|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| barbican | Thursday 26 September 2019  **Barbican announces stellar cast for the reworking of *Gabriel*, featuring star trumpeter Alison Balsom; actors Jamie Parker, Jack Farthing, Anjana Vasan and Amanda Wilkin; The English Concert; soprano Elizabeth Watts, countertenor Tim Morgan and tenor Gwilym Bowen**  Today the Barbican announces full cast details for a new production of ***Gabriel*** which takes place for one night onlyon the stage of the Barbican Hallon **Monday 21 October 2019**: Actors **Jamie Parker** (Harry Potter, History Boys, Henry V), **Jack Farthing** (Poldark), **Anjana Vasan** (Doll’s House) and **Amanda Wilkin** (Midsummer Night’s Dream) will join renowned trumpeter **Alison Balsom**, soprano **Elizabeth Watts**, countertenor **Tim Morgan**, tenor **Gwilym Bowen**, **The English Concert** with music director **Harry Bicket** and **a chorus of singers from Guildhall School** in this reworking of *Gabriel*.  A theatrical celebration of Baroque music and 17th-century London, and a testament to the power of the trumpet, *Gabriel* premiered at Shakespeare’s Globe in 2013. Dreamt up by Alison Balsom, award-winning playwright **Samuel Adamson** and theatre director **Dominic Dromgoole**, the colourful play has now been reimagined for the Barbican Hall as part of Alison Balsom's residency at Milton Court. *Gabriel* is a series of interlinked scenes, vignettes and encounters, joined up by music of the period, with an emphasis on Purcell’s works for trumpet. It is a vivid entertainment featuring orchestral concert, and stories about real and imagined characters: monarchs and prostitutes, composers and transvestites. Orchestra, singers, actors and chorus come together to bring to life an extraordinary moment in our history and celebrate some of our greatest music. Dominic Dromgoole says: ‘*It was a huge pleasure to present this wonderful tapestry of music and drama at the Globe, and truly exciting to reconceive it for a concert format with the English Concert and Alison’*.  Guildhall School alumna Alison Balsom has been named the fourth Milton Court Artist-in-Residence, which is programmed in collaboration with the Guildhall School, and forms part of the Barbican’s own-promotion classical music season *Barbican Presents* in 2019-20. She is following in the footsteps of previous Milton Court Artists-in-Residence Richard Tognetti (2016-17), Jeremy Denk (2017-18), and Roderick Williams (2018-19).  As part of her residency, Balsom will present three very different projects, starting with *Gabriel*in October 2019. The residency then continues in March 2020 with a performance of Miles Davis’ *Sketches of Spain* (arr. Gil Evans) with **Guildhall Jazz Orchestra** and director **Scott Stroman**, and concludes in May 2020, when Balsom leads **Britten Sinfonia**, who are Associate Ensemble at the Barbican, in the **world premiere** of John Woolrich’s *Hark! The echoing air*. This will be part of a concert showcasing composers’ fascination with other composers’ music.  Alison Balsom’s new recording *Royal Fireworks* – a collection of grand Baroque masterpieces and new versions performed with the Balsom Ensemble – will be released worldwide on Warner Classics on 8 Nov 2019.  **Alison Balsom, Milton Court Artist-in-Residence in 2019/20 – listings:**  [Alison Balsom in](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/alison-balsom-in-gabriel-an-entertainment-with-trumpet) *[Gabriel](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/alison-balsom-in-gabriel-an-entertainment-with-trumpet)*[: An Entertainment with Trumpet](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/alison-balsom-in-gabriel-an-entertainment-with-trumpet)  [Mon 21 Oct 2019 7.30pm, Barbican Hall](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/alison-balsom-in-gabriel-an-entertainment-with-trumpet)  The English Concert, Harry Bicket (music director), Samuel Adamson (text), Dominic Dromgoole (director), Alison Balsom (trumpet), Elizabeth Watts (soprano), Tim Morgan (countertenor), Gwilym Bowen (tenor), Guildhall School Chorus, Jamie Parker (actor), Jack Farthing (actor), Anjana Vasan (actor) and Amanda Wilkin (actor)  Part of *Alison Balsom: Milton Court Artist-in-Residence*  [Alison Balsom plays Sketches of Spain](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2020/event/alison-balsom-plays-sketches-of-spain)  [Wed 18 Mar 2020 7.30pm, Milton Court](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2020/event/alison-balsom-plays-sketches-of-spain)  Alison Balsom (trumpet), Scott Stroman (director), Guildhall Jazz Orchestra  Miles Davis (arr. Gil Evans) Sketches of Spain  This concert also features Iain Bellamy 21st Century Pastoral  Iain Bellamy (composer & saxophone), Scott Stroman (director), Guildhall Big Band  Part of *Alison Balsom: Milton Court Artist-in-Residence*  [Britten Sinfonia with Alison Balsom](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2020/event/britten-sinfonia-with-alison-balsom)  [Thu 14 May 2020 7.30pm, Milton Court](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2020/event/britten-sinfonia-with-alison-balsom)  Britten Sinfonia, Alison Balsom (trumpet), Jacqueline Shave (director/violin)  Purcell arr Berio, Maxwell Davies *Fantasias and Pavans,* John Woolrich (after Purcell) *Hark! The echoing air* (world premiere), Scarlatti Sonatas Set 2 (orch John Woolrich), Sir Harrison Birtwistle *Virelai (Sus une fontayne),* Ligeti arr Howarth *Mysteries of the Macabre*  Part of *Alison Balsom Milton Court Artist-in-Residence*  **ENDS**  **Notes to Editors**  Barbican Box Office: 0845 120 7550 [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk/)  **Press Information**  For any further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact the Barbican’s music communications team:  **Annikaisa Vainio-Miles, Senior Communications Manager** t - +44 (0)20 7382 7090 e – [annikaisa.vainio-miles@barbican.org.uk](mailto:annikaisa.vainio-miles@barbican.org.uk)  **Sabine Kindel, Communications Manager**  t - +44 (0)20 7382 6199  e – [sabine.kindel@barbican.org.uk](mailto:sabine.kindel@barbican.org.uk)  **Edward Maitland Smith, Communications Officer**   t - +44 (0)20 7382 6196 e – [Edward.MaitlandSmith@barbican.org.uk](mailto:Edward.MaitlandSmith@barbican.org.uk)  **Etan Kinsella, Communications Assistant**  t - +44 (0)20 7382 6138 e – [etan.kinsella@barbican.org.uk](mailto:etan.kinsella@barbican.org.uk)  **About the Barbican**  A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](http://www.barbican.org.uk/) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](https://www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/our-people/careers) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/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](http://lso.co.uk/); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](https://www.bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](http://www.aam.co.uk/) and [Britten Sinfonia](http://www.brittensinfonia.com/), Associate Producer [Serious](http://www.serious.org.uk/), and Artistic Partner [Create](http://createlondon.org/). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue](http://www.boyblueent.com/site/), [Cheek by Jowl](http://www.cheekbyjowl.com/), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](http://drumworks.co.uk/) and [Michael Clark Company](http://www.michaelclarkcompany.com/). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](https://www.laphil.com/) are the Barbican’s International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](https://www.aco.com.au/) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](http://www.jazz.org/JLCO/) are International Associate Ensemble.  Find us on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/BarbicanCentre) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/barbicancentre) | [Instagram](http://www.instagram.com/barbicancentre) | [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/barbicanlondon) | [Spotify](https://open.spotify.com/user/barbicancentre)  **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 as one of the top ten performing arts institutions in the world (QS World University Rankings 2019), and recently awarded top conservatoire in the [Complete University Guide Music League Table 2020](https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings?s=Music), 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. Guildhall 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. |