

**IMMA
THE GREAT HALL
THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2024
7.30-8.30PM**

**SOUNDS FOR NEW SEEDS
CAMILLE NORMENT 2023**

4 vocalists, bass - soprano

Glass Armonica

Electric Guitar

Hardingfele

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

Flute

Trumpet

Trombone

Feedback

Live spatialization

Introduction

IMMA presents Camille Norment's composition *Sounds For New Seeds* (2023) live for one-night only in The Great Hall at IMMA. *Sounds For New Seeds* is composed for an instrument and vocal ensemble that includes the rare glass armonica, the Norwegian hardingfele, electric guitar and feedback amongst the brass and string instrumentation. The ensemble forms a ring around the audience, and for this event, the piece will be performed by Ireland's leading new music ensemble, Crash Ensemble, members from Norment's own core ensemble from Norway - the Camille Norment Trio - and vocalists from Oslo 14.

Visual artist, composer and performer Camille Norment is at home both in the world of exhibitions and music, exploring the spaces of sound and their relation to bodies, thoughts and actions. Norment's multimedia installations explore socio-cultural and psychological phenomena through what she describes as cultural psychoacoustics, which is about how context, form, space and the viewer's body interact in the formation of somatic and cognitive experiences.

In Norment's work, the power of sound and music is a magic force that envelops the listening body in its transformation of perceptions and possibilities. Sonic agency, and change through thought and action, can be as quiet as the quiver of a single butterfly on a string, or a whisper that becomes the roar of sonic feedback.

Sounds For New Seeds listens to locate and gestures to produce new seeds for the future, scattering them around and setting them to grow. The piece is not meant as sentimental but rather as impassioned, practical work through sound.

About the Artist



Camille Norment's work has recently been shown in solo exhibitions at the Bergen Kunsthall (2023); Dia Art Foundation in New York (2022–23); the David Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago (2019); the Oslo Kunstforening (2017); and Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin (2017). Since her solo presentation in the Nordic Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015, she has participated in the Kochi-Muziris (2016), Montreal (2016), Lyon (2017), and Thailand (2018) biennials. She has produced several permanent artwork commissions for public spaces. In 2024, Camille Norment was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from The University of Bergen for her practice and contributions to artistic knowledge.

About the Performers

Camille Norment Trio

Camille Norment Trio features artist Camille Norment on the glass armonica, electronics and voice with musicians Vegar Vårdal on Norwegian Hardanger fiddle and Håvard Skaset on electric guitar. This unique trio of voices investigates the visceral qualities of resonance, noise, and overtone, creating music that enacts and deconstructs cultural and historical positions relevant to each of the instruments. Each of the instruments have been simultaneously revered and feared or even outlawed at various points in their histories. The sonic worlds they create resonate through a tantalising union of the instruments' voices and their often-paradoxical cultural histories. Their performance is an organic movement between the composed and the improvised, creating a dynamic soundscape that defies a fixed genre reference. Their mysterious sonic environments hover at the meeting points of folk, rock, classical, experimental music, and more. The Camille Norment Trio has been performing internationally since it was founded in 2010.

Crash Ensemble

Crash Ensemble is Ireland's leading new music ensemble; a group of world-class musicians who play the most adventurous, ground-breaking music of today. Amazingly ordinary people doing extraordinary things – Crash is innovative, adventurous and ambitious.

Led by cellist and Artistic Director, Kate Ellis and Principal Conductor, Ryan McAdams, the ensemble commissions, collaborates, explores, investigates and experiments with a broad spectrum of music creators and artistic collaborators: 'We love to innovate, with quality always at the heart of everything we do. We are passionate about the music we play. We create experiences; exploring new ways of presenting music and bringing our audiences on new adventures. Community for us is key – our community inspires us to create and experiment more. We value our audiences and our connection with them.'

Crash Ensemble perform both in Ireland and internationally. The ensemble's music is available on their own label, Crash Records and they have recordings on Nonesuch, Cantaloupe, NMC, Ergodos and Bedroom Community labels.

Many well-known artists from diverse musical backgrounds have performed with the ensemble; Terry Reilly, Gavin Friday, Dawn Upshaw, Diamanda La Berge Dramm, Laurie Anderson, Lisa Hannigan, Íarla Ó Lionáird (The Gloaming), Bryce Dessner (The National), Richard Reed Parry (Arcade Fire), Sam Amidon and Beth Orton.

As well as performing throughout Ireland, Crash Ensemble regularly perform internationally, with appearances in the last few years at the Edinburgh International Festival, The Royal Opera House (London), The Barbican (London), Carnegie Hall (NYC) The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington DC), Virginia Tech (Virginia), GAIDA Festival (Lithuania) and residencies at The Huddersfield Contemporary Music festival (UK) and Princeton University (NJ).

