A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS FOR SPITALFIELDS MUSIC AS ARTISTIC CURATOR ANDRÉ DE RIDDER ANNOUNCES HIS VISIONARY PROGRAMME FOR FESTIVAL 2017

André de Ridder, one of the most influential and daring conductors working across genre boundaries in music today, guest curates Spitalfields Music Festival this December. Now in its 41st year, the east London festival enters an exciting new chapter, with a reinvigorated vision for 2017 that reflects its location at the heart of one of London’s most vibrant areas. With André at the helm, this year’s festival is packed with extraordinary international artists and visionary collaborations, celebrating classical music in its widest sense. Drawing on the festival’s core founding values, Spitalfields Music Festival 2017 will bring together artists, audiences and communities to experience outstanding early music interpretations alongside ground-breaking contemporary work in intimate and inspiring locations.

Tickets go on sale to the general public on Monday 18 September at 10am. For booking and more information visit www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk/

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Exceptional artists from a range of musical styles including Bengali folk, rap, classical, soul and jazz reinterpret Schumann’s Dichterliebe inside 16 historic Huguenot Houses of Spitalfields.

- Alongside authentic performances of Monteverdi’s Eighth Book of Madrigals, a stellar line-up of ensembles and soloists perform modern premieres and re-interpretations inspired by the Renaissance master and composed by Josephine Stephenson, featured composer Anna Thorvaldsdottir and Qasim Naqvi.

- An exhibition of new art work by Turner Prize nominee Mark Titchner explores the links between post-punk band Fugazi and classical masters Schumann and Monteverdi.

- Classical collides with techno, experimental and electronic as André de Ridder’s pioneering star age collective perform a reimagining of Daniel Brandt’s Eternal Something and premieres by Nik Colk Void and Qasim Naqvi.
• Spitalfields Music partners with Classic Album Sundays to explore Recomposed By Max Richter: Vivaldi – The Four Seasons as Colleen ‘Cosmo’ Murphy speaks with composer Max Richter and conductor André de Ridder followed by vinyl playback of the influential album.

• Three incredible solo musicians Veli Kujala, James McVinnie and Aart Strootman explore counterpoint across four centuries in three strikingly different solo performances.

• London Contemporary Orchestra performs the London premiere of featured composer Anna Thorvaldsottir’s In The Light of Air featuring a breathtaking light installation.

• The award-winning Musical Rumpus brings to life the multi-sensory world of Fogonogo in this opera for babies and toddlers.

• BBC Radio 3’s Sara Mohr-Pietsch gives behind the scenes insight in a series of extended conversations with festival artists in Spitalfields Music’s new podcast series.

André de Ridder introduces Spitalfields Music 2017:

‘With this year’s festival we have ambitiously aimed at making each event, each evening a festival in its own right. No programme will be presented by just one ensemble or soloist, but by a gathering of different artists and line-ups, exploring musical worlds and ideas in a myriad ways.

Creating a dialogue between older masters and contemporary composers and performers, our major projects House of Monteverdi and Schumann Street are more than just pure representations of iconic works; they build bridges between different musical genres and styles, and into the 21st century. Turner Prize nominee Mark Titchner’s installation There will be two wars reflects some of the themes explored in these large-scale events in relation to the work and ethos of the seminal post-hardcore band Fugazi.

We welcome as our guest and featured composer the internationally acclaimed Anna Thorvaldsdottir and shine a light on young French-British composer Josephine Stephenson. We present new works by composers best known as members of cult bands Factory Floor (Nik Colk Void), Dawn of Midi (Qasim Naqui) and Brandt Brauer Frick (Daniel Brandt), exposing and supporting their own independent creative output. We also collaborate with young creative voices in Tower Hamlets through Platform (Electric Counterpoint) and Schumann Street Reimagined to re-invigorate the relevance of this seminal music. I invite you on this boundless musical journey of discovery and exploration throughout Spitalfields Music Festival 2017.’

