



## NEW CITY CENTRE HOME FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

### What's happened?

We're really excited to announce that, after months of preparation and discussion, Sheffield Music Academy (SMA), acting with its partner Sheffield Music Hub (The Hub), has an option to purchase Canada House as a new city centre home for music education with the purchase of the building to be funded via an award from the [Levelling Up Fund](#). This is a crucial step in realising the vision for [Harmony Works](#), a project which focuses on children, education and the wellbeing that comes from music.

### Why have we done this?

Currently SMA and the Hub operate out of lots of different venues across the city, all of which are rented. This presents a significant cost to both organisations, these venues have a South and West Sheffield bias, so are not easily accessible to many of Sheffield's young people, they provide limited, often impractical spaces for music education, sometimes with poor acoustic quality and child safeguarding means that rehearsal and performance venues have to be carefully managed by staff and volunteers. We have been looking for a city centre venue that will allow us to grow, thereby offering the benefits of a music education to more of Sheffield's children and young people, that students can get to by public transport from all parts of the city region, and that provides spaces specifically designed and equipped for music. Canada House is just that opportunity.

### Canada House

Canada House is situated on the north side of Commercial Street in Sheffield city centre. The building was constructed in 1875 for the Sheffield United Gas Company and was listed grade 2\* in the 1970s by Historic England (then English Heritage) as a building of historic and architecture importance.

The building continued to be occupied as a gas showroom until 1972, after which uses included a nightclub, a pub, and a Cash & Carry before being bought by Panache Lingerie in 2002.



### What's going to happen next?

For now, SMA and the Hub will continue to operate out of their current offices and venues.

Music lessons and ensemble rehearsals remain unchanged. The target date for the sale of the property to be completed is July 2022, before the major restoration and refurbishment project begins. Our fundraising campaign enters its next phase - to raise the money that is needed to restore and convert Canada House.

### How you can help

We'd love to keep in touch with you as this project develops. To find out more about the project now, and to sign up for future updates, please visit the project website: <https://harmonyworks.org.uk> where you can join our mailing list: <https://harmonyworks.org.uk/contact/>

For more information contact: [info@harmonyworks.org](mailto:info@harmonyworks.org).

