

# SOUTHBANK CENTRE

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## Press Release

**Date:** Tuesday 1 November 2022, 14:00 pm

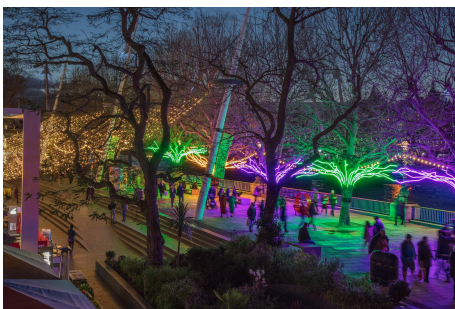
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**Images:** [HERE](#)

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## Cheer is here: The Southbank Centre's dazzling Winter Festival returns for 2022

- **Thursday 3 November 2022 - Sunday 8 January 2023**
- *Hey Duggee: The Live Theatre Show* and *Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol* bring seasonal cheer
- *The Guilty Feminist Presents Camp as Christmas* and *Off Menu: The Christmas Dinner Party* promise festive laughter
- *New Year's Eve Spectacular* returns with a front-row seat to London's NYE fireworks
- *Winter Light's* colourful LED light installations by contemporary artists bring a warm glow to the South Bank
- Plenty of free events for visitors of all ages to enjoy. We've also registered to be part of Lambeth Council's network of warm spaces helping people to keep warm this winter
- Delicious food and warming drinks will be served at the Winter Market



Credit line Top Left - Bottom Right: New Year's Eve Spectacular © Vintage Festival, The Guilty Feminist Camp as Christmas, © Tom Salinsky (Spontaneity Shop), *Loomin*, David Ogle © the artist, The Curling Club © Ryan Dinham, Southbank Centre's Winter Market © Jamz\_ Matt Pitman

A firm fixture of London's seasonal festivities, the Southbank Centre's Winter Festival returns with a joyful programme of events, exhibitions and performances plus the ever popular Winter Market. From curling to choirs, *Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol* to *Hey Duggee: The Live Theatre Show*, the Winter Festival is set to bring festive cheer to the South Bank for people of all ages to enjoy.

For those looking for a place to keep warm, we've also registered to be part of Lambeth Council's network of warm spaces helping people affected by increases in energy costs. Visitors can settle down with a book or friends in **The Lounge** (8 December - Friday 30 December 2022, 10am-6pm), a free community space in the Royal Festival Hall open for all to keep warm during the colder months.

### **Winter Performances**

This year, the Southbank Centre welcomes two brand new shows to its stages. ***Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol*** is a new musical written by the Queen of Country herself, set in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains in the 1930s with Robert Bathurst taking the lead as Scrooge. (Queen Elizabeth Hall, Thursday 8 December - Sunday 8 January 2023, for ages 8+). ***Hey Duggee: The Live Theatre Show***, is a vibrant new interactive production bursting with music, puppets and barrels of laughs. This production is based on the multi-award winning CBeebies hit show and has its London debut at the Royal Festival Hall. (Wednesday 14 December - Sunday 8 January 2023, for all ages).

For Christmas laughter ***The Guilty Feminist Presents Camp as Christmas*** (Saturday 3 December 2022) brings a star-studded, all LGBTQ+ line-up to the Queen Elizabeth Hall, while ***The Not F\*\*kin' Sorry Cabaret*** brings 'shameless, sexy punk-crip cabaret' to the Purcell Room for one night only (Saturday 17 December 2022). The Royal Festival Hall hosts ***Off Menu: The Christmas Dinner Party*** (Tuesday 20 December 2022, sold out), a festive edition of the hugely popular 'Off Menu' podcast with Ed Gamble and James Acaster, which returns to the Southbank Centre after sell-out shows last summer.