André de Ridder is the Artistic Director of Musica nova Helsinki and founder of the ground-breaking ensemble s t a r g a z e (whose recent projects include the BBC David Bowie Prom).
has given premieres of works by Bryce Dessner, Kaija Saariaho, Donnacha Dennehy, Mica Levi, Wolfgang Rihm and Nico Muhly, amongst many others. He is a regular at such festivals as Edinburgh International Festival, Sydney Festival and Holland Festival and conducts such orchestras as New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, BBC Symphony, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony, Orchestre de Paris and the Concertgebouw Orchestra. With star gaze, his appearances include Ruhrtriennale with Owen Pallett, Sacrum Profanum Festival with These New Puritans, Holland’s Rewire Festival, Paris Philharmonie, and the ensemble’s own festival at Volksbühne-Am-Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz. His discography includes Max Richter's *The Four Seasons Recomposed*, works by Bryce Dessner and Jonny Greenwood, and *Africa Express Presents: In C Mali*, a recording he produced of Terry Riley's *In C* with Malian and western artists including Brian Eno and Damon Albarn.

**House of Monteverdi**  
**Shoreditch Church**  
**Saturday 2 December | 5pm**

Celebrating Monteverdi’s 450th anniversary, a stellar line-up of artists contrast authentic performances of the Renaissance master’s *Eighth Book of Madrigals* with ground-breaking modern works, premieres and re-interpretations.

Taking place over several hours this extraordinary marathon includes world premieres by French-British composer Josephine Stephenson, London premieres from featured composer Icelandic Anna Thorvaldsdottir and a UK premiere from American composer Qasim Naqvi.

Artists will include David Bates: La Nuova Musica, Liam Byrne, The Hermes Experiment, Ben Johnson, Katherine Manley, Mayah Kadish, Gavin Kibble, star gaze, Tom Williams: The Erebus Ensemble and Presenter: Sara Mohr-Pietsch.

Generously supported by Geoffrey Collens, the RVW Trust, Hinrichsen Foundation and Spitalfields Music New Music Commission Fund

**Schumann Street**  
**Huguenot Houses of Spitalfields**  
**Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 December | 5pm & 7.30pm**

16 songs. 16 rooms. 1,000 journeys.

*Schumann Street* is an ambitious staging and reinterpretation of Schumann’s iconic song cycle: *Dichterliebe*. Taking place inside the stunning Huguenot Houses of Spitalfields, each of the 16 songs in Schumann’s cycle will be performed by a different artist drawn from a wide range of stylistic backgrounds including Bengali folk, rap, classical, soul and jazz.

Visitors will create their own path around Spitalfields through this immersive song-cycle installation and experience intimate performances close-up inside these atmospheric historic homes. This is house music in its original form.

The exceptional line-up of artists includes Bryan Benner, Sam Beste, Liam Byrne, Uri Caine, Mara Carlyle, Rahel Debebe-Desselegne, Anne Denholm, Abimaro, Lisa
Hannigan, Topi Lehtipuu, Katherine Manley, Phil Minton, James McVinnie, Robert Murray, Alex Reeve, Shapla Salique, Saied Silbak, Aart Strootman, Heloise Werner, Apollo 47 and more.

Generously supported by Spitalfields Music Keyholders Circle and Cockayne Grants for the Arts.

**Schumann Street: Reimagined**

Rich Mix  
Friday 8 December | 2pm

With help from composer John Barber and artists from Schumann Street, Year 4 pupils from Osmani and Shapla primary schools have trodden the well-worn path of Robert Schumann and created their own song-cycle inspired by Dichterliebe. The children will perform these new musical re-imaginings alongside exceptional artists from the Schumann Street installation.

Generously supported by the Mary Kinross Charitable Trust and Spitalfields Music’s Christopher Vaughan Legacy Fund.

