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Editor: Alex Pleasants

On this week's edition of Ed's podcast, [Break Out Culture](#), he chats to new **National Gallery** chair (and former **BBC** boss) **Tony Hall** about the future of art and to the **Marquess of Cholmondeley** about working with **Anish Kapoor** for his new exhibition. Give it a whirl.

And in case you missed it... for the latest [Vaizey View](#) podcast, Ed talks to **Pascal Cagni** - chair of **Business France**, founder of **C4 Ventures** and **Apple's** former VP for Europe – all about French tech. Oh la la!

Government Stuff

The government has announced that (socially distanced) audiences can return to indoor theatres, music and performances [from 1st August](#).

[New law changes](#) have been set out to boost gigabit broadband rollout and bring better mobile coverage to the whole of the UK.

A new **DCMS Committee** report has outlined the [impact of the bug](#) on **DCMS** sectors, saying the government's failure to act swiftly resulted in unnecessary redundancies.

DCMS Committee has also released a report on the '[COVID-19 infodemic](#)', pushing for the government to bring forward online harms legislation this autumn.

Northern Ireland's contact tracing app launches [next week](#).

Remember that \$500m stake in bankrupt satellite firm **OneWeb** by the government? Turns out an official warned against it and now [MPs are investigating the deal](#).

The **Lib Dems** have [unveiled their proposals](#) for reinvigorating the creative industries, including reforming the apprenticeship levy and protecting IP rights in trade deals.

Culture Stuff

Arts & Culture

Industry bodies from throughout the cultural sector have given [their wholehearted support](#) to the **DCMS Committee** report into the impact of the bug.

Coventry City of Culture has seen [a £1.5m boost](#) for its community work from the **Paul Hamlyn Foundation** and the **London 2012** legacy fund.

UK Research & Innovation has released its [immersive audience journey report](#), providing insights into immersive experiences across the arts and beyond.

The really [quite poignant shortlist](#) for this year's **Wellcome Trust Photography Award** has been unveiled, showcasing healthcare up close around the world.

I Like Networking, a [new networking initiative](#) for the cultural and creative sectors, has launched, with mentors from **Art Basel**, **Bonhams**, **Fifa**, etc.

Here's **The Art Newspaper** with six of the [best creative facemasks](#) you can get your hands (face) on.

Design

London Design Biennale and **Chatham House** have [issued an open call](#) for projects benefiting society and showing radical design thinking in an age of crisis.

Evian has unveiled a new [label-free, recycled-plastic bottle](#), as part of a plan to become a circular brand by 2025. Water relief.

Pulls a muscle in neck looking up **The Guardian** asks, 'is it time to [stop building skyscrapers?](#)'

Theatre & Dance

The *Theatre Artists Fund*, launched by **Sam Mendes**, **SOLT** and **UK Theatre**, has trebled the amount raised for affected freelancers [to £1.6m](#).

With theatres being given the green light to reopen from 1st August, **The Stage** asks industry figures whether it'll be enough [to save the sector](#).

One of the first opening its doors was the **London Palladium**, [with a test event](#) at 30% capacity starring **Beverley Knight**. Ahhh, shoulda woulda coulda gone.

A brilliant project by photographer **Joanna Vestey** taking pics of [20 empty London theatres](#) and their caretakers to raise funds for the institutions.

The Mayflower Theatre is being lined up [to take over](#) the former **Nuffield Southampton**

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A new **Graeae** scheme is offering support to [D/deaf and disabled theatremakers](#).

Transitions, the UK's original graduate dance company from **Trinity Laban**, present [their first-ever film](#).

Tourism & Heritage

London-based charity **Culture&** has just announced a [Black Lives Matter charter](#) for the country's heritage sector.

Books, Press & Libraries

Book sales in the UK hit record levels in 2019 – [up 4% to £6.3bn](#) - driven by a surge in audiobooks and non-fiction.

Picture the scene... you've written a book. You're **CLOSE** to the **Sunday Times** top 10 bestseller list. You buy, let's say, [400 copies](#) to get there. And then... DENIED.

'Astonishing poetry', aged just four. [Land a book deal](#), write some more. Ok, I'm not four, but I came up with that instantly? Anyway, well done, Nadim.

Exhibitions, Events and Reopenings

The **Hayward Gallery** at the **Southbank Centre** [reopens on 1st August](#), with free entry for **NHS** workers and tickets for a fiver for under-30s and Lambeth residents.

This weekend, **Camden Market** plays host to the UK's first [public live music events](#) since lockdown.

If you're in the West Midlands, get yourself to **Black Country Living Museum**, also welcoming visitors back from [1st August](#) via prebooked entry.

Get those feathered costumes ready regardless: **Notting Hill Carnival** is set to take place [virtually next month](#).

We Will Walk, a [timely new exhibition](#) exploring African American resistance, is now open at Margate's **Turner Contemporary**.

This August, **English National Ballet** is running a course of [free online classes](#) for young dancers aged 14-19 years.

There's a new exhibition [about mushrooms](#), their mysterious biology and their psychedelic tendencies on at **Somerset House** for all you fungus and girls out there.