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PRS for Music Foundation announces New Music Biennial Composer Residencies and Minute of Listening in Hull as part of UK City of Culture 2017

- **Five New Music Biennial composers will work with local groups and communities in Hull between now and next summer**
- **The composers and communities will take part in a big joint performance at the New Music Biennial festival weekend in Hull 30th June – 2nd July 2017**
- **New Music Biennial Minute of Listening featuring tracks from New Music Biennial composers and sounds from Hull, will run in schools between October 2016 and March 2018**

PRS for Music Foundation announces today (*Monday 12th September 2016*) the Composer Residencies and Minute of Listening strands of the **New Music Biennial 2017**, which supports and provides a platform for talented organisations and music creators who are pushing the boundaries of new music in the UK. **Part of Hull UK City of Culture 2017**, these two exciting additional projects will involve local residents, community groups and primary schools across Hull in the creation and performance of new music in the city, over the next two years.

The **New Music Biennial Composer Residencies** will kick off in September 2016 to give local communities in Hull the chance to spend time and create music with five of the New Music Biennial's brilliant music creators, folk legends **Sam Lee** and **Eliza Carthy**, classical composers **Errollyn Wallen** and **Brian Irvine** and beatbox/electronic artist **Jason Singh**.

The Composer Residencies will continue beyond July 2017 with local student music leaders mentored by New Music Biennial composers.

New Music Biennial - Minute of Listening is a special edition of Sound and Music's digital learning tool, which provides primary school classes and other groups the opportunity to listen to and reflect on 60 seconds of music or sound every day. Minute of Listening will feature 'minutes' by New Music Biennial composers, as well as unique sounds of the city of Hull. This highly innovative project will mean that local schools and community groups in Hull will have the chance to be more deeply engaged in the music and sounds of the New Music Biennial, throughout the whole year.

The New Music Biennial Minute of Listening will run in parallel with the residencies until 2018.

The New Music Biennial Minute of Listening will be officially launched on 18th October 2016 and is available to schools now on request please contact: education@soundandmusic.org

Vanessa Reed Executive Director of PRS for Music Foundation said, *"We're delighted to bring the Composer Residencies and this special edition of Minute of Listening to Hull as part of the New Music Biennial 2017. Both initiatives will play a significant role in the build up to Hull UK City of Culture festivities in 2017 and beyond. The residencies will add an exciting opportunity for local communities, groups and schools in Hull to participate not only in the Festival weekends in 2017 but in the creation and performance of new music with some of the UK's most talented composers. In addition, the Minute of Listening gives primary school children a fantastic opportunity to explore new music and sound as part of their daily learning activities in schools."*

Martin Green, CEO and Director of Hull 2017 commented: *"A key ambition for Hull 2017 is seeing as many people in every neighbourhood having the opportunity to participate in a variety of cultural activity across the city. The New Music Biennial Composer Residencies and Minute of Listening programme is a chance for local groups and schoolchildren to make or listen to music by highly respected musicians. It has an important part to play in our learning and participation programme and we hope it will unleash their creativity and develop their passion for music for years to come."*

Susanna Eastburn, CEO of Sound and Music said, *"Minute of Listening is a powerful tool for listeners of all ages, including those with no specialist music training, to explore and reflect on the rich variety of new music and sound. We're delighted to be working with the New Music Biennial 2017 to create a special edition for Hull and have already had a lot of fun in curating the first pack of sounds. Creative listening to music and sound can be a transformative experience, as well as a way to explore unfamiliar repertoire, and we are really looking forward to seeing how this project unfolds, and its impact and legacy across the city."*

PRS for Music Foundation's **New Music Biennial** is an exciting and free new music festival, presenting 20 pieces of new music across two festival weekends, in Hull as part of **UK City of Culture 2017** (30th June – 2nd July 2017), and at London's Southbank Centre (7th – 9th July 2017). The New Music Biennial will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3.

Find out more about the New Music Biennial Composer Residencies, Minute of Listening and the festival weekends at www.newmusicbiennial.co.uk.

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Notes to Editors:

About New Music Biennial

PRS for Music Foundation's New Music Biennial and residency programme is generously supported by Hull UK City of Culture, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Arts Council England, BBC Radio 3, Southbank Centre, 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.

www.newmusicbiennial.co.uk

The New Music Biennial Minute of Listening programme is delivered in partnership with Sound and Music and is generously supported by PRS Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Arts Council England.

About PRS for Music Foundation

PRS for Music Foundation is the UK's leading charitable funder of new music and talent development across all genres. Since 2000 PRS for Music 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 for Music 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

About Sound and Music

Sound and Music is the national charity for new music in the UK. ***Our mission is to maximise the opportunities for people to create and enjoy new music.***

Our work includes composer and artist development, partnerships with a range of organisations, audience development, touring, information and advice, network building, and education. We champion new music and the work of British composers and artists, and seek to ensure that they are at the heart of cultural life and enjoyed by many. www.soundandmusic.org

About Hull UK City of Culture 2017

Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. Hull is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England. The vision of the Hull 2017 Culture Company, the delivery organisation of the project, is "to deliver 365 days of transformative culture in 2017 through a range of diverse and high-profile events and projects". Following on from the Olympics and Paralympics, Commonwealth Games and the Tour de France in Yorkshire, Hull 2017 is the next major event in the nation's cultural calendar.

The Culture Company is an independent organisation with charitable status, funded both publicly and privately. It has an £18m funding target, with key contributions coming from: Principal Partners - Arts Council England, BBC, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, Hull City Council, KCOM, KWL, National Lottery Fund, Spirit of 2012, University of Hull and Yorkshire Water. Major Partners – Arco, Associated British Ports, Big Lottery Fund, BP, British Council, Hull CCG, MKM Building Supplies, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Smith and Nephew and Wykeland Group.

Hull 2017's International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull).

The PRS for Music Foundation New Music Biennial Composer Residencies and Minute of Listening strands complement and link to Hull 2017's Learning and Participation Programme,

which aims to engage all children's and young people as participation in Hull's year as UK City of Culture. More details about the learning programme will be announced in October.

Useful links for background information on Hull, the UK City of Culture bid and the UK City of Culture programme:

1. www.hull2017.co.uk
2. www.visithullandeastyorkshire.com
3. www.gov.uk/government/policies/supporting-vibrant-and-sustainable-arts-and-culture/supporting-pages/uk-city-of-culture-programme