



Episode 2 *Survivor* Behind the scenes with Joel and Ed

On 12th January 2012, Hofesh Shechter and Antony Gormley's *Survivor* will open at the Barbican Theatre. For the second episode of this weekly newsletter, Ed Hoare and Joel Harries, two of the younger musicians in Hofesh's band explain to you their thoughts, feelings and reflexions about *Survivor* and the music world too. Don't forget! Tickets are selling out so fast so book now to avoid disappointment - with Hofesh and Antony working together for the first time you can be certain this won't be any ordinary concert of music!



Ed Hoare enthusiastically took to the drums when presented with his

first drum-kit aged 3. He's music tuition continued through his school years leading to two years at the Academy of Contemporary Music, where he was taught by drumming stalwarts such as Pete Riley and Richard Brook.



Joel Harries is from Northampton. After finishing his A-levels he decided against university education and began to write material and tour with various groups. He considers himself incredibly lucky to be able to live his life the way he does.

Both Ed and Joel have been performing as musicians with Hofesh Shechter Company since March 2010.

To begin, what is the best gig you have ever seen?

Ed: For me, it will be the Rolling Stones at Wembley, because it was the first show I ever went to and it made a big impact on my life, I think.

Joel: I have no idea... Sigur Ros at Latitude was amazing but it's hard to pick a best one.

For the moment, what are you feelings about Survivor?

Joel: Hum...confusion!

Ed: It's still in the very early stages. So far the music we've made has

some really nice moments in it. It's very atmospheric and very rhythmic.

Joel: It's quite hard for us to see the bigger picture because we don't know what Antony Gormley has done, so all we have at the moment are these sections of music. It's difficult to imagine what is going to turn into. But I imagine it will be brilliant.

Ed: It will be great! It will all come together in the last week and it will all begin to make sense.

How can you describe the atmosphere between the musicians in Hofesh's band?

Joel: Most of the time, the atmosphere is relaxed.

Ed: We all get on really well. We are all from different ends of the spectrum, we have all done different things in the past but it's really nice to get everyone together, learn new things and collaborate.

Joel: It's really fun.

Can you describe Hofesh's music in 3 words?

Ed: Free... It changes so much you know... One minute it's heavy and in the next minute, it's just single note.

Joel: Most of the time, it's rhythmic. That's kind a contradiction to free but 'free-rhythmic'.

Ed: It gets the feeling it's free and open. It's very based around tribal, folk rhythms.

Does the Barbican stage represent something special or not?

Joel: I have been to a show at the Barbican before. I saw John Zorn curate an evening and it was amazing so I am looking forward to being on the same stage. But, there are lot of stages I would like to play, like the O2... because it's big!

Ed: I have never been to the Barbican but its such a famous venue, it will be great to say 'I played at the Barbican'. For me, the pinnacle of my career would be to play the main stage at Glastonbury festival...

Why do you love about being in Hofesh's band?

Ed: Touring the world, getting paid... just the people really. It's just the people and the places that we go that make it really fun.

To finish, what is the craziest gig you have performed in?

Joel: The Choreographer's Cut!

Ed: Yeah, when we did the Choreographer's Cut in France in Montpellier.

Joel: It was the most fun I have ever had on stage!

One vs one question

What is the best quality of the other one?

Ed about Joel: We often end up sharing rooms in hotels on tour and he is really easy to live with. He is quiet and we get on a lot; he doesn't talk to much, snore or smell...

Joel about Ed: Pretty much the same... And he is a good drummer.

Ed: We just started a new band together as well, we are going to be doing our own thing musically which should be good fun!

Survivor

**12-14 January 2012, 7.45pm
(plus 3pm matinee on 14 Jan)**

Venue: Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS

Box Office: 020 7638 8891

www.barbican.org.uk

See you next week!

Hofesh Shechter CompanyT: +44 (0) 20 314 26823 www.hofesh.co.uk

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Quercus outset.