



Barbican Contemporary Music: October – December 2011

The Barbican autumn season is packed with real musical highlights: American underground phenomenon **Emeralds**, acclaimed indigenous Australian singer-songwriter **Gurrumul**, saxophonist and composer **Wayne Shorter**, New Orleans legend **Aaron Neville**, West African *kora* virtuoso **Toumani Diabaté**, German electronic duo **Mouse on Mars** and Texan alt-country singer-songwriter **Josh T Pearson**.

There are also exciting new projects, commissions and collaborations as part of its including **English Journey: Re-Imagined** featuring Iain Sinclair, Alan Moore and Shirley Collins who join a band of musical mavericks; **Another Honest Jon's Chop Up** featuring Damon Albarn, Tony Allen, Flea and Fatoumata Diawara; Malian musical superstars **Amadou & Mariam** with their new *Eclipse* project, and a welcome return for two of music's finest mavericks: **Jerry Dammers** with his **Spatial A.K.A Orchestra**; and legendary Brazilian composer, arranger and multi-instrumentalist **Hermeto Pascoal**.

Bryn Ormrod, Barbican contemporary music programmer: *'Our new autumn season has something for everyone. It's a heady mix of world-class established greats, from a wide range of genres, alongside emerging talent from the cutting edge of contemporary music.'*

PROGRAMME:

Thursday 6 October 7.30pm
Gurrumul & special guests
Barbican Hall
Tickets: £12.50/15/18/22.50
Produced by the Barbican

Geoffrey 'Gurrumul' Yunupingu is a platinum-selling indigenous Australian singer-songwriter/ multi-instrumentalist and an international musical phenomenon. Born blind, Gurrumul grew up as a member of the Gumatj clan on Elcho Island, off the coast of tropical North East Arnhem Land. He sings stories of his land, his ancestors and his lineage in Yolngu dialects, as well as in a smattering of English.

Formally a member of successful Australian band Yothu Yindi (who found international success with their hit *Treaty*), Gurrumul is celebrated for contributing greatly to Indigenous music in Australia, winning numerous awards for his work. His music features beautiful rich vocal harmonies as he sings tales about longing, beautiful places, whispering trees and death in one of the world's most captivating voices, as heard on his brilliant new album *Rrakala*, released this September on Dramatico Records.

'José Feliciano, Maria Callas, Jimi Hendrix, Django Reinhardt, Leadbelly, Chet Baker, Enya, Odetta, Hildegarde, Edith Piaf: he shares something with all of them' – The Times

'Gurrumul is Australia's Most Important Voice' – Rolling Stone Australia

Saturday 8 October 2011, 7.30pm
Wayne Shorter Quartet + Phronesis
Barbican Hall

Tickets: £10-35
Promoted by Serious

Wayne Shorter returns to London for the first time in three and a half years, to play with his all-star band featuring **Danilo Perez, John Patitucci** and **Brian Blade**. Regarded as one of the most prolific performers and composers in jazz and modern music, Wayne Shorter has been consistently at the cutting edge with Art Blakey, Miles Davis and, of course, Weather Report. His music transcends genre and keeps the improvisational genius and surprise of jazz burning at the centre. Expect rushes of individual virtuosity and intuitive interplay from Shorter and his stellar band, as they make a rare appearance on a London stage.

'One of the most significant composers and individual saxophonists in jazz' –The New York Times

'Wayne is a real composer...he knew that freedom in music was the ability to know the rules in order to bend them to your satisfaction and taste.' – Miles Davis

Led by London-based Danish double bassist **Jasper Høiby, Phronesis** have captured the hearts and minds of British audiences and developed a reputation as one of the most formidable trios in the UK. They were nominated for 'Best Jazz Ensemble' in the Parliamentary Jazz Awards in April, featured on the front cover of Jazzwise Magazine in August, and nominated for 'Best Jazz Act' at the prestigious 2010 MOBO Awards in October. Here they play from latest album *Alive*, (*Jazz Album of the Year 2010* by Jazzwise and MOJO Magazines), plus material from their hotly anticipated new album due for 2012 release.

'The most electrifying experience to be had in British jazz.' – The Telegraph

'Anyone who doubts there's a UK jazz scene worth taking note of should listen to Phronesis, who are proof positive that we have bands that are worthy of jazz's premier league right on our doorstep.' Bass Guitar Magazine

Saturday 22 October 2011, 7.30pm

English Journey: Re-Imagined

Featuring Iain Sinclair, Alan Moore, Shirley Collins and a band of musical mavericks
Barbican Hall

Tickets: £15 – 20

Produced by the Barbican

A 21st century happening inspired by J B Priestley's survey of a troubled 1930s England

In this extraordinary concert, readings, performance, music and film intersect, complement and argue. Psychogeographer, writer and film-maker **Iain Sinclair**, hugely influential graphic novelist **Alan Moore** (*Watchmen*, *V for Vendetta* and *From Hell*) and legendary English folk singer **Shirley Collins** join a band of musical mavericks, including **FM Einheit** (*Einstürzende Neubauten*), **Susan Stenger** (Band Of Susans) and Mute Records' **Simon Fisher Turner**, to cast a fresh light on the past and present of our once again troubled land.

