

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

Date: Under Embargo until 00:01, Monday 29 July 2019

Contact: Naomi French naomi.french@southbankcentre.co.uk / 020 7921 0678

UK Exclusive: Dame Julie Andrews to appear live at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall to discuss her new memoir, *Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years*



In a UK-exclusive event Southbank Centre, in collaboration with Fane Productions, presents 'A Conversation with Dame Julie Andrews' on the afternoon of **Saturday 2 November 2019**. This one-time special event will see the beloved and much-honoured star of stage and screen **Dame Julie Andrews** discuss her highly anticipated memoir, *Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years*, in conversation with acclaimed actor **Alex Jennings** at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall.

With her trademark honesty and lively wit, Dame Julie will reflect on her extraordinary career, chronicling the experiences and the stage and film roles that have garnered her multiple awards and a very special place in the nation's heart. From her iconic performance as Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* on Broadway, her feature film debut as the magical *Mary Poppins*, her unforgettable portrayal of Maria Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*, to her more recent roles in *The Princess Diaries* films, as Marlena in the hugely successful *Despicable Me* and *Minion* franchises and as Queen Lillian in the blockbuster *Shrek* franchise, Dame Julie will take the audience on a very special, very intimate journey spanning more than half a century.

Dame Julie will discuss her career with Alex Jennings, a three-time Olivier Award-winning actor who has worked extensively with the Royal Shakespeare Company and National Theatre, and recently appeared on the Royal Festival Hall stage himself starring in *The Light in the Piazza*. His screen credits include *The Crown*, *The Lady in the Van* and *The Queen*. In 2016 he played Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady* at the Sydney Opera House in the 60th anniversary production directed by Dame Julie Andrews.

The conversation will be followed by an audience Q+A with pre-sourced questions.

An allocation of tickets goes on sale to Southbank Centre Members at 10am on Tuesday 30 July and a further allocation goes on sale to the General Public at 10am on Wednesday 31 July. Each ticket will include a hardback copy of *Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years* (RRP £20) supplied by Foyles bookshop.

Dame Julie joins a stellar Southbank Centre Literature Autumn 2019 Season line-up which sees appearances from Louis Theroux, Malcolm Gladwell, Malorie Blackman, Richard Ayoade, Celeste Ng, Randall Munroe, Lenny Henry, Sara Pascoe, Hannah Gadsby, Richard Dawkins and more. The season also sees Southbank Centre's thirteenth London Literature Festival which runs 17-27 October and opens with *Poetry International*. Events in collaboration with Fane Productions as part of the season include Nadiya Hussain, Philippa Perry, Elizabeth Day and Armistead Maupin in conversation with Neil Gaiman.

#ENDS#

Listing details

A Conversation with Dame Julie Andrews

Moderated by Alex Jennings

Saturday 2 November 2019, 2.30-4.00pm, Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall

Tickets from £40. Each ticket includes a hardback copy of *Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years* (RRP £20)

For more information or to buy tickets please visit the Southbank Centre website [HERE](#) or call 020 3879 9555.

Press Accreditation

To apply for press accreditation to cover this event please fill in the form [HERE](#)

Further information

More information on Southbank Centre's Autumn 2019 Literature Season [HERE](#)

More information on Southbank Centre's London Literature Festival [HERE](#)

Full Autumn 2019 Literature Season Event Listings [HERE](#)

Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years is published by Orion Books on 15 October 2019

For further press information about the event please contact:

Naomi French, Press Manager (interim) naomi.french@southbankcentre.co.uk / 020 7921 0678

For further press information about the book please contact:

Maura Wilding, Orion Books: Maura.Wilding@orionbooks.co.uk

Join the Conversation:

@southbankcentre @litsouthbank

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).

Literature at Southbank Centre

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, live reading and more, Southbank Centre's literature programme has played host to some of the world's greatest writers and thinkers including Margaret Atwood, Philip Pullman, John le Carré, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Professor Stephen Hawking, Richard Dawkins, Neil Gaiman, Naomi Klein, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Tom Hanks, Michelle Obama, Roxane Gay and Zadie Smith. *London Literature Festival*, now in its thirteenth year, takes place 17-27 October 2019 and opens with *Poetry International*.