

PRESS RELEASE

13 October 2011

Reverb 2012 at the Roundhouse: A festival of cutting-edge contemporary classical music

24, 25, 26 February & 3, 4 March 2012

Highlights include:

- **The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) present Night Shift with Sir Mark Elder**
- **The Aurora Orchestra perform Strauss, Bernstein and Michael Gordon's *Gotham* with film by Bill Morrison**
- **Award-winning singer/songwriter Imogen Heap performs her evocative a cappella soundtrack with the Holst Singers**
- **London Contemporary Orchestra with Nonclassical premieres Gabriel Prokofiev's Concerto for Bass Drum and performs music by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood**
- **Voices Now choral take over invites choirs from all backgrounds to sing alongside the BBC Singers**

The Roundhouse presents Reverb 2012 which celebrates a new generation of performers who have broken out of 'traditional' classical concerts, redefined the rules and shattered boundaries. Artists are creating new music in new venues with inspiring visuals and genre defying collaborations, all inspiring new audiences. The Roundhouse – with its unique space, atmosphere and heritage – is at the forefront of this movement.

Reverb 2012 is a five-day festival that celebrates this new wave of artists and in an Olympic year explores themes of love and truce. The line-up includes the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment's ever-popular Night Shift and the award-winning Aurora Orchestra who both explore the story of Romeo and Juliet; Imogen Heap's evocative a cappella film soundtrack to the silent classic *The Seashell and the Clergyman* is performed alongside Ana Silvera's exploration of love, war and mystery; the London Contemporary Orchestra join forces with Nonclassical and their rebellious classical club night and Voices Now's choral takeover celebrates a coming-together of choirs from across the nation as part of the BBC's Music Nation, a countdown event for the London 2012 festival, the finale of the Cultural Olympiad.

The festival begins on Friday 24 February 2012 with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, who return after a sell-out performance at Reverb 2010 with one of their most ambitious projects to date. A 90-piece orchestra, conducted by Sir Mark Elder, will recreate the sounds of 19th-century Paris in Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet*, all in the relaxed and contemporary setting of the Night Shift. The OAE's Night Shift is London's unique classical night, bringing you great music in a relaxed and contemporary setting. The evening begins

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and ends with live sets by the Roundhouse Music Collective who bring their unique blend of alternative classical, jazz and electronica to the Night Shift, plus DJ's throughout the Roundhouse foyers. In the lead up to their Roundhouse performance, players from the Orchestra will be touring pubs in North, South, East and West London, taking their unique Night Shift atmosphere right across the capital. More information at www.oae.co.uk/nightshift

On Saturday 25 February, the Aurora Orchestra and its conductor Nicholas Collon perform music inspired by the city and love, with original visuals by director/designer and video artist Netia Jones creating an audio-visual love song to the city, with London and Camden as her muse. The performance moves from destruction and violence to a celebration of the modern city: from the post war German cities of Strauss' *Metamorphosen* to rebirth in Gordon's *Gotham* and the *Symphonic Suite* from Bernstein's *West Side Story*, both inspired by New York. Founded in 2005, The Aurora Orchestra is one of London's newest orchestras and is going from strength to strength, winning the RPS Ensemble Award earlier this year.

Sunday 26 February sees award-winning singer-songwriter Imogen Heap and her a cappella soundtrack for the 1928 French surrealist silent film *The Seashell and the Clergyman* (originally commissioned by Birds Eye View Film Festival and the Southbank Centre) at Reverb 2012, with the acclaimed UK choir the Holst Singers. Imogen Heap is a Grammy nominated multi-instrumentalist, and an innovative singer-songwriter with a reputation for pioneering a new type of artist/audience relationship through her use of the internet and social media. Alongside this, composer and vocalist Ana Silvera brings her own uniquely heartfelt songs, exploring themes of love, war, death and mystery to the Roundhouse, accompanied by the Baltic sounds of the Estonian Television Girls' Choir in arrangements by electronic artist Max De Wardener and Estonian composer EloMasing. Founded by Eve Viilup and Aarne Saluveer in 1990, the ETVGC is made up of 30 singers aged between 15 and 25. The choir has won numerous awards and travelled around the world, working with composers including Arvo Pärt and Veljo Tormis.

