Tuesday 20 October 2026
7.30pm
Milton Court Concert Hall

Improvisers' Ensemble: FREE DUB

featuring Cleveland Watkiss MBE
visuals by Derek 'Rizomorph' Richards

Milton Court Concert Hall

Please silence your devices and lower the brightness of your display.

Eating is not permitted in the auditorium. Drinks are allowed inside the auditorium in polycarbonates.

Filming or recording of the performance is not permitted.

Latecomers will be able to enter the auditorium at a suitable break in the performance.

Guildhall School of Music & Drama
Founded in 1880 by the City of London Corporation.

Chair of the Board of Governors
The Hon. Emily Benn

Principal
Professor Jonathan Vaughan FGS

Vice-Principal & Director of Music
Armin Zanner FGS

Guildhall Improvisers' Ensemble

Voice
Cleveland Watkiss
Molly Davies
Emily Masser
Olesa Zgurskaia

Violin
Lotte Cutts

Alto Saxophone
Jamie Harms

Tenor Saxophone
Oskar Hentschel

Guitar
Alex Allen
Alex Bishop
Ralph Bishop

Keyboard/Piano
Joe English
Seb Lee

Bass
Marie Schweiger
Joseph Smith

Drums/Percussion
Jaime Alvarez-Valdes Coca
Natan Kedzierski
Max Kroon

Effects/Live Sampling
Auriane Blanc
Nuoon Kim
Bobby Langfield

Access our digital programme for biographies, programme notes and more.

Scan the QR code or visit:
guildhall-programmes.co.uk/2026-10-20-improvisers-ensemble

Guildhall School is provided by the City of London Corporation as part of its contribution to the cultural life of London and the nation.

Cleveland Watkiss MBE

Guildhall Fellow and alumnus Cleveland Watkiss MBE is a multidisciplinary British artist of Jamaican descent, born and raised in Hackney, East London. An award-winning vocalist, virtuoso vocal explorer, actor, composer and DJ, Watkiss is currently a voice professor at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance and Artist in Residence at Guildhall School.

A winner of the 2021 Ivors Composer Award for Innovation, Watkiss has made a significant and lasting impact across a broad spectrum of musical genres. Renowned for his versatility as a vocalist, he moves effortlessly between styles, from performing Bach double concertos on tour with leading classical violinist Nigel Kennedy and jazz standards with Wynton and Branford Marsalis, to touring the world with rock legends The Who. He has also performed and MCed with leading drum and bass artists Goldie, Fabio and Grooverider, and improvised with Pat Thomas and Orphy Robinson's Blacktop. Watkiss is a founding member of the now-iconic Jazz Warriors.

Forthcoming events

Guildhall Big Band: Harlem Renaissance
13 November 2026
Milton Court Concert Hall

An evening celebrating the vibrant and eclectic music of the Harlem Renaissance – an era that marked a major turning point in the cultural and artistic history of New York's African American community.

Guildhall Jazz Festival
18, 20, 21 & 22 November 2026
Milton Court

The creativity and originality of the Guildhall Jazz community are celebrated in the highly anticipated return of our Jazz Festival in November, presented in partnership with EFG London Jazz Festival.

Sir George Martin Centenary Concert
6 December 2026
Milton Court Concert Hall

Seventy-five years since his first output as a producer, this special performance reflects six decades of Martin's pioneering production and musical inventions, performed by the Guildhall Session Orchestra.