Barbican – Feb 19

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Hello!

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, there's lots to fall in love with at the Barbican this February.

If the Oscars set your heart a-flutter, discover some of the films that missed out on one of the coveted prizes with Barbican curator, Sonia Zadurian. Plus, we're showing all the films nominated in the Best Picture and Foreign Language Film categories (see page 9).

And if eclectic music be the food of love, eat your heart out at the BBC 3 Late Junction Festival, which features a smorgasbord of cutting-edge and left-field sounds to delight your sonic tastebuds (page 7).

Dance and 3D film are married together for the groundbreaking Tesseract, which has its UK premiere here this month (see page 11-14). Combining innovative filmmaking techniques and choreography from two former Merce Cunningham Dance Company alumni, it will transform the way you see dance.

Valentine's Day isn't for everyone, so if you want a complete antidote, our annual My Twisted Valentine film is just the thing. Der Fan is a 1982 West German horror film that considers what happens when obsessive love for a pop singer goes unrequited (see page 16).

Well, we think we've stretched the love puns long enough now. Looking forward to seeing you here in February.

Can art help us understand science?

Art and science share an aim: they both attempt to understand and describe the world around us. But while most art can be appreciated without years of study, some scientific disciplines are intimidatingly complicated. Could art help us understand the difficult concepts?

'I don't think art should attempt to translate rational thought processes in the way that language does, because it very quickly becomes illustrative and loses what makes art unique,' says artist Daria Martin, whose work in The Curve explores transgenerational trauma.

'However, what art is good at doing is evoking lived experience, by eliciting new experiences in its viewers. Science and art share experimentation and testing, but communicate differently.'

Daria Martin: Tonight the World

Until 7 Apr See page 33 for details Part of Life Rewired

Off-stage and in session

Baritone Roderick Williams is the latest artist to feature in our Barbican Sessions video series, featuring musicians performing after-hours in unexpected places around the Centre. The singer is our Milton Court artist-in-residence and this month will perform An Italian Songbook (19 Feb) and a recital concert (26 Feb) including works by Brahms, Robert and Clara Schumann, plus the world premiere of a composition by Ryan Wigglesworth.

Other Barbican Sessions performances are from the likes of London Symphony Orchestra co-principal trombonist and former Young Musician of the Year, Peter Moore, Australian Chamber Orchestra violinist Satu Vänskä, British Indian composer Soumik Datta, and Irish rock band Microdisney.

Watch all the Barbican Sessions on our YouTube channel.

Roderick Williams: Artist-in-Residence

19 & 26 Feb See page 23 for details

Free festival explores identity

What does it mean to be British today? Through cinema, dance, spoken word, technology, workshops and music, Barbican OpenFest: Art 50 will explore this topic in a day of free events.

Among the highlights of the event – part of Sky Arts' Art 50 – is Olivier Award-winning company Boy Blue's REBEL, which uses dance, film, music and spoken word to capture young Londoners' opinions, hopes and fears. We'll also host a pop-up cinema showing a rolling programme of short films including animation, portraits, sitcoms and poems.

Photography exhibitions including We Are British, by Rio Blake, celebrate multicultural society and feature mixedheritage young British people delving into their collective and individual views on British identity.

In a special commission, Ivor Novello Lifetime Achievement Award winner Nitin Sawhney creates a new national anthem which reflects on our current society, performed by the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Acclaimed poet Lemn Sissay has written a new constitution for the UK exploring the possibility of a 'new charter' for the UK when we leave Europe. And writers including Paul McVeigh, Dreda Say Mitchell and AL Kennedy imagine what Britain might look like 50 years from now in Postcards from the Future.

'The idea for Art 50 came about after the Brexit referendum,' says Rocio Cano, series producer at Storyvault Films. 'There was a study that found that 96% of arts professionals preferred remain, and it became apparent that what we think of as British culture is out of touch with a large percentage of the country. So we wanted to hear from voices that feel marginalised and not listened to, to paint a picture of British identity. 'We had over 1,000 applications from people from all walks of life and different artistic genres, and whittled it down to 50 – in reference to Article 50. We didn't impose an editorial line – we wanted them to explore what they wanted to.

'The results are a rich tapestry of how the British see themselves. There's a mix of humour, poignancy, a desire to understand each other, matters of identity and belonging, and the gap between old and young.

'Some of the works are personal visions, but others involve a multitude of voices. In these cases, artists collaborated with, and talked to, hundreds of people to create their works, so we see many layers of people that have been involved. It's been a real privilege to hear from all these different communities and to help them explore these issues.'

All events are free to attend.

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

Presented with Sky Arts 23 Feb

See listings pages for details of all the different activities taking place.

A musical detective hunt

Track down an eclectic mix of some of the best leftfield music at BBC Radio 3 show Late Junction's new festival with the Barbican.

BBC Radio 3 programme Late Junction is breaking out of the studio to curate its own festival this month, bringing its eclectic mix of music to east London.

'It's a dream come true,' says co-presenter Verity Sharp, one of the founding voices of the show. 'We've collaborated with festivals in the past, such as End of the Road and EFG London Jazz Festival, but this time we have a standalone event in its own right.'

For the uninitiated, the radio show's broad mix of left field electronica, folk, classical, jazz and other music from around the world feels more attuned to our genre-hopping listening habits today than when it started two decades ago.

So mixed is the range of music on the show that the fans often remark 'if you don't like the track that's being played, you'll like the next one'. It's a key part of what keeps it so popular among the musically curious.

Verity says the Late Junction team, including co-presenters Max Reinhardt and Nick Luscombe, worked closely with Barbican programmer Chris Sharp to curate a wide-ranging programme for the concerts. The marriage of Barbican and Late Junction expertise produced a line-up that includes Gazelle Twin, CURL (Mica Levi, Coby Sey and Brother May), Hen Ogledd and This is Not This Heat.

