

The Sound of Science

Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th March 2022

Gosforth Civic Theatre

Newcastle upon Tyne

Rebecca Nash 'Redefining Element 78' Quintet

Graeme Wilson with Faye MacCalman

Lauren Kinsella 'Radicle' Trio

Han-earl Park

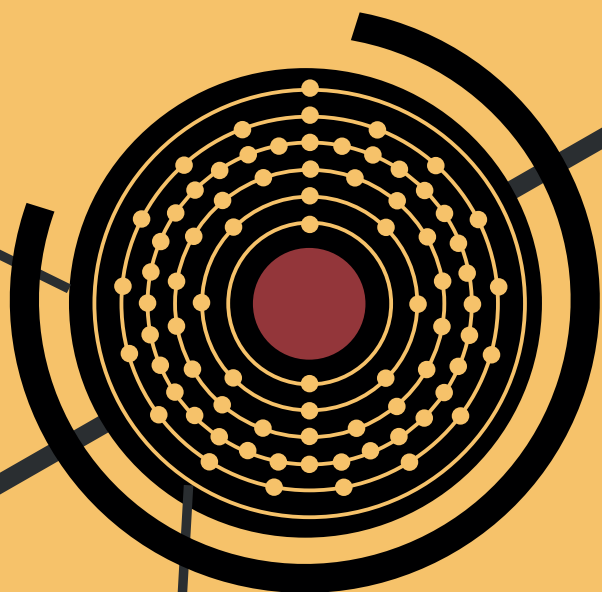
Johnny Hunter 'Pale Blue Dot' Sextet

David de la Haye

Mark Haanstra and Oene Van Geel 'Shapes of Time' with Udo Prinsen

www.gosforthcivictheatre.co.uk

www.jazznortheast.com



The Sound of Science

To celebrate British Science Week 2022 music promoters Jazz North East are proud to present 'The Sound of Science'.

With additional support from Newcastle University's Faculty of Science and Gosforth Civic Theatre, audiences are welcomed to experience a series of concerts and discussions drawing connections between science and music.

Programmed events will specifically explore the interplay of chemistry, physics, ecology and biology, and the ways in which these disciplines have been employed by, and communicated through, composers and musicians.

We will hear from 28 musicians, artists and scientists across the four day event.

"From climate change to vaccines, the importance of science to the way we live has never been clearer. Its relationship to music however is rarely explored and it is for that reason we have assembled those working in and between these two seemingly disparate fields. Our events shine a spotlight on the role of science within music composition and improvisation, with a view to inspiring audiences new to one or both subjects.

Presented and discussed through music making practice, this project aims to increase understanding of science and its social implications, and build audience confidence in discussing these issues. Inviting all ages and every level of expertise, the festival will spark new ideas around how science and music can be communicated and combined."

- Wesley Stephenson (Festival Producer)

Composers and Performers

Rebecca Nash 'Redefining Element 78' Quintet

Graeme Wilson and Faye MacCalman

Lauren Kinsella 'Radicle' Trio

Han-earl Park

Johnny Hunter 'Pale Blue Dot' Sextet

David de la Haye

Mark Haanstra and One Van Geel 'Shapes of Time' with Udo Prinsen

Guest Panelists and Presentations

Charlie Wilkinson (Soapbox Science)

Dr Lee Higham (Newcastle University Faculty of Science)

Dr Graeme Wilson (Visiting Fellow University of Edinburgh)

Goda Stasytyte (Newcastle University School of Natural and Environmental Sciences)

Giovanna Barrionuevo Martins (Newcastle University School of Natural and Environmental Sciences)

Special Guest Compère

Dr Corey Mwamba

Presenter of BBC Radio 3's 'Freeness' Corey Mwamba will act as the project compère and chair for workshop discussion.

Schedule of Events

Thursday 17th March

Doors 6.30pm

7.00pm

Soapbox Science

Presentation by *Charlie Wilkinson*

To open our science weekend we will be hearing from Charlie Wilkinson who will be presenting the work of Soapbox Science. Soapbox Science a novel public outreach platform for promoting women and non-binary scientists and the science they do, transforming public areas into an arena for public learning and scientific debate.

7.45pm: **Panel Discussion** - *Rebecca Nash / Dr Lee Higham
Giovanna Barrionuevo Martins / Corey Mwamba*

8.30pm

**Rebecca Nash Quintet
- Redefining Element 78**

Rebecca Nash (Piano and Keyboards)

Dee Byrne (Saxophone)

Nick Malcolm (Trumpet)

Paul Michael (Bass)

Matt Fisher (Drums)

Drawing inspiration from chemistry, Bristol artist Rebecca Nash will be performing and discussing her series of music entitled 'Redefining Element 78'. Originally commissioned for the Bristol Jazz Festival 2019 the material has rarely been performed since.

Redefining Element 78 presents a compositional voice of increasing clarity and singular warmth, luscious, dense harmonies and wide atmospheric soundscapes. The collection of pieces is further inspired by two intriguing extra musical influences; the chemical elements contained within the Platinum metal family and legendary New York alto saxophonist John O'Gallagher.

