



## Adventures in forecasting

Deciphering audience clues through a new lens

Rachael Easton

Business Development Director — Europe

### Who we are

A not for profit tech company, focused on the needs of arts and cultural organisations, dedicated to innovation, building community, and serving as a true partner.



Getting a lay of the land

2 Defining where we are

3 Mapping our way

4 Planning our next trip

**5** Q&A



# Getting a lay of the land

Understanding how we got here



## Modelling revenue



- Traditional forecasting leans on historical data
- The pandemic brought a throughline of uncertainty



How can we model the future when the present bears little resemblance to the past?





### **Tourists**

- Significant impact
- Slow recovery
- Trend to localism

### Loyalists

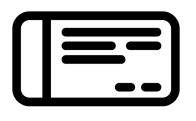
- Strong support
- Frequency key
- Float in and out

### Irregulars

- Product driven
- Substitute options
- Possibly risk averse



## Why it matters



- Not every ticket is sold equally
- Subscriber and member tickets may be discounted
- Predicting a loyalist market



## Defining where we are

Tessitura's European Regional Benchmarking Pilot





## Value of benchmarking

- Make objective comparisons
- Create shared understanding



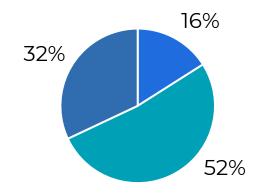
## **Audience intent**

- 14% of engaged cultural consumers have yet to return
- Additional 30% anticipate attending less frequently
- Many factors influence attendance





**25** organisations



**52%** performing arts



**84**% UK-based











## Survey Distribution

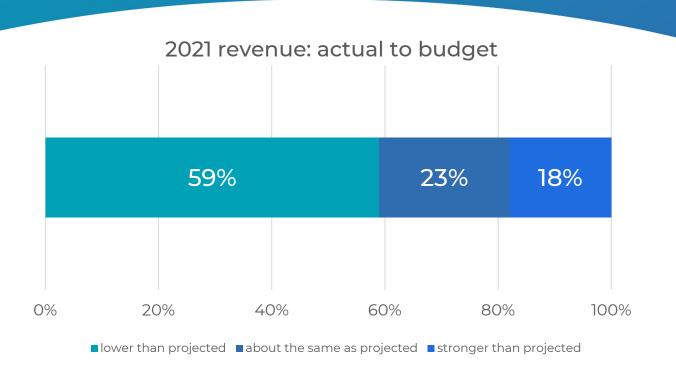
- December 2021
- January 2022
- March 2022 (pulse check)



## Key learning:

Recovery is slow.









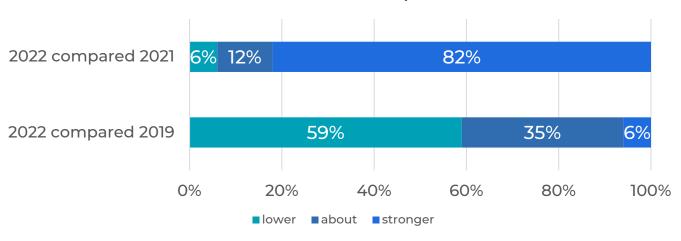
■lower ■about ■stronger

2022 compared 2021





## 2022 projected revenue: 2019 and 2021 comparison







% year-to-date revenue

% year-to-date target

50/50 split below/above target



Key learning:

People are booking later.





**71%** report later booking trend

down from 82% in December



Key learning:

Exchanges and refunds remain higher.





#### 71%

report more refund and exchange requests

But policies are tightening



Key learning:

Programming is key.





- Non-returners haven't found what they want to attend yet
- Traditionally strong programs continue to lead
- Less appetite for artistic risk



## Mapping our way

Updating your modelling strategy



### Forecasting demand now



Reflect on the past



Be in tune with the present



Stay open to change



## Determine your demand gap



## Demand gap



April-October 2021

**54**% avg. operating capacity

**61**% avg. sold capacity



## Demand gap



April-October 2019

100% avg. operating capacity

**69**% avg. sold capacity



% **61**%

% total sold capacity



## Threepronged approach



- What would similar content have attracted pre-pandemic?
- What was the demand gap for this type of content during reopening?
- What are the intent-to-return rates for audiences of this content?



## Reconsider your churn metrics



#### Churn



- Majority of people attend once
- Return cycles are longer
- Look farther back



## Planning our next trip

Takeaways for the future



Layer your insights













- Layer your insights
- Recreate attendance habits













- Layer your insights
- Recreate attendance habits
- Evaluate your retention models













- Layer your insights
- Recreate attendance habits
- Evaluate your retention models
- Fixate on engagement





## Thank you!

Rachael Easton

Business Development Director — Europe Tessitura rachael.easton@tessituranetwork.com





## Enter to win!



