

Hull UK City of Culture 2017

Proposal for Music Programme from Serious Events Ltd

1: Support around COUM/Throbbing Gristle project/s curated by The Quietus

Public Presentation: Made In Hull (Q1: January – March, 2017)

Key delivery organisation: The Quietus, thequietus.com

Themes: Legacy of COUM/ Throbbing Gristle

This project comprises two multi-faceted events based on the life and work of significant artistic groups who are associated with Hull – COUM and Throbbing Gristle (TG) - and is curated by The Quietus.

Event 1: Exhibition of COUM/Throbbing Gristle

Exhibition of the COUM/TG archive curated by The Quietus in collaboration with members of COUM/TG (Genesis P-Orridge and Cosey Fanni Tutti). Nb: The exhibition is the domain of The Quietus who have been liaising with members of COUM/TG and lies outside of the scope of this proposal but is referenced here to provide context for the live music events (below). It should also be noted that The Quietus have their own budget to realise the exhibition and a significant part of the music elements associated with Event 2.

Venue: Exhibition space at 64 Humber Street for duration of Q1.

Event 2: Club Nights

Two short seasons (3 x nights) of music/club nights featuring local, national, international artists inspired by COUM/TG, each curated by The Quietus in collaboration with COUM/TG members. It is suggested that these 'bookend' the exhibition but it could also be possible to drop in additional nights during the run according to artist availability.

A further possibility for a live music event could be built around the film 'Industrial Soundtrack for the Urban Decay' which moves from Throbbing Gristle to a broader northern industrial music history

<http://industrialsoundtrack.tumblr.com/>

Venue: Fruit, 62 – 63 Humber Street.

Next steps: After a comprehensive discussion with Luke Turner from The Quietus, we understand that the curatorial ideas and the relationships with members of COUM/TG are already well developed. It is recognised that the key artists (Genesis P-Orridge and Cosey Fanni Tutti) are estranged and this has necessitated some creative thinking about how the events will be programmed (suggestion is that each contribute to the curation of one live season) to be inclusive and also to give a rounded view of the legacy. It is worth marking that there are certain subversive elements to the COUM/TG story that could arouse negative media interest and any spokesperson for this event will need to be fully briefed.

Serious involvement (at this stage): Due to the well developed nature of the curatorial ideas and the complex relationships involved, we think the most practical way to move this forward will be for The Quietus to concentrate on developing programme ideas with COUM/TG, with Serious supporting in terms of scoping the venue for the live work, production management of the live events, negotiating fees and contracting for non-COUM/TG artists for the live music events only.

2: Development of a significant Basil Kirchin project in partnership with J-Night and Nova Films and potential co-commissioning partners

Public Presentation: Made In Hull (Q1: January – March 2017, and beyond)

Key delivery partners: Nova Studios (Matt Stephenson, Director) and J-Night/Hull Jazz Festival (David Porter, Director)

Theme: Legacy of Basil Kirchin

Medium-large scale event focused around the extraordinary musical legacy of Basil Kirchin - a significant musician who is associated with Hull. Working title is 'Basil Kirchin – Mind on the Run'.

This project is designed to have a presence throughout the City of Culture year, as well as bringing in external producing partners (especially relevant in Q3). It is a fascinating story, with immense potential to cover different aural and visual media, and to create a lasting impact and legacy.

Elements will comprise:

- The Kirchin Weekender Music Events: programme of live work inspired by Kirchin, with guest artists like: Brian Eno, Hidden Orchestra, Jarvis Cocker, Submotion Orchestra, Flying Lotus, Thundercat and Henrik Schwarz, et al. If appropriate partners are agreeable, there could also be an orchestral element.
- The Kirchin Weekender Contextualising Events: Film screenings, talks, discussions with pundits and contemporaries (cf: members of Octopus). Important to reiterate the legacy of Kirchin's work and how it manifests in contemporary music.
- Film: Optional short film (30 mins) produced by Nova Films/ Content can be used as an online 'selling' tool in advance of the event, as visual material shown as part of the event itself, and as legacy – potentially feeding into a full length documentary as described below. This element could also find a semi-permanent home in the new C4DI Hull.

