



Dear Mr Rick Haythornthwaite - Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Southbank Centre and Mr Alan Bishop - CEO 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, Long Live Southbank / Filmmaker / Skateboarder 1999 - present

Paul Richards, Creative and Education Director UpRise anti-racism Festival

Professor Iain Borden, Historian of skateboarding and architect / Skateboarder 1977 - present

Spike Jones, Filmmaker

Damien Hirst, Artist

Eric Koston, Professional Skateboarder

Dr Paul Sweetman, Senior Lecturer in Culture, Media and Creative Industries, King's College London

Ayanna Witter-Johnson, Musician / Composer / Southbank Centre Emerging Artist in Residence 2009

Guy Mariano, Professional Skateboarder

Jaimie D'Cruz, Film and TV Producer and Director / Original Southbank Skateboarder 1977 onwards

Jenny Jones, London Assembly Member

Sir Dominick Lynch-Robinson, Writer and Creative Director

Javier Sarmiento, Professional Skateboarder

Lady Victoria Lynch-Robinson



Matthew Ryley, Director Upgrade Bikes  
Geoff Rowley, Professional Skateboarder  
Aruba Red, Musician / Southbank Centre Emerging Artist in Residence 2009  
Michael Sani, Director Bite the Ballot  
Caswell Berry, Professional Skateboarder  
Shane Carey, Director Represent FM  
Anna Victoria Best, Photographer / Filmmaker  
Dr Lee Bofkin, Co-Founder and CEO [globalstreetart.com](http://globalstreetart.com)  
Rachel Rose Reid, Spoken Word Artist / Regular Performer at the Southbank Centre & Saison Poetry Library  
Darren Johnson, London Assembly Member  
Chima Ferguson, Professional Skateboarder  
Camilo Tirado, Musician / Teacher / Sound Engineer / Southbank Centre Emerging Artist in Residence 2009  
Gareth Skewis, Owner Palace Skateboards  
Zena Edwards, Spoken Word Artist / Writer / Regular Performer at the Southbank Centre  
Paul Shier, Professional Skateboarder / Director ISLE Skateboards  
Baby Sol, Musician  
Kevin Parrott, Marketing Manager Volcom  
Wig Worland, Skate Photographer  
Cherie Lunghi, Actress  
Rosalynd Bartholomew, Senior Teacher  
Kim Braden, Actress / CEO and Founder [Lockville.com](http://Lockville.com)  
Tawiah, Musician  
Don McCokindale, Actor / Voice over Artist  
Si Connelly, Artist / Songwriter  
Michael Howe, Actor  
Rose Dowling, Programme Director SHM Foundation  
Fiona Bevan, Musician  
Lisa Francis, Special Educational Needs Teacher  
Claire Wiles, Solicitor Hanne and Co  
Suzanne Howe, Lifetime Contribution to British Dyslexia Association Volunteer Award 2011  
Mary Daniels, Director Alternatives  
Tom Kirkby, Editor Breaks Mag  
Jamie Page, Casting Director