



Dear Mr Haythornthwaite,

Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Southbank Centre

For the past 40 years skateboarders, BMXers and graffiti artists have inhabited the space under the Queen Elizabeth Hall, an organically appropriated environment which is the oldest of its kind in the world. For the duration of its existence it has been prolific in giving rise to some of the UK's most respected leaders in the creative industries.

The Southbank Centre's plan to redevelop facilities by transforming the Undercroft into retail space neglects to recognise the space as an integral part of the riverside's cultural history and identity. The displacement of the resident community to a contrived, purpose built skate park under the Hungerford Bridge would destroy a crucial hub of learning, diversity and inter-generational interaction, denying this thriving, natural, collaborative space to future street culture pioneers.

We urge you to reconsider the plans for the Festival Wing so that any redevelopments include the iconic Undercroft skate area in its present and traditional capacity as a celebrated part of London's cultural offering.

Signed

Henry Edwards-Wood

On behalf of the LLSB campaign, members and supporters