The Kirchin Weekender (Made In Hull, Q1: January – March, 2017)

An immersive combination of film, concert, contextualising events, talks and panel sessions, which places retrospective materials alongside a contemporary reflection of Kirchin's (extremely rich) legacy. The materials are plentiful (both audio and visual) and start in the early years of British rock'n'roll, through travel to India and Australia, film scores (eg, *The Abominable Dr. Phibes*) to ground-breaking experiments in electronica and sonic manipulation.

In discussion with Nova and others, we have uncovered a fascinating range of artists who acknowledge his inspiration (Brian Eno is a prime example) or who worked with Kirchin across the years (eg, Evan Parker, Howard Blake). Many of these have expressed an interest in taking part. The project can also engage with contemporary artists (musicians and ensembles, DJs and visuals artists) who have been inspired or intrigued by his work. Research has thrown up the names of Jarvis Cocker, Stereolab, Hidden Orchestra, Submotion Orchestra, Flying Lotus, Thundercat, Henrik Schwarz, Broadcast, High Llamas.

There should also be the opportunity for broadcast. The BBC Philharmonic Orchestra (based in Manchester) has expressed interest in how an orchestral response to Kirchin and his influence could be generated. Other

BBC connections include: Stuart Maconie and Jarvis Cocker - we know that they are enthusiasts. This is a project that can engage with different networks and to that end we have been in touch with Mark Cooper the Head of BBC Music Television about being involved.

We are aiming for an event that has a contemporary edge and will celebrate Kirchin as a vital figure in today's music – 'Kirchin past, present and future'.

Venue/s: City Hall - this event will need a venue that can include break-out spaces and City Hall would also have the capacity for large scale concerts (eg, an orchestral project and/or a high profile concert involving artists/bands who can be seen as Kirchin followers) + other venues, as necessary.

Budget: The full proposal as described above is expensive, as indicated in accompanying budget. This requires detailed discussion on scale and aspiration of the project, and how it might attract additional funding and contributions from co-producing partners (see below).

Legacy/resonance: The précis above represents only a small part of the many ideas that can feed into the weekender – the challenge will be to distil these into an event with a strong, clear message that can lead into further stages in the story. The commission for GoGo Penguin as part of the PRSF New Music Biennial event in July, in Q3 (also referenced below under Hull Jazz Festival) represents another focal point, and we think that there is further relevance to Q4's theme of 'Tell the World'.

Nova's long term interest is to make a documentary film about Basil Kirchin which could be incorporated into the process (below) by creating some filmed material in advance of the project that can be used both to trail the Weekender in Q1, and to be part of the event itself. One task will be for Nova to raise the funding for a full documentary, but if we can support this process through the year, a finished piece of work that can be completed by Q4 could become a permanent legacy (whether broadcast or online at the new C4DI Hull).

Other legacies include: the suggestion that the University of Hull could become involved as the home of the Kirchin archive, the University of Hull also has Post-Grad opportunities for three research posts in musicology to run during City of Culture year and it would be ideal if one of these could be devoted to Kirchin, and we are exploring international interest to create a version of the Weekender in partnership with other producers in the UK and Europe, for instance:

- Punkt Festival, Kristiansand, Norway – Serious has a history of working with this Festival, which explores a range of contemporary musics including live electronics and sampling, within a concept of live remixing - an association with them could add the idea of a Kirchin live remix to the programme for the initial weekender. www.punktfestival.no
- Berlin Jazz Festival, Germany – the current artistic director is Richard Williams, who signed Kirchin to Island Records in the 70s, and wrote his obituary in the Guardian - interest in exploring how this would manifest in Berlin in November 2017. www.berlinerfestspiele.de
- Jazztopad Festival, Wroclaw, Poland – this runs concurrently with the EFG London Jazz Festival (and therefore the winter edition of Hull Jazz Festival) – again Serious has history of co-producing with this Festival. www.jazztopad.pl
- Barbican Centre, London

Serious Involvement (at this stage): devising and producing live performance/s in collaboration with key local partners, securing additional partners to help achieve aims.

