



# The Royal Institution

**Director's Choice**

**Katherine Mathieson**

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- Features insights into colourful history of the Royal Institution (Ri), which has been at the forefront of scientific discovery for over 200 years
- Famous scientists – among them 15 Nobel Prize winners – have been connected to the Ri, including Humphry Davy, Michael Faraday and Ernest Rutherford
- Latest addition to the popular *Director's Choice* series, Scala's successful museum and heritage guide series.

The Royal Institution (Ri) has been at the forefront of scientific innovation, discovery and communication since its founding in 1799. In this enjoyable guide, Director Katherine Mathieson shares a selection of her favourite features of the Ri. Many are associated with scientists connected to the Royal Institution, including Humphry Davy, Michael Faraday and Ernest Rutherford.

From its Grade 1-listed building in central London, the Ri connects the public with scientists through talks, events and activities for people of all ages and backgrounds, included the CHRISTMAS LECTURES. Founded by Michael Faraday, these lectures were an exciting new way of presenting science to young people. Famous scientists who presented the Lectures include William Henry and William Lawrence Bragg, Sir David Attenborough, Carl Sagan, Dame Nancy Rothwell, Hannah Fry and Sir Jonathan Van-Tam. Everyone is welcome to enjoy science through the Ri, to explore their interest in how science transforms our lives.

**Katherine Mathieson** became Director of The Royal Institution in 2022. She has worked in the field of science engagement and communication for over 20 years, including senior roles as Head of Future Innovators at Nesta and CEO at the British Science Association (BSA).