



Press Release

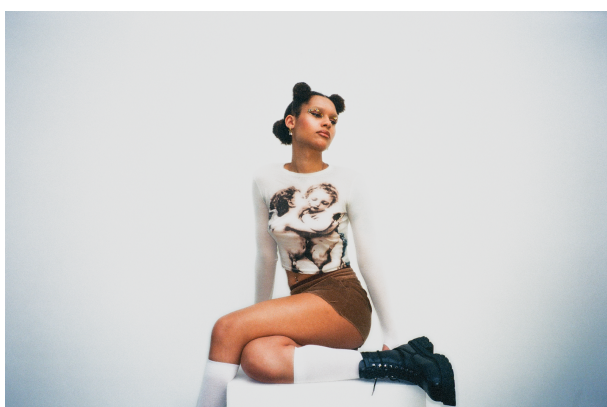
Date: Monday 7 November 2022 14:00

Contact: press@southbankcentre.co.uk

Images: Available to download [here](#)

Listings: [here](#)

Southbank Centre's celebrates sonic pioneers and ambitious talent with new names for Purcell Sessions in 2023



L-R: Taahliah © Spit Turner; Damsel Elysium © Róża Wiktoria Tyborowska

The **Southbank Centre** has today announced its latest line-up of genre-blurring, pioneering artists who will perform in early 2023 as part of its experimental multi-artform series, the **Purcell Sessions**. Hosted in the Purcell Room in the Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall, the series spotlights emerging artists, ambitious auteurs and more to explore the boundaries of their creativity in the space.

Continuing the Southbank Centre's long-standing and exciting partnership with the **London Contemporary Orchestra**, electronic producer **Taahliah** will realise her happy hardcore, subversive electronica, which explores everything from club culture to gender identity, in a totally unique live performance (1 February). Meanwhile, the avant-garde visual artist and musician **Damsel Elysium** will join with the LCO to stage, blending their striking visual presence and evocative music (1 March).

Mercury Prize-nominated artist **Cassie Kinoshi**, meanwhile, will take to the stage on Sunday 5 March. A central figure in jazz collective KOKOROKO, Kinoshi is an Ivors

Academy Award-winning composer, arranger and alto-saxophonist and has composed works for screen and stage and, stepping into the Purcell Room, she will explore this full creative spectrum. Later that month, genre-hopping DJ and composer **Aya**, who released her debut album *im hole* on Hyperdub last year, will team up with German visual artist MFO, aka Marcel Weber, whose works often challenges audiences' experience of memory and perception (19 March).

AV collective **Síbín** will present an evening exploring expressions of identity rooted in diasporic communities through a mixed-media performance (26 March). The evening will feature a number of special guests from poetry, music, live AV and digital interaction. The platform embodies the South East London artistic community that has been bubbling underground for several years.

For fans of poetry, spoken word and live music, the Southbank Centre's monthly night, **Out-Spoken**, returns as part of the Purcell Sessions to celebrate diversity in voice and performance in the New Year through January to March. Line ups will be announced online soon.

Since launching, the Purcell Sessions has seen dozens of performances from artists, writers and creatives including Lyra Pramuk, Laurel Halo, caroline, Yeule, Nabihah Iqbal, Hinako Omori and Yomi Şode.

Adem Holness, Head of Contemporary Music at the Southbank Centre, says: *"With an incredible line-up of artists reimagining and reinterpreting their artistry, the Purcell Sessions continue to be a catalyst for creativity. As we look to next year, the Purcell Sessions will continue to be an empowering platform for artists and creatives."*

Tickets for these new Purcell Sessions shows will be available on **Friday 11 November 10:00am** via <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on>

#ENDS#

Images: Available to download [here](#)
Full listings: [here](#)

Further information:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre occupying a prominent riverside location that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the

space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. The Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to six Resident Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Philharmonia Orchestra). www.southbankcentre.co.uk/

About Purcell Sessions

Since launching in September 2021, the Southbank Centre's *Purcell Sessions* has welcomed an extraordinary line-up of artists including Coby Sey, WOOM, Lyra Pramuk, Ayana Witter Johnson, Martha Skye Murphy and Laurel Halo. *Purcell Sessions* has given audiences the opportunity to experience a breadth of artforms, including some with literature and poetry at their heart including Seder from poet Adam Kammerling, a music and poetry collaborative event focused on the climate crisis from Tongue Fu - Hot Poets, and our resident poetry and live music night Out-Spoken, which celebrates diversity of voice in writing and performance and unearths and develops new poetic talent. More information can be found on our website [here](#)



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