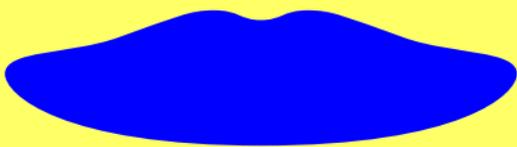


Sat. 1, 8 &  
15 July '17

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Welcome to *Interdependence: We Need to Talk*. In the last year, it's sometimes seemed that we can only shout at each other these days, trying to project our fixed opinions as loudly as possible at those who don't agree. We need less shouting, less trolling. We need to listen to each other for a change. But even more importantly, we need to talk – to exchange ideas and to discover, through dialogue, that our opinions are only a starting point in our journey towards new, better thoughts, shaped through our exchanges with others.

And so *Interdependence* at MIF17 is based around the format of the conversation, the dialogue: brilliant artists and thinkers from the MIF programme and beyond meeting each other and meeting us, the audience, in the hope that we, and they, will be changed by the encounter. Thank you to all of our wonderful speakers and especially to artist Lubaina Himid who has also created our inaugural *Interdependence* stage commission.

Power. Heroes. Technology. Community. Truth. Change. Massive ideas for massive times! Let's get the talking started.

John McGrath  
Artistic Director & CEO  
Manchester International Festival

Saturday 1 July, 10.30am–1pm

Hallé St Peter's

*We need to talk about*

## **Power**

7

Saturday 1 July, 2–4.30pm

Hallé St Peter's

*We need to talk about*

## **Heroes**

9

Saturday 8 July, 10.30am–1pm

The Stoller Hall

*We need to talk about*

## **Technology**

11

Saturday 8 July, 2–4.30pm

The Stoller Hall

*We need to talk about*

## **Community**

13

Saturday 15 July, 10.30am–1pm

Albert Hall

*We need to talk about*

## **Truth**

15

Saturday 15 July, 2–5pm

Albert Hall

*We need to talk about*

## **Change**

17

Speakers

19–28

Acknowledgments

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Saturday 1 July  
10.30am–1pm

Co-presented with FutureEverything

*We need to talk about*

# Power



**Sharmeen  
Obaid-Chinoy**<sup>p.26</sup>  
& **David Olusoga**<sup>p.27</sup>  
in conversation

Pakistani film-maker **Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy**'s remarkable career has been devoted to spotlighting ignored human stories and holding those in power to account. Documentaries targeting subjects such as acid attacks and honour killings have garnered Academy Awards and provoked Pakistan's Prime Minister to declare 'there is no honour in honour killing'. 'That,' Chinoy says, 'is the power of film.' Angelina Jolie has said of Obaid-Chinoy's work that she gives 'voice to those who cannot be heard, she celebrates the strength and resilience of those fighting against seemingly insurmountable odds - and winning.' For MIF17 Obaid-Chinoy has created her first multimedia installation, the remarkable *HOME1947*, giving voice to the personal stories of the partition of British India.

Obaid-Chinoy will be in conversation with **David Olusoga**, award-winning journalist, broadcaster and author. With acclaimed BBC series and books such as *Black and British: A Forgotten History*, Olusoga is one of the UK's most respected voices of Black British history, uncovering the stories people don't want to talk about and revealing the extraordinarily long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa and how black history is woven into the cultural and economic histories of the nation.

## Naming The Money

This year *Interdependence* features a unique set commission by **Lubaina Himid**.<sup>p.23</sup> Himid works across canvas, collage, cut-outs and installation. Born in Zanzibar, Himid has made a vital contribution as an artist, curator, archivist and writer over the past four decades. Himid's narratives question received ideas by reasserting the importance of marginalised histories and visual cultures.

The MIF17 commission follows an amazing year for the artist. She has had survey shows at Spike Island, Bristol; Modern Art Oxford, and Nottingham Contemporary. She is short-listed for the Turner Prize 2017.

## What Can We Demand of the Digital Age?

What is the relationship between power and digital culture? With the rise of 'fake news' contorting the ways in which we see the world, do we need to reinvent the role of narrative to suit our rapidly evolving, technologically mediated society?

Join three authors for a unique literary event. Acclaimed author **Andrew O'Hagan**,<sup>p.26</sup> whose new book *The Secret Life*, is an exploration of identity, secrecy and technology and includes a frank portrait of Julian Assange; **Deanna Rodger**,<sup>p.27</sup> trailblazing spoken word artist and curator of *Come Rhyme With Me*; and anthropologist **Jason Hickel**,<sup>p.22</sup> author of *The Divide: The Story of Global Inequality and its Solutions*.

Presented by the multi-award-winning Manchester-based live literature team, **Bad Language**,<sup>p.19</sup> and Manchester's award-winning lab for digital culture, **FutureEverything**.<sup>p.21</sup>



Saturday 1 July  
2–4.30pm

Co-presented with FutureEverything

*We need to talk about*

# Heroes



## Phil Collins<sup>p.21</sup> & Astrid Proll:<sup>p.27</sup> Radicals then and now

**Phil Collins**, the Turner Prize-nominated British artist behind *Ceremony* at MIF17, will be joined by **Astrid Proll**, an early member of the Baader-Meinhof Group who went on to become a picture editor influential in the careers of Wolfgang Tillmans and Martin Parr.

Together they look back at the radical art and politics of the 1970s, and discuss what power radicals hold today.

## Yael Bartana:<sup>p.19</sup> Reinventing heroism for the 21st century

9

**Yael Bartana** is an Israeli-born artist whose work explores identity and the politics of memory.

Bartana discusses *What if Women Ruled the World?*, her ambitious art experiment for MIF17 that calls for a redefinition of heroism by bringing together diverse, ordinary women to try to solve some of today's greatest challenges. The experimental work, which riffs on Kubrick's doomsday portrait of out-of-control masculinity, *Dr Strangelove*, has been co-created with the award-winning writer Abi Morgan (*The Iron Lady*, *Suffragette*) and Vicky Featherstone, the Artistic Director of the Royal Court Theatre.

## Celebrating an Unsung Manchester Hero

Less than 10% of Wikipedia contributors identify as female, leading to a significant gender gap in the website's content on women. **FutureEverything<sup>p.21</sup>** want you to help us play a small but vital role in building this archive. Through a wide call-out on social media, one unsung heroine from Manchester has been selected to add to Wikipedia.

