

# EMULSION

## WELCOME TO EMULSION VI!

We are proud to present an exciting and varied programme across two days, featuring some incredible musicians and two new commissions from two of the UK's most respected composers, Nikki Iles and Robert Mitchell.

## WHAT IS EMULSION

### Emulsion is...

A new music festival that celebrates the adventurous spirit & the open mind!  
an experiment  
a group of like-minded musicians  
a cross-genre music festival  
a platform for new music and improvisation  
a specialised and unusual development opportunity  
an evolving concept

Thanks to Alex Fiennes – our trusty sound engineer

Also thanks to our Kickstarter backers for supporting our commissions, Muriel Williamson (of Gateway Arts Concerts), Alison & Peter Clowes for providing accommodation for the musicians, Birmingham City University for providing support for this project

## FEATURING



Calum Gourlay



Catriona McDermid



Percy Pursglove



Louise McMonagle



Tom Harrison



Freddie Gavita



Max Welford



Ross Stanley



Trish Clowes



Chris Montague



James Maddren



Melinda Maxwell



Mandhira de Saram

# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018

7PM

### EMULSION MINIATURES

Melinda Maxwell & Percy Pursglove

Trish Clowes & Ross Stanley

Robert Mitchell & Tom Harrison

James Maddren & Chris Montague

8PM

### ROBERT MITCHELL SOLO

9PM

### EMULSIFY

interactive performance  
open to audience members

## SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018

7PM

### EMULSION SINFONIETTA

*Awakening* Nikki Iles

*Elegy (for the Unknown Leader)* Robert Mitchell

*Muted Lines* Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian

*Karembou's Guide to the Complete Defensive Midfielder* Joe Cutler

*Chantries* Iain Ballamy

*Les Gouts Reunis* François Couperin

*Sol-itude* Noriko Baba

*Sister Bernadette* Trish Clowes

*Negomi* Nikki Iles

*free improvisations from Mandhira de Saram & Melinda Maxwell*

# EMULSION

## COMMISSIONS



### NIKKI ILES - BIOGRAPHY

"A formidable UK jazz presence rising to her full height."  
**THE GUARDIAN (JOHN FORDHAM)**

As a founder member of the hugely innovative Creative Jazz Orchestra in the early 90s, Nikki Iles came to prominence working with musicians such as Anthony Braxton, Vince Mendoza, Mark Anthony Turnage, Kenny Wheeler and Mike Gibbs.

For many years, Nikki served a lengthy apprenticeship in the North of England playing with the cream of British and American jazz such as Peter King, Iain Ballamy, Art Farmer, Scott Hamilton, Tim Garland and Jim Mullen. Many of these relationships were re-kindled later when Nikki finally made the move to London in 1998. Here she joined the groups and toured and recorded with innovative musicians such as Steve Arguelles, Stan Sulzmann, Martin Speake, Mick Hutton and Tina May. Several awards followed with the BT British Jazz Award and an IAJE Award in America for services to Jazz.

Although well known as a pianist, composition still remains a major part of her musical life. The breadth of Nikki's artistic vision has led her to disregard the arbitrary boundaries of the jazz scene and most notably, commissions have included "In All My Holy Mountain" with poet Roger Garfitt and the New Perspectives Ensemble, a collaboration with American dancer Mimi Cichanowicz (2004), "Distance No Object" (2004) - IOU Theatre company, "A Gentle Prayer" - London Sinfonietta, "Red Ellen" - Tim Garland's Underground Band and "Carillion" - Renga (Contemporary group from the London Philharmonic Orchestra 2010).

### **Nikki's commission for the Emulsion Sinfonietta is entitled "Awakening."**

'An age old theme of renewal inspired by the first eagerly awaited spring day after a never ending winter. Every day more of the world awakens as it has since the beginning of time... an annual miracle that, more than ever this year, has inspired me.

The piece has three sections. The beginning evokes the bleakness of winter and moves into the inevitable "Awakening" of Spring and culminates in a ritualistic dance before leaving us with memories of the journey.'

**Nikki Iles**



### ROBERT MITCHELL – BIOGRAPHY

"Sparkling technique"  
**Jazzwise**

Over his nearly 20 years entrenched in the art of music, Robert has recorded nine albums of his own projects, participated in over 100 as a sideman and has performed in 40 countries. Robert Mitchell is a Steinway Artist.

### **Robert's commission for the Emulsion Sinfonietta is entitled "Elegy (For the Unknown Leader)"**

'This piece is a reflection on a matter which I know I am not alone in feeling. We have great leaders walking amongst us who do not know of their powers. We have great leaders walking amongst us who have not gotten the chance to develop their talents to the fullest. We certainly have had those - no longer here - who could have done an amazing job. As I do not feel inspired often enough by what should be great examples set by the heads of state to bring us closer to a truly peaceful world

- I wonder what it would take to solve this. Aiming to right the low success rate in the system we have? - or to construct something newer and better? Democracy is one system - but for eternity? Well if so ... Why are there not more flagbearers for sortition for example ... that ancient Greek selection of political officials at random - rather than the career politicians who as a result simply cannot put the populace and their problems first? Ever learn about that at school? ... Exactly. There are better ways - and we know the talent exists. Getting there, however, won't be easy. It is an honour to be able to write this for the brilliant Emulsion Sinfonietta. Huge thanks to Trish Clowes and Tom Harrison for starting and gaining momentum with this young festival at a time that the arts are more and more being seen as an exclusive and expensive add-on, rather than an essential for our survival...'

**Robert Mitchell**