

CITIZENS THEATRE

**Citizens
Theatre**

CITIZENS THEATRE

Reopening Celebration 27 August 2025



**Altogether,
we're like
no other.**

citz.co.uk

We'd like to thank the project team for their hard work in delivering this transformational project:

Architects Bennetts Associates	Quantity Surveyor Turner Townsend
Contractor Kier Construction Ltd	Theatre Consultant Theatreplan
Structural Engineer Struer Consulting Engineers	Acoustician Sandy Brown Associates
Project Advisor Pacific Partners LLP	Interpretation Design Consultant Nomad Exhibitions
Project Manager tX-2 Project Management	Fire Engineer Atelier 10
Client Representative Graham Sutherland	Clerk of Works Sentinel Clerk of Works Ltd
M&E Services Engineer Max Fordham	

Order of events for the evening

6pm	Arrivals and drinks Come in, take a wander and make yourself at home. Please feel free to explore our front of house areas.
6.40pm	Time to take your seat
7pm	The celebration begins With our inimitable host Maureen Beattie
	Performances will include:
	The Hing Written and performed by Alan McHugh and Johnny McKnight, inspired by James Bridie's <i>The Tintock Cup</i>
	Upper Circle Written and performed by Jackie Kay
	History vs the Creators Performed by Citizens Theatre Young Company From <i>Close</i> by Young Co. with Jenny Knotts
	Small Acts of Love Performed by the Company From <i>Small Acts of Love</i> by Frances Poet and Ricky Ross
8.30pm	Drinks, canapés and ice cream
10pm	Carriages



Dominic Hill, Artistic Director and
Kate Denby, Executive Director
Citizens Theatre

Hello, and welcome back to the Citizens Theatre.

It's been a long time coming, hasn't it? We've been through years of plans, hard hats, dust, and a fair bit of waiting. But tonight, the Citz is back where it belongs: open, alive, and buzzing with people.

This theatre has been part of the Gorbals for generations, telling big stories on stage while being part of the everyday story of this community. Our new building keeps the heart and history of the old Citz, but it's ready for the future – a place for everyone, whether you've been coming here for decades or it's your very first visit.

We can't thank you enough for sticking with us through the changes. Our audiences, artists, neighbours, and supporters have been the lifeblood of this place. Your belief kept us going when the stage was dark, and now we get to share the magic with you all over again.

So, let's raise a glass and fill this theatre with laughter, tears, joy, and the odd bit of mischief – just the way the Citz has always done.

Councillor Susan Aitken
Leader of Glasgow City Council



On behalf of Glasgow City Council, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the reopening of the Citizens Theatre.

The Citz has always been more than just a stage. It is a cornerstone of Glasgow's vibrant cultural identity, a space where imagination is celebrated, and a meeting place for people from all walks of life. Throughout its near 150-year history, its productions have entertained and inspired, while its participation programmes continue to build connections through Glasgow's communities. The Citz truly is a theatre of the people of Glasgow, helping define our city as one of creativity and inclusivity.

The reopening of the Citz comes in a particularly special year for our city as we mark our 850th anniversary. It is a moment to reflect on the rich history that has shaped Glasgow, while looking ahead with confidence and ambition. The transformation of the Citizens Theatre embodies that spirit: honouring our past while investing in our future, and ensuring that the Citz remains a vital part of Glasgow's cultural life for generations to come.

Thank you again for joining us on this historic evening. Here's to the next chapter of the Citizens Theatre.

**We commissioned Jackie Kay,
award-winning poet and former
Scotland's Makar to write a trio
of special poems to mark our
reopening. Join her on a journey
through our building and
celebrate our return!**