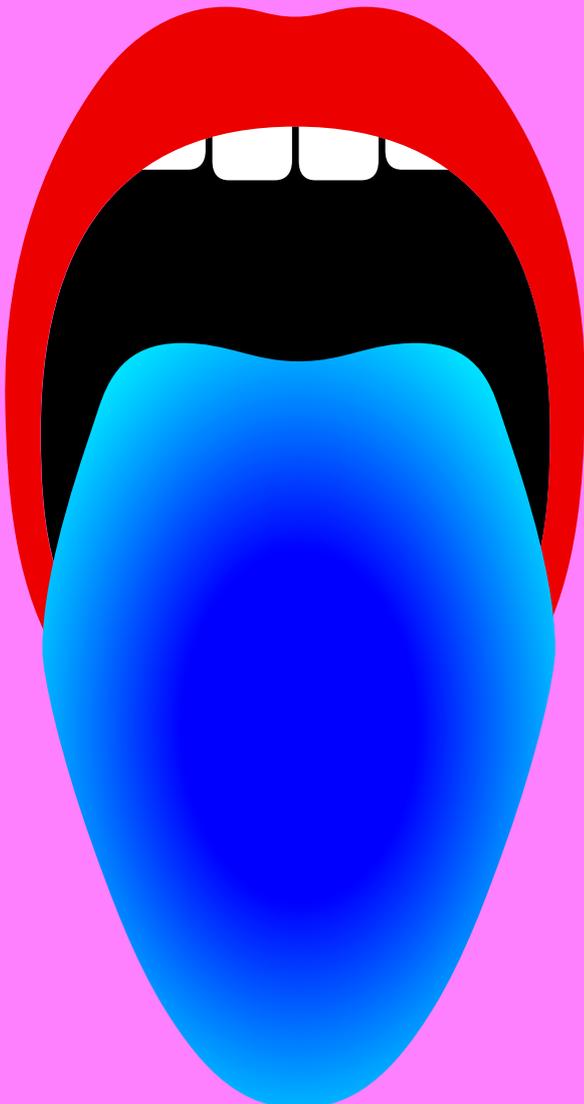
Find out about this deserving pioneer and join in as a crack wiki-team source stories, pictures, news articles and journals to build their online profile live during the event.

Saturday 8 July  
10.30am–1pm

Co-presented with The Guardian

*We need to talk about*

# Tech nol ogy



## Laurie Anderson<sup>p.19</sup> & Wayne McGregor<sup>p.25</sup> in conversation

A very special meeting of minds. Multimedia artist and musician **Laurie Anderson** has used cutting-edge technology to tell profound and ancient human stories for more than 30 years, and has described technology as the ‘campfire around which we tell our stories’. **Wayne McGregor** is considered the UK’s most innovative choreographer and radical inter-disciplinary collaborators include neuroscientists and heart-imaging specialists. He is currently working on a new project with Google.

Anderson and McGregor will be in conversation for the first time at *Interdependence*, discussing technology, art, minds, stories, bodies, virtual reality and breaking the rules. Hosted by leading technology writer and broadcaster **Dr Aleks Krotoski**.<sup>p.24</sup>

## Love, Sex and The Internet

**Nina Freeman**,<sup>p.21</sup> one of the most innovative and individual video game designers working today, has created a frank and intimate new video game for MIF17: *Lost Memories DotNet*, available for free until 16 July at [mif.co.uk](http://mif.co.uk).

Freeman and games critic and co-founder of [letsplayvideogames.com](http://letsplayvideogames.com), **Laura Kate Dale**,<sup>p.21</sup> take you on a digital tour through gender and identity in the 21st century.

## Guardian Live: How will AI change the world?

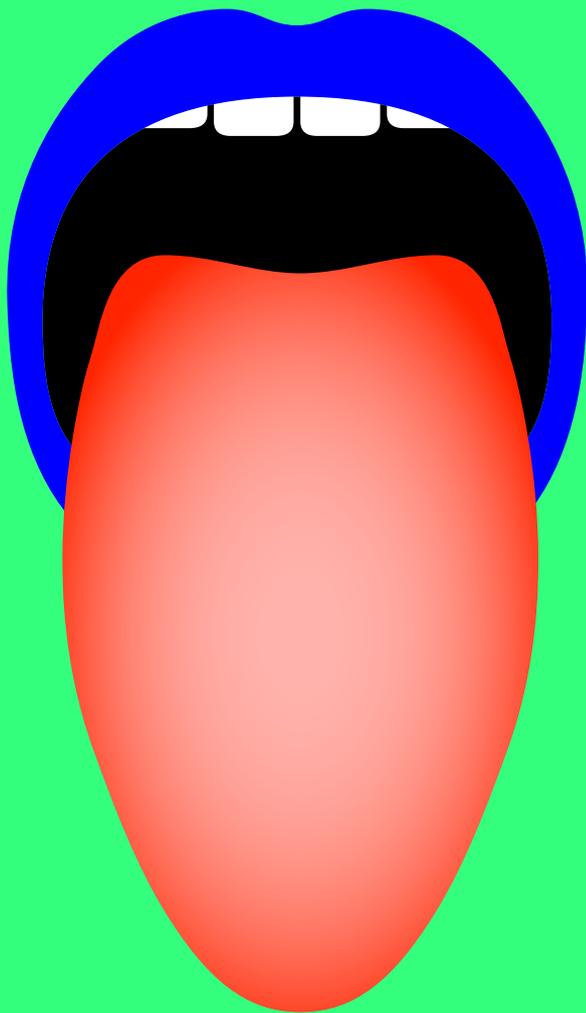
Academics such as Yuval Noah Harari and Stephen Hawking have warned against the dangers of AI. According to Harari, ‘the crucial problem is creating new jobs that humans perform better than algorithms. Consequently, by 2050 a new class of people might emerge – the useless class. People who are not just unemployed, but unemployable.’ While the science fiction scenario of robots outsmarting humans still seems a long way in the future, how significant are the risks? What are the dangers of the AI that is already here – the algorithms used by banks, police, the military, employers and others? What will be our relationship with robots and AI in the future? And what do we mean when we talk about machine ‘intelligence’?

Join companion robot **MiRo**,<sup>p.25</sup> *Guardian* science correspondent **Hannah Devlin**,<sup>p.21</sup> **Professor Tony Prescott**,<sup>p.27</sup> **Professor Joanna Bryson**<sup>p.20</sup> and **Professor Björn Schuller**<sup>p.28</sup> for a discussion of AI today, and the risks and ethical challenges it presents for the future.

Saturday 8 July  
2–4.30pm

*We need to talk about*

# Com mu nity



OMA<sup>p.26</sup>

## & Hans Ulrich Obrist<sup>p.26</sup> in conversation

Rem Koolhaas's **OMA**, arguably the world's leading architecture practice, is currently designing The Factory, MIF's future permanent home and a new cultural space for Manchester scheduled to open in 2020.

OMA will be in conversation with **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, the Artistic Director of London's Serpentine Galleries and an Artistic Advisor to MIF.

## How Do We Create Value in People and in Places?

A discussion on art and urban renewal with **Rick Lowe**,<sup>p.25</sup> the founder of the pioneering Project Row Houses (PRH) in Houston, Texas that has been described by *The New York Times* as 'one of the most original and ambitious works of art of the past century'.

