

NEW CHAIR APPOINTED FOR QUAD'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

QUAD, Derby's new centre for art and film, has appointed Gordon Mitchell as the new Chair of QUAD's Board of Directors. Gordon Mitchell officially became the Chair at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors on 4th February 2009. Gordon takes over from Michael Say, who has been involved with QUAD from its inception, and was both Chairman and a member of Metro Cinema's board of Directors since 1985.

The appointment of Gordon Mitchell as the new QUAD Chair marks the completion of the QUAD Board recruitment programme. Mr Say stepped into the role last year when Brian Blissett left the Board due to ill health.

Michael Say commented "Although Brian's departure was unexpected, his work on planning for the QUAD Board's future development ensured some quality Director candidates, and it was always the aim to identify someone with the potential to head-up the Board for the longer term."

Keith Jeffrey, QUAD Director said "Michael has done an outstanding job for QUAD. He has been unstinting in his commitment and support for the team, he will be sorely missed. However we now have in place an extremely strong Board of Directors so he leaves us in a extremely healthy position."

Gordon Mitchell said "Brian and Michael have a done a fantastic job in bringing QUAD into existence, and to establish a great focal point for film and visual arts in Derby and the region. I'm honoured to be asked to build on their work and hope to develop QUAD into the premier venue and arts organisation the city that we all want. I am an enthusiast for visual arts and particularly keen to see QUAD reach out to new audiences, and to engage with more people. QUAD has had an amazing impact already with over 80,000 people already been to see the exhibitions and films, or participate in events, classes and programmes. This has been tremendous, but we need to help more people to experience great art. I also want to see our partnerships develop with the business community, the city council, artists and individuals who are interested in promoting great art in a great place."

Gordon Mitchell was already a QUAD Board member and is currently Managing Director of Starburst Consulting Ltd. He specialises in consultancy, supporting senior executives in managing personal leadership, strategic direction or partnerships. He works with clients across the UK. Mr. Mitchell has previously worked as Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council, Chief Executive of Bracknell Forest BC and in the Cabinet Office as Programme Director for the Prime Minister's Office for Public Sector Reform. Other roles have included Board member of Nottingham Regeneration Ltd, Governor of Gloucestershire College, Board member of Thames Valley Economic Partnership, and a company providing support to new and growing businesses.

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The other members of the QUAD Board of Directors are; Bob Betts, Yasmin Canvin, Mark Collins, Professor Huw Davies, John Forkin, Errol Francis, Gordon Mitchell, Paul Squires, Lyn Woods, Cllr Joe Naitta, Kevin Edwards, Mick Brown (Deputy Chairman), Pat Dawson and Kevin Malpass.

ENDS

QUAD is Derby's new centre for art and film, on the Market Place in Derby city centre. QUAD is a gallery, cinema, café bar and workshop that anyone can use.

QUAD is a partnership between Derby City Council, Arts Council England, EM Media, European Union, East Midlands Development Agency, Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership, Derby City Partnership and Derby Cityscape. See www.derbyquad.co.uk for more information.

For further information on this event, or any other issue relating to QUAD, please contact Kathy Frain on 01332 285422 (mobile: 0779441941) or email kathyf@derbyquad.co.uk