

Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall cancel performances

March 12 2020, by The Associated Press



In this Aug. 1, 2014, file photo, pedestrians make their way in front of the Metropolitan Opera house at New York's Lincoln Center. The Metropolitan Opera has canceled performances and rehearsals through March 31 because of the coronavirus. The move was announced Thursday, March 12, 2020, one day after U.S. President Donald Trump announced a suspension of travel to the U.S. from Europe for 30 days starting Friday. For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms. For some it can cause more severe illness. (AP Photo/John Minchillo, File)

The Metropolitan Opera has canceled performances and rehearsals through March 31 because of the coronavirus.

The move was announced Thursday, one day after U.S. President Donald Trump announced a suspension of travel to the U.S. from Europe for 30 days starting Friday.

Many of the Met's singers and conductors travel regularly from Europe. Soprano Anna Netrebko posted on Instagram on Wednesday that she would not be traveling to New York for performances of Puccini's "Tosca" that had been scheduled to start March 26.

"With [health authorities](#) urging social distancing with greater emphasis, it is simply untenable for us to continue to perform, as it puts our artists, staff, and audiences at risk. I would like to express my deep personal regret that the situation has led us to this point," Met General Manager Peter Gelb said.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially [older adults](#) and people with existing [health problems](#), it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

The vast majority of people recover from the new virus. According to the World Health Organization, people with mild illness recover in about two weeks, while those with more [severe illness](#) may take three to six weeks to recover.

Among the 21 canceled Met Opera performances is this Saturday's matinee of a new staging of Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer (The Flying Dutchman)" that was to have been televised to movie theaters

around the world. Also canceled was a March 29 recital by soprano Diana Damrau with Royal Opera music director Antonio Pappano at the piano.

Carnegie Hall also announced it was closing its doors at midnight Thursday for all public events through the end of March, cancelling performances from The Philadelphia Orchestra, Angélique Kidjo, the Castalian String Quartet and Musical Armenia.

—

The Associated Press receives support for health and science coverage from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

© 2020 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall cancel performances (2020, March 12) retrieved 26 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-metropolitan-opera-carnegie-hall-cancel.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.