Media Information September 30, 2021

# Live: Random International and BMW i present: "No One is an Island".

**ROLLS-ROYCE** 

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Installation of Random International in collaboration with Studio Wayne McGregor for the first time live on stage.

**Munich/London.** Superblue and BMW i present "**No One is an Island**", a collaboration between the art group Random International and choreographer Wayne McGregor and his company. On the occasion of Frieze London, the performance will be shown publicly from October 13 to 16 daily between 3:00 and 7:00pm at Park Village Studios.

Random International, Studio Wayne McGregor, Superblue and BMW i share a passion for pushing boundaries and exploring new territories. All are moved by similar questions about how future generations will interact with automated and digitised processes and environments whilst embracing reduction and sustainability. For this purpose, they are collaborating on a special project: "No One is an Island". Conceptualised as a "Gesamtkunstwerk", "No One is an Island" is developed in an ongoing dialogue and exchange between artists and partners.

"No One is an Island" is fuelled by science and explores electrified movement steered by advanced algorithms. It is a future-oriented reflection on how the human mind empathises with artificial intelligence and automated processes. The performance comprises sculptural, performative, and musical aspects.

The centrepiece is a sculpture by **Random International** that experiments with the minimal amount of information that is actually necessary for an animated form to be recognised as human; and the fundamental impact created by subtle changes within that information. As it transitions from robot to human likeness, dancers from **Company Wayne McGregor** interact with the sculpture in a live, kinetic performance, further exploring the relationship between humans and technology and our capacity to empathise with a machine. The dancer's interventions scored by **Chihei Hatakeyama** add a performative dimension to the sculpture, re-translating and celebrating the connection between human and mechanical movement.

A second artwork by Random International, part of the "Body/Light" series, was inspired by Picasso's light drawings and premiered by Arts Brookfield, BMW and Superblue during Frieze New York. "Body/Light" allows visitors in London to create their own lines of light, capturing movement and electricity visually. In this way, elements from the core of BMW i, which stands for sustainable, future-oriented and forward-looking mobility, are recreated.

"Catalysed by the partnership with BMW i and the collaboration with Studio Wayne McGregor, we have elevated our ongoing 'Fifteen Points' series of sculptures to a whole new level. Through the addition of both a score by Chihei Hatakeyama and dedicated choreography by Wayne McGregor, we are able to explore in much more detail the as-ofyet unknown territories of 'empathy with machines'. The work is part of a wider reflection on our human need to relate to our surroundings; how does such a need to connect play out in light of an increasing automation and digitisation of our environment? Will our willingness to engage with unknown systems leave us more vulnerable? We are much looking forward to presenting the work in a series of live performances in 2021," says

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**Hannes Koch**, one of the founders and directors of Random International about the collaboration.

"What I find inspiring about the partnership with Random International, Superblue, BMW i and myself is that we all come together from different knowledge sets, but convene in areas of shared interest," says **Wayne McGregor**. "We are all fascinated by the potential of the human body, its relationship with and to technology but most importantly our desire to generate empathetic connections between people. This is a dialogue of interconnectedness, exploration, and surprise. We have no pre-determined road map – instead, we feed from one another's expertise and ideas to push ourselves towards new horizons."

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**Mollie Dent-Brocklehurst**, Co-Founder and CEO of Superblue says, "Creating new platforms and opportunities for experiential artists to collaborate is core to Superblue's mission, so we are delighted to partner on this project and creative dialogue between Random International, Studio Wayne McGregor, and BMW i. 'No One is an Island' provokes questions about the dynamics between technology and humanity that are critical to deepening our understanding of our relationship to the world and each other."

"We believe that working together with great artists like Random International, represented by Superblue, and Studio Wayne McGregor is an inspiring and enriching experience for all parties involved. Speaking of BMW i, the constant exchange with creatives is essential. And just as BMW i embodies innovation, 'No One is an Island' synergises future and present, technology and humanity," says **Stefan Ponikva**, Vice President BMW Brand Experience.

## **Public Days:**

October 13 to 16, 2021 Daily performance at 3.00pm, 3.30pm, 4.00pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.00pm and 6.30pm.

Park Village Studios 1 Park Village E, London NW1 7PX

To visit the performance, it's necessary to register <u>here</u>. (<u>https://emt.bmw-arts-design.com/exhibition-random-international?partner=mSSgv4ANIz</u>)

## For further questions please contact:

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## **Random International**

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## Superblue

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#### **About Random International**

The Art Group RANDOM INTERNATIONAL run a collaborative studio for experimental practice within contemporary art. Founded in 2005 by Hannes Koch and Florian Ortkrass, today they work with larger teams of diverse and complementary talent out of studios in London and Berlin. Questioning aspects of identity and autonomy in the post-digital age, the group's work invites active participation. RANDOM INTERNATIONAL explores the human condition in an increasingly mechanised world through emotional yet physically intense experiences. The artists aim to prototype possible behavioural environments by experimenting with different notions of consciousness, perception, and instinct.

Their work Rain Room is in the collection of Jackalope Art Collection Melbourne, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art having been exhibited under the museum's historic Art and Technology initiative. The artwork has also been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art Busan (2019), YUZ Museum in Shanghai (2015), the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2013), and London's Barbican (2012). An edition of Rain Room has become the first permanently installed artwork at the Sharjah Art Foundation (UAE) and is housed in its own building.

