

Ref.: TC/1845

30 January 2024

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**Application:** 23/04074/LBC

**Site:** The Lyceum Theatre Tudor Square Sheffield S1 2LA

**Proposal:** Repair of existing statue of Mercury

**Remit:**

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, requiring the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

**Comment:**

This application for listed building consent has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking to carry out repairs to the statue of Mercury at the Lyceum Theatre.

**Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**Telephone** 020 7836 8591 **Email** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) **Website** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://theatrestrust.org.uk) **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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**Chair** Dave Moutrey OBE

**Director** Jon Morgan

**Trustees** James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

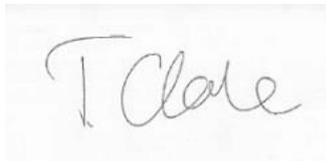
The Lyceum is Grade II\* listed heritage asset. It has particular significance as the only complete surviving theatre outside of London by renowned theatre architect W.G. R Sprague. The applicant has included our database entry description for this building within their Heritage Statement.

The statue subject to this application was added in 1990 as a replica for one which was removed at some point in the late 1930s. It is in need of repair, with a condition report having been included within the application documents. This contains photographs of areas of deterioration, showing rusting resulting in cracks and corrosion. As such the statue needs to be removed so that it can be repaired and reinstated. Those works will be undertaken on a like-for-like basis with a new stainless steel base to replace the current base.

These works are necessary to enable the existing statue to be retained. Whilst this will result in loss of this feature the harm arising is a short-term measure. Once reinstated these works constitute a heritage benefit because the statue will have been repaired and strengthened thus conserving it into the future and ensuring its safety and stability.

Therefore we are supportive of the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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