

FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

THE
LAST
SEVEN
YEARS

JAY
BERNARD

FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER at 7.30PM

**Jay Bernard
The Last Seven Years**

**“How to speak
together and apart?”**

**How to transmit
the lessons learned?**

**How to ease
the longing heart?”**

– Jay Bernard

BOLD TENDENCIES

For one night only Jay Bernard presents an experimental performance informed by the voices of people across the UK who opened up to the artist about the last seven years.

In collaboration with Musarc, one of the UK's foremost experimental choirs, and multi-instrumentalist Petero Kalulé (petals), this performance presents memories of people across the UK from the post-Brexit landscape, and thoughts on how they and the country have changed. Performed and devised by Elizabeth Chan, Ilenia Cipollari, Jeni Be, Joseph Kohlmaier, Loren McK, Petero Kalulé (petals), Raphel Famotibe, Rozhina Ghasemizadeh, Serena Braidà, Temitope Ajose and Thomas Boudier.

The performance takes place in the Straw Auditorium, designed by Practice Architecture and first built from barley straw in 2010, it provides a warm intimate space with seating in the round. Simply constructed from agricultural bales, it offers a soft punctuation in the otherwise hard and open concrete expanses of the original car park. The space was one of Bold Tendencies first architectural commissions.

The Last Seven Years, presented in collaboration with Bold Tendencies, is a prelude to a forthcoming digital commission by Artangel.

Jay Bernard (FRSL) – they/them – is a multidisciplinary writer and artist from London whose work is rooted in social histories. Jay was named Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year 2020 and winner of the 2017 Ted Hughes Award for their first collection, *Surge*, a queer exploration of the archives surrounding the 1981 New Cross Fire. Recent work includes *Joint*, a poetic-play about the history of joint enterprise; *Crystals of this Social Substance*, a sound installation at the Serpentine pavilion in which eight young people explore the concept of money; *Complicity*, a pamphlet that explores the changing face of London via the Tate collection, and *You Are Invited Back to the Land*, a graphic intervention displayed in Tate Britain's 1980s gallery. Jay received a 2022-23 DAAD literature fellowship in Berlin and a 2023-24 fellowship at the Institute for Ideas and Imagination.

Joseph Kohlmaier – he/him – is the founder of Musarc and has acted as Creative Director for the ensemble since 2008. Joseph's interdisciplinary practice, which brings together performance, research and teaching, curatorial projects, design, and publishing, has been a driving force in the development of the choir and the foundation of its open, experimental, and research-led approach. Joseph is Associate Professor in Critical and Contextual Studies at the School Art, Architecture and Design, London Metropolitan University, and the Founding Director of graphic design practice Polimekanos (2001–2020).

Petero Kalulé (petals) – she/they – is a composer, poet, and multi-instrumentalist living on the hidden river Effra in London; she is the author of *Kalimba* (Guillemot Press), *Marsh-River-Raft-Feather* (Guillemot Press, co-authored with Clarissa Álvarez), and forthcoming new manuscript & *glee & bless*. Find their music on bandcamp.

Elizabeth Chan – she/her – is a performer and writer. Her work spans stage, screen, dance, radio, video games, audiobooks and art installations. Selected performance credits include

Chimerica (Almeida/West End), *Macbeth*, *Light Shining in Buckinghamshire* (National Theatre), *Dear Elizabeth* (Gate), *The Letters Project* (writer and performer, Gate), and *Henry IV* (Donmar Warehouse). She has most recently collaborated as writer and performer with Musarc member Sam Belinfante on a short film for the Sir John Soane's Museum and is working on a film trilogy based around land, language and belonging. She was awarded a London Writers Award in 2021 and a Clore Fellowship 2022.