On 3 and 4 March, Reverb 2012 is part of the BBC's Music Nation, a Countdown Event for the London 2012 Festival, the finale of the Cultural Olympiad.

On 3 March, two of the UK's most adventurous groups – the London Contemporary Orchestra (LCO) and Nonclassical – present a unique evening at the Roundhouse. The LCO perform works by some of the 20th century's most iconic composers including Xenakis's *Metastasis* and Stockhausen's *Studie 1*. This is set alongside *Doghouse* by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood, a 20-minute orchestral work forming part of the composer's film score to *Norwegian Wood*, described by The New York Times as, 'consistently involving...with intuitive use of dissonance and resolution'. Gabriel Prokofiev's background in dance music combined with his classical roots gives his writing a unique edge. The composer's *Concerto for Bass Drum and Orchestra* is performed by percussionist Joby Burgess, who recently released *Import/Export* on Prokofiev's record label Nonclassical. Throughout the evening,

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Nonclassical presents DJsets from Richard Lannoy and Gabriel Prokofiev featuring the latest from the label and live sets by soloists from the LCO and the Roundhouse Music Collective, bringing the unique atmosphere of their classical club nights to the Roundhouse.

The festival closes on Sunday 4 March with Voices Now, Making Music and the BBC Singers showcasing some of the UK's best choirs. Following the huge success of the first Voices Now Festival at the Roundhouse in March 2011, which saw over 2,000 singers perform at the venue, this event sees groups from every corner of London and the UK ranging from folk, world and beat-boxing to classical perform throughout the day, following performances given in their local areas the day before. The event culminates in a mass performance of Orlando Gough's *Overture*, commissioned by Making Music for the Olympic year. Voices Now and Making Music are inviting choirs from any background to take part. To get involved and for more details visit www.voicesnow.org.uk

All performances will be streamed live on the Roundhouse website and on Roundhouse Radio www.roundhouse.org.uk/radio

Listings and Booking Information

Roundhouse Members Priority Booking: Thursday 13 October

Become a Roundhouse Member today for as little as £40 to receive priority booking to Reverb plus other great benefits – visit www.roundhouse.org.uk/support/individuals

General Booking: Friday 14 October

Buy Tickets: www.roundhouse.org.uk/reverb

Ticket Offer: Receive 20% off when you purchase a ticket for more than one Reverb event – first 100 tickets only. Offer available by calling 0844 482 8008 (offer not available online).

The Night Shift/OAE/Elder

Roundhouse Music Collective

Friday 24 February 2012

Doors and foyer performances from 7pm, Main Space performance 9pm

Berlioz – *Romeo & Juliet*

Tickets: £5 (standing), £15, £20 and £25

Aurora Orchestra/Collon/Jones – Cityscapes and Love Songs

Saturday 25 February 2012, 7.30pm

Richard Strauss – *Metamorphosen*

Michael Gordon – *Gotham*

Leonard Bernstein arr. Iain Farrington – Symphonic Suite from *West Side Story*

Tickets: £10 (standing), £15, 20 and £25

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Imogen Heap/Holst Singers/Brunt

Ana Silvera/Estonian Television Girls Choir/Saluveer

Sunday 26 February 2012, 7pm

Imogen Heap - *The Seashell and the Clergyman*

(Original commission by Birds Eye View Film Festival and the Southbank Centre.)

Ana Silvera – *New Work and Oracles*

Tickets: £10 (standing), £15, 20 and £30

Performance repeated on Monday 27 February 2012 at the Sage Gateshead

London Contemporary Orchestra/Brunt/Burgess/Pioro/Ames/Coates

Nonclassical

Saturday 3 March 2012

Doors and live music from 7pm, LCO from 8pm

Xenakis – *Metastasis*

Gabriel Prokofiev – *Concerto for Bass Drum and Orchestra* (European Premiere)

Stockhausen – *Studie I (Elektronische Musik)*

Jonny Greenwood - *Doghouse*

Vivier – *Orion*

Tickets: £15 (standing), £20 (balcony seating)

Voices Now

Sunday 4 March 2012, Foyer and Main Space performances from 12pm

Repertoire to include Orlando Gough – *Overture*

Tickets free – programme details available from November 2011 at www.voicesnow.org.uk

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