Stall

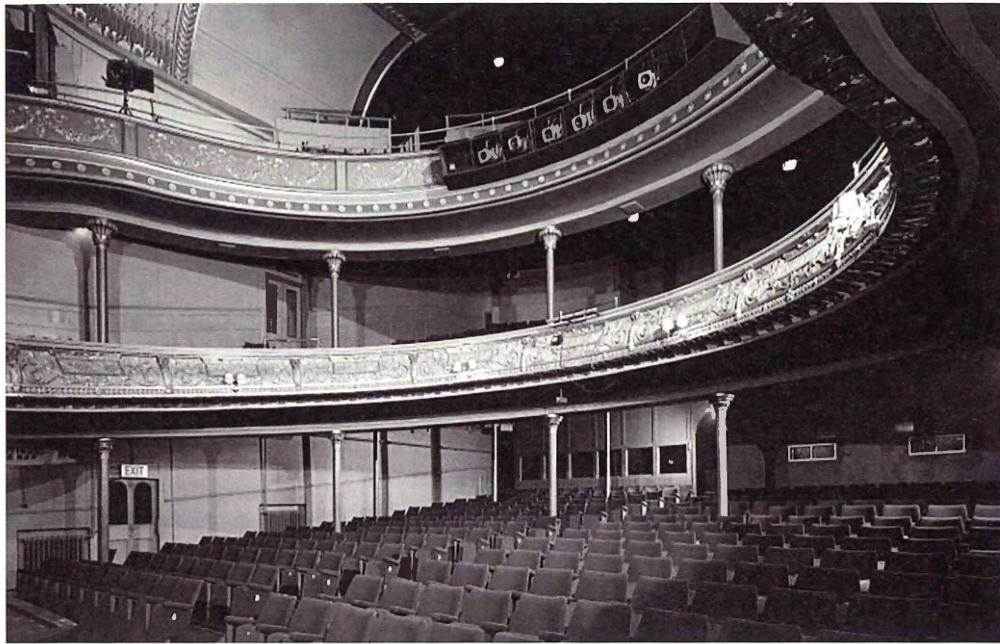
For a while it seemed we'd not ever be back,
for you to park your bum on a seat.
We were in a state of limbo and attack.
An eternal *Long Day's Journey into night*.

A Midsummer Dream away.
Impossible to imagine or rehearse.
How often it felt like *Endgame*
All the rivals laughing up their sleeves.

Krapp's Last Tapes. The Lost Elves.
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead.
Brecht's Mother Courage. Old beliefs.
Play titles stuck in the head.

Till we got here. At last. What a drama.
Welcome! Come in. You too, *Cinderella*.





Upper Circle

Come all ye denizens, come awa in,
City dwellers, urbanites.
Come down from the Highlands and Islands.
Come all ye Lowlanders, farmers,
Forest dwellers, renters, boarders,
Earth dwellers, crofters, Martians.

Come all ye aliens, squatters, weekenders,
Come ye cave dwellers, residents, neighbours.
Take a pew you immigrant, you emigrant.
Come from the past, the present.
Let this fine edifice take you in.
Lose yourself, find yourself again.

For you are a Citizen. Pull back the red curtain.
Let the play begin!

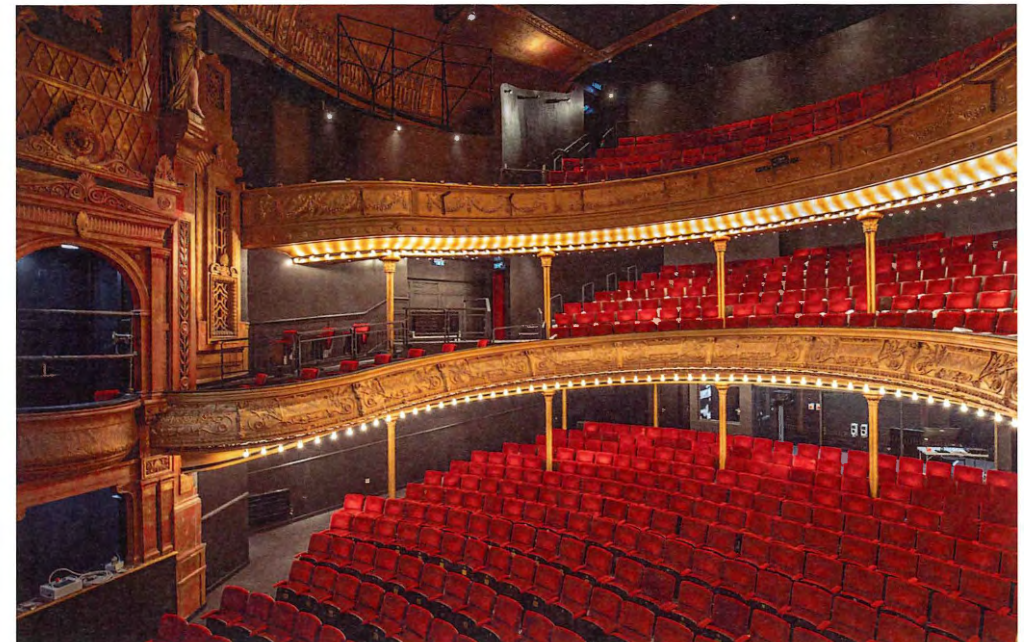
If I were to tell the truth about me,
I'd say I am old and young,
that I open my arms to let you in,
and, at the end of an evening, turn you away.