'Uncovering music to bring to people is like a constant detective hunt and that's what I love about it,' smiles Verity. 'There's so much music being produced that we're even more focussed on being at the front of the queue for what's being made, asking ourselves "what is it about this that makes it stand out from the rest?"; only then does it make it onto the show.'

Late Junction Festival

28 Feb & 1 Mar See page 28 for details

Contemporary Music Podcast

Go deeper with our Contemporary Music podcast, which features exclusive interviews, backstage reports, behindthe-scenes stories and top quality music. With recent interviewees including Keren Ann, Pan Daijing, Andy Irvine and Paul Brady, it's your fortnightly look at some of the most exciting music around.

Subscribe on iTunes, Acast or Spotify.

Unmissable films that missed an Oscar

Everyone has an opinion on the titles that should be recognised with an Academy Award, but competition is tough and not all can pick up the coveted prize. Ahead of our Oscar Week when we will show the Best Picture and Best Foreign Language Film nominees, Barbican curator Sonia Zadurian recommends her favourite films from the past that missed out on the award.

Stories We Tell

(Dir Sarah Polley, Canada, 2012)

'In one of my favourite documentaries, Sarah Polley creates a vivid tapestry of archive footage, interviews, recorded narration and dramatic reconstructions based on real events, to tell the intriguing tale of her parentage. She layers the thoughts and memories of several people and delicately blends documentary modes to produce this extraordinary exploration of the reliability of memory, the importance of perspective in storytelling, and the issue of truth in documentary.'

To Be or Not To Be

(Dir Ernst Lubitsch, US, 1942)

'It's notoriously tricky for comedies to compete in the key categories at the Academy Awards and Ernst Lubitsch's To Be or Not to Be was no exception. Nominated for Best Music, the film walked away from the ceremony empty handed, but this tale of a group of actors impersonating Nazis in freshly-invaded Poland is a stroke of comic genius. Hilarious situations and fiercely sharp, witty dialogue run throughout the film, channelled through performances by Jack Benny and Carole Lombard on top form. The soliloquy from Shakespeare's Hamlet to which the title refers, has undoubtedly never inspired such laughter, before or since.'

La Jetée/Twelve Monkeys

(Dir Chris Marker, France, 1962 / Terry Gilliam, US, 1995) 'At 28 minutes, Chris Marker's seminal story of a man forced to explore his memories in the wake of World War Three's devastation is one of the greatest short films of all time. Told through still images in a rhythmic montage which replicates gaps in human recollection, this radical science-fiction film was hugely influential on the art form. Most directly, on Terry Gilliam's Twelve Monkeys, which was nominated for Best Actor and Best Costume Design in 1996 but didn't manage to scoop up any awards on the night. Few directors are able to immerse an audience so fully in their vision as Gilliam. His nightmarish imagining of a world in which human life could only continue underground leaves the audience gasping for the clear air of the surface and desperate for the hero's adventures in time travel to destroy the dystopian future they have been so suffocated by.'

We'll be showing all the films nominated for Best Picture and Best Foreign Language Film at this year's Academy Awards. Which will you think deserves the top prize?

Oscar Week

22-28 Feb See page 16 for details

The shape of things to come

A collaboration between a pioneering filmmaker and two Merce Cunningham Dance Company alumni combines 3D film, dance and live video to produce an artistic hybrid of man and machine.

Tesseract: Noun

1 A four-dimensional analogue of a cube.

2 A combination of 3D film, live video and dance that will alter your understanding of the possibilities of physics.

Tesseract is a two-part production that has been years in the making – and the results are truly extraordinary. This is a work that is not only visually arresting, but twists your understanding of time and space, creates and collapses multiple narratives, and pushes at the limits of the laws of physics.

Pioneering filmmaker and video artist Charles Atlas has teamed up with dancers and choreographers Silas Riener and Rashaun Mitchell. More than a decade since his last dance video, Atlas says he wanted to make a piece that combined dance, video, and 3D technology. 'It's something I've always wanted to do but never had the chance,' he says.

The first part of the production is a 3D film of six scenes, or 'worlds' as the trio call them, each with its own logic, structure and movement qualities. There are black and white geometric shapes, robots, a Martian landscape, and bright psychedelic experiences. 'Silas and I had been working for a few years with science fiction themes of space and time travel, so we decided to use those in the work,' says Mitchell. 'But we also wanted to make something with kinetic power that would really consider all the possibilities of forms we're working in.'

That the three bonded over a love of sci-fi – films such as Dune and The Cube 2 – is clear in the imagery in Tesseract, but this is not a science fiction story. There's no linear narrative here, no resolution. The ambiguity and uncertainty is an important theme.

Riener says he hopes everyone will find something different in it, that they'll place their own interpretation on what's unfolding.

Mitchell adds, 'Some of the portraits are humorous, some are outlandish, some are just fantasies. We present that to suggest there's no one way to read this and there's no right way to move through the world. Our creation of multiple selves is the suggestion that there's no single truth.'

The second part is a live dance performance which sees Atlas mix a live feed from multiple cameras capturing the movements, manipulating the images and projecting them into the stage space.

The resulting whole touches on human ritual conjuring and new technological magic, between past and future.

Atlas became Merce Cunningham Dance Company's filmmaker-in-residence in 1974. There, he and the pioneering avant-garde choreographer created a number of filmic dance studies, defining a new language for these 'media dance' works.

However, despite four decades of filmmaking and over 10 years working with live video, he says this is the first time he's worked with dance and live video for an eveninglength dance piece. 'It's nerve-wracking,' he admits, laughing. 'There's no back up; if you make a mistake, you make a mistake, and that's exciting. It's like I'm one of the performers.'

'Charles is like the wizard behind the curtain – you never see him but he is doing the live mixing and the manipulation of the images that are being shot,' says Mitchell. 'For us it's really exciting because it changes every night. There's something really fresh about it.'

