
Press Release

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Press images [HERE](#)

Final events unveiled for The Rest Is Fest, part of the Southbank Centre's 75th Anniversary Programme

Including **Stanley Tucci & Gary Lineker: Film, Food & Me;**
Football Clichés: Live; The Rest Is History: 7 Greatest Londoners;
Ancient Myths: Mary Beard & Josephine Quinn;
The Real Housewives of Regency England,
The 3 Ayatollahs: An Unbreakable Dynasty?

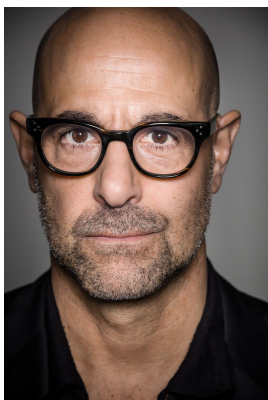


Image credits, L-R: Mary Beard, credit Caterina Turrone; Stanley Tucci, photo by Gerhard Kassner; Gary Lineker, photo by Hugo Glendinning.

The Southbank Centre in collaboration with Goalhanger today unveils the final programming for **Goalhanger: The Rest Is Fest** (Fri 4 – Sun 6 Sep 2026), a highlight of the centre's 75th anniversary celebrations, with a special event featuring **Stanley Tucci & Gary Lineker** in the Royal Festival Hall (6 Sep). The final events in the line-up include:

- **Stanley Tucci: Hollywood, Food & Me** (6 Sep, RFH) sees actor Stanley Tucci join Goalhanger co-founder Gary Lineker for a special live conversation spanning film, food, family and storytelling.
- **The Real Housewives of Regency England** (6 Sep, QEH) brings Marina Hyde and Tom Holland together to lift the lid on power, scandal and society in one of British history's most fascinating eras.
- **Ancient Myths** (6 Sep, QEH) sees friends of *The Rest Is History* Mary Beard join Josephine Quinn to explore ancient power, legend and legacy.
- **The 3 Ayatollahs: An Unbreakable Dynasty?** (6 Sep, Purcell Room) unites William Dalrymple, Anita Anand and Ali M. Ansari to examine power, religion and politics in modern Iran.
- **Football Clichés** (5 Sep, Purcell Room) brings its cult take on the language, quirks and absurdities of the beautiful game to the festival stage, with the full crew - Adam Hurrey, Charlie Eccleshare and David Walker - joining.

Gary Lineker, Co-founder of Goalhanger said: *"We're absolutely delighted to be bringing The Rest Is Fest to the Southbank Centre in its 75th year, with the full line-up now revealed. Across more than 20 shows, it really is a festival of ideas - from history, politics and science to entertainment, football, food and everything in between. On a personal note, getting to sit down with a fellow foodie like Stanley Tucci to talk film, food and storytelling and I'm sure I'll try to sneak in a bit of football too - will be a real treat. We look forward to seeing you all this September."*

Ted Hodgkinson, Head of Literature & Spoken Word at the Southbank Centre said: *"As we celebrate our 75th anniversary year, we are looking to the future by reaffirming the Southbank Centre's role as a home for live, human connection in a world often shaped by algorithms and AI-generated content. The Rest Is Fest is a cornerstone of this vision—an epic takeover featuring dozens of events across our three iconic auditoriums. This collaboration with Goalhanger proves that there is no digital substitute for the spark of charismatic voices; we are celebrating the chemistry that brings people together and offering a space that is as intellectually rigorous as it is entertaining."*

The newly announced shows go on sale alongside the previously confirmed lineup, which includes the first ever live version of **The Rest Is Football** (4 Sep, RFH), **The Rest Is Politics** (6 Sep, RFH), **Team America: World Police?** (5 Sep, QEH), **The Rest Is Quiz** (6 Sep, QEH) and **The Book Club** (Purcell Room). Full listings below.

Taking place across the Southbank Centre's iconic site, **The Rest Is Fest** is a landmark collaboration between Europe's largest arts centre and one of the world's largest independent podcast producers. In the Southbank Centre's 75th year, the festival promises to take the spirit of the 1951 Festival of Britain and look to the future with a live programme brimming with ideas, curiosity, and conversation.

How to book tickets

Tickets for the newly announced events go on sale to Goalhanger and Southbank Centre Members on 28 May and to the general public on 2 June with the exception of The Rest Is History: 7 Greatest Londoners which goes on sale Friday 12 June to Members and to the general Tuesday 16 June. southbankcentre.co.uk

For more information about the Southbank Centre's 75th anniversary celebrations, visit southbankcentre.co.uk/our-75th-anniversary

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Programme details

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS HISTORY: 7 GREATEST LONDONERS

Friday 4 September, 6.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

London. 2,000 years. Nine million people, 32 boroughs, but who are the top Londoners of all history? Britain's favourite podcasters and historians Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook list their favourites in a brilliant and rip-roaring live show at the Southbank Centre. And in the second half, Holland and Sandbrook open the floor to your questions – from their favourite 'Friends Of The Show' to their ultimate dinner party guests.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS CLASSIFIED: LIVE

