

Press Release 15 March 2022

## FUTURE CONTEMPORARIES MYSTERY NIGHTS 2022

Serpentine's Future Contemporaries fundraising event returns with a night of surprises including a performance from choir Nawi Collective, the first *Support Structures for Support Structures* fellowship grantees



Images: views on The Magazine at Serpentine North, and Nawi Collective © Serpentine and Dafydd Jones

Serpentine is delighted to announce the return of Future Contemporaries Mystery Nights 2022 with an event hosted on 15 March 2022. This fundraising event is supported by FARFETCH Private Client; FARFETCH is the leading global platform for the luxury fashion industry, and Hublot, Swiss luxury watchmaker. This is the third year of the initiative, and it follows the success of the 2019 and 2020 series staged with contemporary visual and performance artists Grace Wales Bonner and P.Staff.

Hosted by Bettina Korek, Serpentine CEO, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Serpentine Artistic Director and the Future Contemporaries Committee, the evening will start with a reception and performance from choir Nawi Collective, formed of 9 members from Serpentine's 2021 fellowship programme *Support Structures for Support Structures*. This fellowship programme was initiated by Serpentine to support up to ten artists and collectives working at the intersection of art, spatial politics and community practice. The fellowship consists of an unrestricted grant of at least £10,000 to develop creative ideas and also invites grantees to join an interdisciplinary network for support, development workshops and mentoring.



“Like the evening itself, Mystery Nights supports the bold and surprising work made possible by Serpentine’s Emerging Artists Fund—like Ilona Sagar and Rory Pilgrim’s films debuting in our upcoming Radio Ballads exhibition. We are so grateful to our steadfast patrons for hosting these dinners in their homes, and to our newer supporters for joining the party. The Serpentine family is a community for discovery across disciplines, contexts and generations.” Bettina Korek, CEO and Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director, Serpentine said.

Mystery Nights is a key date in the Future Contemporaries calendar, bringing together an emerging generation of new philanthropists, aged 39 and under, who support the work of artists engaged with Serpentine. This diverse group of individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and professions share an enthusiasm for contemporary art, design and architecture.

The concept of this ticketed event is simple: upon arriving to the main reception at Serpentine, guests discover which surprise dinner location they will be invited to attend that evening. The dinners are generously hosted by long-term Serpentine patrons to create a network of support for emerging artists. All guests are then reunited at an after party close to Serpentine.

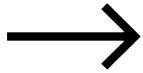
### **About Support Structures for Support Structures**

Conceived in collaboration with Sumayya Vally, the architect behind the 2021 Serpentine Pavilion designed by Sumayya Vally, Counterspace, and Serpentine’s Civic Curator Amal Khalaf, the initiative is grounded in the history and current work of the Civic and Education programme, which for over a decade, has been supporting artists to work with people and communities across London to respond to the complexities of social change.

This initiative creates a legacy for this unique commission and builds on Serpentine’s history of working with artists in communities across London as part of its Civic Projects programmes.

The fellowship recognises that many practitioners that work across art, spatial politics and community practice are often not supported by grant programmes or institutions in a sustainable way. Support Structures for Support Structures aims to bridge this gap by nurturing and supporting emerging and existing practitioners, and creating pathways for learning, exchange and contemplation amongst the fellowship cohort.

The fellowship was awarded through a nomination process and a selection panel consisting of: Sepake Angiama, Director, Iniva; Pooja Agrawal, CEO, Public Practice; Leopold Lambert, Editor in Chief, The Funambulist; Rita Keegan, Artist and Sumayya Vally, Counterspace. The panel was chaired by Amal Khalaf, Civic Curator, Serpentine.



### **About Nawi Collective**

Nawi is a London-based Black women, gender non-conforming & non-binary vocal collective. Nawi sings for justice and to reclaim their joy, utilising song as a portal for the preservation of their traditions, as a point of communion and as a tool for ancestral connection. The spaces Nawi creates when singing together offers healing in a world that undervalues Blackness in the expansive nature of our existences. Since their formation, the collective has become a community of activists, creatives, and collaborators who gather to create culture, grow and learn. Nawi Collective performs at protests, live music venues & in collaboration with other aligned groups and creators. Nawi aims to be in solidarity and lend their support to local and global struggles.

### **About FARFETCH**

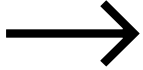
Farfetch Limited is the leading global platform for the luxury fashion industry. Founded in 2007 by José Neves for the love of fashion, and launched in 2008, Farfetch began as an e-commerce marketplace for luxury boutiques around the world. Today the Farfetch Marketplace connects customers in over 190 countries and territories with items from more than 50 countries and over 1,400 of the world's best brands, boutiques and department stores, delivering a truly unique shopping experience and access to the most extensive selection of luxury on a single platform. Farfetch's additional businesses include Browns and Stadium Goods, which offer luxury products to consumers, and New Guards Group, a platform for the development of global fashion brands. Farfetch offers its broad range of consumer-facing channels and enterprise level solutions to the luxury industry under its Luxury New Retail initiative. The Luxury New Retail initiative also encompasses Farfetch Platform Solutions, which services enterprise clients with e-commerce and technology capabilities, and Future Retail, which develops innovations such as our Connected Retail solutions.

For more information, please visit [www.farfetchinvestors.com](http://www.farfetchinvestors.com).

### **About Hublot**

Founded in Switzerland in 1980, Hublot is defined by its innovation, which began with the highly original combination of gold and rubber. This "Art of Fusion" stems from the imagination of its visionary Honorary Chairman, Jean-Claude Biver, and has been driven forward by CEO Ricardo Guadalupe since 2012.

Keen to preserve its traditional and cutting-edge expertise, and guided by its philosophy to "Be First, Different and Unique", the Swiss watchmaker is consistently ahead of the curve, through its innovations in materials (scratch-resistant Magic Gold, ceramics in vibrant colours, sapphire), and the creation of Manufacture movements (Unico, Meca-10, Tourbillon).



Hublot is fully committed to creating a Haute Horlogerie brand with a visionary future: a future which is fused with the key events of our times (FIFA World Cup™, UEFA Champions League, UEFA EURO™) and the finest ambassadors our era has to offer (Chiara Ferragni, Pelé, Kylian Mbappé, Usain Bolt).

For more information, please visit [www.hublot.com](http://www.hublot.com)

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