PRH is built on the principle that art and the community it creates can be the foundation for revitalising depressed inner-city neighbourhoods – an idea that derives in part from Joseph Beuys' concept of 'social sculpture'. At its founding, PRH consisted of 22 houses on a block and a half; today, it occupies six blocks that are home to 40 properties, including exhibition and residency spaces for artists.

## How to Create R-evolution!

**Birgitta Jónsdóttir**<sup>p.24</sup> is an Icelandic poet-turned-activist. In 2012, Jónsdóttir co-founded the Pirate Party, which last year came third in Iceland's election and is now mandated to put together a majority coalition in the country's parliament.

Jónsdóttir invites you to pay tribute to her friend Chelsea Manning.

## Bizarre Love Triangles: The Chemistry of Creativity

How did a Salford band come to influence four decades of cutting-edge pop culture? **Hans Ulrich Obrist** talks to artist **Liam Gillick**,<sup>p.22</sup> designer **Peter Saville**<sup>p.28</sup> and curator **Matthew Higgs**<sup>p.23</sup> about *New Order + Liam Gillick: So it goes...* (at Old Granada Studios) and *True Faith* (at Manchester Art Gallery), two MIF17 projects exploring the ongoing legacy of New Order and Joy Division.

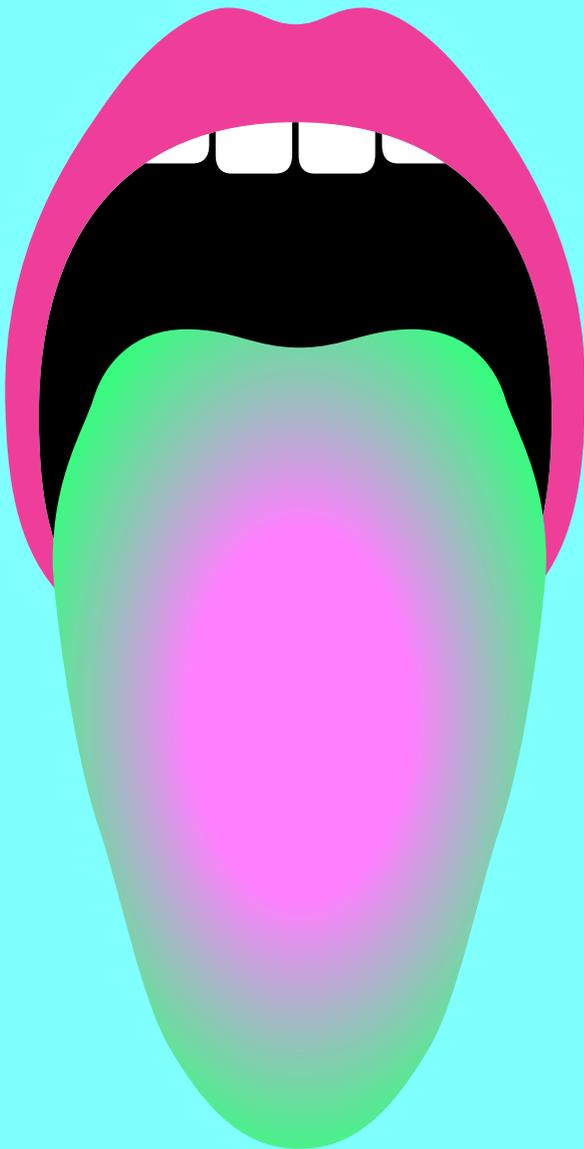
## Creating Manchester Street Poem

What role can the arts play in homelessness services and social transformation? **Karl Hyde**<sup>p.23</sup> from Underworld joins collaborators **Joanne Wilson**<sup>p.28</sup> who has been homeless and now volunteers at the day centre that helped her get off the streets, and **Jez Green**<sup>p.22</sup> from homeless charity, Mustard Tree, to discuss *Manchester Street Poem*.

Co-created by Underworld and individuals with personal experience of homelessness for MIF17, *Manchester Street Poem* is a live art installation that spotlights the stories of those who find themselves homeless in the city. Chaired by Kevin Gopal, the editor of *Big Issue North*.

Saturday 15 July  
10.30am–1pm

*We need to talk about*  
**Truth**



**Boris Charmatz**<sup>p.20</sup>  
& **Matthias von Hartz**<sup>p.24</sup>  
Are you angry or  
are you dancing?

Can the body be a site of resistance? Can dance create spaces of protest?

On the final date of his three-week residency in Manchester, **Boris Charmatz**, one of Europe's most daring choreographers, will be joined by curator **Matthias von Hartz** to discuss his pioneering work *10000 Gestures*, presented at MIF17.

## Practice

**Grace Wales Bonner**<sup>p.20</sup> one of today's most original creative voices, screens *Practice*, a new short film directed with **Harley Weir**<sup>p.28</sup> starring South African teen ballet sensation Leroy Mokgatle and scored by Devonte Hynes (aka Blood Orange).

Fantasy and reality intertwine as a broad spectrum of dance and the extremes of discipline and resilience are explored through the people we meet along the way, collaging scenes spanning Johannesburg and Cape Town. The screening will be followed by a Q&A hosted by **Varaidzo**<sup>p.28</sup> the Arts & Culture editor at *gal-dem*, whose writing has been featured in *The New Statesman*, *Dazed* and the award-winning anthology *The Good Immigrant*.

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## Who to trust in the post-truth age? Meet today's fearless truthsayers

Meet four exceptional individuals speaking truth to power in the post-truth age. **Nujeen Mustafa**<sup>p.25</sup> is determined to put a human face on an ongoing global emergency. Born with cerebral palsy and unable to walk, she was forced to flee her home in Syria in 2012 and travelled 3,500 miles in a wheelchair (pushed by her sister) to seek a new life in Europe. Leading Foreign Correspondent **Christina Lamb**<sup>p.24</sup> is co-author with Nujeen Mustafa of *The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom*. She is co-author of *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* with Malala Yousafzai, and the author of *Farewell Kabul*. **Joanna Natasegara**<sup>p.26</sup> is the producer of academy-award winning documentaries *The White Helmets*, about Syria's volunteer search and rescue team, and *Virunga*, championing the brave game-keepers dying to protect Eastern Congo's national park. **James Ball**<sup>p.19</sup> is the author of *Post-Truth: How Bullshit Conquered the World* and an award-winning investigative reporter.

