



VOID

**COLLINS MUSIC HALL
11 ISLINGTON GREEN
ANGEL
LONDON
N1 2XH**

**OPENING TIMES
10:30AM – 5:00PM
14TH – 22ND SEPTEMBER**

3:00pm closing on Sunday 15th September

8:00pm late opening on
Thursday 19th & Friday 20th September

Designer Dan Tobin Smith and creative studio The Experience Machine, in partnership with Gemfields, present VOID; a multi-sensory spatial installation at Collins Music Hall, Islington, as part of London Design Festival 2019.

Visitors will become part of an immersive experience, travelling through a series of large-scale projections that showcase the expanded space inside gemstones and map the blurring boundaries between nature and design.

A selection of Mozambican rubies and Zambian emeralds from Gemfields' mines, which date back millions of years, are brought to life through photography of tiny microcosms magnified to become abstract, galaxy-like structures. Accompanied by other semi-precious gems created in rare geological processes, these unique mineral formations are discovered, suspended and frozen in time.

The installation considers the concept of containment and scale, employing spatial design to explore the natural borders formed within these unique mineral formations. By translating moving image into a contained physical form and scoring the experience with harmonised layers of the human voice – by female electronic drone choir NYX – visitors are invited to enter within the portrait of a gemstone's natural inclusion.

EVENTS TAKING PLACE AT VOID

Tuesday 17th September –
11:00am and 7:30pm (45mins)

Sunday 15th September – 4:00pm (30mins)
Wednesday 18th September – 7:30pm (30mins)

GEMFIELDS MASTERCLASS WITH GEMMOLOGIST JOANNA HARDY AND DESIGNER DAN TOBIN SMITH AT VOID

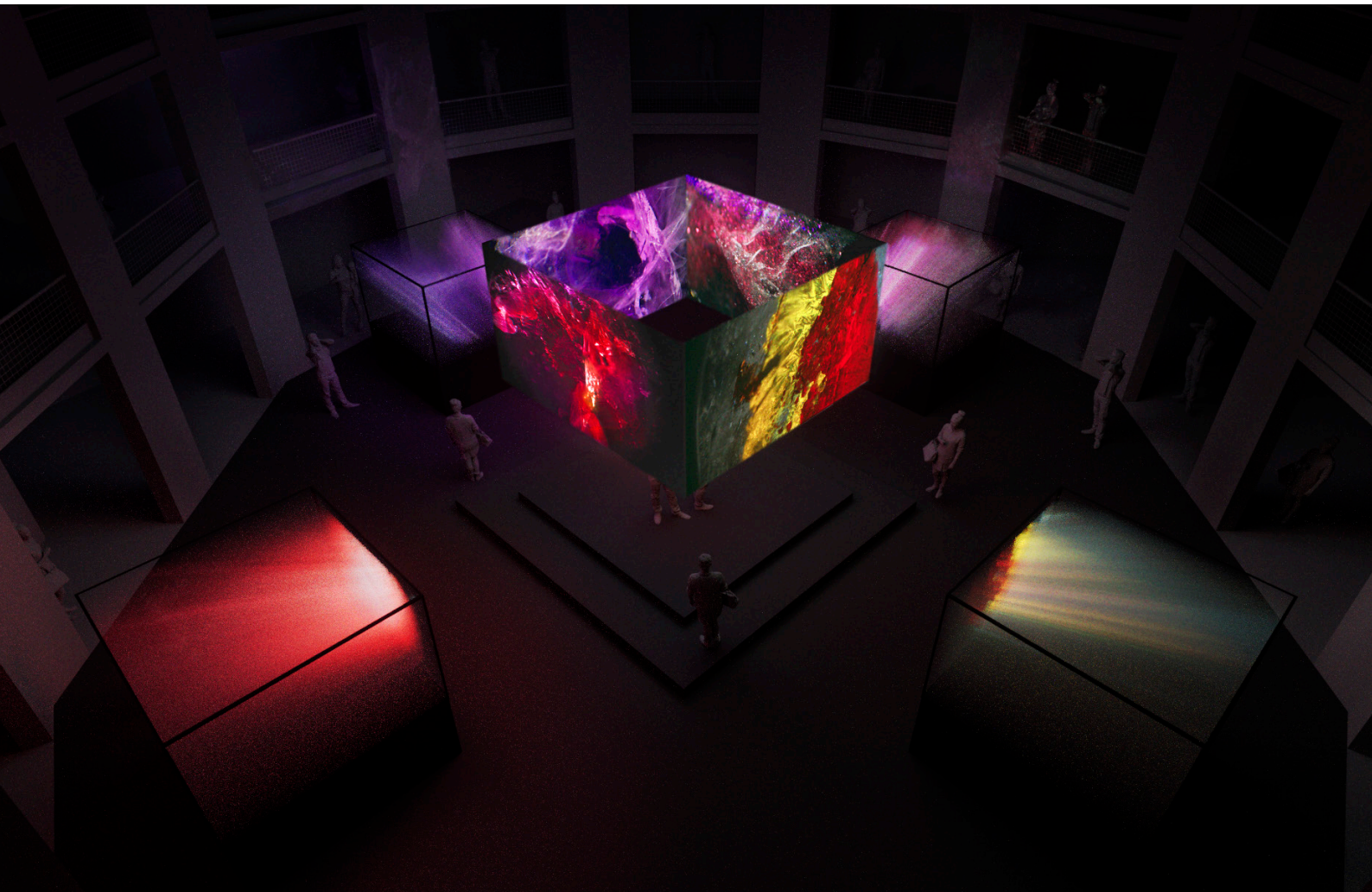
An intimate group walk around the VOID installation space with renowned gemmologist and jewellery specialist Joanna Hardy and VOID designer Dan Tobin Smith. The masterclass will focus on the history of gemstones, their origins and what attributes make them unique, while Dan Tobin Smith will discuss his passion for inclusions and explain the process of filming and projecting the gems within the installation VOID.