This combination of live video and dance opens up new creative possibilities, says Riener. 'With live performance you can't really escape time, so there's always a sense of chronology, but with video, you feel like you can. There's a magic to it where time can be distorted and you can jump cut to a new place. With 3D, space becomes elastic, so what we were trying to do is use the medium of video to explore the idea of not having to conform to the laws of physics – to look at what's possible beyond that.'

'There's a way of combining art with technology that's in harmony,' adds Atlas. 'It's not about man vs machine, it's really about dance.'

Tesseract

28 Feb-2 Mar See page 32 for details Part of Life Rewired

Cinema

New releases

From Fri 1 Feb

Green Book

An African-American classical pianist (Mahershala Ali) hires a working-class Italian-American bouncer (Viggo Mortensen) as his driver for a musical tour through the 1960s American South.

From Fri 1 Feb Can You Ever Forgive Me? 15

When writer Lee Israel (Melissa McCarthy) falls out of step with current tastes, she turns her art to deception. Marielle Heller adapts the memoir of the best-selling celebrity biographer.

From Fri 8 Feb If Beale Street Could Talk 15

Barry Jenkins follows up his Oscar-winning Moonlight with this beautiful adaptation of James Baldwin's story of love and discrimination in early 1970s New York.

From Fri 8 Feb On the Basis of Sex

Young lawyer Ruth Bader Ginsburg (Felicity Jones) works to bring a ground-breaking case of gender discrimination before the Supreme Court.

From Fri 15 Feb

Isn't It Romantic?

Life-long cynic Natalie (Rebel Wilson) awakens from an encounter with a mugger to discover that her life has become her worst nightmare – a romantic comedy – and she is the leading lady.

From Fri 22 Feb

A Deal with the Universe

Drawing on filmed diaries made over the last ten years, Jason Barker's debut feature documentary is a personal chronicle of both Jason's transgender journey and his parental one.

Special events and seasons

Sun 3 Feb 4pm, Cinema 1 He Who Gets Slapped 12A* + live music by Taz Modi and Fraser Bowels

Silent Films & Live Music. One of the most twisted films of the silent era, this is the story of a man who relives his greatest humiliation, day after day, for a paying public. Part of London International Mime Festival.

Tue 5 Feb 6.10pm, Cinema 2 Robocop 18 + presentation by Will Jackson

Science on Screen + Life Rewired. This cult classic follows a terminally-wounded cop who returns to the force as a cyborg in a dystopian, crime-ridden Detroit. Will Jackson muses on whether technology is to blame for its misuse.

Thu 14 Feb, 8.45pm, Cinema 3

Der Fan 18

My Twisted Valentine

Dejected Simone has one love in life – Ra West German Synth Pop New Wave pop idol. He's the love of her life, and they will be together. Curated by Cigarette Burns Cinema.

22–28 Feb, Cinema 3 Oscar Week

We roll out the red carpet for a week of the all the Best Picture and Best Foreign Language films. Presented in partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Sat 23 Feb from 12pm, Level G Pop-up cinema

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

A series of shorts, animations and films by creators from around the UK, including Simon Armitage, which explore what it means to be British today. Programmed by Sky Arts.

Sat 23 Feb 1.30pm, Cinema 2 Moomins and the Winter Wonderland U

After selling out at Framed Film Festival last November, Tove Jansson's beloved characters return to our screens in their latest adventure. This screening is open to everyone, not just for kids.

Wed 27 Feb, Cinema 2

Ága#

New East Cinema. An Inuit couple hold on to their traditions in Siberia's arctic tundra as the modern world brings challenges to their lifestyle in this visually stunning feature from Bulgarian director Milko Lazarov.

Event Cinema

Sat 2 Feb 5.55pm, Cinema 1

Carmen 12A

Met Opera Live in HD

Don José breaks the law, goes to prison, deserts the army and loses everything to be with Carmen, but she soon tires of him. Clémentine Margaine plays opera's ultimate seductress.

Tue 19 Feb 7.15pm, Cinema 3 Don Quixote 12A

Royal Opera House Live. Marius Petipa choreographs this sparkling ballet of Cervantes's story of the bumbling knight Don Quixote and his adventures with his faithful squire Sancho Panza.

Wed 27 Feb, Cinema 2 Stage Russia: Smile Upon Us, Lord

Afternoon Arts. Rimas Tuminas's adaptation of two novels by fellow Lithuanian, Grigory Kanovich, is a dreamy, comedic road trip, centring around the precarious fortunes of Eastern European Jews in the early 20th century.

Thu 28 Feb 2pm, Cinema 2 Exhibition on Screen:

Goya – Visions of Flesh and Blood

Afternoon Arts. Heir to Velázquez, hero to Picasso. Discover Spain's celebrated artist with this cinematic tour de force based on the National Gallery's must-see exhibition Goya: The Portraits.

Families

Every Saturday 11am, Cinema 2 Family Film Club

For Freezing February we've chilly tales to watch in the warm cinema – including Moomins and the Winter Wonderland. Plus, there's a free workshop on the last Saturday of the month and our new monthly show and tell intros.

Parent and Baby Screenings

Enjoy the best new films every Monday and Saturday morning with your little ones of twelve months and under, at our specially tailored screenings. Sign up to the mailing list at barbican.org.uk/parentandbaby

Information

Relaxed Screenings

One Friday afternoon in every month, we screen a film in a specially tailored environment for adults who may be on the autistic spectrum, have Tourette Syndrome, anxiety, sensory or other learning difficulties. Friends and carers go free.

Classical Music

All concerts take place in the Hall unless otherwise stated

Fri 1 Feb 12.30pm, LSO St Luke's LSO Discovery: Free Lunchtime Concert

Discover the instruments that make up the LSO's percussion section up close, as players from the Orchestra perform a 45-minute lunchtime concert presented by Rachel Leach. Free event

Fri 1 Feb 7.30pm, Milton Court Casals Quartet: The Seven Last Words of Christ

Haydn's beautiful and moving musical reflections on timeless and tragic themes including suffering, loss and redemption, are set to words from Colm Tóibín's striking short novel The Testament of Mary.

