

# Director Associates Guidelines

This document contains information about the Jette Parker Artists Programme Director Associates positions, and the application and interview process.

If you have any questions or access requirements, please contact [JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk](mailto:JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk)

## Table of Contents

Follow the links below for more information about:

1. [Jette Parker Artist - Director Associates](#)
2. [Application & Interview Process](#)
3. [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

## Jette Parker Artist – Director Associates

Jette Parker Director Associates will join The Royal Opera for periods of up to 24 weeks between Summer 2026 and Winter 2027/28.

Paid engagement dates will be arranged around the successful candidates' existing commitments and will be agreed prior to contracting. Weeks worked will be remunerated at £550.

Associates will assist on Royal Opera Productions alongside a bespoke programme of skill-building which may include coaching in languages, score analysis, production notation and working with choruses. There are options to work on the development of new creations and to learn how to self-produce opera, including budgeting, scheduling and working with union agreements. Associates may choose to spend time within different Royal Ballet and Opera departments to deepen their understanding of large-scale lyric theatre processes.

Experienced theatre directors without opera experience may also apply and would start their programme by observing working rehearsals and directors' processes.

## Application & Interview Process

Applications open **Monday 18 May 2026**.

**The deadline for applications is 12pm (midday), Wednesday 10 June 2026.** To ensure fair processing for all applicants, late submissions cannot be accepted.

Applications must be submitted via the [JPAP Director Associates Application Form](#) .

Applicants will be notified in the week of 17 June 2026 of the outcome of their application.

Successful candidates will be invited to interview online or in person at the Royal Opera House, London, provisionally in late June 2026. Second round interviews will be in person at ROH.

The interview panel is expected to include: Elaine Kidd (Head of JPAP), Catherine Chibnall (Producer, JPAP), Hugo Pattinson (Senior Producer, The Royal Opera), and an external guest.

## **Application Form Requirements**

To apply for this opportunity, you will need to submit:

- Your CV (single A4 page)
- Audio/video of you speaking to camera (up to 3 minutes) OR a short written statement (max 300 words) explaining your current practice, your opera experience (even if only as spectator), why you are interested in this opportunity and what you hope to gain.
- A link to your webpage(s) if applicable
- Details of any current or forthcoming work including rehearsal/performance dates if known.
- Your general availability in the period of June 2026 to August 2028, and details of any fixed commitments or provisional opportunities you may be engaged for. (The panel will respect confidentiality around any information shared.)
- Up to 2 examples of your recent work, which may be shared as images, video, PDF or web links. Maximum total submission of 5 minutes OR 2 pages, or an equivalent combination.

Applicants should demonstrate their interest in building their facility for working with musical notation, and on non-English texts in a busy, pressured environment with international artists.

## **Application Form Guidance: Submitting Links**

The application form may require you to submit links to your CV and examples of your work. Please read this guidance carefully to ensure you submit links in the appropriate format:

- All links must be accessible to the panel (eg. unlisted YouTube videos, Google Drive Document links which do not require access to be requested). They must not require a login or password nor be geoblocked to UK only.
- Links should be submitted individually (one direct link per question), *not* as a link to a folder containing multiple application documents.
- Video links to examples of work should ideally be edited down to a short segment that you would like the panel to view, or if the link is to a full work, must start at the point you want the panel to start watching (eg. via YouTube start-time links). You should not submit links to full works accompanied by timecodes.
- Please do not duplicate your application by submitting documents via email which are already linked in your application form, as this creates additional administrative pressures for the JPAP Team.

If you do not have the facility to submit online links, please email the necessary elements of your application to [jpapassistant@roh.org.uk](mailto:jpapassistant@roh.org.uk), with the subject '*Name* - Director Associate Application'. In this case, you should enter the text 'Via Email' into each of the application questions requiring a link, which you have submitted via email.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can apply?

We welcome applications both from those already pursuing a career in opera, as well as from theatre directors with an interest in a career that may straddle theatre, music-theatre and opera.

We are looking for early career directors seeking to hone their skills and artistic identity through a range of experiences with opera, furthering their knowledge of repertoire and production processes. You will work alongside experts in the field, familiarising yourself with the workings of a large international company.

You will have a flair for storytelling and a respect towards and capacity for working with musical form and foreign languages. Successful candidates will demonstrate artistic curiosity, an appetite and facility for collaboration and awareness of the social and cultural movements that shape the work and working processes.

### Do I need opera experience?

International applicants should have demonstrable opera experience.

UK-based creators with and without opera experience may apply, provided they can demonstrate an interest in the artform and a foundational skillset to support their work in the field.

### Do I need professional experience?

The Programme is designed for someone who has already worked in professional theatre as either a director or an assistant director.

Candidates should be able to refer to professional experiences that demonstrate dramaturgical, organisational and stagecraft skills, and a learning, collaborative mindset.

### Do I need to have directed my own productions?

This opportunity is designed as a professional development opportunity for someone who has already conceived and directed their own theatre, music-theatre or opera productions, whether in a professional, amateur, fringe or educational setting.

### Permission to work in the UK

If an applicant is offered a place on the Programme and requires a visa, the Royal Opera will apply for a Certificate of Sponsorship and write a Letter of Invitation to support the artist's visa application.

## Visas for attending interviews

Visa applications for attending interviews are not handled by the Royal Ballet and Opera. Applicants who are invited to interview in-person and need a visa to do so can be sent a Letter of Invitation to take to their local British Embassy/Consulate to apply for a visa.

Please contact [JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk](mailto:JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk) as soon as possible if this is required.

For any questions not answered here, please contact [JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk](mailto:JPAPAssistant@roh.org.uk).