Saturday 15 July  
2–5pm

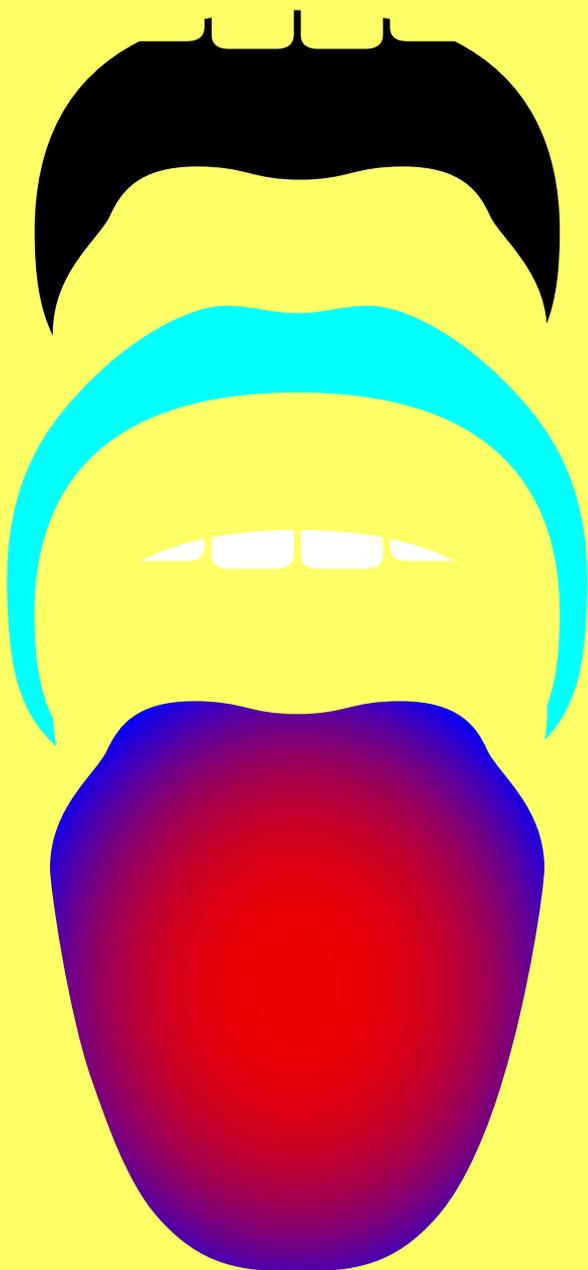
Co-presented with VICE

*We need to talk about*

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## VICE Census goes live in Manchester

MIF and VICE join forces for an afternoon of discussions, comedy and deviance. Has this election made you feel like change is possible? Do you want to talk about the sort of Britain we live in? Are you underrepresented, an outlier, ignored by the mainstream? Have you ever wanted to look VICE Staff Writer Joel Golby in the eye and tell him what you really think of him? The 'VICE Census: Counting Britain's politics, subcultures and ideals' is a living, breathing record of the UK that counts young people, their politics, subcultures and ideals.

We will be discussing the huge youth turnout at the election with MPs, campaigners and academics including **Professor Michael Bruter** p.20 and Momentum's **Beth Foster-Ogg** p.21

There will be live contributions and performances from:

Blackpool grime artists

**Little T** p.19

**Afghan Dan** p.19

and **Soph Aspin** p.19

activist

**Saffiyah Khan** p.24

VICE stars

**Joel Golby** p.22

**Zing Tsjeng** p.28

and **Clive Martin** p.25

stars of VICELAND's *Brexit Stage Left*

**Alfie Brown** p.20

and **Fern Brady** p.20

Comic and activist

**Rants N Bants** p.27

and some very special guests.

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## Laurie Anderson

Laurie Anderson is one of America's most renowned and daring creative pioneers. She is best known for her multimedia presentations and innovative use of technology. As writer, director, visual artist and vocalist, she has created groundbreaking works that span the worlds of art, theatre and experimental music. Her recording career was launched by *O Superman* in 1981. Her acclaimed live shows range from simple spoken word to elaborate multimedia stage performances. Anderson has published seven books and her visual work has been presented in major museums around the world. Her awards include the prestigious Dorothy & Lillian Gish Prize for outstanding contribution to the arts and the Pratt Institute's Honorary Legends Award. Her film *Heart of a Dog* was chosen as an official selection of the 2015 Venice and Toronto Film Festivals. In the same year, her exhibition *Habeas Corpus* opened at the Park Avenue Armory to wide critical acclaim, and in 2016, she was the recipient of Yoko Ono's Courage Award for the Arts for the same project. Anderson lives in New York City.

## Bad Language

Bad Language is a multi-award-winning live literature organisation based in Manchester that curates events around the country, and is a two-time winner of Best Spoken Word Night in the UK. Bad Language is run by Joe Daly and Fat Roland.

## James Ball

James Ball is an author and journalist. He has worked in political, data and investigative journalism in the US and UK for *BuzzFeed*, *The Guardian* and *The Washington Post* in a career spanning TV, digital, print and alternative media. His reporting has won the Pulitzer Prize for public service, the Scripps Howard Prize, the British Journalism Award for investigative reporting, the Royal Statistical Society Award and the Laurence Stern Fellowship, among others. He recently published the acclaimed book *Post-Truth: How Bullshit Conquered the World* (2017).

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## Yael Bartana

Yael Bartana is a widely acclaimed Israeli-born artist whose films, installations and photographs explore the imagery of identity and the politics of memory. She represented Poland at the Venice Biennale in 2011 with the trilogy *And Europe Will Be Stunned*, and has recently worked as far afield as Finland and Brazil on projects that consider issues of individual and national identity. She is the creator of *What if Women Ruled the World?* at MIF17.

## The stars of Blackpool Grime Media – Little T, Soph Aspin, Afghan Dan

The Blackpool Grime Media YouTube channel exploded last year, with tens of millions of people watching under-18 stars slew each other in explosive freestyle. Everyone from Jme to Stormzy celebrates their skills.

## Grace Wales Bonner

Grace Wales Bonner graduated from Central Saint Martins in 2014. The following year, her eponymous line Wales Bonner was awarded Emerging Menswear Designer' at the British Fashion Awards, she received the LVMH Young Designer Prize in 2016. Informed by broad research that encompasses critical theory, composition, literature, and historical sources, Wales Bonner explores a distinctive notion of luxury via a hybrid of European and African approaches. Obtaining wide recognition, Wales Bonner has presented at the Serpentine Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum. International stockists include Dover Street Market, Selfridges, 10 Corso Como, and Joyce.

## Fern Brady

Fern Brady is a comedian, journalist and star of *Brexit Stage Left*. Brady has appeared on *8 Out of 10 Cats* and *Russell Howard's Good News*.

## Alfie Brown

Alfie Brown is a stand-up comedian and star of VICELAND's new stand-up show *Brexit Stage Left*, and has been described by *The List* as 'the future of British stand-up'.

## Professor Michael Bruter

Michael Bruter is Professor of Political Science and European Politics at the London School of Economics and leads the world's largest initiative focusing on the study of electoral psychology. The project tries to understand what goes on in the minds of voters when they are in the polling booth and how electoral ergonomics influence the way people vote and feel about elections. As part of this research, he has also been advising a number of international organisations and governments on how to increase youth turnout.