**East End Speed Histories: Tales Less Told**

Mystery Location  
Sunday 3 December | 2 & 4pm

*East End Speed Histories* is a series of theatrical snapshots revealing the best kept secrets of London’s colourful East End. Comprising short tales from actors, historians and authors, this will be an unpredictable adventure through history. This special iteration will take place in a mystery location not usually open to the public.

*East End Speed Histories* is created by East End local Alan Gibey who, along with Steve Wells, reinvented the history walk with their popular *Backpassages of Spitalfields* tours which ran for over a decade. Fed up with the abundance of predictable Jack the Ripper walks in their area, they used street theatre, props and stand-up comedy to bring the lesser known stories of this atmospheric area of London to life.

**Classic Album Sundays presents**

**Recomposed by Max Richter:**

**Vivaldi - The Four Seasons**

Shoreditch Church  
Monday 4 December | 7pm

In 2012, Max Richter released a record which brought contemporary classical and electronic hybrid genres into the mainstream: *Recomposed by Max Richter: Vivaldi – The Four Seasons.*
Revisiting how this album was created and discussing its legacy, Classic Album Sundays’ founder and BBC broadcaster Colleen ‘Cosmo’ Murphy speaks with composer Max Richter and conductor of the album André de Ridder. Following the discussion, there will be an uninterrupted vinyl playback of the album on the Classic Album Sundays’ audiophile hi-fi.

Founded by music producer, label owner, radio host and journalist, Colleen ‘Cosmo’ Murphy, Classic Album Sundays (CAS) has become the world’s most popular record club. CAS allows listeners to fully immerse themselves in an album by exploring the context and the story behind the music before experiencing a full replay on vinyl. Starting in London in 2010, CAS sessions have now been held all over the world.

Musical Rumpus: Fogonogo
Rich Mix
Monday 4 & Wednesday 6 December | 11am & 1.30pm
Ages 0 – 2½

The award-winning Musical Rumpus brings to life the multi-sensory world of Fogonogo in this opera specially created for babies and toddlers by Sam Glazer, Zoë Palmer and Sophia Lovell-Smith. Characters Mica and Feldspar delight in a series of playful experiments in this interactive story set to the enticing soundscape of Fogonogo, performed live by two singers, a cellist and a percussionist.

Musical Rumpus is an opera series designed to create early experiences of music and adventure for babies and toddlers. Taking celebrated baroque operas and re-imagining their stories and music specifically for the youngest of ears, the series gives children the opportunity to explore sounds, instruments and objects in a specially designed, multi-sensory, hour-long performance. The project has been developed with music leaders Zoë Palmer and Sam Glazer and was born out of previous research which showed that exposure to live arts supported very young children’s cognitive and social growth, and also encouraged parent and child bonding and further engagement with the arts. Previous productions have included Catch A Sea Star, Run, Rindle Rill, Lyrebird and A Fairy Queen in the Forest.

Generously supported by Youth Music and the Kirby Laing Foundation.

Hyperchromatic Counterpoint
Shoreditch Church
Tuesday 5 December | 8.30pm

Three incredible solo musicians – Veli Kujala, James McVinnie and Aart Strootman - explore counterpoint across four centuries.

Originating in the 14th Century, counterpoint is a technique whereby independent musical lines are played simultaneously, twisting around and complementing each other.

James McVinnie will perform selected movements from JS Bach’s Art of Fugue and Aart Strootman presents Steve Reich’s seminal Electric Counterpoint. Referencing both Bach and Reich’s work, Veli Kujala’s Hyperchromatic Counterpoint extends the melodic realm with his
custom-built accordion into an expansive and psychedelic sound-world.

**Platform: Electric Counterpoint**  
**Shoreditch Church**  
**Tuesday 5 December | 6.15pm - 7.15pm | Free, booking required**

Inspired by the collaborations running throughout the festival, young musicians aged 11 - 16 from the Thames Big Band and Senior String Ensemble have come up with something special in this fantastic display of local talent. Working alongside Spitalfields Festival Artists they have created a new piece inspired by counterpoint and minimalism, combining the sound worlds of classical strings and big band Jazz.

