

18 December 2009

Public statement

The Barbican Centre has announced that it has been given approval by the City of London Corporation to progress to design stage a proposal to relocate two of the Barbican's three cinemas (Cinemas 2 and 3) to Exhibition Hall 1 on Beech Street.

Upgrading Cinemas 2 and 3 has been a long term ambition of the Barbican and will benefit both residents and cinema goers. The new cinemas will be purpose built with state of the art projection and sound systems.

If full approvals are secured during 2010, the proposed new cinemas will go through the full planning process later in the year, with the new facilities expected to open in 2012. Full consultation with all relevant parties will begin towards the end of January 2010 and there will be further formal consultation if the project proceeds to planning stage.

Cinemas 2 and 3 in their current location will close to the public from late spring 2010, although their use as conference auditoriums will remain unaffected. During the interim period, Barbican Film will continue to programme its diverse range of arts projects, special film seasons and new releases in Cinema 1.

Ends.

Notes:

- For further press information contact: Lorna Gemmell, Communications Manager, Cross-Arts and Corporate on T: 07789 933 010 or E: lorna.gemmell@barbican.org.uk
- The Barbican Centre is one of the world's leading arts centres, founded and run by the City of London Corporation. It provides all the arts - music, theatre, dance, cinema, the visual arts and education - under one roof and one creative direction. For more information visit: www.barbican.org.uk