

PRESS RELEASE

ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY BRINGS THE RTS LONDON CONFERENCE 2020 ONLINE

- **In partnership with YouTube, key sessions will stream free of charge**
- **YouTube's Ben McOwen Wilson boards as Convention Chair for the RTS Cambridge Convention 2021**

London, 19 May 2020 – The Royal Television Society (RTS), Britain's leading forum for television and related media, announced its biennial London Conference will not take place as a physical mass gathering for 2020. The RTS, in partnership with YouTube, will instead stream a number of key sessions for free. These sessions will reflect industry issues, but importantly will touch on broader challenges in Society and how we are addressing or coming to terms with these. The virtual sessions will take place around the original 15th September date, with sessions streamed live and then also available on the RTS website to watch at a later date.

The RTS is delighted also to announce that YouTube will be the Principal Sponsor for RTS Cambridge 2021 Convention due to take place from 15th-17th September. Ben McOwen Wilson, Regional Director, YouTube EMEA and MD, will take the position of Convention Chair.

Further information on RTS London 2020 will be available in due course on the RTS website: <https://rts.org.uk/>

Theresa Wise, CEO of the Royal Television Society said: "Whilst we adapt to the current challenges we are all facing, we are very grateful to YouTube who will help us jointly host informative, sessions – both industry-related and broader "brain food" for the global community who would usually be with us in London. They can now join us virtually in September.

We are also very pleased to continue to work with Ben in the lead up to Cambridge 2021, which is sure to be an important event at a critical time for our industries."

Ben McOwen Wilson, Managing Director, YouTube UK, said: “We are proud to support The Royal Television Society and excited to bring the RTS Conference to life on YouTube. The annual RTS events are the most thought-provoking and prestigious industry events of the year; we are delighted to support an online event in September, and look forward to hosting leaders from across the UK and global television landscape - in person - in Cambridge in 2021.”

For further information please contact:

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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 over 5,000 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.