



WYSING ARTS CENTRE LAUNCH RECORD LABEL AT ICA: Ectopia plus N-Prolenta (UK debut show), xname and SIREN

Wysing Arts Centre launch their new record label **Wysing Polyphonic** at the **ICA, London** this month. The event, on **March 23, 8pm-midnight**, will be marked with a live performance by the first music project to release on the label, **Ectopia**. There will also be live shows from **xname**, **SIREN** and **N-Prolenta**, who will be making their UK debut.

The record is the first from Wysing's new imprint and a recording studio will also be built at the centre, near Cambridge, in the summer of 2017. The studio will allow Wysing to commission further new works for recording and broadcasting, as well as being a resource for artists and musicians.

Ectopia who played at Wysing's music festival in 2015 have been together since 2011, and use words, cello and synthesizers in their music. They are Adam Christensen, Jack Brennan and Viki Steiri. Previous works have included sound-tracking Jack Smith's experimental film *Normal Love* (1963) and Carl Theodor Dreyer's *The Passion of Joan of Arc* (1928). **New tracks from the record will be premiered at the ICA.**

N-Prolenta has been described as being on the cutting vanguard of experimental electronic music and they have worked with the likes of serpentwithfeet, PTP, NON Worldwide, and Halcyon Veil and been featured in publications including *The Wire*, *Art in America*, and *The Fader*. Coming through a wide-ranging palate of sonic influences-- spanning trap music and new age soundscapes, to the mutated club sounds of late, to trance, soul, darkwave, and lyric poem, Brandon Covington Sam-Sumana's work through the N-Prolenta project ever-erects tapestries of sound that are as dissonantly idiosyncratic and abrasive as they are rapturously gentle and apparative.

xname is Eleonora Oreggia, a London based conceptual electronic artist from Milan who makes performances and interactive installations. Her live compositions transform light and other electromagnetic frequencies in sound waves through self-built synthesizers and complex semi-chaotic machines.

SIREN is a collective that started a year ago in London, with the purpose of creating a space for those under-represented in dance music on lineups and in crowds. Their parties, zines and radio shows aim to be musical and political platforms for women and non-binary people, as well as a space to critique current trends within electronic

music and create alternatives. SIREN are not a DJ collective but many do DJ and focus on the exploring the broadest sense of techno - from electro to minimal, acid to breakbeat.

During 2017, Wysing Arts Centre will explore the theme of 'many voices' in the programme within the over-arching programme title **Wysing Polyphonic**. The record label's name sake, the programme also encompasses residencies, exhibitions, events, a music festival, study weeks and days. Across the year Wysing will work with artists to explore a diversity of contexts and positions to help better understand the role of art, artists, and arts organisations such as Wysing, at this moment of global political change.

Further expanding on the theme of many voices, **Wysing's annual music festival**, which returns to early September 2017, will be programmed for the first time by invited contributors. A programme announcement will be made in Spring 2017.

Wysing Art Centre's Director, Donna Lynas, said of the record label and launch, "We are excited to be collaborating with the ICA on the launch of our new imprint 'Wysing Polyphonic'. The label is a natural extension of our annual music festival and it was inspired by hearing Ectopia play at the festival in 2015 and wanting to put make their music available to a wide audience. We are looking forward to more releases by the artists and musicians we work with."

ICA Curator, Matt Williams added, "The collaboration with Wysing Arts Centre has naturally evolved through conversation. Our shared ambition and interest in enabling artists and musicians to experiment and develop their work via our respective programmes has facilitated our dialogue. I look forward to hearing N-Prolenta, xname, SIREN and Ectopia all perform at our event - and listening to future Wysing Polyphonic releases as they are created."

Wysing is also currently supporting another music project in the new studio and in partnership with BALTIC Centre of Contemporary Art Gateshead and Nottingham Contemporary. **Ravioli Me Away** have begun the development of an ambitious new opera to be toured in 2018. More details will be announced soon.

Listing:

Wysing Polyphonic record label launch: Ectopia plus N-Prolenta (UK debut show), xname and SIREN.

ICA, The Mall, London, SW1 5AH

23 March, 8pm-midnight

Tickets £5-£8, visit www.ica.org.uk to book.

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Tracks are available to preview ahead of the event.

About Wysing Arts Centre:

Wysing Arts Centre, established in 1989, develops new ways to support artists and enables art and ideas to engage a wide range of people in unexpected ways. Wysing's large rural site near Cambridge comprises artists' studios, education and new media facilities, a gallery and project spaces, a 17th century farmhouse and outdoor sculptures and structures. Wysing offers a unique environment for art to be developed and presented; with an ongoing and innovative artistic programme of events, exhibitions, retreats and residencies, and a unique programme for young artists.

This year, 2017, Wysing are exploring **Wysing Polyphonic**, through which they will be exploring 'many voices' in all aspects of programming including exhibitions, events, study weeks and study days and artist residencies. Across the year Wysing will work with a range of artists to explore a diversity of contexts and positions to help better understand the role of art, artists, and arts organisations such as Wysing, at this moment of global political change.

Artists who have worked at Wysing in residencies over recent years, developing and making new work, include Ed Atkins, Jesse Darling, Michael Dean, Cécile B Evans, Evan Ifekoya, Gustav Metzger, Elizabeth Price, Laure Prouvost, James Richards and Cally Spooner.

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About the ICA:

Founded in 1946, the ICA leads the debate in contemporary art and culture. Continually looking forward while laying claim to an extraordinary legacy, the ICA was home to the Independent Group and played a pivotal role in the development of Pop Art. It charted the course of Punk, Performance Art and Independent Cinema, introduced numerous international artists including Richard Prince, Asger Jorn, Douglas Huebler, Gerhard Richter, Francis Bacon, Francis Picabia, Nancy Spero, Dieter Roth, Marcel Broodthaers, Mike Kelley, Cosy Fanny Tutti and Barbara Kruger, the ICA has always been the place for critical discourse, with the likes of Kathy Acker, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Stuart Hall and Homi K. Bhabha. From its home on The Mall, at the heart of the establishment, the ICA supports interdisciplinary practice, encouraging artists to experiment and explore new ideas. **www.ica.art**