Sat 2 Feb 7.30pm BBC Symphony Orchestra & Chorus: Bach B minor Mass

John Butt, one of the boldest and most innovative Bach interpreters today, conducts the BBC Symphony Chorus in their first performance of Bach's mighty B minor Mass for 40 years.

Sat 2 Feb 7.30pm, LSO St Luke's LSO Percussion Ensemble

Enjoy the rhythms of the LSO Percussion Ensemble in a pulse-raising evening of music influenced by minimalism and jazz.

Sun 3 Feb, 11am, 3pm & 7.30pm, Milton Court Casals Quartet and Tamara Stefanovich: Hungariana

An immersive day of music, readings and visuals exploring the music of Bartók, Ligeti and Kurtág, whose utterly individual sounds helped define 20th-century classical music.

Wed 6 Feb 7.30pm Evgeny Kissin in recital

Described as 'a rare and miraculous piano legend' (Daily Telegraph), the brilliant Russian offers a compelling programme that ranges from Schumann to Scriabin.

Thu 7 Feb 7.30pm London Symphony Orchestra/Gardiner

Sir John Eliot Gardiner leads a journey through Romanticism with music by Schumann and Weber, and Mendelssohn's Concerto for violin and piano with soloists Isabelle Faust and Kristian Bezuidenhout.

Fri 8 Feb 7.30pm BBC Symphony Orchestra/Canellakis

American conductor Karina Canellakis pairs one of Beethoven's best-loved symphonies, No 7 with a major UK premiere by Austrian musical maverick Thomas Larcher.

Sat 9 Feb 7pm, LSO St Luke's LSO Discovery: Soundhub Showcase

Discover music by composers of the LSO Soundhub scheme, who have spent a year experimenting with instruments, ensembles and media to develop stunning new works for performance.

Sun 10 Feb 3pm, Milton Court BBC Singers Family Concert

Let the BBC Singers take you on a thrilling journey full of mystery and music, as they tell the story of a king, a magical child, a secret underground lake and not one, but two dragons.

Sun 10 Feb 7pm London Symphony Orchestra/Gardiner

Sir John Eliot Gardiner explores the music of Robert Schumann at his most urgent, dramatic and tender, in a concert also featuring Beethoven's first Piano Concerto performed by Piotr Anderszewski.

Mon 11 Feb 7.30pm, Milton Court Benjamin Grosvenor with the Doric Quartet

The young British pianist begins his pocket-sized Chopin Piano Concerto cycle – a delightful rediscovery that allows the intricacy of Chopin's writing to shine through.

Wed 13 Feb 7.30pm BBC Symphony Orchestra/Vedernikov

Shostakovich's emotionally charged, epic Fourth Symphony is the centrepiece of a concert that also includes a new concerto for BBCSO Principal Trombonist Helen Vollam.

Fri 15 Feb 12.30pm, LSO St Luke's LSO Discovery: Free Lunchtime Concert

Discover the art of song in an informal recital by pianists and singers from the Guildhall School, presented by Rachel Leach. Free event

Sun 17 Feb 7pm London Symphony Orchestra/Rattle

Daniil Trifonov joins the Orchestra as soloist in Ravel's Piano Concerto in G, as Sir Simon Rattle conducts an all-French programme also featuring music by Poulenc, Rameau and Betsy Jolas.

Tue 19 Feb 7.30pm, Milton Court Roderick Williams: An Italian Songbook

A new English-language staging of Wolf's deeply romantic tale of love and loss explores a whole world of human frailty, passion and pain in enchanting vignettes of village life.

Wed 20 Feb 7.30pm Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra: Mahler's Ninth Symphony

Mahler's great farewell to life is performed by his own orchestra who understand this music more instinctively than any other - with conductor Ádám Fischer at the helm.

Fri 22 Feb 7.30pm BBC Symphony Orchestra/Oramo

The nimble, classical wit of Mozart's Symphony No 35 is set against the expansive sensuality and romantic richness of Mahler's great orchestral song-cycle, Das Lied von der Erde.

Sat 23 Feb, Life Rewired Hub Tuning into Change

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

An interactive and artistic drop-in space curated by young people offers visitors the opportunity to try things out and find out more about the Youth Manifesto, which calls on politicians, arts leaders and the general public to prioritise access to the arts and be creative.

Sun 24 Feb 5pm, Milton Court Academy of Ancient Music Lucie Horsch and Richard Egarr

Leave your preconceptions about the recorder at the door: the astonishing young virtuoso Lucie Horsch and AAM perform music ranging from heart-breaking beauty to extrovert joy.

25 Feb-4 Mar 7pm, Silk Street Theatre Britten: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Guildhall School's award-winning Opera department presents Britten's interpretation of Shakespeare's magical tale of lovers, fairies and comic mix-ups, one of the most popular of all 20th-century operas.

Tue 26 Feb 7.30pm, Milton Court Roderick Williams in recital

Opening up some remarkably modern perspectives on identity and the human heart, Williams has assembled an entire recital that explores the limitlessly fluid ways in which two souls can merge.

Wed 27 Feb 7.30pm Joshua Bell in recital

'Bell doesn't stand in anyone's shadow' (The New York Times). A rare UK solo recital from one of the few violinists in the world today whose every note is worth hearing.

Thu 28 Feb 7.30pm London Symphony Orchestra/Trpceski

The prodigiously gifted Lahav Shani conducts Stravinsky's Petrushka, Weill's Symphony No 2 and Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini with piano soloist Simon Trpceski.

Visit our website for full programme information, including concerts from the Barbican Presents series, London Symphony Orchestra and our other associate orchestras, or contact the Box Office to be posted our current Classical Music brochure.

Resident Orchestra - LSO

Contemporary Music

All concerts take place in the Barbican Hall unless otherwise stated

Fri 1 Feb 7.30pm

Low

The legendary slowcore trio perform their new album, distorting their post-indie sound with electronics in songs reflecting on the American condition, alongside material from their 25-year career.

