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Major new Culture Mile installation in Beech Street tunnel announced as part of Barbican OpenFest 17 & 18 March 2018

Highlights include:

- Culture Mile presents *Tunnel Visions: Array* a free light and sound installation in Beech Street tunnel, opposite Barbican Underground as part of Barbican OpenFest.
- Created by Tony Award-winning artists 59 Productions and co-produced with the Barbican, with music by composer/conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen, the tunnel will be transformed for the first time in to an audio-visual performance space.
- Barbican OpenFest returns for a second year welcoming everyone to explore the Barbican and its surrounding streets and Culture Mile venues.
- A weekend of inspiring art and entertainment, Barbican OpenFest will include everything from art exhibitions, music and dance, to free tours, open rehearsals, showcases and workshops in and around the iconic arts and learning centre.
- Highlights at the 2018 Barbican OpenFest include the return of Ballet Black to the Barbican Theatre with evening performances, a drop-in ballet lesson and an open rehearsal. Just Jam also returns, and there will be free workshops for people to attend with Let's Roll CIC, the Royal Horticultural Society and Turning Earth.

Tunnel Visions: *Array*

On 17 and 18 March the City of London's **Culture Mile** presents ***Array*** a free light and sound installation in Beech Street tunnel (opposite Barbican Underground), as part of **Barbican OpenFest**. For the first time the tunnel will be transformed into an immersive audio-visual performance space, combining cutting-edge projection and sound technology with the Barbican's distinctive brutalist architecture. The walls and ceiling of the tunnel will become a vast canvas for a newly-commissioned animated digital artwork inspired by composer/conductor **Esa-Pekka Salonen's** contemporary classical masterpiece, ***Karawane***, allowing audiences to explore the work aurally, visually and spatially.

barbican

GUILD
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LSO



59 fifty nine productions

SO BBC
Symphony
Orchestra & Chorus

Array is being created by the Tony Award-winning artists **59 Productions**, led by director **Richard Slaney** and co-produced with the Barbican. **Karawane** is a work for chorus and orchestra by **Esa-Pekka Salonen**, one of the **Composer Focuses** in the Barbican's 2017/8 season. The work was recorded by the **BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus** in concert at the Barbican Hall on 10 December 2017 as part of a BBC Total Immersion Day on Salonen's music. *Karawane* was written in 2014 and is based on a short poem by Dadaist Hugo Ball. It is in two parts each of which is divided into six movements and is cyclical. At its premiere *The New York Times* described it as, "...the product of a mature master, working with confidence and patience on a larger canvas. The chorus's hypnotic incantations have the undergirding of a glistening orchestral landscape, sometimes swaying, sometimes blooming."

Culture Mile launched last July and is an ambitious and transformational initiative that will create a vibrant cultural area in the north-west corner of the City over the next 10 to 15 years. Stretching just under a mile from Farringdon to Moorgate, Culture Mile will have creative exchange, cultural collaboration and learning at its core in an area where 2,000 years of history collide with the world's best in culture.

Catherine McGuinness, Policy Chairman at the City of London Corporation said, 'This temporary transformation of Beech Street - the backbone of Culture Mile - is an important milestone in our plans to create a vibrant cultural area in the north-west corner of the City. Through imaginative Culture Mile collaborations and top class outdoor programming like *Array*, we will redefine the Square Mile so that it becomes known as much for being a world-class cultural destination as for its position as a leading global financial centre.'

Sir Nicholas Kenyon said on behalf of Culture Mile: '*Array* is a very exciting moment for Culture Mile. This is our first big event and to be transforming the tunnel in Beech Street in to an audio-visual performance space is a great demonstration of our desire to enliven the area with outdoor programming, be more family friendly and create a leading cultural and creative destination. There will be activities happening across the weekend from Culture Mile's core partners and the Culture Mile Network with something for everyone to enjoy.'