The show features highlights from sold out events at Aldeburgh Music in Suffolk and the AV Festival in Newcastle exploring the culture and history of these unique English places. The second half will be a new London-centric summoning under the influence of Sinclair's latest book, *Ghost Milk: Calling Time On The Grand Project*, as Sinclair brings his unique eye to bear on the Lea Valley area and the Olympics as well as on to the Barbican itself.

Saturday 29 October 2011, 8pm

Another Honest Jon's Chop Up!

Featuring Damon Albarn, Tony Allen, Flea, Fatoumata Diawara, Hypnotic Brass Ensemble, Theo Parrish and more artists tbc
Barbican Hall
Produced by the Barbican
Tickets: £17-25

Back in 2008 the Barbican presented the first-ever *Honest Jon's Chop Up*, a riotous feast of music from global artists who all had recorded for the influential West London label Honest Jon's, the label co-run by **Damon Albarn** and the shop of the same name. Honest Jon's specialises in nothing except wonderful music: from post-war black music in Britain to African highlife, from 70s English folk to modern Southern Soul.

The celebration returns with another helping of extraordinary artists focused around a new project featuring **Damon Albarn**, legendary afrobeat drummer **Tony Allen** and Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist **Flea**. Further highlights are World Circuit's latest discovery, the Malian singer **Fatoumata Diawara**, Detroit techno/house alchemist **Theo Parrish**, and the extraordinary Chicago brass sensation, Hypnotic Brass Ensemble, featuring eight brothers, all sons of legendary Sun Ra associate Phil Cohran. The brothers, who started as a street ensemble have recoded with Mos Def, Erykah Badu and Gorillaz.

Monday 31 October 2011, 7.30pm

Ana Moura

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £15-22

Produced by Como No!

'Ana Moura... has a wonderful, expressive voice and real star quality. You will be hearing a lot more about her.' The Arts Desk

With her soulful and riveting interpretation of her land's captivating fado style, Portuguese singer **Ana Moura** has become a leading exponent of this poetic, deeply expressive idiom which personifies the Portuguese psyche as it explores such universal themes as lost love, separation, and longing. In Portugal she is revered as THE fado voice of her generation.

'The first thing that hits you is her voice: textured, powerful, possessed of extraordinary clarity.' Songlines 4*

Wednesday 2 & Thursday 3 & Friday 4 November 2011

Eclipse: Amadou & Mariam

York Hall

Tickets: £25

Produced by the Barbican, Amadou & Mariam, All Other Music and Because Music.

Originally commissioned by Manchester International Festival July 2011

Malian musical superstars **Amadou & Mariam** return to London for three unique performances: concerts staged entirely in the dark. York Hall in Bethnal Green will be completely blacked out allowing the audience to experience total darkness and a window into a different world of perception. It is a sensory exploration of life in Bamako and the day's events will be told through narration, sounds, music and scents as the artists share their art and world. Married for more than 25 years, Amadou & Mariam met in the orchestra of The Institute for the Young Blind in Bamako. Since then, their magical fusion of pop, blues and Malian music has won them fans and stellar collaborators around the world. Eclipse will tell the story of Amadou & Mariam's life and work together, featuring

songs from across their career including the premiere of tracks from their forthcoming album.

"...it more than succeeded as an experiment. If Eclipse tours worldwide – as seems likely – an even wider range of fans will surely fall for the duo's vivid humanity." The Observer

Monday 7 November 2011, 7.30pm

Aaron Neville + Keb' Mo' Band

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £20/25/30/35

Produced by the Barbican

An exhilarating double-bill of two contemporary soul and roots icons, whose unique music draws on the gospel, blues and roots of the American south.

One of American music's finest voices, founding member of the legendary New Orleans r&b outfit The Neville Brothers, **Aaron Neville** is renowned for his smash hits *Tell It Like It Is* and *Hercules*. More recently he has touched upon country and pop, but he never wanders far from his gospel roots and he remains one of the essential soul legends as well as a revered ambassador for the music heritage of his home town.

