

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

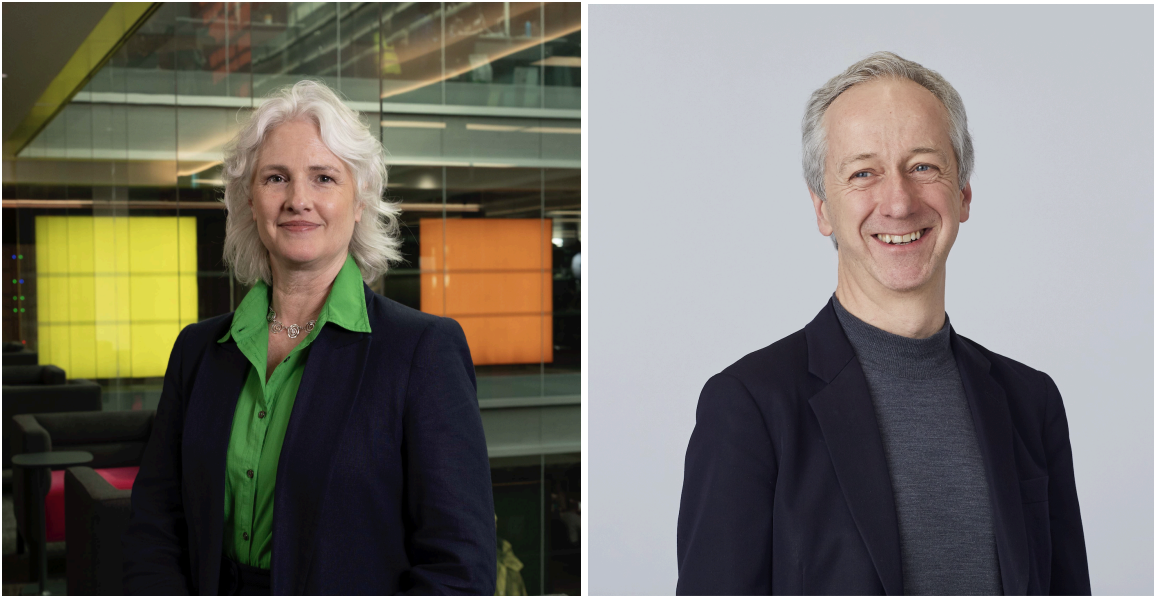
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Images: available to download [here](#)

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Two new Governors to join the Southbank Centre's Board



Credit line (L-R): Leigh Tavaziva, Courtesy of BBC/Jamie Simonds; Roly Keating, Courtesy of Channel 4.

The Southbank Centre has announced the appointment of two new members to its Board of Governors.

The appointments of Leigh Tavaziva, Group Chief Operating Operator at the BBC and Sir Roly Keating, former Chief Executive of the British Library, were confirmed by the Secretary of State, Department of Culture, Media and Sport. They officially take up their posts on February 27 2025.

In addition, Libby Savill will also step into the role of Deputy Chair, Southbank Centre, from 1 April 2025, taking over from Luke Mayhew who will continue as a Governor on the Board.

Misan Harriman, Chair of the Southbank Centre, said: *“We are delighted to welcome these two highly esteemed governors onto the Southbank Centre Board. Their exceptional expertise and experience in their respected fields will be vital as we deliver our strategic goals. I am hugely grateful for Luke Mayhew’s work and support in his time as Deputy Chair. He has been - and continues to be - a huge asset to the Board and I am so pleased he will remain with the Board as a Governor for the remainder of his tenure.”*

Elaine Bedell, Chief Executive of the Southbank Centre, added: *“We’re thrilled to welcome Leigh and Roly onto our Board. Misan and I look forward to working with them as we plan ahead towards the Southbank Centre’s 75th anniversary next year.”*

Leigh Tavaziva

Leigh joined the BBC in February 2021 as the Group Chief Operating Officer and BBC Board Director. She is responsible for the financial and operating performance of the BBC including people, digital, and technology, as well as overseeing delivery of the Group’s critical projects and transformation agenda. Leigh is also a Trustee of BBC Children in Need. Prior to joining the BBC Leigh held a range of senior executive positions in the Centrica Group across operations, finance, strategy, and transformation. Earlier in her career Leigh worked in the theatre as a classical ballerina and then contemporary dance artist, working in the USA, Europe and Africa.

Sir Roly Keating

As Chief Executive of the British Library from 2012 to 2024, Sir Roly Keating transformed the Library’s visibility and impact across the UK and internationally, initiated major capital projects in London and Yorkshire, and revitalised the programme of exhibitions and events. Before that Roly worked at the BBC, where his roles included Controller of BBC Four (which he launched in 2002), Controller of BBC Two and Director of Archive Content. Roly is a Trustee of the Clore Leadership Programme, and was knighted in the 2023 New Year Honours List for services to Literature.

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

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK’s largest arts centre, occupying 11 acres along the river and its 4 venues anchor 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. 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 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/



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