

# MNFN / WMG / Stowfest proposal

William Morris's influence resonates throughout the cultural history of Britain, especially in his home town of Walthamstow. For the opening night of this year's StowFest, More News From Nowhere have invited a collection of artists to respond to his work and legacy with an evening of musical and sound-art performances.

**“Don't copy any style at all, but make your own”**

In curating this programme we've taken care to showcase artists whose practice mirrors Morris's, as well as displaying an originality and uniqueness of vision of their own. Our aim is not to pastiche or pay tribute to Morris's work, but to explore how his ideas inform contemporary creative practice.

**“A pattern-designer should know all about the craft for which he has to draw”**

Morris was well known as a great believer in the importance to artists of cultivating expertise and understanding of their craft and medium. With this in mind, we've chosen to feature artists whose work demonstrates a close connection to and understanding of their instrument: Synthesizer, violin, or the human voice.

**“Fellowship is heaven, and lack of fellowship is hell”**

In addition, to honour Morris's belief in the power of co-operation, we've also chosen to showcase collaborations between individual performers.

**“I have never been in any rich man's house which would not have looked better for having a bonfire made of nine-tenths of all that it held”**

Above all, we hope to build upon Morris's legacy by providing a space to explore how his critical and political concerns continue to inform and inspire challenging, exciting and forward-thinking work.