There will be a 30-minute performance every hour across the weekend from **3-9.30pm on Saturday 17 March** and **12-9.30pm on Sunday 18 March**. Tickets are free but must be booked in advance at barbican.org.uk.

Barbican OpenFest

Following its successful launch in 2016, **Barbican OpenFest** returns in 2018 welcoming everyone to explore the Barbican and its surrounding streets and venues. A weekend of inspiring art and entertainment, Barbican OpenFest will include everything from art, music and dance, to workshops, markets, tours, talks and showcases in and around the iconic arts and learning centre.

The two-day festival will see events such as **Chronic Youth Film Festival**, programmed by and for young people; **Our Future City** hosted by the Museum of London; as well as an array of free activities, events and performances for all ages inside the Barbican and its neighbouring venues, the **Museum of London**, the Guildhall School's **Milton Court Concert Hall** and **LSO St Luke's** as well as interactive installations and events in the streets and highwalks surrounding the Barbican Centre. There are also activities with partners of the **Culture Mile Network** including **ABRSM** and **The Charterhouse**.

Louise Jeffreys, Barbican Director of Arts, said: 'We're delighted to be hosting OpenFest again this year and welcoming local partners from east London, especially as it was such a success in 2016 in attracting new audiences to the Barbican. Our free workshops and

performances are a great introduction to everything the Barbican does and, with the weekend spilling out across the streets of the City of London's Culture Mile, this year's OpenFest is set to be bigger and better than ever.'

Saturday 17 March–Sunday 18 March 2018, 11am–11pm, Barbican Centre

www.barbican.org.uk/openfest.

WORKSHOPS

- **Let's Roll CIC** bring roller skating to the heart of the Barbican with free lessons for families, a roller disco for more advanced skaters and live demos (Free but ticketed, Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, 11am–5pm, Club Stage).
- **Barbican Blocks:** Play, build and invent in a world of texture and colour for under-fives and their families. A freestanding cube unpacks to become a selection of blocks made out of all sorts of materials that young children can use to shape the space around them in a sensory adventure (Saturday 17 March, 11am–4pm, Children's Library; Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, Stalls Floor, 11am–4pm). This workshop is free to attend.
- **Romp and Roll**, produced by **Adrenalindance** and **Hackney Children's Theatre** is a soft learning approach to dance for adult and child, initiating the discovery of rhythm, coordination and listening. This workshop is intended for children aged 2-6 years, accompanied by an adult (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, 11am, Freestage). This workshop is free to attend.
- Prior to their Saturday evening performance in the Theatre, **Ballet Black** will host a **drop-in ballet lesson** for all the family on the Barbican foyers, followed by a short Q&A (Saturday 17 March, 12–1pm).
- Free drop in workshops led by award-winning designer **Donna Wilson**, activist and founder of the global **Craftivist Collective**, **Sarah Corbett**, artist **Gayle Chong Kwan** and community drinks enterprise **Company Drinks** will be running throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday, offering a range of creative activities for all ages.
- **Stitch-School's** embroidery experts Aimee Betts and Melanie Bowles invite passers-by to drop in and collaborate stitching a huge piece of printed fabric. Under their guidance, participants work together to create something unique (17–25 March, Barbican Shop). Free to attend.

MARKETS

- **Royal Horticultural Society On Tour** will be putting down roots on the Barbican Lakeside with plant sales, free workshops and tours of local flora and fauna. Experts will be on hand with free advice and to answer questions about creating and maintaining house plants and urban gardens (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, Lakeside).
- **Turning Earth** community ceramics studios will be bringing their Makers Market to the Barbican's famous Conservatory on the Sunday of Barbican OpenFest, selling handcrafted work by 60 makers based at the studios, alongside interactive demonstrations giving people the chance to have a go themselves. **Wildcard Brewery** will also be serving a range of beers (Sunday 18 March, Conservatory).

