

Manchester Collective broadcast genre-bending *Sirocco* with Abel Selaocoe



[Watch Abel Selaocoe & Chesaba join Manchester Collective in a live clip from *Sirocco: an African arrangement of Danish folk song "O Fredrik, O Fredrik"*](#)

"Catch it if you can – the future has arrived"

Stephen Pritchard, Bachtrack

This Summer **Manchester Collective** refocuses towards recordings and broadcasts, with the Collective's weekly Isolation Broadcast series culminating in a filmed performance of *Sirocco* on Saturday 27 June with the cellist Abel Selaocoe. In August 2020, Manchester Collective will release their debut EP, *Recreation*, on the Bedroom Community label and will head back to the studio to make further recordings.

Manchester Collective is the daring and disruptive arts organisation founded in 2016 by **Rakhi Singh** and **Adam Szabo**, challenging pre-conceptions and provoking reactions with fearless programmes of classical and contemporary music, fuelled by unexpected collaborations.

To be broadcast on the Collective's YouTube channel on 27 June, *Sirocco* is guest-directed by South African cellist **Abel Selaocoe** and has received rave reviews since its 2018 premiere. *Sirocco* is a great storm of music that celebrates the warmth and diversity of cultural traditions from across the globe.

Selaocoe and his band **Chesaba** join Manchester Collective in a show covering everything from outrageous arrangements for solo cello to beloved classics by Stravinsky and Haydn; from a set of original African music to a collection of gorgeous Danish folk songs.

"Sirocco is a once in a lifetime experience"

Plays To See



Previous weekly **Isolation Broadcasts** from The Collective have featured full video performances of *Pierrot Lunaire*, Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* and *Paradise Lost* (a new work by Seb Gainsborough & Rakhi Singh), all taken from live performances in intimate multi-camera set-ups.

Final Isolation Broadcast: *Sirocco*

Saturday 27 June, 20:00

manchestercollective.co.uk/sirocco-online-premiere

Sollima *Lamentatio*

Chesaba *Improvisation*

Lawes *Aire in C*

Haydn Op. 76 No. 1, II. *Adagio*
Sostenuto

Trad. *Ibuyile* (South Africa)

Trad. *Takamba* (Mali)

Stravinsky *Concertino*

Trad. *Old Reinlender from Sonndala*
(Denmark)

Trad. *Shaka* (Ivory Coast)

Trad. *O Fredrik, O Fredrik* (Denmark)

Purcell *Excerpts from The Fairy Queen*

Trad. *Ka Bohaleng* (South Africa)

Abel Selaocoe cello

Rakhi Singh violin

Simmy Singh violin

Ruth Gibson viola

Alan Keary electric bass

Sidiki Dembele percussion

Manchester Collective



Manchester Collective are changing the way people experience live music. Since their first set of "powerful, moving, & extraordinary" shows in 2017 (Yorkshire Post), the work of the Collective has expanded at breakneck speed. They now play in concert halls, warehouses, and factory spaces in 18 cities across Europe and the UK, performing a combination of cutting edge new music, classical masterpieces, and staged theatrical work to a hungry, new audience.

Performing highlights include international concert debuts in Holland, Switzerland, and Northern Ireland; appearances at the Southbank Centre in London to perform *The Centre is Everywhere*, a major new commission by Edmund Finnis; and a critically acclaimed tour of *Pierrot Lunaire*, a staged production of Arnold Schoenberg's masterpiece featuring a newly commissioned English libretto by David Pountney, and presented by BBC 6 Music's Elizabeth Alker. New music has always been of vital importance to the Collective – in 2019/20 they commissioned major new works by Paul Clark, Erland Cooper, and Alex Groves.

Manchester Collective's work has been featured by the BBC on an ongoing basis, with regular appearances on BBC Radio 3. Recordings have also appeared on Classic FM, NTS Radio, Melodic Distraction and on Michael Price's *Tender Symmetry* album, released on the Erased Tapes label in 2018.

manchestercollective.co.uk

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