Pitching to: BBC TV, BBC Radio 6, BBC Philharmonic

3: Strategic Partnership with J-Night around both editions of Hull Jazz Festival (summer and winter) with tie into EFG London Jazz Festival and both events' 25th anniversaries

Public Presentation:	Freedom (Q3: July - September) & Tell the World (Q4: October – December) ¹ Hull Jazz Festival 25th anniversary enhanced summer and winter editions
Dates:	Summer Edition, week beginning 10 July 2017 (exact number of days TBC; usually 12 – 20 gigs per week)
Dates:	Winter Edition, week beginning 13 November 2017 (number of days not clear at this stage; usually 12 – 20 gigs per week)
Key Partners:	J-Night / Hull Jazz Festival (David Porter, Director)
Venues:	Indoor venues e.g. Truck, City Hall, Fruit, Kardomah, Holy Trinity, etc
Themes:	Looking forward, not backwards plus anniversaries of key jazz figures (Ella Fitzgerald, Thelonious Monk, Lena Horne and Dizzy Gillespie all born in 2017) and 25 th anniversaries of both festivals (Hull Jazz Festival and EFG London Jazz Festival).

Context: Discussions have revolved around the principle of creating a strategic relationship for jazz activity through the year between J-Night and Serious, and focusing on an enhanced summer edition of Hull Jazz Festival in July, and a similarly enhanced winter edition of the Festival in November. The summer Festival will be informed by Serious' membership of the International Jazz Festivals Organisation (IJFO), which brings together many of the major European Festivals which occur in July and feeds into Serious' concert programme at the Barbican. This can also become the context for collaboration with the North Sea Jazz Festival (an IJFO member) and jazz activity in Rotterdam (see notes below, Section 4).

The winter Festival runs alongside the EFG London Jazz Festival, and a circuit of other European Jazz festivals, including Jazztopad in Poland, Enjoy Jazz in Germany, Nevers Jazz Festival in France, as well as other festivals in Barcelona, and a new festival being established in Bruges/Ostend in Belgium.

Events/Projects:

Projects (selection) already in development by Hull Jazz Festival for summer edition (moving ahead and beyond the scope of this proposal):

- 'Future Bubblers' with Gilles Peterson (probably with The Warren)
- Northern Lines / Jazz North artists – Zoe Gilby Monk Project (Zoe is a current Take Five artist)
- GoGo Penguin commission based on Basil Kirchin themes will be part of the PRSF New Music Biennial (presentation in Hull, 1 – 2 July).

¹ It should be noted that J-Night has been in discussion with other presenters/artists for work that is not mentioned here. One such event is scheduled to be programmed on 30 April 2017 to mark International Jazz Day which falls in Q2: Roots & Routes. It is 'Vivaldi Reconfigured', a project led by Dutch artist Tim Kliphuis and features the Northern Sinfonia.

Projects in discussion with Serious for summer edition of Hull Jazz Festival:

- Participation projects: J-Night interested in 'A Brief History of the Coolest Instrument in the World' – a participation project developed by Serious with guitarist Chris Montague. Proposed that this be produced in collaboration with The Warren – a youth centre in Hull (contact: Stu Baxter).
- One or two major international names to perform in Hull City Hall (eg, Herbie Hancock, see also Section 6 below).
- See engagement with North Sea Jazz Festival (Section 4, below).

Projects in discussion with Serious for summer & winter editions of Hull Jazz Festival:

- Artist-in-Residence (shortlist to be compiled), includes performances.
- Joint Commissions (shortlist to be compiled/perhaps bringing in European partners – eg, Wroclaw, Poland or North Sea Jazz Festival, Holland), includes performances.

Projects (selection) already in development by Hull Jazz Festival for winter edition (moving ahead and beyond the scope of this proposal):

- University of Hull department of music Tim Garland / Gwilym Simcock / Jonathan Gee and Michael Janisch.
- The Jazz Ticket - a Journey with the Giants of Jazz: a strategic touring schools project from Tomorrows Warriors & Peter Edwards that is supported by the PRSF New Music Biennial (in development throughout 2017 and culminates in Hull during the winter edition).

