NEW MUSIC BIENNIAL 2017: Evaluation Form

Name of commissioning organisation:

GOULD PIANO TRIO

Name of music creator:

MARK SIMPSON

How did you hear about New Music Biennial?

THROUGH MARK SIMPSON’S PUBLISHERS – BOOSEY & HAWKES

What inspired you to apply?

WE WERE EXCITED ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF A NEW PIANO TRIO FROM THE YOUNG AND INNOVATIVE COMPOSER MARK SIMPSON, SO BEGAN TO LOOK AT AVENUES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT. THE PRS BEYOND BORDERS GRANT HAS BEEN FANTASTIC – OBVIOUSLY PROVIDING THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT WAS IMPORTANT BUT ALSO THE ENCOURAGEMENT TO PERFORM THE NEW PIECE ACROSS THE UK HAS LED TO A GREAT TOUR. WE WERE DELIGHTED THAT THIS LED TO US BEING INCLUDED IN THE NEW MUSIC BIENNIAL WHICH GAVE A WONDERFUL LAUNCHPAD FOR OUR NEW PIECE.

How many partners did you work with on this project?

2

Please list the partners you worked with

CLARION/SEVEN MUSES

BOOSEY & HAWKES

What is the title of the work?

AFTER AVEDON

How many performances took place in the UK (outside of Hull or London New Music Biennial Weekends)?

7

On what date was the work premiered?

02/07/2017

Names of the venues and locations in which the piece was performed:

PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM, CHELTENHAM 06/07/17

WESLEY CENTRE, HARROGATE 07/07/17

PIER PAVILION, PENARTH 13/07/17

CHAMPS HILL CONCERT HALL, PULBOROUGH 21/07/17

ST MARY’S CHURCH, NEWPORT 31/07/17

ST ANDREW’S CHURCH, CORBRIDGE 05/08/17

AMBLESIDE PARISH CHURCH 07/08/17

Did any performances take place outside the UK?

PARKTHEATER, BENSHEIM, GERMANY 16/09/17

EMILY ANDERSON CONCERT HALL, GALWAY 11/10/17

VASTERAS CONCERT HALL, SWEDEN 19/10/17

KULTURHUSET KORPEN, SKINNSKATTEBERG 21/10/17

Please provide a list of future performances planned

HADDINGTON TOWN HALL 20/09/17

ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC 09/10/17

ST PAUL’S HALL, HUDDERSFIELD 04/12/17

ALNWICK PLAYHOUSE 06/02/18

NOTTINGHAM LAKESIDE ARTS CENTRE 22/02/18

MILLFIELD SCHOOL 01/03/18

Main composer gender

MALE

**Next 5 questions should be answered by composer or his representative.**

How many music creators were involved?

1

How many professional musicians were involved?

3

**Next 4 questions are not applicable.**

For how many days were artists employed?

INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE ON NUMEROUS DAYS

ENSEMBLE REVERSAL – OVER 5 DAYS

WORKING WITH COMPOSER – 1 DAY (plus some on concert days)

c.18 CONCERTS

Number of education or training sessions:

1 DAY WORKING WITH COMPOSER

How many people in total attended live performances of the new work outside of Hull and Southbank?

WE DON’T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION

In addition to BBC Radio 3 was the performance broadcast on any other TV or Radio?

NO

Other Media Coverage:

IN TUNE - BBC RADIO 3

REVIEWS - GUARDIAN, DAILY TELEGRAPH

Please estimate the ethnicity of the project’s overall audience

MOSTLY WHITE BRITISH WITHIN THE UK

Age range

AT THE NEW MUSIC BIENNIAL 10 – 80

OTHER CONCERTS TENDED TO BE AN OLDER AVERAGE AGE BUT STILL SOME YOUNG PEOPLE

Did you reach new audiences with this work?

THE AUDIENCE AT THE NEW MUSIC BIENNIAL SEEMED TO BE A NEW AUDIENCE FOR THE TRIO – PERHAPS AN AUDIENCE MORE OPEN TO NEW MUSIC

**Unable to answer next 2 questions**

What was the most successful aspect of your New Music Biennial project?