FREE PERFORMANCES

- Unticketed open rehearsals will take place during the afternoon for the **Just Jam Reloaded** (Saturday 17 March) and **PLAY!** concerts (Sunday 18 March) in the Barbican Hall.
- **Ballet Black** will be preparing for their evening performance with an open on-stage rehearsal for audiences to watch for free in the Barbican Theatre (Saturday 17 March, 5.30 – 6.30pm).

- **Barbican Young Songwriters** is a Barbican Guildhall Creative Learning programme for 14–18 year-olds. Over four months, the young musicians are supported to develop their songwriting and composition skills and cover a wide genre of music from classical to pop, jazz to electronic dance music. Their final performance takes place during Barbican OpenFest (Sunday 18 March, 4pm & 6pm, Milton Court).
- **Barbican Young Poets**, a sixth-month programme and community for writers aged 14-25, end their 2017-18 programme with the **Barbican Young Poets Showcase 2018** where young people will take to the stage to share their poetic talent (Sunday 18 March, 6-7:30pm, Milton Court). Both Young Songwriters and Young Poets celebrate the work of the Barbican's **Young Creatives**.
- **Rosas danst Rosas**: Join dancers from **MovE17** to perform iconic dance work, Rosas danst Rosas by **Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker**. This piece, commissioned by the Barbican for OpenFest, brings dancers of all ages and abilities together, to have fun learning and celebrating this contemporary dance classic (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, Foyers & Lakeside).

HIGHWALKS

- **Satellites** is a new performance for the Barbican Highwalks created by **Andy Field** in collaboration with performers from the **Guildhall School's** Performance and Creative Enterprise programme, commissioned by the Barbican and the Museum of London. Audience members are invited to wander across walkways and spaces around the Barbican, through a constellation of encounters with over a dozen young artists. (Free but ticketed, Saturday & Sunday, 5–8pm).
- **Walking Tour: The Crafty City - Materials and Making in the Square Mile**: This walk, led by writer and lecturer Chris Rogers, takes you through centuries of making in the Square Mile. The Brutalist architecture of the Barbican, itself a masterclass in the potential of a single medium, introduces a neighbourhood whose varied, mostly small-scale buildings reflect a history of craft, industry and materials (Saturday 17 March, begins at Barbican Shop).

INSTALLATIONS

- **The City of London's Culture Mile** will present *Tunnel Visions: Array*, a free light and sound installation in the Beech Street tunnel (opposite Barbican Underground). As part of Barbican OpenFest, the tunnel will be transformed for the first time into an audio-visual performance space which puts the audience inside a piece of classical contemporary music allowing them to explore the work aurally, visually and spatially. (Free but ticketed, Saturday & Sunday; booking at barbican.org.uk)

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

- The **London Symphony Orchestra** will be performing brand new music by six different young composers as part of the **Panufnik Composers Workshops** (Sunday 18 March 10am–1.30pm and 2.30–6pm, LSO St Luke's).
- Members of the Orchestra will also be performing alongside **Salena Godden, Laurie Ogden, Sophia Thakur** and **Solomon O.B** in Jasmin Kent Rodgman's **HUH**, a concert looking at migration, movement, gender and identity through rhythm and rhyme. Set within an interactive sound installation controlled by audience movement, it fuses new music, rap, poetry and song. Tickets are free but must be booked in advance (Saturday 17 March, 3.00 – 4.30pm, LSO St Luke's).

MUSEUM OF LONDON

- On Saturday 17 March, 5-8pm, **Our Future City** takes a look at London: what it is, who shapes it and what it should be like in the future. This event will be run by young people from London highlighting the opinions, creativity and actions of young Londoners through music, performance, interactive workshops and collective art making.

