

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

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Contact: Jasper Watkins – jasper.watkins@southbankcentre.co.uk

Artist images: available to download [here](#)

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Brian Eno announces first-ever solo live tour with UK exclusive at Southbank Centre



Brian Eno © Cecily Eno

The **Southbank Centre** today announces that legendary composer, producer and musician **Brian Eno** performs his new concert, featuring an orchestral adaptation of his 2016 album, *The Ship*, with Baltic Sea Philharmonic, orchestrated and conducted by Kristjan Järvi, in a UK exclusive on **Monday 30 October** with two performances, 6.30pm and 9:00pm. The date is part of a series of concerts which marks Brian Eno's first live tour in his five decade solo career and also his first appearance with an orchestra.

Originally commissioned by La Biennale di Venezia, Eno will perform 'Ships', premiering at the 2023 Venice Biennale Musica this coming October. Eno will be performing together with the **Baltic Sea Philharmonic**, orchestrated and conducted by **Kristjan Järvi**. The performance will also feature the actor **Peter Serafinowicz**, and long-time collaborators, guitarist **Leo Abrahams** and programmer/ keyboardist, **Peter Chilvers**. The centrepiece of these concerts will be an orchestral adaptation of Eno's acclaimed 2016 album, 'The Ship', as well as new and classic Eno compositions.

Commenting on the tour, **Brian Eno** said *"The album 'THE SHIP' is an unusual piece in that it uses voice but doesn't particularly rely on the song form. It's an atmosphere with occasional characters drifting through it, characters lost in the vague space made by the music. There's a sense of wartime in the background, and a sense of inevitability. There is also a sense of scale which suits an orchestra, and a sense of many people working together. I wanted an orchestra which played music the way I would like to play music: from the heart rather than just from the score. I wanted the players to be young and fresh and enthusiastic. When I first saw the Baltic Sea Philharmonic I found all that...and then noticed they were named after a sea. That sealed it!"*

Eno has only ever played a handful of shows in his career, the last time in 2021 at the UNESCO World Heritage site, the Acropolis in Athens with his brother Roger Eno to a standing ovation from a sold-out theatre. On this tour, Eno will be playing in some of the most distinguished venues in Europe, commencing in Venice's renowned opera house, Teatro la Fenice, with additional concerts at the Berliner Philharmonie, Berlin, La Seine Musicale in Paris, TivoliVredenburg in Utrecht before finishing at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall with his only UK date.

The award-winning Baltic Sea Philharmonic is a distinctive ensemble where musicians perform entirely from memory whilst standing. Baltic Sea Philharmonic are led by their charismatic founder, conductor Kristjan Järvi, and are known for dynamic interpretations of commissions such as the acclaimed German TV series 'Babylon Berlin'.

These performances coincide with his attendance at the 2023 Venice Biennale Musica where he will be honoured with the Golden Lion Lifetime Achievement Award.

Tickets for the Southbank Centre concert on Monday 30 October will be available via members sale on **Wednesday 7 June** at 10:00am and general sale on **Thursday 8 June** at 10:00am via

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/gigs/brian-eno-baltic-sea-philharmonic>

Adem Holness, Head of Contemporary Music at the Southbank Centre, said: *"It is an immense privilege to host Brian and Baltic Sea Philharmonic at the Southbank Centre for this special event. His influence transcends genre and borders and this rare opportunity to see him live, and with an orchestra, will truly be one to cherish."*

Mark Ball, Artistic Director at the Southbank Centre, said: *"Brian Eno is one of the most influential and innovative musicians of the past 50 years and is a unique creative thinker. His*

collaborations with a veritable 'who's who' of popular music have changed the way music is made, performed and perceived. We're thrilled to exclusively welcome his first ever solo live tour to the Southbank Centre and to continue a journey of musical landmarks in the Royal Festival Hall."

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For further press information, please contact:

Jasper Watkins – jasper.watkins@southbankcentre.co.uk

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About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is Europe's largest arts centre and engages the most diverse audiences of any performing arts organisation in the UK. The Royal Festival Hall is the lasting legacy of the 1951 Festival of Britain and the ambition and values of that project – that arts, ideas, innovation and culture should be available and accessible to everyone – remain its guiding principles today. It is uniquely able to offer a wide-ranging, inclusive and excellent artistic programme across our four venues and free outdoor spaces that covers visual arts, music of all kinds, dance, performance and spoken word. It's home to the National Poetry Library, the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) and six resident orchestras.