## Professor Joanna Bryson

Joanna Bryson is a transdisciplinary researcher on the structure and dynamics of human- and animal-like intelligence. Her research covers topics ranging from artificial intelligence, through autonomy and robot ethics, and on to human cooperation. Bryson is presently a Reader (associate professor) at the University of Bath, and an affiliate of Princeton University's Center for Information Technology Policy.

## Boris Charmatz

From *Aatt enen tionon* (1996) to *danse de nuit* (2016), Boris Charmatz has revolutionised dance. As associate artist of the 2011 Festival d'Avignon, Charmatz presented *enfant*, a performance for 9 children and 9 dancers in the Cour d'Honneur of the Pope's Palace. In 2013, he conceived *Musée de la danse: Three Collective Gestures*, a three-week dance programme at MoMA, New York. In 2015, he was invited to Tate Modern, London, for *If Tate Modern was Musée de la danse?* an intensive two-day performance programme throughout the museum. Charmatz continues to participate in improvisational events with artists such as Saul Williams, Archie Shepp, Médéric Collignon and continues to work as a performer with Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker and Tino Sehgal. From September 2017, Boris Charmatz will be associate artist at Volksbühne, Berlin.

## Phil Collins

Phil Collins was born in Runcorn and now lives in Berlin. He studied Drama and English at the University of Manchester, graduating in 1994. During his time there, he worked as a barman at the Hacienda nightclub on Whitworth Street. After a stint teaching performance and film theory at Royal Holloway, University of London, he joined London-based performance group Max Factory, which showed its live art projects all over the UK. Awarded the Paul Hamlyn Award for visual arts in 2001, Collins was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2006. His work is characterised by a close engagement with people and communities, reflecting on the status of the individual and the collective in our media-dominated society. Collins is presenting a new work, *Ceremony*, at MIF17 on Sunday 16 July.

## Laura Kate Dale

Laura Kate Dale is a full-time games and media critic who splits her time between serious discussions of representation politics in gaming and silly videos about video game characters' butts. She has written for *Destructoid*, *Polygon*, *Kotaku*, *VICE*, *The Guardian*, *Rock Paper Shotgun* and more.

## Hannah Devlin

Hannah Devlin is *The Guardian's* Science Correspondent, having previously been Science Editor of *The Times*. She has a PhD in biomedical imaging from the University of Oxford. Hannah also presents *The Guardian's Science Weekly* podcast.

## Nina Freeman

Nina Freeman is one of the most innovative and individual video game designers working today. Her intensely personal work explores themes of sexuality and self-reflection – such as *Cibele*, which is based on a true story about falling in love within an online game. Based in Portland, Oregon, she is a game designer at Fullbright and was included in Forbes magazine's 2015 list of influential video game industry figures. She is a co-founder of the Code Liberation Foundation, a programme offering free development workshops to facilitate the creation of video games by women. For MIF17, Freeman has created MIF's first ever game commission, *Lost Memories Dot Net*.

## Beth Foster-Ogg

Beth Foster-Ogg is a Momentum campaigner. Foster-Ogg played a crucial role in getting the youth vote to turn out for Labour and co-pioneered the 'My Nearest Marginal' site to target campaigning more effectively.

## FutureEverything

FutureEverything is an innovation agency for digital culture and a festival based in Manchester.

## Liam Gillick

Liam Gillick deploys multiple forms to expose the new ideological control systems that emerged at the beginning of the 1990s. His work extends into structural rethinking of the exhibition as a form. Gillick has exhibited widely, including documenta and the Venice, Berlin and Istanbul Biennales, representing Germany in 2009 in Venice. His solo museum exhibitions include the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, the Museum of Modern Art in New York and Tate in London. Gillick is a prolific writer and critic of contemporary art, contributing to *Artforum*, *October*, *Frieze* and *e-flux journal*. He is the author of a number of books; recent works include *Industry and Intelligence: Contemporary Art Since 1820* (Columbia University Press, 2016). High-profile public works include the British Government Home Office (Interior Ministry) building in London and the Lufthansa Headquarters in Frankfurt. He has collaborated with artists include Philippe Parreno, Lawrence Weiner and Louise Lawler. For MIF17, Gillick has co-created *New Order + Liam Gillick: So it goes...*, which is being presented at Stage 1, Old Granada Studios until Saturday 15 July.

## Joel Golby

Joel Golby is VICE's pedant-in-chief, a columnist, a spoken word performer, the creator of short stories website *Tiny Little Love Stories*, and a man who gets upset about things.

## Kevin Gopal

Kevin Gopal has been the Editor of *Big Issue North* for ten years. Before that, he was a freelance journalist covering mainly business and politics. Born and raised in the North West, he came to Manchester as a student and never left. *Big Issue North* is sold by homeless people and others who struggle to otherwise earn an income, and the magazine reflects their stories. But it is not just about homelessness: it covers arts, entertainment, politics, current affairs and more.

## Jez Green

Jez Green works for local charity Mustard Tree, whose vision is to see a Greater Manchester where everyone has the opportunity to be a connected, valued and contributing member of society. He launched and coordinated the Freedom Project, the charity's skills, training and volunteering programme, aimed at people with the greatest barriers to moving on in life. For the last 18 months, Jez has been seconded to facilitate the creation and development of the Manchester Homelessness Charter and its subsequent Partnership, working with partners from all sectors to improve Manchester's response to homelessness and including people who have experienced homelessness in every part of the work. The Manchester Homelessness Partnership is gradually changing the delivery and culture of work to tackle homelessness in the city. Jez is also a poet, and is passionate about the role that the arts play in homelessness services, personal development and social transformation.

## Jason Hickel

Jason Hickel is an anthropologist at the London School of Economics. Originally from South Africa, his first two books *Ekbaya* (2014) and *Democracy as Death* (2015) explore the cultural dimensions of political conflict in South Africa. In addition to his regional ethnographic work, Hickel writes on global development and political economy, contributing regularly to *The Guardian* and *Al Jazeera*. His most recent book is *The Divide: The Story of Global Inequality and its Solutions*.

## Matthew Higgs

Matthew Higgs is an English artist, curator, writer and publisher. He trained and worked as an artist before also becoming known for his independent publishing and curatorial projects, which raised the profile of emerging artists through the 1990s. His contribution to UK contemporary art has included the creation of Imprint 93, a series of artists' editions featuring the work of artists such as Martin Creed and Jeremy Deller. During the 1990s, he promoted artists outside the Young British Artists mainstream of the period. Since 2004, he has been Director of non-profit artist space White Columns in New York.

## Lubaina Himid

Lubaina Himid, born in Tanzania, lives and works in Preston, Lancashire, where she is Professor of Contemporary Art at the University of Central Lancashire. Himid studied for a BA in Theatre Design at Wimbledon Art School (1976) and an MA in Cultural History at the Royal College of Art (1984). Over the past 30 years, she has exhibited widely, both in Britain and internationally, including at the Chisenhale Gallery and Tate Britain in London, the St Jørgen Museum in Bergen, Tate St Ives, the Studio Museum in Harlem, Transmission in Glasgow and the Whitworth in Manchester. Himid represented Britain at the fifth Havana Biennial. In 2018, she will have solo exhibitions at Hollybush Gardens in London and Turner Contemporary in Margate. Himid is represented by Hollybush Gardens. She is shortlisted for the Turner Prize 2017.

