



*unbound*sound  
**Red Note Ensemble Noisy Nights**

Sunday 13 June 2021, 4pm

**Programme**

<b>Zoe Cutler</b>	<i>The</i> <i>Contemporary</i> <i>Music</i> <i>Lick</i>
	(World Premiere) *
<b>Siôn Parkinson</b>	<i>Phantosmia</i> (World Premiere) *
<b>Rylan Gleave</b>	<i>Cold with him</i> (World Premiere) *
<b>Jason Hodgson</b>	<i>Dimensional Shift</i>
<b>Sera Wright</b>	<i>Sunflowers</i> (World Premiere) *
<b>Joe Stollery</b>	<i>Seely Circles</i> (World Premiere) *

\***sound** and Red Note Ensemble co-commission

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**Biographies**

**Red Note Ensemble** is **sound's** associate ensemble. We work together regularly – sharing ideas, devising projects and commissioning composers. Some of the projects we have worked jointly on have included the Framed Against the Sky community engagement project, Go Compose! course for young composers, a major international joint project with the Orchestre d'Auvergne and Musiques Démesurées (France).

Red Note Ensemble was founded in 2008 by Scottish cellist Robert Irvine, and is directed by John Harris (Chief Executive and Artistic Co-Director) and Robert Irvine (Artistic Co-Director). The Ensemble performs the established classics of contemporary music, commissions new music, develops the work of new and emerging composers from around the world and finds new spaces and new ways of performing contemporary music to attract new audiences. Red Note's performing ensemble is drawn from the deep talent pool of Scottish new music expertise, and counts amongst its players some of the very finest performers working in the UK today. Red Note undertake a Spring and Autumn season each year comprising tours, site-specific work and collaborations with other companies within Scotland, around the UK and abroad, and run regular new music series showcasing the work of new composers (Noisy Nights and Noisy Words). It is also extensively involved in the education sector, particularly at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, as well as **soundfestival** in Aberdeen. The company is now developing collaborations and new work with companies abroad.

Red Note is Associate Contemporary Ensemble at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, an Associate Company of the Traverse Theatre Edinburgh and Associate Ensemble of **soundfestival** Aberdeen.

*"Red Note Ensemble is a Scottish success story"* Anna Picard, The Times

*"(Red Note's pianist) Simon Smith knocked off outrageously elaborate figuration as though a tune on a pub piano"* Paul Driver, Sunday Times

**Zoe Cutler** is a multimedia weirdo based in Detroit, Michigan, USA. Her work has been described as "Itchy and Scratchy meets James Bond" and "Can you write something easier for once?" Her primary instrument is the trombone, but during the pandemic she pretends to be a whole brass quintet on YouTube. She publishes her compositions via Zoe's Sounds Publishing and many are available at [ZoeCutler.com](http://ZoeCutler.com). In her free time, she tries a new hobby each week, from brewing to ceramics, in the hopes that someday something will pan out and she can quit trombone once and for all.

**Siôn Parkinson** works across music, performance, video and writing. He trained as a sculptor at Central Saint Martins and The Slade. He is currently an Amanda Burton Scholar at University of Leeds researching stink and music. He lives in his hometown of Dundee, Scotland.

Siôn's art often fictionalises animals and other organisms as a pretext to consider our own empathy or disgust with each other and the natural world. Recent work is informed by his interest in the stinkhorn fungus, a phallic mushroom that smells of rotting meat which it uses to attract flies to help disperse its spores. A short animation, [Stinkhorn](#), made with artist Richard Whitby, was commissioned by LUX and BBC Scotland and broadcast on BBC4 in Spring 2020.

He often works with other artists including: artists Ed Atkins, Bill Drummond, Lawrence Lek and Lauren Godfrey; graphic designers Dexter Sinister; fashion designer Matty Bovan; and musicians Jack Adler-McKean, Sam Annand and SHHE.

He was awarded a Jerwood Bursary in 2019 to explore classical techniques in falsetto singing.

Siôn has exhibited, presented and performed at venues including Cafe Oto, Somerset House, ICA, CCA Glasgow, Cooper Gallery (Dundee), ChertLüdde (Berlin), Dundee Contemporary Arts, Glasgow International, Limoncello (London) and SixtyEight Art Institut (Copenhagen). Residencies over the years have included Artquest's 'Going Dutch' three-month studio residency in Amsterdam, Chisenhale Gallery, Hospitalfield House and Liverpool Cathedral.