Sat 2 Feb 7.30pm, Milton Court Irreversible Entanglements

Fronted by electronic spoken word artist Moor Mother, these free jazz experimentalists confront police brutality and civil rights in their powerfully immediate performance.

Sun 3 Feb 7.30pm Le Trio Joubran

A unique take on traditional Palestinian music, oud masters the Joubran brothers infuse it with elements of jazz and rock.

Tue 5 Feb 7.30pm Transatlantic Sessions

Uniting folk musicians from across the pond, Shetland's Aly Bain and Nashville's Jerry Douglas celebrate their similarities and bring a fresh perspective with classic and new roots music.

Sat 16 Feb 3pm & 7.30pm, The Pit The Third Orchestra

Peter Wiegold brings together an eclectic ensemble of international musicians – all masters in their own world music tradition – to create a sound that is fluid, moving from electronic through jazz and classical.

Mon 18 Feb 7.30pm Joshua Redman: Still Dreaming

Reviving the music his father Dewey Redman composed and performed with Ornette Coleman, the saxophonist looks to the future with Ron Miles, Scott Colley and Brian Blade.

Thu 21 Feb, Chats Palace Converging Dialogue

Join Guildhall students and community groups from east London for a day of workshops and live music responding to the Barbican's 2019 season Life Rewired, exploring what it means to be human in the face of technological and scientific change. Free event

Thu 21 Feb 8pm Tony Allen & Jeff Mills

Two pioneers of percussive music, afrobeat drummer Tony Allen and techno producer Jeff Mills perform together in an improvisation drawing threads between their respective disciplines.

Sat 23 Feb

Nitin Sawhney: BREXIT – a rational anthem for a national tantrum

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

Nitin Sawhney leads members of his band and the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain in a new piece reflecting on British society.

Sun 24 Feb 7.30pm Shahram Nazeri & Davlatmand Kholov

The tenor at the forefront of Iranian classical music is joined by multi-instrumentalist, singer and master of traditional Tajik folk music.

Thu 26 Feb, 8pm The Piano 15

25 years since its release, the London Contemporary Orchestra perform Michael Nyman's score live to a screening of Jane Campion's standout work.

Thu 28 Feb & Fri 1 Mar 7.30pm, EartH Late Junction Festival

Electronic performance artist Gazelle Twin and art-punks This is Not This Heat join collaborative projects including Richard Dawson and Rhodri Davies's Hen Ogledd and Mica Levi and Coby Sey's CURL.

Irreversible Entanglements

Music for change

Liberation-minded free jazz quintet Irreversible Entanglements use music and poetry to share their message.

It feels like the universe brought Irreversible Entanglements together. Alto saxophonist Keir Neuringer and musician visual and spoken word artist Camae Ayewa (the critically-acclaimed Moor Mother) had been performing together for a few months when they were invited to play at a Musicians Against Police Brutality event in Brooklyn in April 2015 to protest the killing of Akai Gurley by an NYPD officer. Bassist Luke Stewart – who knew both Ayewa and Neuringer individually – joined them for the show. There they met trumpeter Aquiles Navarro and drummer Tcheser Holmes, who were performing together as a duo.

'It was a gathering of a lot of creative artists and musicians that were willing to put their art for the cause,' says Navarro.

Drummer Tcheser Holmes adds, 'We wanted to get involved because police brutality is a tragedy that's going on. It involves you automatically. This is where I live, where we're surviving. For me it was a case of asking myself, what can I contribute to a solution?'

The two groups had an instant connection, recalls Neuringer. 'To my ears it sounded like we could have played at the same time.'

So, they agreed to meet up for a single day of recording in Brooklyn. Over the six-hour session the newly-formed quintet created an album which made 'top releases of 2017' lists from the likes of The Quietus, Stereogum and Gilles Peterson.

While it's rare to find free jazz with voice, it brings to mind Amiri Baraka's collaborations with Sunny Murray and the New York Art Quartet. Yet this is a sound all their own.

The album is a harrowing listen, one that speaks to right now in a way that won't be ignored. And rightly so. The band creates the right atmosphere for Ayewa's powerful poetic narratives of Black trauma and survival and strength, which drive the tone of the tracks. It's at the heart of the band's subject matter, which represents a return to a central tenet of free jazz – to be a vehicle for Black liberation.

It manages to simultaneously honour the traditions of free jazz as well as look to the future. As Holmes says, 'Our music comes from what's happening at that exact moment. I look at it more like social change.'

Irreversible Entanglements

2 Feb See page 26 for details

For full programme information, including artist line ups, please visit **barbican.org.uk**

Full details of prices are available online. Barbican Members and Business Members enjoy discounts on selected events. Join Young Barbican and get tickets for selected events for just £5, £10 or £15

Theatre & Dance

30 Jan-2 Feb, Theatre Peeping Tom: Father (Vader)

London International Mime Festival 2019 Phenomenal choreography and enigmatic visual imagery transport viewers from fantasy to reality in this empathetic, swirling and surprising portrait of ageing.

5—6 Feb, Theatre Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre The Cherry Orchard

Vladimir Mirzoev directs a symbolic production of Chekhov's play, with Victoria Isakova playing the role of aristocrat Lyubov Ranevskaya in this contemporary take on societal collapse.

8—9 Feb, Theatre Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre The Good Person of Szechwan

Yury Butosov updates Brecht's parable play to explore the duality of human nature, with a no-holds-barred performance by Alexandra Ursulyak at its core.

Sat 9 Feb, The Pit Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre Mother's Field

Striking movement, gestures and signs bring the narrative to life in this play without words, based on the story by Soviet-Kyrgyz writer Chinghiz Aitmatov.

