

TREASURER TOM KOUTSANTONIS

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Additional funding for the arts

The 2017-18 State Budget includes almost \$36 million in additional support for the arts, including \$31 million to further expand the scope of the Her Majesty's Theatre redevelopment.

The revised plan includes adding an additional floor, heightening the roof above the stage to accommodate a modern fly tower, replacing the aging roof above the auditorium and improving patron safety by upgrading the building's earthquake resistance and fire safety requirements.

The expanded upgrade to Her Majesty's Theatre will make Adelaide an even more attractive destination for major touring shows, while also improving the experiences of theatregoers.

The project will create up to 220 jobs during construction and additional ongoing jobs in the arts.

The State Government will also launch an international search for a world-class team to design the proposed Adelaide Contemporary Gallery project.

In 2016 Premier Jay Weatherill requested a steering group be set up to assess and plan the specific components of a new contemporary art space.

The State Government will commit \$1.9 million for the selection and commissioning of the design team for the project.

The 2017-18 State Budget also includes:

- \$1.1 million to Arts SA in 2017-18 for the delivery of arts events, exhibitions and other public programming.
- \$1 million in 2017-18 for a series of concerts, performances and other events to mark the completion of the Adelaide Festival Centre redevelopment.
- \$1.25 million in 2017-18 in additional funding for the 2018 Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Background

Her Majesty's Theatre upgrade

The Her Majesty's Theatre upgrade includes expanding the seating capacity of the theatre by about 500 seats, constructing a new entrance and foyer on adjacent land and upgrading the back-of-house facilities to bring them up to the standard of major international theatres.

The current capacity of the theatre and size of the foyer space makes the theatre an unviable option to host large scale productions such as musicals and other major touring events.

It's anticipated the redevelopment will enable Her Majesty's Theatre to host at least 50 additional performances each year. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2019.

Adelaide Festival Centre events

The \$1 million for concerts, performances, outdoor events and community activities will re-engage patrons following the closure and redevelopment of the north face of the Adelaide Festival Centre. It will promote new attractions and facilities, including a new Walk of Fame promenade and new arts playground.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

Arts festivals are a major economic driver in South Australia and every year they continue to grow and attract visitors from interstate and abroad.

But the demand exists for this sector to grow even further, and we don't want South Australia to miss out on major touring shows because we don't have the capacity in our theatres.

This funding to expand the seating capacity and foyer, and upgrade facilities, will bring Her Majesty's Theatre up to the standard required to attract major international touring shows.

It will also create 220 jobs in engineering and construction and contribute to the revitalisation of the laneway precinct connecting the Riverbank to the Central Markets.

Quotes attributable to Arts Minister Jack Snelling

The State Government has a strong track record of supporting the arts and presenting an enviable calendar of world-class arts events in South Australia.

By ensuring at least 50 additional touring shows can visit Adelaide each year, we can further cement our reputation internationally as a leader in the arts.

This redevelopment will also create more jobs in the arts sector and result in more money being injected into our visitor economy.

The international search for a team to design the proposed Adelaide Contemporary project is also an exciting first step in what would be a game-changer for our state.

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