



Theatres Trust launches Theatre Photograph of the Year competition with support from its Ambassadors Matthew Bourne, Miranda Hart and Jude Law

Theatres Trust, the national advisory public body for theatre, has launched a new photography competition to celebrate the UK's glorious theatre buildings and the magic that happens inside them.

Celebrated choreographer and director **Matthew Bourne**, much-loved comedian and actor **Miranda Hart** and acclaimed actor **Jude Law**, all Ambassadors for the Theatres Trust, will be part of the judging panel.

Miranda Hart says: "Theatre continues to transform me in to a childlike state of awe and wonder and I am never freer and happier watching it or making it. So to have the Theatres Trust Photograph of the Year competition as a way to find great talent to capture, curate and celebrate the majesty that is theatre is a wonderful thing. It will be hard not to want to pick them all!"

Open to amateur and professional photographers alike, entries are invited across three categories:

- **Beautiful buildings** – photographs highlighting the wonderful architecture of theatre buildings, old or modern, small or grand. This could be the exterior of a building, an inside space or a particular design detail.
- **Connecting communities** – photographs celebrating how theatres are central to their communities. This could be a theatre shown as part of its local area or how the theatre brings people together.
- **Entertaining evenings** – photographs capturing the joy of going to the theatre. This could be the excitement of a performance or a lively bar / café before a show. Matinee photos are welcome too!

From the category winners, one image will be chosen as the overall **Theatre Photograph of the Year**.

There is also a special category for younger budding photographers – the **Young Theatre Photographer of the Year** prize is open to anyone aged 16 or under.

Entrants are also being asked to provide the story behind their photographs, whether that is their special connection with the theatre depicted or what the image says to them.

As well as the glory of winning the competition, there are also prizes, thanks to the generosity of **Theatre Tokens**. Each category winner and the Young Theatre Photographer of the Year will win £250 worth of Theatre Tokens, which can be spent in more than 250 theatres across the country. The overall winner will receive an additional £250 of Theatre Tokens.

The competition is open for online entries now at theatrust.org.uk/theatrephotograph with a deadline of 30 March 2020 for submissions.

The competition is sponsored by **Aecom** and **Theatre Tokens**.

The initiative has the backing of the UK's major theatre operators including Ambassadors Theatre Group, Delfont Mackintosh Theatres, HQ Theatres and LW Theatres who will promote it to their audiences. Other theatres are encouraged to get in touch with the Theatres Trust if they want to support the competition too.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Contact Justine Harvey, Marketing and Communications Manager or Kate Carmichael, Communications Coordinator: press@theatrust.org.uk

Download: [logos and Ambassador photos](#)

Theatre Photography of the Year is a new annual competition run by Theatres Trust to celebrate the UK's wonderful theatre buildings and everything that happens inside them. There are three themed categories – Beautiful Buildings, Connecting Communities and Entertaining Evenings as well as a category for younger photographers.

Photographs must be of a UK theatre and must have been taken within the 12 months prior to the competition closing date. Further terms and conditions apply which can be found on the competition webpage at theatrust.org.uk/theatrephotograph

Judging will take place in April with a shortlist announced in the spring, followed by the winners later in 2020.

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We believe that current and future generations should have access to good quality theatre buildings where they can be inspired by, and enjoy, live performance. We champion the future of live performance by protecting and supporting excellent theatre buildings which meet the needs of their communities. We do this by providing advice on the design, planning, development and sustainability of theatres, campaigning on behalf of theatres old and new and offering financial assistance through grants. theatrust.org.uk

Matthew Bourne is widely hailed as the UK's most popular and successful choreographer and director. He was knighted in the Queen's New Year Honours 2016 for services to dance. Matthew is the creator of the world's longest running ballet production, a seven-time Olivier Award winner, and the only British director to have won the Tony Award for both Best Choreographer and Best Director of a Musical. Matthew started his dance training at the comparatively late age of 22. He danced professionally for 14 years creating many roles in his own work. As Artistic Director of his first company, Adventures in Motion Pictures (1987-2002) Matthew created many award winning works. Further hit productions were created when New Adventures was launched in 2002, becoming the UK's busiest and most successful dance company. In 2008 the charitable arm of New Adventures was established to increase opportunities that inspire young people with a passion for dance.

Miranda Hart is an actor, writer and comedian. Her hugely successful sitcom Miranda ran for four series on the BBC and earned her three RTS Awards, four British Comedy Awards, plus four BAFTA nominations. Miranda's stand-up arena tour My, What I Call, Live Show was a sell-out and in 2015 she starred in the Golden Globe nominated film Spy. Her first book Is It Just Me? was a highly successful best seller and won Non Fiction Book of the Year and she has since published four more books including comedy memoir Peggy & Me and children's novel The

Girl With The Lost Smile. Miranda has continued to gain recognition for her work as an actor and author, earning a fifth BAFTA nomination for Best Supporting Actress in Call The Midwife, among other accolades. She made her West End Debut in 2017 playing Miss Hannigan in Annie in a triumphant revival at the Piccadilly Theatre, and can be seen as Miss Bates in a Working Title film of Jane Austen's Emma next year.

Jude Law has worked with some of the industry's most prolific directors and talent. His extensive film credits include: The Talented Mr Ripley, Cold Mountain, Breaking and Entering, Road to Perdition, Existenz, Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil, Enemy at the Gates, Closer, Alfie, Sky Captain, World of Tomorrow, The Aviator, I Heart Huckabees, All The King's Men, The Holiday, Sleuth, My Blueberry Nights, King Arthur: Legend of the Sword, Spy, Genius Black Sea, The Grand Budapest Hotel, Anna Karenina, Side Effects, Sherlock Holmes franchise, Fantastic Beasts: Crimes of Grindelwald, Captain Marvel and Vox Lux. He is the star of the television series The Young Pope – the follow-up to which The New Pope will be released later this year. He has various upcoming films including The Nest and The Third Day. Law's theatre work has also been highly regarded. Credits include: Obsession, Henry V, Anna Christie, Hamlet, Les Parents terrible, 'Tis Pity She's A Whore and Dr Faustus.

Aecom is a global network of design, engineering, construction and management professionals partnering with clients to imagine and deliver a better world. Our vision is to be the premier, fully integrated infrastructure firm. [aecom.com](https://www.aecom.com)

Theatre Tokens are national theatre gift vouchers that can be used at more than 260 venues nationwide including London's West End. With no expiry date, they are the perfect gift for anyone...at any time. Theatre Tokens is run by Society of London Theatre (SOLT) a not-for-profit organisation representing the London theatre industry. [theatretokens.com](https://www.theatretokens.com)