

## **Information**

### **A new step in your musical career**

You graduated from the conservatoire and are working in music. But perhaps you feel you could get more out of your education and yourself. The Big Connection offers you the opportunity not only to grow as a musician, but also to develop other skills you need in the work field, such as business skills. We are looking for candidates who are interested in developing their musical leadership, who like to work in ensembles at creating an artistic product and who are not afraid to take initiatives.

### **Increase your opportunities!**

Do you feel our criteria apply to you? Then you could be one of the four highly qualified graduates to receive the opportunity to take this six month course, free of charge. The course will enable you to broaden your artistic horizons as well as teach you organizational and business skills. These skills will greatly increase your opportunities in the musical work field! The course takes place from December 2005 to June 2006. Applicants must not be over the age of 35

### **Learn how to take artistic and commercial charge**

The workshop leaders we select will learn how to start up a project independently and how to guide this both artistically and commercially. Organizational and marketing aspects will also be part of the course. You will work with your own ensemble, consisting of pupils from the Stedelijke Muziekschool Groningen and second years from the Prins Claus Conservatoire. You will be coached by Hanno Tomassen, who works at the Hogeschool voor Kunsten in Utrecht and the Utrechts Centrum voor de Kunsten. Hanno Tomassen is a working musician who also gives creative workshop trainings and workshops to children from development areas. The course includes weekly coaching and two inspirational and artistically special workshops, each lasting a week.

Artistic leadership of The Big Connection is in the hands of Sean Gregory, head of Professional Development at the Guildhall School of Music in London. From 18-22 April he will guide workshops and the ensembles will later give performances at various locations in the city of Groningen. One of the acts will be an all-comers band that will give an interactive concert here in the city, while simultaneously an all-comers band in London will do the same.

Hanno Tomassen and Sean Gregory have been working together for years. General supervision of The Big Connection is in the hands of Rineke Smilde, lector of Lifelong Learning in Music.

### **Special social context**

Special about these workshops is that they take place in various social contexts within the council of Groningen, for example in schools, nursing homes, hospitals and schools for children with special needs.