

BACKSTAGE AT THE OLD VIC

July 2025

We are delighted to update you on the progress of our capital project, **Backstage** - our new six-storey building for creativity, education and community. As we get closer to the opening of Backstage, we are excited to share updates and stories with you about how the build is progressing and how you can get involved.

Help us to bring Backstage to life

We have launched a campaign to raise £100,000 by the end of July. We are currently at 55% of target and we need your help to reach the finish line.

There are many ways you or your local business can take part in this campaign:

- **Name a seat** in our iconic 207-year-old auditorium.
- **Name a barn door** that will adorn the new front of the building.
- **Enter our prize draw** for just £15 per ticket for your chance to win some fantastic prizes, including return flights and a two-night stay in New York, Rami Malek's YSL shirt worn in *Oedipus*, afternoon tea with Kim Cattrall at Claridge's and many more.

Watch our video where Tim Minchin takes you on a tour of the building and talks more about how you can take part.

Every penny of the £100,000 raised in this campaign will be matched by three generous supporters, so any donation will be doubled at no extra cost to you.

For more information or to support, please contact:

backstagecampaign@oldvictheatre.com

Or visit

www.oldvictheatre.com/backstage/fundraiser-for-backstage/



[Watch our video with Tim Minchin](#)



The Backstage façade. Image by Haworth Tompkins.

CONTACTS

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Script Appeal

As part of the design of the Backstage building, we have built a **Script Library** that will be available for anyone to use. We are asking for donations of any unwanted or pre-loved scripts that can be added to the shelves of this free resource.

If you have any **bound/published scripts** with no annotations that you would be happy to donate to our appeal, please drop these directly into **The Old Vic's Stage Door** on **Webber Street** by **Fri 12 Sep 2025**.

Alternatively, please email **hana.tamaru@oldvictheatre.com** for more information.



Script Library on the first floor. Image by Haworth Tompkins.

Construction Update

Our building contractor Rise have completed over 90% of their construction programme. Progress this month includes:

- External cladding is finished on the front façade, which invites the rust to form on its surface for a protective layer.
- Decoration, flooring and final finishes are at near completion.
- The scaffolding along Webber Street has now been removed, revealing the rear façade and our three new bird boxes.



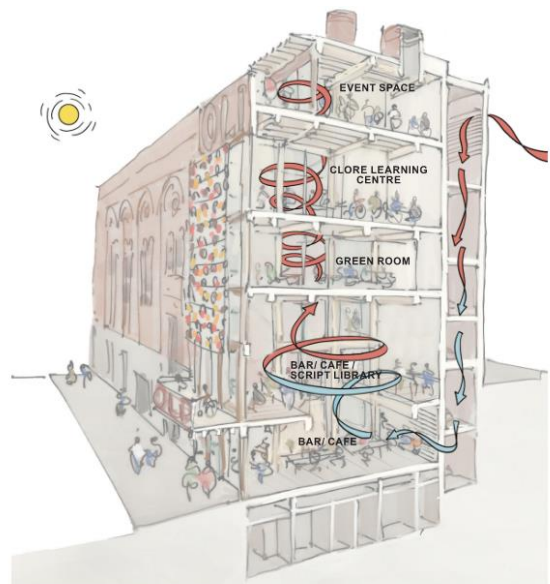
Current installation of the cladding on the front façade. Image by Haworth Tompkins.

Sustainability at Backstage

Sustainability has formed an integral part of the Backstage design.

Skelly & Couch, our Project Environmental Engineers have developed a natural ventilation system where air is taken in at the top of a stairwell and brought down and cooled by the thermal mass of the stairs.

This means that in warmer weather, when the building needs cooling and the indoor and outdoor temperatures are just right, the cooler outside air flows into the lower parts of the building. As the air warms up, it rises and is pulled up through a solar chimney that runs through the whole building, helping to keep the building cool naturally. In winter, radiators located on each floor within the stairwell will warm the incoming air before it spreads through the building.



Natural ventilation system in Backstage. Image by Skelly & Couch.

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