

## Battersea Arts Centre announces search for new Artistic Director and CEO to start in May 2019

Battersea Arts Centre announces today that it is looking for a new Artistic Director & CEO to start in May 2019

The new Artistic Director and CEO will lead the organisation at a pivotal time in its history – after a 12 year project to open up the entire building - reshaping its activities as a more inclusive cultural centre.

The transformation presents new opportunities for the incoming Artistic Director to lead the organisation and inspire people to take creative risks to shape the future.

Outgoing Artistic Director and CEO David Jubb steps down in April 2019 after a long relationship with Battersea Arts Centre, first as a Development Producer from 1999 to 2001, and then as Artistic Director and CEO from 2004, working with David Micklem as Joint Artistic Director from 2008 to 2012. David now heads off on a new adventure as a parent of young children.

Artistic Associate Shelley Hastings who has worked at BAC since 2004 and Associate Artistic Director Sarah Golding who has worked at BAC since 1999 will also be leaving in 2019, in February and March, respectively. Rebecca Holt remains as Executive Director and Deputy CEO as does Liz Moreton as Director of Creativity and Social Change.

The opportunity for a new Artistic Director and CEO is an exciting one. The organisation's Board of Trustees, staff team and community have made significant steps forward over the last decade including:

- the agreement of a 125 year lease on Battersea's former Town Hall with a rent free period until 2028 and the restoration of the building in partnership with Haworth Tompkins using [Playground](#) process
- a £26mill investment to create dozens more performance spaces including an open air courtyard theatre, artist bedrooms, production facilities and a renovated Grand Hall following the fire in 2015
- continuing the organisation's reputation for commissioning/co-producing with artists such as 1927, Nic Green, Taylor Mac, Punchdrunk, Polarbear, Kate Tempest, Inua Ellams, Paper Cinema, Little Bulb, Kneehigh, Dead Centre, Chris Thorpe/Rachel Chavkin, Amy Leon, Bryony Kimmings, Touretteshero
- the merger with Wandsworth Museum and the creation of the new [BAC Moving Museum](#) with new national programmes such as [Creative Museums](#)
- the [Scratch Hub](#) as a home for the creative industries, with strands such as [Create Course](#) and [Agents of Creative Change](#) alongside [Local Roots](#) programme to support charities in Wandsworth/Lambeth
- the opening up of its young people's programme including [Homegrown](#), [BAC Beatbox Academy](#), [The Agency](#), [Family Saturdays](#) and [The Bee's Knees](#)
- cultivating partnerships such as [Collaborative Touring Network](#), [A Nation's Theatre](#) with the Guardian, the new [Co-Creating Change](#) network and [Live From Television Centre](#) and [Performance Live](#) with BBC
- developing immersive building-wide shows and projects including the *One-on-One* festivals, *The Good Neighbour* and *London Stories* festivals

- growing the organisation's commercial income streams in line with its purpose and reorganising its organisational structure to create a less hierarchical and more diverse model of [project working](#)

The organisation and its team are creative, responsive and after the 2015 Grand Hall fire, proved capable of turning the most challenging of situations in to something from which new hope, new perspective and new opportunities can spring. There is excitement to find a new partnership with a new leader. The recruitment for the new Artistic Director and CEO is open until **12pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November** – with all applications and enquiries welcome through Battersea Arts Centre's [website](#).

David Jubb, Outgoing Artistic Director and CEO, said

*"It's time to bugger off and let someone else have a go. Battersea Arts Centre is one of those places where people's lives often begin again. They have an experience; they meet someone or a community of people; they discover a new passion. I think it's why the organisation and the building are held with such affection for so many people. Because of a formative experience they have experienced with BAC. All great cultural centres are places of transformation – it is why they are such important institutions in our communities because they enable us to imagine a different future. I think BAC has always been one of the very best. So it has been a massive privilege to work in this organisation, with great partners in David Micklem and Rebecca Holt, and associates in Shelley Hastings and Sarah Golding, and an incomparable team of staff and volunteers. It's a very special organisation with a great history and an exceptional community. I will carry with me the generosity, love, kindness, creativity and sheer remarkableness of so many people, over the years."*

Michael Day, Chair of the Board, said:

*"David has been an outstanding and visionary leader of Battersea Arts Centre for nearly 15 years. He has nurtured and inspired a generation of artists and a succession of talented staff members to give far more than they would have believed possible. He has created an organisation that is loved and valued from Lavender Hill to Rio de Janeiro and all points between. He has invited everyone touched by BAC's work to reflect on creativity and its place in fixing the world's problems. He has moved minds and hearts, always collaboratively and with humility and grace. In the aftermath of the fire, he showed us a future to believe in and worked tirelessly to bring everyone's efforts together. Three years later, the renaissance of the Grand Hall is a memorial to his work, and will be so for all time. We owe him a great debt of gratitude."*

Rebecca Holt, Executive Director and Deputy CEO, said:

*"David has led Battersea Arts Centre to an incredible place from which the next Artistic Director and CEO will be able take the organisation forwards. Our core purpose - to inspire people to take creative risks to shape the future - gives the organisation the mandate to continue collaborating creatively with our communities locally, nationally and internationally. And the reopening of the Grand Hall enables us to welcome more audiences and host all manner of creative events. Myself, Liz and the whole team at Battersea Arts Centre will be ensuring a great celebration of all that David, Sarah and Shelley have achieved to make the organisation what it is today, and we are looking forward to greeting the new Artistic Director and CEO in 2019 to take BAC into the next stage of its future."*

A blog by David Jubb which shares his learning as artistic director can be found [here](#).

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Press Contact:

Sagar Shah, Press and Communications Manager, Battersea Arts Centre  
[sagars@bac.org.uk](mailto:sagars@bac.org.uk) | 020 7326 8259

ABOUT BATTERSEA ARTS CENTRE

Battersea Arts Centre is a public space where people come together to be creative, see a show, explore the local heritage, play or relax. The organisation's mission is to inspire people, to take creative risks, to shape the future.

Battersea Arts Centre encourages people to test and develop new ideas with members of the public – a process called Scratch. Scratch is used by artists to make theatre, by young people to develop entrepreneurial ideas and as a helpful process for anyone who wants to get creative.

The area of South West London and the old town hall in which Battersea Arts Centre is based, are rich in heritage. Since April 2016 the organisation has been custodian of the Wandsworth Collection, using creativity to explore the past and imagine the future.

Scratch has been adopted as far afield as Sydney and New York and shows and projects developed by people at Battersea Arts Centre travel across the UK and the world. The organisation has successfully sparked new approaches to creativity across the globe.

Each year Battersea Arts Centre

- Welcomes over 160,000 people to its building
- Inspires the local community to get creative including 3000 young people
- Works with over 400 artists to put on over 800 performances and tour at least 10 shows and projects
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