

PRESS RELEASE

Friday, October 13, 2017

A song all about Hull aims for chart success

A song celebrating Hull's culture, history and talent is being released today (Monday October 16) with the help of hundreds of schoolchildren and a few famous faces.

The project, **Song for Hull**, has brought together talented young singers from across the city to perform with stars Jonathan Ansell, The Garnett Family and rapper NB on the record marking Hull's historic year as City of Culture.

The song, Culture Clash, written by NB and produced by his brother Alstrumental, which features lyrics like, "I'm from the place of the pattie butty, bridge and Ronson - Wilberforce, Larkin and Amy Johnson" was inspired by poems about Hull written by schoolchildren.

"Every lyric in the song was inspired by the tremendously creative poems written by primary school children from across the city. To take their words and shape them into a song that many of them are actually singing on has been an amazing experience". NB

Culture Clash can be bought today on all digital platforms and will be performed for the first time at a special concert at Hull City Hall on Friday October 20.

As well as the song, a music video capturing the heart of Hull starring primary school children from across the city alongside Jonathan Ansell, The Garnett Family and NB has also been released today.

At the performance on Friday, more than 200 children from seven schools across the city will be joined by NB, Helen Garnett, the Hey! Let's Sing Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust staff choir - who also performed on Britain's Got Talent last year - and G4 and X Factor star Jonathan Ansell.

The project is a collaboration between Hull Children's University, the Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust staff choir, 'Hey! Let's Sing', All For One Choirs and HPSS, supported by Hull 2017's Creative Communities Programme.

The idea for Song for Hull came after Hey! Let's Sing choir's performance on Britain's Got Talent last year.

Martin Gore, a member of the Hey! Let's Sing choir and former Chair of Hull Children's University (HCU), explained how he wanted children in Hull to have the same unforgettable experience.

He said: "The Hey! Let's Sing choir had its own Britain's Got Talent experience last year, when we travelled down to Birmingham to perform for Simon Cowell and the other judges in the magnificent Hippodrome. It was at that moment, when I was on stage, that it struck me; shouldn't every child in Hull be able to have a similar, awe-inspiring experience?"

"Upon our return, we got our heads together with members of Hull Children's University and HPSS to develop the idea as a way of showcasing local talent and giving youngsters in Hull a unique and exciting experience."

Lucy Vere, another member of the Hey! Let's Sing choir, said: "We are delighted with the song and can't wait for everyone to hear it. Let's hope that people really get behind it and we can have some chart success, we might even be able to push for a Christmas Number 1!"

Tickets for the Song for Hull performance on Friday 20 October start at £15 and can be bought at www.hulltheatres.co.uk

The concert starts at 7pm.

There are also special meet and greet packages available.

Martin Green, Director of Hull 2017, said: "Our Creative Communities Programme has seen thousands of people across Hull getting involved in their City of Culture year, with children's creativity being particularly inspiring.

"This has been a mammoth collaboration and an incredible journey for these children who have taken part in every step of the process, from helping write the lyrics, recording and next week performing the fantastic Song for Hull in front of hundreds of people at Hull City Hall.

ENDS

For more information, please contact:
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NOTES TO EDITORS

Song for Hull is one of 60 new projects to receive funding through the Hull 2017 Creative Communities Programme, which is being delivered in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund, a Principal Partner of Hull 2017.

A total of £750,000 is being invested in the programme, which was set up to celebrate, nurture and support local talent and develop opportunities for emerging artists.

In addition to cash from Hull 2017 and the Big Lottery Fund, the projects will receive staff support to build capacity in the arts sector, helping to create a legacy. The Creative Communities Programme is also being supported by Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust.

The projects - which range from photography exhibitions to music and food festivals and choral and orchestral concerts to audio-visual installations - will see local artists, community groups, cultural and other organisations in the city working with local people of all ages to create new artistic work, events, installations and other activity throughout 2017.

For a full list of projects visit: <https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/sixty-community-projects-inspire-creativity-across-hull-2/>

About Hull UK City of Culture

Hull UK City of Culture 2017 is a 365 day programme of cultural events and creativity inspired by the city and told to the world. Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. It is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England.

Divided into four seasons, this nationally significant event draws on the distinctive spirit of the city and the artists, writers, directors, musicians, revolutionaries and thinkers that have made such a significant contribution to the development of art and ideas.

The Culture Company was set up to deliver the Hull 2017 programme and is an independent organisation with charitable status. It has raised £32 million, with over 60 partners supporting the project, including public bodies, lottery distributors, trusts and foundations and local and national businesses. Key contributions are coming from: **Host City** - Hull City Council; **Principal Partners** - Arts Council England, BBC, Big Lottery Fund, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, KCOM, KWL, Spirit of 2012, Yorkshire Water and the University of Hull; **Major Partners** - Associated British Ports, Arco, BP, the British Council, British Film Institute, Green Port Hull, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, MKM Building Supplies, P&O Ferries, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Siemens, Smith & Nephew and Wykeland Group.

68 per cent of the funding is dedicated to public facing activities, including the widest range of cultural events in every corner of the city, with a further 11 per cent for legacy and contingency. More than £5 million is being invested in volunteering, learning and community engagement. £1.6 million is being invested to ensure a legacy after 2017. This includes capacity building, such as supporting existing events so they can grow, staging curtain-raiser events, developing future programming for after 2017 and building a new platform to support a unified ticketing system for the city.

Hull 2017's International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, which is European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull). These relationships are reflected in a number of events throughout the year.

For information go to www.hull2017.co.uk

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About Big Lottery Fund

- The Big Lottery Fund is the largest funder of community activity in the UK. It puts people in the lead to improve their lives and communities, often through small, local projects.

- It is responsible for giving out 40% of the money raised by National Lottery players for good causes. Every year it invests over £650 million and awards around 12,000 grants across the UK for health, education, environment and charitable purposes.
- Since June 2004 it has awarded over £8 billion to projects that change the lives of millions of people. Since the National Lottery began in 1994, £34 billion has been raised and more than 450,000 grants awarded.

About Hull & East Riding Charitable Trust

The Hollingbery Family founded the business in 1933 with the first Comet superstore opened in Hull in 1968. The business was subsequently sold to Kingfisher and in 1985 the charity was established with the defined purpose of donating funds to help and support charities, both national and local, and other deserving causes, provided that direct benefit was forthcoming for people who live in Hull or the East Riding of Yorkshire.

For more information, including on how to apply for funds, see <http://hullandeastridingtrust.org.uk/>