

Can You Hear Us? The National Gallery And Rankin Team Up To Support The Launch Of Youth Music Week 2007

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

24th October 2007
The National Gallery, London

Youth Music, The National Gallery, photographer Rankin and the best names in British music have teamed up to support the launch of Youth Music Week 2007.

On the 24th of October, a day of workshops, masterclasses and showcases in the National Gallery will kick start the largest series of music events ever put on for young people in England and Wales. Rt Hon James Purnell MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, will be speaking at 6.30pm during the VIP and press reception at The National Gallery.

This groundbreaking cross arts event has been made possible as a result of the collaboration between Youth Music and the National Gallery.

Young musicians and the public will be able to see, hear, and take part in the best of Youth Music's work. Workshops in six categories – Jazz, Urban, Early Years, Drumming, Singing and Rock – will take inspiration from the richness and diversity of the National Gallery's permanent collection and the 'Scratch the Surface' exhibition to create unique workshops and performances.

The workshop will take place in rooms throughout the Gallery and will focus on works from 1250–1900. Six spaces in the National Gallery will be transformed into aural environments for the day, each reflecting and interacting with the art around them. The sessions will be led by Youth Music's experienced music leaders in collaboration with arts professionals from The National Gallery, with contributions from famous artists including All Angels and Lil' Chris. The workshops will be for 30 children and young people, operating on a first come first served basis. Look out for further announcements regarding masterclass leaders.

Rankin has supported the launch by shooting a series of portraits of the best established and new acts in British music, including Faithless, Goldie, Hailey Westenra, Beverly Knight, Pull Tiger Tail, Lil Chris and Courtney Pine – all wearing the signature Youth Music headphones!

In the week between the 24th of October – 1st November, Youth Music Action Zones, whose work is delivered primarily in areas of social and economic need across England and Wales, will roll out a series of taster sessions and workshops showcasing their work – from beat boxing to playing the oboe, there's something to try at each and every Action Zone.

Quotes
National Gallery

'The National Gallery is delighted to be working in partnership with Youth Music to support the launch of Youth Music Week 2007 because this event builds on and develops our innovative educational programme for families and young people. The event will provide a diverse range of opportunities for families and young people to be hands-on and experience the collection interactively through music. The National Gallery's collection and exhibitions represent universal themes relevant to all cultures and generations. The workshops and performances relate directly to the collection and have been developed in response to selected paintings in the permanent collection and the Scratch the Surface exhibition.'

Youth Music

'The aim of Youth Music week is to attract and inspire young people to take advantage of our resources nationally. As the UK's leading supporter of extra curricular music making, we're delighted to be working with one of the UK's most prestigious venues to showcase our work and develop it's relationship with the wider arts community.'