

For immediate release: Wednesday 8 October 2025

barbican

Barbican announces the London premiere of *Symbiosis* - a collaboration between Paraorchestra and The Breath

Paraorchestra and The Breath present *Symbiosis*

Wednesday 22 April 2026, 7.30pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets from £20* plus booking fee

Following its world premiere at BBC Proms Bristol in August 2025, *Symbiosis* — a major new collaboration between **Paraorchestra**, award-winning duo **The Breath** (**Rioghach Connolly** and **Stuart McCallum**), and Ivor Novello-winning composer **Oliver Vibrans** — now receives its London premiere at the Barbican in April 2026.

The Breath are celebrated for music that begins in folk but stretches far beyond, embracing psychedelia, folklore and improvisation. Connolly's powerful voice and flute combine with McCallum's guitar and electronics to create songs that are expansive, emotionally direct, and delivered with sharp wit and a grounded stage presence.

In *Symbiosis*, The Breath's music is reimagined through the orchestrations by Vibrans for Paraorchestra's 20-piece ensemble. Writing for rare and unusual instruments, Vibrans expands their sound into something both intimate and symphonic, creating rich new textures that magnify and transform the duo's music into lush, unpredictable, and resonant landscapes.

Named Best Ensemble at the Royal Philharmonic Society Awards, Paraorchestra bring their inventive energy to this collaboration. Conducted by Artistic Director **Charles Hazlewood**, the ensemble operates as a living ecosystem of sound, amplifying and reconfiguring The Breath's songs into vivid new landscapes.

Produced by the Barbican

[Find out more](#)

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SUPPORT ACT ANNOUNCED

Public Service Broadcasting with the London Contemporary Orchestra

+ Hamish Hawk

Saturday 1 November 2025, 3pm & 8pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets from £35 plus booking fee

Acclaimed British band **Public Service Broadcasting** to give two performances of their latest album *The Last Flight*, together with the **London Contemporary Orchestra**, at the Barbican in October 2025.

Conjuring stirring archival narratives with cinematic rock, electronics and orchestra, **J. Willgoose, Esq.** and the band bring their latest record to life with a 20-piece string section from the **London Contemporary Orchestra**. Performing *The Last Flight* (SO Recordings, 2024), inspired by the final

voyage of America's pioneering female 'aviatrix' Amelia Earhart, as well as other material from across their career, this unique concert will merge past, present and the future in sound.

Following rave reviews during their UK tour of *The Last Flight* in October 2024, including a five-star review from The Guardian, they return in 2025 to the stage to elevate their album to extraordinary new heights.

Support comes from Scottish singer-songwriter **Hamish Hawk** for the 8pm show. The 3pm show will run without a support artist.

Generously supported by Trevor Fenwick and Jane Hindley.

Produced by Barbican

[Find out more](#)

LISTINGS – BARBICAN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PROMOTIONS COMING UP IN 2025

- The Divine Comedy: Rainy Afternoon + Studio Electrophonique ([Sat 11 - Sun 12 Oct 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Hayden Thorpe: Song of Ness with Robert Macfarlane and Propellor Ensemble ([Thu 16 Oct 2025, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Touching Bass presents: Halima & Illnoledge ([Fri 17 Oct 2025, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Louis VI Presents... NATURE AIN'T A LUXURY – Fragile Earth Series ([Sat 25 & Sun 26 Oct 2025, Conservatory, various times](#))
- Public Service Broadcasting with London Contemporary Orchestra + **Hamish Hawk** ([Sat 1 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 3pm & 8pm](#))
- Daniel Avery ([Sat 8 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: aja monet with guests ([Fri 14 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: We Exist! The Dee Dee Bridgewater Quartet ([Sat 15 Nov, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: Dhamaal ([Sun 16 Nov 2025, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: Anthony Joseph: Rowing Up River To Get Our Names Back ([Mon 17 Nov 2025, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: The Evolution of UK Jazz – 20 Years On ([Wed 19 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: Hiromi's Sonicwonder ([Fri 21 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: Tortoise ([Sat 22 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- EFG London Jazz Festival: Japanese Jazz ([Sun 23 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Hania Rani – Non Fiction: A Piano Concerto in Four Movements ([Tue 25 – Weds 26 Nov, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Carlos Alomar presents: The D.A.M. Trilogy ([Fri 28 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- Le Trio Joubran: Twenty Springs ([Sat 29 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- GoGo Penguin + special guest Daudi Matsiko ([Wed 3 Dec 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Nonclassical presents: Vari/ations – An Ode to Oram ([Thurs 4 Dec 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Dirty Three ([Mon 8 Dec 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))

- **The Unthanks at 20 - An Anniversary Special with Royal Northern Sinfonia Tour** ([Sat 31 Jan 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **Lucinda Williams** ([Tue 3 February 2026, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- **Christian Löffler: Until We Meet Again Tour** ([Wed 11 Feb 2026, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- **Jóhann Jóhannsson: Cinematic Suites** ([Wed 18 Feb 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **Blonde Redhead** ([Thurs 19 Feb 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **Ryoji Ikeda Weekender: Portrait** ([Fri - Sat 20-21 Feb 2026, Various Venues](#))
- **The Köln Concert - with Maki Namekawa & Thomas Ehncu** ([Sat 6 Apr 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **NEW - Paraorchestra and The Breath present Symbiosis** ([Wed 22 Apr 2026, Barbican Hall, 7:30pm](#))
- **Mammal Hands** ([Wed 29 Apr 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))

ENDS

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Barbican press room

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're proud to be the home of the [London Symphony Orchestra](#), our Resident Orchestra, and a London base for the [Royal Shakespeare Company](#). We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our Artistic Associates the [Academy of Ancient Music](#), [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#), [Boy Blue](#), [Darbar Arts, Cultural and Heritage Trust](#), and [Serious](#), who produce the [EFG London Jazz Festival](#), alongside other associates and partners including [Doc'n Roll Film Festival](#), [London Palestine Film Festival](#), and [Trafalgar Theatre Productions](#).

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