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**Press Release**

**25th September 2014 – For immediate use**

**The ‘Saxophone at 200’ – event hosted by Richard Ingham and Auricle**

On Sunday 9th November from 5pm, world-renowned saxophonist Richard Ingham celebrates 200 years since the birth of Adolphe Sax at St Bride’s in the West End of Glasgow. Richard’s popular and entertaining lecture recital takes in the history of the saxophone, right up to present day with solo and chamber repertoire performed with piano and with Auricle. Auricle are also presenting one of their critically acclaimed Discovery sessions, on Milhaud’s seminal work *La création du monde* for chamber orchestra. Masterclasses, Hands-on sessions and a late night ‘Jazz in the Crypt’ complete the evening’s line up.

Richard Ingham said, “This is a great opportunity to play the saxophone, hear the saxophone, and celebrate Adolphe Sax at 200.” Auricle’s Artistic Director Chris Swaffer said, “This will be a really exciting event – the saxophone’s roots in jazz, classical music and rock will make for an extraordinarily diverse evening”.

The event is part of the St. Bride’s Festival and is sponsored by the Wind Section and Yamaha UK. Tickets are £8 and £5, available from Ticketsource on 0333 666 3366, online from auricleensemble.co.uk, or on the door (Tickets via post add £1.50, via text add £0.50 - no charges for Print at Home tickets). School group tickets and tickets for instrumental teachers and their students, are available from info@auricleensemble.org.uk

**Further Information for Editors**

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**Photographs:** <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ocs2ynlhq5nexw8/Saxophone.zip?dl=0>

*Event highlights:*

5pm – Doors Open. Meet the Technicians / Have-a-Go Stand / Pro Stand, provided by Yamaha UK and Wind Section, Edinburgh.

5.20pm– **Masterclass**, featuring players from all stages of learning

6.15pm – **Discovering Milhaud’s *La création du monde***. Chris Swaffer and 18 of Auricle’s players explain the origins and the music of Milhaud’s seminal work from the 1920’s followed by a full performance.

7.30 – **The Saxophone at 200, Lecture Recital by Richard Ingham**. Richard charts the history of the saxophone from its origins through to present day jazz, rock and pop. Features key solo and chamber works performed by Richard, with pianist Laura Baxter and players from Auricle. Includes the Webern Quartet, the original version of Copland’s Quiet City (which was given its European Premiere by Auricle in 2013), excerpts from Walton’s Façade, and many solo works, including Debussy, Glazunov, Heath and Demersseman.

9pm-10pm – **Jazz in the Crypt.** Richard pays tribute to his own saxophone idols with historic sax solos as played by the likes of Sidney Bechet, Charlie Parker, Paul Desmond and Gerry Mulligan. Accompanied by Stuart Small on piano.

**Biographies:**

**Richard Ingham** is a saxophonist, composer and educator. He has given recitals in Europe, USA, Canada, China, India, and Thailand. He was the Director of the XVI World Saxophone Congress, held in Scotland in 2012, and is a member of the Comité International du Saxophone. He is President of the Clarinet and Saxophone Society of Great Britain, and editor of the Cambridge Companion to the Saxophone (Cambridge University Press, 1999). He is a Yamaha artist and clinician.

Richard has given masterclasses in conservatoires throughout the UK and worldwide. He is Honorary Professor of Jazz Education at the University of St Andrews, where his jazz courses have been running for twenty years, and has directed many residential saxophone courses.

As a composer he has written widely for orchestra, chamber ensembles, jazz ensembles and soloists, most recently Music for the Book of Deer for chamber ensemble, which was featured in the 2014 Made in Scotland Showcase at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Richard has been given an award by Creative Scotland to commission and record eight new works for saxophone celebrating the bicentenary of Adolphe Sax – the album featuring this new music (classical, jazz, traditional) will be released at the end of 2014.

**Chris Swaffer** is currently Artistic Director of the Auricle Ensemble and the Universities of Scotland Symphony Orchestra. He has guest conducted many ensembles, including the St. Petersburg Academic and Ukrainian State Symphony Orchestras and the Metropolitan Ensemble of London and recently made his debut with the Orchestra of Opera North conducting Copland’s complete ballet score to Appalachian Spring. With Auricle he has directed several critically acclaimed projects including, Schoenberg's Pierrot Lunaire, a two-year Mini Mahler project and two European premieres of works by Copland, one of which, The City, was performed live to film at the Glasgow Film Festival.

Chris was educated at Chetham's School of Music and holds a Masters degree in composition and conducting from the University of Manchester. He has actively participated in many master-classes across the world and gained a place at the Bard Summer Music Festival, New York where he conducted Mahler’s Sixth Symphony.

The **Auricle Ensemble** burst into being with intriguing programmes, virtuoso playing and an inclusive performance style. Since starting in 2007, the ensemble has gained an enviable reputation and invitations to perform widely. 2010 began Auricle's residency at St Bride's, Glasgow and its acclaimed two-year Mini Mahler project performing the reduced versions of Mahler's works arranged for Schoenberg's Private Music Society in Vienna.

Other projects include Walton's Façade, the European premiere of Copland’s ‘The City’ performed to film and Maxwell Davies' music theatre works. 2014 sees an ambitious reduction of Schoenberg’s passionate ‘Verklärte Nacht’ for piano trio and further performances of Façade.

"…completely enraptured...utterly absorbing...truly magical sound...\*\*\*\*\*"

Broadway Baby (Mini Mahler)

“A delicate, technically impeccable and sensitive reading - an intoxicating performance. \*\*\*\*”

Glasgow Herald (Pierrot Lunaire)