

# SHOREDITCH TOWN HALL *Trust*

For immediate release

27<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Shoreditch Town Hall today announces the appointment of Nick Giles as Chief Executive.

Jean Locker, Chair of Trustees at Shoreditch Town Hall said: “We are delighted to be welcoming Nick as our new Chief Executive. At this time when we are looking at how we build on the strong foundations of the past seven years since the building reopened, the whole board was immensely impressed with Nick and excited about his vision for the future of the venue. There was a lot of interest in this role, but with a proven track record of leadership at a range of different arts and cultural organisations, including Corn Exchange, Newbury, Oxford Playhouse and most recently the Donmar Warehouse, we knew Nick was absolutely the right candidate for the job.”

Nick Giles said: “I’m thrilled to be joining Shoreditch Town Hall as Chief Executive. Sheila Benjamin (outgoing Chief Executive) and her team have done an amazing job of establishing a new venue from scratch during difficult times – reinvigorating and renovating a landmark building and creating a place with a real connection to its local community. I feel very privileged to be given the opportunity to build on this strong foundation, looking towards an exciting future for the Hall as a destination space and creative hub in East London.”

## Shoreditch Town Hall

A landmark building situated on Old Street adjacent to Hoxton Square, Shoreditch Town Hall was built in 1866, the vision of architect Caesar Augustus Long. It was placed on English Heritage’s ‘Buildings At Risk’ register in 1996 and as a result of widespread community concern, the London Borough of Hackney supported the creation of Shoreditch Town Hall Trust to take over the building, formed in 1998 with a mission to restore Shoreditch Town Hall for the benefit of the local and wider communities. The Trust has since raised the funds to complete the first stage of a major restoration programme and is leading the regeneration of Shoreditch Town Hall for community, cultural and business use. A new campaign will be launched during Winter 2011/12 to support a second phase of capital works which will be designed to further develop the venue and its facilities, as well as invest in new cultural and community programmes.

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