- On Sunday 18 March, 1.30pm & 4pm, there will be two hour-long productions of **Horrible Histories: More Best of Barmy Britain** highlighting some of London's gross past. Both productions are free to attend.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC & DRAMA

- Guildhall School activities during Barbican OpenFest include **Junior Guildhall: Big Gig** (Saturday 17 March, 12.30 – 1.30pm, Silk Street Music Hall), a free, fun music workshop for people of all ages and abilities led by **Lincoln Abbotts, ABRSM**, part of the Culture Mile Network, and conducted by **Spencer Down**, Junior Guildhall.
- **Junior Guildhall** holds an open rehearsal (Saturday 17 March, 2.30 - 4pm, Milton Court Concert Hall) offering insight in to a classical music rehearsal, as talented young musicians from **Junior Guildhall** rehearse an exciting programme of Russian music by Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky and Rachmaninov ahead of their evening concert, conducted by **Julian Clayton** and **Dominic Wheeler**.
- On Saturday 17 March Guildhall School artists and established artists at the cutting edge of experimental live performance present **Unfinished**, responding to one of London's most extraordinary historic sites, **The Charterhouse**, part of the **Culture Mile Network**.
- On Sunday 18 March, family music workshops will introduce a range of classical music to people through storytelling, led by acclaimed wind quintet **Concrete Winds**. Families can find out more about the fundamentals of musicianship at the **Kodály and Rhythmics music workshops**, delivered by music education specialists from the **Junior Guildhall Kindergarten** programme.
- Also on Sunday, Drama workshops will be led by teachers and alumni from the Guildhall School's acting department throughout the day.
- Activities on Sunday also include flautist **Lindsey Fillingham** and postgraduate musicians from the Guildhall School demonstrating how fun improvisation can be using ideas, tunes and stories from audience members to create completely new music in the moment. Using their 'Secret Music Lab' audiences will share in and help the different stages of the creative process.
- All events listed above are free to attend.

MUSIC

- Just Jam returns to the Barbican Concert Hall for **Just Jam Reloaded**, featuring a cast of afrobeat, grime, electronic, rap and further talents showcasing some of the most vital sounds from the UK and beyond, including Nottingham MC **Mez**, **Belly Squad**, Brixton rap duo **Skengdo x AM** and Tottenham's **Headie One** (Saturday 17 March).
- **PLAY!** promises a symphonic rollercoaster ride of classic computer game soundtracks such as *Final Fantasy* and *Tetris* themes, alongside well-known orchestral masterworks, including music from Holst's *The Planets* and Strauss' tone poems. Internationally renowned **Charles Hazlewood** will be conducting, with music performed by the **Army of Generals** and members of the **British Paraorchestra** in the Barbican Concert Hall (Sunday 18 March).

THEATRE

- **Ballet Black** returns to the Barbican Theatre (Thursday 15–Saturday 17 March) for a double bill consisting of Cathy Marston's new narrative ballet inspired by Can Themba's South African fable *The Suit* and Arthur Pita's Olivier Award-nominated *A Dream Within a Midsummer Night's Dream*. Led by Artistic Director **Cassa Pancho**, the company celebrates dancers of black and Asian descent, showcasing technique, precision and grace in specially commissioned pieces. These performances are intended for audiences aged 7+.

- **Studio Three Pit Party: Meat Raffle** celebrates working-class entertainment, performance artists and live music. These two nights of cabaret will applaud the grand tradition of working class entertainment and pay tribute to the clubs that have been the heart and soul of thousands of communities. Reduced ticket prices are available for residents of Barking and Dagenham (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, Pit Theatre).

FILM

- **Framed Film Festival:** A double helping of Framed Film Club for Barbican OpenFest weekend. On Saturday 17 March there's magical storytelling from distant lands with **Tales of the Night**. Then, on Sunday 18 March, **Molly Monster** must find her new place in her family with the arrival of a younger sibling (Cinemas 2 & 3).
- **Chronic Youth Film Festival:** From short films by African filmmakers, to feature-length stories that range from Occupation-era France to modern-day Missouri, this year's selection – brought to you by the **Barbican Young Programmers** – explores the restless, exciting and fraught nature of childhood and adolescence, and is a refreshing take on coming-of-age stories (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March, Cinema 2).

