

Pilot test concerts



Earlier in April, tickets for pilot test events were launched in a bid to open up the cultural sector. These events included, concerts, theatre, the Keukenhof and even a vacation to Greece!

Ticket holders had present a negative test result taken no more than 40 hours before the event from a specific test centre related to this scheme.

Tickets for many of these events sold out very quickly, proving that the public is ready for life to regain some sense of normality.

Tickets sold out in less than thirty minutes for the concert Gebouw performance of Diepenbrock - Elektra Suite and the Brahms violin concerto (performed by the Radio Filharmonisch Orkest with soloist Sergey Khachatryan conducted by Cristian Măcelaru). The concert was at 10:30 on a Sunday morning and still full to capacity - within the limits the current regulations.

The concert was emotional. You could see the excitement and relief in the orchestra to be able to work again. The programme was very beautiful and passionately performed. There were tears throughout the audience during the performance. Probably some relief to experience some live music again after so long.

As for the corona measures, as can be seen from the photos, people weren't required to wear masks during the concert once seated. There was the obligatory 2 free chairs distance between each group of 2 or 4. The concert running time was bit over an hour with no interval but a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink. All in all, it's wonderful to be able to enjoy some live music without being squished next to strangers, while drinking a free glass of wine!



There is no news yet on the findings or effectiveness of these pilot concerts and ticket holders were not required to take a second test after.

Let's hope it opens the doors to more arts and cultural events.