# Barbican and Culture Mile announce further line-up for Sound Unbound, free music festival, 18-19 May 2019

# Further line-up details for Sound Unbound festival in May 2019

Today, further **line-up details** have been announced for this year's *Sound Unbound*. The weekend-long classical music festival takes place **18-19 May** and, for the first time, will be **completely free**. The festival features **over 100 short performances** in a relaxed festival atmosphere where informality is key. The concerts represent a myriad of different musical styles from across the ages and are performed by artists for whom the boundaries between classical music and contemporary, experimental and pop music have been blurred – or never existed in the first place.

A **Culture Mile** event programmed by the **Barbican**, the festival will this year also explore **unexpected spaces** across Culture Mile, which stretches from Farringdon to Moorgate in the north-west of the Square Mile. The great history and variety of music will be mirrored in the **architecture**, as concerts take place in **more than 20 unique venues**: from the medieval St Bartholomew the Great to the brutalism of the Barbican Centre, and from fabric nightclub to The Charterhouse, originally founded in 1348 during the Black Death. *Sound Unbound* kicks off *Play the Mile* which takes place across Culture Mile from 18 May – 25 August and explores the value of play and creativity in everyday life.

A detailed *Sound Unbound* schedule will be released in May <u>here</u> Please get in touch if you would like to receive **press images**.

# Festival highlights:

- A major figure of the American post-modern music scene, pianist Bruce Brubaker collaborates with acclaimed electronica and techno producer Max Cooper on expanded, reworked and reimagined works by Philip Glass. Glassforms takes place in the Barbican Hall
- A screening of *The Artist* (2011), the Academy-Award winning French comedydrama in the style of a black-and-white silent film, with a live performance of the soundtrack by **BBC Symphony Orchestra** in the **Barbican Hall**
- Saxophonist Jess Gillam, one of the most exciting emerging artists in classical music, performs at Milton Court Concert Hall
- London-based composer, producer, DJ and founder of the *nonclassical* record label, **Gabriel Prokofiev** will host his legendary genre-defying club experience at **fabric** club and at the **Barbican Club Stage**
- London Symphony Chorus performs Orff's classic *Carmina Burana* accompanied by two pianos and percussion in the **Barbican Hall**
- The bold and virtuosic string orchestra, **12 ensemble** performs Mendelssohn's passionately romantic *Octet*, plus an arrangement of Icelandic band Sigur Rós' *Fljótavík*, at **St Giles' Cripplegate**, one of the few remaining medieval churches in the City of London. The ensemble also welcomes **Elena Tonra** (Daughter/Ex:Re) for a special collaborative appearance at LSO St Luke's
- **Zwerm**, electric guitar quartet from Belgium performs arrangements of English Tudor music for electric guitar at **St Giles' Cripplegate**
- On the **Barbican Lakeside**, Zwerm is joined by New York-based electric guitar quartet **Dither** to perform Steve Reich's *Electric Counterpoint*
- Britten Sinfonia and Thomas Adès perform one of Beethoven's most popular works, the *Eroica* symphony in the Barbican Hall
- Stalin's Piano, a multimedia project combines music with video and audio recordings of eminent artists and political figures from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, in Barbican Cinema 1

- Award-winning and record chart topping classical guitarist **Miloš**, whose repertoire ranges from Rodrigo to The Beatles, performs at **Milton Court Concert Hall**
- **Barbican Conservatory**, a hidden tropical oasis in the heart of the city, will be open throughout the weekend and play host to a range of music, including music inspired by birdsong, performed by musicians from Guildhall School of Music & Drama
- **Chineke! Orchestra**, Europe's first majority-BME orchestra, performs a concert in the **Barbican Hall**, featuring music by Holst and Britten
- Two special projects from singer **Nora Fischer**: *HUSH*, in which she, together with guitarist **Marnix Dorrestein**, redefines beautiful 17<sup>th</sup>-century songs in the spirit of a modern pop-song (at **The Charterhouse** and **Barbican Cinema 1**); and *The Secret Diary of Nora Plain*, where she moves between pop, jazz and classical (**Milton Court Concert Hall**)
- Sackbut ensemble **Sacred Bones** performs music from 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries in the churchyard of **St Bartholomew the Great**
- Junior Guildhall Big Gig! a free, fun workshop for anyone aged 5 +, and for all abilities. This is an opportunity to play in an ensemble and to perform what will certainly be a world premiere, led by Lincoln Abbotts (ABRSM) and conducted by Spencer Down (Junior Guildhall) at Guildhall School's Silk Street Music Hall

# Music and spaces without boundaries

For the first time as part of *Sound Unbound*, audiences will be able to discover and enjoy fantastic music alongside the history and heritage of the area, and also discover new spaces in the City of London's Culture Mile, some of which aren't usually open to the public. With multiple concerts taking place simultaneously, each festival-goer will be able to pick and choose from a vast range of performances and create their own unique version of *Sound Unbound*. Further programme details are listed by venue below. Please note that in smaller venues capacity is limited and access will be on first come first served basis.

#### **Barbican Hall**

The 1,949-seater **Barbican Hall** will play host to the **London Symphony Chorus** performing Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, accompanied by two pianos and percussion; award-winning classical guitarist **Miloš** together with virtuosic string orchestra the **12 ensemble**; and a screening of *The Artist* (2011), the Academy-Award winning French comedy-drama in the style of a black-and-white silent film, with a live performance of Ludovic Bource's score by the **BBC Symphony Orchestra**. On Sunday, Barbican Associate Ensemble **Britten Sinfonia** performs Beethoven's *Eroica* symphony, conducted by **Thomas Adès**; and **Chineke**! **Orchestra** plays music by Holst and Britten. Sunday comes to a close with a performance of *Glassforms*: pianist **Bruce Brubaker**, a major figure of the American post-modern music scene, collaborates with acclaimed electronica and techno producer **Max Cooper** on expanded, reworked and reimagined works by Philip Glass.

The **Club Stage** outside in the foyers of level -1 will be screening a live-relay of performances from the Barbican Hall. During the day the space will feature conversations with *Sound Unbound* artists. In the evening, the Club Stage will be the venue for **Gabriel Prokofiev**'s genre-defying *nonclassical* – a clubnight experience established to bring new music to new audiences, in unconventional spaces. Club nights on Saturday and Sunday feature Tom Richards, Addelam, *non-classical* DJs and further artists tba.

#### Barbican Lakeside

Surrounded by the Barbican's iconic architecture, the Lakeside Terrace will feature electric guitarists from **Dither** and **Zwerm** performing Steve Reich's *Electric Counterpoint*, as well as Terry Riley's minimalist masterpiece *In C*. There will also be pop-up performances from **Street Orchestra Live** throughout the weekend.

#### **Barbican Conservatory**

A hidden tropical oasis in the heart of the city and home to around 2,000 unique species of plant, the Barbican Conservatory will open its doors to the public throughout *Sound Unbound* for a programme inspired by nature and the environment, featuring talented musicians from Guildhall School of Music & Drama. Clarinettist **Isha Crichlow** performs a programme of works by Ravel, Messiaen, Marcus Dawe and Jolivet, all inspired by birdsong. Further performances include Mozart's passionate *Gran Partita*, the School's percussion ensemble **Three Strange Angels** performing a programme which includes music by Fela Kuti, and **The Lakeside Clarinet Quartet**, performing and dancing to *Klezmer Wedding*.

#### Barbican Cinema 1

Voted one of the most comfortable cinemas in London boasting state-of-the-art projection, Barbican Cinema 1 is a popular venue for film screenings and more. *Sound Unbound* performances include the UK premiere of *Stalin's Piano* by Australian composer Robert Davidson. It combines music with video and audio recordings of eminent artists and political figures from Le Corbusier to Shostakovich, Jackson Pollock to Ai Wei Wei, and Julia Gillard to Donald Trump, and will be performed by pianist **Sonya Lifschitz**. It weaves music, archival video footage and the performer's own voice to explore big themes in modern history. As part of *Framed Film Club*, there will be a *Show and Tell* event hosted by award-winning film composer Laura Rossi, exploring the ins and outs of how composers use music to build a film's mood. The Cinema 1 programme also includes singer **Nora Fischer** and guitarist **Marnix Dorrestein** in *HUSH* which redefines beautiful 17<sup>th</sup>-century songs in the spirit of a modern pop-song.

#### Across all Barbican venues

**Musicity x Culture Mile** encourages a musical and architectural exploration of the area. Over the course of the summer, ten artists will create ten individual new tracks in response to a building, area or aspect of the city that inspires them. Using data gathered by acoustic experts **ARUP**, the artists explore the intrinsic connection between architecture and sound. During *Sound Unbound*, these perception-altering pieces will be free to experience within Barbican Lakeside, Club Stage and Sculpture Court, as well as within superclub fabric. Tracks will be released weekly following the launch at *Sound Unbound* and will then be available digitally via Geo-tagging technology when audiences are within a 100m range of the site. The variety of genres includes classical, spoken word, soundscapes and electronic music and is matched by the diversity of locations which ranges from ancient stone to modern glass. Part of *Play the Mile, Musicity x Culture Mile* is commissioned by Culture Mile in association with the Barbican.

# The Charterhouse

Opened to the public in 2017, the Charterhouse is both a thriving almshouse and a stunning seven-acre site embracing seven centuries of remarkable lives. Originally founded in 1348 during the Black Death, the Charterhouse is a hidden gem on the edge of the City brimming with extraordinary stories of contemplation, conspiracy and charity. It houses a variety of spaces, indoors and outdoors, that will be used during the festival. In the **chapel**, *Sound Unbound* audiences can hear the **BBC Singers** performing medieval plainsong; viol player **Liam Byrne** paying tribute to the experimental spirit of

viol player and 17<sup>th</sup>-century Charterhouse resident Tobias Hume by playing new and old music for viol & electronics from his new album *Concrete*; singer **Nora Fischer** and guitarist **Marnix Dorrestein** in *HUSH* which redefines beautiful 17<sup>th</sup>-century songs in the spirit of a modern pop-song; and the Australian recorder virtuoso **Genevieve Lacey**.

In the **Great Chamber**, young American countertenor **John Holiday** performs together with the Barbican's Associate Ensemble **Academy of Ancient Music**.

In the **Cloister**, viol player Liam Byrne creates an installation from Nico Muhly's *Long Phrases for the Wilton Diptych* (inspired by the National Gallery's The Wilton Diptych from 1395-9).

In the open-air space of **Charterhouse Square**, a former plague pit, audiences can hear a range of outdoor performances from, among others, **Street Orchestra Live**, the UK's first pop-up orchestra with the mission of bringing classical music to everyone, anywhere.

In the secluded **Norfolk Garden**, there will be an interactive musical installation entitled *Pleasure Garden*, which combines music and environmental sounds to create an interactive listening garden. Audiences are invited to 'play the garden', activating sounds via motion-sensor technology as they stroll with friends. *Pleasure Garden* is inspired by the story and music of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century musician, composer, improviser and nobleman Jacob van Eyck, and combines excerpts from his work with newly-composed music by Genevieve Lacey and Jan Bang. *Pleasure Garden* is part of *Play the Mile* and will move to Salter's Garden from 25 May to 14 June.

# <u>fabric</u>

On Saturday, one of London's most iconic bass-driven dance music venues, fabric opens its doors to **Gabriel Prokofiev**'s genre-defying club experience *nonclassical*. Conceived to bring new classical and electronic music to new and existing audiences, and to support emerging artists, *nonclassical* will run all day on Saturday 18 May, interspersing live music from **Shiva Feshareki**, **Addelam** and **Mira Calix** with films and DJ sets from BBC Radio 3 *Late Junction*'s **Nick Luscombe** and *nonclassical*'s **Tom Richards**.

# The Gresham Centre

This international centre for vocal excellence, outreach and performance is located at St Anne & St Agnes Church, a beautiful Wren Church dating from the mid-1400s. It is home of the VCM Foundation, a music education foundation which works to inspire people through music. Harnessing the sound of four Culture Mile Bells, **Guildhall School singers** and **musicians from the Electronic Music department** present a new song cycle at *Sound Unbound*, exploring the juxtaposition, morphing and manipulation of two diverse yet historically related sound-worlds.

# LSO St Luke's

An 18th-century Grade 1 listed Hawksmoor church on Old Street, LSO St Luke's was restored to become the home of the LSO's community and music education programme in 2003. On Saturday 18 May, Amir Konjani transforms the church with an atmospheric and immersive new experience, *To Be Someone Else is a Battle* – a rusty, metallic soundworld inspired by concepts of otherness and displacement. It will be a combination of contemporary classical music with spatialisation, video art, performance sculpture and movement over a 66-metre graphic score carpet. On Sunday, the **Ragazze Quartet** perform repertoire from their recent album project *Radio Russia*. Montreal-based cutting-edge classical string band **collectif9** will perform rearrangements of Mahler symphonies, combining the power of an orchestra with the crispness of a chamber ensemble. London-based Australian pianist **Jayson Gillham** plays music of hope, joy and optimism from Handel, Bach, Chopin and Debussy. The **12 ensemble** brings new perspectives to some of its major contemporary influences

from across the musical spectrum. The performance includes a suite from the score to *There Will be Blood* by Jonny Greenwood (Radiohead), music by Tavener and Prokofiev, plus the world premiere of a new commission: *Honey Siren* from young British composer Oliver Leith. The ensemble also welcomes indie-folk star **Elena Tonra** (Daughter/Ex:Re) for a special collaborative appearance.

# Milton Court Concert Hall

Guildhall School of Music & Drama's state-of-the-art, 608-seat concert hall will play host to a range of eclectic performances and musical styles. Singer Nora Fischer collaborates with the Dutch Ragazze Quartet in her semi-autobiographical song cycle The Secret Diary of Nora Plain in which she moves between pop, jazz and classical and tells the story of Nora Plain, trying to live as an individual in the increasingly monitored society of today. Award-winning American countertenor John Holiday has the ability to move effortlessly between Baroque arias and standards from the American Songbook. At Milton Court he performs a programme of works examining sleep, dreams and waking from them, with Fauré's Après un rêve, parts of H. Leslie Adams' Nightsongs, three Langston Hughes-based Dream Portraits by mid-century African-American composer Margaret Bonds, and jazz. The acclaimed period instrument ensemble Academy of Ancient Music collaborates with rising-star percussionist Christoph Sietzen and renowned marimba player Bogdan Bacanu from the Wave Quartet in a performance of Bach for two marimbas and orchestra, and makes its first collaboration with internationally renowned saxophonist, Amy Dickson. Guitarist Miloš and saxophonist Jess Gillam each give a solo recital showcasing their repertoire in programmes that defy categorisation.

# Piano Smithfield

The intimate cocktail and champagne bar tucked away below Long Lane in Smithfield will feature a *Braziliana* bossa nova performance by guitarist **Andrey Lebedev** and singer **Lotte Betts-Dean**, and a tango concert by Polish accordionist **Bartosz Glowacki**.

# St Bartholomew the Great

Situated in the heart of Smithfields, the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Anglican church of St Bartholomew the Great will have a programme of not only sacred music in a historically significant venue, but works inspired by the history of St Bartholomew. The **BBC Singers** begin the weekend's programme with choral music through the ages. Winchester-based a cappella choir **Sansara** presents music for choir and electronics exploring mysticism, death and loss, including chants by Hildegard von Bingen, the world premiere of a new work by Joe Bates, and Arvo Pärt's meditative *Virgencita*.

Famous for its inclusion as one of the wedding venues in Richard Curtis' cult Rom-Com *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, St Bart's will play host to a new project by organist **James McVinnie**: *For Weddings and a Funeral* is a collection of music composed for and performed on church organ by an organist renowned for his boundless approach to music. In and around St Barts, sackbut ensemble **Sacred Bones** performs music from 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, and on Cloth Fair there will be a promenade operatic adventure entitled *These Wondering Stones*: created by composer **Anna Pool**, it uses live music, electronics and found sounds from around the Smithfield area and is based on stories of the Londoners whose lives make up a rich tapestry of the City of London's history.

#### St Bartholomew the Less

St Bartholomew the Less, a beautiful 15<sup>th</sup>-century church inside Barts Hospital, will host performances by **City Music Foundation** artists. CMF's strap-line is 'turning talent into success'. CMF is a pioneer in providing tools, networks, skills and experience for professionals early in their careers at a stage when managing 'the business of music' in real life can be a challenge. Its broader aim is that CMF artists are ready for four

decades or more of contributing to society's culture and wellbeing – reaching hundreds of thousands through live performance, CDs, streaming, broadcast, teaching and mentoring - giving back a thousand-fold what CMF has given them. City Music Foundation is based in the City of London and is part of the Culture Mile Network.

# St Giles' Cripplegate

One of the few remaining medieval churches in the City of London, St Giles' Cripplegate was founded in 1394. It survived the Great Fire of 1666 and is still a functioning parish church in the heart of the Barbican estate. Fitting in with the surroundings, **Zwerm**, an exciting electric guitar quartet from Belgium, performs arrangements of 17<sup>th</sup>-century music for electric guitar in a concert entitled *Electric Renaissance*. The **12 ensemble**, a string orchestra known for their bold and virtuosic projects, performs Mendelssohn's passionately romantic *Octet*, plus an arrangement of Icelandic band Sigur Rós' *Fljótavík*.

# **Family Activities**

Around Smithfield there will be a range of pop-up performances, including a variety of outdoor and drop-in activities in the **Smithfield Rotunda** and **Charterhouse Square**. This area also caters for places to eat, drink and hang out. All *Sound Unbound* performances are family-friendly, but there will also be a programme specifically designed for families: Saturday morning sees a special *Sound Unbound* edition of Framed Film Club (**Cinema 1**), with a *Show and Tell* event hosted by award-winning film composer Laura Rossi, exploring how composers write film music. At the **Museum of London**, families can go on an interactive, musical time-travelling journey from the Victorian era into the future with *Victorian Punk It Up!* Young ones have a chance to get to know the sounds of the cello and the clarinet and to immerse themselves in an eclectic mixture of London sounds. At Guildhall Silk Street Music Hall, *Junior Guildhall Big Gig!* gives everyone an opportunity to play in an ensemble and to perform; and the Barbican's Level G foyers will present further activities for families and children aged 5+.

# Notes to Editors

A Culture Mile event, *Sound Unbound* is a joint project between the Barbican, London Symphony Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Britten Sinfonia, Academy of Ancient Music and Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

Barbican Box Office: 0845 120 7550 www.barbican.org.uk

# **Press Information**

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#### About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the <u>Barbican</u> 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 <u>staff</u> 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, <u>a glasshouse conservatory</u>, 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, <u>BBC Symphony Orchestra</u>; Associate Ensembles the <u>Academy of Ancient</u> <u>Music</u> and <u>Britten Sinfonia</u>, Associate Producer <u>Serious</u>, and Artistic Partner <u>Create</u>. Our Artistic Associates include <u>Boy Blue Entertainment</u>, <u>Cheek by Jowl</u>, Deborah Warner, <u>Drum Works</u> and <u>Michael Clark Company</u>. The Los Angeles Philharmonic are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the <u>Australian Chamber Orchestra</u> are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court and <u>Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra</u> are International Associate Ensemble.

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# **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, is 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

The Culture Mile Network is an extensive network of organisations in and around the area which are playing a critical role in realising the ambitions of Culture Mile, alongside the five core partners. See <u>www.culturemile.london/who-we-are/</u> for the latest members.

PLAY THE MILE takes place across Culture Mile from 18 May – 25 August and explores the value of play and creativity in everyday life. Culture Mile, which stretches from Farringdon to Moorgate, is committed to transforming the north-west of the Square Mile and aims to redefine the City of London as a global leader in both culture and commerce. The season will begin and end with two one-off festival events: Sound Unbound on 18 &19 May and A Beastly Street Party on 25 August. These major events will be connected by a series of activities and performances taking place in more than 20 different indoor venues and outdoor spaces, underpinned by two long running installations in Smithfield Rotunda Gardens and Salters' Garden at London Wall Place. Pop-up Play will encourage audiences to explore new places and experience events which interact with the streets, buildings and architecture of the area, whilst Friday Play Sessions will invite local workers to meet, make, and celebrate the benefits of creativity during their lunch breaks. When workers head home for the weekend, free family fun will take over with Play Days every Saturday. There is something for everyone and it is free to all, so come and explore 2,000 years of history colliding and the places and people in Culture Mile.

#### About the City of London Corporation

The City of London Corporation is the governing body of the Square Mile dedicated to a vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK.

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

#### About Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Guildhall School is a vibrant, international community of young musicians, actors and production artists in the heart of the City of London. Ranked the UK's top conservatoire in the Guardian University Guide 2019 for Music and selected as one of the top ten performing arts institutions in the world (QS World University Rankings 2019), the School is a global leader of creative and professional practice which promotes innovation, experiment and research, with over 1,000 students in higher education, drawn from nearly 60 countries around the world. The School 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 the Centre for Young Musicians, as well as a joint Creative Learning division with the Barbican which seeks to create inspiring arts experiences for all. www.gsmd.ac.uk/music 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, and Michael Tilson Thomas as Conductor Laureate. 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.

The museum is open daily 10am – 6pm and is FREE to all, and you can explore the Museum of London with collections online – home to 90,000 objects with more being added. <u>www.museumoflondon.org.uk</u>.

# About the Academy of Ancient Music

The Academy of Ancient Music is an orchestra with a worldwide reputation for excellence in Baroque and Classical music. It takes inspiration directly from the music's

composers, using historically informed techniques, period-specific instruments and original sources to bring music to life in committed, vibrant performances.

The ensemble was founded by Christopher Hogwood in 1973 and remains at the forefront of the worldwide early music scene more than four decades on; Richard Egarr became its Music Director in 2006. AAM is proud to be the most listened-to orchestra of its kind online and has released more than 300 discs, most recently on its own record label, AAM Records. Among its countless accolades for recording are Classic BRIT, Gramophone and Edison awards.

The AAM is based in Cambridge and is Orchestra-in-Residence at the city's university. Its London home is the Barbican Centre, where it is Associate Ensemble, and it is also Orchestra-in- Residence at the Grange Festival, Chiltern Arts Festival, Music at Oxford and the Apex, Bury St Edmunds. <u>www.aam.co.uk</u>

#### 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, and is often flanked by the BBC Symphony Chorus - one of the finest amateur choruses in the country. The BBC SO performs throughout the world, and works regularly with its Chief Conductor Sakari Oramo, newly appointed Principal Guest Conductor Dalia Stasevska, Semvon 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 Yiu. 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. www.bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra

#### About the BBC Singers

The BBC Singers hold a unique position in British musical life. Performing everything from Byrd to Birtwistle, Tallis to Takemitsu, their versatility is second to none. The choir's unrivalled relationships with some of the most important composers and conductors of the 20th and 21st centuries, including Poulenc, Britten, Judith Bingham, Peter Maxwell Davies and Judith Weir. Under Chief Conductor Sofi Jeannin, the BBC Singers perform in a diverse range of venues across the UK and internationally, and have recently established a concert series at the Cutty Sark. www.bbc.co.uk/singers

#### **About Britten Sinfonia**

Just over 25 years ago, Britten Sinfonia was established as a bold reimagining of the conventional image of a chamber orchestra. A flexible ensemble of some of the UK's leading soloists and chamber musicians came together with a unique vision: to collapse the boundaries between old and new music, to collaborate with composers, performers and guest artists across artforms and genres; and to create involving, intelligent music events that both audiences and performers experience with an unusual intensity.

Britten Sinfonia is an Associate Ensemble at the Barbican in London and Resident Orchestra at Saffron Hall, with residencies in Norwich and Cambridge and performs a chamber music series at Wigmore Hall. The orchestra has a busy international touring schedule, appearing throughout Europe, the USA and Asia and its 2018 performance with The Sixteen at the Sistine Chapel reached more than a million people worldwide. www.brittensinfonia.com

