

Norfolk & Norwich Festival 08

Press Release

29th February 2008

The Festival is coming!

From the 2-17 May 2008 some of the biggest names in classical music, jazz, dance and large-scale performance will fill Norwich with world class sights and sounds. There is a liberal sprinkling of UK and World premieres too, making Norwich the place to be this May!

- **Commission and World Premiere of a new libretto for Armonico Consort Touring Opera's *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme* from Kit Hesketh Harvey**
- **Commission and World Premiere of *In Tsegih* by American trumpet legend, Jon Hassell**
- **Co-commission and World Premiere of NoFit State Circus' *Tabù***
- **Co-commission and World Premiere of Spanish dance company Erre Que Erre's new show for *Barcelona Sunset***
- **World Premiere of James MacMillan's arrangement for strings and cello of *Kiss on Wood***
- **UK Premiere of Teatro de los Sentidos' *Bodega de los Sentidos***
- **UK Premiere of Circo de la Sombra, Spanish Family Circus Company**
- **Only performance outside London of Laurie Anderson's *Homeland***
- **Only entire performance of Michael Clark Company's Stravinsky Project outside London**

As one of the oldest city festivals in the UK, the Norfolk & Norwich Festival has evolved into one of most hotly anticipated dates in the calendar. Bigger and better than ever, this truly international Festival brings artists from Spain, Israel, the USA, Japan, the Czech Republic, Russia, France, The Netherlands, and Cuba together with some of the most renowned and most innovative UK companies and artists. With shows for audiences of one up to 6000, 2008 is set to be an amazing year for the festival.

Jonathan Holloway, Artistic Director said *"the festival grows from strength to strength each year and 2008 is truly the largest and most ambitious to date. For me, a successful festival must do a number of things. It must celebrate artistic excellence, promote*

international artistic exchange and create new and challenging work. It should inspire and engage as many people as possible and be an intense burst of energy and fun. This year's Norfolk and Norwich Festival does all those things. What's more, it is a powerful expression of Norwich's self-confidence and sense of identity, a festival that makes a real difference to life in the city, the county and the region"

Once again the festival is delighted to be supported by Principal Sponsor National Express East Anglia (formerly 'one' railway) This partnership, now in it's 17th year won both parties an Arts & Business Sustainability Award of which both are justifiably proud.

Jonathan Denby, Head of Corporate Affairs for National Express East Anglia said "*Our long-term support means we can play our part in helping to make Norfolk and Norwich an even better place to live and work. With an evolving Festival attracting wider audiences, bringing more people to Norwich, everyone gains; audiences, the local community, the local economy, the Festival and National Express East Anglia"*

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