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Barbican announces Aoife O'Donovan with Guildhall Session Orchestra and Choir and extra performance for Nils Frahm

**Aoife O'Donovan with Guildhall Session Orchestra
+ Music Centre London Session Choir, and conductor Eric Jacobsen**

Tues 18 June 2024, 7.30pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets from £20 plus booking fee

GRAMMY Award-winning American singer-songwriter **Aoife O'Donovan** makes her Barbican Hall debut with a musical event 100 years in the making, joined by the **Guildhall Session Orchestra**, the **Music Centre London Session Choir** and conductor **Eric Jacobsen**.

A century after winning the right to vote, Aoife O'Donovan asks how much has really changed for American women? This question lies at the heart of O'Donovan's upcoming album *All My Friends* (March 22, 2024, Yep Roc Records) which she will be performing at the Barbican in June this year. Inspired by the passage of the 19th amendment and the evolving landscape of women's rights in America over the past century, O'Donovan artfully draws on speeches and letters by suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt to write new, original songs infused with modern perspective and her own experiences as a woman and mother. Amidst a lush, genre-blurring soundscape featuring brass, orchestra, girls' choir, and O'Donovan's own "stunning" (Rolling Stone) voice.

Aoife O'Donovan's music radiates a timeless charm and contemporary allure and she returns now to the Barbican following a sold-out performance at Milton Court Concert Hall in 2022. Born in Newton, Massachusetts, Aoife (pronounced EE-fa) began her musical journey at a young age, eventually blossoming into a celebrated artist known for her captivating vocals and heartfelt compositions. With widespread recognition gained as a founding member of the progressive folk band Crooked Still, her trio supergroup I'm With Her with Sara Watkins and Sarah Jarosz and as a collaborator with renowned artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, Chris Thile and Stuart Duncan, O'Donovan's solo career has since flourished, marked by critically-acclaimed albums like *In the Magic Hour* and 2022's three-time GRAMMY-nominated *Age of Apathy*.

Produced by the Barbican

[Find out more](#)

Nils Frahm – *Music For London*

Thu 11 – Sun 14 July 2024, 8pm + matinee performances Sat-Sun 13-14 Jul 2024, 3pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets £30 – 40 plus booking fee

Berlin-based pianist, composer and producer **Nils Frahm** returns to the Barbican in **July 2024** for a **four-night residency**. He will bring his new *Music For London* project – part of a worldwide tour in which each show is dedicated to each city – presenting brand-new material that moves between the worlds of experimental, neo-classical, ambient and electronica.

Nils Frahm's unconventional approach to an age-old instrument, the piano, played contemplatively and intimately, and his sonic alchemy of ambient textures and atmospheric electronica, has won him many fans around the world. He is both an exceptional instrumentalist and a fascinating live musician who has toured extensively. His albums have garnered international acclaim from critics and audiences alike, and his live shows regularly sell out.

Nils Frahm's breakthrough album *Felt* was released on Erased Tapes Records in 2011, which was followed by a series of solo releases including *Spaces* in 2013 and *All Melody* in 2018. Nils has also recently launched his own label LEITER with his manager Felix Grimm – and during the Covid-19 lockdown, they released *Old Friends New Friends*, a selection of solo piano tracks from twelve years of his archives.

In 2015, Frahm launched *Piano Day* (taking place on the 88th day of each year), an official global body created with his closest friends to celebrate the piano via various innovative, piano-related projects and concerts around the world. That same year, Frahm's first film score release, *Music For The Motion Picture Victoria* written for the one-take feature film by Sebastian Schipper, won the esteemed German Film Prize for Best Soundtrack. Other film work includes a collaborative score with Woodkid for *Ellis*, a short film by French artist JR featuring Robert De Niro, as well as contributions to James Gray's *Ad Astra* starring Brad Pitt and Julian Rosefeldt's *Manifesto* with Cate Blanchett. In December 2020, he released the concert film *Tripping with Nils Frahm*.

Nils Frahm made his Barbican debut in October 2014, presenting music from his *Spaces* album to a sold-out Barbican Hall audience. He has since returned to play in 2016 (as part of *Possibly Colliding*, his curated marathon weekend of music, film and art) and across three nights in 2018 as part of his *All Melody* tour. The relationship between Frahm and the Barbican continues through the upcoming live performances of his worldwide tour of *Music For* in 2024.

New performances on sale to Barbican Members at 10am Wed 10 Jan

New performances on sale to public at 10am Fri 12 Jan

Produced by the Barbican in association with Bird on the Wire

[Find out more](#)

BARBICAN PROMOTIONS COMING UP IN 2024

- The Milk Carton Kids ([Fri 19 Jan 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Michael Rother Plays NEU!, Harmonia & Solo Works ([Sat 3 Feb 2024, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- L'Rain ([Wed 21 February 2024, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Third Coast Percussion ([Thu 22 February 2024, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Sebastian Mullaert: Circle of Live – In Concert ([Sat 24 Feb 2024, Barbican Hall 7.30pm](#))
- Songlines @25 ([Mon 25 Mar 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Mew and Danish Chamber Orchestra ([Wed 3 Apr 2024, Barbican Hall, 7pm](#))
- Max Cooper: Seme ([Thu 4 – Fri 5 Apr 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Anoushka Shankar ([Sat 6 Apr 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Jenny Hval: *I Want to Be a Machine* ([Wed 10 – Sat 13 Apr 2024, The Pit, 8pm](#))
- Lila Downs ([Fri 12 Apr 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Colin Stetson: Hereditary + London Contemporary Orchestra ([Thu 25 Apr 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Travels Over Feeling: The Music of Arthur Russell ([Sat 25 May 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- An Intimate Piano Performance from Lambchop ([Sat 1 Jun 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Erland Cooper: Carve the Runes Then Be Content With Silence ([Sat 8 Jun 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **NEW:** Aoife O'Donovan with Guildhall Session Orchestra ([Tues 18 Jun 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Nils Frahm – *Music For London* ([Thu 11 – Sun 14 Jul 2024, Barbican Hall, 8pm + matinee performance Sat-Sun 13-14 Jul 2024, 3pm](#))
- Cornelius ([Fri 6 Sep 2024, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))

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Notes to Editors

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All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room

About the Barbican

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We are the home of the London Symphony Orchestra, and a London base of the Royal Shakespeare Company. We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other partners and associates: the Academy of Ancient Music, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Boy Blue, Britten Sinfonia, Cheek by Jowl, Drum Works, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and We Are Parable.

For more information, visit our [website](#) or connect with us on [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Spotify](#) | [LinkedIn](#)