

**The New Victoria**

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**NEW MULTIVENUE ARTS SPACE PROPOSED FOR ICONIC EDINBURGH BUILDING**



A vision of The New Victoria, a proposed multi arts venue for the iconic former Odeon cinema in Edinburgh's Southside, has been released. The planned project would include space for film, theatre, arts and music, as well as a café and bar.

The former Odeon cinema, known as The New Victoria when it opened in 1930, is grade B listed. It was in use as a cinema until its closure in 2003. It was used as a festival venue in 2005 and 2007 and has been unused since then.

Commenting, Creative Director of The New Victoria Vicki Simpson said:

*"This image is our vision of what The New Victoria could be. We want to restore this abandoned, neglected building in a manner which reflects its cultural and architectural significance.*

*We will do a full restoration of its outstanding original features, many of which have been hidden from public view for decades.*

*The New Victoria will encompass a range of spaces accommodating a wide variety of entertainment and events. The New Victoria will be a multi-use arts venue for locals and visitors alike. It will re-generate an oft-neglected area of the city, create jobs and stimulate the local economy."*

The New Victoria Operations Director Sarah Colquhoun added:

*"This building is well worth saving. It is steeped in history and this proposed arts space will give it a fantastic future for decades to come. The potential for this venue is incredible.*

*The New Victoria will be a space for new Scottish theatre and arts, a modern live music venue and a place to screen films. We hope to welcome back red carpet premieres to Edinburgh's Southside, for the first time in over a decade.*

*This could be the foremost cabaret venue in the UK, and unique in its ambition to be fully accessible.*

*This building is not in a state worthy of demolition. Rather, it is worthy of Grade A listing. The New Victoria needs to be shown some tender loving care.*

*Our plans would do just that and return this much loved building to its rightful place in the hearts of the people of Edinburgh, and beyond."*