Friday 4 September, 7.00pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hosted by former CIA analyst turned spy novelist McCloskey, and veteran security correspondent Corera, this podcast shines a light on the shadows. Dive into real-life spy stories, intelligence secrets, and the hidden power struggles shaping global events.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS MONEY: LIVE

Friday 4 September, 7.30pm, Purcell Room

Robert Peston and Steph McGovern take the audience on a journey, starting from the credit crunch in 2008 and going right through to Trump's tariffs in 2025 – and their first-hand experience of reporting on both. They also chat about their biggest interviews with tech billionaires, chancellors and some of the most divisive people in politics.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS FOOTBALL: BURSTING ONTO THE STAGE

Friday 4 September, 8.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

The boys have a review of the FIFA World Cup and the new 2026 season that you'll want to hear – but they also take you behind the scenes of some of their most memorable moments, both on and off the pitch.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS POLITICS: THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

Sunday 5 September, 1pm, Royal Festival Hall

Podcast hosts Rory Stewart and Alastair Campbell team up with their US counterparts from *The Rest Is Politics: US*, Katty Kay and Anthony Scaramucci, for their first ever full length show together. They'll assess the headlines, dive into deeper conversations and answer your questions. This is the ultimate show for anyone obsessed with Goalhanger's political podcasts.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | EMPIRE: LIVE

Sunday 5 September, 1pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

Empire podcast co-hosts William Dalrymple and Anita Anand explore the good, the bad and the ugly of imperial history. From anti-colonial uprisings in India to erotic poetry festivals in ancient Gaza, drug-dealing English merchants in China, and the Mongolian tribe who dared to kidnap the wife of Genghis Khan, Empire spotlights dramatic stories from world history that were left out of your schoolbooks. Anand and Dalrymple's cocktail of deep historical knowledge and lighthearted banter has grown a global audience of dedicated fans, and now you can see them live on stage as part of Goalhanger: The Rest Is Fest.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | TEAM AMERICA: WORLD POLICE?

Sunday 5 September, 4pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

Venezuela, Iran and Eastern Europe - why does the United States remain so central to global conflicts? Two of Goalhanger's leading experts on America, Anthony Scaramucci and David McCloskey, discuss the long reach of US power, from Latin American coups in the 1970s to the war on terror and Donald Trump's global ambitions.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | SHERLOCK & CO.

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 September, Sat: 4pm, Sun 7.30pm, Purcell Room - second show added due to Popular Demand

221B Baker Street invites you to witness a brand-new tale featuring John, Mariana and, of course, Sherlock Holmes. The cast of the beloved audio drama perform an original story that was written exclusively for the Southbank Centre stage.

GOALHANGER: FOOTBALL CLICHES: LIVE

Saturday 5 September, 1pm, Purcell Room

Join Adam Hurrey, Charlie Eccleshare and David Walker for an exploration of the parts of football you never realised you cared about – all in a brand-new show for *Goalhanger: The Rest Is Fest*.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS HISTORY: 7 GREATEST LONDONERS [updated title]

Saturday 5 September, 4pm, Royal Festival Hall

Historians Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook's combination of penetrating knowledge, wit and superbly judged accents have sold out shows across the UK, Australia and the United States. Touching on the bloody amphitheatres of Ancient Rome; Montezuma and the fall of the Aztecs; the Napoleonic Wars and Nelson's mastery of the seas; Hitler's rise to power and the Second World War; and the calamities of 1970s Britain, *The Rest Is History* retells the tales that have shaped humanity with bombast, drama and historical precision.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE BOOK CLUB

Sunday 5 September, 7.30pm, Purcell Room

The brand-new podcast hosted by Dominic Sandbrook and Tabby Syrett joins *The Rest Is Fest* line-up. Expect a typically lively debate between Sandbrook and Syrett about some of the greatest books of all time in one of the Southbank Centre's most intimate stages.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS SCIENCE: LIVE

Sunday 5 September, 7pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

Esteemed mathematician Professor Hannah Fry and YouTube legend Michael Stevens (Vsauce) get their geek on for the first ever live edition of The Rest Is Science. Naturally curious and lifelong science-buffs, Fry and Stevens will wade into the deep end of some of science's most fun questions.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS ENTERTAINMENT: LIVE

Saturday 5 September, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

Join Richard Osman and Marina Hyde as they pull back the curtain on television, movies, celebrities and much more in their riotous live show. Who are the greatest- and worst-behaved people in Hollywood? The pair rank their own ultimate heroes and villains of entertainment history (hopefully, they get it in the right order...). This is the ultimate evening of excess, with the gossip and scandal you've come to expect from the UK's favourite entertainment podcast.

GOALHANGER: STANLEY TUCCI: FILM, FOOD & ME

Sunday 6 September, 1pm, Royal Festival Hall

Join us for a deliciously entertaining session as Gary Lineker swaps the football pitch for the dinner table, sitting down with actor and writer Stanley Tucci. Expect tales about film, food and everything in between – with plenty of laughs, a few well-aimed questions and, hopefully, some incredible cooking tips.

