Scene Changes

A series of lightning discussions looks at some of the developments and changes in theatre, both off- and on-stage, over the past 50 years.

10.00am-10.30am, The Shed, 6/63

Theatre architecture: new builds and modern refits

Tues 1 October

A panel examine how theatre architecture has changed over the past 50 years. With new build at Night at the Museum and recent renovations at our new Cottesloe, we hear from those who have been involved from the design to the completion. The panel will be chaired by Richard Turner (Sadler’s Wells) and will feature speakers from both companies.

Theatre Design from stage flats to digital sets

Mon 7 October

In a discussion on the development of theatre design and how technology has altered what we can create, we hear from those who have been involved from the design to the completion. The panel will be chaired by Richard Turner (Sadler’s Wells) and will feature speakers from both companies.

Theatre Education from nooks off to soundscapes

Wed 2 October

A panel look at how modern technology has enhanced the learning and education departments in theatres, focusing on specific examples.

Theatre Sound: from nooks off to soundscapes

Wed 2 October

A panel look at how modern technology has enhanced the learning and education departments in theatres, focusing on specific examples.

Theatre Administration: marketing, ticketing, fundraising and access

Fri 4 October

A panel look at how modern technology has enhanced the learning and education departments in theatres, focusing on specific examples.

Theatre Automation: marketing, ticketing, fundraising and access

Fri 4 October

A panel look at how modern technology has enhanced the learning and education departments in theatres, focusing on specific examples.

A special series of talks and debates celebrating 50 years of theatre

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Platforms

This autumn we mark our half-century with a short season of events celebrating the remarkable people and plays that have made the NT one of the most cherished and creative British institutions. Our Platforms programme explores the sweeping changes that have taken place across the theatre sector in the last 50 years, and also looks forward to the next 50 years.

National Histories

Ten simple questions, 50 years' worth of possible answers. We ask key NT figures the who, what, when, where and why of their recollections of the National.
1 – 25 October, 04/13

- Nancy Carroll and Alex Jennings
- David Bradley and Juliet Stevenson
- Jim Carter and Imelda Staunton
- Anna Chancellor and Edward Petherbridge
- Sara Kestelman and Adrian Lester
- Miranda Richardson and Olivia Poulsen
- Richard E. Grant and Julia Walters
- Brenda Blethyn and Simon Russell Beale

Future Questions

Looking ahead to the challenges facing theatre over the next 50 years.
5.45pm (Thu), Lyttelton, 04/13

- Writing
- Wed 30 October
Will theatre continue to inspire writers to produce work for the stage in an increasingly digital age? Will the plays on our stages now be performed in 10 years' time? What role will be set by the next generation of writers?

- Funding
- Mon 4 November
Will public funding for the theatre become a thing of the past? Will an increased reliance on philanthropy have an effect on the work?

- Regional Theatre
- Tue 5 November
What is the future for regional theatre in the UK? How will regional theatres have to work to ensure their survival?

Check the website for full updates: nationaltheatre.org.uk/50