In partnership with Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service (THAMES).

**Renegade New Classical: Daniel Brandt, Nik Colk Void**  
**Shoreditch Church**  
**Wednesday 6 December | 8.30pm**

Boundaries are blurred and new sound worlds imagined as the realms of classical collide with minimal techno, experimental and electronic music in this special event presented by André de Ridder’s exceptional orchestral collective **stargaze**.

**Nik Colk Void** (one third of Factory Floor) premieres an electroacoustic composition, while Erased Tapes signee **Daniel Brandt** (of Brandt Brauer Frick) presents an orchestral realisation of his solo album **Eternal Something**. The programme is completed with a new work by **Qasim Naqvi** (of Dawn of Midi) specially written for **stargaze**.

Generously supported by the RVW Trust, Hinrichsen Foundation and Spitalfields Music New Music Commission Fund.

**There will be two wars (songs of love and war)**  
**Shoreditch Church**  
**Saturday 2 - Sunday 10 December | Exhibition hours on website**

Fusing the realms of music, theatre, art and words, Turner Prize nominee **Mark Titchner** has created Spitalfields Music’s first visual art exhibition. This multi-media exhibition will explore links between American post-punk hardcore band Fugazi and classical masters Schumann and Monteverdi.
Highly politicised and fiercely independent, Fugazi’s music directly addresses religious, scientific and cultural issues. The exhibition will evolve over the festival through contributions from community projects.

These Two Wars: In Focus
Shoreditch Church
Thursday 7 December | 7pm

Breathing life into the installation *There will be two wars (songs of love and war)*, Turner prize nominee Mark Titchner, festival curator André de Ridder and presenter Sara Mohr-Pietsch lead an evening combining discussion, performance and exhibition tour.

Inspired by the legacy and socio-political ethos of the band Fugazi, the conversations that unfold will touch on themes of artistic independence, activism and the ownership of art.

The evening will be interspersed with specially commissioned *Instrument Solos* based on material from Fugazi songs composed by Greg Saunier (of Deerhoof).

In the Light of Air
Shoreditch Church
Friday 8 December | 8pm & 1.15am

Transforming Shoreditch Church into a home for mindful listening, the London Contemporary Orchestra will perform selections of work by Pauline Oliveros which explore producing sound naturally for meditative practice.

Following this LCO will perform the London premiere of Anna Thorvaldsottir’s *In The Light Of Air*. Rumbling and atmospheric, it calls to mind the sparse landscapes of Thorvaldsottir’s native Iceland, featuring a light installation which dims and glows according to the players’ breath.

Generously supported by the RVW Trust and Hinrichsen Foundation

Sara Mohr-Pietsch presents: SMF17 Podcast Series
Taking place throughout the festival

BBC Radio 3’s Sara Mohr-Pietsch gives behind the scenes insight and weaves together the stories and themes of this year’s festival in this stimulating podcast series. Mohr-Pietsch will interview festival artists, including festival curator André de Ridder, in a series of extended conversations that will be released on www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk.
NOTES TO EDITORS
2017 FESTIVAL IMAGES CAN BE DOWNLOADED HERE

BIOGRAPHIES

Spitalfields Music
With an international reputation for quality and innovation, Spitalfields Music has spent more than 40 years exploring and celebrating music in East London. At the heart of their programme is an annual festival which, led by an Artistic Curator, showcases extraordinary, high quality music, performed by world-class artists in remarkable spaces.

Directly addressing the needs of its community, Spitalfields Music’s multi award-winning Learning and Participation programme reaches over 5,000 people of all ages and backgrounds each year. Working in Tower Hamlets, a borough facing the highest rates of child and pensioner poverty in the UK, Spitalfields Music produces inspiring music education programmes, bringing communities together to build confidence, creativity and social skills.

