



MEDIA RELEASE (for release 6 November 2015)

Serious' successful talent development schemes for emerging creative jazz musicians, **Seriously Talented**, will again 'take over' during the **EFG London Jazz Festival**.

We have many reasons to celebrate because the concert halls, free stages and clubs will resound with performances by outstanding bands from the UK and Europe, led by artists who have participated in a Seriously Talented programme.

This year there are over 40 artists featured across the Festival from UK (Take Five: UK); Switzerland (Take Five: Switzerland); France, Norway and Poland (Take Five: Europe), Scotland (Air Time: Jazz CPD Scotland) and artists working in music of African and Caribbean origin (Move On Up).

To bring it all into focus, on Sunday 15 November, the Clore Ballroom at the Southbank Centre will host a celebration beginning at 2pm. This will include an afternoon of free performances led by Seriously Talented artists and we will also take the opportunity to announce the artists who will participate in the eleventh edition of **Take Five: UK** – the original programme in the Seriously Talented suite.

First up will be the public debut of the band that was created as part of **Take Five Edition X**, which showcases the talents of eight composer-performers from across the UK including: **Emilia Mårtensson** (vocals), **Heidi Heidelberg** (vocals/guitar), **Lauren Kinsella** (vocals), **Alice Zawadzki** (vocals/violin), **Phil Meadows** (saxophone), **Sam Andreae** (saxophone/electronics), **Tom Green** (trombone) and **Percy Pursglove** (trumpet/bass).

This will be followed by **The Spirit Farm** – a new six-piece group of innovative improvisers based in the north of England, led by **Adam Fairhall** (piano) and featuring **Corey Mwamba** (vibraphone), **Christophe de Bezenac** (saxophone), **Dave Kane** (double bass), **Anton Hunter** (guitar) and **Johnny Hunter** (drums). Together they bring quick instincts, an impressive shared understanding and a wealth of idiomatic approaches to the music.

International programmes are represented by the trio of **Marc Perrenoud**, the Swiss pianist whose work has been described as: *'harmonically complex, subtle ... with a tangible lyrical intensity'*.

The final performance of the afternoon will be from **TRACES** led by **Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian**. It will feature a new work that marks the centenary of her Armenian family fleeing to Syria as refugees, and celebrates her Western roots in Suffolk. She takes inspiration from the travelling 'gusanner' musicians, Komitas – the forefather of ethnomusicology, Benjamin Britten and the work of American drummer Paul Motian, another descendent of Armenian migrants. This quartet features **Cevanne** (vocals, harp and sonic bonnet/electronics), **Chris Montague** (guitar), **Conor Chaplin** (double bass) and **Corrie Dick** (drums).

Cevanne's commission has been generously supported by Cockayne - Grants for the Arts and the London Community Foundation and is one of five commissions to mark the tenth anniversary of Seriously Talented. Other new works include those from Norwegian participant in Take Five Europe, **Daniel Herskedal** (Kings Place, Saturday 14 November) and Scottish participant in Air Time, **Lauren Sarah Hayes** (Kings Place, Saturday 14 November), UK participant in Move On Up, **Adriano Adewale** (Within the Waves, Cecil Sharp House, Thursday 19 November), and French participant in Take Five Europe, **Airelle Besson** (Barbican Freestage on Sunday 22 November).

During the afternoon of 15 November, the participants in **Take Five: UK Edition XI** will also be announced to the public. **Take Five: UK** is supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation, PRS for Music Foundation, Arts Council England and Help Musicians UK and is designed to give some of the UK's most talented young jazz musicians the unique opportunity to take 'time out' to develop their craft and their business. It provides each artist with the chance to discuss, explore and strengthen all aspects of their future careers.

The eight creative jazz musicians who have been selected for **Take Five Edition XI** are:

- Moses Boyd (drums, London)
- Elliot Galvin (piano, London)
- Zoe Gilby (vocals, Gateshead)
- Anton Hunter (guitar, Manchester)
- Hyelim Kim (taegŭm, London)
- Zara McFarlane (vocals, London)
- Cath Roberts (saxophone, London)
- Craig Scott (guitar, Leeds)

Take Five Edition XI will run until the summer of 2016 and provides participants with one-to-one mentoring sessions to address their particular areas of need, as well a residential period exploring areas such as composition, performance, communications, business infrastructure and strategic direction.

