

“Eclectic, inspiring and thought provoking” - Little White Lies
“An important celebration of women filmmakers” - The Independent

A fantastic programme of world-class musicians and classic silent films come to London’s new creative hub and major arts venue Kings Place.

Birds Eye View celebrates women filmmakers with an annual film festival and year-round events and touring activity. **Sounds & Silents** is their strand of innovative cross-arts performances that unite creative excellence in music and film with specially commissioned live scores written and performed by cutting edge female artists to stunning silent films with iconic leading ladies. Birds Eye View are curating an exclusive season of these collaborations at London's new creative hub and major arts venue - **Kings Place**, this May.

For more info please see <http://www.birds-eye-view.co.uk/kingsplace>

KINGS PLACE SEASON

The programme will showcase four silent films featuring icons such as **Greta Garbo**, **Mary Pickford** and **Gloria Swanson** accompanied by innovative performances from; **The Elysian Quartet**, **Juice**, Mercury Award nominated **Zoe Rahman** and classical cellist **Natalie Clein**.





THE TEMPTRESS WITH ORIGINAL LIVE SCORE FROM NATALIE CLEIN

The Temptress

Dir. Fred Niblo, USA 1926

Hall One, Thur May 27, 7.30pm

Narcissistic Elena (Greta Garbo) drives every man she meets to despair. One of her victims, Manuel Robledo tries to escape, but this time Elena is in love and she follows him from Paris to his native Argentina.

Natalie Clein

'Clein plays everything with passion' – The Times

Natalie Clein's exceptional musicality has earned her a number of prestigious prizes including the Classical Brit Award for Young British Performer of 2005, the Ingrid zu Solms Cultur Preis at the 2003 Kronberg Akademie, and the BBC Young Musician of the Year aged just 16.

MY BEST GIRL WITH ORIGINAL LIVE SCORE FROM ELYSIAN QUARTET

My Best Girl

Dir. Sam Taylor, USA 1927

Hall One, Fri May 28, 7.30pm

Maggie (Mary Pickford) falls in love with Joe, her new colleague in the stock room, unaware that he is the son of the department store owner working undercover to prove his business skills.

Elysian Quartet

'Feisty boundary pushers, four supremely talented classical musicians' - Metro

The Elysian Quartet is one of the UK's most innovative young ensembles. They have worked with artists as diverse as virtuoso beat-boxer Killa Kela, jazz pianist Keith Tippett, and experimental electronic composer Simon Fisher-Turner.

I DON'T WANT TO BE A MAN! WITH ORIGINAL LIVE SCORE FROM ZOE RAHMAN + THE DANGER GIRL WITH ORIGINAL LIVE SCORE FROM JUICE

I Don't Want to be a Man! / The Danger Girl

Dir. Ernst Lubitsch, Germany 1919 / Dir. Clarence G Badger, USA, 1916

Hall One, Sat May 29, 7.30pm

- Ossi's father hires a guardian to educate his rebellious daughter. Escaping from house arrest dressed as a man, Ossi begins to investigate whether life is more liberated this way.

- When vampish Helene (Gloria Swanson) uses her charms on Bobbie, Gloria breaks up the pair by disguising herself as a man to seduce Helene.

Zoe Rahman / Juice

'One of the finest young pianists in Europe' - The Observer

- Zoe Rahman has firmly established herself as one of the brightest stars on the contemporary jazz scene. Zoe has recorded four critically acclaimed albums, her second 'Melting Pot', was nominated for the 2006 Mercury Music Award and was voted 'Jazz Album of the Year' at the 2006 Parliamentary Jazz Awards.

- Juice is an experimental vocal trio specialising in vibrant, theatrical performances commissioned countless new works. They draw on world music, jazz, folk and pop and have been featured on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM and Resonance FM

WOMEN MAKE MUSIC

FEMALE MUSIC CREATORS AND THE GENDER GAP PANEL DISCUSSION

Chaired by **Miranda Sawyer**

A PRS Foundation 10th Anniversary Event

Hall One, Sat May 24, 7PM



Top experts discuss gender gap in the music industry. Come and join the conversation.

Only 7% of directors and 12% of screenwriters are female. Already the leading organisation to celebrate women's achievements in film, Birds Eye View is committed to developing and supporting women across the arts. They are aware that gender imbalance also exists amongst women taking the creative lead in the music industry. Miranda Sawyer chairs this hot discussion to explore the gender gap in music. Panelists include Speech Debelle (tbc), Beverley Knight (tbc), Rachel Portman, and Janis Susskind.

Miranda Sawyer, Journalist & Broadcaster

Miranda is a long time supporter of Birds Eye View and has taken part in a number of different events and discussions at the Birds Eye View Film Festival.

Beverley Knight, Music Creator (tbc)

Beverley Knight has won 3 MOBO awards and been nominated for the Mercury Music Award. She received an MBE in 2007 in recognition of her charitable work and the contribution she has made to British music.

Speech Debelle, Music Creator (tbc)

Speech Debelle is the 2009 winner of the Mercury Music Award and has spoken out about the gender imbalance in the music industry.

Mira Calix, Music Creator

Mira Calix is signed to Warp Records and a winner of 2009 Composer of the Year and Royal Philharmonic Society Awards.

