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barbican

Barbican announces Rich(ard) Dawson – Delight is Right all-dayer in March 2026



Rich(ard) Dawson ©Sally Pilkington

Rich(ard) Dawson - Delight is Right
Sunday 22 March 2026, afternoon FreeStage performances and 6pm Barbican Hall performance
FreeStage and Barbican Hall
Tickets from £20* plus booking fee

Newcastle songsmith **Rich(ard) Dawson** and the Barbican announce all-dayer event **Delight is Right**, taking place at the Barbican on 22 March 2026. A familiar performer to the Barbican, Dawson returns next year with an eclectic line-up of friends and favourites that encompass the breadth of his influences in an afternoon and evening of powerful and unpredictable music across the Barbican Hall and FreeStage.

In the evening, Rich(ard) Dawson opens the Barbican Hall performances in duo with drummer **Andrew Cheetham** playing material drawn from recent album *End of the Middle*. At the other end of the evening, Dawson reunites with Finnish experimental rockers **Circle**, taking their first steps on a

stage together since touring 2021's botanical prog classic *Henki*. With a history spanning thirty-five years Circle are among the most prolific, idiosyncratic and thrilling outfits performing today.

Joining them on stage is gothic folk band **ØXN** – featuring members of Lankum and Percolator – whose sound exists somewhere between the traditional, the future and the eternal; plus **The Hameed Brothers Qawwal** from Bradford, who will perform Islamic Sufi devotional music with a history dating back more than 700 years. Further guests to be announced.

Earlier in the afternoon, the Barbican's FreeStage will host an eclectic and free-to-attend showcase of exploratory sounds with artist line up also to be announced at a later date.

Together, the artists brought together by Dawson form a meeting of kindred spirits — musicians who, though rooted in different traditions, are united by a shared commitment to exploration, intensity and emotional truth.

Produced by the Barbican in Association with Upset The Rhythm
[Find out more](#)

LISTINGS – BARBICAN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PROMOTIONS COMING UP IN 2025 and 2026

- 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](#))
- **NEW – Rich(ard) Dawson - Delight is Right** ([Sun 22nd Mar 2026, Barbican Hall, 6pm](#))
- **The Köln Concert - with Maki Namekawa & Thomas Ehncö** ([Sat 6 Apr 2026, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **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

Notes to Editors

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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, Culture 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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