

**Hello Sonia! Firstly for those who don't know you or your work can you tell us a little bit about yourself?**

Sure, I'm a composer, researcher, music therapist and occasional undercover performer. I do all of these things on wheels. I completed a PhD a few years ago which explored interactions between words and music and this remains a great interest of mine and underpins my creative practice. I also work creating lots of different music in lots of different ways with differently-abled people.

**This concert will showcase a lot of very talented disabled composers is there anything you are particularly excited to hear?**

This is an easy question to answer! I'm honestly excited to hear EVERYONE's work because it's just great to hear as many musical voices as possible and the ways in which different people work with music and sound. I also have hearing aids for the first time so will actually hear everyone's work much more clearly which is a bonus!

**Your piece is called 'Last Tango in Liverpool' can you give us a hint of what it is about?**

It's basically a tango which keeps being interrupted in different ways by a fragment of melody from a well-known Beatles song. In another sense it is about being bipolar.

**What other fun projects are you scheming currently?**

Besides this lovely concert I've recently been writing music for an installation at Hatton Gallery in Newcastle which is part of an on-going collaborative project I'm involved in, "Dada's Women", about the women artists of the European Dada art movement of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. I've also been writing songs with Strokeness through a second phase of the "Lost & Found" project in Inverness at Eden Court Theatre supported by Drake Music Scotland. I'm currently researching identity in D/deaf performers at RCS and creating a new role with Sonic Bothy in Glasgow as Development Artist.

**As a final little one, you are on a desert island, what five CDs/Recordings would you have on there with you?** Ooh, so many to choose from: "Volo di notte" – Dallapiccola; "Appalachian Spring" – Copland; Mozart's Clarinet Concerto; "Four last songs" – Strauss; Prokofiev's ballet music for "Romeo & Juliet". Magic!