



## PRESS RELEASE

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# PRS Foundation backed music residencies set to continue in Hull in 2018

The PRS Foundation's New Music Biennial Residency programme, which has been taking place throughout 2017 as part of Hull's City of Culture year, is to continue in 2018.

The innovative programme sees leading musicians and composers making music alongside local communities. It has already brought folk legends **Sam Lee** and **Eliza Carthy**, classical composers **Errollyn Wallen** and **Brian Irvine** and beatbox/electronic artist **Jason Singh** to Hull, where they have been creating new work alongside local community participants and other talented local musicians and composers.

Most recently, acclaimed composer and musician Hannah Peel has been working with a group of singers from Hull Freedom Chorus and Hull 2017 volunteers.

PRS Foundation mentor and composer James Redwood has been working with a team of composers and creative musicians across community groups in Hull to create a new body of work, **Songs of Flight**.

The work, built on the theme of bird migration, will be performed by massed voices, a range of participating music groups and the City of Hull Youth Symphony Orchestra at Hull City Hall on 20 April next year.

The performance will be presented in partnership with Hull Music Service (Music Hub) and the City of Hull Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Before performing at **Substance Live** at the weekend, Hannah Peel began a composer residency working collaboratively with local singers to start creating a piece of music that will feature as part of **Songs of Flight**.

This December Brian Irvine has been working with a group of formerly homeless people at the Crossings in Hull. This culminated in a recording day last week where Brian Irvine led the group in a recording session of a range of songs created with residents of The Crossings, with the support of professional musicians. This builds on his residency earlier in the year.

At the end of January, Brian Irvine returns to Hull for a project working with local schools to create a set of songs that will be shared in a private performance in March 2018.

On 18 January, a second free continual professional development programme for local music leaders launches in Hull. Led by James Redwood a series of three days of training is offered to local musicians and music leaders who want to develop their practice making music with groups. The other two dates are 23 February and 23 March.

For more information or to book a place on the training email Clare Drury at [clare.drury@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:clare.drury@hullcc.gov.uk)

Martin Green, Director of Hull 2017, said: “Hull has a vibrant and creative scene and the PRS Foundation’s residency work, alongside its stunning New Music Biennial weekend in the summer, has created some amazing opportunities and memories for people in the city.

“The collaborative new work is not only a testament to the quality of composers and musicians in the UK, but also the talent in Hull.

“Working together, the project and musicians have created incredible new music paying homage to Hull’s history, heritage and culture.

“This project, continuing well into 2018, shows the ambition and drive to ensure a musical legacy for years to come.”

Vanessa Reed, CEO of PRS Foundation said: “When we were planning the New Music Biennial residencies with communities in Hull, we always hoped to support ongoing music-making opportunities after the official City of Culture celebrations had come to an end.

“Thanks to our collaboration with Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Hull City Council and the City of Culture team, it’s now exciting to see this plan come to fruition with fantastic composers like Brian Irvine, Hannah Peel and James Redwood coming back to Hull to compose music with local talent.

“I can’t wait to hear the music that emerges from these residencies which will be performed in Hull in the first half of next year.”

Local musicians and composers contributing to the residencies include Em Whitfield Brooks, Sam Pirt, Cecil Jones, Gabrielle Awre, Mambo Jambo, Benjamin Newton, Gary Hammond, Tom Lawrence, Wes Finch and Andrew Melton.

**ENDS**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **Hull UK City of Culture 2017**

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 contributed 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 70 partners supporting the project, including public bodies, 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. The National Lottery has contributed more than £10m of this funding, making it the largest single funding body for Hull 2017.

For information go to [www.hull2017.co.uk](http://www.hull2017.co.uk) Follow us on Twitter @2017Hull Instagram @2017hull Facebook HullCityofCulture

### **About PRS Foundation**

PRS Foundation is the UK's leading charitable funder of new music and talent development across all genres. Since 2000 PRS Foundation has given more than £23.6 million to over 5,300 new music initiatives by awarding grants and leading partnership programmes that support music sector development. Widely respected as an adventurous and proactive funding body, PRS Foundation supports an exceptional range of new music activity - from composer residencies and commissions to festivals and showcases in the UK and overseas. [www.prsformusicfoundation.com](http://www.prsformusicfoundation.com)

### **PRS Foundation's New Music Biennial**

In the summer some of the country's most talented composers were commissioned to create new 15-minute pieces of music as part of PRS Foundation's New Music Biennial. The event took place across two weekends, one in Hull and the other at London's Southbank Centre.

In Hull, the free festival incorporated iconic venues such as Hull Minster, the Guildhall and Hull City Hall, with performances from artists such as Peter Edwards, GOGO Penguin, Eliza Carthy, Sam Lee, Brian Irvine, James Redwood and Hannah Peel.

PRS Foundation's New Music Biennial and residency programme is generously supported by Hull UK City of Culture, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, BBC Radio 3, Southbank Centre, Arts Council England, Arts Council of Wales, Creative Scotland, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Cockayne, The John S Cohen Foundation, the Jerwood Charitable Foundation, The Finzi Trust, RVW Trust, The Bliss Trust and NMC Recordings.