

Press Release

30 January 2018



Lisa Burger appointed Chair of the Lyric Hammersmith Board

The Lyric Hammersmith today announces that **Lisa Burger**, Executive Director at the National Theatre, will succeed **Sir William Atkinson** as Chair of its Board. Lisa will take over from Sir William Atkinson on 30 January 2018.

Lisa Burger will work closely with Lyric's Artistic Director **Sean Holmes** and Executive Director **Sian Alexander** in achieving the organisation's mission to produce the highest quality contemporary theatre, alongside nurturing the creativity of young people.

Sian Alexander said, 'Lisa has been a brilliant trustee of the Lyric for the past five years and we are thrilled that she is now stepping up to become our new Chair. She shares our dual passions for bold, adventurous work and nurturing the next generation of theatre makers. We look forward to her leadership and working alongside her to realise our joint vision for the Lyric.'

Lisa Burger said, 'The Lyric has a bold and clear vision to produce the highest quality theatre alongside nurturing the creativity of young people and developing pathways into theatre for young talent from all backgrounds. The Lyric's work in this area is vital and inspiring and it will be a privilege, as well as a personal pleasure, to work with Sean Holmes and Sian Alexander and the Lyric's cracking team.'

Lisa Burger took on the role of leading the National Theatre alongside Director Rufus Norris in 2015. Lisa has previously worked at the Royal Opera House and the National Gallery Company and joined the National Theatre in 2001 as Finance Director. She worked closely with Nick Hytner and Nick Starr in their Executive team as Chief Operating Officer and led on a range of strategic projects including the £80m NT Future refurbishment, feasibility work on NT Live and co-production of War Horse with the National Theatre of China. As a Director of National Theatre Productions she plays a key role in the NT's commercial productions. She was formerly Treasurer of Shape Arts.

For more information visit www.lyric.co.uk.

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About Lyric Hammersmith

The Lyric Hammersmith is one of the UK's leading producing theatres. For more than a hundred and twenty years it has been responsible for creating some of the UK's most adventurous and acclaimed theatrical work. It has also gained a national reputation for its work with and for children and young people and creates pathways into the arts for young talent from all backgrounds, helping to diversify our industry. Recent productions include our critically acclaimed annual pantomimes, the smash hit *Bugsy Malone*, the international tour and co-production with Filter Theatre of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the UK premiere of the international phenomenon *Terror*.

The Lyric's dual commitment to producing the highest quality contemporary theatre, whilst nurturing the creativity of young people is what makes it unique within the cultural ecology of the UK. It is a local theatre rooted in its community with a national and international reputation for the quality and innovation of its artistic work.

In April 2015 the Lyric reopened following a multi-million pound capital project, which saw the addition of the Reuben Foundation Wing housing state-of-the-art facilities for theatre, dance, film, music, digital and more. The 'new' Lyric is now the largest creative hub in West London and home to an innovative partnership of like-minded leading arts organisations who work together to deliver life-changing creative opportunities for thousands of young West Londoners.

www.lyric.co.uk