Ilenia Cipollari – she/her – is an actor and singer with expertise in physical theatre and choral singing. She collaborated with the multi-instrumentalist African musician Sona Jobarteh, the male polyphonic ensemble A Filetta, the jazz singer Anna Maria Jopek, composer Jennifer Walshe, and musician Neil Luck, to name a few. Selected performances include the International Festival of Chamber Music in San Paulo (Brazil), Yale Repertory Theatre's NO BOUNDARIES performance series, Yale University (USA), Tbilisi International Theater Festival (Georgia), Battersea Arts Center (London), Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Scotland), at several editions of BRAVE festival in Wrocław, and many venues throughout Poland and Italy. With a practice-based PhD scholarship at UAL (2027), London, she will conduct an inquiry into how questions of care, connection, and shared intimacy intersect in contemporary live music performance. Member of Musarc experimental choir since 2019.

Jeni Be – she/her – creates and collaborates to connect; her practice seeks to disrupt and imagine alternatives to the current state of things. Drawing on asset-based community development, punk DIY philosophy and deep listening practice, her work reflects her belief in the power of art to create beautiful change together, in partnership. Interwoven and alongside her artistic practice, she works in child rights advocacy and programming for the UN and, occasionally, in film production. Jeni is experienced in appreciating the natural voice and exploring ways to approach and enjoy collective singing and

performance. She has received tuition in extended vocal technique, the operatic voice, enhanced creative facilitation and influence & rapport with audiences, including through Meredith Monk's The House Foundation. She sings and performs with Musarc, with her queer fam F*Choir, on her bike and with bands such as Jenny Moore's Mystic Business and Trash Kit. Jeni writes poetry and sometimes shares it.

Loren Mck – they/she – is an artist and writer based in the UK who is building their practice around community, queerness and conversation. Their movement and performance practice has most recently seen them share “let's ride” at Duckie and solo “Lesbian Dance Theory: part 1” at Resolution 2023. Loren is interested in performing works which articulate experiences and help us better understand, uplift or challenge the communities we navigate within.

Raphel Famotibe - he/him- is an artist from South East London. Actor who graduated from RADA 2021. Recently wrote and put on a production called *I Love Acting But Fuck This Industry* at Theatre Peckham. Life activist and sports fanatic.

Rozhina Ghasemizadeh - she/her - is an artist, musician, and writer from Iran. She did her first theatre performance when she was 13 years old. She was a part of various collectives and had different theatre performances in Tehran, Wrocław and London. She loves street performing and this started with a street theatre performance in Wrocław, Poland. This is how she describes street performing: "Street performance makes theatre and music accessible for everybody and the audiences don't necessarily choose to be there to watch my performance, this makes the experience a very unique one. Theatre is not only about performers, but also about the audience and the magical connection they have with the performers."

Serena Braida - she/her - works in voice, text and performance, exploring the interrelations between the materiality of language

and the body, with a focus on reading aloud as editorial and generative practice and on poetics of breath. A chorister from the age of 6, she has performed extensively and studied jazz and experimental singing before earning her MFA in Voice Studies. She has given solo and collaborative performances at the European Poetry Festival: Ireland, Christie's Lates, SLANT: Voiceworks and the Bucharest International Poetry Festival, among others.

Temitope Ajose - she/her - has staged works at venues such as The Royal Opera House, The Place, DanceXchange, RichMix, Dancebase and the Soho Joyce (New York). As a dancer Temitope has worked with Punchdrunk, Director Carrie Cracknell at The Gate Theatre and The National, Theo Clinkard, Protein Dance Company, Lea Anderson, Joe Moran, Seke Chimutengwende, and Lost Dog to name a few. She performs for visual artists Florence Peake, Adelaide Cioni and Megan Rooney. Temitope also engages in movement direction (Old Vic and National Theatre) and for artist Megan Rooney on her solo shows, at Kunsthalle Germany, Salzburg Kunstverein and The Lyon Biennale. Temitope continues to make her own work, *My Name is my Own*, at The Southbank with director Jo Tyabji in collaboration with critically acclaimed writer Jay Bernard. And her solo work *Lady M* (at home with Lady Macbeth) commissioned by The Place, which premiered May 2023.

Thomas Boudier - he/him/they - was born in France, studied how to be an agronomist and an engineer, and moved to Britain 8 years ago, just before the general election in 2015 that eventually led to Brexit. He went to Cours Florent drama school in Paris, then to RADA in London, and he's been a member of Musarc for the past couple of years. He's just got naturalised as a Brit. He's quite preoccupied by the climate catastrophe, the current stage of capitalism, various threats to queer rights, and the rise of nationalism. He enjoys a bike ride, a hike in the woods or through cities, a trip to the theatre, cooking and eating, playing the piano, and overthinking.