Rachel Portman, Film Composer

Rachel Portman is the first female composer to win an Academy Award in the category of Best Original Score (for *Emma* in 1996).

Janis Susskind, Music Publisher

Director of Composers & Repertoire at Boosey & Hawkes, holding the largest specialist classical music collection in the world.

**For full programme and booking information:
visit <http://www.birds-eye-view.co.uk/kingsplace>**

For press information, contact Juliane Zenke: juliane@birds-eye-view.co.uk

Notes for Editors

- BIRDS EYE VIEW celebrates Birds Eye View celebrates & supports international women filmmakers. Backed by leading lights of the film industry, Birds Eye View is a positive response to the fact that women make up only 7% directors and 12% writers in what is the most powerful medium in the world. They are concerned with women's creative vision in film, and want to see more of it.
- In 2005 they launched a major UK women's film festival. This has been a storming success, proving the wealth of talent and potential that women bring to film. They believe that it is vital to the health and diversity of UK film that we raise role models, offer support and provide a forum for women in the industry, whilst encouraging the next generation to break new ground. As well as inspiring more women to write and direct their own work, they are also educating audiences about the importance of diversity in film, and through our extensive press & publicity and accessible events, we are widening the audiences for women-made films and world cinema.
- Birds Eye View is led by Rachel Millward, nominated a 'World Changing Woman' (The Guardian 21.08.06.), shortlisted for the Women of the Future Award in Media, November 2009, and a Woman To Watch as part of the Cultural Leadership Programme, March 2010. Rachel is currently the Clore Fellow for Film. Our Patrons include Mike Figgis, Mira Nair, Joanna Lumley, Juliet Stevenson, Martha Fiennes, Stephen Woolley and Gurinder Chadha. Speakers, guests and performers at previous festivals have included Jo Brand, Meera Syal, Jane Horrocks, Bonnie Wright, Patsy Kensit, Miranda Sawyer, Hayley Atwell, Sally Hawkins, Bella Freud, Sally Phillips, Shazia Mirza, Maureen Lipman, Chris O'Dowd, Imogen Heap, Natalie Clein and Bishi.
- Birds Eye View commissions **SOUND & SILENTS** events, celebrating iconic women in silent cinema with live musical accompaniment from cutting edge female artists. Past Commissions include:

2007:

Sound & Silents: A Century of Short Films from Women Directors: A showing of a varied selection of short silent films, from hilarious comedy by the very first woman director (Alice Guy Blaché), to stunning contemporary animation. Accompanied by specially-written music from Joanna MacGregor and performed live in collaboration with DJ Rita Ray and Shri Sriram.

Surrealism at the Barbican: A programme of short avant-garde silent films made by women directors Maya Deren (Meshes of the Afternoon and At Land) and Germaine Dulac (The Smiling Madame Beudet) with specially composed & original soundtracks performed live by cutting-edge women musicians including Errollyn Wallen and Seaming To.

2008:

In 2008 the Birds Eye View silent film retrospective was called Clowning Glories and was part of a larger retrospective celebrating women in comedy film. All events took place at the BFI Southbank, and featured guest speakers including Sally Phillips, Jo Brand and Michelle Gomez. Commissions included:

- The Love Expert with live musical accompaniment by Jane Gardner
- Show People accompanied by Jane Gardner + Mabel's Dramatic Career accompanied by Jean Hasse
- The Vagabond Queen With live musical accompaniment by Alcyona
- I Don't Want to be a Man! accompanied by Zoe Rahman + The Danger Girl accompanied by Juice
- My Best Girl Accompanied by The Elysian Quartet

2009:

In 2009 the Birds Eye View silent film retrospective formed part of our Screen Seductresses: Vamps, Vixens and Femmes Fatales programme. Commissions included:

- Alraune with live musical accompaniment from Alison Blunt with Hannah Marshal and Javier Carmona
- Pandora's Box with live musical accompaniment from The Monroe Transfer
- The Temptress with live musical accompaniment from Natalie Clein
- A Fool There Was + The Vampire with live musical accompaniment from the Broken Hearts DJs and Jane Gardner
- Salome with live musical accompaniment from Bishi & Neil Kaczor

2010:

This year's commissions include three films starring iconic Blondes as part of our Blonde Crazy season at the BFI, plus an electronic live score to the first ever feature length animation.

- Her Sister from Paris accompanied by Jane Gardner
- The Patsy accompanied by Gwyneth Herbert
- Chicago accompanied by Patti Plinko
- The Adventures of Prince Achmed accompanied by Mira Calix

For further info on our Sound & Silents events, which also tour the country www.birds-eye-view.co.uk/soundandsilents

- Kings Place is a new creative centre within 5 minutes walk of King's Cross-St Pancras, presenting music, paintings and sculpture from around the world. There are two beautiful new concert halls, with concerts and events taking place nightly and cafes, bars and fine dining on the waterfront of Regents Canal. In addition to providing the headquarters for The Guardian, The London Sinfonietta and The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, there are two art galleries within the building, Pangolin London, which is run by the renowned Gloucestershire-based sculpture foundry, and Kings Place Gallery, a major new London gallery promoting painting and sculpture by international artists. Both have a rolling programme of free exhibitions with many works for sale. For more details see the web site. www.kingsplace.co.uk