## Karl Hyde

Karl Hyde, together with Rick Smith, has recorded nine albums as Underworld, scored film and theatre pieces for Academy Award-winning directors Anthony Minghella and Danny Boyle, and spent the last 20 years touring their now-legendary live show. Acclaimed scores include the National Theatres' acclaimed production of *Frankenstein* (directed by Danny Boyle) and the National Theatre of Scotland and Frantic Assembly's award-winning *Beautiful Burnout*. Hyde's first solo painting exhibition, *What's Going On in Your Head When You're Dancing*, opened in Tokyo in 2010 and toured to London in 2012, accompanied by an audio installation piece by Rick Smith. He released *Edgeland*, his critically acclaimed first solo album, in 2013, followed by a pair of albums with longtime collaborator Brian Eno (*Someday World* and *Highlife*). In 2016, Underworld's seventh studio album, *Barbara Barbara, we face a shining future*, was released to critical acclaim. The band headlined the Coachella, Glastonbury and Summer Sonic Festivals, and received their first Grammy nomination. For MIF17, Hyde has co-created *Fatherland* (Royal Exchange Theatre, until 22 July) and *Manchester Street Poem* (UNFEAR, 6-14 July).

## Sammy Jones

Sammy Jones is a writer based in Bristol and the co-author, with Nikesh Shukla, of *Rife: Twenty Stories from Britain's Youth*. *Rife* is a Watershed project, made by young people for young people. Jones completed her tenure at *Rife* as part of the second intake and has enjoyed being involved in *Rife*'s projects ever since. *Rife Magazine* and *Guide* are supported by Bristol Youth Links in partnership with Bristol City Council. Now freelance, her most recent role was at *Crack Magazine* as its Junior Digital Editor. She still regularly contributes reviews and features. Her recent projects include contributing copy to a blue chip brand's website redesign and creating a zine about Welsh shame in response to Brexit.

## Birgitta Jónsdóttir

Birgitta Jónsdóttir is an Icelandic politician, anarchist, poet, and activist. She is currently representing the Pirate Party, a political movement for democratic reform beyond party politics, which she helped create, and was elected at the 2013 election. Jónsdóttir was chief sponsor for the Icelandic Modern Media Initiative (IMMI), and is chair of the International Modern Media Institute. She is co-author of *WikiLeaks: From Popular Culture to Political Economy*.

## Matthias von Hartz

Matthias von Hartz is an acclaimed German theatre director. Since 2016, von Hartz has been co-curator for international productions of the Athens & Epidaurus Festival and in 2018 he will become the new director of Zürich Theatre Spectacle.

## Saffiyah Khan

Saffiyah Khan is a teenage activist and campaigner who made the front pages after she was photographed facing down an EDL member at a rally in Birmingham. She is now working with campaign groups that seek to tackle Islamophobia.

## Dr Aleks Krotoski

Dr Aleks Krotoski is an award-winning international broadcaster, author and academic. For the BBC and Channel 4, she has topped the ratings, won Emmy, BAFTA, Radio Academy and Royal Society Awards, and written and presented landmark technology and social-science series for both radio, with BBC Radio 4's *The Digital Human*, and international television, with BBC World's *The Virtual Revolution*. For *The Guardian*, she has consistently led the iTunes charts with the *Tech Weekly* podcast (2007-15), pioneered environmental and business reporting with *The Biggest Story in the World* (2015), and taken her hit weekly column from newspaper to acclaimed book (Guardian Faber, 2013). *Silent Circle*, her forthcoming video series for *The Guardian*, is in production in five countries. She is based in London and Los Angeles.

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## Christina Lamb

Best-selling author Christina Lamb is one of Britain's leading foreign correspondents. Since starting out in Peshawar, where her despatches with the Afghan mujaheddin fighting the Russians saw her named Young Journalist of the Year in the British Press Awards in 1988, she has won Foreign Correspondent of the Year five times as well as the Prix Bayeux, Europe's most prestigious award for war correspondents, and was awarded an OBE by the Queen in 2013. Currently Foreign Affairs Correspondent for *The Sunday Times* as well as a Global Fellow for the Wilson Centre for International Affairs in Washington DC, Lamb has been based in Islamabad and Rio de Janeiro for *The Financial Times* and Johannesburg, and Washington for *The Sunday Times*. She is the co-author with Nujeen Mustafa of *The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom*, co-author of *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* with Malala Yousafzai, and the author of *Farewell Kabul: From Afghanistan to a More Dangerous World* and *The Africa House: The True Story of an English Gentleman and His African Dream*.

## Rick Lowe

Rick Lowe was born in rural Alabama and currently lives in Houston, Texas. He spends his time working on community-engaged projects nationally and internationally. He is best known for his Project Row Houses community-based art project that he started in Houston in 1993. His work has appeared at the Venice Architecture Biennale, and at documenta 14 in Kassel, Germany and Athens, Greece. President Barack Obama appointed Lowe to the National Council on the Arts in 2013. The following year, he was named a MacArthur Fellow. His work, in the tradition of 'social sculpture', employs creativity as a catalyst for addressing societal issues. Lowe believes it is important to connect with people through everyday activities.

## Fred MacPherson

A journalist and activist, MacPherson is also the lead singer of indie band Spector, a band once described by *The Guardian* as 'somewhere between Roxy Music and the Strokes, the Killers and Kanye West, Pulp and Frank Sinatra'.

## Clive Martin

Clive is a writer and host of *Big Night Out* a documentary series that traverses the weirdest vestiges of global club culture. When he's not on some gonzo trip to a rave in Ukraine, he's constantly embroiled in a Twitter fracas.

## Wayne McGregor

Born in 1970, Wayne McGregor CBE is a multi-award-winning British choreographer and director, internationally renowned for trailblazing innovations in performance that have radically redefined dance in the modern era. Driven by an insatiable curiosity about movement and its creative potentials, his experiments have led him into collaborative dialogue with an array of artistic forms, scientific disciplines, and technological interventions. The startling and multi-dimensional works resulting from these interactions have ensured McGregor's position at the cutting edge of contemporary arts for over two decades. With Olafur Eliasson and Jamie xx, McGregor co-created *Tree of Codes* for MIF15.

## MiRo

The MiRo robot is a new pet-sized mobile robot, with an emotionally-engaging personality, behaviour and appearance that has been developed for research on companion robotics and robot-assisted therapy. Developed by the University spin-out company, Consequential Robotics, MiRo provides a flexible platform for research and education and is a prototype for creating the companion robots of the future.

