

For immediate release: Friday 17 August 2018

In The Dark and Falling Tree Productions *Soundhouse: The Listening Body*

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS

The Barbican today announces a line-up of events, audio installations and workshops that run alongside the latest Level G commission, ***Soundhouse: The Listening Body***.

Listening to creative radio and podcasts is often considered a secondary activity - one you might do in motion, submerged in a hot bath or lying in bed on the edge of dreams. **Nina Garthwaite** (In The Dark) and **Eleanor McDowall** (Falling Tree Productions) explore how the act of listening might occupy public space.

Soundhouse: The Listening Body presents a series of alternative visions for public listening environments, playing a curated collection of audio works designed to provoke the imagination and stimulate the senses in a radically reimagined space. The installation is open for visitors to experience for free (6 Sep–4 Oct) where they can hear a curated collection of audio works during the Barbican's opening hours.

An accompanying publication, which features a series of essays by experts in the field of radio and podcasting, is available for sale in the Barbican Shop.

The following events and workshops, presented by the Barbican Centre, In The Dark and Falling Tree Productions, accompany ***Soundhouse: The Listening Body***.

Conversation No. 7 **Tue 11 Sep 2018, 7pm and 8pm**

Enter into conversation with the radio in a collective listening session which highlights the work of sound artist and composer Duncan Speakman and Belgian writer and dramaturg Tineke de Meyer. *Duet* and *Conversation No. 7* explore the porous borders between recorded sound and the bodily presence of the listener.

Conversation No. 7 is followed by a Q&A with the artists.

Looking **Tue 18 Sep 2018, 7.30pm and 8.30pm**

Audio is rarely thought of as a visual medium, but do the sounds that we hear alter the way that we see? This experiment in collective listening introduces elements of theatre to examine how sound and sight interact, exploring how stories of viewing, voyeurism and mirrors can shift your perception of the world around you.

Dreaming **Sat 22 Sep 2018, 7pm and 8pm**

Lie back and share a collective dream in a starlit audio cinema. Weaving together fiction, reality and the voices of the audience, *Dreaming* is a collaboration between audio artist Kaitlin Prest and musician Inne Eysermans.

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Visitors will be asked to record a couple of sentences on their phones to be emailed in advance of the event.

The Humdrum

Sat 29 Sep 2018, 2–4pm

A powerful immersive audio experience created from anecdotes of microaggressions faced by minorities in everyday life. Guests are invited to participate and leave their own experiences or reflections on exit. *The Humdrum* is newly commissioned for *Soundhouse: The Listening Body* in a collaboration with Stance, an award-winning podcast covering arts, culture and current affairs, from diverse, global perspectives.

Meditation: Everything, Nothing, Harvey Keitel

Mon 1 Oct 2018, 6.30pm

In the middle of one of the busiest cities in the world, the city of lights and dreams and distractions, a man sits down and tries to meditate. Learning to meditate is hard. Emptying one's mind, focusing entirely on one's breath is hard. And it gets even harder for the man with the realisation that he's sitting next to the famous actor Harvey Keitel... This event interlaces a collective listening session with a guided meditation, exploring distracted bodies and wandering minds.

Meditation: Everything, Nothing, Harvey Keitel is followed by a Q&A with producer Pejk Malinovski.

Movement

Thu 4 Oct 2018, 7pm

We dance to music but do we dance to spoken word? Whether or not we notice it, most of us listen to the radio or podcasts in motion, whether doing the dishes, commuting or walking in the park. This workshop will ask participants to explore what happens when we focus our attention on the way we listen with our bodies. Combining collective listening with a movement workshop, this session will include a discussion where participants can feedback about their experience.

In 2010, Nina Garthwaite set up In The Dark, a media arts organisation best known for its gathered listening events. Run by a collective of audio producers and enthusiasts, In The Dark has gone on to gain a reputation around the world for curating, commissioning and celebrating creative audio.

Eleanor McDowall is a Director at Falling Tree Productions, which creates features and documentaries for the BBC and high-profile cultural institutions. She is the series producer of Short Cuts - a home for new, adventurous audio documentaries on BBC Radio 4 and in her spare time runs Radio Atlas - an online platform and podcast for subtitled audio documentaries

Notes to Editors

Previously known as the foyers, Level G is the Barbican's public space where visitors can see art for free, relax and enjoy the iconic building. The Level G programme is dedicated to transforming this public space with installations, exhibitions, talks and events.

ENDS

Press information

For further information contact the Barbican press office:

Freddie Todd Fordham, Communications Officer for Theatre and Dance, +44 207 382 7399 or freddie.todd-fordham@barbican.org.uk

Tom Vine, Communications Officer, +44 207 382 7321 or tom.vine@barbican.org.uk

Public information

Box office: 020 7638 8891

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/series/level-g>

Listings information

Conversation No. 7

Tue 11 Sep 2018

7pm and 8pm

Mezzanine Level

Looking

Tue 18 Sep 2018

7.30pm and 8.30pm

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Dreaming

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Mezzanine Level

Meditation: Everything, Nothing, Harvey Keitel

Mon 1 Oct 2018

6.30pm

Mezzanine Level

Movement

Thu 4 Oct 2018

7pm

Fountain Room

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

About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](http://www.barbican.org.uk) 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](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). International Associates are [Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam](#), [New York Philharmonic](#), [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#), [Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig](#) and [Jazz at Lincoln Center](#).

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