



Press Release

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WORLD EXCLUSIVE: PAUL McCARTNEY TO APPEAR LIVE IN CONVERSATION AT SOUTHBANK CENTRE'S ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL TO DISCUSS HIS NEW CAREER-SPANNING BOOK *THE LYRICS*



Photo credit: © Mary McCartney

In a world exclusive event, the Southbank Centre in collaboration with Penguin Live presents 'The Lyrics: Paul McCartney in Conversation', which will see **Paul McCartney** in conversation about his new career-spanning book ***The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present***, on **Friday 5 November, 7.30pm GMT** at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall. The event will be Live Streamed around the world by DICE and available On Demand for 7 days.

In his first live in-person event in two years, Paul McCartney will exclusively discuss *The Lyrics* reflecting on his life, his songs and his creative process with Paul Muldoon, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, poet and editor of *The Lyrics*.

The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present

With unparalleled candour, Paul McCartney recounts his life and art through the prism of 154 songs from all stages of his career – from his earliest boyhood compositions through the legendary decade of The Beatles, to Wings and his solo albums to the present. Arranged alphabetically to provide a kaleidoscopic rather than chronological account, it establishes definitive texts of the songs' lyrics for the first time and describes the circumstances in which they were written, the people and places that inspired them, and what he thinks of them now. *The Lyrics* features songs from all stages of Paul's career including *Blackbird*, *Live and Let Die*, *Hey Jude*, *Band on the Run* and *Yesterday*, presented with this is a treasure trove of material from McCartney's personal archive – drafts, letters, photographs – never seen before, which make this also a unique visual record of one of the greatest songwriters of all time.

The world exclusive event will take place at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, which seats just over 2700 people, and will be Live Streamed around the world. Tickets for the auditorium event go on sale to the Southbank Centre Members at 10am on Thursday 16 September and on general sale at 10am on Friday 17 September. Tickets for the Live Stream also go on general sale at 10am on Friday 17 September. Ticket prices range from £35 - £55 for the auditorium event and £10 / \$14 for the Live Stream. Ticket bookers have the option to buy a discounted hardback copy of the book (RRP £75), supplied by Foyles.

-ENDS-

Listing details

The Lyrics: Paul McCartney in Conversation

Friday 5 November 2021, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall

UK & rest of the world 7.30pm GMT. USA 3.30pm ET / 12.30pm PT

RFH Tickets £35, £45, £55

Global Live Stream tickets (also available On Demand until 12 November) £10 / \$14

The auditorium event is Speech-to-Text transcribed (STT) and British Sign Language interpreted (BSL). The Live Stream is captioned.

Paul McCartney celebrates his new book, *The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present*, in a world-exclusive event with author Paul Muldoon, chaired by Samira Ahmed.

Hear them discuss the extraordinary book in which, with unparalleled candour, McCartney recounts his life and art through the prism of 154 songs from all stages of his career.

The Lyrics encompasses his earliest boyhood compositions through the legendary decade of The Beatles, to Wings and his solo albums to the present.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear McCartney discuss his life, the creative process and the moments of inspiration.

Tickets for the auditorium event go on sale to the Southbank Centre Members at 10am on Thursday 16 September and on general sale at 10am Friday 17 September. Tickets for the Live Stream also go on general sale at 10am on Friday 17 September. Presented in partnership with Penguin Live.

Please visit SouthbankCentre.co.uk or call 020 7960 4200 for more information or to buy tickets.

For further press information about the event please contact:

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For further press information about the book please contact:

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Press images available to download [HERE](#)

Join the Conversation:

@southbankcentre @litsouthbank @PenguinUKBooks

The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present is published by Penguin Books Ltd on 2 November 2021.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Lyrics will be released in the UK, Australia, New Zealand, India and South Africa in print and digital formats by Allen Lane, an imprint of Penguin Books at Penguin Random House UK. *The Lyrics* will be published in the U.S. and Canada by Liveright, a division of Norton. Translated editions will be published in the following countries: Germany (C.H. Beck), Italy (Rizzoli), Spain (Libros Cúpula/Grupo Planeta), Holland (Het Spectrum), France (Bouché Chastel), Finland (Bazar Forlag), Sweden (Forum), Brazil (Editora Belas-Letras) and China (Shanghai Elegance Books Co Ltd).

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 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).

Keeping audiences safe on site

As the Southbank Centre welcomes visitors back, our number one priority is the safety, health and wellbeing of visitors and staff, so we have introduced a number of measures to help everyone feel confident. We continue to review and manage any risks and respond to any changes in government guidance. Full details of Covid-secure measures can be found on the Southbank Centre website [here](#)

Literature at the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre has a lively and diverse literature programme which takes place throughout the year and includes its annual London Literature Festival and biennial Poetry International festival. Featuring talks, debates, workshops, performance and live readings, the Southbank Centre's literature programme has played host to some of the world's greatest writers and thinkers including Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Margaret Atwood, Angela Davis, Kazuo Ishiguro, Michelle Obama, Philip Pullman, Arundhati Roy and Zadie Smith. The Southbank Centre's prestigious London Literature Festival takes place from 21-31 October 2021 and includes appearances from Anne Applebaum, Candice Carty-Williams, Ece Temelkuran and Ai Weiwei. Further literature events taking place in 2021 include appearances from Bernardine Evaristo, Sally Rooney and Wole Soyinka.

