



Dave Moutrey reappointed as Theatres Trust's Chair

Theatres Trust, the national public advisory and advocacy body for theatres, is pleased to announce that Rt Hon Lisa Nandy MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has reappointed Dave Moutrey as Chair for a further three-year term.

Two Trustees have also been reappointed; James Dacre, Director and Producer, founder of Living Productions and Stephanie Hall, a barrister specialising in town and country planning at Kings Chambers.

As an arms-length public body, appointments to the Theatres Trust's Board are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. All appointments are for a three-year term, beginning on 21st February 2025.

Dave Moutrey is Director of Culture for Manchester City Council where he is responsible for advising the council on policy and strategy for culture. He was appointed as Theatres Trust's Chair in February 2022, and during his first three-year tenure he oversaw a refresh of the organisation's vision and mission and led the recruitment of Theatres Trust's new CEO, Joshua McTaggart.

Dave says I am delighted that the Secretary of State has approved my re-appointment for another term as Chair of the Theatres Trust alongside the renewal of two other trustees who give their valuable time to our brilliant board. To have the Secretary of State's confidence to do this work is a great honour. As a Department for Culture, Media and Sport Arm's Length Body, Theatres Trust is the only

organisation empowered to protect the UK's theatre ecosystem, from small-scale community spaces through to large-scale commercial auditoriums. Given the numerous challenges currently facing the sector, our mission and purpose feel more vital than ever. I am especially looking forward to working with our new Director Joshua McTaggart as he and our team develop our next strategic plan to ensure theatres across the country continue to be fit for the future.

Joshua McTaggart, Theatres Trust's CEO says, It is fantastic news that Dave [Moutrey] has been reappointed as Theatres Trust's Chair, and James [Dacre] and Stephanie [Hall] reappointed as Trustees. Their collective knowledge and experience are invaluable to Theatres Trust, especially as we head towards our 50th anniversary in 2026. I am excited to work with them, and the rest of our Board, to expand Theatres Trust's reach and impact, develop our impartial professional advice services, and grow the recently established Sector Skills Bank.

Notes to Editors

Website	www.theatretrust.org.uk
Twitter / X	@TheatresTrust
BlueSky	@TheatresTrust
Facebook	Theatres Trust
Instagram	@theatretrust

Dave Moutrey

Dave is responsible for leading the creation and delivery of Manchester City Council's cultural and creative industries policy and strategy, working closely with the city's cultural and creative sectors on joint initiatives. He was appointed to this role after a 6-year part-time secondment to the Council as Director of Culture.

Until March 2024, he was Director and Chief Executive of HOME, a purpose-built multi-art venue that opened in May 2015. He conceived and led the merger of Cornerhouse and Library Theatre Company to create HOME, along with the £25m capital project for the building, which has attracted almost 1 million 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, a

large gallery, café bar, restaurant, offices, and other spaces consistent with a production centre. It provides opportunities for artists and audiences to create work together, as well as a social and cultural hub. Before HOME, Dave was Director and CEO of Cornerhouse from 1998, having established and led the regional arts marketing agency Arts About Manchester.

Dave was awarded an OBE for services to culture in 2022 and a Doctor of Arts honoris causa by the University of Salford in 2018. He is a member of the Chartered Management Institute and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. He was previously an advisor to the British Council and still holds several non-executive roles on not-for-profit boards.

James Dacre

James Dacre is a Director and Creative Producer who 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. He recently founded Living Productions which produces theatre, film, concerts and festivals. James was Artistic Director of Royal & Derngate Theatres from 2013-2023 and previously held roles as Associate Director at the New Vic Theatre, Theatre503 and the National Youth Theatre. He is Chair of the Board of Theatre503, a Board Director of Spirit of 2012, a Trustee for Talawa Theatre Company and a Franco-British Young Leader. James Dacre became a Trustee of The Theatres Trust on 21st February 2022.

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. Stephanie Hall became a Trustee on 21st February 2022.

Theatres Trust

Theatres Trust is the national advice and advocacy body for the UK's theatres supporting all forms of theatres, whether old or new, commercial, subsidised or community-run.

We protect theatres and champion the future of live performance by advising and supporting our nation's theatres to develop best practice in design and management following the four principles of resilience, environmental sustainability, inclusivity and placemaking.

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