**DRAFT SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**HULL 2017 PROJECT SUMMARY – The Last Ballad of Lillian Bilocca**

**Crediting**Hull UK City of Culture 2017   
The Last Ballad of Lillian Bilocca (TBC)   
by Maxine Peake

Music & Lyrics by Adrian McNally & The Unthanks

Associate Movement Director Jon Beney

Lighting Designer Chris Davey

Director Sarah Frankcom

Choreographer / Co-director Imogen Knight

Sound Designer Peter Malkin

Set & Costume Designer Amanda Stoodley

Casting Director Polly Jerrold

**Summary**

Inspired by the women who campaigned for better and safer working conditions on Britain’s trawler ships, the Ballad of Big Lil is a site specific project with a strong mix of music, movement and text. The production explores Hull’s heritage as a port city, and celebrates the hard and dangerous life of trawlerman ruled by a feudal system of ship owners in a voracious capitalist system. At the heart of the story is Lillian Bilocca, a women who dared to speak out and take action to improve conditions for men at sea. With a community chorus and live music, the evening will be a visceral, joyous evening of song, music & theatre.

**The following details describe the production parameters which reflect the project budget**

**Venue** Guildhall, Hull TBC

A civic space with the faded grandeur of the past.

**Music** New musical works written by Adrian McNally and The Unthanks. To be performed live by The Unthanks.   
One song, the Ballad of Big Lil, to have lyrics by Maxine Peake, with original music by Adrian McNally and The Unthanks.

**Cast & Band**  Cast of 8

Band of 6  
 Max cast & band no more than 14

**Digital** Explore live broadcast & filming opportunities to extend reach for audiences.

**Project Timeline**

June 16 Brief delivered to Hull 2017 by Maxine Peake

July 16 Commission the script

Secure director

August 16 Site scouting & site to be identified.

Sept/Oct 16 Recce visit for Guildhall – SF, AS, PR as well as MP if schedule allows

10 -14 Oct R&D in Manchester.   
To be arranged by Michelle Hickman from Manchester  
Royal Exchange with actors from Streetcar.   
In attendance: Maxine Peake  
 Sarah Frankcom  
 Adrian McNally (only avail 10 & 11 and tbc)  
 Amanda Stoodley

Nov/Dec 16 Secure designer, choreographer, sound & lighting designer production manager

First delivery of script due

Jan 17 Creative team site recce in Hull

Confirm details of RET involvement

Feb 17 Script R&D week & draft due

Mar 17 Presentation to SLT at Guildhall 21.03.17

April 17 Artistic presentation to SLT at Hull 2017 followed by practical MarComms planning session at Hull 2017.

Final script delivered

Prelim designs & outline costings

Casting of professional company

May 17 Budget revisions based

June 17 Image & copy generated

Confirm site – venue contracted

Confirm & contract rehearsal space, Hull

Stage management team confirmed

Sign off season brochure page

July 17 Recruitment & casting of Community Cast

Final designs & detailed costings

Sept 17 Pre-Production – build & prep venue

Oct 17 Rehearse

Install at venue

Nov 17 Tech, open & perform

Nov 17 Close

**Production Team**   
Production Manager  
Company Stage Manager  
DSM  
ASM x 2  
Sound Op   
LX Op  
Dresser  
Technician   
Production Sound

Production LX  
Costume Supervisor – RET in kind support

(One role to take the lead on volunteer supervision)

FOH Manager  
Box Office Manager & Assistant – To be provided by Hull 2017 core team TBC

Stewards   
Security  
Access Performance Interpreter

Bar staff Licensee & Operator TBC

**Production Schedule**   
All dates to be discussed and confirmed with MP/SF and Unthanks  
Rehearsals Week 1 w/c 2 Oct 2107 Reh in Manchester   
 (Pro Cast)  
 Reh in Hull Comm Cast  
  
Rehearsals Week 2 w/c 9 Oct Reh in Manchester

(Pro Cast)  
 Reh in Hull Comm Cast  
  
Rehearsals Week 3 w/c 16 Oct Reh in Hull  
Rehearsals Week 4 w/c 23 Oct Reh in Hull  
Start venue set up

Production / Tech Week w/c 30 Oct   
First Preview Fri 3 Nov  
Second Preview Sat 4 Nov   
Performance Week 1 w/c 6 Nov

Press Night Wed 8 or Thurs 9 Nov

Perf Week 2 w/c 13 Nov  
Final Performances Sat 18 Nov 2017

Proposal for possible Community Ensemble process:  
Community Cast To be 16 + years old   
 Overall Group of 30 – for min 20 per perf  
 Rehearsals in Hull  
 3 sessions a week, evenings & weekend  
 6 sessions during Tech Week, daytime, evening & Sat  
 6 performances per week during run

Min 6 performances per week inc one matinee TBC.

05.06.17