Abimaro is a singer-songwriter from London, inspired by life, faith and stories. She released her debut solo EP Something Prettier Than Before earlier this year. Having previously lent her vocals to bands such as Zero 7, Cinematic Orchestra and The Free, Abimaro is also a music leader and works with organisations such as Spitalfields Music, The Roundhouse and Southbank Centre.

Daniel Brandt is a multi-instrumentalist musician and producer based in London and Berlin. His debut solo album, Eternal Something, was released earlier this year with critics focusing on the solitary intimacy and mesmerising organic progression which Brandt crafted throughout the record. Prior to his solo work, Brandt was the percussionist and co-founder of Germany’s electroacoustic ensemble Brandt Brauer Frick, known for their avant-garde techno sound balancing modern classical and dance music.

Liam Byrne is best known for playing the viol and viola da gamba. As a chamber musician, he has performed and recorded with many leading Early Music ensembles and his solo work regularly explores lesser known pieces from the Baroque period. Increasingly, he also works with contemporary composers including Nils Frahm, Matthew Herbert, Shara Worden (My Brightest Diamond), Bryce Dessner (The National) and Richard Reed Parry (Arcade Fire), Damon Albarn (Dr Dee), and Valgeir Sigurðsson (Wide Slumber). He was the first musician to be awarded a 6-month Artist Residency at the Victoria and Albert Museum. He also played a major role in creating sound installations at New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art and London’s National Gallery.

Mara Carlyle is one of the UK’s most original and exciting singer-songwriters to emerge in recent times. Her unique sound melds an eclectic range of musical influences that include choral music, folk, jazz, hip hop, electronica & R&B. Aside from her own compositions, she is known for her inventive reworking of songs from every genre. Following the critical acclaim of her first two solo records (The Lovely and Floreat) she is currently finishing her third. Besides creating and performing her own music, she is an occasional radio broadcaster, DJ at the Ace Hotel in Shoreditch, and has worked as a musical director/arranger for artists as diverse as MF DOOM, James Lavelle, JUSTICE, Emiliana Torrini and the London Contemporary Orchestra.

Rahel Debebe-Dessalegne is the Ethiopian lead singer, bassist and arranger of East London based band, Hejira. Blending classical, folk, jazz and rock influences the band are known for their smooth and signature sound which balances the dramatic with the delicate. The Lima Limo Ceremony is the first
release on Hejira’s own Lima Limo Records.

**Fugazi** is a hugely popular American band known for marrying the urgent clamour of hardcore punk with the structural ingenuity of post-rock. They remained steadfastly independent; shunning mainstream attention, releasing albums on their own successful Dischord label and consistently selling records and tickets to their all-ages live shows at low prices to stay accessible to their fans. The band’s political core also strayed from their lyrics to rants between songs during gigs. They were active from the late 1980s until 2002, when they announced an indefinite hiatus.

**Veli Kujala** is an internationally acclaimed Finnish concert accordionist and composer. From the beginning of his career he has also been very active in the field of jazz and improvised music, and his interest in popular music ranges from progressive rock to tango to French chanson. He has performed in major festivals and venues across Europe, toured the USA and won many international competitions for his solo performances and for composition in the field of classical music. He also co-developed a new instrument, the quarter-tone accordion, together with Sampo Haapamäki.

**Topi Lehtipuu** is a Finnish tenor of international renown and Director of the Helsinki Festival since October 2015. This wide-ranging and innovative multi-arts festival is the largest in Finland. As a singer, he has appeared in concert halls and opera houses throughout the world. An extremely versatile artist and a highly-skilled stage performer, he is renowned equally for his repertoire ranging from early music, through Bach, Mozart and classical composers, to contemporary creations enjoying close relationships with the world’s leading conductors and directors.

