

MIND ON THE RUN

THE BASIL KIRCHIN STORY

— A LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL —

HULL | FRI 17 - SUN 19 FEB 2017



FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY

What connects the first British rock'n'roll discs of 1950s Britain, Vincent Price and the Abominable Dr Phibes, the nagra tape recorder and the industrial sounds of the north? The answer is Basil Kirchin, whose riches-to-rags journey embraces Hull, its urban and natural landscape, and the city's uncanny ability to harbour artists and visionaries who have reflected and influenced the much wider world around them.

Basil Kirchin is the forgotten genius of post-war British music. A pioneer of musique concrete, his remarkable life stretched from the days when British dance music mutated into rock'n'roll, through a headlong succession of film scores and pop songwriting, before retreating to Hull, where he created sonic landscapes that still challenge convention while eking out an increasingly reclusive existence until his death in 2005. Described by Brian Eno as "a founding father of ambient", Kirchin's intriguing history represents a collision of popular and experimental musical cultures that predate and define much of the music we hear today.

The focus this weekend is a celebration which brings together an extraordinary collision of artists who have themselves happened upon Kirchin's work. The programme will include: Jerry Dammers' Library Music DJ Sets, Sean O'Hagan (The High Llamas) & Friends; contributions from St. Etienne's Bob Stanley and Pete Wiggs, Sonic Youth's Jim O'Rourke, sonic adventurer Matthew Herbert, Goldfrapp's Will Gregory with members of the BBC Concert Orchestra and special guests; the hugely influential improvisers Evan Parker, Alan Barnes and Raymond MacDonald and a range of individual creative spirits from Elaine Mitchener to Peter Cusack to Matthew Bourne to Hull's own Future Bubbler Revenu – and innovative keyboardist Alexander Hawkins channelling the gothic muse of Dr. Phibes on the mighty City Hall organ.

Producers Serious are working with Hull UK City of Culture 2017, J-Night, Nova Studios and the School of Arts of the University of Hull, to tell the story of Basil Kirchin through this weekend of live events, alongside visual and aural explorations of his life and legacy. Delving into the Kirchin archive, the events will include the work of artists as well as who recorded or worked with him or acknowledge his influence and inspiration, as well as newly commissioned work from a range of contemporary artists, from the UK and much further afield - including a new documentary from Nova Studios - some of whom may be discovering Kirchin's work for the first time.

7pm - **SEAN O'HAGAN & FRIENDS: WE START COUNTING + REVENU 2.2.1**

10:30pm - **THE ABOMINABLE DR PHIBES**

Revenu 2.2.1

Hull's own Liam van Rijn aka Revenu, is tipped to be one of the next big things in electronic music. Selected by Gilles Petersen to be a Brownswood Future Bubbler, for this performance he and his live band will premiere a set of live and electronic music that will result in a seamless blend of Basil Kirchin's sounds with his own. The live set will make reference to: 'Special Relativity' (Quantum) 'Charcoal Sketches, State of Mind, 'Plaques and Tangles' and 'Spiked'.

Line up: Liam van Rijn – synths, samples

Joe Bird – synths, guitar, acoustic bass

James Rushworth – percussion

Will Blake - bass / sampler

Pete Minns - tenor Sax

Sean O'Hagan & Friends: We Start Counting

Founding member of The High Llamas, Sean O'Hagan, pays homage to the lyrical side of Basil Kirchin's work with a specially convened ensemble, playing newly-commissioned music that takes its inspiration from I Start Counting, a song composed by Kirchin for the 1969 film of the same name.

O'Hagan's ensemble includes vocalist Jane Weaver as well as other friends, whose collective background embraces Stereolab, Sun Ra, Jarvis Cocker and more.

Line up: Sean O'Hagan - nylon guitar

Tim Gane - guitar / electronics

John Telfer - tenor saxophone/ flute

Serafina Steer - harp

Marcus Holdaway - organ / piano

Dominic Murcott - vibraphone/ marimba /electronics

Jon Fell – bass

Billy Brown - drums

Jane Weaver - voice

The Abominable Dr Phibes: **Film Screening & Live Music with Alexander Hawkins**

With its art deco sets, dark humour, exemplary cast and soundtrack by Basil Kirchin, The Abominable Dr. Phibes (Dir: Robert Fuest, 1971) is a cult classic.

This quintessential British horror film follows Dr Phibes (Vincent Price) – a theologian and musician who believes that his wife died a victim of incompetent doctors, and begins elaborate plans to kill them using methods inspired by the Old Testament's Ten Plagues of Egypt.

Vincent Price is brilliantly camp as Dr Phibes and leads a cast that includes Joseph Cotten, Terry-Thomas, Hugh Griffith, Peter Jeffrey, Virginia North and an uncredited cameo appearance by future Bond girl Caroline Munro.

Screened with the support of the BFI, the live music you will hear played on the mighty Hull City Hall pipe organ, is performed by keyboard specialist Alexander Hawkins.