## Nujeen Mustafa

Nujeen Mustafa has cerebral palsy and cannot walk. This did not stop her braving inconceivable odds to travel in her wheelchair from Syria in search of a new life. Trapped in a fifth-floor apartment in Aleppo and unable to go to school, she taught herself to speak English by watching US television. As civil war broke out around them, Nujeen and her family fled first to her native Kobane, then Turkey, before joining thousands of displaced persons in a journey to Europe and asylum. Nujeen's is the story of our times told through the incredible bravery of one remarkable girl determined to keep smiling. Nujeen Mustafa is now 18 years old and lives in Cologne with her brother and sister.

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## Joanna Natasegara

Manchester-born Joanna Natasegara is a British film director, producer and social justice campaigner. She is the founder of Violet Films – combining social impact strategy and film production – and produced *Virunga* (2014), nominated for an Academy Award Best Documentary Feature, and *The White Helmets* (2016), winner of an Academy Award Best Documentary (Short Subject). Both nominations were shared with director Orlando von Einsiedel.

## Hans Ulrich Obrist

Hans Ulrich Obrist is Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries, London. Prior to this, he was the Curator of the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. Since his first show *World Soup (The Kitchen Show)* in 1991, he has curated more than 300 shows. Obrist's recent publications include *Conversations in Colombia*, *Ways of Curating*, *The Age of Earthquakes* with Douglas Coupland and Shumon Basar, and *Lives of the Artists, Lives of the Architects*.

## OMA

Rem Koolhaas founded OMA in 1975, together with Elia and Zoe Zenghelis and Madelon Vriesendorp. He graduated from the Architectural Association in London and in 1978 published *Delirious New York: A Retroactive Manifesto for Manhattan*. In 1995, his book *S,M,L, XL* summarized the work of OMA in 'a novel about architecture'. OMA's built work includes the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art in Moscow (2015), Fondazione Prada in Milan (2015), the headquarters for China Central Television (CCTV) in Beijing (2012), Casa da Música in Porto (2005), Seattle Central Library (2004) and the Netherlands Embassy in Berlin (2003). Current projects include the Qatar Foundation headquarters, Qatar National Library, Taipei Performing Arts Centre and a new building for Axel Springer in Berlin. Koolhaas is a professor at Harvard University, and in 2014 was the director of the 14th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale, entitled *Fundamentals*. OMA is currently designing The Factory MIF's new permanent home, which is set to open in 2020.

## Andrew O'Hagan

Andrew O'Hagan is one of his generation's most exciting and serious chroniclers of contemporary Britain. He has three times been nominated for the Man Booker Prize. He was voted one of Granta's Best of Young British Novelists in 2003. He has won the Los Angeles Times Book Award and the EM Forster Award from the American Academy of Arts & Letters. His most recent novel is *The Illuminations* (2015). *The Secret Life* (2017), his most recent book, is a groundbreaking examination of identity, secrecy and the relationship between the individual, the state and technology.

## Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy

Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy is a two-time Academy Award and Emmy Award-winning documentary filmmaker. In the past 16 years, she has made more than a dozen multi-award-winning films in more than 10 countries around the world. Her films include *A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness*, *Song of Labore*, *Saving Face*, *A Journey of 1000 Miles: Peacekeepers*, *Transgenders: Pakistan's Open Secret* and *Pakistan's Taliban Generation*. In 2012, *Time* magazine included Obaid-Chinoy in their annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world, and the Pakistan Government awarded her with their highest civil honour, Hilal-i-Imtiaz. In 2013, the Canadian government awarded her a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her work in the field of documentary films, and the World Economic Forum honoured her with a Crystal Award at their annual summit in Davos. In 2017, Obaid-Chinoy was the first artist to co-chair the World Economic Forum. She is the creator of *HOME1947*, an installation reflecting on Partition that can be seen at The Lowry from 1 to 9 July as part of MIF17.

## David Olusoga

David Olusoga is a British-Nigerian historian, broadcaster and film-maker. Born in Lagos, Nigeria David is a multi-award-winning presenter. His most recent series include *Black and British: A Forgotten History* (BBC 2), *The World's War* (BBC 2) and the BAFTA winning *Britain's Forgotten Slave Owners* (BBC 2). He is also a regular presenter on *The One Show*. David is also the author of *Black & British: A Forgotten History* (Macmillan, 2016) *The World's War* (Head of Zeus, 2014), *The Kaiser's Holocaust: Germany's Forgotten Genocide and the Colonial Roots of Nazism* (Faber & Faber 2010), and was a contributor to the *Oxford Companion to Black British History*. David also writes for *The Guardian*, *The Observer* and *BBC History Magazine* and is one of the three presenters on the BBC's new landmark Arts series *Civilisations*.

## Professor Tony Prescott

Tony Prescott is Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Sheffield and Director of Sheffield Robotics, an inter-disciplinary research institute across both universities in Sheffield. His research is within the areas of cognitive neuroscience, artificial intelligence and bio-inspired robotics.

## Astrid Proll

Astrid Proll, born in 1947 in Kassel, arrived in West Berlin as a 21-year-old to study photography. She met Andreas Baader, Gudrun Ensslin and Ulrike Meinhof and became an early member of the RAF (Red Army Fraktion/Baader Meinhof Group). Brought back from her exile in London, she studied at the University of Fine Arts of Hamburg. She worked in Hamburg and London as a picture editor for *Tempo* magazine, *Der Spiegel* and *The Independent* Newspaper, and as a lecturer for the Royal College and Berlin University of the Arts. Her first edition of *Hans and Grete: Pictures on the Run* attracted international interest. A second edition was published in 2004. More recently, she published *Goodbye to London: Radical Art and Politics in the Seventies* (2010).

## Rants N Bants

Rants N Bants is a bona fide UK social media sensation, and host of VICE's general election show *Chat Shit Get Elected* which has had over 7 million views on Facebook. His state of the nation viral videos are thought-provoking, entertaining and very funny.

## Deanna Rodger

Deanna Rodger is an international writer, performer and facilitator. She co-curates two leading spoken word events, *Chill Pill* and *Come Rhyme with Me*, and is on the board of Safe Ground. Rodger's commissions include *Under the Skin* (St Paul's Cathedral), *Now We Are Here* (Young Vic), *Women Who Spit* (BBC iPlayer) and *Buckingham Palace* (National Youth Theatre). Accolades include: *ELLE UK*'s '30 inspirational women under 30', The Female Lead's '20 in their 20s', *Cosmopolitan*'s 'No.1 trail-blazing woman', youngest UK Poetry Slam Champion (2007/8). Her previous international performances and workshops include appearances in Mexico, Canada (British Council/Shakespeare Lives), Beirut (Roundhouse), South Africa (Connect ZA & Roundhouse), Zimbabwe and Sudan (both British Council). She teaches the Writing Poetry for Performance module with Benjamin Zephaniah at Brunel University and is a tutor at the School of Communication Arts.