BOLD TENDENCIES

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Radford Nicholls - Camera Operator
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Final Live Events of the Season

Saturday 2 September at 7.30pm

Philip Glass: The Complete Piano Etudes

Maki Namekawa & James McVinnie

Thursday 7 September at 7.30pm

Jeneba Kanneh-Mason

Music by Shostakovich, Beethoven, Franz Liszt, Florence Price

Friday 8 September at 7.30pm

Isata Kanneh-Mason

Music by Haydn, Fanny Mendelssohn, Schumann, Chopin

Sunday 10 September at 6pm

Derek Jarman: Modern Nature

Directed by **James Dacre**, Derek Jarman's Prospect Cottage diaries are read live by **Giles Terera** and **Samuel Barnett** alongside original audio recordings made specially by **Tilda Swinton**, **Jessie Buckley** and **Valgeir Sigurðsson** and music by **Donna McKeivitt**, **Max Richter** and **Benjamin Britten**, performed live by singer **Jessica Walker**, pianist **Joseph Atkins** and cellist **Rosie Banks-Francis** with sound design by **David Gregory**.

Wednesday 13 September at 7.30pm

The Bittersweet Review

Amelia Abraham, Jordan/Martin Hell, Donna Marcus Duke

Saturday 16 September at 7.30pm

Gustav Mahler: Symphony No. 1 "Titan"

Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Elena Schwarz

Upcoming Free Creative Learning Sessions

Made possible by the generous support of the Mila Trust.

Thursday 7 September at 1pm

Backstage Pass: Jeneba Kanneh-Mason

Delve into the worlds of Dmitri Shostakovich, Beethoven, Franz Liszt and Florence Price through the magical work of pianist Jeneba Kanneh-Mason. Following a short performance, there will be a Q&A offering an opportunity to gain insight into Jeneba's journey, ideas and career as a professional musician.

Friday 8 September at 1pm

Backstage Pass: Isata Kanneh-Mason

Award-winning pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason will animate the lower levels through a special performance for local school groups. This session will be followed by a facilitated Q&A, offering insight into her world-renowned practice and the music she plays.

Saturday 16 September at 1pm

Backstage Pass: Philharmonia Orchestra

An interactive workshop led by Philharmonia's musicians and Teddy Prout, the Orchestra's Learning & Participation Manager. This session will deep dive into Mahler's First Symphony through participatory activities, actions and performances. This session is aimed at senior groups based in Southwark.

Saturday 16 September at 3pm

Public Rehearsal: Gustav Mahler: Symphony No.1

An informal and relaxed opportunity to hear live the emotionally powerful work of Gustav Mahler, performed by the vast forces of the Philharmonia Orchestra. This session is open to anyone who faces barriers to attending the evening performance and/or is curious to see, hear and experience an orchestra in action, at work.

BOLD TENDENCIES

We need your help!

Every year we fundraise to keep our programme thriving and to keep tickets affordable. This means ticket sales only cover about 5% of our costs. Every donation, however big or small, has a major impact and helps us to do more and better. Donations can be made on-site and on-line on our website.

Huge thanks to our 2023 Supporters

Southwark Council, Art Fund, Selfridges, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Phillips, The Mila Charitable Organisation, Genesis Kickstart Fund, Outset Partners, Steinway & Sons, Southby Productions, Vanguardia, Big Issue Access Invest, CMS-CMNO, Hallett Independent Art Insurance, Think Smart Accounts, and all those individuals who have generously donated.

About Bold Tendencies

Bold Tendencies is a non-profit arts organisation started in 2007 in Peckham, London. Bold Tendencies supports artists to develop their ideas and to realise site-specific projects and present live performances from its rooftop home, Peckham's Multi-Storey Car Park. Bold Tendencies celebrates the free enjoyment of public space in the city, welcoming participation in its rich, experimental programme and preserving open access to this special, spectacular place.