

# MOUNTVIEW

**Sir Cameron Mackintosh visits London's newest theatre at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts as it is named in his honour**



Sir Cameron Mackintosh outside 'The Mack' at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts (c) Steve Gregson

Legendary producer Sir Cameron Mackintosh tonight [4 November 2021] visited leading theatre academy Mountview for a special performance of *Les Misérables* to celebrate the naming of its new theatre The Mack in his honour.

The first theatre in the world to be named after Sir Cameron, The Mack is at the centre of Mountview's award-winning home in Peckham, and has been named in recognition of his long-standing support for Mountview.

The sold-out new production of *Les Misérables* directed by Shiv Rabheru and Matt Ryan is the first to update the story to contemporary Paris and reflect the social unrest of recent years, and is the first full-length student production of this iconic musical.

Claude-Michel Schönberg, the composer of *Les Misérables*, was among a host of well-known guests of the prestigious drama school including alumni such as Jon Robbins and Sha Dessi (Jean Valjean and Eponine in the current London production of *Les Misérables*), Noah Thomas and Hiba Elchikhe (Jamie New and Pritti Pasha in *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*), Cleve September from the original West End cast of *Hamilton* and TV presenter Amanda Holden.

Cameron Mackintosh was welcomed to The Mack before the show by Dame Vikki Heywood, Mountview's Chair, and met the cast and crew on the stage afterwards.

Sir Cameron said:

*"The opening tonight of the new theatre The Mack at the heart Mountview's exciting new home in vibrant Peckham will resound appropriately with the thrilling voices of this year's young talented final year students singing 'When Tomorrow Comes' as they perform the first ever student production of the full version of Les Misérables. I look forward to many more generations of students*

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*also receiving a magnificent start and training for the theatre when their tomorrow comes at Mountview in the future.”*

Vikki Heywood, Mountview’s Chair said:

*“On behalf of Mountview I am delighted to welcome Sir Cameron to open The Mack with a production of his iconic musical Les Misérables. This incredible theatre space will provide the next generation of talent with invaluable learning and performance opportunities for years to come and allows Mountview to continue offering the very highest level of dramatic training to our students.”*

ENDS

[Photos available from Press Association here](#)

[Photos by © Steve Gregson here](#)

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## Notes to Editors

### [Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts](#)

Mountview is one of the UK’s leading drama schools and has been training performance and production artists since 1945.

In 1992 Mountview became the first provider of specialised musical theatre training in Europe. Vocational courses include Acting, Musical Theatre, Actor Musicianship, Stage Management, Lighting, Sound, Scenic Art and Prop Making, Theatre Directing, Musical Direction, Creative Producing, Site Specific Theatre Practice and Theatre for Community and Education.

Mountview’s purpose-built home in Peckham was completed in 2018 and includes The Mack, a 200-seat main house (made possible by a £1m donation from the Mackintosh Foundation), a 80-seat Backstage Theatre (funded by the Backstage Trust), 23 acting, dance, TV and radio studios, production arts workshops and café/bars. There is also office space for creative organisations including disability arts practitioners Candoco and Touretteshero and a professional rehearsal suite.

In 2021 Mountview won a RIBA London Award and in 2020 was shortlisted as The Stage Theatre Building of the Year.

Alumni include Olivier Award winning actors Giles Terera and Rebecca Trehearn, Artistic Director of Donmar Warehouse Michael Longhurst, Eddie Marsan, Amanda Holden, Amy Trigg (winner of the inaugural Women’s Prize for Playwriting 2020) and 2021 Evening Standard Future Theatre Award Winners Emily Aboud and Beth Hinton-Lever.

Throughout Mountview’s 75 years, it has been dedicated to access to drama training and out-going joint Chief Executives Sarah Preece and Stephen Jameson’s built on this core commitment. In 2020 they received Special Recognition Olivier Awards for moving Mountview to Peckham and promoting diversity and accessibility.

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In 2020, Mountview launched The Judi Dench Fund for Access to Drama Training providing scholarships, bursaries and wellbeing and welfare initiatives for students.

2021 saw the launch of the Mountview Prize which celebrates trailblazers who inspire social change and whose lived experience is inspirational to others. The Prize includes an award of a bursary in the winner's name to a talented young person from an historically excluded community to attend Mountview's part-time Foundation in Acting. The inaugural recipient was director Dawn Walton.

For more information see [www.mountview.org.uk](http://www.mountview.org.uk)