## About Studio Wayne McGregor

Studio Wayne McGregor is the creative engine for choreographer and director Wayne McGregor, now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year. It encompasses his ensemble of world-class dancers, Company Wayne McGregor; a portfolio of international commissions and artistic collaborations across genres including dance, visual arts, VR, film, theatre and opera; a highly specialized program of creative learning for individuals and communities; artist development initiatives; and collaborative research projects across the interface of the arts with science, technology and academic research.

Studio Wayne McGregor has an unparalleled reputation for transformative approaches to how dance is taught, learned and talked about. Learning and engagement projects are carefully devised to reflect the professional artistic processes that Wayne McGregor uses with his own company in the studio, ensuring that all who participate in our projects experience cutting edge, high quality practice. The focus always lies in empowering individuals to develop their own creative skills, and all of the programmes are underpinned by continued scientific research into movement and creativity, innate human properties which have been a fascination in McGregor's creative thinking for more than two decades. Over 100,000 people of all ages and walks of life have so far participated in learning and engagement projects across the UK and internationally, from school children to adults with no prior experience of dance, students in training to professional dancers.





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Wayne McGregor CBE is a multi-award winning choreographer and director. He is Artistic Director of Studio Wayne McGregor, Resident Choreographer at The Royal Ballet, and is commissioned for international ballet companies, film (The Legend of Tarzan, Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them), music videos (Radiohead, Thom Yorke, The Chemical Brothers), fashion shows (Gareth Pugh at London Fashion Week 2017), campaigns (everyBODY for Selfridges) and TV (Brit Awards). McGregor is Professor of Choreography at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, has an Honorary Doctor of Science from Plymouth University, an Honorary Doctor of Letters from University of Leeds, and is part of the Circle of Cultural Fellows at King's College London. In 2017 he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the British Science Association. In 2011 McGregor was awarded a CBE for Services to Dance.

Company Wayne McGregor is McGregor's ensemble of highly skilled dancers. Founded in 1993, this was the original instrument through which McGregor evolved his distinctive visual style, revealing the movement possibilities of the body in ever more precise degrees of articulation. McGregor has made over thirty works for the company and today it continues to be his laboratory for ambitious and experimental new choreography, touring his work across the UK and around the world. Company Wayne McGregor is Resident Company at Sadler's Wells, and is based at Studio Wayne McGregor on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London.

#### **About Superblue**

Superblue is a ground-breaking new enterprise dedicated to supporting artists in realizing their most ambitious visions and engaging audiences with experiential art. Its network of artists encompasses the leading practitioners of experiential art, whose practices catalyze engagement with the most pressing issues of our time and generate new perspectives on our world.

Through its experiential art centers, which are specifically designed for presenting large-scale, immersive art installations, Superblue provides artists with expanded opportunities to transport audiences to the new worlds they create. Superblue additionally acts as an advocate and agent for experiential artists by fostering opportunities for them to expand the reach of their work through collaborations with museums, collectors, visual and performing arts festivals, architects, municipalities, and place-makers. Superblue provides these partners with unparalleled expertise and support for the production, installation, and presentation of large-scale experiential works, through collaborative presentations, public and private commissions, and acquisitions.

In the coming years, Superblue will open new experiential centers across the U.S. and internationally and is developing augmented and virtual reality platforms for artists who are exploring our rapidly evolving relationship with the digital realm.

For more information about Superblue, visit <u>superblue.com</u> or follow <u>@superblue.art</u> on Instagram and <u>@superblueart</u> on Twitter.

## Celebrating 50 years of BMW Group Cultural Engagement

State Opera for all Gerhard Richter CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP Kochi-Muziris Biennale BMW Art Cars Berlin Biennale Ólafur Elíasson Art Basel Max Hooper Schneider BMW Art Journey INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE Art D'Égypte Cao Fei Esther Mahlangu Zaha Hadid Les Rencontres d'Arles Jeff Koons Acute Art Tate Modern LONGEVITY Artsy BMW Open Work by Frieze PARTNERSHIP Andy Warhol BMW Guggenheim Lab Lu Yang Samson Young Bavarian State Opera BMW Welt Jazz Award CREATIVE FREEDOM Tefaf INTERACTION State Academic Bolshoi Theatre of Russia Kyotographie Premio de Pintura Garage Museum of Contemporary Art Paris Photo SUSTAINABILITY Leelee Chan Art Dubai Teatro alla Scala BMW Classics Jenny Holzer BMW Art Guide by Independent Collectors

Why Culture? Why not! Culture is knowledge, a sanctuary of beauty and depth, of meaning and peace. An inspiring escape. Tranquil at best, even unsettling sometimes. As corporate citizen, the BMW Group takes social responsibility seriously, as part of which it has been involved in hundreds of cultural initiatives worldwide for half a century, both in the arts, music & sound, architecture as well as in design. As a long-term partner, creative freedom is key – and as essential for groundbreaking works as it is for major innovations within a business enterprise like ours.





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Further information: https://www.bmwgroup.com/culture and www.bmwgroup.com/overview

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/BMW-Group-Culture</u> Instagram: <u>https://www.instagram.com/bmwgroupculture/</u> @BMWGroupCulture #BMWGroupCulture

## The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2020, the BMW Group sold over 2.3 million passenger vehicles and more than 169,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2020 was € 5.222 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.990 billion. As of 31 December 2020, the BMW Group had a workforce of 120,726 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.

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