

JUST ANNOUNCED

Alfa Mist

Sat 4 Dec 2021, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm

Tickets £17.50 – 22.50 plus booking fee

East London producer, pianist, bandleader and one of the key players in the UK's young and vibrant jazz reformation scene, **Alfa Mist** makes his Barbican debut this December alongside his band. He will be presenting new material from his fourth solo album **Bring Backs** (out on ANTI on 23 April 2021), which reveals a detailed exploration of his upbringing in musical form.

The album's nine tracks of groove-based intricacies, lyrical solipsism and meandering fragmentations are tied together by a poem written by Hilary Thomas expressing the sensuous realities of building community in a new country. The album's title refers to an aspect of a card game Alfa would play as a child.

First producing beats whilst at school in East Ham, Alfa Mist later discovered jazz inspired by the sample culture of hip-hop producers such as Hi-tek, Madlib and J Dilla. Delving deeper, he taught himself to play the piano by ear as a means to dissect these formative records' harmonic intricacies. He gradually arrived at his own production style of hip-hop rhythms combined with the immediacy of jazz improvisation, all tied together with a pervasive sense of melody.

"There's no access to jazz where I'm from," Alfa says. "There's no way I would have come to it without finding those hip-hop records and wanting to understand them."

This performance is subject to government guidelines.

Produced by the Barbican

On sale to Barbican patrons and members on Thursday 15 April 2021

On general sale on Friday 16 April 2021

[Find out more](#)

The Barbican believes in creating space for people and ideas to connect through its international arts programme, community events and learning activity. To keep its programme accessible to everyone, and to keep investing in the artists it works with, the Barbican needs to raise more than 60% of its income through ticket sales, commercial activities and fundraising every year. Donations can be made here:

barbican.org.uk/donate.

COMING UP SOON

[Live from the Barbican](#) in spring/summer 2021 features:

- British artist, composer & songwriter **Moses Boyd** performs material from his new Mercury nominated album *Dark Matter* ([Sun 18 Apr](#))
- Barbican Associate Orchestra **BBC Symphony Orchestra** under conductor **Alpesh Chauhan** with BBC New Generation Artist, viola player **Timothy Ridout** with music from across three centuries inspired by Scotland ([Sun 25 Apr](#))
- Barbican Resident Orchestra, the **London Symphony Orchestra** and Music Director **Sir Simon Rattle** perform Mahler's song symphony *Das Lied von der Erde* with mezzo-soprano **Magdalena Kožená** and tenor **Andrew Staples** ([Sun 9 May](#))
- Barbican Associate Orchestra, the **BBC Symphony Orchestra**, and its Creative Artist in Association **Jules Buckley** and guest artists will be joined by legendary singer-songwriter **Paul Weller** for a concert reimagining Weller's work, including new material, in stunning orchestral settings in what will be Weller's first live performance in two years ([Sat 15 May](#))

- British folk legend **Shirley Collins** returns to the Centre following the release of her latest album *Heart's Ease* ([Sun 23 May](#))
- **Kate Stables's** band **This is The Kit** present their new album *Off Off On* ([Sun 30 May](#))
- **Errollyn Wallen's** new opera *Dido's Ghost* – framing Purcell's original opera *Dido and Aeneas* within a haunting story from Ovid, with libretto by **Wesley Stace** – receives its **World Premiere** performance as part of *Live from the Barbican* this summer ([Sun 6 Jun](#))
- Barbican Associate Ensemble **Britten Sinfonia** and **Thomas Adès** present the **UK Premiere** of Adès's *Shanty – Over the Sea* to mark the composer's 50th birthday ([Thu 10 Jun](#))
- **12 Ensemble** are joined on stage by **Jonny Greenwood** and **Anna Meredith**, performing in their own works ([Sat 19 Jun](#))
- Barbican Associate Ensemble **Academy of Ancient Music** and Music Director **Richard Egarr** perform **Vivaldi's Four Seasons** with renowned baroque violinist **Rachel Podger** ([Sun 27 Jun](#))
- Spoken word performer **George the Poet** presents his innovative brand of musical poetry ([Thu 1 Jul](#))
- A duo recital from **Sheku** and **Isata Kanneh-Mason** featuring music by Bridge, Britten and Rachmaninov ([Sun 4 Jul](#))
- **GoGo Penguin** present material from their 2020 self-titled album, and back-catalogue ([Sat 10 Jul](#))
- English singer, songwriter and musician **Nadine Shah** and band perform material from her new, critically acclaimed album *Kitchen Sink* ([Sun 18 Jul](#))

All concerts as part of *Live from the Barbican* in spring/summer 2021 will be **streamed live from the Barbican Hall** on a pay-per-view basis, with live audiences in the Hall from Mon 17 May, if permitted by Government guidance. **In-person tickets** will go on sale to Barbican patrons on Wednesday 21 April, Barbican members on Thursday 22 April and will be on general sale from Friday 23 April 2021.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Barbican Box Office: 0845 120 7550
www.barbican.org.uk

Press Information

For any further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact the Barbican's music communications team:

Annikaisa Vainio-Miles, Senior Communications Manager

t - +44 (0)20 7382 7090
 e – annikaisa.vainio-miles@barbican.org.uk

Sabine Kindel, Communications Manager

t - +44 (0)20 7382 6199
 e – sabine.kindel@barbican.org.uk

Edward Maitland Smith, Communications Officer

t - +44 (0)20 7382 6196
 e – Edward.MaitlandSmith@barbican.org.uk

Barbican newsroom

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

Read, Watch & Listen

Digital content is available via the Barbican's website through [Read, Watch & Listen](#), [Cinema On Demand](#), [Live from the Barbican](#) and its social channels. In addition, podcasts can also be accessed by subscribing to the Nothing Concrete podcast via [Acast](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.

About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](#) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

Find us on [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Spotify](#)

