**PRESS RELEASE**

**(day, month) 2017**

**Packed weekend of culture for Hull with comedy, jazz, theatre, literature and a thrilling parade!**

As we approach the end of the year, Hull UK City of Culture 2017 is showing no signs of slowing down with a jam-packed and diverse weekend ahead.

Among the highlights are a thrilling and magical parade, award winning comedy, immersive theatre, the return of the Hull Jazz Festival and the start of crime fiction festival, Hull Noir

Saturday sees the final Act of Wanton Wonder from the Land of Green Ginger in the form of *Land of Green Ginger Unleashed,* a spectacular parade through the city centre by masters of story-telling and street performance Macnas. Supported by Spirit of 2012, Arts Council England and Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, *Land of Green Ginger* has been intriguing and beguiling the people of Hull with diverse, spectacular and playful f free events through the year, including *7 Alleys* at East Park, *The Gold Nose of Green Ginger* in Bransholme*,* the *Longhill Burn,* the *Re-rediffusion’s* Voice Park at Pickering Park, and the recent *Micropolis* in Springhead Pumping Station in Derringham

The procession is set to begin at the Rose Bowl in the city centre at 6.30pm before weaving its way along Guildhall Road, Lowgate, Liberty Lane and High Street, finishing at Humber Street at approximately 8pm.

Saturday is also a great night for comedy lovers in the city too, with The Kagools, Jack Gleadow and Rich Jackson all performing at Kardomah94, and Handsome and Funny Stand Up, and Katie Pritchard performing at Chance in Saville Street as part of Hull Comedy Festival.

The sold-out run of Maxine Peake’s *The Last Testament of Lillian Bilocca* continues at the Guildhall on Saturday and for those who can’t get enough of Hull legend Lillian, the final performance of *LIL the play* takes place at Jubilee Central at 7.30pm with tickets priced at £16.

Hull Jazz Festival begins on Saturday afternoon with *A Brief History of the Coolest Instrument in the World* at the Albemarle Music Centre at 4.30pm. This live show marks the milestones of the electric guitar through 80 years of popular culture, then on Saturday evening Hull City Hall hosts *An Evening with Pat Metheny* at 7.30pm. The jazz continues into Sunday, with the Royal Hotel playing host to the *Andy Sheppard Quartet: Romaria* at 7.30pm. As one of Europe’s leading saxophonists, Andy is one of very few British musicians to have made an impact on the international jazz scene.

There is also more comedy to enjoy on Sunday, with Abi Roberts’ *Fat Girl Dancing* and another chance to catch *The Kagools* in a family friendly version of their show both at Kardomah94 and Harry Potter parody *Pottervision* at Jaz Bar. There is also a special screening of so-bad-it’s-good film *The Room* as part of Fruit’s regular Cult Cinema Sunday.

Sunday also sees the launch of crime fiction festival *Hull Noir* with *Noir at the Bar* at the Minerva in Hull’s marina*.* This one-off event will feature readings from a mix of new and established writers, readers and invited guests bringing their unique voices to the microphone. Featuring over 40 bestselling local and international crime writers, *Hull Noir* is a week-long festival covering literature, film, author panels and even a crime walk of Hull.

This weekend is also the last opportunity to see *A Hall for Hull,* the stunning installation in Trinity Square as part of the *Look Up* programme of temporary installations in public places and spaces around the city.

Martin Green, director of Hull 2017, said: “Hull has an incredible weekend ahead of us with a varied programme of fantastic events. With so much happening, I’m sure there will be something for everyone to enjoy. As usual, I’d encourage people to come along to the things they know they’re going to love, but also to try something new, there are plenty of opportunities and you might discover a new passion or interest along the way.”

In addition to the weekend’s programming, there is a huge range of continuing events across the city including *Turner Prize 2017* at the Ferens Art Gallery, *Turner and the Whale* at the Maritime Museum, *Hull, Portrait of a City* and *Torn* at Humber Street Gallery, *An Eyeful of Wry* and *The Dyslexia Portrait* at the Brynmor Jones Library, *Centre of Attention* at Princes Quay, *Tool Appreciation Society* at the Central Library, *So He Pulled the Right Levers and You Did The Asking* at Artlink, all representing the visual arts. *The City Speaks* both continues to encourage people to engage with the city in different ways and *Frogman* at C4DI blends theatre and technology to transport audiences to the Great Barrier Reef.

**ENDS**

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About Hull UK City of Culture**

**Hull UK City of Culture 2017** is a 365 day programme of cultural events and creativity inspired by the city and told to the world. Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. It is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England.

The Culture Company was set up to deliver the Hull 2017 programme and is an independent organisation with charitable status. It has raised £32 million, with over 70 partners supporting the project, including public bodies, trusts and foundations and local and national businesses.

Key contributions are coming from: **Host City** – Hull City Council; **Principal Partners** - Arts Council England, BBC, Big Lottery Fund, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, KCOM, KWL, Spirit of 2012, Yorkshire Water and the University of Hull; **Major Partners** –Associated British Ports, Arco, BP, the British Council, British Film Institute, Green Port Hull, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, MKM Building Supplies, P&O Ferries, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Siemens, Smith & Nephew and Wykeland Group. The National Lottery has contributed more than £10m of this funding, making it the largest single funding body for Hull 2017.

68 per cent of the funding is dedicated to public facing activities, including the widest range of cultural events in every corner of the city, with a further 11 per cent for legacy and contingency. More than £5 million is being invested in volunteering, learning and community engagement. £1.6 million is being invested to ensure a legacy after 2017. This includes capacity building, such as supporting existing events so they can grow, staging curtain-raiser events, developing future programming for after 2017 and building a new platform to support a unified ticketing system for the city.

Hull 2017’s International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, which is European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull). These relationships are reflected in a number of events throughout the year.

For information go to [www.hull2017.co.uk](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

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