

PRESS RELEASE  
Sunday, 19 July 2015

## RICHARD LONG SONG CYCLE PREMIERES IN LONDON

A new song cycle which uses eminent British artist Richard Long's Dartmoor textworks as song texts will be premiered this week at London's New Diorama Theatre as part of the annual Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival, King's Cross.

Written by Australian-born composer Caitlin Rowley, *CROSSING DARTMOOR* has its roots in Long's work and working process, not only using the textworks directly, but drawing on Long's creative practice to develop the composition. The resulting work incorporates field recordings and video recorded on Dartmoor by the composer, as well as songs for tenor and piano and gestural text-score pieces.

A theatrical production which focuses on memory and the experience of walking the moor, the cycle will be performed by Simon Oliver Marsh, a young Devon-born tenor who commissioned the work, with Bulgarian pianist Alexandra Kremakova, and directed by the rising young opera director Omar Shahryar. Performances will be at the New Diorama Theatre in London at 7pm on Saturday 25 July, and at 3pm on Sunday 26 July. These performances of *CROSSING DARTMOOR* are supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and presented with the support of Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival, King's Cross. Tickets are available from the King's Place Box Office.

Caitlin Rowley's experimental and interdisciplinary compositions explore the boundaries of music, art and text. Recent work has included installations and performance art pieces for the South London cross-arts collective Bastard Assignments, a new orchestral work for The Angel Orchestra and a series of experimental vocal pieces in the form of fine art prints that have recently been exhibited as part of The Engine Room's international sound art competition exhibition at Morley College. Her work on *CROSSING DARTMOOR* is supported by a Francis Chagrin Award from Sound and Music.

"Richard Long's work has become extremely important to me over the course of composing *CROSSING DARTMOOR*," says Rowley. "Studying his creative practice has provided me with a range of ideas about ways to connect artistically with the landscape that is the focus of the work, and about how I approach my materials." The cycle explores a number of themes relating to Long's work and the experience of walking the moor, including the passage of time, maps, visual representation of landscape and sounds of place.

**For more information, contact:** Caitlin Rowley at [caitlin@caitlinrowley.com](mailto:caitlin@caitlinrowley.com) or by phone at 07871 573 038.

-ENDS-

## Note to editors:

- *Crossing Dartmoor* is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. To find out more about the Arts Council visit <http://artscouncil.org.uk>
- The composition of *Crossing Dartmoor* is supported by Sound and Music through a Francis Chagrin Award. To find out more about Sound and Music, visit <http://soundandmusic.org.uk>
- Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival, King's Cross is an annual celebration of new opera held in London. To find out more, visit <http://www.tete-a-tete.org.uk/>
- For more information about *Crossing Dartmoor*, visit the website at <http://crossingdartmoor.uk>. For Twitter updates, follow [@crossdartmoor](https://twitter.com/crossdartmoor)
- For more information about the creative team, visit their websites:  
Composer Caitlin Rowley: <http://caitlinrowley.com>  
Artist Richard Long: <http://www.richardlong.org/>  
Singer Simon Oliver Marsh: <http://simonolivermarsh.com/>  
Pianist Alexandra Kremakova: <http://www.alexandrakremakova.com/>  
Director Omar Shahryar: <http://omarshahryar.info/>
- Performances are at the New Diorama Theatre, 15-16 Triton Street, Regents Place, London NW1 3BF. Nearest tube is Great Portland Street or Warren Street. Performances at 7pm Saturday 25 July 2015, and 3pm Sunday 26 July 2015. Performances are approximately 40 minutes in duration. Tickets £7.50 from Kings Place Box Office at <http://www.kingsplace.co.uk/whats-on-book-tickets/music/caitlin-rowley-crossing-dartmoor>
- Interviews can be arranged with composer Caitlin Rowley.
- A press kit containing promotional images, link to recordings and other resources is available on the Crossing Dartmoor website at <http://crossingdartmoor.uk/about/press-kit/>



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