The music's excitement comes from a creative tension between detailed composed sections and large swathes of free improvisation. The deep sense of trust and connection between the musicians, set against the ethereal other-worldly compositional textures leads to spontaneous, daring, and unpredictable music making.

Rebecca Nash appears in support of the Redefining Element 78 recorded album which will be released on Whirlwind Recordings in 2022.

"At the vanguard of innovative and compelling new music" - Downbeat Magazine

Schedule of Events

Friday 18th March

Doors 6.30pm

7.00pm

Lauren Kinsella Trio
- Radicle (a plant's first root)

Lauren Kinsella (Vocals)
Tom Challenger (Saxophone)
Mark Sanders (Drums)

Irish but now based in London, Lauren Kinsella first premiered the composition 'Radicle' (a plant's first root) at the London Jazz Festival in 2018. Her work regularly explores themes of conservation and the complexity of nature through song writing, group interplay, improvisation and original composition. For science week she will bring her innovative new trio to Newcastle to discuss and perform her brave and transformative suite about the union and ecological necessity of trees.

8.00pm: **Panel Discussion** - *Graeme Wilson / Faye MacCalman / Corey Mwamba*

8.20pm

Graeme Wilson and Faye MacCalman
- Predictions and Modelling of Spontaneous Group Behaviours

Graeme Wilson (Saxophone)
Faye MacCalman (Saxophone and Clarinet)

Alongside his PhD in Psychology from the University of Glasgow, Dr Graeme Wilson is a founding member of Scottish National Jazz Orchestra and Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra. With research interests in jazz and improvised music, identities and discourse, he joined the Edinburgh School of Music in 2014 to develop research on group improvisation across the arts and to implement the Scottish Music and Health Network.

Graeme will visit the science festival to explore improvisation in music and its relation to the patterns we perceive in the natural world, such as movement of groups of animals such as starlings, or the accretion of marine life on rocks or vessels. Graeme will be making comparisons of musical, ecological and biological processes highlighting practical applications in other fields: for instance, the prediction or modelling of spontaneous group behaviours, or the development of new approaches to group music-making.

9.00pm: **Panel Discussion** - *Lauren Kinsella / Graeme Wilson / Faye MacCalman*
Corey Mwamba / Dr Lee Higham / Goda Stasytyte

Schedule of Events

Saturday 19th March

Doors 6.30pm

7.00pm

Han-earl Park

- cyborgs, bodies, chaos, simulation and improvisation

Han-earl Park (Guitar)

Han-earl Park will visit Newcastle to perform solo, and discuss his ongoing interest in chaotic systems, computation, and the collision of physiology and physics in his music, from guitar technique to the construction of musical automata.

7.40pm: **Panel Discussion** - Han-earl Park / Corey Mwamba / Graeme Wilson

8.15pm: **Panel Discussion** - *Johnny Hunter / Corey Mwamba / Graeme Wilson*

8.40pm

Johnny Hunter

- Pale Blue Dot

Johnny Hunter (Drums)
Mark Hanslip (Saxophone)
Seth Bennett (Bass)
Gemma Bass (Violin)
Aby Vulliamy (Viola)
Michael Bardon (Cello)

From Manchester, percussionist and astrophysics graduate Johnny Hunter has composed a suite of music inspired by the photograph 'Pale Blue Dot' taken by Voyager 1 in 1990. The photograph depicts the Earth seen from a distance of 6 billion kilometers, appearing less than 1 pixel in size.

Written for string quartet, a horn and drums, Pale Blue Dot is written in four movements, each observing our world from different perspectives, taking their titles from Carl Sagan's beautifully memorable commentary.

Pale Blue Dot begins with 'Everyone You Love', showing what is worth remembering and holding on to amidst the seemingly endless barrage of upset and negativity. 'Endless Cruelties' discusses the many atrocities committed on this pin-prick of pale blue, occurring with an almost predictable regularity. The needless grabs for power made by the 'Momentary Masters of a Fraction of a Dot', those who only have their own interests and careers at heart, that send our civilised society into chaos and hatred so that they may enjoy the briefest of spells at "the top". 'Save Us From Ourselves' is perhaps more self-explanatory; it is both a plea to everyone to look out for each other and for our planet, but also has a hopeful undertone with Hunter's belief in the essential goodness of the individual, with problems only arising when communities are divided by the lies and scaremongering of a few.

In these four movements, the Pale Blue Dot seeks to provide the listener with the perspective and serenity that might be possible from the outer reaches of our Solar System.

Schedule of Events

Sunday 20th March

Doors 6.30pm

7.00pm

**David de la Haye
- With Ears Underwater**

Presentation and Performance by *David de la Haye*

David de la Haye (Underwater Recordings)

Adam Stapleford (Drums)

Graeme Wilson (Saxophone)

Mark Carroll (Cello)

Video directed by Euan Preston

Ahead of his site-specific installation scheduled to take place 22nd March 2022 at Roker on World Water Day, David de la Haye visits the science festival to make a short AV presentation and performance of his recent work.

