

# Theatre & Touring Summit 2023 Programme



## 10:15 - 11:00 Registration & Networking

**11:00 - 11:15** **Main Stage: Porter Tun | Welcome**  
Claire Walker & Hannah Essex (Co-CEOs, SOLT & UK Theatre)

**11:15 - 11:45** **Main Stage: Porter Tun | Opening Keynote & Q&A**  
Rt Hon Lucy Frazer MP (Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport)

## 11:45 - 12:15 Break & Networking

**12:15 - 13:15** **Main Stage: Porter Tun | Mind the skills gap: How can we replenish our talent pool when the supply is running dry?**  
Chair: **Bendy Ashfield** (Founding Co-Director, Theatre People)  
Panellists: **Seetha Kumar** (Chief Executive, ScreenSkills)  
**Josie Dobrin** (Executive Chair, Creative Access)  
**Paul Handley** (Head of Production, National Theatre)  
**Karen Turner** (Executive Director/COO, National Youth Theatre)

**12:15 - 13:15** **Upper Sugar Stage | Research & Development: Co-producing new work and creating new models for working**  
Chair: **Nathan Brine** (Director of Live Stage Productions, The Path Entertainment Group)  
Panellists: **Vicky Graham** (Theatre Producer & Consultant, Vicky Graham Productions)  
**Katie Posner** (Joint Artistic Director, Paines Plough)  
**James Lane** (Group Director of Content, Crossroads Live)  
**Sarah Verghese** (Producer, Nouveau Riche)

**12:15 - 13:15** **Lower Sugar Stage | Crisis in Leadership – how to retain it; how to develop it**  
Chair: **Sian Alexander** (Consultant)  
Panellists: **Sandeep Mahal MBE** (Leadership Associate, Royal Shakespeare Company)  
**James Mackenzie-Blackman** (Chief Executive and Executive Producer, Theatre Royal Plymouth)  
**David Micklem** (Writer and Consultant)  
**Suzanne Alleyne** (CEO, Alleyne&)

## 13:15 - 14:15 Lunch & Networking

**14:15 - 15:15** **Main Stage: Porter Tun | It's a risky business: producing shows during an economic crisis**  
Chair: **Kash Bennett** (Managing Director, National Theatre Productions)  
Panellists: **Hedda Beeby** (Development Producer, Fiery Angel)  
**Simon Lai** (Commercial Banking, Coutts)  
**Mark Goucher** (CEO, Gloucestershire Everyman Theatre)  
**Chloe Naldrett** (Executive Producer, Birmingham Rep)

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14:15 - 15:15

## Upper Sugar Stage | Keep the drama on the stage: Managing challenges around Audience Behaviour

Chair: **Julia Potts** (Business Director, UK Venues, Ambassador Theatre Group)  
Panellists: **Patrick Holdaway** (Superintendent, City of London Police)  
**Kirsty Sedgman** (Doctor of Audiences, University of Bristol)  
**James Connor** (Senior Policy Manager, UK Cinema Association)  
**Richard Beale** (Managing Director, RB Health and Safety Solutions)  
**Pippa Campbell** (Business Manager, UK Venues, Ambassador Theatre Group)

14:15 - 15:15

## Lower Sugar Stage | Arts in schools: A generation of STEM not STEAM means death for future audiences and workforce

Chair: **Şenay Camgöz** (Policy Advisor, SOLT & UK Theatre)  
Panellists: **Jacqui O'Hanlon** (Director of Learning & National Partnerships, Royal Shakespeare Company)  
**Henry Vann** (Councillor and Teacher, Bedford Borough Council)  
**Tina Ramdeen** (Associate Director of Young People, The Roundhouse)  
**Barbara Keeley MP** (Shadow Minister for the Arts and Civil Society)

15:15 - 15:45

## Break & Networking

15.45 - 16:15

## Main Stage: Porter Tun | Booking tickets shouldn't be a performance: An update on the new UK access scheme

Chair: **Nicola Fieldsend** (Senior Marketing & Communications Officer, Access Scheme, Arts Council England)  
Speakers: **Andrew Miller MBE** (UK Arts Access Champion, Arts Council of Wales)  
**Tim Wheeler** (Senior Project Manager: Access Scheme, Arts Council England)  
**Phil Lofthouse** (Technical Lead: Access Scheme, Arts Council England)

15.45 - 16:15

## Upper Sugar Stage | National ticketing initiatives: Love Your Local Theatre & beyond

Chair: **Emma De Souza** (Executive Director, Audience and Commercial, SOLT & UK Theatre)  
Speakers: **Jamie Snelgrove** (Head of Theatre Tokens, SOLT & UK Theatre)  
**Claire Ward** (Executive Director, Audiences and Commercial Operations, Curve, Leicester)

15.45 - 16:15

## Lower Sugar Stage | The burden of proof: Why theatre needs solid evidence to make the case to government

Chair: **Katy Raines** (Founder & CEO, Indigo)  
Speakers: **Robin Cantrill-Fenwick** (Group Chief Executive Officer, Baker Richards)  
**Chris Carey** (Chief Economist, LIVE)  
**Edwin Poon** (Economic Advisor, Department for Culture, Media & Sport)

16.30 - 16:45

## Main Stage: Porter Tun | Closing Comments and Thanks

**Stephanie Sirr MBE** (Chief Executive, Nottingham Playhouse & Joint President, UK Theatre)  
**Jon Gilchrist** (Artistic Director and CEO, Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre Trust & Joint President, UK Theatre)  
**Eleanor Lloyd** (Theatre Producer, Eleanor Lloyd Productions & President, SOLT)

16:45 - 18:45

## Networking Drinks at The Barbican Conservatory

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