RECEIVING A REALLY WONDERFUL NEW PIECE THAT WE WILL KEEP PLAYING AND WHICH WILL WE ARE SURE BE TAKEN UP BY OTHER GROUPS IN FUTURE

What challenges arose during your New Music Biennial project and how were they resolved?

WE RELISHED THE CHALLENGE OF TACKLING THE NEW PIECE. SLIGHT ISSUES WITH POOR LIGHTING, INADEQUATE CHAIRS, DISTRACTING PHOTOGRAPHER (HULL) AND VERY HOT VENUE (LONDON). THE STAFF WERE VERY HELPFUL IN TRYING TO OVERCOME THESE DIFFICULTIES

Is there anything else that your organisation has learned through involvement in the New Music Biennial?

IT WAS GREAT TO BE PART OF SUCH A DIVERSE FESTIVAL AND WE ENJOYED HEARING OTHER PERFORMANCES INCLUDING SIMON HOLT’S NEW CONCERTO FOR BASSETT CLARINET AND ORCHESTRA. THE INTERVIEWS WITH MARK SIMPSON WERE VERY WELL MANAGED AND INFORMATIVE TOO

Has your involvement in New Music Biennial triggered any other new activities or development for your organisation?

CERTAINLY WE HAVE GOT MORE ENGAGEMENTS AS A RESULT OF THE NEW COMMISSION. AS A GROUP WE WERE CHALLENGED BY MARK SIMPSON’S WORK WHICH IS DEMANDING TECHNICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY – WE HAVE REALLY ENJOYED THE CHALLENGE

New Music Biennial was delivered by a partnership of PRSF, BBC Radio 3, Hull UK City of Culture, Southbank Centre, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Creative Scotland, Arts Council Northern Ireland, Arts Council Wales, Arts council England and NMC Recordings. Did you benefit from this partnership and if so how?

AS A GROUP WE CERTAINLY BENEFITTED FROM THE PUBLICITY AND BBC BROADCASTS AND HAVE HOPEFULLY INCREASED OUR FUTURE AUDIENCE SUPPORT

Did involvement in the wider Hull UK City of Culture programme and the Biennial’s linked themes benefit your organisation?

IT WSA GREAT TO BE PART OF THE HULL CTY OF CULTURE PROGRAMME IN TERMS OF PUBLICITY AND VISIBILITY OF OUR GROUP

**Next 3 questions not applicable**

What social media impact were you able to achieve during the project?

IT’S HARD TO ASSESS AS WE HAVE BEEN BUSY WITH A VARIETY OF CONCERTS DURING THIS TIME BUT WE HAVE DEFINITELY HAD INCREASED FACEBOOK ACTIVITY

**Unable to answer next question**

Does your organisation plan to work with the music creator again?

WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO WORK WITH MARK SIMPSON AGAIN. ON OUR TOUR OF AFTER AVEDON WE ARE ALSO PLAYING MESSIAEN’S QUARTET FOR THE END OF TIME IN SOME CONCERTS WITH MARK SIMPSON PLAYING CLARINET

Will your organisation commission more new work by other composers in the future?

YES

Following the receipt of your grant did you feel well supported by PRSF and partners?

WE FELT VERY WELL SUPORTED – OCCASIONALLY THE QUESTIONS WEREN’T RELEVANT TO US AS CLASSICAL MUSICIANS (E.G. AMPLIFICATION AND PEOPLE INVOLVED IN OUR PROJECT). WE RECEIVED MORE UPDATES AND QUESTIONS THAN FOR OUR MORE STANDARD CONCERTS

Please provide feedback on your organisation’s involvement in the Southbank Centre and Hull New Music Biennial weekend showcases:

WE WERE DELIGHTED TO BE PART OF THE SHOWCASES – A GREAT PLATFORM FOR THE PREMIERE OF AFTER AVEDON. WE PERFORMED THE WORK 8 TIMES WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK

Please provide us with a quote:

TO BE PART OF SUCH AN EXCITING FESTIVAL WAS A REAL PRIVILEGE AND IT WAS SO ENCOURAGING TO HAVE THIS LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR A NEW COMMISSION

Please tell us if you are happy for your comments to be displayed publicly:

YES