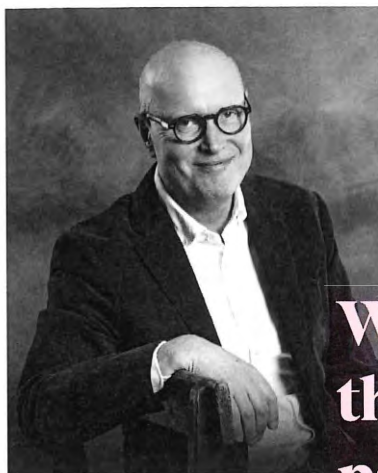
Mostly, I'm in awe of the things I have you say.
The way you change with me, age with me.
The shocks. The screaming matches. The hysterics.
The deaths we've carried; the years that ran away.

The times we've shed a tear, split our sides.
The way our lives have entwined, dear.
The full circle of our years. Here you are.
Back to meet yourself coming back.

Take a seat. I won't let you slip away.
If I were to tell the truth about me, I'd say...

Circle





Alex Reedijk OBE FRC
Chair, Citizens Theatre

Welcome back – and
thank you for being
part of this moment.

It is with immense pride and joy that I welcome you to this landmark occasion – the reopening of the Citizens Theatre. Tonight we celebrate not only the completion of a major transformation of our building, but also the enduring spirit of a theatre that has been at the heart of Glasgow's cultural life for generations.

This journey has been a true collaboration. We are deeply grateful to our funders, partners and supporters – from public bodies and trusts to individual donors and community members – whose belief in our vision made this possible. The Citz has always been about people: the artists who bring stories to life, the staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes, and the audiences who make every performance complete.

The new Citizens Theatre blends history and innovation. While preserving the character and heritage of this much-loved building, we have created spaces that are more accessible, welcoming and equipped for the demands of 21st century theatre making. This is your new home for a fresh generation of bold, imaginative work and a hub for learning and participation across Glasgow and beyond.

As we move into the future, we warmly and proudly invite you to share in our ambition: to continue making theatre that challenges, inspires and unites us.

Eilish McGuinness
Chief Executive,
National Lottery Heritage Fund

The Citizens Theatre
is truly something special.



An historic theatre closely entwined with the lives of people in Glasgow, Scotland and beyond – it is the definition of living heritage.

We have partnered with the theatre over the last seven years, investing £7.7 million of funding to ensure this vivid heritage is protected and celebrated, but importantly that it is accessible and valued into the future. I'm delighted that this has been achieved with fantastic new rehearsal, participation and studio spaces cheek-by-jowl with rare nineteenth-century stage machinery and original statues of Greek muses, Shakespeare, Burns and even gold elephants.

We believe in the power of heritage to ignite the imagination, offer joy and inspiration and build pride in place and connection to the past, and the restoration of the theatre will do just that – joining over £170 million of investment in projects we've supported across Glasgow over 30 years and ensuring our heritage is valued, cared for and sustained for everyone, now and in the future.

Our work is only possible due to National Lottery Players, so my thanks to them for their support of heritage right across Scotland. Congratulations to the Citizens Theatre, as it enters this fantastic new era, welcoming audiences, new and old, revealing treasures and delight at every turn, and continuing to be the much-loved Citz at the heart of the city.

