

SPIRITLAND 3 MONTH RESIDENCY AT MERCHANTS TAVERN, EC2: 6 OCTOBER – 31 DECEMBER 2014

SPIRITLAND RESTAURANT, BAR AND MEMBERS CLUB TO LAUNCH IN 2015

From 6 October 2014, a unique new music space, Spiritland, will take up residence in the beautiful bar at Merchants Tavern in east London. A bold new concept in hospitality, Spiritland will be a place for appreciating music in a leisurely and luxurious style.

Beginning with an expansive collection of music on vinyl of all genres from the last 50 years, including **rock'n'roll**, **soul**, **country**, **reggae**, **R'n'B**, **jazz**, **blues** and beyond, Spiritland's music library will be steadily played, explored and celebrated on a high fidelity sound system of unmatched quality.

Housed in the recently opened **Merchants Tavern** bar and restaurant, headed up by **Angela Hartnett and Neil Borthwick**, Spiritland will offer a particularly special setting to hear an uncommonly wide range of music. Spiritland won't be hushed or reverent but warm and welcoming, celebrating great music in elegant style.

The music will be played with love and attention by a carefully chosen selection of guest programmers on a visually appealing and musically unparalleled sound system of uncompromisingly high clarity.

Confirmed guests for Autumn 2014 include **Bill Brewster**, who will launch the season on Monday 6 October and inaugurate the sound system; **Hot Chip's Alexis Taylor**; **Pete Fowler** (Seahawks); **Nick Luscombe** (Flomotion/BBC Radio 3 – Late Junction); and **Fred Deakin (Lemon Jelly),** who will be digging out some unexpected spooky horror sounds on Hallowe'en.

Monday 27 October will see a night dedicated to Lou Reed on the first anniversary of his death, while later in the season, there will even be a rare outing of Marxist historian Eric Hobsbawm's extensive jazz collection, loaned to Spiritland by his family.

Other guest selectors for the season include Marc Mac (4Hero), Kirk Degiorgio (As One/The Beauty Room), Pete Paphides, Will Hodgkinson, Nancy Noise (Future), Dean Rudland (Ace Records), Miles Copeland (Wonderful Sound) and Mark Pringle (Rock's Backpages). Respected club DJs, including Phil Mison (Cantoma), Soft Rocks, Leo Zero, Grovesnor, Apiento, Luke Howard and Severino, will reflect their mellower sides.

Further curated events include a night of electronic film soundtracks from Vangelis to Angelo Badalamenti from **Charlotte Hatherley**; **Rhodri Marsden**'s evening dedicated to **Prefab Sprout**; a riot of **big hair and big voices** from Stevie Nicks to Cher from **Amy Grimehouse**; a celebration of **Paul Simon**'s work for his **birthday** on 13 October; and a night of **heart-wrenching country** from **Andrew Mueller**.

Music will be played mostly on vinyl, on a world-class, rich-bodied, analogue sound system, featuring towering Tannoy Westminster GR loudspeakers, specially modified turntables, valve amplification and a rare Bozak mixer. A new benchmark for audio listening in London, Spiritland will redefine the idea of a quality listening experience.

Following this residency at Merchants Tavern, Spiritland will open as a **permanent restaurant, bar and members club** with music at its heart in 2015. Further details to be announced in early 2015.

Editor's Notes:

For further press information and images, please contact Hilary Cornwell or Emma Pettit at Margaret_ on 020 7923 2861 / firstname@margaretlondon.com

For further information about Merchants Tavern restaurant, please contact Victoria Slater at Gerber PR on 020 3040 0887 / victoria@gerberpr.co.uk

Spiritland will be in residence at Merchants Tavern from Monday 6 October 2014 – Thursday 1 January 2015.

Monday - Friday: 5pm – midnight Saturday & Sunday: midday – midnight Guest curators will generally play from approx. 7pm – 11pm.

www.spiritland.club www.facebook.com/spiritlandclub Twitter: @Spiritland

SPIRITLAND at
Merchants Tavern
36 Charlotte Road
London, EC2A 3PG
http://www.merchantstavern.co.uk/
Tel: 020 7060 5335

Entry: FREE

Spiritland Sound System:

Spiritland plays music on a stereo system that combines warmth and weight with clarity and definition. Vinyl is preferred as a medium, but Spiritland also uses CDs and 1/4" tape for playout purposes.

Speakers: Tannoy Westminster GR Horn Loudspeakers. Supplied courtesy of Tannoy (www.tannoy.com)

Amplification: Canary M500 Mono Blocks with 300B Triode tubes. Supplied courtesy of Definitive Audio (www.definitiveaudio.co.uk)

About Spiritland:

The Spiritland name is an evocation of the mystical and magical essence of music, taking the listener away to a place of pleasure and exploration. Spiritland is a place of unparalleled musical credibility, sonic pleasure and the purest indulgence of the senses. Spiritland. Come home to music.

Spiritland's founders are radio producer and music consultant Paul Noble, and restauranteurs Patrick Clayton Malone and Dominic Lake (Merchants Tavern, Canteen). Biogs available on request.

About Merchants Tavern:

Merchants Tavern is the creative collaboration of Angela Hartnett, head chef Neil Borthwick, and Canteen founders Dominic Lake and Patrick Clayton Malone, which opened in Shoreditch on 8th October 2013. Neil's menu of modern European food is inspired by the seasons and is influenced by the cooking techniques and disciplines of France, Spain, Italy and Britain.

The restaurant design is an update of the classic tavern, created by Hackney based design studio Very Good & Proper, with interiors that give a nod to 50's and 60's design simplicity.

Spiritland October Guest Curators:

Week One

- 6th Bill Brewster (DJhistory, Low Life)
- 7th Phil Mison (Cantoma)
- 8th Paul Noble (Spiritland)
- 9th Alexis Taylor (Hot Chip)
- 10th Luke Howard
- 11th Apiento (Test Pressing)
- 12th Paul Noble (Spiritland) (DAY) Pete Paphides (6 Music) (NIGHT)

Week Two

- 13th Mark Pringle (Rock's Backpages)
- 14th Charlotte Hatherley (Sci-fi soundtracks)
- 15th Pete Fowler (Seahawks, Monsterism)
- 16th Rik Moran (Down To The Bone)
- 17th Fred Deakin (Lemon Jelly)
- 18th Paul Noble (Spiritland) (DAY) Mark Greenfield (Los Desterrados) (NIGHT)
- 19th Piers Harrison (Soft Rocks)

Week Three

- 20th Matthew Burgess (Low Life)
- 21st Jude Rogers
- 22nd Nick Luscombe (Late Junction, Flomotion)
- 23rd Simon Lee (Faze Action)
- 24th Paul Noble (Spiritland)
- 25th Miles Copeland (Wonderful Sound)
- 26th Ian Black (DAY) Andrea (NIGHT)

Week Four

- 27th Lou Reed special event
- 28th Mark Fuller and Edd
- 29th Andrew Mueller and Rob Burrow (Nashville-upon-Thames)
- 30th Julian de Metz (dMFK)
- 31st Fred Deakin's Hallowe'en (Lemon Jelly)

November and December guest curators to be announced.

- Ends -