



# LISTENPONY

CONCERT SERIES // COMMISSIONING BODY // RECORD LABEL

**30 OCT 2021**

EXAUDI + SAMUELE TELARI + MAYA YOUSSEF  
CRYPT ON THE GREEN, CLERKENWELL

**3 MAR 2022** // JAMES LARTER + EXPLORE ENSEMBLE + THIRD ACT TBA

**9 JUN 2022** // TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT, DETAILS TBA

**LISTENPONY.COM**

**I am Become a Man** by Jack Underwood

with fats around my organs lightly  
hair grown on my shoulders  
lightly death in all my actions as I build  
a log-store shirtless in the autumn.

I hate this gathering and deepening  
beneath my pale tabard; boyhood gone  
and with it all my girlishness: hands-  
on-the-headphones-dance-move/  
lasso-move-and-shimmy; now my hips  
thrust solemn as lorries gather in a layby  
to discuss my remaining options.

I cannot leave the barbecue unsupervised  
as I focus on ignoring my body  
in the changing-rooms. Not one  
of the maximum eight permitted items  
fits me nicely. Handsome is for horses,  
house plants, hotels, tall and deco  
in dreamy pastel shades.

I've never wanted to fight anyone  
ever, or be real this way and mean it.  
I just want to bellow love unbridled,  
an elk beneath an overpass, and retire  
my life gently, so that capable hands  
need not lift much soil or sadness.

*from A Year in the New Life, published by Faber and Faber,  
2021*

**The Yellow Bittern** *from An Bonnán Buí by Cathal Buí Mac Giolla Ghunna*

It's not for common birds I'd mourn:  
the blackbird, crossbill or the crane.  
But for the bittern that's shy and apart  
and drinks in the marsh from the lone bog drain.

Oh! Had I known you were near your death  
while my breath held out I'd have run to you  
till a splash from the Lake of the Son of the Bird  
your Soul would have stirred and waked anew.

In an Island wintering  
a bittern calls from a wineless place.  
And tells me he cannot come  
till the summer is here and the sunny days.

Oh! Had I known you were near your death  
while my breath held out I'd have run to you  
till a splash from the Lake of the Son of the Bird  
your Soul would have stirred and waked anew.

*translated by Thomas MacDonagh*

SET 1

barbara MONK FELDMAN *The Gentlest Chord*  
john CAGE *Ear for EAR*  
william MARSEY *I am Become a Man* <sup>†</sup>  
domenico SCARLATTI *Sonata in A (K113)*  
j s BACH *Prelude and Fugue in f# (BWV 883)*

SET 2

morton FELDMAN *Only*  
guillaume de MACHAUT *Tres douce dame*  
thomas MORLEY *Sweet nymph*  
thomas MORLEY *In dew of roses*  
ferdinand DAVID (arr. Y. Shishkin) *Etude 16*  
soosan LOLAVAR *Human Voices* <sup>†</sup>

SET 3

ANON (English 14thC) *Byrd one brere*  
thomas MORLEY *In nets of golden wyres*  
louise DREWETT *The Yellow Bittern* <sup>†</sup>  
camille SAINT-SAËNS *Danse Macabre*

SET 4

MAYA YOUSSEF

<sup>†</sup> Listenpony commission, world premiere

SOOSAN LOLAVAR [soosanlolavar.com](http://soosanlolavar.com)  
LOUISE DREWETT [louisedrewett.com](http://louisedrewett.com)  
WILLIAM MARSEY [wmarsey.com](http://wmarsey.com)

EXAUDI [exaudi.org.uk](http://exaudi.org.uk)  
SAMUELE TELARI [samueletelari.it](http://samueletelari.it)  
MAYA YOUSSEF [mayayoussef.com](http://mayayoussef.com)

Listenpony is a concert series, commissioning body and record label for new and old and pop music. This is our nineteenth event.

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