



Curated Place Draft Programme Structure 13-04-16 Hull 2017 UK City of Culture International Music Programme

The world of New Music offers a number of challenges to a public facing event like City of Culture. The musicians involved are highly trained, extremely experienced and usually interested in ways of working that push boundaries beyond melody, notation, rhythm and tone. While many works are technically brilliant there are significant barriers to entry for a non-specialist audience - it can often feel complex, elitist, serious.

In order to create routes into the more esoteric corners of this world we will walk the fine line between accessibility and excellence, complementing the PRS programme with leading experimental musicians as well as cross-over artists who are not afraid of venturing into the realms of pop or embracing fun. Working with both UK artists and those from overseas our curatorial and production focus will be on creating narratives relevant to Hull and developing opportunities for meaningful participation - whether for artists in the region or public audiences.

Our international programming will marry the two into a seamless experience, seeing our Routes and Roots programme invite artists that push pop towards the experimental priming audiences for the hard-core art-music of PRS' programming during the Freedom Season. Alongside PRS we will programme artist and partners focused on new technology and collaboration, enabling space for experimentation and explanation as well as performance before developing a Tell the World programme that aims to develop projects with the flavour of Hull to premiere in Hull and take flight beyond 2017.

This document is still at the scoping stage and no financial agreements have been entered into with third parties. Final programming is liable to change until final production agreements are in place for delivery. Realisation of this full programme will require box-office risk and additional fundraising.

SEASON TWO: ROOTS AND ROUTES

Apr – Jun

Hull is a door to the UK, a gateway to Europe and a city connected to a new networked, globalised and digital world. This is a place of migration and transitions; like the tidal movements that govern its rivers, always in constant flux, often buffeted by outside influences beyond its control.

Where paths cross and journeys begin, this chapter will explore our unique place in a constantly changing world. With a distinctly international flavour, new partnerships and collaborations will form as Hull takes its place at the centre of UK culture for the year.

Intro: Launch Programme

We would want to introduce the international music programme to Hull with a bang and would seek to programme artists with existing UK profile alongside a handful of acts yet to break. Upbeat, accessible and loud, a weekend of incredible music leading audiences from the mainstream into the experimental.

Headline longlist:

Johan Johanson (Is)
Jónsi/Sigur Rós (Is)*
Monsters and Men (Is)*
John Grant (US/Is)
Emiliana Torrini (Is)
Mugison (Is)
Gus Gus (Is)
Efterklang (Dk)

*Practicalities of booking yet to be explored

Artists mentioned here may be peppered throughout the year to maintain programme momentum with established names.

Bedroom Community Showcase

Bedroom Community is an Icelandic record label/collective formed in 2006. Like-minded, yet diverse individuals from different corners of the globe all creatively orbit around an inconspicuous building and its inhabitants on the outskirts of Reykjavik Iceland - Greenhouse Studios - where the music is mostly created. Bedroom Community are a success story of artists treading their own path, alongside live performances we would deliver a series of talks and development events giving UK artists an opportunity to understand how a small label can punch above their weight.

Cycle: Hull (possible Boiler Room crossover)

Providing a lead into the PRS Biennial we will bring the best of the Moving Classics Cycle Festival flavour to Hull including new commissions and site specific works. We would roll out a programme of experimental artists exploring the meeting point of music, sound and visual art from the best European music scenes in Reykjavik, Aarhus, Rotterdam, Berlin and the UK and offer opportunities to UK artists to connect and collaborate within the programme.

Featured Artists:

Pinquins (No)
Kammerkor Sudurlands (Is)
Eyvind Gulbrandsen (No/Dk)
Skark Ensemble (Is/Ger)
Simon Steen Anderson (Dk)
Kaj Duncan David (Dk)

Ensemble Adapter (Is)
Jobina Tinnemans (NL)
Halldór Smáráson (Is)
ERRATA Collective (Is/Swe)
Icelandic Love Corporation (Is)
Ragnhildur Gísladóttir (Is)

SEASON THREE: FREEDOM

Jul – Sep

With the celebration underway and a buzz in the air, the city will enter its summer season. Freedom is a platform for people to create, debate, reflect and reimagine.

Hull has always attracted creative risk takers and rule breakers. It is a place that seems to inspire rebellion and freedom of thought, not bound by the conventions of others.

