

Edinburgh Festival bookings being snapped up

✘ The National Ballet of China, Mariinsky Opera company, Mahler's Symphony No 2 and the Opening Concert were the early bestsellers as tickets went on sale for Edinburgh International Festival 2011.

Edinburgh International Festival 2011 (Friday 12 August to Sunday 4 September) brings artists from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Vietnam, as well as North America, Germany, Belgium, Russia, the UK and from across the Arab speaking world to Edinburgh for three weeks of music, dance, theatre, opera and visual arts.

There was also lots of chat about One Thousand and One Nights, Philip Glass's Qatsi trilogy and Shanghai Peking Opera as those booking tickets in person discussed the shows that had caught their interest with staff at Hub Tickets.

On Saturday 63% of tickets were sold online [via the EIF website](#). First day sales are set to top £260,000.

Cafe Hub catered for the queues and did a roaring trade in coffee, bacon rolls and cake.

Tickets for Edinburgh International Festival 2011 [can be bought online now](#) by calling 0131 473 2000 and in person at Hub Tickets, Castlehill, Edinburgh, EH1 2NE.

From Monday 4 April they are also available from The Edinburgh Playhouse, The Queen's Hall, Royal Lyceum Theatre and the Usher Hall. From Tuesday 26 April, tickets can be bought from the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh.

Details for all shows are [available at the EIF website](#) and in the free brochure which can be picked up from The Hub and

venues across the UK (and beyond!). You can also check out films and photo-galleries online.

Ticket prices are great value starting at just £10. Students in full time education and under-18s can buy tickets for half price on selected performances.

The brochure is available in print, Braille, audio on CD and tape, and large print versions. To get a copy of the information in the format that suits you best, please call 0131 473 2000.

Wheelchair users, people with severe mobility difficulties or with visual or hearing impairment can buy seats or spaces in the area of the venue most appropriate to their needs at the costs of the lowest, unrestricted view, ticket for that performance.

Jackie Westbrook, Marketing and Communications Director of the Edinburgh International Festival, said: 'It is fantastic to be selling tickets after all the months of planning and preparation. We've enjoyed meeting such enthusiastic and passionate customers today, welcoming old friends and seeing plenty of new faces. We're open for business at the counter and on the phones again fresh and early at 10.00am on Monday. If you just can't wait, www.eif.co.uk never sleeps!'