Composer and curator Iain Chambers is looking for musicians and poets to perform at this year’s Bascule Chamber concerts during September.

The Bascule Chamber Concerts take place in the south bascule chamber of Tower Bridge in London: a huge underground brick-lined space beneath the Thames.

Tower Bridge’s Bascule Chamber is London’s greatest hidden space. Built as an operational area to allow for the movement of the Bridge’s huge counterweights during Bridge Lifts, this vast brick-lined, subterranean space is normally out of bounds for everyday visitors, and now provides an unparalleled venue for special events.

Last year the concerts received widespread attention in national and social media, including features on London Live, and a 360 degree video from the Guardian.

- Watch a video of the Bascule Chamber Concerts in 2015 here
- Read an article about the concerts here

This opportunity is being co-curated by composer and producer Iain Chambers, and DJs, presenters and writers Rita Ray and Max Reinhardt.

**MUSICIANS**

The Bascule Chamber team want to hear your ideas for creating and performing a new 4-6 minute work that responds to this atmospheric underground space inside Tower Bridge. This will be the closing music of all fourteen concerts, performed from the floor of the Accumulator Chamber with audience members looking down on the performance space from a spiral staircase above.

**Please note:**

- This cylindrical space has a good natural acoustic. The performance will need to be self-contained - there will be no PA available, but performers can use their own portable amplifier if necessary.
- Due to the tight confines of the space, this opportunity suits music with no more than 1-2 performers.

The team will look more favourably on ideas responding to the Bascule Chamber space in some way, for example the surrounding water of the River Thames, bridges, subterranean spaces, etc.
**POETS**

This is an opportunity for you to write and perform new spoken word work over fourteen concerts that responds to this atmospheric underground space inside Tower Bridge. These would be 3 x 2-3 minute long spoken word pieces performed live, in between the musical repertoire.

**ESSENTIAL INFO**

You need to be available during the afternoon and evening of **Thursday 20 September**, evening of **Friday 21 September**, and all day on **Saturday 22 September** and **Sunday 23 September** for performances and rehearsal.

The all-inclusive performance/commission fee is **£1,250**.

**HOW TO APPLY**

If you want to be considered for these opportunities, the team would like to know more about your work, and what you would bring to these concerts by performing it live.

1. Send a video or audio recording describing who you are, what music/poetry you have made in the past, what your early ideas are for the brief, and how this will work live. This could be as simple as a video recorded on your phone, and should be no more than 5 minutes long.
2. Submit a link to a video or audio recording of you performing existing work.

Send these along with an Equal Opportunities form to basculechambers@gmail.com by **Friday 25 May, 5pm**. Successful entries will be chosen by **Friday 15 June**.

Applications from Black, Asian & minority ethnic artists are particularly welcome. These opportunities are open to all artists regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability.

Iain Chambers and the Bascule Chamber Concerts are supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and the PRS Foundation’s The Open Fund.