

# SOUTHBANK CENTRE

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## July 2026 Listings



Clockwise L-R: Steel Scenes, Image © Picture Post/Getty Images; Pulp, Image © Tom Jackson; Hofesh Shechter: *IN THE BRAIN*, Image © Tom Visser.

In July, the Southbank Centre's 75th anniversary continues with a packed month of events that celebrate our past while looking firmly to the future. *South Asian Sounds* (1 – 5 July) returns, bringing together some of the biggest names in South Asian music and performance with cutting-edge new voices and cross-genre collaborations. **Priyani Vani Panditt** joins the **London Bollywood Orchestra** to chart the growth of Bollywood's distinctive sound in a special concert (3 July), while genre-crossing **Raghu Dixit** bring their big melodies and infectious rhythms to the Queen Elizabeth Hall (3 July).

The Southbank Centre's longest running festival, **Poetry International** (10 – 12 July), brings together a poetry-focused programme of multi-arts events, workshops and free activities. Collaborators, admirers and friends come together to celebrate the life and legacy of **Benjamin Zephaniah** with an evening of poetry, music and memories (10 July). *A Poet In Every Port's* mobile National Poetry Library stops off at Queen's Walk, Southbank Centre for a day of free events, workshops and poetry readings with project ambassador **Roger McGough** (12 July). **Allen Ginsberg at 100** looks back at the life and works of the iconic beat poet with an eclectic mix of guests spanning generations and disciplines (12 July).

Legendary record label **Rough Trade** marks 50 years with three days of events embracing music, live performance, film and the written word (17 – 19 July). Britpop

legends **Pulp** play their recent album *More* in full (18 July), *Rough Trade Books* takes words off the page and into the Queen Elizabeth Hall with an evening of unique collaborations with authors, musicians and performers (17 July), and **Ken Loach's** remarkable film *Kes* is presented with a live soundtrack from **Elysian Collective** (19 July).

Part rave, part ritual, **Hofesh Shechter's** new full-length work for his company Shechter II, *IN THE BRAIN*, brings fevered, unstoppable energy to the Queen Elizabeth Hall, shattering the barrier between stage and audience (22 – 25 July).

Marking 75 years since steel pan music burst into the UK at the Festival of Britain, *Steel Scenes* brings the thrum of pan back to the Southbank Centre for a special weekend takeover (24 – 26 July). *Steel Pan Reimagined* (25 July) takes pan into the Royal Festival Hall, fusing it with disciplines from classical to jazz in a series of new commissions and world premieres. The Riverside Terrace hosts a series of free events across the weekend, celebrating steel pan music in all its forms.

In the Hayward Gallery, **Anish Kapoor's** landmark exhibition continues, filling the gallery with a series of new commissions that defy the boundaries of conventional sculpture (16 Jun – 18 Oct). The HENI Project Space sees the first UK solo exhibition from Indian artist **Kulpreet Singh**. *Indelible Black Marks* draws upon Kulpreet's life as a farmer, offering a poetic meditation on the urgent link between climate change and agricultural crises (16 Jun – 2 Aug).

The Southbank Centre's 75th Anniversary Season is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

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## **EXHIBITIONS**

**Visual Arts** | **Free Programme** | [Quentin Blake: The Southbank Parade](#)

Tue 17 Feb – Sun 8 Nov, 10am – 11pm, Tue – Sun, Site wide. Free. For all ages.

**Visual Arts** | **Free Programme** | [Our Freedom: Then and Now](#)

Wed 18 Mar – Sat 25 Apr, 10am – 11pm, Tue – Sun, Riverside Terrace, Level 2. Free. For all ages.

**Visual Arts** | **Summer Time** | [TONIC FLOW: A Communal Chorus in Colour and Sound](#)

Sun 10 May – Sun 20 Sep, Mandela Walk, Level 2, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For all ages.

**Visual Arts** | [Luke Jerram: Stepping Out](#)

Wed 10 Jun – Wed 30 Sep 2026, Riverside Terrace, Royal Festival Hall. Free.

**Visual Arts** | [Anish Kapoor](#)

Tue 16 Jun – Sun 18 Oct, Tue – Fri, 10am – 6pm, Sat, 10am – 8pm, Sun, 10am – 6pm, Closed on Mondays, Hayward Gallery. Tickets from £22.

**Visual Arts** | [Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks](#)

Tue 16 Jun – Sun 2 Aug, HENI Project Space, Hayward Gallery. Free.

**Summer Time** | [Gift to the Future](#)

Wed 1 Jul – Sun 27 Sep, Site-wide. Free. Suitable for all ages.

**Summer Time** | [London Parks: An Exhibition](#)

Fri 12 Jun – Wed 1 Jul, Riverside Terrace, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For all ages.

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## **EVENTS**

**Families & Young People** | [REPLAY: A Limitless Recycled Playground](#)

Wed 14 Jan – Sun 5 July, Various Times, Spirit Level, Level 1, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets £7.50 + £3.50 booking fee. For ages 6 months – 11 years.