**London Contemporary Orchestra** has established itself as one of the UK’s most innovative and respected ensembles - promoting the best new music and cross-arts collaborations to an increasingly wide audience. They won the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for Best Ensemble in 2015. Formed in 2008 by co-Artistic directors Robert Ames and Hugh Brunt, the LCO has collaborated with a distinguished array of composers, artists and brands, including Radiohead, Secret Cinema, Vivienne Westwood, Jonny Greenwood, members of Arcade Fire, Goldfrapp, Nike, Terry Riley, Beck and Foals. Highlights include sold-out performances at the Roundhouse, Southbank Centre and Barbican; *There Will Be Blood: Live*; the critically-acclaimed site-responsive series *Imagined Occasions*; and live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3. The orchestra’s soundtrack output features *The Master, Theeb, Slow West* and *Macbeth*, and the LCO strings and choir feature prominently on Radiohead’s 2016 album *A Moon Shaped Pool.*

**James McVinnie** is an internationally renowned solo organist. His has also collaborated with some of the world’s leading composers and performers including Nico Muhly, Turner Prize-Winner Martin Creed, Richard Reed Parry (Arcade Fire), Shara Worden (My Brightest Diamond), Pulitzer Prize-winner David Lang and Bryce Dessner (The National), all of whom have written works for him. As Assistant Organist of Westminster Abbey (2008 - 2011) he played at many state occasions including the 2011 Royal Wedding. Recent highlights include solo recital at the Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles) and a subsequent concerto debut with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under Esa Pekka Salonen in the LA Phil’s Reykjavik Festival. He also led the first performance of *Music in 12 Parts* by Philip Glass by anyone other than the composer’s own Ensemble at London’s Barbican Centre.

**Sara Mohr-Pietsch** is a music broadcaster, writer, presenter and curator. She presents Choir & Organ, Music Matters, Hear & Now and live concerts on BBC Radio 3, and curates and hosts Open Ear (Radio 3’s new music showcase). She also presents the BBC Proms on Radio 3, BBCFOUR and BBC World Service. She has written for publications including The Guardian, Huffington Post and BBC Music Magazine. She hosts pre-concert events for a variety of festivals and venues including the Royal Opera House, Barbican and Southbank Centre. She works closely as an advisor with Garsington Opera, Spitalfields Music, NMC Recordings and PRS Foundation.

**Qasim Naqvi** is a drummer, composer of chamber and electronic music, and member of the American acoustic ensemble Dawn of Midi. He also composes music for film, dance, theatre and chamber ensembles domestically and abroad. Qasim’s soundtracks and arrangements for film have appeared on HBO, NBC, PBS, The Sundance Channel, along with several prominent arts festivals and award ceremonies. He is a
2016 N.Y.F.A Fellow in Music and Sound and has received other fellowships and awards from Chamber Music America, Harvest Works, S.T.E.I.M. and Art OMI.

Pauline Oliveros was an American composer and improvisational accordionist, and one of the early pioneers of experimental music created through new technologies. Her work explored the difference between the involuntary nature of hearing and the active nature of listening, which led her to coin the ‘deep listening’ concept. She developed the idea of listening as ritual, healing, and meditation, founding the Deep Listening Institute and the Deep Listening Band, with whom she collaborated on several ground-breaking albums as an accordionist.

Max Richter has been described as the most influential composer of his generation. His award-winning work includes concert music, film scoring and a series of acclaimed solo albums, but he is also a pianist, producer, remixer, and collaborator, and beyond argument one of the most prolific of contemporary music artists. He is best known for his genre-defining and highly influential solo albums; blending a classical repertoire with contemporary digital music production, he was a driving creative force for the ‘neo-classical’ movement. Over 50 films featuring Max’s work and specifically written scores include Waltz with Bashir (for which Max was awarded the European Film Prize) and Shutter Island. Theatre productions include Alan Cumming’s Macbeth on Broadway, and the National Theatre of Scotland’s internationally lauded Black Watch. Ballets include his many collaborative ventures with Wayne McGregor, with his works also being used by others including Nederlands Dans Teatre, Lucinda Childs, New York City Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, Dresden Semper Oper and Northern Ballet.