Now based in Nashville, LA-born Grammy-award winning singer/songwriter/guitarist **Keb' Mo'** draws on the legacy of the great Robert Johnson as well as soul and folk influences and the gospel music he heard in his youth in Los Angeles. An acoustic, electronic and slide guitarist with a powerful voice, he appears at the Barbican playing material from his new album *The Reflection*.

Friday 11 November 2011, 7.30pm

Jazz Voice: Celebrating a Century of Song

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £10 - 30

Produced by the Barbican in association with Serious

London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3 / Part of the EFG International Excellence Series

The London Jazz Festival kicks off in high style with its annual jazz vocal extravaganza featuring a triumphant blend of stellar singing talents and unexpected musical twists and turns, all set to sumptuous arrangements performed by a 40-piece orchestra.

Arranged, scored and conducted by internationally acclaimed trumpeter/composer **Guy Barker**, Jazz Voice travels through the decades to century of songs past and present, united by significant anniversaries, moments in musical history and some of the great personalities who have contributed to the rich lineage of jazz. Featuring Ayanna, Gregory Porter, Ian Shaw, Lucinda Belle, Mary Pearce, Norma Winstone and Shingai Shoniwa (of The Noisettes).

Friday 11 November 2011, 8pm

Toumani Diabaté

Union Chapel

Tickets: £22.50

Produced by Barbican

London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3

The uncontested master of the West African harp-lute (*kora*), **Toumani Diabaté**, is one of the world's virtuoso musicians with an incredible recording career spanning over 20 years, including the GRAMMY winning album 'In the Heart of the Moon' recorded with the great Ali Farka Touré.

Fifty-third in a line of hereditary Malian master-musicians, Toumani Diabaté is at once the guardian of an ancient musical tradition and a boundary-crossing experimentalist.

This mixture of openness and respect for tradition has made Toumani Diabaté an icon for young musicians across West Africa and one of the world's most iconic artists. He appears at Union Chapel with Fode Kouyate (drums), Fanta Mady Kouyate (guitar) and Mohamed Koita (bass).

'mesmeric' Observer Music Monthly*****

Saturday 12 November 2011, 7.30pm

McCoy Tyner Trio: Featuring Jose James & Chris Potter

Impulse Records at 50

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £10 - 37.50

Promoted by Serious

London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3 / Part of the EFG International Excellence Series

Impulse! Records was one of the great jazz labels that documented and celebrated the changes in jazz in the 1960s – including the years that John Coltrane shook the earth – and set the tone for the years to follow. The music and design style – the label's catalogue was presented in classic, stylised, sleeves – still feel fresh 50 years on. For this concert the Festival revisits one of the label's landmark recordings, Coltrane's only ever vocal collaboration with singer Johnny Hartman. This reimagining, led by pianist **McCoy Tyner**, who played on the original record and recorded dozens of albums with Coltrane on Impulse!, connects the roots of the music with two voices of today's jazz scene – tenor saxophone star **Chris Potter** and vocalist **Jose James** whose music has drawn comparisons with Gil Scott-Heron and Andy Bey.

Friday 18 November 2011, 8pm

Jerry Dammers' Spatial A.K.A Orchestra

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £15-25

Produced by The Barbican in association with Serious

Part of the London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3

The Specials and 2 Tone founder **Jerry Dammers'** funk and dub influenced arrangements of his selections from cosmic jazz, reggae, exotica and library music, have formed backdrops for some of the country's finest jazz improvisers, in his highly acclaimed orchestra. New selections paying homage to a variety of futurist musical dreamers, adaptations of Dammers' own songs, and a small amount of original material, are now moving the orchestra beyond its "Sun Ra Tribute band" starting point.

The 20 piece orchestra will include Jason Yarde, Denys Baptiste, Finn Peters, Nathaniel Facey, Larry Stubbings, Shabaka Hutchings, Robin Hopcraft, Harry Brown and Terry Edwards brass; Anthony Joseph and Francine Luce vocals; Alcyona Mick piano; Roger Beaujolais vibes; Patrick Illingworth drums and Crispin Spry percussion. Check the Barbican website for the final line-up.

"Dammers's arrangements brilliantly join the dots between Ra's work and funk, making the inaccessible accessible." The Guardian
"Triumphant, glorious, exhilarating" Uncut
"Now this is really Special" The Observer

Sunday 20 November 2011, 8pm

Hermeto Pascoal

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £15-30

Produced by the Barbican in association with Serious

Part of the London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3

"Hermeto Pascoal is one of the great originals of Brazilian music (...). The best way to appreciate him is as a complete individual, making music of breathtaking quality and quantity." The Guardian

Hermeto Pascoal, charismatic composer, arranger, multi-instrumentalist and musical visionary returns to the Barbican in celebration of his 75th birthday, with his intoxicating blend of jazz, rock and Brazilian music. Described by Miles Davis as "*one of the most important musicians on the planet*" and nicknamed the 'Sorcerer', he is a unique musician and composer whose work has been a profound influence on British jazz musicians. He is as likely to produce a piece for kitchen utensils as to improvise solos on keyboard or flute – or be found leading his long established, infectiously swinging Brazilian band in partnership with the all star British band formed back in the 90s to play his exhilarating big band music.