Projects in discussion with Serious for winter edition of Hull Jazz Festival:

- Jazz Voice 2017 – mainstage gala event in the City Hall featuring orchestra/big band and high profile guest vocalists, exploring music that resonates with the anniversaries of key jazz figures (eg, Ella Fitzgerald, Thelonious Monk, Lena Horne, Dizzy Gillespie, all born in 1917).
- Tell the World – international collaboration to devise/present a project that incorporates digital innovation, streaming etc. For example Dutch band, Tin Men & The Telephone - <http://tinmenandthetelephone.com/>
- Joint commitment to UK artists (eg, could feature Laura Jurd who will be the final year of the BBC New Generation Scheme);
- International showcase for UK artists (relates to above commitment) – J-Night will front an application to ACE for a partnership of UK producers to create showcase events for visiting international producers to access UK work – Hull would be the first event in a an annual series.
- Concerts in Hull City Hall with major artists who are on tour, maximising the international presence, eg, we have had an early steer that Pat Metheny's next major concert tour, will land in the autumn of 2017 (see also Section 6 below).

Serious Involvement (at this stage): devising and producing live performance/s currently under discussion between Serious and J-Night/Hull Jazz Festival in collaboration with key local partners, securing additional partners (where appropriate) to help achieve aims.

4: Creative partnership with the North Sea Jazz Festival (NSJF)

Public Presentation:	Freedom (Q3: July – September, 2017) – could be connected to Hull Jazz Festival in July, but North Sea’s programme ranges into wider musical territory.
Venue:	City Hall (Event 1) and Fruit or Hull Truck Theatre (Event 2).
Key Partners:	North Sea Jazz Festival, J-Night / Hull Jazz Festival (David Porter, Director)
Potential partners:	BIRD jazz club, City of Rotterdam, Rotterdam Conservatory/Codarts.
Dates:	Timed to coincide with the summer edition of Hull Jazz Festival (week of 10 July), but can also extend, ie, there might be something to discuss around Freedom Festival (early September).

Context: North Sea Jazz Festival (NSJF) is based in Rotterdam and is one of the key European festivals for jazz and related musics. Produced annually, it occurs across three days in July in the Ahoy Theatre complex in Rotterdam and is part of a two week long city-wide celebration of jazz (Jazz About Town). The team behind NSJF also programme Curaçao Jazz Festival in the Caribbean (each September) and a year round programme across Holland. www.northseajazz.com

Serious has a long working relationship with the team at NSJF and we have discussed several ways of working with them for Hull 2017, especially focussing on artists who can bring a multi-cultural dimension to the programme that can connect with the themes in Q3.

There are some important cultural links that can be explored – Rotterdam has the third biggest Cape Verdean community in the world, and there are post-colonial connections with the Caribbean, especially Curaçao, where NSJF produces a festival in late summer. NSJF interested in the themes of emigration and immigration, and in the potential to co-commission work that reflects both history (including the slave trade and trans-continental migration in the 19th/early 20th century), and migration in our own time.

We discussed several specific projects, including two specific events:

Event 1: Metropole Orkest & Special Guest

Presentation of Holland’s Metropole Orkest, conducted by Jules Buckley, playing the music of a special guest, such as Lianne La Havas or FKA Twigs (or equivalent). This would form part of Metropole’s annual presence at Northsea. Metropole Orkest is a jazz and pop orchestra and is the largest full-time ensemble of its kind in the world. A hybrid orchestra, it is a combination of jazz big band and symphony orchestra. It boasts an impressive list of collaborators over its 70 year history, and has had multiple Grammy Award successes for its recorded output. As noted in the accompanying budget, this will require a significant budget which will in part rely on Metropole’s own access to Dutch funding for their international touring, and the possibility of attracting a UK co-producer – the Orchestra has worked at the Barbican Centre and at the BBC Proms in recent years. www.mo.nl.