**Families & Young People** | [REPLAY: Relaxed](#)

Thu 15 Jan – Sat 4 July, Various Times, Spirit Level, Level 1, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets £7.50 + £3.50 booking fee. For ages 6 months – 11 years.

**National Programme** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [A Poet In Every Port](#)

Fri 29 May – Sat 26 Sep, Nationwide. Free. For all ages.

Visiting in July: Mon 6 – Tues 7 July, Penzance [The Acorn](#); Thurs 9 – Fri 10 July, Caernarfon, Wales [Gŵyl Arall \(Another Festival\)](#); Sun 12 July, London [Southbank Centre \(Poetry International Festival\)](#); Sat 25 – Sun 26 July, Blackpool [The Old Electric](#).

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Anmol Mohara: Across the Sea](#)

Wed 1 Jul, 7.45pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £12 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | [Dave Eggers: Contrapposto](#)

Wed 1 Jul, 8pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 15+.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | **Free Programme** | [European Poetry Festival: Latvia](#)

Wed 1 Jul, 8pm, National Poetry Library, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For ages 15+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Rekesh Chauhan: Classically Reimagined](#)

Thu 2 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**Open Doors** | **Free Programme** | [Simmer Down](#)

Fri 3 Jul, 2.30pm, The Clore Ballroom, Level 2, Royal Festival Hall. Free. All ages welcome.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Raghu Dixit](#)

Fri 3 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £26 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [London Bollywood Orchestra with Priyani Vani Panditt](#)

Fri 3 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £37 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Thamarai: Pritt + Prito](#)

Fri 3 Jul, 7.45pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £17 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Hariharan: Soul India](#)

Sat 4 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £37 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Shradhanjali: A Homage to Zakir Hussain](#)

Sat 4 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £37 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Asian Tones: Tara Lily + Shalini Rani](#)

Sat 4 Jul, 7.45pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | **Courses & Workshops** | [Out-Spoken Masterclass: July](#)

Sun 5 Jul, 1pm, Sunley Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Comedy** | [Making A Husband: Live](#)

Sun 5 Jul, 3pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Hemantika and Beyond](#)

Sun 5 Jul, 6pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £19 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Gigs** | [Amrita Kaur](#)

Sun 5 Jul, 6.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £32 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**South Asian Sounds** | **Comedy** | [Tez Ilyas: Work in Progress](#)

Sun 5 Jul, 7.30pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | [An Evening with David Sedaris](#)

Tue 7 Jul – Thu 9 Jul, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £47 + £4 booking fee. For ages 16+.

**Visual Arts** | **Talks & Debates** | [Anish Kapoor in Conversation with Darian Leader](#)

Wed 8 Jul, 8pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £20 + £4 booking fee. For ages 15+.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | **Families & Young People** | [Rug Rhymes: Summer](#)

Fri 10 Jul, 11am, National Poetry Library, Level 5, Blue Side, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets £4 (admits one adult and one child). For ages 0 – 5.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Poetic Unity + Live Band](#)

Fri 10 Jul, 7pm, The Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For ages 14+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Benjamin Zephaniah: A Celebration](#)

Fri 10 Jul, 8pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £20 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Courses & Workshops** | [Masterclass: Raymond Antrobus](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 10am, Foyle Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [After Catastrophe: Futures Beyond Crisis](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 12.30pm, Level 5 Function Room, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £11 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Courses & Workshops** | [Masterclass: Ilya Kaminsky](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 1pm, Sunley Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Peter Gizzi & Denise Riley](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 2pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Apples and Snakes: Managers' Match](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 4.30pm, The Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For ages 12+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Raymond Antrobus & Ilya Kaminsky](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 5.30pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Gigs** | [The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £47 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Maggie Nelson](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 16+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [From the Lips to the Moon](#)

Sat 11 Jul, 8pm, The Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For ages 16+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Courses & Workshops** | [Masterclass: Peter Gizzi](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 10am, Sunley Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Free Programme** | [A Poet in Every Port – London](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 10am, Queen's Walk. Free. Suitable for all ages.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Yang Lian & Sudeep Sen: Chinese and Indian Poetry](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 12.30pm, Level 5 Function Room, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £11 + £4 booking fee.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Courses & Workshops** | [Masterclass: Denise Riley](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 1pm, Foyle Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 18+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Apples and Snakes Word Cup – Showcase Final](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 1pm, The Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. Free. For ages 12+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Batool Abu Akleen & Alice Oswald](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 2pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. Suitable for all ages.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Free Programme** | [A Poet in Every Port: Live](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 3.30pm, The Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. Free. Suitable for all ages.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Kim Hyesoon & Paul Muldoon](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 5.30pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Gigs** | [The Divine Comedy](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £32 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Poetry International** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | [Allen Ginsberg at 100](#)

Sun 12 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 15+.

**Visual Arts** | **Schools** | [Primary Schools Morning: Anish Kapoor](#)

Tue 14 Jul & Wed 7 Oct, 10am – 12pm, Hayward Gallery. Free. For primary school groups only.

