

# SOUTHBANK CENTRE

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## Press Release

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Images: downloadable [here](#)

## Southbank Centre announces: A Celebration of Talk Talk and Mark Hollis

### Plus: George Dalaras and Kayhan Kalhor

Southbank Centre, in partnership with Eat Your Own Ears, today announces a very special night paying tribute to the pioneering and hugely influential 1980s British pop and rock band, Talk Talk, and their late frontman Mark Hollis, at Royal Festival Hall, **26 November 2019**.

Following the death of the band's lead singer and chief songwriter in February 2019, **A Celebration of Talk Talk and Mark Hollis** brings together founding and former members of the band, Simon Brenner, Martin Ditcham, Rupert Black and Jeep Hook, as well as bassist John Mckenzie, to perform as the Spirit of Talk Talk. They will be joined by a line-up of very special guests to be announced, all of whom have been touched by Talk Talk's music and inspired by Hollis.

With Grammy- and Ivor Novello-award winning songwriter Phil Ramacon as musical director, this collection of extraordinary musicians will perform songs from across the band's eclectic catalogue, including their groundbreaking final records *Spirit of Eden* (1988) and *Laughing Stock* (1991) neither of which have ever before been performed live.

Bengi Ünsal, Senior Contemporary Music Programmer, Southbank Centre, said:

*"We are honoured to be holding this beautiful event. Tom and I were talking about staging a celebration of Talk Talk even before Mark passed away. When he sadly died, it became inevitable for us, the fans, and for all the artists who adore the band to pay tribute to them and appreciate the indelible mark they left on music. This is a product of love and admiration - our way of saying thank you to Mark Hollis and Talk Talk."*

Tom Baker, Eat Your Own Ears, said:

*"Ever since hearing the subtle delicate musical build of Talk Talk's magnificently produced track 'Happiness Is Easy' from the 1986 released album The Colour of Spring, I fell in love with the band. I have been playing their music again and again for the last 20 years or so. Their effortless unique, emotive sound is uplifting yet beautifully melancholic, and just draws you in. I've always wanted to put together a special event to celebrate the brilliance of Talk Talk and Mark Hollis, so finally here it is..."*

Special guests to be announced in due course. Tickets go on sale to Southbank Centre Members on Thursday 1 August and to the general public on Friday 2 August at [southbankcentre.co.uk](http://southbankcentre.co.uk) / 020 3879 9555.

### **ALSO ANNOUNCED TODAY:**

**George Dalaras**, one of the most successful Greek musicians of all time, performs in Royal Festival Hall. Rembetiko - also known as the Greek Blues - came to prominence at the same time as jazz, and Dalaras was one of the genre's innovators. Dalaras has released more than 95 solo albums, sold more than 20 million albums, toured all over the world and collaborated with artists including Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Peter Gabriel, Paco de Lucía and Al Di Meola. He brings his acoustic band to join him for this unique performance (16 October, RFH).

Grammy-award winning **Kayhan Kalhor**, virtuoso of the Persian kamancheh (an Iranian bowed string instrument), is joined by Dutch jazz musicians Rembrandt Frerichs, Tony Overwater and Vinsent Planjer - together **The Rembrandt Trio** - for a live performance of their otherworldly 2019 album, *It's Still Autumn*. The album was lauded for its ability to merge two different cultures, forming a surprising harmony and an undefinable new sound. Performing in two parts, 'Dawn' and 'Dusk, the four musicians weave compositions together through improvisation to take the audience on a musical journey through an imaginary autumn landscape that slowly develops from a swirling river into a nightly thunderstorm (11 October, RFH).

Tickets go on sale to Southbank Centre Members on Thursday 1 August and to the general public on Friday 2 August at [southbankcentre.co.uk](http://southbankcentre.co.uk) / 020 3879 9555.