stargaze is a network of multi-talented, classically-trained European musicians and their artistic leader, André de Ridder. In addition to operating as an orchestral collective, they also initiate collaborations and projects in contemporary pop, electronic and classical music, as well as programming concerts with compositions introducing different facets of today’s music to new audiences. Their repertoire, includes compositions by David Lang, Sufjan Stevens, Richie Parry (Arcade Fire), Qasim Naqvi and their own renditions of Steve Reich’s Music for Pieces of Wood and Boards of Canada’s HI SCORES, as well as starting a series of re-interpretations of Terry Riley’s In C, performing it with Nils Frahm, Matthew Herbert, Tyondai Braxton, Mouse on Mars and Riley himself. Other projects have included curating and performing the BBC Proms’ Tribute Concert for David Bowie in 2016 and recording part of Bryce Dessner’s compositions for the film The Revenant.

Shapla Salique was raised in East London and is one of Britain’s most successful British-Bangladeshi artists, known for her incredibly powerful voice. Her edgy, acoustic, singer-songwriter style is deeply rooted in the Bengali folk Baul tradition, which she carries forward, experimenting with western instruments and jazz and funk influences. Her soulful sound has captivated audiences worldwide, from a TEDX event broadcast from London’s Queen Elizabeth Hall to international tours from Canada to Italy.

Josephine Stephenson is an accomplished composer and soprano. Her music has been performed by classical, contemporary and experimental musicians and ensembles throughout the UK and France, including being broadcast on BBC Radio and television. Along with writing music for theatre companies and for film, she collaborates with songwriters and bands. She wrote three orchestral arrangements for the David Bowie Prom in 2016. She is an Artistic Director and resident composer of the London-based concert production company Listenpony, which puts on events mixing contemporary classical music with traditional classical music and popular styles.

Aart Strootman is a Dutch composer, guitarist and luthier. He founded minimal-chamber-metal band TEMKO and regularly plays guitar with ensembles Lunatree, Klang and stargaze. As a soloist he has played recitals in diverse venues from the Barbican Hall to local museums, with the New York Philharmonic and the Radio Orchestra of Hessischer Rundfunk. Most of these concerts are given on homemade instruments developed via elaborate collaborations with composers (including an 8-string guitar made for Steve Reich). As a composer he has worked with Dutch theatre collective EELT and written music for a large range of genres from dance/ electronic bands to classical ensembles, along with numerous plays.
The Hermes Experiment is an ensemble of four young professional musicians passionate about contemporary and experimental music, inspired to create something innovative and unique. Based in London, The Hermes Experiment comprises Héloïse Werner (soprano), Oliver Pashley (clarinet), Marianne Schofield (double bass) and Anne Denholm (harp). It is co-directed by Héloïse Werner and Hanna Grzeskiewicz. Capitalising on their deliberately idiosyncratic combination of instruments, the ensemble regularly commissions new works, as well as creating their own innovative arrangements and venturing into live free improvisation. So far, the ensemble has commissioned 40 composers at various stages of their careers, and themselves perform regularly across the city for organisations including Nonclassical, Kammerklang, Listenpony and Bastard Assignments. Recent highlights include a showcase performance at Tallinn Music Week 2017 and the ensemble’s debuts at London’s Kings Place and Southbank Centre.

Anna Thorvaldsdottir is a prominent Icelandic composer, whose work conjures entire environments of sound with an enigmatic lyrical atmosphere, reflecting her sense of imaginative listening to landscapes and nature. Her music is frequently performed internationally and her works have been nominated and awarded on many occasions - most notably, Anna is the recipient of the prestigious Nordic Council Music Prize 2012 for her work Dreaming, and The New York Philharmonic’s Kravis Emerging Composer Award in 2015.

