

The UceLi Quartet performs Giacomo Puccini's "I Crisantemi" (Chrysanthemums) at Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu opera house on Monday. It was the first concert there since Spain's coronavirus lockdown — with an audience that didn't have to worry about social distancing. The quartet played for 2,292 plants, one for each seat in the theater. The event, which was livestreamed, was conceived by Spanish artist Eugenio Ampudia, who said he was inspired by nature during the pandemic. At the end of the eight-minute concert, the sound of leaves and branches blowing in the wind resonated throughout the opera house like applause. The theater said it planned to give the plants to local health workers as a thank-you for their efforts during the pandemic. A day earlier, Spain lifted its national state of emergency after three months. (Photo: Emilio Morenatti, Associated Press; Los Angeles Times, June 23)