As the plot thickens, this chapter will not only explore the pivotal role Hull played in the emancipation movement, but also a broader interpretation of equality and social justice for all.

PRS New Music Biennial

1-2 July 2017

As part of the official Hull UK City of Culture 2017 programme, New Music Biennial will showcase the talent of the UK's music sector, raise the profile of composers and performers, and present a snapshot of new music across all genres. 20 pieces will be included in the New Music Biennial programme

Freeform

(further discussions with Aarhus Capital of Culture and WORM are underway to support this programme)

Within the Freedom season it seems more than appropriate to feature music breaking free of tradition. Leading out of the experimental PRS programme we would programme a series of performances from artists treading the fine line between New Music, Jazz, Ambient and the Avant Garde alongside artists seeking to break the mould of genre. This would not be a traditional Jazz programme, nor reach the extremes of Noise Music but one flavoured by freestyling and attitude open to the more challenging elements of music.

Artists to include:

ADHD (Is)

Icelandic experimental Jazz Ensemble working with a variety of jazz patterns interwoven with elements of ambient, progressive, avant garde, fusion and psychedelia.

Nordic Affect (Is)

Nordic Affect was formed by a group of period instrument musicians who were united in their passion for viewing familiar musical forms from a different perspective and for daring to venture into new musical terrain. Founded in 2005 the goal is to combine new compositions with the music of the 17th and 18th century (performer of the year 2015 and Ensemble of the Year 2014 at the Icelandic Music Awards).

Kiasmos (Ólafur Arnalds) (Is)

Ólafur Arnalds mixes strings and piano with loops and edgy beats crossing over from ambient-electronic to pop. Ólafur was a drummer of hardcore metal bands Fighting Shit, Celestine, and others. In 2009, Ólafur also formed an experimental techno project, entitled Kiasmos, with Janus Rasmussen from the Icelandic electro-pop band Bloodgroup. In 2014 Ólafur announced his electronic debut album under the Kiasmos project.

Johan Johanson (Is)

Twice Oscar-nominated and Golden Globe winning Johann Johannsson is an Icelandic composer identified with minimalist, neo-classical, drone, and electronic music. Johann is known for his film music, primarily for his score for James Marsh's *The Theory of Everything* and his Oscar-nominated score for Denis Villeneuve's most recent film *Sicario*. After a period spent mostly concentrating on film scores, this year will see the release of several new music projects, some of which have been a long time in the making. Johannsson is working on his first studio album in four years since his last release *Miner's Hymns* in 2011.

Jeppe Just Instituttet (Dk)

Jeppe Just Instituttet performs songs consisting of melodies, lullabies and drunkard songs that are orchestrated for different home- and rebuilt instruments. With a love for musically junk aesthetics and metallic energy output, mixed with barrel organ and 70-80s synth, the band's musical preferences are involuntarily theatre, fervor, mismatch and breakdown.

Additional Artists: Todd Terje (No), Karin Elisabeth Dreijer Andersson (Swe), ORKA (Fao), Lukas Simonis & STEPMOTHER (WORM) (NL).

Outro: Airwaves Showcase & Iceland Unsigned

Working alongside Hull's established music festival The Sesh (August) we will seek to bring the best of emergent Icelandic acts to Hull to perform, share experiences and collaborate. Iceland has established a hugely effective career catalyst through the Músiktilraunir (Music Experiments) competition that has propelled artists such as Samaris, Mammút and the hugely successful Of Monsters and Men into the limelight. Alongside the citywide festival offering of Iceland Airwaves that successfully brings together artists, venues, music industry and tourism there is a lot to be learnt from how Reykjavik's music and culture industries have defined much of the international profile of the capital and country. Our programme will showcase those on a trajectory through the Icelandic career path, those that have successfully navigated it and those now on their own path.

The aim here would be to recreate the Airwaves feel of music taking over the city with both concerts and opportunities for Q&A, Workshops, Informal performances and networking.

We will also provide a Launchpad at this series of events to kick-off the International Showcasing legacy project if the ACE support is forthcoming.

Example Artists

Launch programme roster plus...

Drangar

Samaris

Mammút

Fufano

Olöf Arnalds

Ásgir

dj flugvél og geimskip

Músiktilraunir 2015/16 alumni