Ecoacoustics is the study of sounds in the environment. Sunderland's underwater soundscapes are the springboard for 'With Ears Underwater'. The docklands and intertidal mudflats; the marina and estuary of the River Wear; the rock-pools of Roker and freshwater ponds found inland. These environments offer a space to reimagine historically industrialised areas through the lens of aquatic ecosystems.

Marine and freshwater sound libraries were individually curated for the performers. Guided by graphic scores, derived from the field recording spectrograms themselves, the trio used collective and solo improvisation to evoke interspecies dialogue. For this work, their instrumental recordings flow alongside underwater field recordings, illustrating the interconnectedness of our acoustic landscape.

7.45pm: **Panel Discussion** - *Mark Haanstra / Oene Van Geel / Udo Prinsen / Corey Mwamba*

8.30pm

**Mark Haanstra / Oene Van Geel
- Shapes of Time**

Udo Prinsen (Visuals)

Mark Haanstra (Bass Guitar and Contrabass)

Oene Van Geel (Viola)

Graeme Stephen (Guitar)

With support from Dutch Performing Arts, Mark Haanstra and Oene Van Geel will visit the science festival alongside visual artist Udo Prinsen, to work in collaboration with Scottish guitarist Graeme Stephen. Udo Prinsen will discuss his long exposure photographic images which map time through movements of the sun. Mark, Oene and Graeme will perform their resulting musical compositions.

Shapes of Time is an attempt to aurally translate a search for suspension and focus in a world led by fragmentation and urgency. During a polar expedition, visual artist Udo Prinsen installed various pinhole cameras; the light of several months is represented in one photo. The movements of the sun along the horizon are a 'coagulated' map of time. The tranquil and contrasting landscapes in the photos served as inspiration for the music.

TICKETS

Free Entry

Advance booking from Gosforth Civic Theatre is strongly recommended
Tickets available on the door subject to room capacity

VENUE

Gosforth Civic Theatre

Gosforth Civic Theatre, Regent Farm Road, Gosforth, NE3 3HD
0191 284 3700 / info@gosforthcivictheatre.co.uk
www.gosforthcivictheatre.co.uk

Age Restrictions: Events are for all ages with under 14's unaccompanied by an adult

Accessibility: Gosforth Civic Theatre is a fully accessible venue

Travel: Regent Centre Metro and Bus Station is just across the road

Parking: Limited parking is available at the venue

Cover Design

Cover design by Andrew Delanoy and Wesley Stephenson
based on the Platinum Electron configuration

Acknowledgements and Thanks

Jazz North East gratefully acknowledges and thanks the support of Arts Council England, Golsoncott Foundation, Scops Arts Trust, the Royal Society of Chemistry, Newcastle University Faculty of Science, British Science Association, Soapbox Science, Euan Preston and Palace of Science, Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Europe, Fonds Podium Kunsten Performing Arts Fund NL, Jazz North, Sound and Music, Sunderland Culture, New Jazz and Improvised Music Recordings and Gosforth Civic Theatre.

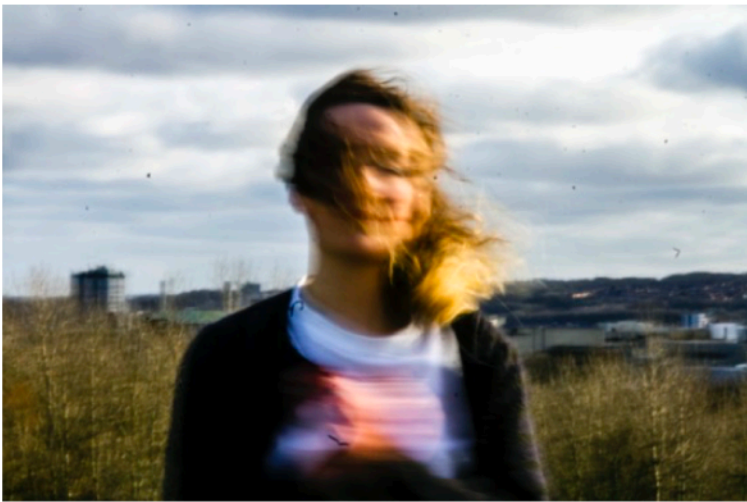
Photography

Olivier Burnside (Rebecca Nash) / Michael Jones (Lauren Kinsella) / Stefan Hauer (Graeme Wilson)
Veenstra Visueel and Udo Prinsen (Shapes of Time) / Victoria Wai (Faye MacCalman)
Fern Nuttall (Johnny Hunter) / Petra Cvelbar (Han-earl Park) / Simon Litherland (David de la Haye)

**Established 1966 Jazz North East is the oldest grant-supported jazz promoting body
in the U.K and a leading specialist promoter of improvised music from around the
world.**

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The Sound of Science 2022

Jazz
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11-20 March
British
Science
Week
2022



**PALACE OF
SCIENCE**



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