## Peter Saville

Peter Saville's images have permeated contemporary culture. As co-founder and art director of Factory Records, he was instrumental in bringing the tropes of high modernist culture to a mass audience who would never otherwise have engaged with avant-garde imagery. His radical designs, most notably for Joy Division and New Order, seemed to break all the rules, omitting information about artists or titles, fundamentally questioning modes of consumption and communication. Going on to work extensively in fashion and the cultural sector, he is credited with significantly affecting the interplay between art and design. His recent work straddles design, art and culture. He is the consultant Creative Director to the City of Manchester and Artistic Advisor to MIF.

## Professor Björn Schuller

Björn W Schuller is a Reader (Associate Professor) in Machine Learning at Imperial College London and Full Professor and Chair of Complex & Intelligent Systems at the University of Passau in Germany.

## Zing Tsjeng

Zing Tsjeng is the Editor of *Broadly* and a documentary host. She is a regular contributor to *Women's Hour* on BBC Radio 4, and has been nominated for the Pride Power List.

## Varaidzo

Varaidzo is the Arts & Culture editor at *gal-dem*. Her writing has been featured in *The New Statesman*, *Dazed* and the award-winning anthology *The Good Immigrant*.

## Harley Weir

London-born photographer Harley Weir is known for creating intimate images in both her personal work and her acclaimed editorial and commercial work. Her images are carefully composed with a highly attuned sense of colour and composition. In 2016, Weir released *Homes*, a sold-out publication documenting the migrant and refugee camps of Calais for which all proceeds were donated to the charity La Cimade. She held her first solo exhibition, *Boundaries at Foam*, in Amsterdam in 2016, the year after her *Legs Are Not Doors* film for Proenza Schouler was awarded Best Fashion Film at the 2015 Fashion Film Festival Milano. Her clients include Balenciaga, Louis Vuitton, Missoni, Stella McCartney and magazines *i-D*, *Pop*, the British and French editions of *Vogue* and *Double*.

## Joanne Wilson

Joanne Wilson has personal experience of homelessness. She now volunteers at the Booth Centre in Manchester and sits on the board and steering group for the Manchester Homelessness Partnership. She also co-chairs the Partnership's Homelessness Prevention Action group. Wilson collaborated with Karl Hyde and Jez Green of Mustard Tree on Manchester Street Poem for MIF17.

MIF stands in solidarity with all those killed, injured and otherwise affected by the Manchester Arena attack in May. If you would like to support the victims and their families, you can make a donation to the British Red Cross We Love Manchester Emergency Fund: <https://beta.redcross.org.uk/appeal/manchesteremergency-fund-concert>.

Thanks to:

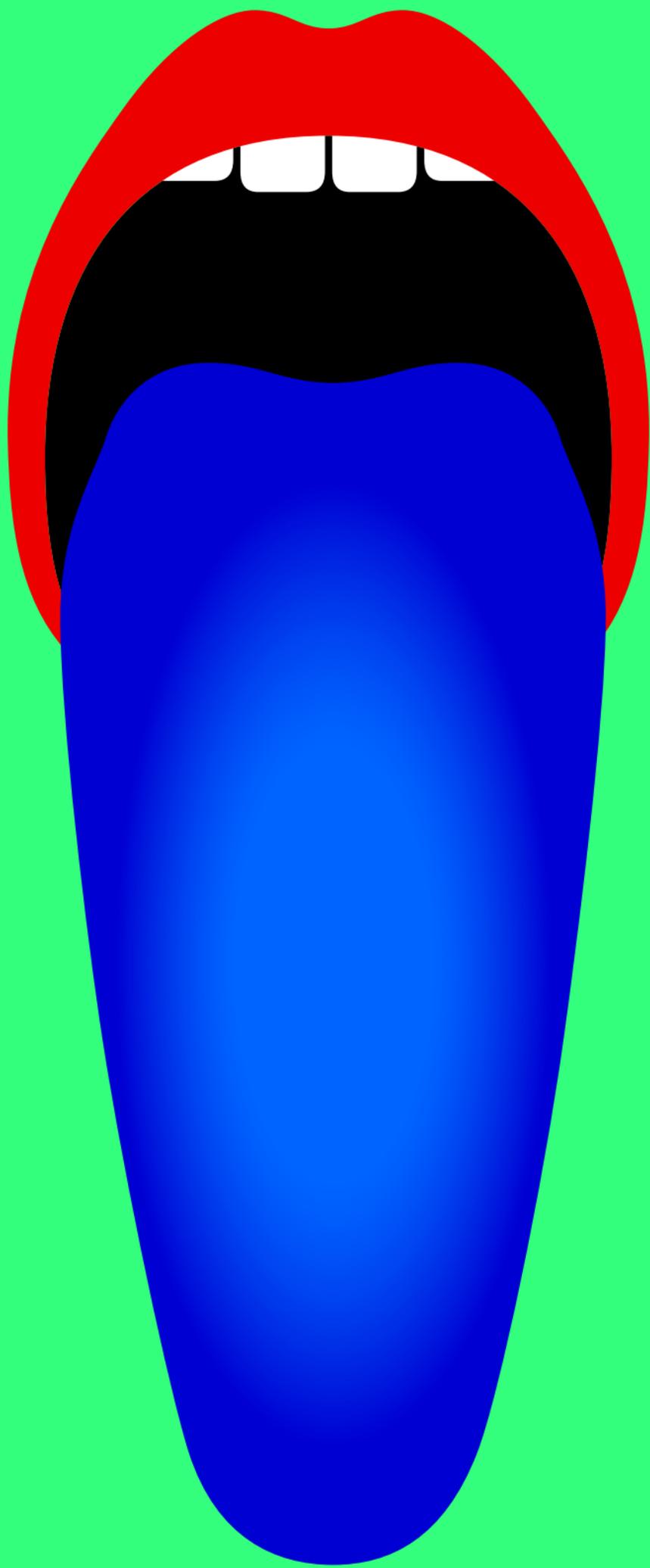
All of the speakers  
Anna Chesters, The Guardian  
Joe Daly, Bad Language  
Arthur De Borman, Set creation  
Jules Estèves, Fraser Muggeridge studio  
Chris Hill, Production Manager  
Lubaina Himid, Set artwork and overall design  
HollyBush Gardens  
Natalie Kane, FutureEverything  
Shaun MacDonald, Codex Management  
Rebecca Marshall, Wayne MacGregor  
John Montoya, VICE  
Fat Roland, Bad Language  
Sam Wolfson, VICE

For Manchester International Festival:

John McGrath, Artistic Director & CEO  
Tracey Low, Executive Producer  
Phoebe Greenwood, Producer  
Jack Thompson, Technical Director  
Helen Gorton, Head of Technical Production  
Nadja Coyne, Press & PR Director  
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