

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Stockholm International Film Festival becomes new Skandia Theater tenant**

**The legendary Skandia Theater on Drottninggatan in central Stockholm will continue to operate as a cinema when the premises changes tenants next year. Hufvudstaden has signed a lease with the Stockholm International Film Festival, which will take over the cinema on February 1st 2024.**

It has now been confirmed that the Stockholm International Film Festival will take over Skandia Theater's premises in early 2024. In addition to organising a range of film festivals, the foundation hopes to put on film screenings on a regular basis.

*"Since 1990, the Stockholm International Film Festival's second home has been the venerable Skandia cinema, so we're delighted to now take over the contract and safeguard the future of the cinema. We look forward to a long-term collaboration with Hufvudstaden in which we proudly reopen Skandia to the public and preserve Sweden's leading premiere cinema,"* says Dharma Garde Palme, Producer, Stockholm International Film Festival.

Hufvudstaden acquired Warodell House, where Skandia Theater is located, in 1921. At that time, Ivar Kreuger was a major shareholder in Hufvudstaden and Svensk Filmindustri (SF), and the two companies became closely linked in the following 50 years. At the time of the acquisition, Hufvudstaden and SF decided to complete a project that was already underway to build a cinema in Warodell House. Architect Gunnar Asplund was hired to design the cinema and it opened in 1923.

*"Hufvudstaden has owned Skandia Theater for more than 100 years, so we're keen to see the property's cultural identity preserved. With Stockholm International Film Festival taking over Skandia, we're so happy that Stockholmers and visitors alike will still be able to enjoy cinema in these beautiful ornate premises,"* says Frida Wijkström, Head of Business Area Stockholm, Hufvudstaden.

Press images: <https://share.mediaflow.com/se/?LHIEXPDSYA>

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