With thanks to our supporters

Edmund Adams	Louise Christie	Joyce Gallacher
Rona Alexander	Kate Clark	Ian Galloway
Amish Amin	Martin Cox	Jim & Maida Gibson
Susan & Stephen Anderson	Marie Craig	Marina Gillan
Lynn Andrew	Eunice Crook	Jacqueline Gilmartin
David Armstrong	Mary Cullen	Jason Golaup
Clive Baker	Brian Cunningham	Iona Goldie
Paul Baker	John Cunningham	Donna Gray
Teri Barbour	Hazel Currie	John Grewar
Debby Barry	Hugh Currie	Robert Hartness
Graeme Beacham	Dan & Kirstie Cusick	Björn Heile
Aileen Begley	Sean Daisley	Jóhanna Helgadóttir
Susan Bell	Anne Dean	Mary Henderson
Jan Bostock	Catriona Denoon	Stephen Henson
Douglas Boyd	Steven Dickson	Pat Heppell
Andrea Bradley	Anna Donnelly	Anne Holmes
Alistair Braidwood	Julie Doughty & Paul Trafford	Julia Hopkinson
John & Rosemary Bremner	Paul Dunlop	Derek Hotchkiss
Philip Bromley	Stephen Dunn	Mike Hume
Frank Brown	Tim Emm	Gilbert James Hyde & Ann
Ian Brown & Nikki Axford	Roger Farnham	Morton Hyde
Kevin Roderick Brown	Fraser Ferguson	Eleanor Hyland
Jonathan & Kay Bryant	& Nancy Clark	Heather Jack
Jackie Burns	John Ferris	Jane James
Olive Burnside	Mary Flannigan	Hannah Johnston
Mary Carmichael	Alison Forsyth	Judith Johnston
April Chamberlain	& Robin Wilson	Diane Joyce
& Paul Bassett	David Fraser	John Keane
Alison Cheyne	Donald Fraser	Rana Keane
Stuart & Jo Chidley	Joan Gall	John & Agnese Keeper

Joe Kelly	Donna Miller	Ewan Sanderson
Chris & Angela Kenny	Margaret Montgomery	& Fiona Hamilton
Robert Kerr	Sandra Moody	Loretta Scott
Jean Mary Knowles	Jackie Morrison	Adrienne Scullion
Margaret Lennon	Rhona Morrison	Fred & Irene Shedden
David Lightbody	Anne Semple Muir	Anita Shelton
Kenny Lindsay	& Brian Muir	Alan Shenkin
Donald Livingston	Andrew Murchison	Barbara Simpson
Margaret Lockhart	Jane Naismith	Rory Simpson
Stuart Lorimer	Fiona Norris	Nancy Smillie
Brian MacDonald	Jan Norris	Elizabeth Smith
Catriona Macdonald	Michele & Jeremy Osborne	Lisa Snedden
Stewart MacKay	Andrew Outram	Sheila Stallard
Patricia Maclachlan	Deborah Pairman	Larry Sullivan
Peter & Christine Maclaren	Chris Paterson	Siobhan Sweeney
Malcolm MacLeod	Janice Paterson	Nicola Teece
Roddy & Christine	Lisa Peebles	Elaine Teenan
Macpherson	David Perry	David & Marion Thaw
Charles M. Maden	Sarah Purser	Carmel Thompson
Kai Manak	Roger & Jennifer Quin	Alasdair Thomson
Clare McBride Brooke	The Honourable Lady Rita	Sarah Tobin
Richard McConnell	Rae KC	Evelyn Tonner
Andrew McCormack	Sonia Raphael	Bob Wallace
John McElwee	David Reader	Tom Wallace
Frances Mollhenny	Walter & Janet Reid	Brenda Walton
Irene McIntosh	Daniel Reilly	& Gladys Melrose
Miriam McKenna	Stan Riddet	Raymond Welland
Margaret C. McLaughlin	Mary & Alastair Robin	Louise Welsh
Ian McSeveny	Elizabeth Roddie	Jim Williamson
Carol, David	Martin Rose	Graeme Wright & Family
& Joe McShane	Jenifer Ross	Douglas Young
Mary-Claire Meighan	Eric Russell	
Philip Mendelsohn	Laurie Russell	Thank you!

