



The season for live music is just around the corner, so we caught up with the Dot to Dot Festival organiser Dan Ealam to find out what we can expect at this years show in May.

Why is it called the Dot to Dot Festival and how did it start?

The festival started in 2005. The idea behind it was to give a platform for fresh exciting bands alongside more established but cool headliners across a variety of stages. People can move as they please between venues that are in close proximity to one another in a city's musical epicentre - quite literally people 'dot to dot' between shows and places according to their own schedule.

This is the festival's 5th year running - what's the secret behind it's success?

Dot to Dot Festival 2009

Written by Amita Mistry

Wednesday, 25 March 2009 00:00

I think people genuinely trust the lineups that we put out there. Bands who have played the event before moving into the major league include Klaxons, Glasvegas, Santogold, Gallows, Erol Alkan, Kissy Sellout and Laura Marling to name but a few. The kind of people who go to the event tend to be in-the-know and will all converge on the big hot tips' shows so very often it will be the artist's first time playing to a massive crowd. This also means that bands hold Dot To Dot very close to their hearts. Kate Nash and Foals are two such artists.

Why Bristol and Nottingham?

DHP is very firmly established in Nottingham and Bristol where we are the primary promoter in our sphere. We also own venues in these cities.

How many people are you expecting at this year's event?

We expect 4000+ people in Nottingham.

How important is it for you to put a spotlight on new musical talent?

It's vital. We want to keep the event exciting and to continue to create the 'were you there?' moments that happen when a band hits their stride live.

Will we be seeing any famous faces in the line up this year?

Friendly Fires, Ladyhawke, Annie Mac and Patrick Wolf are all confirmed for the event in Nottingham. They are all firmly established big names.

Who should we look out for?

Dot to Dot Festival 2009

Written by Amita Mistry

Wednesday, 25 March 2009 00:00

There's an enormous buzz around Little Boots who was attracting massive hype off the back of just one single. I've just got back from an industry event in Texas where I saw her play to 1000 conference attendees. It's going to be really interesting to see her justify the hype at Dot To Dot.

Who are you looking forward to seeing?

I think Ladyhawke has produced one of the best albums of the decade - it'll be amazing watching her at Rock City at Dot To Dot. There's tonnes of other stuff that I'm really excited about - a lot of which I cannot divulge as of yet.



Dot to Dot Festival 2009

Written by Amita Mistry

Wednesday, 25 March 2009 00:00

Who has been the best act you've seen at Dot to Dot?

I think Mystery Jets really stole the show last year - it was just before their record took them to a new level but watching from the stage as 1500 people go mental was an incredible moment. Foals, Klaxons, Gallows, Glasvegas, Two Gallants and Late Of The Pier all spring to mind but to be honest there's so many awesome artists that have played there's too many to list.

The early bird tickets sold out in February, why do you think that is?

I think it shows that people trust Dot To Dot deliver a brilliant lineup. These early bird tickets were sold out long before we announced a single artist.

Do you think the recession is going to stop people from going to festivals this year?

Last year showed that you couldn't just stick a stage up in a field and expect people to just turn up. Festivals have to have an ethos and deliver a quality line-up and amenities which Dot To Dot has done consistently since its launch.

Why should people come to Dot to Dot?

People should come to D2D because it is a glorious day of great music, the perfect opportunity to discover your new favourite band as well as being un-reliant on the weather.

For more information visit: www.dottodotfestival.co.uk