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PRESS RELEASE

Concert for Anthony Caro and Sea Music Saturday 13 May 2017

World premiere of Jim Aitchison's new score inspired by the famous sculpture on Poole Quay

To celebrate the relaunch of Anthony Caro's 'Sea Music' on Poole Quay, the contemporary composer Jim Aitchison has been commissioned to compose a new piece inspired by the sculpture. Called *Sea of Music*, its world premiere will be in Poole on 13 May 2017 when it will be performed by Kokoro – the new music ensemble of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

Sir Anthony Caro (1924-2013) gave 'Sea Music' to the town of Poole and it is his only site-specific monumental sculpture in the public realm. Designed to evoke the sound and appearance of the cascading sea through interlocking rings and curves, with central vertical plates recalling the masts and sails of the ships, the sculpture has been a prominent feature on Poole Quay for 25 years. Exposure to the elements has taken its toll, and 'Sea Music' is now the subject of a major project to repair, conserve and celebrate it, which has been supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Arts Council England (ACE).

Caro commented: 'I sometimes think of sculpture like a concerto: there's the piano up above and the orchestra down below'. Music was important to Caro. Classical music was played daily in his studio, drowning out the cacophony of welding and cutting steel. As a theme, music is also associated with several his works, most notably his 'Concerto Series' as well as 'Sea Music' of course. It is no surprise that 'Sea Music' resembles a treble clef and it has a great sense of rhythm and movement.

Celebratory events on Saturday 13 May are as follows:

- 4.30 pm Private View of *Anthony Caro: Concerto Series* in Poole Museum
- 6.00 pm Speech by Lord Palumbo with a 'fanfare for Caro' by Jim Aitchison performed by Brass from Kokoro at 'Sea Music' on Poole Quay
- 6.45 pm Concert by Kokoro in The Guildhall
- 7.45 pm Concert ends

The programme for the concert in The Guildhall, Poole is as follows:

- I. Mozart arranged by Jim Aitchison, Duo for Violin and Viola in G major, K.423 (first movement) for harp and woodwind
- II. Schubert, String Quintet in C major, D. 956 (second movement)
- III. Premiere of Jim Aitchison's *Sea of Music*

Tickets for the concert are strictly limited and must be booked in advance by contacting the BSO box office on 01202 669925 or BSolive.com. There will also be a live-stream of the

concert available at www.poolemuseum.com/SeaMusicLive and screened on the night in Poole Museum.

Event: Concert for Caro by Kokoro

Venue: The Guildhall, Market Street, Poole BH15 1NP

Performance Date: Saturday 13 May

Time: 6:45pm

Ticket Prices: £5.00

Box Office: 01202 669925 or BSOlive.com

This concert has been supported by Suzanne Deal Booth, David and Audrey Mirvish, Toronto and the New Art Centre, Roche Court.

Notes to Editors:

1. Sir Anthony Caro OM CBE RA (1924-2013) had a long and prestigious career. He is widely renowned for revolutionising British sculpture in terms of subject, appearance, materials, methods and ideas, breaking away from the traditions of European sculpture by showing that sculpture could be abstract and need not be dependent on the human figure. Over a period of some six decades, he became one of Britain's best-known, prolific and decorated artists and one is now able to see his work in just about every major collection around the world as well as here on Poole Quay.
2. Anthony Caro was invited by Poole Arts Council to make *Sea Music* in 1989. It was unveiled by Lord Palumbo on 22 November 1991. The sculpture was made by local businesses donating time, materials and expertise. The main body of the sculpture is constructed in steel and painted blue. Overall it measures 11.25 x 16.99 x 4.65 m. It has three viewing platforms comprising galvanised steel railings, aluminium decking and wooden seats.
3. Jim Aitchison is a composer and artist and an Associate Lecturer at the Academy of Music and Theatre Arts, Falmouth University.
4. Kokoro is the new music ensemble of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, committed to bringing contemporary music to the South and South West. Meaning 'heart' in Japanese, Kokoro is involved in projects throughout the region with its Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor Mark Forkgen. They are the south-west's leading contemporary chamber music specialists.
5. Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is one of the UK's busiest orchestras, reaching around 5,000 concert-goers per week across 35 venues across 10,000 square miles of the UK. 2017 marks the Orchestra's 124th consecutive year of bringing the highest quality live music to the South and South West.

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