### **New Year's Eve Spectacular**

**Saturday 31 December 2022, 7pm**

Now in its 10th year, the Southbank Centre and Vintage's dazzling annual celebration is back. Attendees can party through the decades as five floors of the Royal Festival Hall are each transformed into different set-dressed decades, from the twenties to the present day. Continuous dance lessons, six themed nightclubs, live acts, orchestras, specialist DJs and photo studios will all be taking place across the site. Six bars and a range of dining options will also be open on this unforgettable night of entertainment and elegance. Once the countdown to midnight has begun, the outdoor spaces and exclusive terraces will offer the perfect view of the UK's New Year's Eve display as it is beamed around the world.

### **Free Winter Festival Events**

## Friday 11 November - Saturday 31 December 2022

Kick off your holiday in style at dance extravaganza **Five Go Jiving** (Saturday 24 December 2022, 1-4pm), or bring your best moves to the **Daytime Rave with Heart n Soul DJs** (Sunday 18 December 2022, 4-7pm). For those eager to celebrate your family's New Year early, countdown to 12 midday at **Kids Countdown with Ida Barr** (Saturday 31 December 2022, 10:30-12:30pm).

A variety of musical events will bring seasonal cheer to visitors at the Southbank Centre. **Choral Winter Warmers** (Wednesday 21 December 2022, 7:45-10:30pm) present uplifting harmonies and winter classics from a line-up of incredible local choirs, whilst the **Southbank Centre Youth Voices** (Sunday 17 December 2022, 1-1:30pm) gives their first ever performance. **ShezAr's Winter Session** (Thursday 15 December 2022, 7:45-9:45pm) brings unified vocals with an open-mic opportunity, and **Just Vibe Caribbean Winter Carnival** (Friday 16 December 2022, 5-10:30pm) presents traditional music and performances from the Caribbean. Experience a night of text-based cabaret at **What Words are Ours?** (Saturday 17 December 2022, 8-10pm) combining the likes of drag, experimental sound and British Sign Language poetry.

Try something new this season such as **Intro to DJing: SWANA sounds with Saliah** (Saturday 17 December 2022, 1:30-3:30pm 4-6pm, 6:30-8:30pm) mixing South West Asian and North African sounds, or group art sessions **Our Naked Truths** (Sunday 18 December 2022, 2-4:30pm and Thursday 29 December 2022, 6-8:30pm) celebrating the beauty and stories of women and non-binary people of colour.

### Winter Light

## Thursday 10 November 2022 - Sunday 8 January 2023

The Southbank Centre's free, open-air exhibition *Winter Light* will set the site's awe-inspiring buildings and Riverside Walk aglow. Featuring 11 low-energy LED light works from 10 internationally acclaimed contemporary artists, the installations utilise light, colour and mixed media to playfully explore topics at the forefront of society, such as individual and collective identity, the environment and technology. *Winter Light* will be lit each day from 4pm to 11pm.

**Cedar Lewisohn, Site Design Curator at the Southbank Centre**, said: "*We're really excited to bring Winter Light back to the Southbank Centre. There are many themes and ideas flowing through all of the installations including kinetic light works and sculptures which explore craft such as hand-blown glass and light. Many of the artists have been thinking about the positive impact of coloured light in public spaces and how this can improve people's wellbeing in the winter months. Ecological issues around energy use are also explored in some of the art works. And all of this in our public spaces is free.*"

**Lisa Cheung and Alex J. Tuckwood's** *STELA (Super Terrestrial Electric Light Aurora)* explores ecological issues and brings the dazzling Arctic skies to London - first at Clapham Common pond in collaboration with Lambeth Council, then to the Southbank Centre. Lighting up in electric blues, greens and violet, the geometric structure is a stark reminder of nature's fragility and the urgency to protect it.

Gloss and escapism meets humour and unease in multimedia artist **Emily Mulenga's** *Fantasy Star Online*, presenting a surreal, dreamlike journey reminiscent of video games. Stills from three videos by the artist explore identity in relation to society's increasing consumption of media.