Crash Ensemble is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland, Culture Ireland and Dublin City Council, is a resident ensemble at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland and at Kilkenny Arts Festival, Ireland.

For *Sounds For New Seeds*, performers from Crash Ensemble feature:

Lisa Dowdall, viola

Kate Ellis, cello

Caimin Gilmore, double bass

Susan Doyle, flute

David Collins, trumpet

Colm O'Hara, trombone

Oslo 14

The vocal ensemble Oslo 14 was founded in 2014 by Elin Rosseland and fourteen singers. Today, the ensemble consists of a pool of up to 20 improvising vocalists:

Gro-Marthe Dickson, Åshild Bergill Hagen, Live Foyen Friis, Petter Hauglum, Guro Eliassen Kverndokk, Hedda Hammer Myhre, Marika Schultze, Karoline Ruderaas Jerve, Sean Bell, and Bendik Sells (artistic director).

Oslo 14's mission is to explore movement, experimentation, and improvisation. By incorporating both collective and solo improvisation elements into composed works, the ensemble aims to expand the boundaries of vocal music in choral and ensemble formats. Additionally, Oslo 14 frequently works with free improvisation, presenting several concerts each year with entirely improvised material.

Oslo 14 participated in the premiere of Camille Norment's *Sounds For New Seeds* at Bergen Kunsthall in 2023. At IMMA, *Sounds For New Seeds* will be performed with:

Bendik Sells

Petter Hauglum Bermingrud

Gro-Marthe Dickson

Åshild Bergill Hagen

Oslo 14 made its debut at nyMusikk's Only Connect Festival in 2015, performing the commissioned work "Mass for the Witch Woman" by Susanna. Since then, the ensemble has collaborated with a wide range of Norwegian contemporary composers in developing and performing new music, including Lisa Dillan, Sofia Jernberg, Wenche Losnegård, Jessica Slighter, Ole-Henrik Giørtz, Guro Skumsnes Moe, Andreas Backer, Tone Åse, Tine Surel Lange, Eric S. Egan, and Agnes Ida Pettersen. Oslo 14 has also contributed to performances and recordings for Camille Norment's installation at the 2015 Venice Biennale, and worked with Jokleba for a tribute concert of John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme* at the Oslo Jazz Festival the same year.

Since autumn 2021, Oslo 14 has performed at several prestigious events, including the official opening of the MUNCH museum in Oslo, the Bergen International Festival,

the Tonehimmel concert series in Volda, and multiple tours across Eastern Norway. The ensemble has also premiered new works by Camille Norment, Elin Rosseland, Guro Skumsnes Moe, and Bendik Sells.

Thorolf Thuestad

Thorolf Thuestad is a sound engineer, sound artist, composer, sound-designer and kinetic sculptor. He studied musicology, music technology and composition at the University of Trondheim, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and at the Utrecht School of Arts. Thuestad was awarded a PhD from The University of Bergen, Grieg Academy with the artistic research project *Emotional machines - composing for unstable media*. As an artist, he has worked extensively within stage arts, contemporary music, composition and film music. As a sound engineer, he focuses particular attention on catering to the needs of contemporary music. Notable collaborators include *Verdensteateret*, *Transiteateret*, *Bit20 ensemble* and *Ursus productions*. Thorolf co-founded and runs the music-theatre company Neither Nor with Alwynne Pritchard. He has been awarded the Norwegian Arts Council one-year artist's stipend three times.

Times

Doors open 7pm

Performance starts 7.30pm

Latecomers may not be admitted

Complimentary refreshments from 8.15pm in the Johnston Suite

Ends 9pm

Seating & Photography

No assigned seating. You're welcome to choose your seats.

The performance will be documented by IMMA for archival, learning and promotional purposes using photography, video and audio recording for the duration of the event.

Acknowledgements

Camille Norment: *Sounds For New Seeds* at IMMA is curated by Mary Cremin, Head of Programming, IMMA, as a key performance within the group exhibition *Take a Breath*, running in the museum galleries from 14 June 2024 to 17 March 2025.

A composition in six parts for instrumentation and choreography, *Sounds For New Seeds* was originally commissioned by Bergen International Festival 2023.

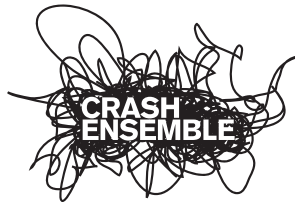
IMMA would like to sincerely thank the artist Camille Norment together with the performers of her work, Camille Norment Trio, Crash Ensemble, and Oslo 14. We would also like to thank the funders who helped realise this exhibition, including our IMMA Corporate Partners, Individual Supporters, and Grants & Foundation Partners.

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Image Page 2:

Camille Norment, portrait.

Image courtesy the artist.

Photography Herman Dreyer.

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