Vanessa Reed, Executive Director, PRS for Music Foundation said: *'Congratulations to all of the jazz musicians that have been selected for this year's Take Five. Yet again this programme highlights the breadth of talented jazz musicians in the UK and the interest they share in taking their career to the next level. I look forward to hearing more about their plans at the Take Five residency early next year.'*

Jon Opie, General Manager, Jerwood Charitable Foundation, said: *'This is an exceptional group of musicians chosen for their creativity, leadership and potential. We are very proud to support these individuals, all of whom have the potential to make a great contribution to the future of jazz. Take Five will propel them down that path and I hope they enjoy and make the most out of their time with the programme.'*

John Cumming, Director, Serious, said: *'Serious is thrilled to be able to announce the eleventh edition of Take Five: UK and to express our appreciation to the funders of this scheme – Jerwood Charitable Foundation, PRS for Music Foundation, Help Musicians UK and Arts Council England - who continue to support one of the most vital opportunities for the UK's creative jazz musicians. This year, Take Five has become part Seriously Talented, Serious' portfolio of formal professional development programmes. We are happy to present over 40 Seriously Talented artists representing all of our professional development programmes in this year's festival - all strutting their stuff in a variety of performance contexts, including the premiere of a number of new commissions.'* (

Previous participants in **Take Five: UK** described the experience:

'Informative, intense, inspiring and inclusive.' Lauren Kinsella (Edition X)

'It was fantastic ...in every way. I feel as though I have a clearer picture of how the whole industry is linked.'
Emilia Mårtensson (Edition X)

'I feel that I have gained a greater understanding of how the industry works and how I can develop projects in ways that will be more time efficient and successful. I'm looking forward to taking new relationships and developing them (both musically and within the infrastructure of our music) and digesting all the practicalities of information learnt.' Phil Meadows (Edition X)

A panel of industry experts contributed to the selection process, taking into account the following considerations: creativity, future potential, style of music, range of influences, and distinctive contribution to the jazz community. The panel included representatives from Jerwood Charitable Foundation, PRS for Music Foundation and Serious, as well as Kevin Le Gendre (journalist and broadcaster), Steve Mead (Manchester Jazz Festival) and Alexander Hawkins (composer, pianist and member of the Take Five Family).

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For more information on Seriously Talented, Take Five or the organisations involved see:

<http://jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org/>
<http://www.prsformusicfoundation.com/>
<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>
<https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/>
<http://www.columbia.org/>
<http://www.serious.org.uk/>

Notes for Editors:

1. **Seriously Talented** is a suite of talent development programmes produced by Serious. It includes: Take Five: UK, Take Five: Europe, Take Five: Switzerland, Air Time: Jazz CPD Scotland, Move On Up and Artistic Visionaries.
2. **Jerwood Charitable Foundation** is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts.
www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org.
3. **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 £22 million to over 5,200 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. prsformusicfoundation.com
4. **Arts Council England** champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries - from theatre to

digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Between 2010 and 2015, we will invest £1.9 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1.1 billion from the National Lottery in arts and culture to help create experiences for as many people as possible across the country. arts council.org.uk

5. **Help Musicians UK** is there for musicians throughout their careers. Since 1921, it has helped thousands of musicians establish themselves in the music business, get through a serious crisis, cope with long term difficulties and enjoy retirement. As well as providing advice and guidance, it gives financial and emotional support. For many, it is a lifeline. helpmusicians.org.uk
6. **Cockayne** concentrates on arts projects in London that provide opportunities for artists from diverse cultures for the creation, development, performance, or exhibition in the performing (music, opera, dance, theatre) literary, or visual arts. Cockayne maintains a donor-advised fund with The London Community Foundation.
7. **Serious** is one of the UK's leading producers and curators of live jazz, international and new music. Its events range from major concerts, festivals and national and international tours through to learning and participation programmes, conferences and specially commissioned bespoke events. Alongside the production of live music, Serious works in artist and rights management and produces a suite of acclaimed talent development programmes for emerging creative musicians in the UK and Europe. Serious also curates and produces the EFG London Jazz Festival, the UK's largest celebration of jazz, which celebrates its 23rd edition in 2015. Our charity, Serious Trust, supports the development of the next generation of music greats and the creation of outstanding new music and inspiring opportunities to engage and learn. Every year, we rely on the support of various funders to help us deliver the range of programmes which sales and other grants alone do not cover. For more information: www.serious.org.uk/support-us, serious.org.uk, efglondonjazzfestival.org.uk

Serious is grateful to its many supporting partners, including embassies and cultural institutions, who support Seriously Talented and who help make the EFG London Jazz Festival a truly international event.

The logo for 'Take Five' features the word 'Take' in a large, bold, black sans-serif font, with 'Five' stacked below it in a similar font.The logo for 'JERWOOD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION' consists of the word 'JERWOOD' in a large, black, serif font, with 'CHARITABLE FOUNDATION' in a smaller, black, sans-serif font to its right.The logo for 'LOVE MUSIC HELP MUSICIANS UK' features the words 'LOVE', 'MUSIC', 'HELP', and 'MUSICIANS UK' stacked vertically in a black, sans-serif font, with horizontal lines separating the words.The logo for 'SERIOUS' features the word 'SERIOUS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a red circle replacing the letter 'O'.The logo for 'COCKAYNE' features the word 'COCKAYNE' in a black, sans-serif font, with the letters spaced out.

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The logo for 'SWISS cultural fund UK' features the words 'SWISS', 'cultural', and 'fund UK' in a pink, sans-serif font, with 'cultural' and 'fund UK' stacked below 'SWISS'.

**The London
Community
Foundation**