Alongside his own art, he has curated solo exhibitions by artists Bethan Huws, Duncan Marquiss, Hardeep Pandhal, Marianna Simnett, Rachel Maclean, Serena Korda and musician Richard Skelton. And as an independent producer, he has worked with organisations and venues including Art Angel, Atlas Arts (Isle of Skye), Cape Farewell, ICA, The McManus Galleries (Dundee), Reid Gallery (Glasgow) and Somerset House. From 2013-2016 he was Director of Exhibitions at Comar, Isle of Mull.

He currently teaches at the University of Leeds.

Other projects include [Song Work](#), an online audio library of workplace noise supported by the National Library of Scotland Sound Archive (launching Spring 2021). He is also a founder and co-editor of the website [Dreck](#).

**Rylan Gleave** (b.1997) is a Glasgow-based composer and vocalist whose music addresses intersectional identity, re-contextualised natural situations, and quiet, furious resistance. His musical practice is inclusive, and involves mending the unfeigned gaps in his classical study with the healings of imaginative neuro-/gender-divergent kinship.

His music has been praised as '*haunting*' by The Herald, and '*rapturous*' by The Scotsman, who named him 'One to Watch' 2021, describing him as '*one of the brightest lights in Scotland's new music scene*'. His compositions tend to focus on both personal and political matters, with recent exploration of navigating autistic seclusion, non-linear acceptance of trauma, the shores of Scottish archipelagos, and the qualities of his breaking trans-masc voice.

**Jason Hodgson** (MMus), is an Award Winning\*, Experimental, Avant-Garde (according to their supervisors) and Contemporary Composer with a focus on Chance and Indeterminate compositional processes, and a passion for the Wacky and Weird.

They are currently studying as one of Canterbury Christ Church University's PhD Candidates within the School of Music and Performing Arts, which is situated within the Creative Arts department. Their thesis focuses on working towards a living definition of Chance and Indeterminacy as a compositional tools for the 21st Century composer.

**Sera Wright** At this point in time, there isn't much I can put in a biography. I grew up learning flute, and I then picked up a few other instruments. I aim to write "small music" that doesn't aspire to represent anything grand, pieces that can simply insights into my mind and how I feel. This year I will start at Trinity Laban studying composition.

**Joe Stollery** is a composer originally from central Aberdeenshire. He graduated with a MMus in Composition at the University of Aberdeen (2016) and is currently working through his PhD at the same institution.

He has written for a wide variety of ensembles, mostly instrumental, but also including art songs and a handful of chamber operas. His musical interests and appreciations cover a wide range (including non-classical), and as such his compositional aesthetic stands somewhere between common-practice and the avant-garde. He is also keen on putting dramatic statements into his music and is inclined towards a theatrical element in many of his instrumental works.

He was twice a finalist in the Carlaw-Ogston Composition Award (2015 & 2016), has participated as an observer at the Cheltenham Festival (2016), and has been commissioned by the Aberdeenshire Youth Orchestra, the Geneva-based wind band Harmonie Nautique, the Aberdeenshire Saxophone Orchestra, Cappella Nova, Any Enemy and Hebrides Ensemble, amongst others. He was also commissioned by the **sound** festival and the Silver Cities Stories project for his opera *Mither Kirk* (2017) and has collaborated with Scottish Opera to produce *Nature's House* (2014), as part of a Leverhulme scholarship. His first opera *The Maiden Stone* (2014), based on an Aberdeenshire legend, was given its premiere outdoors at the foot of the hill Bennachie, where the story was set. He also composed a set of three children's operas that were performed in primary schools around Aberdeen in February 2019.

As well as composing, Joe also plays alto saxophone in the Concert Band and Saxophone Ensemble at Aberdeen University, and is a confident pianist.

His personal interests lie in a wide variety of sources, many of which stream into his music. These include the local environment and its history, nature (particularly animals), myths and legends, especially mythical creatures, and the supernatural. He is particularly interested in

fantastical concepts and would often speculate on these things in his music, usually by finding and making connections with real-world affairs.

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**sound** is a new music incubator based in north-east Scotland encouraging new music creation and discovery. We run the annual **soundfestival**, as well as year-round activity supporting a wide range of composers, engaging with local communities and providing educational opportunities.

Find out more: [www.sound-scotland.co.uk](http://www.sound-scotland.co.uk)

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**sound**festival

**19-24 October 2021**

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