VISUAL ARTS

- **Another Kind of Life: Photography on the Margins** looks at the continuing fascination of artists with those on the margins of society through the work of 20 exceptional image-makers, including **Bruce Davidson, Paz Errázuriz, Casa Susanna, Larry Clark, Mary Ellen Mark, Boris Mikhailov, Daido Moriyama** and **Dayanita Singh**.
- **Yto Barrada** transforms the sweeping form of the Barbican's Curve with a dramatic site-specific installation entitled **Agadir**, which considers how a city and its people might address the process of reinvention following disaster. She takes as her starting point the hybrid novel-play by Moroccan writer **Mohammed Khaïr-Eddine** – *Agadir* (1967) – which reflects on the devastating earthquake that destroyed much of the modernist city of Agadir, Morocco, in 1960. Free admission.

THE CHARTERHOUSE

- **Unfinished** features Guildhall School artists and established artists at the cutting edge of experimental live performance responding to one of London's most extraordinary historic sites, **The Charterhouse**.
- **Nell Catchpole** and **Jan Hendrickse** have curated a series of live performance interventions that subtly change the perception of this historic building. Working with its sense of permanence, peace and seclusion in contrast to the surrounding urban environment, the artists make use of the natural light, material and acoustic properties of the site. Paying attention to time and duration, the event will evolve throughout the day and into the evening, alongside the regular routines of The Charterhouse residents. You are invited to encounter these contemplative and playful interventions in your own time as you journey through the site's many spaces. (Saturday 17 March, 11am–7pm).
- **The Charterhouse** is an extraordinary historic site that has been living the nation's history since 1348. In that time it has served as a monastery, private mansion, boys school, and an almshouse, which it remains to this day.
- As part of **Culture Mile Network**, **The Charterhouse** represents one of sixteen organisations based in and around the area that is playing a critical role in realising the ambitions of Culture Mile alongside the five core partners.

Notes to Editors

About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](#) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning

programme further underpins everything it does. Over 1.1 million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, the Pit, Cinemas One, Two and Three, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, foyers and public spaces, a library, Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue Entertainment](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

Find us on [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Spotify](#)

About the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

At the heart of British music for over 80 years, the BBC Symphony Orchestra performs an exciting, distinctive and wide-ranging season of concerts at the Barbican in its role as Associate Orchestra, offering everything from works at the heart of classical music to world premieres from today's finest composers. The BBC SO provides the backbone of the BBC Proms, performing around a dozen concerts each year, including the First and Last Nights. It performs throughout the world, and works regularly with its Chief Conductor Sakari Oramo, Semyon Bychkov, its Günter Wand Conducting Chair and Conductor Laureate Sir Andrew Davis.

Strongly committed to twentieth-century and contemporary music, it has given recent premieres of works by Harrison Birtwistle, Betsy Jolas, George Walker and Raymond Yui. Central to its life are recordings made for BBC Radio 3 during sessions at its studios in Maida Vale, London, some of which are free for the public to attend. The vast majority of its concerts are broadcast on BBC Radio 3, streamed live online, and a number are televised, giving it the highest broadcast profile of any UK orchestra. The BBC Symphony Chorus celebrate their 90th birthday throughout the 18/19 season with works including Ethel Smyth's rarely performed *Mass in D*, J.S. Bach's *Mass in B minor*, and Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ*. As one of the UK's finest amateur choirs, the BBC Symphony Chorus performs a wide range of challenging repertoire, much of which is broadcast on BBC Radio 3. They are the resident choir of the BBC Proms giving a number of performances each year including the world famous Last Night of the Proms. Among ongoing learning projects are the BBC SO Plus Family scheme, which introduces families to live classical music, BBC SO Family Orchestra and Chorus, Total Immersion composer events, and work in local schools. www.bbc.co.uk/symphonymorchestra

About the City of London Corporation

The City of London Corporation invests over £100m every year in heritage and cultural activities of all kinds. It is the UK's largest funder of cultural activities after the government, the BBC, and Heritage Lottery Fund. It is also developing Culture Mile between Farringdon and Moorgate – a multi-million pound investment which will create a new cultural and creative destination for London over the next 10 to 15 years. This includes £110m funding to support the Museum of London's move to West Smithfield and £2.5m to support the detailed business case for the proposed Centre for Music.