Renowned graffiti artist **EGS** expands the realms of the artform with *EGS: Winter Letters*, arranging luminous glass objects in the shape of his name to draw up a map around the site, creating paths that provide you with the freedom of getting lost.

**Fred Tschida's** *SPHERE* is an ambitious six and a half-metre tall pair of rotating rings filled with gas which produce the illusion of a giant orb. *Frederick Carder Vase Forms* sees seven neon sculptures rotate and collectively trace a luminous three-dimensional vessel.

**Conrad Shawcross' Dark Heart** is presented in an innovative new light for the Southbank Centre with two continuously spinning metal arms creating a hypnotic, glowing spiral.

Cast upon the wall of the Royal Festival Hall, **Caiwei Tang's** animation *The Battle* provides a fresh perspective on the joys and frustrations of throwing clay, with Tang's unique style of illustration inspired by Japanese anime.

Well-loved favourites returning to *Winter Light* include **David Ogle's** *Loomin* (2020), a fluorescent tree canopy along The Queen's Walk. **David Batchelor's** *Sixty Minute Spectrum* (2017) transforms the Hayward Gallery and Queen Elizabeth Hall into a chromatic clock, the pyramid rooflights seamlessly moving through the whole visual spectrum as time passes. Combining the traditions of Islamic art with computer coding, **Zarah Hussain** creates beautiful geometric patterns in *Beauty of Abstraction* and *Sharjah Spectrum*. On the Riverside Terrace, **Jokob Kvist's** *Dichroic Sphere* (2020) impressively changes colour according to what angle the light comes from, lit by a single LED bulb.

The artworks will appear across the Southbank Centre's buildings and facades, and along the riverside, from Thursday 10 November. New work will continue to be installed up until December, adding even more festive glimmer to the riverside.

*Winter Light* is curated by Cedar Lewisohn, Curator-Site Design at the Southbank Centre, with Assistant Curators Mark Healy, Madeleine Lynch and Curatorial Assistant Helena Adalsteinsdottir.

### **Winter Market**

**Thursday 3 November - Monday 26 December 2022**

A firm fixture of the festive season, the Southbank Centre's Winter Market returns to its riverside location. Featuring traditional alpine-style chalets and an array of seasonal pop-up bars and restaurants; it's time to eat, drink and be merry alongside the River Thames. Indulge in festive favourites, shop for seasonal goodies, enjoy warming drinks and even dine in private igloos overlooking the London skyline.

Headline feature, **The Curling Club** will bring festivities to the Southbank Centre for the first time ever. For beginners and enthusiasts alike, The Curling Club combines a unique winter sport with delicious festive cocktails and food, music and a sprinkling of fun competition. **Fire and Fromage**

returns to its magical riverside spot, with even more twinkly, heated snowglobes as well as its classic Alpine Bar. Take a stroll and enjoy winter warmers and craft beers at **Beltane and Pop**, delicious Belgian chocolate desserts at **Choco Fruit** and a glass of fizz from **Grays & Feather**, the UK's only sparkling wine specialist.

# ENDS #

Link to Winter Festival webpage [here](#).

Press images can be downloaded [here](#).

More information on the Winter Market 2022 [here](#).

**For further press information please contact:**

Press Office, [press@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:press@southbankcentre.co.uk)

For more information on *Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol* please contact RAW PR:

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For more information on *Hey Duggee: The Live Theatre Show* please contact

[sarah@rhodesmedia.com](mailto:sarah@rhodesmedia.com)

**Join the conversation:**

#WinterFestival

@southbankcentre

## NOTES TO EDITORS

Fred Tschida's low energy neon light works *SPHERE* and *Frederick Carder Vase Forms* will be lit 24-hours-a-day to help light the public space.

*Winter Light's* energy consumption is 181.72 Kwh or £25.44 per day based on 14p per Kwh.

## About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre occupying a prominent riverside location that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. The Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to six Resident Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Philharmonia Orchestra). [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk)



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