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### **UPCOMING GIG HIGHLIGHTS AT SOUTHBANK CENTRE:**

#### **DERRICK MAY AND THE ORCHESTRA**

*Thursday 29 August 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, £30 - £50*

The Detroit-born founding father of techno leads the City of London Sinfonia orchestra in interpretations of his pioneering works of electronic music, conducted by Dzijan Emin in the stunning Royal Festival Hall. The orchestra plays classics from Derrick May's seminal recordings, including 'Rhythim is Rhythim' and 'Mayday', which remain iconic three decades later. Derrick May met Juan Atkins and Kevin Saunderson as a teenager and the trio began to DJ together under the name Deep Space Soundworks in the early 1980s, creating the Detroit techno sound. In 2013, producer Ognen Uzunovski asked Macedonian musician Dzijan Emin to reinterpret Derrick May's catalogue for the Symphony Orchestra, and the orchestral project was born.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/136810-derrick-may-and-orchestra-2019>

#### **BEDOUINE**

*Saturday 7 September 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall, £15 - £17.50*

With her second album, *Bird Songs of a Killjoy*, released to critical acclaim, and a sold-out appearance at Southbank Centre's Purcell Room earlier this year, Bedouine returns, this time with a full band joining her on stage for the first time in the UK. Bedouine, taken from the word 'bedouin', is

the name Azniv Korkejian chose to encompass her nomadic experiences. Her intimate SoCal canyon folk is influenced by the political landscape, mixing 1960s folk and 1970s country-funk with her magnetic voice.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/135605-bedouine-2019>

### **THE KUTI FAMILY PRESENTS AFRICA SHRINE ALIVE**

*Friday 13 September 2019, 7pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, for ages 14+, £15 - £30*

*Part of Africa Utopia*

New Afrika Shrine is an open air entertainment centre, managed by Femi Kuti and located in Ikeja, which has become an important hub for the cultural scene in Lagos, Nigeria. Now Kuti is transporting the atmosphere and energy of his venue to Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall. The event is part musical performance, part immersive, spiritual experience which promises to steep audience members in Yoruban hospitality and the legacy of Fela Kuti himself. Presented in association with Indaba X.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/136920-kuti-family-presents-africa-shrine-alive-2019>

### **CONCRETE LATES: JAY MITTA, ZULI, BONAVENTURE, OKZHARP**

*Friday 13 September 2019, 10pm, Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer, for ages 18+, £12.50 (early bird)*

*Part of Africa Utopia*

This *Africa Utopia* edition of *Concrete Lates* showcases DJs and electronic artists from the African continent, featuring a magnetic line-up of rhythms and sounds. Innovative Singeli music producer Jay Mitta is joined by experimental club producer ZULI from Cairo and Swiss-Congolese creator Bonaventure and Hyperdub producer Okzharp from South Africa. Presented in partnership with Boiler Room and Indaba X.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/138343-concrete-lates-jay-mitta-zuli-bonaventure-okzharp-2019>

### **MANU DELAGO**

*Thursday 3 October 2019, 7.30pm Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall, £15 - £17.50*

Dream-like handpan sounds meet energetic orchestral beats: after touring around the globe almost simultaneously with Björk, Anoushka Shankar and Ólafur Arnalds, the Grammy-nominated percussionist and composer presents his brand new album with a nine piece ensemble on the Queen Elizabeth Hall stage.

<https://southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/130040-manu-delago-2019>

### **DAYMÉ AROCENA**

*Friday 4 October 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall, £17.50*

The award-winning singer, composer and choir director intertwines musical legacies from her native Cuba, with jazz, soul and classical influences with an innate sense of rhythm and famously shining performances. She brings new material from her second album *Cubafonía*, released in 2017 on Brownswood Recordings, to Queen Elizabeth Hall.

