



PRESS RELEASE

ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY ANNOUNCES FIRST SPEAKERS FOR IN-PERSON RTS CAMBRIDGE CONVENTION 2021

- **YouTube's Ben McOwen Wilson to chair the convention**
- **Sky's Dana Strong confirmed as first international keynote speaker**

London, 6 July 2021 – The **Royal Television Society (RTS)**, Britain's leading forum for television and related media, has announced its prestigious biennial Cambridge Convention will go ahead in person for 2021, taking place across two days from the 15th to 16th of September.

Sky's Group CEO **Dana Strong** is confirmed as the first international keynote for the conference, marking her first European outing since her appointment earlier this year. The initial line-up of industry leaders also confirmed to speak at the conference includes **Tim Davie**, Director-General BBC; **Alex Mahon**, CEO, Channel 4; **Carolyn McCall**, CEO, ITV; **Richard Sharp**, Chair of the BBC and **Mark Thompson**, Chairman, Ancestry.com and Former President and CEO of The New York Times Company. Further high-profile speakers will be announced in the coming weeks.

The 2021 event, which is set to take place at King's College in Cambridge, is titled "Broadcast Britain: Reshaping Britishness on the global stage". The Principal Sponsor for the RTS Cambridge Convention 2021 is YouTube.

Theresa Wise, CEO at the Royal Television Society, said: "After such a challenging and distanced 18 months for the industry, we are thrilled to be bringing everyone together in Cambridge to hear from leading global executives on the future of British broadcasting. We are delighted to have Ben McOwen Wilson and YouTube on board as Chair of the Convention and Principal Sponsor for this year's Convention and are working hard to ensure we have the measures in place to welcome the industry safely in September."

Ben McOwen Wilson, Managing Director YouTube, UK and Ireland and Convention Chair, added: "After a challenging period for the industry, the nation and our viewers - we are looking forward to welcoming RTS members back to Cambridge. With the help of a fantastic Advisory Committee, I believe we have pulled together a thought-provoking agenda with an outstanding speaker line-up from across UK and international markets. In 2021, British broadcasting faces a unique array of local challenges, on top of the waves of change that are reshaping television globally. I hope that the Convention will help us to challenge ourselves on how we inspire and expand to build a thriving broadcast sector that better celebrates and represents voices from every corner of today's diverse modern Britain and is prepared for the decade ahead."

An early bird rate of £1,500 excluding VAT is available for the first 75 bookings. For more information or to book your place visit: <https://rts.org.uk/event/rts-cambridge-convention-2021>. Booking opens from 7 July.



Should there be a change in Government restrictions owing to new covid variants of concern which prevents the Convention proceeding, the RTS will be providing full refunds.

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About The Royal Television Society:

From glamorous award ceremonies to lively debates, the RTS embraces all aspects of television, and is open to anyone with an interest in the medium.

As an educational charity, we encourage and celebrate work in television and its related fields, from finding out how the nation's favourite shows are made in our Anatomy of a Hit series, to celebrating burgeoning talent at our annual Student Awards.

The industry's most talented individuals give us an insight into the work that goes into making cutting edge contemporary TV. From Government ministers and CEOs to workshops with great runners, our events look at every part of the business.

Our annual Television Journalism, Programme, Craft and Design, and Student Awards celebrate achievements across the broadcasting industry.

Each year, we offer Television Production and Technology bursaries to help those from less affluent backgrounds get a foothold in the industry, and Masterclass sessions bring together students, academics and industry heads.

Global television leaders gather to discuss what the future holds for television at our London Conference or the RTS Cambridge Convention.

Alongside our engaged community of around 4,800 full members, the Society is supported by Britain and the world's biggest broadcasters, producers and consultants, including Principal Patrons BBC, Channel 4, ITV and Sky.

Originally founded as the Television Society in 1927, the Society was granted its Royal title in 1966 and HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron of the RTS in 1997.

Today, 15 regional and national groups curate lively events and awards around the UK and Ireland, from Glasgow to Galway.

RTS Futures, which is aimed at those in their first two years of employment, organises an exciting roster of discussion, training and social occasions. Recent events have included workshops on learning how to format shows and how to survive as a freelancer, and expert panels explaining how to be the best researcher and how to make it on-screen.



About YouTube:

Launched in May 2005, YouTube's mission is to give everyone a voice and show them the world. We believe that everyone deserves to have a voice, and that the world is a better place when we listen, share and build community through our stories. YouTube is a Google company.