



13 September 2013

London Contemporary Orchestra closes its 5th birthday *Imagined Occasions* series at Oval Space

3 October 2013, 20:00, Oval Space, London

Edgard Varèse *Octandre* *

Jonathan Harvey *Ricercare una Melodia*

George Benjamin *Three Miniatures for Solo Violin*

Henri Pousseur *Seismogramme I-II*

Thomas Adès *Catch*

Alastair Putt *new work* * (world premiere, LCO commission)

Vinko Globokar *Corporel*

Claude Vivier *Variation I* (electronics and film by Kira Zhigalina)

* conducted by Robert Ames

London Contemporary Orchestra's *Imagined Occasions* series presents three site-responsive, immersive performances in association with production and design team **Helen Scarlett O'Neill** and **Harry Ross**. The series seeks to engage its audience in a subtle participatory narrative, in which the audience are observers, creators, protagonists and the observed. Over the three performances the LCO has collaborated with the Roundhouse, Conrad Shawcross, Sennheiser and Vivienne Westwood and performed across three venues where classical music is rarely or never heard: Aldwych Underground Station, Primrose Hill and now one of London's hottest new venues Oval Space.

The final performance in the LCO's *Imagined Occasions* series is at Oval Space, in Bethnal Green. The modern loft venue, formally an old warehouse, is framed by derelict, unfinished concrete structures and The Imperial Gas Company's 1865 gasometers. This concert explores fears about an uncertain afterlife and ideas around entering paradise and what this is like. Inspired by writers and scientists "heaven" will involve the audience becoming single desensitized particles within the universal matter. Half the audience will be asked to come in light colours and half in dark and they will enter the space from different routes. The LCO, conducted by Robert Ames, perform both in the venue itself and outside in the surrounding structures including the final world premiere of the series, *Madrugada* by **Alastair Putt**, as well as music by Thomas Adès, Varèse, Harvey, Globokar, George Benjamin, Pousseur and Vivier's *Variation I* for electronics - accompanied by dancers from Nutshell Dance with choreography by Mari Frogner and video by Kira Zhigalina.

Alastair Putt has had works performed at venues including the Wigmore Hall, the Barbican Centre and LS St Luke's. In 2011 he was accepted onto the London Symphony Orchestra's Panufnik Young Composers Scheme with his subsequent commission to be performed in 2014. He was a Composition Fellow at Tanglewood Festival in 2012 and in 2013 was named one of ENO's House Composers. *Madrugada* was composed during a stay at the Banff Centre in Canada earlier in 2013 and is inspired by the experience of ascending a small mountain in the early morning, in time for sunrise. The title is Portuguese for 'daybreak', specifically the period of night leading up to the dawn.

Tickets: £25 (£10 concessions) available from www.lcorchestra.co.uk

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London Contemporary Orchestra

London Contemporary Orchestra draws together London's brightest young talent to explore and promote new music to an increasingly wide audience. Formed in 2008 by Robert Ames and Hugh Brunt, the LCO has worked alongside a distinguished array of composers and artists, including Jonny Greenwood (on Paul Thomas Anderson's Academy Award-nominated film *The Master*), Matmos, Anna Meredith, Biosphere, Gabriel Prokofiev, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Mira Calix, United Visual Artists and Foals. Recent projects include sold-out performances at the Roundhouse and The Old Vic Tunnels, Mike Figgis's *Just Tell The Truth* at the Royal Opera House (Deloitte Ignite 2011), Latitude Festival and closing last year's Meltdown Festival at the Southbank Centre. LCO's performances have been broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and Sky Arts.

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