

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**THE HIPPODROME** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Middle Street Brighton

**THE BEATLES**

CHARLIE  
CHAPLIN

HARRY  
HOLDEN

BOB  
HOPE

BUSTER  
KEATON

BOB  
HOPE

LAUREL  
& HARDY

BOB  
HOPE

MAX  
MILLER

TOMMY COOPER

THE  
ROLLING STONES

MAX  
MILLER

LAUREL  
& HARDY

ROLLING STONES

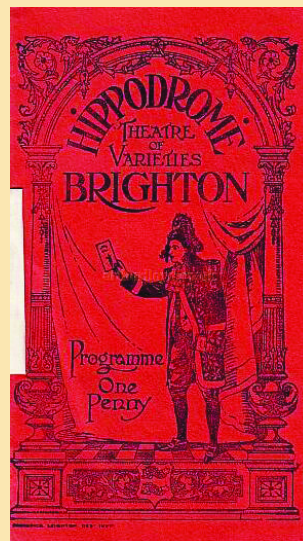
SAMMY  
DUNN

BOB  
HOPE

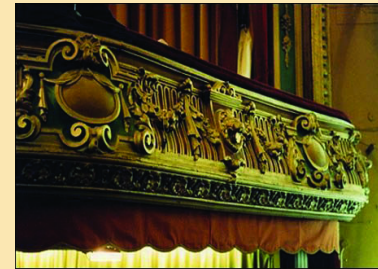
Meet at the Max Miller statue  
New Road 2pm Saturday 8 Nov  
to SAVE OUR HIPPODROME!



The Brighton Hippodrome has stood in its present location for well over a century and was designed by Frank Matcham, the most celebrated theatre architect of all time; his other work includes the London Palladium, the Blackpool Tower Ballroom and Circus, Hackney Empire and the London Hippodrome. In its lifetime it has played host to no end of stars, including all those overleaf. After a short spell as an ice rink and a circus, it was redesigned in 1901 as a major variety theatre, in its heyday housing audiences of up to 3,500. In recent years it became a bingo hall but has stood empty since 2007. The Theatres Trust recently placed the Hippodrome top of the list of 'most at risk' venues in the whole of the UK.

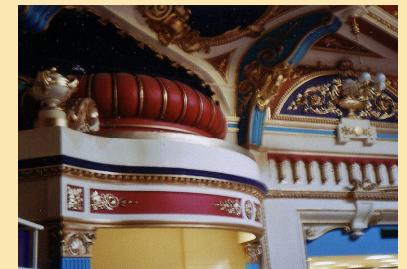


Now though, Brighton Council have, somewhat out of the blue, approved plans to turn it into a multi-screen cinema with four restaurants and other retail outlets. The developer's application claims that it could be turned back into a live entertainment venue at some point in the future, but we don't believe that this would be possible, let alone ever be likely to happen. The planned demolition of the 'fly' towers and

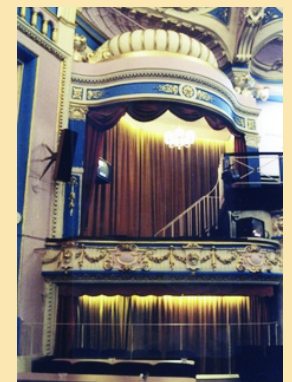


stage area and the rebuilding on and leasing of areas which would be needed for loading access would effectively mean the loss of this totally unique listed building as a live entertainment venue, forever.

Brighton already has plenty of cinemas which are struggling and competing with each other for limited business, whilst several empty picture houses such as the Astoria have been sold on for residential development. What Brighton does not have is a venue which, in addition to being able to cater for the larger touring shows which the Theatre Royal and Dome cannot house, serves the community.



A refurbished rather than converted Hippodrome with adaptable performance spaces would fill the much-needed role as home for local drama, music, dance and circus schools and workshops, exhibitions, charity functions and sporting events; it would be the perfect hub for the Brighton Festival and Fringe, and an ideal venue for large corporate events and trade shows, bringing revenue to the city. Existing local businesses would benefit rather than having competition from the additional retail and food outlets which the proposed cinema conversion promises.





It may already be too late, but the fate of the Hippodrome lies in the hands of 12 Councillors. At the last meeting they voted 8 to 4 in favour of the cinema conversion. This was despite the recommendations of English Heritage, who have made it clear that their preferred option would see the Hippodrome refurbished as a theatrical venue, for live entertainment.

If you agree and feel, as we do, that this historic masterpiece must be saved and returned to its former glory as a beautiful and unique venue which serves the community rather than corporate investors, please make your feelings known to the Councillors - their email addresses are below, please be polite and constructive. If you would prefer to write a letter, please address it to: Council Planning Department, King's House, Grand Avenue, Hove BN3 2LS.

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**It's up to all of us now, and we need to *act quickly*.**  
**RALLY 2pm SAT 8th NOV Max Miller statue, New Rd.**  
**Come and show your support and help to**  
**SAVE OUR HIPPODROME!**

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Phelim.MacCafferty@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Mike.Jones@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Lynda.Hyde@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Bob.Carden@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Graham.Cox@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Ian.Davey@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Penny.Gilbey@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Leslie.Hamilton@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Leo.Littman@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Alex.Phillips@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Carol.Theobald@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Geoffrey.Wells@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk



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***Save our Hippodrome***