<https://southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/129693-dayme-arocena-2019>

### **KAYHAN KALHOR & THE REMBRANDT TRIO**

*Friday 11 October 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, Ticketed, £20 - £30*

Grammy-award winning Kayhan Kalhor, virtuoso of the Persian *kamancheh* (an Iranian bowed string instrument), is joined by Dutch jazz musicians Rembrandt Frerichs, Tony Overwater and Vinsent Planjer - together The Rembrandt Trio - for a live performance of their otherworldly 2019 album, *It's Still Autumn*. Performing in two parts, 'Dawn' and 'Dusk', the four musicians weave compositions

together through improvisation to take the audience on a musical journey through an imaginary autumn landscape that slowly develops from a swirling river into a nightly thunderstorm.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/137101-kayhan-kalhor-rembrandt-trio-2019>

### **NOVELIST + SPECIAL GUESTS**

*Friday 18 October 2019, 10.30pm, Southbank Centre's Clore Ballroom, £12.50*

*Part of London Literature Festival*

Southbank Centre today announces an exclusive late night live show with grime MC Novelist and very special guests as part of Southbank Centre's London Literature Festival. Audiences get the chance to meet and hear from the independent-minded, politically active South London rapper, as he shares his visionary experiments in grime and hip-hop in this intimate gig. Novelist will also be participating in Southbank Centre's Violet Nights before the show.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/137771-novelist-2019>

### **GEORGE DALARAS**

*Wednesday 16 October 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, Ticketed, £40 & £50*

George Dalaras, one of the most successful Greek musicians of all time, makes his appearance in Royal Festival Hall. Rembetiko - also known as the Greek Blues - came to prominence at the same time as jazz, and Dalaras was one of the genre's innovators. Dalaras has released more than 95 solo albums, sold more than 20 million albums, toured all over the world and collaborated with artists including Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Peter Gabriel, Paco de Lucía and Al Di Meola. He brings his acoustic band to join him for this unique performance.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/130993-george-dalaras-2019>

### **ÓLAFUR ARNALDS PRESENTS: OPIA**

**Ft. Kiasmos, Vaal, Grandbrothers, Rhye, Poppy Ackroyd, Högni & Ensemble, Hania Rani, Josin**

*Friday 8 November 2019, 6pm - 11pm and 10.30pm - 2am, Southbank Centre multi-venue (Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer, Royal Festival Hall Clore Ballroom), £25 & £65*

In this worldwide exclusive, BAFTA-award winning Icelandic composer and producer Ólafur Arnalds presents his new project *OPIA* and takes over the 17-acre Southbank Centre site filling every one of the world class venues with a hand-picked line-up of artists, friends and collaborators. The first half of the evening (6 - 11pm) includes performances from Arnalds himself, **Grandbrothers, Rhye, Poppy Ackroyd, Högni & Ensemble, Hania Rani** and **Josin** before a special *OPIA Lates* (10.30pm - 2am) features live and DJ sets from **Kiasmos, Vaal** and **Rhye Ambient Improvisation + Special Guests**. Wristband tickets allow audiences to access every artist across the venue.

<https://southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/festivals-series/olafur-arnalds-presents-opia>

### **A CELEBRATION OF TALK TALK AND MARK HOLLIS**

*Tuesday 26 November 2019, 7.30pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, Ticketed, £25 - £50*

Southbank Centre presents a special night paying tribute to the pioneering and hugely influential 1980s British pop and rock band, Talk Talk, and their late frontman Mark Hollis. **A Celebration of Talk Talk and Mark Hollis** features founding and former members of the band joined by a line-up of special guests to perform songs from across the band's eclectic catalogue, including their groundbreaking final records *Spirit of Eden* (1988) and *Laughing Stock* (1991) neither of which have ever before been performed live. Presented in partnership with Eat Your Own Ears.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/132355-celebration-talk-talk-and-mark-hollis-2019>

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# ENDS #

**Join the conversation:**

@southbankcentre #SCgigs

**For further press information, interview requests or to request press tickets please contact:** Alexandra Shaw, Press Officer, [alexandra.shaw@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:alexandra.shaw@southbankcentre.co.uk) / 020 7921 0676

Listings for Southbank Centre's September - December Gigs can be found [here](#).  
Press images for Southbank Centre's September - December Gigs can be downloaded [here](#).

**NOTES TO EDITORS****About Southbank Centre**

Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre and one of the UK's top five visitor attractions, occupying a 17 acre site 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. 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 four Resident Orchestras (London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment) and four Associate Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra and National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain).