

PRESS RELEASE

For release: Thursday 25 April

A public programme of talks, debates, concerts and screenings has been announced to coincide with the Barbican's major summer exhibition *AI: More than Human*, which runs 16 May-26 August.

Part of *Life Rewired*, the Barbican's 2019 season exploring what it means to be human when technology is changing everything, the exhibition is an unprecedented survey of the creative and scientific developments in artificial intelligence, exploring the evolution of the relationship between humans and technology.

With digital media, immersive art installations and a chance for visitors to interact directly with exhibits to experience AI's capabilities first-hand, this festival-style exhibition takes place all over the Centre to examine the subject from multiple, global perspectives. Told through some of the most prominent and cutting-edge research projects, from **DeepMind, MIT and IBM and featuring** commissions and projects by, artists, researchers and scientists **Joy Buolamwini, Es Devlin, Hiroshi Ishiguro & Takashi Ikegami, Mario Klingemann, Lawrence Lek, Neri Oxman Anna Ridler, Chris Salter and Universal Everything.**

AI & creativity: what makes us human?

Thursday 16 May, 7pm, Frobisher Auditorium 1

With Radio 3's Free Thinking

Tickets £20, including entry to the exhibition

As artificial intelligence continues to infiltrate our everyday lives, we take time to reflect on how exactly it is impacting the most human of characteristics – creativity. This panel discussion features artists, academics and thinkers at the forefront of the AI movement.

The event will feature contributions from MIT media lab researcher, activist and founder of the Algorithmic Justice League, **Joy Buolamwini**, Senior Fellow at the Future of Human Institute at Oxford University, **Anders Sandberg**, artist and researcher, **Anna Ridler**, and Research Fellow at Sheffield Robotics, **Michael Szollosy**. The debate will be hosted and chaired by BBC Radio 3's Matthew Sweet.

This event is being recorded for broadcast by BBC Radio 3's Free Thinking programme and broadcast at 10pm on Tuesday June 4th. It is also available as a BBC Arts&Ideas podcast to download from BBC Sounds. It will be part of a playlist of programmes called Free Thinking the Future.

Ian McEwan in conversation with Murray Shanahan. AI: Fact vs Fiction

Chaired by Sarah Dillon

Thursday 6 June 6.30pm, Cinema 1

Tickets £20, including entry to the exhibition

For many of us, our first introduction to artificial intelligence will have come from works of fiction, but in 2019 how much of what used to be make-believe is becoming reality?

This event, programmed to coincide with our *AI: More than Human* exhibition, brings together two individuals that share an interest in AI, but explore it from very different perspectives.

Ian McEwan is one of the UK's most beloved authors, and his 2019 release *Machines Like Me* tackles the subject of AI head-on. Taking place in an alternative 1980s, where Alan Turing has achieved a breakthrough in AI, two lovers' relationship is put under strain by the introduction of a synthetic human.

Murray Shanahan is Professor of Cognitive Robotics at Imperial College London and a Senior Research Scientist at DeepMind. He is an expert on AI, robotics and cognitive science, but is no stranger to fictional portrayals of AI having acted as the scientific advisor on the 2015 film *Ex Machina*.

The event will be chaired by academic and broadcaster **Sarah Dillon**.

Exhibition Introduction with Assistant Curator, Anna Holsgrove

Thursday 27 June, 7pm, The Curve

Join Assistant Curator Anna Holsgrove for an introduction to *AI: More than Human*, as she discusses some of the thinking behind this ambitious cross artform exhibition.

WIRED Pulse: AI at the Barbican

Saturday 15 June, Barbican Centre

<http://wired.uk/ai-event>

WIRED Pulse: AI at the Barbican is a one-day event exploring the future of artificial intelligence and its impact on human experience. Curated by the award-winning WIRED editorial team and co-hosted by the Barbican Centre, the event features eight high-level keynotes from thought-provoking disruptors and a Test Lab dedicated to AI demos.

This year's speakers include **Marcus du Sautoy**, mathematician and author of *The Creativity Code*, who will talk about AI's impact on creativity; lawyer and AI researcher **Sandra Wachter** from the Oxford Internet Institute, who will discuss the fascinating way algorithms make decisions – and the ethics behind it; and **Vishal Chatrath**, the Founder of Prowler.io, the startup taking decision-making into the virtual hands of artificial intelligence.

Taking place at the end of London Tech Week as the festival's official headline consumer event, **WIRED Pulse: AI at the Barbican** will attract over 400 attendees interested in the human aspect of artificial intelligence, how it impacts the way we live now, and how we could in the future. Set during the course of the Barbican's *AI: More than Human* exhibition and created from WIRED's engaging and trusted perspective, the event is uniquely positioned to offer audience members a multi-layered and memorable experience.

Special tickets are available for young people aged 16-19, and groups of students and concessions, ranging from £49-£129, and which also provide access to *AI: More than Human*.

For more details email wiredevents@condenast.co.uk or book tickets online at <http://wired.uk/ai-tickets>.

AlphaGo (#) + Presentation by Thore Graepel

Tue 18 June, 6.20pm, Cinema 2
(USA 2017, dir Greg Kohs, 90mins)
Tickets £10.50, (Concs £9.50, Young Barbican £5)

Greg Kohs' documentary *AlphaGo*, follows the first formal match of the computer programme, AlphaGo, against the European Champion Fan Hui to its landmark win against the legendary player Lee Sedol playing the ancient Chinese game of Go, a feat previously thought to be at least a decade away. Following the screening, **Thore Graepel**, principal research scientist at DeepMind, the world's leading AI research organisation and member of the team that developed the computer programme will explain how its inventive winning moves overturned conventional wisdom about this ancient game and what they might mean for the future of artificial intelligence.

Seeing, Moving, Learning

Thursday 16 May, Life Rewired Hub, Level G
2pm onwards. Free, drop in; 7.30pm, free ticketed talk

How can machine learning help computers translate video image data into a simulated 3D model? Using the same methods our eyes and brains do. Using ground-breaking image translation technology Adrian Hilton and his team at the Centre for Vision, Speech and Signal Processing (University of Surrey) are able to teach computers to see the things we see. The technology not only allows for the incredible motion capture techniques used by Andy Serkis' Imaginarium and the gaming industry, but also allows computers to learn how to identify cancerous cells from healthy ones.

Come and try the technology live and teach a robot how to dance.

This event is in partnership with the Royal Society, the UK's national academy for science.

Women Reclaiming AI Workshops

Friday 17 May, Life Rewired Hub, Level G
12.30pm – 3.00pm, free ticketed talk

The Women Reclaiming AI (WRAI) collective invite you to a workshop to take part in designing an alternative AI Voice Assistant created by a growing community of self-identifying women.

The workshop aims to create an AI assistant that better reflects female identity, using a corpus of inspirational speeches from people taking part and other women admired by the WRAI collective. The workshop will provide participants with basic skills to create an AI voice assistant in Dialogflow (a development platform for conversational systems) and a space to facilitate talking, sharing and listening.

WRAI aims to reclaim female voices in the development of future AI systems by empowering self-identifying women to harness conversational AI as a medium for protest. This project is created by artists-technologists **Coral Manton** and **Birgitte Aga** in collaboration with an ever evolving community of self-identifying women.

Monday 20 May- Thursday 23 May

Chris Salter - artist and academic behind the Totem lightwell installation in *AI: More than Human* and creative consultant for Life Rewired curates a week-long residency of workshops and talks centring around artificial intelligence in relation to the arts, philosophy of

consciousness and cognitive science.

Messy Brains, Bodies, Machines and Worlds

Monday 20 May, 7.30pm, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

With **Chris Salter, Sofian Audry, Takashi Ikegami** and special guests

The Life Rewired Hub will play host to debate and discussion among experts from the arts, computer science, philosophy and neuroscience around questions of machine agency and consciousness.

AI for Art & Design

Tuesday 21 May, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

With **Rebecca Fiebrink**, Goldsmiths College, University of London

This workshop will introduce interested artists and designers to the basics of AI and Machine Learning and how such technologies can be used for creative and expressive purposes. Taught by Rebecca Fiebrink, a leading Machine Learning researcher based at Goldsmiths' Department of Computing and Digital Studios and author of the Wekinator (a real time machine learning software used by numerous artists and musicians), participants will be introduced to the technical fundamentals of machine learning and how one can use these to create new possibilities for artistic expression.

ReRites: Human and AI Poetry

Wednesday 22 May, 7.30pm, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

with **David Jhave Johnston**

ReRites is a human and artificial intelligence poetry generation project designed by digital poet **David Jhave Johnston**. Poets and audience members read on-screen poetry written by an AI at the rate that the machine writes, often at inhumanly rapid speeds, and often bewildering and mystifying. Witness human performers take on an evocative, infinite deep-learning muse.

The Artist and the Machine

Level G

Sun 26 May 2019

A Level G programme of activity for visitors of all ages, exploring human creativity in the context of technological change. Inspired by the *AI: More than Human* exhibition, the programme will ask: how do machines augment our creative abilities? How does technology support creativity? While also exploring ownership in the context of human and machine-created work. This event will include a mix of demonstrations, talks and hands-on activities that include everything from 3D printing to slime mould. As part of the event, work will be showcased by partners Crafts Council and the Institute of Making at UCL.

People @ Work

Monday 3-Wednesday 5 June, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

Drop in from 12-8pm

What if the next generation of automation in the workplace was designed to actually benefit workers – not just take away their jobs. What can automation at work offer our physical or cognitive skills? Could computers help us to make the most of neurodiversity and a range of physical abilities in the workplace?

A panel of experts in the field of design, robotics, policy and business have come together with Masters in Research Design Pathway group from the Royal College of Art to present a series of new prototypes which illustrate to the public scenarios where the human capability to create, learn, interrogate and explore can thrive through technology. How can automation support people to collaborate, learn, develop knowledge and pursue their ambitions?

Curator Computer Creator

Thursday 4 July 11am-1pm; 6pm-9pm, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

With **Lawrence Chiles, Dr Oonagh Murphy, Harrison Pim** and **Casey Scott-Songin**

Exploring, critiquing and understanding the ethical implications of AI within a museum context is increasingly becoming a pressing need for museums. Could robots replace museum tour guides? Should data decide what exhibitions get commissioned? Can AI help to identify hidden stories in the archives?

Join staff from **The National Gallery, Wellcome Collection** and **Goldsmiths University** to discuss how AI technologies could be used to develop new ways to see and experience art. Join the discussion, tell us your thoughts, pose questions to our experts and help to shape how museums think about these technologies.

This event is funded by the AHRC

Turing Lecture: Regulating Unreality

In collaboration with The Alan Turing Institute

Thursday 11 July, 6.30pm, Frobisher Auditorium 1

Tickets £4

Should knowing what content is genuine be a new human right?

'Deepfakes' or the use of AI to convincingly simulate or synthesize content, voice, images or video for malicious purposes have become prominent recently, most obviously as a means to create realistic but fake pornography involving celebrities or particular victims.

However, its implications are far greater.

Techniques to generate deep fakes are evolving in response to a parallel arms war of detection techniques, and may eventually result in a world where 'fake news' expands to everything we see, hear and experience, not just the news we read.

Lilian Edwards, professor of law, innovation and society at Newcastle Law School, explores the rise of 'deepfakes'.

Food Assembly

Thursday 11-Saturday 13 July, Life Rewired Hub , Level G

Drop-in 12-8pm

As climate change warms the planet, insect populations collapse and soil nutrients become more and more depleted, the strain on global agriculture is likely to make food a central topic

for change.

Here, product and strategy consultancy *Method* imagine a not-so-distant future in which three radical solutions for feeding the world have been proposed.

Using objects, videos and storytelling, you'll get a flavour of what tomorrow might taste like.

Dazed Weekender

Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 August, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

Media Partner Dazed take over the Life Rewired Hub on Level G for a weekend of AI inspired proceedings. Further details to be announced.

Frankissstein by Jeanette Winterson

Saturday 10 August, Life Rewired Hub, Level G

Jeanette Winterson and her latest novel *Frankissstein* will take over The Hub. Events throughout the day will include a talk about the book, an intimate book club discussion of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, which is at the heart of Winterson's novel, and a book signing.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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Life Rewired at the Barbican 2019

Life Rewired is the Barbican's year-long arts and learning season exploring what it means to be human when technology is changing everything. Running throughout 2019, the season investigates the impact of the pace and extent of technological change on our culture and society, looking at how we can grasp and respond to the seismic shifts these advances will bring about.

Life Rewired demonstrates how artists are finding imaginative ways to communicate the human impact of unprecedented technological shifts and scientific advances, as well as finding creative new uses for Artificial Intelligence, big data, algorithms and virtual reality.

barbican.org.uk/liferewired

The Life Rewired Hub is a new venue for public programming on the Barbican's Level G. Designed by architects **Dyvik Kahlen**, this flexible new structure will host a year-long programme of talks, performances, workshops and residencies, co-programmed in partnership with the **Royal Society** and the **British Council**, inviting audiences to explore the dizzying impact of technological and scientific change on what it means to be human today.

Barbican newsroom

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Media Relations 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](#) 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](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

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