

## ROLI launches BLOCKS, an affordable LEGO-like music creation system for everyone, at Apple Stores around the world

London — <u>ROLI</u>, the music technology innovator, today launches BLOCKS, the most accessible and scalable music creation system ever made.

ROLI BLOCKS is a modular music studio that opens up the world of music-making to everyone. Each individual Block offers unique capabilities that let people create music in simple but far-reaching ways. The Blocks connect together to create customizable kits that suit any budget, skill level, and musical style. With a click of magnetic connectors, music-makers can now build their instruments as they go.

Renowned artists including Grimes, Steve Aoki, and RZA are already making music on BLOCKS and creating signature soundpacks for BLOCKS musicians. Grimes — a composer, producer, and global superstar whose sound is redefining pop music — said, "ROLI BLOCKS will democratize music production. It's so intuitive and versatile. I'm always on the go, and BLOCKS is the most powerful mobile production tool I've ever used."

Three Blocks launch today. The Lightpad Block features a tactile, glowing surface that lets people shape music through presses, glides, and other natural gestures. The Live Block and Loop Block have controls that make it even easier to perform and produce in real time. BLOCKS is powered by NOISE, a free music app for iPhone and iPad that is now available at the App Store. NOISE connects to BLOCKS wirelessly over Bluetooth, becoming the system's sound engine as well as a standalone app.

Roland Lamb, founder and CEO of ROLI, and inventor of BLOCKS, said, "Many areas of life have been transformed by the digital. Music, though, remains a universal language that everyone understands, but only a few can speak. BLOCKS will change that, and enable people around the world to experience the joy of music-making for the first time."

The Lightpad Block, Live Block, and Loop Block are exclusively available at ROLI.com, Apple.com, and Apple Stores around the world. With a Lightpad Block retailing at \$179 (£169.95) and the Live Block and Loop Block at \$79 (£69.95), BLOCKS is extraordinarily affordable as well as powerful.

ROLI celebrates today with an event at the Steel Yard in London. Roland Lamb's keynote address and the world's first BLOCKS performance will be live-streamed on ROLI's <u>Facebook page</u> at 2000 GMT on November 1.

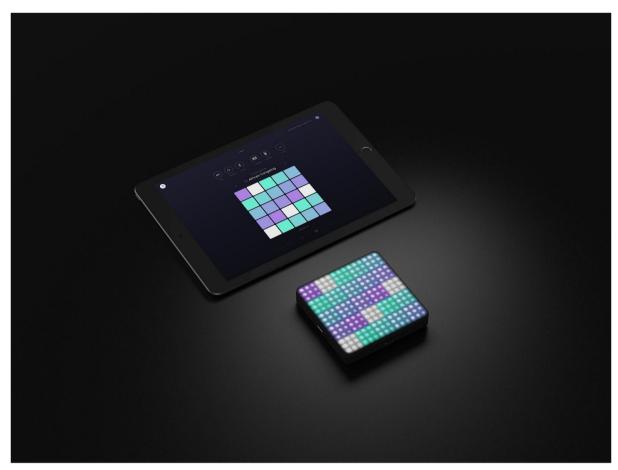
The launch caps an important year for ROLI, which has emerged as a leader in music technology innovation. The award-winning <u>Seaboard RISE</u>, a reinvention of the piano that has redefined the expressive capability of electronic instruments, has been adopted by a range of artists from Stevie

Wonder to Meghan Trainor. ROLI acquired <u>FXpansion</u>, a London-based maker of audio software and virtual instruments, in September 2016.

Visit ROLI.com and watch BLOCKS films to see and hear how this modular music studio will give everyone a musical voice.



Make music anywhere with BLOCKS



The Lightpad Block and NOISE on iPad



The Lightpad Block



Lightpad Blocks connected to the Live Block and Loop Block



The Lightpad Block connected to the Loop Block

## **About ROLI**

ROLI is a leading music technology startup whose mission is to extend the joy of music creation to everyone. Its multi-award-winning <a href="Seaboard RISE">Seaboard RISE</a> and <a href="Seaboard GRAND">Seaboard GRAND</a> — adopted by world-renowned artists including Stevie Wonder, Meghan Trainor, and A.R. Rahman — have redefined the expressive potential of keyboard instruments. NOISE, ROLI's free iOS app, turns iPhones and iPads into powerful and fun music-making devices. ROLI has raised over \$50 million from leading investors including Foundry Group, Balderton Capital, and Founders Fund as well as Universal Music Group. "The most important company in music technology right now" (Music Tech magazine) is building a Connected Music ecosystem of hardware and software products that will change the way people create and enjoy music.

## PRESS CONTACTS

ROLI: Will MacNamara will.macnamara@roli.com

Grimes: Anna Meacham <u>anna.meacham@purplepr.com</u>