

RTS Cambridge Convention 2021
Broadcast Britain: Reshaping Britishness On The Global Stage

Wednesday 15 September

08:30 Accommodation Registration opens King's College

08:30 Delegate registration opens Concert Hall

10:15 **Convention Opens**
Welcome by Jane Turton *RTS Chair* Concert Hall

10.20 **Session 1: Broadcast Britain**

Ben McOwen Wilson, YouTube Managing Director UK and Ireland, will set the scene for the Convention with a wide-ranging look at the challenges and opportunities for the UK's television industry post-Brexit, post-pandemic and in the face of accelerating technological and viewer behaviour shifts. He will ask the question, how can - and how must - television redefine itself and its sense of "Britishness" to create a platform for global success and for reconnection with domestic audiences.

Speaker

Ben McOwen Wilson, *Managing Director, YouTube UK and Ireland*

10.40 **Session 2: International Keynote: Robert Kyncl**

In conversation with Ranvir Singh, Robert Kyncl, YouTube's Chief Business Officer for more than a decade, will explore the global rise of the Creator economy, the creative competition he sees globally and the trend for more creative talent to be going direct to audiences bypassing traditional models, and share his thoughts on what this means for television as we know it.

Chair

Ranvir Singh, *Presenter and Political Editor, Good Morning Britain*

Speakers

Robert Kyncl, *Chief Business Officer, YouTube*

11.10 **Session 3: International Keynote: Dana Strong**

The new Group CEO at Sky talks to Beth Rigby about her ambitions for the company.

Chair

Beth Rigby, *Political Editor, Sky News*

Speaker

Dana Strong, *CEO, Sky*

11.40 Coffee

12.05 **Session 4: This Disunited Kingdom**

In a year of a Labour Wales, Tory England and SNP Scotland, what does Britishness mean now and in the future? And how can, and should, the British media react? The PSBs are rapidly spreading production round the country. What does this mean for the industry? Is it too late to save UK plc? Top pollster and TV pundit Professor Sir John Curtice will put a series of scenarios to a panel of industry leaders to explore their personal and professional views of Britishness and the fragmenting media landscape.

Chair

Kirsty Wark, *Journalist and Writer*

Speakers

Chris Banatvala, *Independent Media Consultant*

Professor Sir John Curtice, *Professor of Politics, University of Strathclyde*

Alex Mahon, *CEO, Channel 4*

Rhodri Talfan Davies, *Director of Nations, BBC*

John Whiston, *Managing Director, Continuing Drama and Head of ITV in the North, ITV Studios*

13.05 Pinewood TV Studios Welcome Lunch

Kings College

14.35 **Session 5: UK Keynote: Richard Sharp**

Chairman of the BBC since February, Richard Sharp gives his first speech to the RTS and talks to economist Stephanie Flanders about the global challenges and opportunities facing the corporation.

Chair

Stephanie Flanders, *Senior Executive Editor for Economics, Bloomberg News*

Speaker

Richard Sharp, *Chairman, BBC*

15.05 **Session 6: UK Keynote: Carolyn McCall**

The ITV CEO speaks to journalist Dharshini David about the business and public service challenges ahead for the broadcaster.

Chair

Dharshini David, *Senior Correspondent & Presenter, BBC News*

Speaker

Carolyn McCall, *CEO, ITV*

15.35 Tea

16.00 **Session 7: Global Leaders Keynote: Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton**

HiddenLight was launched by Hillary Rodham Clinton, Sam Branson and Chelsea Clinton to celebrate the best of the human spirit and help audiences see the world in new ways. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton join us live to talk about their inspiration for setting up a global studio and the vision for HiddenLight's content. HiddenLight's founders talk about what they see in the world, the stories that fascinate them, and how HiddenLight facilitates their global approach to storytelling.

Chair

Professor Mary Beard, *Professor of Classics, University of Cambridge*

Speakers

Chelsea Clinton, *HiddenLight*

Hillary Rodham Clinton, *HiddenLight*

16.30 **Session 8: Global Leaders Keynote: Kevin Mayer**

Kevin Mayer talks Disney, disruption, deals and the dynamics of his new media career.

Chair

Jake Kanter, *Media Correspondent, The Times*

Speaker

Kevin Mayer, *Chairman of the Board of Directors, DAZN Group*

17.05 **Session 9: UK Keynote: Alex Mahon**

The Channel 4 CEO speaks with Gillian Joseph about the challenges for the channel in the face of pending privatisation plans.

Chair

Gillian Joseph, *Presenter, Sky News*

Speaker

Alex Mahon, *CEO, Channel 4*

17.35 **Session 10: Secretary of State Keynote**
The Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP in conversation with RTS Cambridge Convention
Chair Ben McOwen-Wilson

Chair

Ben McOwen Wilson, *Managing Director, YouTube UK and Ireland*

Speaker

The Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP, *Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport*

18.10 End of Day One

19.15 BBC Studios Drinks Reception King's College

20.00 Accenture Dinner King's College
After Dinner Speaker – Omid Djilili

22.00 Korn Ferry Nightcap King's College

Thursday 16 September

09.00 **Opening** Concert Hall

09.10 **Session 11: UK Keynote: Tim Davie**
The BBC Director General in conversation with new ITN CEO Deborah Turness looks back on his first year in post and at what future years hold.

Chair

Deborah Turness, *CEO, ITN*

Speaker

Tim Davie, *Director General, BBC*

09.40 **Session 12: Global Leaders Keynote: Lutz Schueler**
Lutz Schueler reflects on the first 100 days of the O2 merger with Virgin and discusses future strategy.