**Visual Arts** | **Schools** | [Secondary Schools Morning: Anish Kapoor](#)

Wed 15 Jul, 10am – 12pm, Hayward Gallery. Free (ticket required). For secondary school groups only.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | [Red Sky at Sunrise: Laurie Lee in Words and Music](#)

Thu 16 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 15+.

**Rough Trade 50** | **Literature & Spoken Word** | **Gigs** | [An Evening with Rough Trade Books](#)

Fri 17 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £17 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Rough Trade 50** | **Gigs** | [Hannah Patterson: Ungone – the Play](#)

Sat 18 Jul, 3pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £17 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Rough Trade 50** | **Gigs** | [Scritti Politti](#)

Sat 18 Jul, 3pm & 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Rough Trade 50** | **Gigs** | [Pulp](#)

Sat 18 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £77 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Rough Trade 50** | **Gigs** | [Kes: Live Soundtrack](#)

Sun 19 Jul, 5pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. *Kes* is rated PG by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC).

**Rough Trade 50** | **Gigs** | [caroline + My New Band Believe](#)

Sun 19 Jul, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 14+.

**Performance & Dance** | [Hofesh Shechter: IN THE BRAIN](#)

Wed 22 Jul – Sat 25 Jul, Wed, Thu & Fri: 7.30pm, Sat: 2.30pm & 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £22 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Visual Arts** | [Relaxed Hours: Anish Kapoor](#)

Thu 23 Jul, 11am – 2pm, Hayward Gallery. Tickets £22 / Members free.

**Literature & Spoken Word** | [Stadio Live with Nish Kumar](#)

Thu 23 Jul, 7.45pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 16+.

**Steel Scenes** | **Free Programme** | [Steel Rising](#)

Fri 24 Jul, 12pm, Riverside Terrace. Free. For all ages.

**Classical Music** | [Beethoven's Ninth Symphony](#)

Fri 24 Jul, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £21.50 + £4 booking fee. For ages 7+.

**Steel Scenes** | **Free Programme** | [Steel Sounds with Just Vibez](#)

Sun 26 Jul, 11am, Queen's Walk. Free. For all ages.

**Steel Scenes | Gigs | [Steel Pan Reimagined](#)**

Sat 25 Jul, 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Royal Festival Hall. Tickets from £20 + £4 booking fee. For ages 12+.

**Steel Scenes | [Free Programme](#) | [Steel Legacies](#)**

Sun 26 Jul, 11am, Jubilee Gardens. Free. For all ages.

**Performance & Dance | Families & Young People | [Dog Man: The Musical](#)**

Wed 29 Jul – Sun 16 Aug, Multiple Times, Queen Elizabeth Hall. Tickets from £27 + £4 booking fee. For ages 5+.

**Literature & Spoken Word | [Neoprene Genie: Dream Jump](#)**

Thu 30 Jul, 7.45pm, Purcell Room. Tickets from £15 + £4 booking fee. For ages 15+.

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**FOOD, DRINK & SHOPPING**

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Seventy5th Balcony Bar](#)**

Tues – Sun: 10am – 10.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, Level 5, closed Mon.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Southbank Centre Food Market](#)**

Fri – Sun, 12pm, Southbank Centre Square.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Roof Garden Bar & Kitchen](#)**

Wed – Sun, Queen Elizabeth Hall Roof Garden.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Festival Bar & Kitchen](#)**

Tue - Sun 10am – 10.30pm. Royal Festival Hall, Level 2, Closed Mon.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Southbank Centre Shops](#)**

Find gifts for lovers of art, music and big ideas. Shop in-store or online. Royal Festival Hall, Mandela Walk, Hayward Gallery. Tue – Sun: 11.30am – 7pm. Closed Mon.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Hayward Gallery Shop for Yin Xiuzhen and Chiharu Shiota](#)**

Tue 17 Feb, Hayward Gallery Shop and Online: Tue – Fri, 10am – 6pm, Sat, 10am – 8pm, Sun, 10am – 6pm. Closed Mon.

**Food, Drink & Shopping | [Summer Food & Drink Pop-ups](#)**

23 April – 20 September 2025. Monday – Sunday: 11am – 11pm. Queen's Walk.

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**HAYWARD GALLERY TOURING EXHIBITIONS AROUND THE UK**

**Visual Arts | [Paula Rego: Visions of English Literature](#)**

22 May – 6 Sep, Newlands House Gallery, Petworth For timings and tickets, please see venue website.

**Visual Arts | [Georgia O'Keeffe: Memories of Drawings](#)**

5 June – 25 July, Williamson Art Gallery & Museum, Birkenhead. For timings and tickets, please see venue website.

**Visual Arts** | [Joan Miró: Painting and Poetry](#)

20 June – 23 August, The Brampton Museum, Newcastle under Lyme. For timings and tickets, please see venue website.

**Visual Arts** | [To Improvise A Mountain: Lynette Yiadom-Boakye Curates](#)

27 June – 13 September, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill on Sea. For timings and tickets, please see venue website.

**Visual Arts** | [Linder: Danger Came Smiling | on tour](#)

18 July – 3 October, Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool. For timings and tickets, please see venue website.

**#ENDS#**