

18 September 2007

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN TO OFFICIALLY COMMEMORATE THE RE-OPENING OF THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

On Tuesday 9 October 2007, Her Majesty The Queen will officially commemorate the re-opening of the Royal Festival Hall and open the new Learning and Participation Centre, Spirit Level.

The Queen, who is the Patron of Southbank Centre, will unveil Spirit Level, on Level 1 of the Royal Festival Hall, and then attend, as guest of honour, the Royal Gala Concert.

The Royal Festival Hall re-opened in June following its two-year refurbishment. This ambitious £115 million pound project has restored London's iconic Grade I listed building to its original modernist glory, significantly upgrading its acoustics and facilities, and returning the Hall to its rightful place as one of the world's great concert venues.

Learning and participation play a key role in the artistic vision for Southbank Centre and for the first time the organisation has a dedicated educational facility. Situated in the heart of the Hall, 100,000 adults and children are expected to use Spirit Level each year.

On 3 May 1951, King George VI and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, attended the ceremonial opening and inaugural concert at the Royal Festival Hall.

A Royal Rota will cover the event.

The concert is sponsored by JPMorgan.

For further press information, please contact Patricia O'Connor, Head of Press, Southbank Centre, 020 7921 0632, patricia.oconnor@southbankcentre.co.uk

Or the Buckingham Palace Press Office, please contact Samantha Cohen on 020 7024 4208

For further press information regarding JPMorgan, please contact Michael Golden, Corporate Communications, Investment Bank Marketing and Communications, 020 7325 8504, michael.f.golden@jpmorgan.com

Royal Gala Concert

Tuesday 9 October 2007, RFH, 7.30pm

London Philharmonic Orchestra / Paul Daniel *conductor*

Emma Bell *soprano*

Susan Bickley *mezzo-soprano*

Philip Langridge *tenor*

Sir Willard White *bass*

The Sixteen / Harry Christophers *director*

London Adventist Chorale / Ken Burton *director*

Angmering Chorale

Billinghurst Choral Society

London Forest Choir

London Philharmonic Chorus

Philharmonia Chorus

Royal Choral Society

Voicelab Surge

National Anthem

Handel: Zadok the Priest (Coronation Anthem No.1)

Purcell goes Gospel

Elgar: Introduction and Allegro

Beethoven: Symphony No.9 - 4th movement (new translation by Billy Bragg)

Tickets: £55 & £40

Box Office: 08703 800 400

Book Online: www.southbankcentre.co.uk

Tickets only available in advance