To book online visit www.londondesignfestival.com

FEMALE ELECTRONIC DRONE CHOIR; NYX PERFORMS LIVE AT VOID

NYX, a collaborative drone choir and otherworldly electric chorus, re-embodies live electronics and extended vocal techniques. An experiential exploration of ambient noise and electronic music, NYX makes ecstatic sonic landscapes, punctuated with acoustic glitches, polyphonic overtones and electric textures. Looking to reshape the role of the traditional female choir, NYX tests the limits of organic and synthetic modulation to explore the entire spectrum of the collective female voice as an instrument.

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EDITOR NOTES

DAN TOBIN SMITH

Dan Tobin Smith has over 15 years of experience working as a photographer specialising in installation and still life photography. His work has been commissioned by clients from across the fields of fashion, music, publishing and advertising — including Alexander McQueen, Jay-Z, Craig Green, Acne, Absolut, Apple, Rimowa, Nike, and Louis Vuitton. Known for his bold, architectural and innovative images, Tobin Smith works in many areas of still life, from large scale set installations down to the photomicrography of gemstones. He continues to evolve a distinctive aesthetic that is based on pushing boundaries with materials, lighting and perspective. He has consistently led the field in contemporary still life photography, with influential shoots such as for the artwork of Jay-Z's album 'The Blueprint 3'. Tobin Smith has developed a significant portfolio of personal work and exhibitions, notably his ongoing 'Alphabet' series (documented at alphabetical.org). In 2013 Tobin Smith exhibited 'Imaginary View' at Somerset House with a print series produced using the rare photogravure technique that went on to be exhibited at The Royal Academy in London by Paul Stolper Gallery. 2014 saw the construction of 'The First Law of Kipple' for London Design Festival – a 200-square-metre installation comprising thousands of colour-themed objects which later toured in Europe and America.

For further information
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THE EXPERIENCE MACHINE

The Experience Machine (TEM) is a bespoke creative studio that crafts evocative installations for site-specific performances, events and cultural institutions. Conceiving and constructing narrative environments that mesh meaningful stories into people's experiences, TEM combines cutting edge technology, audio and spatial design, to create interactions and shared moments that exist at the convergence of virtual and physical space. TEM has worked with artists such as Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Lady Gaga, James Blake and Skepta as well as brands including Gucci, Rag & Bone, Alexander McQueen, Google, and Intel.

GEMFIELDS

Gemfields is a world-leading supplier of responsibly sourced coloured gemstones.

Gemfields is the operator and 75% owner of both the Kagem emerald mine in Zambia (believed to be the world's single largest producing emerald mine) and Montepuez ruby mine in Mozambique (one of the most significant recently discovered ruby deposits in the world), as well as bulk sampling licences in Ethiopia, amongst others.

Gemfields aims to operate in a way that contributes positively to national economies, taking a leading role in modernising the coloured gemstone sector and building lasting, sustainable livelihoods for the communities around the mines. Gemfields believes that coloured gemstones should be mined and marketed by championing three key values – legitimacy, transparency and integrity.

Gemfields' responsibly sourced gemstones are the preferred choice for show pieces created by many world-renowned luxury houses and cutting-edge designers.

#VOIDWITHIN

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DAN TOBIN SMITH

THE EXPERIENCE MACHINE

GEMFIELDS