

29 November 2007

Mark Ball and Fionnuala Hogan appointed to Southbank Centre Board

Mark Ball, Founder, Artistic Director and Chief Executive of Fierce Earth Ltd and Fierce Festival Ltd, and Fionnuala Hogan, Senior Director of Hypo Real Estate Bank International, have been appointed members of Southbank Centre Board. They took up their posts on 21 November. Mark Ball is a Clore Fellow, and Fionnuala Hogan is a local resident with more than 20 years of banking and commercial experience.

Mark Ball established Fierce Earth Ltd in 1997, which specialises in the production and presentation of cultural events, festivals and programmes. Mark established and produces Fierce!, an annual international festival of theatre, live art and dance taking place across the West Midlands and now widely recognised as one of the UK's most vibrant contemporary arts festivals. In November 2005, Mark was named the Institute of Director's (IoD) Young Director of the Year for his work with the company.

Mark Ball was made a Clore Fellow in 2006/2007. He also holds posts at a number of arts organisations including Founding Member and Director of Creative Republic, Member of Events and Festivals Theme Group, Advantage West Midlands, Founder Member of Live Art UK (a national network of professional contemporary arts venues and promoters) and is a Board Member of Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In January 2008 he takes up a new role as Head of Events and Exhibitions at the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Fionnuala Hogan is a Senior Director of Hypo Real Estate Bank focused on Commercial Real Estate lending for Europe, the Middle East and India. Prior to Hypo Real Estate, Fionnuala worked in Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, KPMG, Xelector plc and Hay Management Consultants, and has managed a technology company.

Fionnuala is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, having qualified with KMPG. She holds an M.A in Music and Mathematics from Trinity College Dublin and her interests in the Arts and Arts education extend across music, dance, literature and theatre. She has always been actively involved in local arts groups and currently participates in Southbank Centre's Voicelab programme.

Lord Hollick, Chairman of the Board of Governors, said: "Mark and Fionnuala will bring valuable skills and a great passion for our work to the Board's deliberations."

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Note to Editors

Southbank Centre manages the Royal Festival Hall, The Hayward, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, as well as the Saison Poetry Library, the Arts Council Collection and Hayward Touring Exhibitions on behalf of Arts Council England. It attracts more than 3 million visits annually. The Royal Festival Hall reopened in June 2007 following the £115 million refurbishment of the Hall and redevelopment of the surrounding area and facilities.