The City of London Corporation provides local government and policing services for the financial and commercial heart of Britain, the 'Square Mile'. In addition, the City Corporation has three roles:

- We support London's communities by working in partnership with neighbouring boroughs on economic regeneration, education and skills. In addition, the City of London Corporation's charitable funder, City Bridge Trust, makes grants of around £20 million annually to tackle disadvantage across London.
- We also help look after key London heritage and green spaces including Tower Bridge, the Museum of London, Barbican Arts Centre, City gardens, Hampstead Heath, Epping Forest, Burnham Beeches, and important commons in London.
- We also support and promote the 'City' as a world-leading financial and business hub, with outward and inward business delegations, high-profile civic events and research-driven policies, all reflecting a long-term approach.

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

About Culture Mile

Culture Mile is a corner of London's working capital, where creativity is fast becoming the most valuable currency. The City of London Corporation, together with the Barbican, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London Symphony Orchestra and the Museum of London, are leading the animation of the whole neighbourhood with imaginative collaborations and events. Culture Mile brings commerce and culture together in a wealth of creativity. Known meets unknown. Ancient and modern collide as the streets are activated by exhibitions, gigs, pop-ups and events. So whether you're with family, friends or flying solo, there's something for everyone. And thanks to Crossrail's new Elizabeth Line connections at Farringdon and Moorgate, the area is more connected than ever. Join us today where two thousand years of history collide with the world's best culture.

www.culturemile.london

Plans for Culture Mile were announced in July and will see the five partners lead the transformation of the area over the next decade and beyond, improving their offer to audiences with imaginative collaborations, outdoor programming and events seven days a week. Links between venues will be improved and major enhancements to the streets and wider public realm will enliven the area which, as Culture Mile expands and flourishes, will be regenerated. Crossrail's new Elizabeth Line connections at Farringdon and Moorgate, which open in December 2018, will make it much easier to travel to, and from, the City. Around 1.5 million additional visitors a year will be within a 45-minute journey of the area when the Elizabeth Line becomes fully operational in December 2019 and the North-South Thameslink line is upgraded.

About Culture Mile Network

A network of sixteen organisations based in and around the area which are playing a critical role in realising the ambitions of Culture Mile, alongside the five core partners. These diverse organisations represent the continuing and changing face of the City of London and share the commitment to help transform the area. More about Culture Mile Network partners can be found at:

www.culturemile.london/who-we-are | www.abrsm.org | www.thecharterhouse.org

About Esa-Pekka Salonen

Esa-Pekka Salonen's restless innovation drives him constantly to reposition classical music in the 21st century. He is currently the Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor for London's Philharmonia Orchestra and the Conductor Laureate for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, where he was Music Director from 1992 until 2009. This is his final of three seasons as the Marie-Josée Kravis Composer-in-Residence at the New York Philharmonic and his second of five as Artist in Association at the Finnish National Opera and Ballet, where he will

conduct his first full Ring cycle in future seasons. Additionally, Salonen is Artistic Director and cofounder of the annual Baltic Sea Festival, now in its fifteenth year, which invites celebrated artists to promote unity and ecological awareness among the countries around the Baltic Sea. He serves as an advisor to the Sync Project, a global initiative to harness the power of music for human health.