Chair

John Gapper, *Business Columnist, Financial Times*

Speaker

Lutz Schueler, *CEO, Virgin Media O2*

10.00 **Session 13: Fake News: The Broadcasters' Dilemma**

From damned lies to a little doubt, fake news is a minefield for the broadcaster and still a relatively new area in journalism. Faced with an ongoing tension between covering it and amplifying it, how do we navigate the editorial difficulties involved? And when those who fall for it mistrust those calling it out, can anything be done to stop our journalists becoming the targets of abuse? With an expert panel routinely faced with decisions about how to cover fake news, we'll consider the pitfalls, the ethics and the psychology behind one of the most insidious disrupters in the modern world.

Chair

Naga Munchetty, *Journalist and Presenter*

Speakers

Sander van der Linden, *Professor of Social Psychology in Society and Director of the Cambridge Social Decision Making Lab, University of Cambridge*

Matthew Price, *Editor, Data and Forensics Unit, Sky News*

Marianna Spring, *Specialist Disinformation and Social Media Reporter, BBC News*

Deborah Turness, *CEO, ITN*

11.00 Coffee

11.20 **Session 14: Public Service Broadcasting: Facing Failure or the Future?**

How radical do we have to be to protect public service broadcasting? Ex BBC and New York Times boss Mark Thompson argues that PSB will die in the UK unless huge change happens. In this session, Mark lays out where he thinks things went wrong and challenges the industry to get a grip and save itself. Can the UK's big players really take on the streamers? Can TV continue to represent Britain? Does the government need to intervene to prevent a market failure? What will things look like in ten years' time? Mark will debate his solutions with a distinguished panel.

Chair

Kirsty Wark, *Journalist and Writer*

Introduction

Mark Thompson, *CEO, Ancestry.com*

Speakers

Maria Kyriacou, *President, ViacomCBS Networks UK, Australia and Israel*

Alex Mahon, *CEO, Channel 4*

Fraser Nelson, *Editor, The Spectator*

12.15 **Session 15: UK Keynote: Melanie Dawes**

The Ofcom Chief Executive in conversation with journalist Clive Myrie about the future of public service broadcasting and how to respond to the rapidly changing media landscape.

Chair

Clive Myrie, *Journalist and Presenter*

Speaker

Dame Melanie Dawes, *Chief Executive, Ofcom*

12.50 **Session 16: Twenty Percent**

Disabled people make up 20% of the population in the UK and yet are still the most underrepresented in our industry. In this session leading disabled media professionals come together to talk about the progress made in representation of disabled people in the industry so far, the shifts needed to increase representation and discuss how inclusion should be normalised in the industry.

Chair

Sinéad Burke, *Founder and CEO, Tilting The Lens*

Speakers

Alicia Dalrymple, *Junior Production Manager*

David Proud, *Actor, Writer and Director*

Briony May Williams, *Presenter*

13.30 Lunch

King's College

15.00 **Session 17: Toxic**

Ben McOwen Wilson introduces a carefully assembled piece of work which exposes the toxicity of bullying in the television industry; in our time and on our watch.

Speaker

Ben McOwen Wilson, *Managing Director, YouTube UK and Ireland*

15.20 **Session 18: Production's Coming Home?**

We are in a golden age for UK TV production. Global demand for production skills and talent has never been higher. However, is there a risk that our production industry is becoming a lower cost extension of the US studio system for streaming platforms? And would it matter if it did? A panel of leaders from the UK production sector and Netflix consider the rapid changes in the market and explore their possible longer term impacts on audiences, broadcasters and producers.

Chair

Lorraine Heggessey, *Chair, Grierson Trust and Advisor, Channel 4 Growth Fund*

Speakers

Ralph Lee, *Chief Executive, Production, BBC Studios*

Brandon Riegg, *VP, Unscripted and Documentary Series, Netflix*

Sanjay Singhal, *Chief Executive, Voltage TV*

Jane Turton, *CEO, All3Media*

16.05 Tea

16.25 **Session 19: Global Leaders Keynote: Casey Bloys**

Casey Bloys, Chief Content Officer for HBO and HBO Max, will discuss programming strategy and goals to expand WarnerMedia's slate of originals. Casey has overseen all programming at HBO for the past five years, and last year, expanded his purview to the new streaming service, HBO Max. Casey will also discuss the international expansion of HBO Max and the opportunity to forge new connections within the international creative community.

Chair

John Gapper, *Business Columnist, Financial Times*

Speaker

Casey Bloys, *Chief Content Officer, HBO and HBO Max*

16.45 **Session 20: Gareth Southgate in conversation with Clare Balding**

Following the England team's success at the European Championships, Gareth Southgate, in conversation with Clare Balding, reflects on the power of football to unite a nation, to promote inclusion and be a force for redefinition of nationhood. What lessons for British television in 2021, and what better close to our 2021 Convention?

Chair

Clare Balding, *Broadcaster and Author*

Speaker

Gareth Southgate OBE, *England Manager*

17.15 **Convention Closes**

Ben McOwen Wilson, *Managing Director, YouTube UK and Ireland*

Theresa Wise, *Chief Executive, RTS*

The Society thanks its sponsors:

Accenture – Dinner and Convention app

BBC Studios – Drinks Reception

Korn Ferry – Nightcap

NTT Data – Tea and Coffee Breaks

Pinewood TV Studios – Welcome Lunch

Virgin Media O2 – Convention WiFi