GOALHANGER: THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF REGENCY ENGLAND

Sunday 6 September, 1pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

You've heard of *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, but we can guarantee you've never experienced anything quite like *The Real Housewives Of Regency England!* Tom Holland and Marina Hyde are there to lap it all up – drinks swilled, secrets spilled and theatrical recreations à la the Bravo reality show.

GOALHANGER: ANCIENT MYTHS: MARY BEARD & JOSEPHINE QUINN

Sunday 6 September, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

Two of Britain's brightest classical minds come together for an iconoclastic romp through the stories we still tell ourselves about the ancient world. Leaders behaving badly, emperors putting their horses in charge, cities built by asylum seekers and empires getting their comeuppance ...

Expect a healthy dose of myth-busting alongside a deep dive into what these myths tell us, and why they're important even when we know they are wrong.

GOALHANGER: THE 3 AYATOLLAHS: AN UNBREAKABLE DYNASTY?

Sunday 6 September, 1pm, Purcell Room

William Dalrymple and Anita Anand, hosts of *Empire*, are joined by one of Britain's foremost experts on Iran for a timely look into a nation at a crossroads. How has the influence of the Ayatollahs impacted Iran since the 1979 revolution? Does the Islamic Republic's grip appear to be fracturing? What role have other nations played in shaping Iran's fate? And as the regime faces economic collapse, regional setbacks and a disillusioned younger generation, what comes next for a civilisation that has outlasted empires?

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | WE HAVE WAYS OF MAKING YOU TALK

Sunday 6 September, 4pm, Purcell Room

Hosts Al Murray and James Holland argue the fiercest (and most serious) debates, including Bren or MG42? Spitfire or Hurricane? Monty or Alex? Come along and find out the answers for yourself.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS POLITICS: US TRUMP ON A KNIFE EDGE

Sunday 6 September, 4pm, Royal Festival Hall

The year 2026 marks a pivotal moment in Donald Trump's second term: Americans head to the polls in the mid-term elections to decide the fate of the Trumpian reign. Journalist Katty Kay and former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci reveal secrets from inside the White House inner circles, as well as taking a wider look at the intricacies of the society of the United States and how they shape the world's most important economy. After a decade of MAGA politics, will the nation pull itself back from the brink, or is Trump's strongman populism only gaining momentum?

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS QUIZ

Sunday 6 September, 7pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

The sharpest minds in British podcasting take to the stage for one epic quiz-night, with your quizmasters Richard Osman and Marina Hyde. Get ready for an all-out battle between the stars of Goalhanger's shows. Which podcast will take the crown, and who will end up with the wooden spoon? Forget *Avengers: Endgame*; this is the crossover we've been waiting for.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | THE REST IS POLITICS: OFF THE RECORD

Sunday 6 September, 7pm, Royal Festival Hall

Hosts Rory Stewart and Alastair Campbell are back, bringing their trademark art of disagreeing agreeably live to the stage. As AI-powered disinformation and populism infect our newsfeeds and public sphere, writer and former politician Rory Stewart and journalist-turned-strategist Alastair Campbell ask how democracy can survive in its current state. The nation's most popular political podcast takes on the biggest stories, both at home and abroad.

GOALHANGER: THE REST IS FEST | SHERLOCK & CO.

Sunday 6 September, 7.30pm, Purcell Room - second show added due to Popular Demand

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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Press accreditation by application only, opening in Spring 2026. Spaces are limited. Get in touch with press@southbankcentre.co.uk

About Goalhanger

Goalhanger is the UK's largest independent podcast producer and the biggest outside the US - creating chart-topping, story-first shows across history, politics, sport, business, entertainment, culture, and audio drama. Our shows include The Rest Is History, The Rest Is

Politics, Empire, The Rest Is Entertainment, The Rest Is Politics: US, Leading, The Rest Is Money, Journey Through Time, The Rest Is Football, Sherlock & Co., The Rest Is Classified, The Rest Is Football: Daily Brightness, and We Have Ways of Making You Talk. We reach tens of millions each month across long-form audio, video, and live events - with over 400 million downloads in 2024, and more than 1 billion lifetime streams. But Goalhanger is more than just a podcast network. We're a new-generation cultural media brand: talent-first, story-led, proudly independent, and built on trust - not trends. We build loyal communities, fuel word-of-mouth discovery, and create IP with real cultural impact. In a media landscape defined by change, Goalhanger stands apart. Media made to last - one great conversation at a time.

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest multi-arts centre and engages the most diverse audiences of any performing arts organisation in the UK. Our biggest venue, the Royal Festival Hall (2,700 seats) is the lasting legacy of the 1951 Festival of Britain and the ambition and values of that project – that arts, ideas, innovation and culture can heal communities and should be available and accessible to everyone – are still our guiding principles today. The Southbank Centre is uniquely able to offer a wide-ranging, inclusive and world-class artistic programme spanning contemporary visual arts, music, dance, performance, literature, comedy and spoken word across the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, the Hayward Gallery and our free spaces. We are also home to the National Poetry Library, the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP), two resident organisations (Kinetika Bloco and Tomorrow's Warriors) and six resident orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Philharmonia Orchestra). The Southbank Centre's 75th Anniversary Season is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

www.southbankcentre.co.uk

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