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About Brian Eno

Brian Eno - musician, producer, visual artist and activist first came to international prominence in the early seventies as a founding member of British band, Roxy Music, followed by a series of solo albums and collaborations. His work as producer includes albums with Talking Heads, Devo, U2, Laurie Anderson, James, Jane Siberry and Coldplay, while his long list of collaborations include recordings with David Bowie, Jon Hassell, Harold Budd, David Byrne, Grace Jones, his brother, Roger, on 'Mixing Colours' and recently with Fred Again.... Brian's most recent work, 'FOREVERANDEVERNOMORE' released to international critical acclaim, was out in October 2022.

Brian Eno's visual experiments with light and video continue to parallel his musical career, with exhibitions and installations all over the globe. He has exhibited extensively, as far afield as St. Petersburg's Marble Palace, Ritan Park in Beijing, Arcos de Lapa in Rio de Janeiro and the sails of the Sydney Opera House. He is a founding member of the Long Now Foundation, a trustee of Client Earth and patron of Videre est Credere. In April 2021, he launched EarthPercent, which raises money from the music industry for some of the most impactful environmental charities working on the climate emergency. Brian will be honoured with the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale Musica in October 2023.

About Baltic Sea Philharmonic

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic takes the orchestral concert experience to a new dimension. Every performance is a voyage of musical discovery, as the musicians perform the entire programme from memory, creating a one-of-a-kind artistic journey. Each concert is a unique spectacle of sound, light, choreography, visual art and technology, and under the electrifying baton of Music Director and Founding Conductor Kristjan Järvi every performance is an electrifying experience that fizzles with infectious energy. As a community of musicians from ten Nordic countries, the Baltic Sea

Philharmonic transcends boundaries and has become a movement for bringing people together. Embodying all that is innovative and progressive about the Nordic region, this visionary ensemble is taking the traditional orchestral model further than ever before.

Bringing together musicians from Norway to Russia, the Baltic Sea Philharmonic started life in 2008, initiated by the Usedom Music Festival. Immediately acclaimed for its performances and its powerful message of unity in a historically divided region, it was soon playing at renowned festivals and in the most prestigious concert halls in Europe and abroad, including the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg and the Dubai Opera. In 2015 the European Culture Foundation 'Pro Europe' honoured the orchestra's achievements with the prestigious European Culture Prize. The world's finest artists, including Julia Fischer, the late Kurt Masur, Gidon Kremer and Max Richter, as well as British indie pop band Bastille, all performed with the orchestra. Concerts of the Baltic Sea Philharmonic are broadcast globally. The orchestra's albums for Sony include Wagner – The Ring, An Orchestral Adventure, Sleeping Beauty and a collaboration with Swiss violinist David Nebel.

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic is passionate about innovation in the digital landscape. Amid the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic the orchestra and Kristjan Järvi started 'Musical Chain', an ongoing series of original music remix videos giving classical gems a contemporary twist. Through this innovative project, the Baltic Sea Philharmonic is evolving from an orchestra into a band, with the musicians becoming producers as well as creators.

About Kristjan Järvi

Kristjan Järvi lives and breathes music, using its power to create spaces in which anything is possible. Kristjan Järvi pursues his pioneering ideas as a conductor, producer, composer and arranger. Embracing everything with creative entrepreneurship, he runs his own production company [Sunbeam Productions](#). Kristjan Järvi has earned a reputation as one of the canniest, and most innovative, programmers on the classical scene' (Reuters). As a conductor, he is at home on the big international stages, directing great classics from Wagner to Tchaikovsky and from Steve Reich to Radiohead as well as his original productions without any genre boundaries.

Kristjan Järvi developed his own unique sound with his New York based, classical-hip-hop- jazz group Absolute Ensemble, [Baltic Sea Philharmonic](#), and Sunbeam's in-house Band '[Nordic Pulse](#)'. Kristjan shapes his artistic life and takes expression to the next level with his team of '[Sunbeam Productions](#)', with whom he creates a new paradigm for multi-sensory performance Xperiences. At the end of 2020 Kristjan founded a new record label: "nEscapes". Besides online music distribution it offers its own unique "nEscapes Lounges" to artists as a new listening format. Besides his own productions, Kristjan Järvi collaborates internationally with outstanding artists like director [Tom Tykwer](#) (for the soundtrack of [Babylon Berlin](#)) and recording artists like MUM, Bryce Dessner (The National), Hauschka, Robot Koch and [Max Richter](#) and is starring in the "[Bastille Re-Orchestrated](#)" Documentary on Amazon Prime at the moment.

Kristjan is exclusively signed as a composer and producer with BMG Music under its label "Modern recordings". His latest album is called: [Nordic Escapes](#).



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