



Martin Creed set to direct the upcoming Fundación Botín Visual Arts Workshop

Enrolment opens for Fundación Botín Visual Arts Workshop to be imparted by Martin Creed at the end of March

- From 25 March through 5 April, the British artist and musician will direct the first Fundación Botín Visual Arts Workshop for 2019.
- In the workshop, titled *A New Work*, a performance will be conceived to be included in the exhibition throughout its duration, and will be premiered at Centro Botín during the opening of the exhibition.
- The call for applications closes on 17 February 2019. The artist will personally select the applicants to take part in the workshop.

Santander, 19 December 2018.- Martin Creed, the British artist and musician who won the Turner Prize in 2001 for his *Work No. 227 – The lights going on and off*, will direct the next Fundación Botín Visual Arts Workshop in Santander from 25 March through 5 April. **During the workshop which Creed is calling “A New Work”, a performance will be conceived to be included as an ongoing key element of his upcoming show at Centro Botín. To be premiered on 5 April at the exhibition opening**, the performance will consist of a group of four musicians (two singers, a violinist and a guitarist) who will stroll around the exhibition space playing the new score created during the workshop.

Known for the use of all types of media in his creations, Creed’s performances prompt a rethinking of the very notion of art as an object as opposed to an artistic experience in real time. In consequence, one is always guaranteed discoveries and surprises when visiting an exhibition by this artist, who incorporates the time visitors spend in the space as an essential component of his creative work. Experimentation, uncertainty and irony play a major role in Creed’s practice, always predicated on the premise that all art comes from sentiment.

A maximum of fifteen classically-trained musicians (guitarists and violinists) and singers with a profound interest in Contemporary Art will be selected by Martin Creed himself to take part in this unique experience. The “A New Work” workshop proposes a two-week long shared experience in which participants from any part of the world will pool their creative know-how with the celebrated British artist, while at once developing their own personal project.

The participants in the workshop, which will be given in English and Spanish, will be selected by the artist himself from among all the applications received either by email or through www.fundacionbotin.org and www.centrobotin.org, where conditions for participation are already available. The deadline for receiving applications is 17 February 2019. The names of the participants of the workshop will be announced on 18 February. The artists taking part in the workshop will bring their



own instruments and will perceive €455 for per-diem expenses. Participants who do not live in Cantabria will be provided accommodation in a students' residence.

Since 1994, the Fundación Botín Visual Arts Workshop in Santander has brought together young artists to share experiences with artists of the stature of Carsten Höller, Juan Uslé, Gabriel Orozco, Julião Sarmento, Mirosław Balka, Antoni Muntadas, Jannis Kounellis, Mona Hatoum, Paul Graham, Tacita Dean, Carlos Garaicoa, Julie Mehretu, Joan Jonas and Cristina Iglesias.

About Martin Creed (Wakefield, United Kingdom, 1968)

Martin Creed studied at the Slade School of Art in London. He is a renowned musician and artist who works with a wide range of media, including performance, installation, sound, text, sculpture, painting and drawing. With his first work, titled *Work No. 3 (1986)* he inaugurated the numbering system of titling his works he would follow ever since. His whole body of work functions as such as a kind of archive: his *Works* are only materialised when they are exhibited, otherwise, they exist as a set of instructions that must be meticulously executed each time they are displayed.

Although Martin Creed's work has been exhibited worldwide for nearly three decades, his name made the headlines in contemporary art in 2001, when he won the Turner Prize for his *Work No. 227 – The lights going on and off*, a light installation that is now in the collection of Tate Modern, London.

The minimalist and always controversial approach of this artist, English by birth and Scot by adoption, involves purging his works of anything he deems out of place, unnecessary or irrelevant. Creed constantly challenges the concepts of present-day art through the use of mundane materials and common situations in his practice. In doing so, he fuses art and everyday life in an artistic language that confounds some and fascinates others, but never leaves anyone indifferent.

Creed founded his first band, Owada, in 1994, with Adam McEwen and Keiko Owada. In 2011 he set up his own label, Telephone Records. Apart from releasing a large number of records, the latest in 2016, he has also composed orchestral pieces, including *Work No. 955*, for the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra; *Work No. 994*, for the Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra; and *Work No. 1375*, for the London Sinfonietta.

Fundación Botín

Fundación Marcelino Botín was created in 1964 by Marcelino Botín Sanz de Sautuola and his wife Carmen Yllera, to promote the social development of Cantabria. Now, over fifty years later, Fundación Botín plays an instrumental role in the overall development of society by exploring new ways of detecting and fostering new creative talent with a view to generating cultural, social and economic wealth. It operates in the fields of art and culture, education, science and rural development and provides support to social institutions in Cantabria to reach those most in need. Fundación Botín operates mostly in Spain, particularly in Cantabria, but also in Latin America. www.fundacionbotin.org

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