Sat 9 Feb & Thu 14 Feb, Hall Anton and Erin

Dance Those Magical Musicals

Join the nation's favourite ballroom couple for a night of intricate choreography, stunning costumes and musical hits, accompanied by the London Concert Orchestra and vocal talents of Lance Ellington.

28 Feb–2 Mar, Theatre Charles Atlas/Rashaun Mitchell/Silas Riener Tesseract

Life Rewired

This dance show explores the relationship between the human form and technology, with a 3D film and a live performance offering new perspectives on the intricate choreography.

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

Sat 23 Feb, Theatre Boy Blue: REBEL

An exhilarating new dance and film production that captures the voices of young people, fuelling the rebels of the future through music, choreography and spoken word.

Sat 23 Feb, Level G Split Britches: Porch Sittings

An alternative model for public conversation, making space for the things we wonder about rather than providing a platform for the things we know.

Sat 23 Feb, Level G Told by an Idiot

The company of Let Me Play the Lion Too return to perform pop-up, improvised work across our public spaces.

Sat 23 Feb, The Pit Rehearsed Readings

Rehearsed readings of two plays by Martha Barnett and Daniel Nixon, focusing on themes of identity, redemption and economic deprivation.

For full programme information, including artist line ups, please visit **barbican.org.uk**

Full details of prices are available online. Barbican Members and Business Members enjoy discounts on selected events. Join Young Barbican and get tickets for selected events for just £5, £10 or £15

Art & Design

Exhibitions

Until Sun 7 Apr, The Curve Daria Martin: Tonight the World

Life Rewired

Drawing upon her grandmother's dream diaries created over a 35 year period, Daria Martin explores a curious and traumatic family history, through atmospheric film and computer gaming technology.

Events

Mon 4 Feb 7pm, Frobisher Auditorium 1 Architecture on Stage: David Kohn

David Kohn joins us to discuss David Kohn Architects (DKA)'s work in arts, education and residential projects, from the refurbishment of the ICA to the new V&A Photography Centre.

Thu 14 Feb 7pm, Theatre Architecture on Stage: Christ and Gantenbein

Emanuel Christ & Christoph Gantenbein join us to discuss their architectural practice. Acclaimed recent projects include the extension of the Kunstmuseum in Basel and the Swiss National Museum in Zürich.

Sat 23 Feb, Level G Pop-up Photography Exhibition

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50

Works which capture the diversity of communities from around the UK by photographers Rio Blake, Phil Hatcher-Moore and Dougie Wallace. Programmed by Sky Arts.

Mon 25 Feb, 7pm, Frobisher Auditorium 1 Architecture on Stage: Hans van der Heijden

Hans van der Heijden has been the director of his Amsterdam-based practice since 2014. His work focuses on housing design but past projects include the extension of Liverpool's Bluecoat Arts Centre. For full programme information, including opening times, visit **barbican.org.uk**

Details of prices are available online. Barbican Members and Business Members get free entry to Gallery exhibitions. Join Young Barbican and get tickets to Modern Couples for just £5.

With thanks

The City of London Corporation, founder and principal funder

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We also want to thank the Barbican Patrons, and those who contribute to the Barbican Fund. If you're interested in supporting the Barbican Centre Trust, visit barbican.org.uk/supportus, or contact us on 0207 382 6185 or development@barbican.org.uk. The Barbican Centre Trust, registered charity no. 294282
soon

From 30 May, Art Gallery Lee Krasner: Living Colour

This exhibition, the first retrospective of the work of Lee Krasner in Europe in over 50 years, celebrates one of the pioneers of Abstract Expressionism and her spirit for invention. It offers a rare chance to experience the incredible impact of her work, which has often been eclipsed by her marriage to Jackson Pollock. Featuring nearly 100 works, the exhibition spans from her early selfportraits to her charcoal life drawings, her acclaimed Little Image paintings, her War Service window designs and her most impressive large-scale abstract canvases.

3–24 Apr, Cinema 2 Iranian Cinema of Poetry

Poetry is quintessential to Persian culture, an integral part of the fabric of everyday life. Through a selection of films and ScreenTalks, this season will explore this great Iranian tradition as the key tenet of Iran's strong cinematic culture. Celebrating distinctive emerging voices in Iranian cinema, it seeks to show us another side of a society and culture so often represented in stereotyped news excerpts and politics-driven language. Commissioned by the Bagri Foundation, award winning film producer/curator Elhum Shakerifar and film curator Faye Harvey have curated the programme in partnership with the Barbican.

9 Apr, Hall Minimalist Dream House

Since it was developed in 1960s America by the likes of Philip Glass and Terry Riley, minimalism has gone on to influence genres as diverse as pop and techno to krautrock and post-classical. In this concert, acclaimed pianists Katia and Marielle Labèque celebrate their long-standing love of the musical style with a programme incorporating Steve Reich, Sufjan Stevens, David Lang, Caroline Shaw, and a new composition written for them by Radiohead's Thom Yorke. The duo will be joined by Yorke and composers Bryce Dessner and David Chalmin for performances of premieres and recent works which show minimalism's adventurousness.

23 May, Hall Lagrime di San Pietro

Love, betrayal, regret: the heart-breaking themes in Renaissance composer Orlando di Lasso's masterpiece are amplified to the nth degree by director Peter Sellars in this extraordinary production of The Tears of St Peter. Putting the moment that Jesus looks at Peter when he denies knowing him under the microscope, Los Angeles Master Chorale wrings every last drop of anguish from one of the 16th century's greatest musical works. Moving around the stage as they sing, it brings a new, three-dimensional perspective to the experience, creating a physical, emotional and artistic tour de force.

14-17 Mar, Theatre Ballet Black: Double Bill

Ballet Black dancer and choreographer Mthuthuzeli November premieres a new work as Ballet Black return for another hotly-anticipated double bill. Ingoma (meaning song) explores the struggles of South African miners in 1946, the year 60,000 of them went on strike in protest over pay and conditions. Many suffered police brutality as a result. The second piece is another premiere – a lighthearted narrative ballet by Luca Silvestrini, created for the company whose dancers are of black and Asian descent.

