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ACADEMY OF  
MUSIC AND  
DRAMATIC ART

November 2005

## THANKSGIVING BRINGS ROYAL VISITOR TO LAMDA

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2005, **Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, KG, GCVO**, Patron of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, made her inaugural visit to the Academy's new home.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, who has been Patron of the Academy since the 1960s, was escorted on a tour of the new premises by LAMDA Chairman, **Luke Rittner**, and Principal, **Peter James**, observing a variety of classes from voice work to stage combat en route. The visit culminated in a light lunch arranged in her honour and attended by over eighty of the Academy's most distinguished supporters and guests, including LAMDA's esteemed President **Timothy West**, his wife and renowned actress, **Prunella Scales**, actor **Derek Jacobi**, novelist **Penny Vincenzi** and prestigious Academy alumnae **Harriet Walter** and **Patricia Hodge**.

LAMDA moved to its new home on the Talgarth Road in 2003; taking a momentous step towards providing its students with the space and facilities demanded by such a pre-eminent training institution. To ensure that the momentum gathered during LAMDA's initial move continues, the Academy now plans to undertake a major programme of building work at the Talgarth Road site, with the hope of eventually including a brand new state-of-the-art theatre. As the Academy prepares to embark on this next stage of development, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra's visit, which coincided with Thanksgiving, offered the entire LAMDA community an ideal opportunity to both reflect and express gratitude for the enormous level of support demonstrated thus far.

In the words of LAMDA Chairman, Luke Rittner, 'It is an exciting and critical time for LAMDA as we embark on a new phase of redevelopment at our Talgarth Road campus and we are immensely grateful to all those who have helped us come this far on our journey. Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra's visit was a wonderful chance to celebrate our progress and to herald the next stage of development and we are immensely grateful to Her Royal Highness for the support and encouragement she gives us as LAMDA's Patron.'

Ends/

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HRH Princess Alexandra  
the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO

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