

For immediate release:

## Recordings from Brighton's sewers receive their premiere



Recording in the sewers. CREDIT DARREN COOL/CONNORS

Musicians from the internationally-renowned ensemble, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, in collaboration with Brighton Early Music Festival, have worked with local artists and clients from Brighton Housing Trust's First Base Day Centre to create an audio portrait of Brighton, designed to evoke the people, places and textures of the city.

The ambitious project, which exploits the skills of the OAE's players alongside the experiences of Brighton residents, has resulted in a 'digital overture', entitled *Sounds of Brighton*, which will be premiered at the OAE's *The Night Shift* event 17 October.

Musicians from the Orchestra were allowed special access to the city's sewer network for an on-site recording of an improvised musical score. Further material comes from the clients of the First Base Day Centre who, under the direction of sound artist Sam Johnson and composer James Redwood, assisted in the construction of a collage of 'found sounds' and other instrumental pieces. These recordings, made in the sewers and on the streets of Brighton, were carefully

curated to paint an accurate audio portrait of the city.

The soundtrack accompanies a recital of *Watercycle*, a specially-commissioned poem by Brighton resident Rosy Carrick. The poem celebrates everyday life in the city, told through its historic sewers which Carrick compares to 'archives' that document the comings and goings of Brighton's inhabitants.

The finished piece will receive its premiere as part of *The Night Shift* at The Marlborough Pub and Theatre on 17 October, 8.30pm. Tickets are available through Brighton Early Music Festival.

## Notes to Editors:

The project marks the start of a partnership between **Southern Water** and **Brighton Early Music Festival** and is part of **Watercycle**, a music education project that takes its inspiration from water as a linking, renewing and inspiring force. It is also generously funded in Brighton by the Mark and Ann Williams Foundation.

**Brighton Housing Trust** and the **First Base Day Centre** are a Brighton-based charity which supports homeless and insecurely-housed men and women in the city.

Player-led and ceaselessly innovative, the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** is one of the world's most respected period ensembles. They are a resident at Southbank Centre, associate orchestra at Glyndebourne Festival Opera and tour both nationally and internationally.

**The Night Shift** is a series of late night events promoted by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and has included appearances at London's Southbank Centre as well as smaller 'pub shows' across the country. With its trademark laid back and informal atmosphere, the project aims to bring classical performance to a younger audience.

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