About 59 Productions

59 Productions is the multi award-winning company of artists behind the video design of the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games, War Horse, and the design and creative direction of the David Bowie is exhibition, which has toured the world reaching record-breaking audiences of more than 1.8 million people to date. The company received a Tony Award in 2015 for the projection design of Christopher Wheeldon's celebrated stage adaptation of An American in Paris which played in the West End and on Broadway. Led by directors Leo Warner, Mark Grimmer, Lysander Ashton and Richard Slaney, 59 Productions is a world-leading design studio and production company. Their work exists at the nexus between technology and art, and the company has become the go-to team for generating creative and technical ideas to realise ambitious artistic projects across a range of disciplines: from architectural projection-mapping to exhibition design, VR experiences to events, theatrical design to technical consultancy. Over the past five years, 59 Productions has created spectacular public artworks that combine architectural projection-mapping with powerful narrative for some of the world's most iconic buildings including the Sydney Opera House, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Edinburgh Castle, Hampton Court Palace and the United Nations Headquarters in New York. 59productions.co.uk

About the Guildhall School of Music & Drama

The Guildhall School is a vibrant, international community of young musicians, actors and theatre technicians in the heart of the City of London. Twice-rated No.1 specialist institution in the UK by the Guardian University Guide, and recently selected as one of the top ten institutions for performing arts in the world (QS World University Rankings 2016), the School is a global leader of creative and professional practice which promotes innovation, experiment and research, with over 900 students in higher education, drawn from nearly 60 countries around the world. It is also the UK's leading provider of specialist music training at the under-18 level with nearly 2,500 students in Junior Guildhall and Centre for Young Musicians. The School is widely recognised for the quality of its teaching and its graduates, and its new building, Milton Court which opened in September 2013, offers state-of-the-art facilities to match the talent within its walls, ensuring that students enter their chosen profession at the highest level. www.gsmd.ac.uk

About the London Symphony Orchestra

The LSO was established in 1904 and has a unique ethos. As a musical collective, it is built on artistic ownership and partnership. With an inimitable signature sound, the LSO's mission is to bring the greatest music to the greatest number of people. The LSO has been the only Resident Orchestra at the Barbican Centre in the City of London since it opened in 1982, giving 70 symphonic concerts there every year. The Orchestra works with a family of artists that includes some of the world's greatest conductors – Sir Simon Rattle as Music Director, Gianandrea Noseda and François-Xavier Roth as Principal Guest Conductors, Michael Tilson Thomas as Conductor Laureate and André Previn as Conductor Emeritus. Through LSO Discovery, it is a pioneer of music education, offering musical experiences to 60,000 people every year and over 100 live events at its music education centre LSO St Luke's on Old Street. With the formation of its own record label LSO Live in 1999 the LSO pioneered a revolution in recording live orchestral music. The LSO strives to embrace new digital technologies – having successfully moved into digital film, Blu-Ray Audio, downloads, streaming and virtual reality – and it continues to innovate with platforms such as LSO Play,

a web-based video player that allows people to observe the Orchestra from different angles. The LSO is also a highly successful creative enterprise, with 80% of all funding self-generated. www.lso.co.uk

About the Museum of London

The Museum of London tells the ever-changing story of this great world city and its people, from 450,000 BC to the present day. Our galleries, exhibitions, displays and activities seek to inspire a passion for London and provide a sense of the vibrancy that makes the city such a unique place. In close collaboration with our funders the City of London Corporation and Greater London Authority, the Museum of London will contribute to our shared goal of making the local area a world-class Cultural Hub. The museums are open daily 10am – 6pm and are FREE to all, and you can explore the Museum of London with collections online – home to 80,000 objects with more being added.

www.museumoflondon.org.uk

About OpenFest

Barbican OpenFest is a Culture Mile event in collaboration with The City of London Corporation, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London Symphony Orchestra and the Museum of London. Culture Mile is a destination for culture and creativity in the heart of London's financial district, bringing the area to life with imaginative collaborations and exciting events.

Press Information

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Public information

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www.barbican.org.uk

Barbican newsroom

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at www.barbican.org.uk/news/home

