



Dave Moutrey, CEO of HOME and Director of Culture for Manchester City Council, appointed as Theatres Trust Chair

Theatres Trust, the national public advisory body for theatres, is pleased to announce that Dave Moutrey has been appointed as its new Chair by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. Dave Moutrey is Director and Chief Executive of HOME, a purpose built multi art form venue, having conceived and led both the merger of Cornerhouse and Library Theatre Company and the £25m capital project to create HOME. Since 2018 he has also been Director of Culture for Manchester City Council where he is responsible for advising the council on policy and strategy for culture.

Dave Moutrey says, Theatres Trust has a crucial role to play in helping to protect our heritage and advise on the design of new performance spaces to make sure that these important assets continue to serve their vital role at the heart of our communities and cultures. I am therefore delighted and honoured to be joining the organisation as Chair and to work with the trustees and team as we navigate the challenges and opportunities presented across the UK.

Four Trustees have also been appointed to Theatres Trust Board: James Dacre, Artistic Director of Royal & Derngate Theatres in Northampton; Suba Das, Creative Director Designate of Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatres and current Artistic Director and Chief Executive of HighTide; Stephanie Hall, a barrister specialising in town and country planning at Kings Chambers and Lucy Osborne, set and costume designer and co-founder of studio three sixty.

Theatres Trust Director Jon Morgan says, *I am delighted that Dave Moutrey will take up the reigns as Theatres Trust's Chair, as his wealth of experience leading HOME and advising Manchester City Council will be invaluable to our work making the case for theatres. I am also looking forward to working with the other new Trustees, who bring an extraordinary array of skills and expertise that will complement and strengthen our existing Board.*

All appointments are for a three year term, beginning on 21 February 2022.

Notes to Editors

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| Title | Theatres Trust |
| Website | http://www.theatretrust.org.uk |
| Twitter | @TheatresTrust |
| Photograph | |

Theatres Trust

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. They believe that current and future generations should have access to good quality theatre buildings where they can be inspired by, and enjoy, live performance. They champion the future of live performance by protecting and supporting excellent theatre buildings which meet the needs of their communities. They 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.

As an arms-length public body, appointments to the Theatres Trust Board are made by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Dave Moutry

Dave Moutrey is Director and Chief Executive of HOME, a purpose built multi art form venue that opened in May 2015. He conceived and led both the merger of Cornerhouse and Library Theatre Company and the £25m capital project to create HOME, which has attracted almost 1m visits per year since opening. HOME includes 5 cinema screens, education spaces, digital production and broadcast facilities, a 500 seat theatre, 150 seat flexible theatre, large gallery, café bar, restaurant, offices and other ancillary spaces consistent with a production centre. HOME provides opportunities for artists and audiences to create work together, as well as a social and cultural hub. In April 2018 Dave was seconded to Manchester City Council in a part time role of Director of Culture. He is responsible for advising the council on policy and strategy for culture and working closely with the Cultural Leaders Group on joint working and other collaborative initiatives. Dave was awarded a Doctor of Arts honoris causa by the University of Salford is a Fellow of the RSA, a member of the Chartered Management Institute, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. He is also an advisor to the British Council and holds a number of nonexecutive roles on not-for-profit boards.

James Dacre

James Dacre has been Artistic Director of Royal & Derngate Theatres and Northampton Filmhouse since 2013 and is a Non-Executive Director of Spirit of 2012 and Talawa Theatre Company. Previously he's been Associate Director at the New Vic Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent, the National Youth Theatre and London's Theatre503 and held roles as a Franco-British Young Leader and Fulbright Fellow. He has directed, produced, and toured work to several hundred theatres, opera houses and festivals across the UK and abroad, with his productions winning Olivier, The Stage and UK Theatre awards.

Suba Das

Suba Das is an award-winning director, producer and dramaturg, brought up in the North East of England before reading English at Cambridge. He is Creative Director Designate of the iconic Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatres, taking up post from April 2022. He is currently Artistic Director and Chief Executive of HighTide, one of the UK's leading new writing theatre companies. Prior to HighTide, Suba was Associate Director at Leicester Curve, overseeing all artist development and community engagement; and Resident Director at the National Theatre Studio and English Touring Theatre. Suba's other directing credits include the world premiere production of Ravi Shankar's only opera *Sukanya* for the Royal Opera House and London Philharmonic Orchestra; and for the Young Vic, The Roundhouse, Northern Stage, Nottingham Playhouse and Bolton Octagon. Suba is passionate about access to theatre buildings and cultural activities for audiences of all backgrounds across the UK and he is also a trustee of the North Music Trust (Sage Gateshead); and the Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival.

Stephanie Hall

Stephanie Hall is a barrister specialising in town and country planning at Kings Chambers. She lives with her family near Leeds but works across England and Wales. Stephanie represents both local authorities and developers at planning appeals and in the Courts. She has particular experience of large schemes and major infrastructure projects, sometimes involving theatres and very often involving works to or in the setting of listed buildings. Stephanie appears in the list of top-rated planning junior barristers, is a member of the Planning and Environment Bar Association, the Compulsory Purchase Association, the Parliamentary Bar Mess and the National Infrastructure Planning Association.

Lucy Osborne

Lucy Osborne is an award-winning set and costume designer based in London. She works internationally across the UK, Europe and United States, specialising in new writing and musical theatre. Current productions include a new production of Kander and Ebb's Cabaret for Gothenburg Opera and a new musical The Osmonds which is currently touring the UK throughout 2022. Lucy is also a co-founder of studio three sixty, working with performing arts venues to design and regenerate buildings which enrich people's lives and empower users. studio three sixty were recipients of the Stage Awards "Theatre Building of the Year" for their design of Paines Plough's pop-up theatre ROUNDABOUT. Lucy is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a member of the Editorial Board for the International Theatre Engineering and Architecture Conference (ITEAC) 2022. Through Inspiring the Future she works with young people in schools to share career pathways into theatre. She is a passionate advocate for inclusive design in theatre architecture.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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