



BAFTA AND THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL INTRODUCE A NEW SERIES CELEBRATING COMPOSERS' WORK FOR FILM, TELEVISION AND GAMES

London, 21 March 2012: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and the Royal Albert Hall present *Conversations with Screen Composers*, a series of three events with major composers for film, television and video games. Once a month from May to July 2012, the composers will take the stage in the Royal Albert Hall's Elgar Room to discuss their work, illustrated with clips and including some performance element.

In the first of what is intended to be an annual series, the two major arts charities will come together to celebrate the important contribution composers offer to big and small screen media. The series is supported by PRS for Music, Asahi and Haagen Dazs and will be hosted by **Tommy Pearson**, a broadcaster and former BBC radio and TV host.

Continuing the Elgar Room's vision of innovative programming, this series of talks further highlights the Hall as a charity. Not only does it work on providing events that are diverse and affordable but also encouraging new audiences into the building and providing maximum public benefit through talks that are both entertaining and educational. The series is also part of BAFTA's on-going commitment to providing audiences with access to professionals who have helped create their favourite films, television programmes and video games.

On **Wednesday 9 May**, BAFTA- and Oscar-winner **Rachel Portman** will open the series touching on a career that features films such as *Bel Ami*, *One Day*, *Never Let Me Go*, *The Duchess*, *Emma*, *Chocolat*, *The Legend of Bagger Vance* and *The Cider House Rules* as well HBO's *Grey Gardens* starring Drew Barrymore for which she won an Emmy. On **Friday 29 June**, five-time BAFTA-nominated video games composer **James Hannigan** will discuss his scores featuring in major games series including Harry Potter, Command and Conquer, The Lord of the Rings, Warhammer, EA Sports and Theme Park. On **Wednesday 11 July**, **Murray Gold**, BAFTA-nominated four times for his television work on ground-breaking scores for *Doctor Who*, *Casanova*, *Queer As Folk* and *Vanity Fair* – who also scored *Clocking Off* and *Shameless* – will discuss his craft.

BAFTA's Head of Learning and Events Tim Hunter says: "BAFTA celebrates and explores excellence through both our Awards Ceremonies, and our year-round learning programme. We're thrilled to be working with a major partner in the Royal Albert Hall, a



brand also synonymous with excellence, and to be presenting talks with three composers who have been many-times recognised by their peers in BAFTA. We look forward to giving these composers a spotlight for the evening, and in the web-series that will follow on BAFTA's web portal BAFTA Guru"

Lucy Noble, Head of Programming and Education at the Royal Albert Hall, says: "We are delighted to be hosting this innovative series in our Elgar Room in conjunction with BAFTA. The presentation of film continues to play a very important role in the Hall's own programming and this collection of talks by three very talented composers is sure to captivate both film and music fans alike whilst adding another exciting strand to the Elgar Room's diversity and providing new experiences to our audiences."

BAFTA and Royal Albert Hall's Conversations with Composers will run from May-July 2012. All events start at 7:30pm. Tickets are £10/ £8 concession and can be booked through www.royalalberthall.com or through The Royal Albert Hall Box Office on 020 7589 8212

For BAFTA, please contact:
events@bafta.org

For the Royal Albert Hall, please contact:
Sean Carrigan- seanc@royalalberthall.com/ 020 7959 0531

About BAFTA

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is an independent charity that supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. In addition to its Awards ceremonies, BAFTA has a year-round Learning & Events programme that offers unique access to some of the world's most inspiring talent through workshops, master classes, lectures and mentoring schemes, connecting with audiences of all ages and backgrounds across the UK, Los Angeles and New York. BAFTA relies on income from membership subscriptions, individual donations, trusts, foundations and corporate partnerships to support its ongoing outreach work. For further information, visit www.bafta.org.

About Royal Albert Hall

The Royal Albert Hall is the world's most famous stage. Its breathtaking auditorium hosts over 370 shows a year by the world's greatest artists. The magical atmosphere combined with inspired artists creates legendary events. Opened in 1871 as part of Prince Albert's vision for a centre for the Arts and Sciences, and a registered charity operating without public funding, it remains true to his founding ambitions within a modern context. Extending the brand with over 120 events in the state-of-the-art Elgar Room, the Hall has broadened its appeal to younger, diverse audiences whilst still engaging its existing customers. It also works extensively with schools and young people through its Education programme, reaching over 30,000 participants each year.



BRITISH ACADEMY
OF FILM AND TELEVISION ARTS

Press Release
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For more information, please visit www.royalalberthall.com.

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Asahi



195 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LN
T+44 (0)20 7734 0022 F+44 (0)20 7292 5868
www.bafta.org

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