And many more who contributed to the project – for a comprehensive list of supporters please visit citz.co.uk/support/supporters

Capital Donors

Garfield Weston Foundation
The Robertson Trust
Foyle Foundation

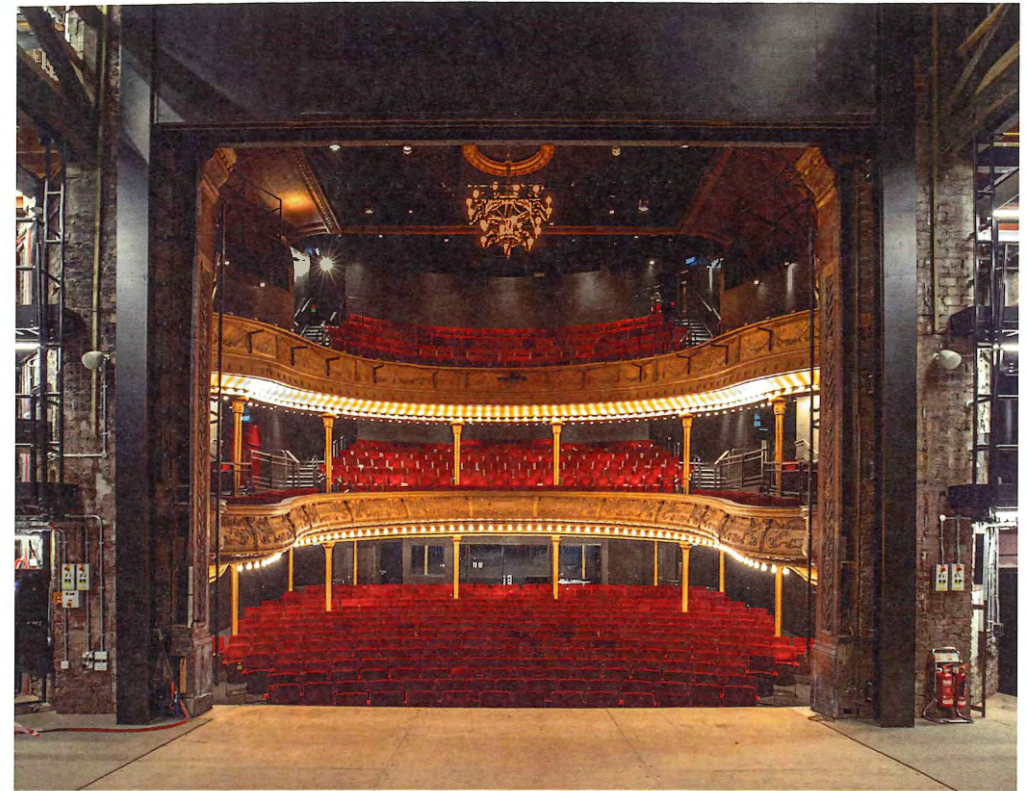
Backstage Trust
The Hugh Fraser Foundation
The Wolfson Foundation

Robert Barr's Charitable Trust
Barcapel Foundation
Glasgow Dean of Guild Court Trust
The W A Cargill Fund
The McGlashan Charitable Trust
Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust
Bellahouston Bequest Fund
Rock Lodge Charitable Trust
The Bill & Margaret Nicol Charitable Trust
The Batchworth Trust
The Merchants House of Glasgow
DM Thomas Foundation
Henry Moore Charitable Trust
Cruden Foundation
Equity Charitable Trust
Theatres Trust
The Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust
The Trades House of Glasgow
Commonweal Fund

Helen A Reid's Charitable Trust
The Aurelius Charitable Trust
James C Hardie Charitable Trust
Citizens Theatre Society
Mr & Mrs William Donald's Memorial Trust
The Duncloy Charitable Trust
The Meikle Foundation (nee The Martin Connell Charitable Trust)
The Mary Andrew Charitable Trust
James Wood Bequest Fund
Kuenssberg Charitable Foundation
The AMW Charitable Trust
Miss E C Hendry Charitable Trust
JP Jacobs Charitable Trust



Our proud corporate partners:
KubeNet



Special thanks to our major capital partners



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



Made possible with
Heritage Fund





Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas
na h-Alba



Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

Registered in Scotland No. SC022513 and is a Scottish Charity No. SC001037