Be the first in line when it comes to booking - become a Barbican Member today. Visit barbican.org.uk/membership

always

Spend the half term holiday with us

From adventures to films, we've got plenty of inspiration to keep the kids occupied over the school break.

Explore and solve clues

The Big Barbican Adventure is a do-it-yourself adventure trail for families that will take you on a journey of discovery through the Barbican, uncovering its secrets through games and clue-solving. Pick up a free map from the Information Desk, and head out on an hour of fun and exploration.

Fun in the frame

Family Film Club hosts films perfect for young cinephiles every Saturday morning. There's also a programme of activities which bring children closer to the films. Activities are free, the film costs £2.50 for children, £3.50 for over 18s. Now that's a wrap.

Discover the Roman dead

Discover how the Romans treated their dead by helping Roman Londoner Claudia Martina to move on from the land of the living. She's been stuck here for 1,800 years! Styx, Stones and Roman Bones is a fun interactive show for families aged seven and up at the Museum of London. 9-17 Feb

See museumoflondon.org.uk for details.

Soft play

Follow your senses to Barbican Squish Space, a free play area for under-fives and their families. This curiosity lab is filled with materials and tactile objects to explore that will inspire children's imaginations. Find dates and times at barbican.org.uk/squishspace

For young Brutalism fans

Illustrator Charlotte Trounce has created an architecturally-inspired children's collection, including games, workbooks and puzzles. This colourful range is just the thing for kids who've been inspired by the Barbican, and provides activities and encouragement for their own imaginative development. Find the range in our shop on Level G, or see shop.barbican.org.uk

Kids eat free

Recharge after the half term activities at our familyfriendly café, Barbican Kitchen on Level G, where one child under twelve eats free for every adult ordering a main meal.

Whether you want a quick sandwich, salad, or a proper sit down meal, there's plenty of choice. Children love to watch the chefs work in the open kitchen, especially when they're making the pizza dough. With coffees and cakes too, you'll be energised again and ready to tackle your next adventure together.

My Barbican: Charlotte Trounce

The illustrator behind children's design book My Modern House shares her tips for things to do around the Centre.

The Conservatory

This is a magical space. I love the size of the plants and I feel like you could get lost in there. I particularly like the contrast between the Conservatory and the brutalist architecture outside.

The Curve

I love going to The Curve – the exhibitions in there are all so varied and it's really interesting to see what people do with the space. I've recently been to Francis Upritchard's Wetwang Slack, and Yto Barrada's Agadir. I always remember the Rain Room. Plus, it's free to enter.

Sculpture Court

There are so many hidden spaces in the Barbican that you wouldn't normally find. Places like the Sculpture Court on the roof of the Hall, which are open to the public, but you wouldn't know they're there. It's lovely to explore them. My Modern House is available in the shop. See P39 for details.

G

Always open - Always free

Everyone's journey starts on Level G, where you can relax, meet, eat and enjoy our iconic building. Our Level G programme offers free installations and events in our public spaces, all year round.

This month

Life Rewired Hub

An experimental platform housing an exhibition of new writing and short films in addition to a full programme of talks, events, and residencies in response to our season.

Troika: Borrowed Light

An infinite loop of gradually changing colours inspired by the shifts you can witness at sunset and sunrise.

Squish Space Weekdays 10am-4pm

An experimental space for children under 5 and their parents and carers to explore sensory spectrums and play as tools for learning.

Unclaimed From 11 Feb

What will be strange and familiar about us living longer lives? Everyday objects collide with unexpected stories in this installation exploring the future of ageing.

INSULAE (Of the Island) From 23 Feb

Flying low over digitally rendered waves, Nye Thompson's video installation contemplates the impact of island geography on national identity, in a perpetually looping virtual tour of the British coastline.

Daria Martin: Tonight the World

Artist Daria Martin revisits dreams and memories from her personal family history to create a complex portrait of migration, loss and resilience.

Barbican OpenFest: Art 50 Sat 23 Feb

Explore what it means to be British today through the works of artists from around the UK with this free day of art, film, music and performance.

Pick up a Level G map from the Advance Ticket Desk

Calendar - Feb 2019

Fri 1 11am–9pm	event Daria Martin: Tonight the World	venue The Curve	tickets Free	pge 33
12.30pm	LSO Discovery Lunchtime Concert	LSO St Luke's	Free	19
7.30pm	Low	Hall	£25-30*	25
7.30pm	The Seven Last Words of Christ	Milton Court	£15-35*	20
7.45pm	Peeping Tom: Father (Vader)	Theatre	£16-28*	30
Sat 2				
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
11am	Family Film Club: March of the Penguins + Show and Tell	Cinema 2	£3.50*	18
5.55pm	Met Opera Live in HD: Carmen	Cinema 1	£37*	17
7.30pm	BBCSO & Chorus: Bach B minor Mass	Hall	£12-40*	20
7.30pm	Irreversible Entanglements	Milton Court	£10-20*	26
7.30pm	LSO Percussion Ensemble	LSO St Luke's	£15-20*	20
7.45pm	Peeping Tom: Father (Vader)	Theatre	£16-28*	30

Sun 3

11am	Hungariana Concert 1	Milton Court	£15-30*	20
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
3pm	Hungariana Concert 2	Milton Court	£15-30*	20
4pm	Silent Films & Live Music: He Who Gets Slapped	Cinema 1	£12*	16
7.30pm	Le Trio Joubran	Hall	£20-40*	26
7.30pm	Hungariana Concert 3	Milton Court	£15-30*	20
Mon 4				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7pm	Architecture on Stage: David Kohn	Frobisher Auditorium 1	£15*	34
Tue 5				
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
6.10pm	Science on Screen: Robocop + presentation	Cinema 2	£10.50*	16
7pm	Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre: The Cherry Orchard	Theatre	£16-150*	31
7.30pm	Transatlantic Sessions	Hall	£26*	26

