S I L Sustainable Arts in Leeds

#### Climate Action in the Creative and Cultural Sector

opera north

#### About me

- Opera North Howard Assembly Room Technical Manager
- Opera North sustainability champion and chair of Opera North "Green Team"
- Co-founder and company secretary of SAIL (Sustainable Arts in Leeds)





#### **Our vision** is to create a zero carbon/zero waste future for the cultural and creative industries of Leeds

#### S∢IL Carbon Roadmap Pathway to Net Zero by 2030 THEMES a Buildings Water Waste Travel Natural Capital Community PROJECTS & Energy Develop and introduce a sustainable procurement Understand current travel requirements for businesses and introduce a travel policy 2020 a part of social media Conduct water usage survey to understand current water usage · Choose a zero to landfill tramagonom ataow Set up educational partnerships Develop strategy around 40% · Join a scheme for around sustainability 2021 contractor audience travel and Carbon Offsetting Switch to 100% renewable implement its use energy tariffs - Install water efficient introduce environmental trustees/ambassadors technologies such as low water use tailets and tops 2022 · Begin roll out of Carbon Literacy training Pleage to be become 2023 Install LEO and Ensure entire sector is Carbon Literate reco plostic motion sensors of rainwater harvesting technologies 70% Conduct feasibility studies on Introduce troval purchasing system and database to cut weste and ensure that the sector is buying from environmentally friendly green roofs and green walls to work schemes Install solar panels: 2024 - Develop and run own 2025 . Set up and run sector wide Introduce season ticketing schemes for audiences orour sustainable travel options engagement and educational Improve installation re-use/recycling facility for commonly used items Install rainwater 85% in all buildings campaigns with and for SAIL harvesting systems partners, staff and audiences / wherever possible eustomeni 2026 01 Continue installing rainwater harvesting systems wherever possible Continue to run engagement and educational campaigns with and for SAIL partners, staff and audiences / Continue with installation 2027 of green roottops and walls engagement and educational Install double glozing across all buildings Begin to roll out fleet and take part in Leads 5% compaligns about waste, based upon the reduction in waste that SAIL has already of electric vehicles Woodiend plonting efforts 5 2028 Engagement and educational Oreen roofs and walls Installed across buildings + Continue to run engagement 2029 + Heat recovery compaigns around waste a All fleet vehicles are electric vehicles and aducational campaigns. system installed 100% requirer feature With and for SAIL partners, + Rainwater homeeting scott and audiences / All organisations take part systems and low water Initial industry is as zero waste as possible, with many waste products from organisations customers All building heating and cooling systems upgraded in tree planting efforts and technologies installed across all buildings encourage their audiences 2030 to take part Net Zero/

0.25

by 2030

#### Harnessing Identity

We love Leeds, our members do too!

We're able to make changes faster as a local collective than as individuals



### Ensuring relevance

Providing our members with the knowledge of how they can help, and the tools to enable them to make changes.

- Carbon Literacy Training
- Consultancy
- Workshops & events

In the future:

- Best practice & guidance
- Accreditation
- Carbon Calculators



#### Making it accessible



#### **Carbon Literacy Training**

Carbon Literacy provides participants with the skills, knowledge and confidence to embed climate action in their personal and professional lives.

#### The training really works!

Each Carbon Literate citizen reduces their personal and/or professional resource footprint by between 5% - 15% annually **Jacobs**, **2021** 

"Carbon Literacy training works because it creates new work cultures and directly engages staff in making a difference to the organisation" **Buchs, Payling & Hogarth, 2021**  Using our collective influence to enable positive change

SHIFT Liverpool Network

Greater Manchester Arts Sustainability Team (GMAST) Sustainable Arts in Leeds (SAIL)

> Green Arts Oxfordshire Network

#### **Opera North's actions**

- Started Green Team in 2018
- Members from across all levels of organisation and all departments
- Meet monthly to discuss challenges, potential solutions and successes
- Won "best newcomer" at 2019 Creative Green award in recognition of achievements

#### Data, data and more data

- Data driven approach to carbon footprint reduction
- Rather than focusing on waste, focusing on big ticket items (audience travel, energy + freight travel)



#### Audience travel

- Tracking our audience travel habits via post show survey
- Why are 56% of audience travelling by car?
- What do we currently encourage audiences to do? What is within our scope of influence to change?
- Utilising SAIL network getting together with local authority to address challenges

Travel Method	Miles travelled	Percentage of audience
Bus	1066.517	7%
Car	8999.236	56%
Coach	349.039	2%
On foot	976.943	6%
Taxi	471.645	3%
Train	4160.854	26%
Grand Total	16024.234	100%

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"Act green" survey 2022
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- 11,682 respondents
- 86% of respondents class themselves as "worried" about climate change, moving up to 91% for the under 35's
- To the question "Cultural organisations have a responsibility to influence society to make radical change to address the climate emergency", 77% of respondents agreed (moving up to 86% for the under 35's.)



# What audiences want from cultural organiations

- Using materials from reused or recycled sources (90% agree)
- Ensuring that sets and materials are reused (88% agree)
- Seeking funding or financial support from ethical sources (66% agree)
- Ensuring that cultural buildings are as energy efficient as possible (93% agree)
- Reducing and recycling waste (92% agree)
- Avoiding disposable packaging and single use plastic (91% agree)
- <u>Full report here</u>



# Other actions

#### Opera North Alcina

First fullysustainable main stage production, with a fully recycled & second-hand set

#### Water diviners tale

- Opera North education department "Big Sing"
- Written by Rachael Portman, piece of music specifically about climate change
- Set all made from recycled materials
- Toured with small footprint, all fit in 1 small van!

## Thank you!

