



Press Information
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Futuresonic Unveils 2009 Music Programme

“A glimpse of tomorrow’s music today” – BBC

Featuring a rare solo-piano appearance from legendary composer **Philip Glass**, May 13th – 16th 2009 will see Manchester embrace the best, most explosive, all-encompassing Futuresonic music line-up to date. From the breathtaking AV shows of electronic pioneer **Murcof** and the intelligent leftfield hip-hop of **Anti-Pop Consortium** through to the technical, finger-picking prowess of guitarist **Marnie Stern**, the bass heavy dubstep of **Kode 9** and the skewed freak-folk of **Ariel Pink**, the festival boasts a dazzling variety of world-class artists.

Covering genres as diverse as dubstep, contemporary classical, lo-fi indie, electronica, deep house, math rock, leftfield hip-hop and Italo disco, Futuresonic will take over the finest venues in Manchester, including the **RNCM**, the **Deaf Institute** and **Urbis**, for a celebration of musicianship and a salute to those who perform on the cutting-edge.

The high profile opening event of Futuresonic 2009 will feature stunning live A/V performances from the world renowned Mexican electronica artist **Murcof**, a highly anticipated, rare UK performance from Icelandic composer **Johann Johannsson** and the **Iskra quartet** with support from Mancunian **Denis Jones**.

Performing on Grand Piano the much lauded Austrian singer-songwriter **Soap & Skin** will be bringing her dark electronica and melancholic, fairy-tale vocal compositions to the reverent surrounds of Manchester’s Cross Street Chapel.

Across town Dorset’s psychedelic, doom-laden metallers **Electric Wizard** will be appearing at Academy Three. As one of the bands only live appearances in recent years, this looks set to be a landmark gig and a highlight of the festival calendar.

The alternative opening event of the 2009 festival features an extremely rare UK live performance from the legendary NYC based hip-hop crew **Anti-Pop Consortium** plus support from local heroes **DJ Woody** and **Fingathing’s Peter Parker**. **Anti Pop Consortium** are the unsung heroes of the leftfield hip-hop scene admired by luminaries such as Radiohead, Dj Shadow and Public Enemy.

The Futuresonic festival will close with three exciting events. **Marnie Stern** (live) will headline an exclusive line up of lo-fi indie and future rock ‘n’ roll including Animal Collective label mate **Ariel Pink** and infectious noisy and incurable melodic indie rockers **Times New Viking**. New Yorker Stern is a musician and songwriter whose technical skill and finger-tapping style of guitar play has earned her critical acclaim with The New York Times citing her debut LP as ‘the year’s most exciting rock ‘n’ roll album’.



In sharp contrast **Kode 9**, one of the hottest DJ's currently playing in the UK, will headline a massive showcase of UK bass music alongside Zomby, Actress and HATE Soundsystem. The line up also includes Tobias, Efdemin and Move D celebrating the cutting edge sound of deep house and minimal techno.

Providing a more meditative end to the festival **Philip Glass** will be performing his most recent Etudes for piano as well as other classics from his repertoire at the Royal Northern College of Music. A rare UK appearance from the visionary composer this intimate evening will provide an illuminating glimpse into the intricacies of the composer's work in its most elemental form.

Full music programme details and on-line ticket sales are available at www.futuresonic.com.

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Notes For Editors

Futuresonic Urban Festival of Art, Music and Ideas is an international festival now in its 14th year occupying the orbits of both digital culture and music. It combines the Social Technologies Summit with art and music events, exhibitions and live performances across the city. Running from 13-16th May in Manchester, UK, Futuresonic transforms the city into a space of experimentation, making it come alive.

Futuresonic is presented by FutureEverything CIC. It is a Regularly Funded Organisation (RFO) of Arts Council England North West, a pillar event of Manchester City Council and is supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. FutureEverything was shortlisted for the highly acclaimed 2009 Lever Prize.

Futuresonic is presented in partnership with ImaginationLancaster <http://imagination.lancaster.ac.uk>, a major new research lab at Lancaster University.

Philip Glass is presented in association with the Norfolk & Norwich Festival.

In 2010 Futuresonic will return as FutureEverything.