Event 2: Rotterdam’s renowned jazz club BIRD club migrates to Hull

Located in a re-generated railway station, BIRD would lend its name to a pop-up club in Hull, which would be curated jointly by NSJF, J-Night and Serious. The pop-up club would present a mix of Dutch and UK artists and bands and would be a meeting point for new collaborations (bird-rotterdam.nl).

Artists based in Rotterdam include: world famous trumpeter Eric Vloeimans (www.ericvloeimans.nl); Soul singers like Ntjam Rosie (www.ntjamrosie.com); Artvark Saxophone Quartet (www.artvarksq.com), who have collaborated with the Manchester based Apollo Saxophone Quartet).

The Rotterdam Jazz Orchestra is also worth exploring – a 10/11 piece ensemble who have a track record of innovative collaboration that probes the boundaries of contemporary jazz – eg, with DJ/producer Mark de Clive-Lowe. Potential for co-commissioning a UK/Netherlands collaboration.

We understand that there are ongoing discussions between the University of Hull, Leeds College of Music and Rotterdam Conservatory (Codarts) with a view to forming a student orchestra akin to the Metropole Orkest – this may also connect to Metropole’s own Young Metropole. Nb: Rotterdam Conservatoire has the most extensive world music department in the Netherlands.

Serious Involvement (at this stage): devising and producing live performance/s currently under discussion between Serious and J-Night/Hull Jazz Festival in collaboration with key local and international partners, securing additional partners (where appropriate) to help achieve aims.

5: THE STREETS, what could this look like in Hull

Public Presentation:	Freedom (Q3: July –September, 2017) – possibly other times
Venue/s:	Outdoor, shopping malls, shops, etc
Key Partners:	Possibly Freedom Festival (Mikey Martins, Artistic Director)
Dates:	Early September, if coinciding with Freedom Festival although other dates in the summer months possible.

Context: THE STREETS is a dynamic music and performance project which serves as a catalyst for urban regeneration through creative cultural events. Spanning 2015 – 2016, it involves Serious working with a consortium of seven outer-London boroughs - to share and ignite arts and culture throughout London through a new ambitious and dynamic programme (thestreets.london).

Key elements of THE STREETS could be presented in Hull during 2017 to facilitate the overarching theme of regeneration of Hull throughout the City of Culture year.

THE STREETS in Hull would be programmed to coincide with the warmer months and artistically could include:

- **Pop Up gigs that animate a large open space (eg, shopping mall)**
These can include marching bands or bands that busk (UK artists who have proved to have wide public appeal include: Smitty's Big Four, Riot Jazz Parade, Mr Wilson's Second Liners as have international artists like Moon Hooch (US)) or large scale spectacular work like Ben Walsh's BIG WHEEL – an interactive drumming project from Australia that travels and performs with the Crusty Suitcase Band www.benw.info
- **Pop Up gigs in businesses (shops/restaurants, etc)**
Small constellations of solo or duo performers who entertain shoppers on a more intimate scale. Artists who have proved to be popular include: Adriano Adewale (percussion), Arun Ghosh (clarinet), Muntu Valdo (guitar/vocals), Natalie Williams (vocalist), Oren Marshall (tuba), Ranjana Ghatak (vocals), Randolph Matthews (vocals/body percussion) + international artists like Alan Hampton (guitar/bass/vocals).
- **Community Participation (outdoor/sites TBC)**
Serious has a range of projects in repertoire that involve professional artists working with non-professional massed participants. These projects can involve massed choirs of saxophones or brass instruments or percussionists or vocalists, and can be adapted to suit local conditions. For example: vocal projects can involve existing choirs or 'scratch choirs' either led by a professional vocalist/animateur or collaborating with a choir working in a different style. Instrumental projects involve the recruitment of a large number of individual non-professional players who will then undertake a series of workshops and rehearsals with professional instrumentalists/animateurs to prepare them for public performance.

Serious Involvement (at this stage): devising and producing live performance/s in collaboration with key local partners (as necessary), securing additional partners (where appropriate) to help achieve aims.

