Press release
January 2010

ICA

ICA Live Weekend: Shunt
23 to 27 February 2011

ICA TO COLLABORATE WITH SHUNT ON WEEKEND OF LIVE PERFORMANCE

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) is to collaborate with the curators of the Shunt Collective to present a weekend of live performances and interventions that will animate the spaces of the ICA's ground floor in unexpected ways from 23 to 27 February 2011.

This is the first time that the Shunt Collective have presented their work within a major public institution. Throughout the weekend, the ICA will become a workshop for new performance by a diverse group of artists — from improvised to designed, one-to-one performances to spectacles, interactive to hermetic — including film, music, talks, theatre, puppetry, and installation.

Shunt continues the ICA's series of Live Weekends, throughout which the institution immerses itself in live performance in all its various forms, often working in a collaborative or improvised way with artists, curators and programmers.

David Thorp, Associate Programmer of the ICA said: "This February will see the ICA partner with many artists whose work blurs the boundaries between art, music and performance continuing our regular Live Weekends. Each weekend, from *The Last of the Red Wine*, the first sitcom set in the art world to *Notation and Interpretation* where classical and electronic music fuse and now *Shunt*, the ICA becomes a melting pot for creative ideas to develop and thrive."

Shunt is a collective of artists creating large-scale performance events in unusual, abandoned or derelict buildings throughout London. Their regular home, until building work on The Shard forced them to move last June, was the sprawling labyrinth of railway arches under London Bridge Station – Shunt Vaults. There they forged a reputation for exploring the relationship between viewer and artist, often performing without a stage and among the audience. The Shunt curators will build on that experience as they join forces with the ICA.

Artists and companies invited to participate in the ICA's Shunt Live Weekend are Little Bulb, Kazuko Hokhi and Frank Chickens, Action Hero, Melanie Wilson, Mamoru Iriguchi, and a host of others, including artists from the Shunt Collective.

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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
The Institute of Contemporary Arts is a registered charity in England No 236848

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Visitor information

ICA Live Weekend: Shunt at the ICA
23 to 27 February 2011
Box Office: 020 7930 3647
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH
www.ica.org.uk | www.twitter.com/icalondon | www.facebook.com/icalondon

Notes to editors

1. **Shunt** continues the ICA's on-going series of Live Weekends that illustrate the ICA's core creative ambition to present artist-led live art and performance and to stimulate public debate. Live Weekends happen throughout February with: The Last of the Red Wine, from 9 to 14 February, the art world's first radio sitcom; and Notation and Interpretation, from 16 to 20 February, a festival of cross-genre music and improvisation where classical meets electronica.

2. **The Institute of Contemporary Arts** (ICA) is a not-for-profit, multi-disciplinary arts centre established in 1947 by a collective of artists, poets and writers to showcase and champion contemporary culture across the broadest range of art forms. Housing two galleries, two cinemas, a theatre, reading room, bookshop and café/bar, the ICA has been at the forefront of cultural experiment since its formation and has presented some of the most radical exhibitions, artists, films, music and thought to have shaped our world. It exists today as a committed proponent of contemporary arts practice and new ideas, presenting an international and contextualised programme of work in new and experimental frameworks across a variety of platforms. Entrance to galleries, bookshop, café and bar events is free of charge before 11pm.