



## **ROB DICKINS CBE APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE THEATRES TRUST**

**15 January 2009**

*London, UK*

The Theatres Trust today announces the appointment of Rob Dickins CBE as Chairman effective as from 1 February 2009.

Following his formal invitation from Barbara Follett, Minister for Culture, Creative Industries and Tourism and Minister for the East of England, Rob Dickins CBE said, " I'm delighted to be appointed as Chair of The Theatres Trust. I aim to build on the strong foundations of my predecessor, Rupert Rhymes OBE, and continue to drive the Trust's essential work forward in these challenging times.

" I will be directing my enthusiasm, energy and experience of promoting creative talent into giving more people of all generations a chance to enjoy the ambiance of our theatres. As homes for the nations' arts and entertainment, these venues are also important and valuable tourist destinations and are at the heart of our communities. Making everyone aware of just how valuable theatres buildings are will be top of my list.

" I look forward to calling on the help and understanding of those working in the theatre, private owners, impresarios, civic leaders and Government to secure a meaningful future for our remarkable theatres, their heritage and their place in our lives."

ENDS

## **Protecting theatres for everyone**

**Director** Mhora Samuel **Chairman** Rupert Rhymes OBE  
**Trustees** Jason Barnes, Phil Clark, Marilyn Cutts, Venu Dhupa, Penelope Keith CBE DL,  
Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall, Chris Shepley CBE, Sam Shrouder, Dr Phyllis Starkey MP,  
Pat Thomas OBE, Ben Twist

## Notes For Editors

**Rob Dickins CBE:** Rob spent four decades in the music industry chairing both Warner Bros Music Publishing and Warner Records for most of them. More recently he started an independent music company, Instant Karma. He was Chairman of the UK Recording Industry trade body, the BPI, 1986-88 and again 1997-2002 and a founding Trustee of the National Foundation of Youth Music. He also chaired The Brit Awards and The Classical Music Committee and conceived the Classical Brits TV programme. His love of heritage and the Arts led to him being appointed as a Trustee of the V&A Museum (2000-2007) and of the Watts Gallery (2004-present) and his business history brought him to the Board of V&A, the commercial wing of the V&A (2001-2009). Between 2002-2007, he chaired the National Museum of Childhood in Bethnal Green and steered it via HLF funding through planning, closure and refurbishment to a successful re-opening.

He is a Visiting Professor at both the University Of The Arts and London Metropolitan University. He was awarded a CBE for services to the music industry in 2002.

**About The Theatres Trust:** The Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Public Body for theatres. The Chair and its Trustees are appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport. The Trust is a statutory body established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 to "promote the better protection of theatres" with a UK-wide remit. It is an Advisory Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) which is consulted by local authorities on any planning applications or developments involving land on which there is a theatre. The Trust provides an authoritative and knowledgeable source of expert advice and information on theatres, promotes the value of theatre buildings and champions their future.

**Images:** Images can be provided upon request.

**Appointment:** The appointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.

Further information on The Theatres Trust can be obtained from its website

[www.theatrestrust.org.uk](http://www.theatrestrust.org.uk)

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