6: General programming of key venues in the city, particularly Hull City Hall

Public Presentation: Across all quarters (Q1 – Q4, 2017)

Venue: City Hall (possibly other key venues, depending on the artist and the potential audience).

Context:

Serious produces an annual UK-wide programme of high-profile international jazz and world music artists, some of whom may be suitable for and available for presentation in Hull in 2017.

At this point, we only have an outline of which high profile artists might be touring in 2017, and who we might be able to steer towards Hull. Especially relevant might be artists who explore or represent themes of Roots & Routes, Freedom, and Tell the World.

Significant places to consider when programming are: St Petersburg, Rotterdam, Hull, Liverpool, Cork, USA and the Sister Cities of Rotterdam, Freetown, Aarhus and Reykjavik.

Following a range of potentially appropriate artists that Serious can access (some of these are more specifically relevant to the Jazz Festival periods addressed above)

- Hugh Masekela
- Ibrahim Maalouf
- Jason Moran
- Kronos Quartet
- Jan Garbarek
- Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra
- Ladysmith Black Mambazo
- Marcus Miller
- Mariza
- Penguin Cafe
- Robert Glasper
- Salif Keita
- Terence Blanchard
- Zakir Hussain

Serious Involvement (at this stage): devising and producing live performance/s in collaboration with key local partners, securing additional partners (where appropriate) to help achieve aims.

7: Freedom Festival (outline from meeting with Mikey Martins on 13 Jan 2016)

Public Presentation:	Freedom (Q3: July –September, 2017)
Dates:	In 2016 (2 – 4 Sept) and 2017 (1 – 3 Sept)
Key Partners:	Freedom Festival (Mikey Martins, Artistic Director)
Venue:	Freedom Festival Yellow Bus outdoor stage programme and other found venues
Pitching to:	TBC (all agreed that financial/resource enhancement needed)

Themes:

Focussed around the themes of freedom and migration as well as outdoor and community engagement. Strands for Freedom Festival are: (i) Choral, (ii) Processional/Street Bands, (iii) Cultural – extraordinary Collaborations, (iv) Migration.

Discussion around whether events span 2016 and 2017 or just 2017, and also around several ideas already in place/being considered by Freedom Festival:

- I. Choral: Stolen Lives – a schools initiative/choir based around seven schools in Hull that sing about themes of slavery/stolen generation; Freedom Choir is involved 'Rivers & Railways', a project led by Eliza Carthy with themes of migration and slavery, that is a PRSF New Music Biennial Project.
- II. Processional/Street Bands - Brass Bands/New Orleans Bands/Street Music with themes of music and migration (Nb: Sierra Leone has a culture of street bands);
- III. Cultural – extraordinary collaborations: Looking to programme cross cultural collaborations, with particular reference to Sister Cities (Freetown, Sierra Leone; Rotterdam, Holland; Aarhus, Denmark; Reykjavik, Iceland); trade routes (E20 trade route; Cork to Liverpool to Hull to St Petersburg);
- IV. Migration – Nele Azevedo's Minimal monument (Brazilian artist/500 ice figures) – is confirmed for 2017. Also interested in projects from artists from Syria, Afghanistan, etc.

Discussed the following possibilities for Serious to be involved in Freedom Festival's programme:

- I. Choral: John Surman's 'Coastal Voices' (adult non-professional choir singing John Surman's repertoire about the sea/seafaring); Adriano Adewale's 'Within the Waves' (professional musicians and adult non-professional choir singing UK and Brazilian repertoire about the sea/seafaring);
- II. Processional/Street Bands – Could cross over with this element of THE STREETS (above).
- III. Cultural – extraordinary collaborations; Adriano Adewale's Within the Waves; Shri Shiram's Brass Project or other international touring projects with diverse collaborations in this quarter of 2017;
- IV. Migration – could coincide with other international touring projects with migratory themes in this quarter of 2017.

Serious Involvement (at this stage): pitching ideas to Mikey Martins and then determining where additional resource will be found (and also determining who leads on funding bids) to help achieve joint aims.