



Aria in an Hour!

On 19th June, Platanos pupils took part in a pre-performance workshop called 'Aria in an Hour' which gave pupils the opportunity to take apart the elements of an operatic aria and create and perform one themselves.

Five schools took part in building the lyrics and melody for a piece about love, with everybody joining in to sing the piece accompanied by a pianist at the end.

"I really loved the workshop and the way we built an actual aria as a group of people that didn't even know each other." - Jessica Djondo

"For me, I found the workshop the most enjoyable part because it gave you a chance to be a bit more expressive with something completely new." – Shane Hopkins



Developing the lyrics and melody before the big sing!

Watching 'La Bohème'

After the workshop, students took to their prime seats in the orchestral stalls to watch Puccini's 'La Bohème.'

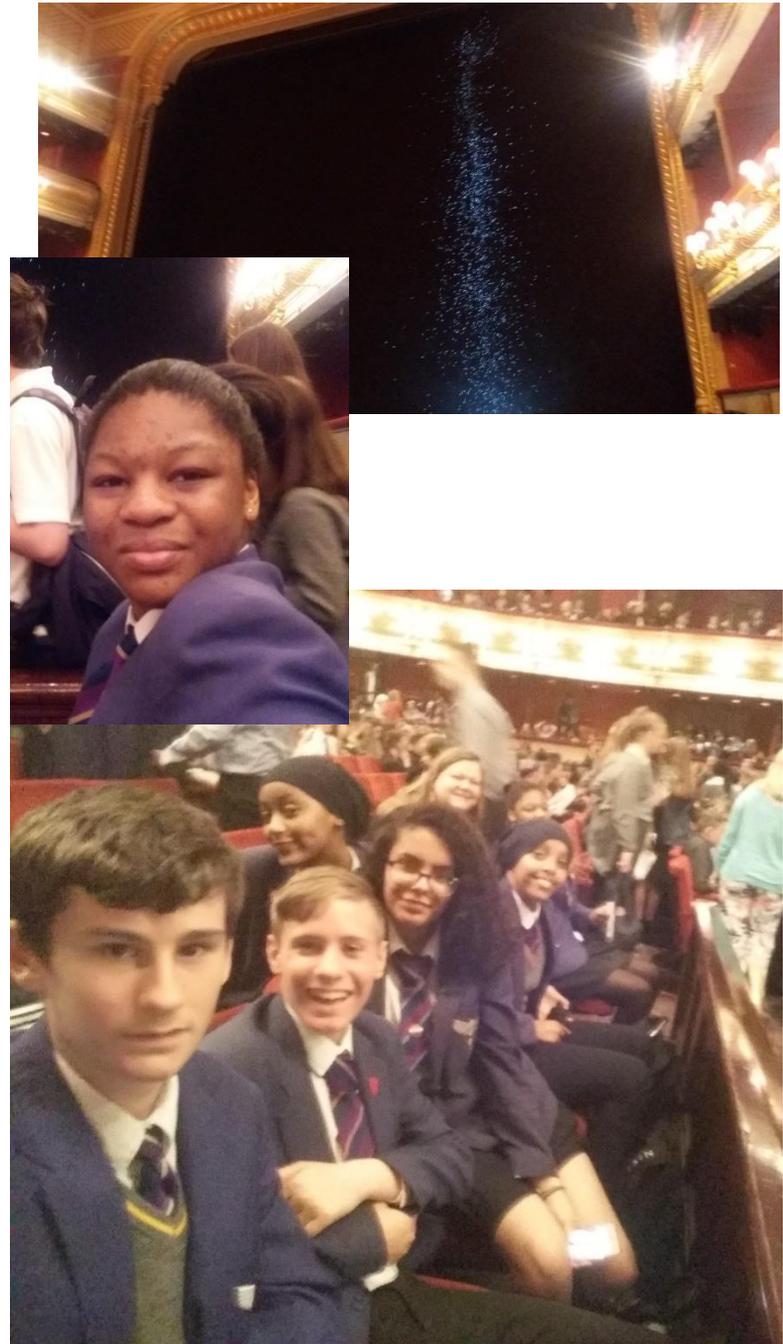
"My first impression was that it was all so loud. Everything about it was on a grand scale." - Ayah Idris

"I liked the opera – the singing, the story, the costumes, the choreography. I'd say I enjoyed the entire production!" – Mara Costa

"I liked the play and the acting more than the style of singing. I think it would take time to get used to it." – Jadashai Thomas

"As for the performance of 'La Bohème,' I loved everything about it: the emotion, the singing, the story, the set..." - Jessica Djondo

"The first thing that impressed me was actually the architecture of the auditorium. After that it was the power of the performance." – Mirnes Salesevic



Soaking Up the Culture in Covent Garden

After the performance, students took a tour of Covent Garden to sample some of the street theatre and delicious ice creams!



“Trips like this are important because they can boost self-confidence and teach you things you just wouldn’t learn the same way in a classroom.” – Dunnia Mahmoud

“I enjoyed the play and the ice cream too. For me, the workshop felt a bit awkward as it was the first time I’d ever done anything like this and we were really challenged! Trips like this are important as sometimes it’s good to be out of your comfort zone to build up your confidence. I also liked seeing how different people express themselves in different ways.” – Ummekulsum Hydar

