**Hull 2017**

**The Last Ballad of Lillian Bilocca**

by Maxine Peake  
Music & Lyrics by Adrian McNally & The Unthanks

A new site-specific work commissioned by Hull 2017 created for and to be performed in the Guildhall, Hull.

**Creative Team**  
Associate Movement Director Jon Beney

Lighting Designer Chris Davey

Director Sarah Frankcom

Casting Director Polly Jerrold

Choreographer & Co-director Imogen Knight

Sound Designer Peter Malkin

Set & Costume Designer Amanda Stoodley

Lead Producer Lindsey Alvis [lindsey.alvis@hull2017.co.uk](mailto:lindsey.alvis@hull2017.co.uk)

Production Manager Ben Pugh [benpugh@me.com](mailto:benpugh@me.com)

**Summary**

Inspired by the women who campaigned for better and safer working conditions on Britain’s trawler ships, the Last Ballad of Lillian Bilocca 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 woman 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 production will be specially designed to create a promenade, immersive experience for audiences and will inhabit the principle public spaces at the Guildhall as well as connecting corridors, committee and other rooms. The experience will be transformational for audiences and venue alike.

**Audiences & Production Staff**  
The production will be ticketed by Hull 2017 for audiences of approximately 200.

The Production will feature a professional cast of 9; a live band of 6 and a community cast of 20 – 25 for each performance.

In addition, there will be back-stage production staff and front of house staff.

The Hull 2017 team will work closely with the Guildhall team to ensure operations are planned in advance for smooth delivery of the project.

**Key Production Dates**This is a quick to view summary of the key dates particularly in reference to the use of spaces within the Guildhall.  
  
Aug Public announcement – currently under strict embargo

W/C 2 Oct Professional & Community Cast Rehearsals  
 Venue Preparation

W/C 9 Oct Professional & Community Cast Rehearsals  
 Venue Preparation

W/C 16 Oct Professional & Community Cast Rehearsals  
 Production Install

W/C 23 Oct Professional & Community Cast Rehearsals  
 Production Install

W/C 30 Oct Technical Week, dress rehearsals, first public preview performances on Fri 3 & Sat 4 Nov

W/C 6 Nov Performance Week 1 – with performances Weds 8 – Sat 11 Nov

W/C 13 Nov Performance Week 2 - with performances Weds 15 – 18 Nov

Sat 18 Nov Last performance

W/C 20 Nov Get out from the Guildhall

**Design Approach**

The designers will be working with sympathy for the heritage building, seeking to enhance and use the architectural features as well as creating specific scenic pictures.  
  
Installation of lighting and sound systems in all areas.  
  
The principle rooms (Coroner Court, Council Chamber, Banqueting Hall and Reception Room) may include truss, control desks, staging.

Intervention in rooms off corridors – these rooms will be used for creating glimpses of ‘scenes’ for audiences to view from the corridor (some access will be required for audiences)

Cabling and fixing will discrete.

**Guildhall Space & Access Request**

**A For Access & Production & Audience Duty of Care**

**Interior Floorplan Ref**

Media Room Ground Floor

Off Banqueting Hall 1/070

1/068 & 069  
 1/067 A, B & C

Control Room 1/073

1/066

Robing Room 1/075

Dep Lord Mayor 1/063

Entrances From Alfred Gelder & Watchmen’s Entrance, Hanover Square

Roof Voids Banqueting Hall & Reception Room

Council Chamber

**B For Use During Performance**   
  
**Exterior**  
Watchman’s Entrance, Hanover Square   
Main Entrance inc central doors, steps

**Interior Floorplan Ref**

Coroner Corridor & Court incl cell access route 0/308, 0/307, 0/C11D & 0/C11

Corridor 0/304 & 0/302

Main Staircase to First Floor Ground Floor to First Floor

Lifts to First Floor

Reception Room lobby area 1/302

The Reception Room 1/072

All Corridors 1/303

1/306

1/305

1/304

1/301

1/301a

1/307

High Steward Room 1/074 & 74a

Committee Room 1/077

Committee Room 1/080

Committee Room 1/082

Dining Room 1/059

Sitting Room 1/060

Lord Mayor’s Parlour 1/061

Male Toilets 1/090 & 090A

Council Chamber 1/089 & 089A  
 1/082A

1/058A

and Upper Gallery

Committee Room 1/057 & 1/058

Banqueting Room 1/067A

1/300

Front Access Staircases 1/200 & 1/201

Balcony 1/ - outside 1/300

**Facilities & Equipment at Guildhall**

Power supplies 3 Phase in Banqueting Hall

Normal sockets throughout used spaces

Toilets For public & cast  
 inc Changing Spaces toilet

Existing Rigging Points Banqueting Hall & Reception Room

Lifting of Carpet Reception Room

Grand Piano Banqueting Hall

Bar (mobile)

Banqueting Tables & Chairs

Tables, Chairs, Cloakroom Hanging etc