

PRESS RELEASE: 02 JULY 2015

Nominations Open for the 2015 British Composer Awards

Nominations close on Tuesday, 7th July 2015

The British Composer Awards - the awards celebrating British contemporary music, jazz and sonic art - have opened nominations for 2015. The awards - hosted by the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers & Authors (BASCA) - celebrate the work of contemporary composers in classical, jazz and sonic music. Now in their thirteenth year, the British Composer Awards are open to composers whose work received its UK premiere between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015.

BASCA will announce the winners of the British Composer Awards on Wednesday 9 December 2015 at an award ceremony taking place at the British Film Institute. The ceremony will be hosted by BBC Radio 3's Sara Mohr-Pietsch and Andrew McGregor.

Nominations are now open across twelve categories including:

Solo or Duo | Small Chamber/Large Chamber | Choral | Wind Band or Brass Band | Orchestral | Stage Works | Liturgical | Sonic Art | Contemporary Jazz Composition | Community or Educational Project | Amateur or Young Performers

The awards are presented by BASCA and sponsored by PRS for Music. They are presented in association with BBC Radio 3 which provides exclusive broadcast coverage of the Awards.

Artistic Directors, Julia Haferkorn and Ed McKeon have said, *"We were delighted with the diversity of the nominations for the 2014 awards and hope that the ease of making nominations digitally will widen the reach of the awards even further."*

Django Bates, winner in the Jazz category last year, has said, *"British composers are prolific, experimental, cheeky, serious, alarming, funny, satisfying... You name it! And their work is clearly loved and respected throughout the world. The British Composer Awards offer the chance to also celebrate them in their home country. These awards are special in that they are judged by composers' peers; it's a real vote, based on a true understanding and appreciation of the music form. Please nominate!"*

Kerry Andrew, winner in both the Community or Educational Project and the Stage Works categories last year, has said, *"These awards shine a light on the diverse new music made in the UK. It's a welcome annual chance to celebrate composers, performers (both professional and amateur) and commissioners; and, with your peers as judges, is a unique one as well."*

Tom White, winner in the Sonic Art category last year, has said, *"I'm an artist working predominantly with sound, so was surprised yet thrilled to win a British Composer Award for Sonic Music last year, especially as the judging panels are made up of a wide range of fellow musicians and producers. That recognition is invaluable and what makes the Awards special, so I'd encourage anyone to put forward a work for consideration (even if you are unsure about the categorisation of your practice)."*

To nominate a work for the British Composer Awards, visit: www.britishcomposerawards.com. Nominations close on Tuesday, 7th July, and full rules and guidelines can be downloaded from the website.

- END -

Notes to editors:

For further information please contact: Zekra Rahman, Midas PR E: zekra.rahman@midaspr.co.uk Tel: 0207 361 7860

Artistic Directors Julia Haferkorn and Ed McKeon will be available for interview.

High-res images, biographies of the directors are available

The British Composer Awards

Shortlist announcement: October 2015

Venue: The British Film Institute (BFI), South Block, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XT

Award date: 9th December 2015

Information: www.britishcomposerawards.com

Nominations are invited in the following categories:

Solo or Duo

Small Chamber / Large Chamber

Choral

Wind Band or Brass Band

Orchestral

Stage Works

Liturgical

Sonic Music

Contemporary Jazz Composition

Community or Educational Project

Amateur or Young Performers

About the British Composer Awards

Owned by BASCA, the *British Composer Awards* celebrate the music of contemporary British composers and composers living in the United Kingdom. Qualifying works must have been completed within five years prior to 31 March 2015 and received a UK premiere performance – either live or broadcast – in the year leading up to 31 March 2015. Each category is judged by a different jury, appointed by BASCA, mainly comprising of composers working in collaboration with performers, conductors, promoters and festival directors.

www.britishcomposerawards.com

About BASCA

BASCA, the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors, is the professional association for music writers in the UK. It is the single voice for British music creators.

BASCA works to foster a sense of community amongst songwriters, lyricists and composers, and to campaign on their behalf in the domestic, European and international political arenas. As the only association in the country made up entirely of music writers, the organisation has an unparalleled insight into the issues affecting music creators in the UK today. BASCA works closely with their members, keeping them informed in a constantly changing environment via its publications, website, seminars and professional networking events. BASCA also presents the Ivor Novello Awards, British Composer Awards and Gold Badge Awards.

Membership of BASCA is open to working songwriters and composers who are members of a royalty collection society, such as *PRS for Music*, BMI or ASCAP.

BASCA Fellows: John Adams, David Arnold, Malcolm Arnold, John Barry, Don Black, Pierre Boulez, John Dankworth, David Ferguson, George Fenton, Elton John, Barry Gibb, Maurice Gibb, Robin Gibb, Annie Lennox, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Paul McCartney, Peter Maxwell Davies and Tim Rice.

www.basca.org.uk

About Our Sponsor - PRS for Music

PRS for Music represents the rights of 100,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers in the UK. As a membership organisation it ensures creators are paid whenever their music is played, performed or reproduced, championing the importance of copyright to protect and support the UK music industry. The UK has a proud tradition of creating wonderful music that is enjoyed the world over and *PRS for Music* has been supporting the creators of that music since 1914.

PRS for Music provides business and community groups with easy access to over 10m songs through its music licences. In an industry worth over £3.5bn *PRS for Music* is uniquely placed to be a voice for music and music creators. *PRS for Music* is one of the world's most efficient combined rights organisations. With over 100 representation agreements in place globally, *PRS for Music's* network represents over two million music creators.

www.prsformusic.com

www.m-magazine.co.uk

Midas PR | 10-14 Old Court Place | Kensington | London | W8 4PL

T: +44 (0)20 7361 7860 E mail: info@midaspr.co.uk www.midaspr.co.uk

About BBC Radio 3

Radio 3 broadcasts high-quality, distinctive classical music and cultural programming, alongside regular arts and ideas programmes, jazz and world music. The station features more live classical music programming than any other and is the home of the BBC Proms - broadcasting every Prom live and more than 600 complete concerts a year - alongside daily speech programming, 90 full-length operas, over 20 dramas and over 20 new BBC music commissions a year. Radio 3 is the most significant commissioner of new musical works in the country and is committed to supporting new talent, from composers to writers and new young performers, through schemes such as New Generation Musicians and New Generation Thinkers.

www.bbc.co.uk/radio3

Presented by



Sponsored by



In association with