Friday 25 November 2011

Mouse on Mars & André de Ridder (conductor) with **musikFabrik**: *Paeanumnion*, **Karlheinz Stockhausen**: *Gesang der Jünglinge* + **Oval** (live)

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £15-25

Produced by Barbican

Paeanumnion was commissioned by KölnMusik and made possible by Kuratorium KölnMusik and Kunststiftung NRW

An evening of groundbreaking German electronic music, spearheaded by **Mouse on Mars**'s new orchestral piece *Paeanumnion*. Plus a rare chance to hear **Stockhausen**'s pioneering tape composition *Gesang der Jünglinge* (1956) – a great influence on generations of electronic music makers – and a live appearance by another true innovator, Markus Popp aka **Oval**.

Mouse on Mars – the duo of **Jan St. Werner** and **Andi Toma** – have been making music together for nearly 20 years, and throughout that time they have shown an exuberant, maverick disregard for genres, trends and creative limitations. Their music has incorporated innumerable different styles, moving easily from floor-filling funk to esoteric abstract manoeuvres, and they have expanded their sound by working with live instruments as well as with artists like **Stereolab** and **Mark E Smith** of **The Fall** (as **Von Südenfed**). But *Paeanumnion* promises to be their most spectacular and ambitious project yet.

"We've always wanted to work with an orchestra, but we'd never met anyone who could help us put together something so intense", says Andi Toma. But then they found **André de Ridder**, a conductor and a catalyst, a musician who takes about as much notice of boundaries as Mouse on Mars do. He moves elegantly between "classical" classical music, contemporary composition and pop, working with **These New Puritans** on *Hidden Live* and with **Damon Albarn** on projects like **Gorillaz**, *Monkey* and *Dr Dee*. Toma first met him in 2009 at the Barbican, where they worked together on an evening of music by **Moondog**. They became friends and shortly after began working on *Paeanumion*. The title might sound like something out of Greek mythology, but is completely made up – a typical example of Mouse on Mars's impish sense of humour.

Paeanumion has its world premiere in September in Cologne.

Saturday 26 November 2011, 8pm
An evening with Josh T Pearson and guests

Barbican Hall

Tickets: £12.50/17.50

Produced by the Barbican in association with ATP

Texan alt-country singer-songwriter **Josh T Pearson** is a man whose legendary musical output has only grown in stature over the years. Many will be familiar with the short-lived phenomenon that was Lift to Experience, a cult indie roots band which released just one sprawling masterpiece – 2001's *The Texas-Jerusalem Crossroads* - before splitting up soon after.

In 2010 Pearson signed with Mute Records and his Berlin-recorded debut solo album *Last Of The Country Gentlemen* appeared earlier this year with *The Times* hailing the album as 'a modern classic', while *Drowned In Sound* awarded a very rare 10 out of 10.

Following on from a string of sold out London shows – at The Slaughtered Lamb, the Purcell Rooms and the Union Chapel, Pearson closes 2011 with this very special Barbican concert.

'America's lost genius returns' Mojo

Thursday 1 December
A Hawk and A Hacksaw

Barbican Cinema 1

Tickets £15

Produced by the Barbican

Performing a new and original soundtrack to ***Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors***

New Mexico's roving folk duo **A Hawk and A Hacksaw** present their first live soundtrack, a brand new rescore of legendary Russian director Sergio Paradjanov's classic film *Shadows Of Forgotten Ancestors*. The colour, grandeur and gut-wrenching romance of their music is the perfect counterpoint to Paradjanov's blend of folklore, sorcery and religious symbolism.

Thursday 8 December 2011, 8pm

**The Leisure Society Meet The Heritage Orchestra
Plus Special Guests**

Barbican Hall

Tickets £15 / £20

Produced by the Barbican

The **Leisure Society**'s second, triumphant album *Into The Murky Water* was released in Summer 2011, with the songwriting genius that brought their debut two Ivor Novello nominations this time accompanied by widescreen instrumental arrangements. For this special one-off show, the band collaborate with the maverick, 30-strong **Heritage Orchestra** to perform *Into The Murky Water* in all its richly-textured glory.

'a truly gorgeous collection of sounds' Drowned In Sound

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