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barbican

Barbican announces *Chagall: Unlocked* and *Nina Simone - Legacy* with Josette Bushell-Mingo OBE

Today, the Barbican announces two cross-arts performance events programmed by Creative Collaboration - the Barbican department working to strengthen our connection with communities and young people and helping to develop artistic practices to produce daring, inclusive and joyful programming.

- [Thursday 21 – Saturday 23 September](#): singer and producer **Chagall** presents *Unlocked*, an immersive light-art installation and music performance across three days in The Pit.
- [Wednesday 11 October](#): theatre actor and director **Josette Bushell-Mingo OBE** presents *Nina Simone – Legacy*, a celebration, examination and discussion of the work, impact, and legacy of the legendary Nina Simone through cinema, talk and music including the London premiere screening of **Lamin Daniel Jadama's** film *CALL NINA!*

More detailed information about each performance can be found below.

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[Chagall: Unlocked](#)

Thursday 21 – Saturday 23 September 2023, 7.45pm

The Pit

Tickets from £18 plus booking fee

[Chagall: Unlocked Masterclass](#)

Saturday 23 September 2023, 2pm

The Pit

Free but ticketed

Singer, electronic music producer, performer and self-proclaimed computer nerd **Chagall** presents the UK premiere of *Unlocked*, a physical and vocal performance blending light, music, technology and movement in The Pit from Thursday 21 to Saturday 23 September as well as an exclusive masterclass.

Unlocked is an immersive music experience and performance in which Chagall controls her light-art installation **B.A.B.Y.** (Bionic Assistant for Becoming Yourself) and her music through body and hand movements using motion capture technology. Across three days at the Barbican, Chagall will bring captivating physicality and human intimacy to electronic music, blending movement and live vocal performance with entrancing light-art. The performance will combine 80s synth-pop, alt-R&B and swelling basslines into a digital yet nonetheless poetic dreamworld.

Following Chagall's sell-out performance of her show *Advaita* at the Young Barbican Festival in April 2023, *Unlocked* sees her return to the Barbican to perform the project to coincide with the release of her new album of the same name (independent release, 22 September 2023). The first single *Dunes* will be released on 7 Sept on all platforms.

On [Saturday 23 September at 2pm](#), audiences will also have the opportunity to join Chagall for a free ticketed **masterclass** to delve into the world of her interactive light installation, B. A. B. Y. Chagall will

provide live demonstrations of the technology, with the various motion sensors and audio reactivity that will be on display in the *Unlocked* performances. Audiences will be invited to ask questions, share insights and try out the cutting-edge technology for themselves. The session will be livestreamed by Music Hackspace.

Produced by the Barbican

On sale now

[Find out more](#)

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**[Nina Simone – Legacy](#)
[with Josette Bushell-Mingo OBE](#)**

Wednesday 11 October 2023, 7.30pm

Milton Court Concert Hall

Tickets from £20 plus booking fee

Olivier award-nominated performer and activist **Josette Bushell-Mingo OBE** revisits her acclaimed 2017 international theatre production about her relationship with Nina Simone, with a night combining a film premiere, musical performance and panel discussion at Milton Court.

Josette Bushell-Mingo's 2017 production, *Nina: A Story about Me and Nina Simone*, enjoyed international acclaim when it premiered. Counterpointing Nina Simone's brave, daring legacy and the fight against racism with persisting societal inequalities, Bushell-Mingo's timely piece questioned how far we had really come since then.

Rehearsals and performances of *Nina* were filmed by Swedish director **Lamin Daniel Jadama** culminating in his documentary **CALL NINA!** which will receive its **London premiere** during this event. The film follows Bushell-Mingo behind the scenes to show how art can provide space for debate and change as well as exploring her ongoing relationship with Simone and the continued and urgent need for anti-racism and resistance.

The evening at Milton Court will also include a panel discussion with **Karena Johnson** – Head of Creative Collaboration at the Barbican with additional panellists to be announced. The discussion will examine the film and Bushell-Mingo's experiences, as well as the life and activism of Nina Simone in the context of modern anti-racism, before the evening is brought to a close with a special performance of Nina Simone's music led by music director **Shapor Batansiar** and quartet.

Produced by the Barbican

On sale to Barbican members 23 August, on sale to general public 25 August

[Find out more](#)

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Notes to Editors

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All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room

About the Barbican

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We are the home of the London Symphony Orchestra, and a London base of the Royal Shakespeare Company. We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other partners and associates: the Academy of Ancient Music, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Boy Blue, Britten Sinfonia, Cheek by Jowl, Drum Works, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and We Are Parable.

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