player, telling Dr Bartola he is staying at her house. Infuriated, Bartola tells the cricket player he cannot possibly stay. Bartola and the Count insult each other and things start to get very tense. Luckily Figaro turns up, warning the Count not to blow it. But it is too late, and so the scene ends with everyone confused and upset. The plan looks like it has failed.

Act II – Inside Dr Bartola’s House, sunset: Bartola suspects that the cricket player is really a spy planted by the Count. She lies to Rosina, telling her that Lindoro and Figaro are tricking her – they are planning on setting her up with the Count. Heartbroken, Rosina reveals her plan to run off with

Lindoro that evening. Furious, Bartola leaves to get a police officer to arrest the two men. As she goes, she sees Figaro and the Count climbing through Rosina's window, ready to escape with her. She steals the ladder and hurries to get the police. Rosina confronts Lindoro, who finally reveals his true identity as the Count. Surprised, Rosina discovers that she still loves him and instantly forgives him (yes – this is opera!). They go to leave out the window, only to find the ladder is gone. Just as that moment, Bartola's lawyer arrives, thinking he is going to officiate the marriage between Rosina and the man Dr Bartola has chosen. Bribed, he quickly agrees to the marriage of Rosina and the Count instead. Just as they are married, Bartola arrives with a police officer. Figaro stops them, as the Count explains to Bartola who he really is. Bartola accepts that she has been beaten, and Figaro congratulates himself on his brilliant plan. He celebrates with Rosina and the Count – even Bartola joins in with wishing the happy couple good luck!

Performers



Count Almaviva is played by Manase Latu



Rosina is played by Pasquale Orchard



Dr Bartola is played by Deborah Rogers



The roles of Figaro and The Lawyer are played by Angus Simmons



The roles of Figaro and The Lawyer could also be played by Will King

Thanks for watching, we'll see you next time!