11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7pm	Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre: The Cherry Orchard	Theatre	£16-150*	31
7.30pm	Evgeny Kissin in recital	Hall	£15-65*	21
Thu 7				
11am-9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	LSO/Gardiner	Hall	£15-56*	21
Fri 8				
11am–9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7pm	Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre: The Good Person of Szechwan	Theatre	£16-150*	31
7.30pm	BBCSO/Canellakis	Hall	£12-40*	21
Sat 9				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
11am	Family Film Club: Ernest and Celestine	Cinema 2	£3.50*	18

1pm & 7pm	Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre: The Good Person of Szechwan	Theatre	£16-150*	31
2.30pm & 7.45pm	Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre: Mother's Field	The Pit	£35-45*	31
2.30pm	Anton and Erin: Dance Those Magical Musicals	Hall	£21.50- 49.50*	31
7pm	LSO Discovery: Soundhub Showcase	LSO St Luke's	£7	21
Sun 10				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
3pm	BBC Singers Family Concert	Milton Court	£12*	21
7pm	LSO/Gardiner	Hall	£16-56*	22
Mon 11				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	Benjamin Grosvenor/Doric Quartet	Milton Court	£15-30*	22
Tue 12	-			
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
8.45pm	My Twisted Valentine: Der Fan	Cinema 3	£10.50*	16

wed 15				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	BBC Symphony Orchestra/Vedernik ov	Hall	£12-40*	22
Thu 14				
11am–9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
2pm	Afternoon Arts: Stage Russia: Smile Upon Us, Lord	Cinema 2	£10.50*	18
7pm	Architecture on Stage: Christ and Gantenbein	Theatre	£15*	34
7.30pm	Anton and Erin: Dance Those Magical Musicals	Hall	£21.50- 49.50*	31
Fri 15	5			
11am-9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
12.30pm	LSO Discovery Lunchtime Concert	LSO St Luke's	Free	22
Sat 16				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
11am	Family Film Club: Small Foot 2D	Cinema 2	£3.50*	18
3pm & 7.30pm	The Third Orchestra	The Pit	£16*	26

Sun 17

Sull 17				
7pm	London Symphony Orchestra/Rattle	Hall	£16-56*	22
Mon 18				
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	Joshua Redman	Hall	£15-35*	26
Tue 19				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	An Italian Songbook	Milton Court	£15-30*	23
Wed 20	U			
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra	Hall	£25-80*	23
Thu 21				
11am-9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
8pm	Tony Allen & Jeff Mills	Hall	£20-30*	27
Fri 22				
11am-9pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7.30pm	BBC Symphony Orchestra/Oramo	Hall	£12-40*	23

Sat 23

11am-8pm	Daria Martin:	The Curve	Free	33
10am	Tonight the World Family Film Club: Workshop + Moomins and the	Cinema 2	£3.50*	17
12-7pm	Winter Wonderland Barbican OpenFest: Art 50	Across the Centre	Free	32
1.30pm	Moomins and the Winter Wonderland	Cinema 2	£10.50*	17
Sun 24				
11am–8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
5pm	AAM/Lucie Horsch and Richard Egarr	Milton Court	£15-32*	24
7.30pm	Shahram Nazeri & Davlatmand Kholov	Hall	£25-85*	27
Mon 25				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
7pm	Britten: A Midsummer Night's Dream	Silk Street Theatre	£25*	24
7pm	Architecture on Stage: Hans van der Heijden	Frobisher Auditorium 1	£15*	34
Tue 26				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33

7pm	Britten: A Midsummer Night's Dream	Silk Street Theatre	£25*	24
7.30pm	Roderick Williams in recital	Milton Court	£15-30*	24
8pm	The Piano 15 with the London Contemporary Orchestra	Hall	£20-30*	28
Wed 27				
11am-8pm	Daria Martin: Tonight the World	The Curve	Free	33
6pm	New East Cinema	Cinema 2	£10.50*	17
7pm	Britten: A	Silk Street	£25*	24
	Midsummer Night's Dream	Theatre		
7.30pm	Joshua Bell in recital	Hall	£15-45	24
Thu 28				
11am–	Daria Martin:	The Curve	Free	33
10pm	Tonight the World			
ТВС	Late Junction Festival: Day One	EartH	£TBC	28
2pm	Afternoon Arts: Exhibition on Screen: Goya	Cinema 2	£10.50*	18
7pm	, Britten: A Midsummer Night's Dream	Silk Street Theatre	£25*	24
7.30pm	London Symphony Orchestra/Trpceski	Hall	£16-56	25

*Booking fees apply

The following booking fees are applicable per transaction: ± 3 online, ± 4 by telephone. There is no booking fee when tickets are purchased in person from the Box Office. For certain shows – and all film screenings – reduced booking fees of 60p online, 70p by telephone apply.

Booking

Online booking with seat selection and reduced booking fee at barbican.org.uk

By telephone 0845 120 7511

Open 10am–8pm, Mon–Sat; 11am–8pm, Sun and bank holidays

In person

Barbican Centre Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS

Ticket Information Desk

Open 10am–9pm, Mon–Sat; 12 noon–9pm, Sun and bank holidays

New release films

On Wednesdays, new release film screenings are announced for the following week. Visit our website or sign up to our email newsletters to be the first to know about new release films and additional special events.

Membership

Barbican Members get free entry to our art gallery, priority booking across our programme and enjoy discounted tickets to cinema screenings and selected concerts, gigs and theatre shows (subject to availability) among many other benefits. To find out more visit **barbican.org.uk/membership**

Young Barbican 14–25 Be there when it happens

Get discounted tickets to unmissable art and entertainment

Make it happen

Cultivate your creativity and join a growing network of young creatives **barbican.org.uk/youngbarbican**

Stay in touch

For the latest on sale dates, special events and news straight to your inbox, sign up to our email list at barbican.org.uk