Mark Titchner is a critically acclaimed visual artist working across a wide range of media including sculpture, video, music, sound, performance, murals and large-scale print. Focusing on an exploration of words and language, in recent years much of his production has been based in the public realm. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2006 and his work was showcased in the 2007 Venice Biennale at the Ukraine Pavilion. Solo exhibitions of his work have since been presented all over the world. Current projects include working as Lead Artist for As you change so do I, an evolving three year public art project based in the artist’s home town of Luton and What I want more than anything else, a public art project working with young people in the towns of Hull, Wigan and Burnley.

Nik Colk Void is an experimental electronic artist and producer. She is part of London’s electronic dance trio Factory Floor, known as one of the most exciting and truly alternative acts and notorious for their improvisational live shows. In 2011 she joined forces with leading luminaries Cosey Fanni Tutti and Chris Carter; together they perform as Carter Tutti Void and have released two critically acclaimed albums. Further collaborations include at the ICA (her year-long residency saw her curate performances that actively sit at the intersection between art and music), Tate Modern’s Turbine Hall (where she created a midi score for an immersive experience challenging perception of time and space) and currently works with sound artist Klara Lewis (their recent performance at Kammer Klang was broadcast on BBC Radio 3).

LISTINGS

Shoreditch Church, Shoreditch High Street, E1 6JN
Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Rd, E1 6LA
Huguenot Houses of Spitalfields, Meeting point to be revealed

Access
Wheelchair access is available in most of our venues. If you have specific access requirements please email access@spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk
Unfortunately we are unable to provide wheelchair access to Schumann Street and East End Speed Histories.

How to book
Online: spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk
Phone: 020 7377 1362 (Mon – Fri, 10am – 6pm)

Concessions
Under 30s: 20% off
Jobseekers: 20% off
Disabled and limited mobility: Free companion ticket

Offers
**Festival Saver**
Book three or more events and get 10% off.

**No Strings Attached**
If you live in Tower Hamlets and have never been to one of our events before, you can claim a pair of free tickets. Call 020 7377 1362 for more information.

For full terms and conditions of booking please visit [www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk/your-visit](http://www.spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk/your-visit)

**House of Monteverdi**
Shoreditch Church | Saturday 2 December | 5pm
Tickets: £10-£55

**East End Speed Histories: Tales Less Told**
Mystery Location | Sunday 3 December | 2 & 4pm
Tickets: £10

**Classic Album Sundays Presents**
**Recomposed by Max Richter: Vivaldi - The Four Seasons**
Shoreditch Church | Monday 4 December | 7pm
Tickets: £9-£15

**Musical Rumpus: Fogonogo**
Rich Mix | Monday 4 & Wednesday 6 December | 11am & 1.30pm
Ages 0 – 2 ½
Tickets: £8 per child, £2 accompanying adult, £5 per additional adult

**Platform: Electric Counterpoint**
Shoreditch Church | Tuesday 5 December | 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Tickets: Free, booking required

**Hyperchromatic Counterpoint**
Shoreditch Church | Tuesday 5 December | 8.30pm
Tickets: £10-£22

**Renegade New Classical: Daniel Brandt, Nik Colk Void**
Shoreditch Church | Wednesday 6 December | 8.30pm
Tickets: £10-£28

**These Two Wars: In Focus**
Shoreditch Church | Thursday 7 December | 7pm
Tickets: £12

**Schumann Street: Reimagined**
Rich Mix | Friday 8 December | 2pm
Tickets: Free

**In the Light of Air**
Shoreditch Church | Friday 8 December | 8pm & 1.15am
Tickets: £28

**Schumann Street**
Huguenot Houses of Spitalfields | Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 December | 5pm & 7.30pm
Tickets: £35

**There will be two wars (songs of love and war)**
Shoreditch Church | Saturday 2 - Sunday 10 December | Exhibition hours on website

**Sara Mohr-Pietsch presents: SMF17 Podcast Series**
Taking place throughout the festival

**Spitalfields Music Festival**
2-10 December 2017
spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk
@spitsmusic