



SUMMERHALL

FESTIVAL  
PROGRAMME  
2023

VENUE  
26

# ETHOS

The ethos of Summerhall is to keep faith with the founding principle of the Edinburgh International Festival, to 'heal wounds of war through the language of the arts', artists, scientists & others linked by shared genius to bridge over every major social divide with new & old voices of insight & protest, love & care for all of the planet & for Europe in the world, multilingual, multicultural, multi-national; the human spirit operating in crises, playful, profound, political too but never propaganda.

The purposes of the arts are to encourage all to look, listen, think & act harder, to see value in what otherwise is foolishly ignored, discarded or wasted.

Summerhall is a uniquely flexible multi-arts multidisciplinary set of exhibition and performance spaces to accommodate all creativity & cross-currents in our sciences & arts. If we are nationalist it is for all countries & people everywhere or nowhere!

**Robert McDowell**  
Director

## WELCOME

It's an absolute pleasure to be able to invite you to Summerhall's 2023 programme which contains some brilliant, beautiful, challenging, moving and fantastically creative work from all over the world. More than a third of the programme is made up of international work from six of the seven continents.

We are presenting this festival in even more challenging times than last year. Large numbers of audiences returned to Summerhall after the pandemic for our 2022 programme, and we are delighted that so many artists and audiences have the appetite and enthusiasm to come back to Edinburgh for 2023.

As we approach this year with ongoing conflict in Europe, political change and uncertainty as well as a range of financial challenges across the cost of living and huge inflationary pressures on our income, we want to thank the artists for returning to Edinburgh or coming for their first fringe at Summerhall; those who have braved and borne the extraordinary costs of participating in the largest open arts festival in the world, and for having faith in our ability to curate a world class arts programme that will offer incredible experiences to all of our audiences.

We have always put the artists and their output at the centre of our festival programme and this year is no different. Now more than ever we need to provide a safe space for creative practitioners to be able to experiment with form, provide a platform to express new ideas and share experiences.

The feeling of community and support, that is so important to us, is instrumental in the unique atmosphere generated in our building and we love that so many of our permanent and seasonal family want to share it with one another. As a way of thanking those that make the work happen, we are introducing some new initiatives that aim to help reduce the cost of participating. Details of which can be found in this programme.

Summerhall continues to be a space for everyone. Whether you are engaging with our world class programme of visual art, performance and live music or sharing a drink with friends and soaking up the atmosphere in our courtyard, there is something at Summerhall for you to discover and enjoy this August. We invite you to explore, stumble into a gallery, take a step into the unknown and commit to something unplanned!

A truly special place for audiences, artists and our team, we couldn't do any of this without their unending support and dedication, and I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of them that makes what we do both in August and all year round possible. You are all truly brilliant.

To everyone else, I hope you will enjoy this collection of work as much as we will, and I can't wait to see you in our courtyard and spend the summer with you.

**Sam Gough**  
Chief Executive

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# VISUAL ARTS

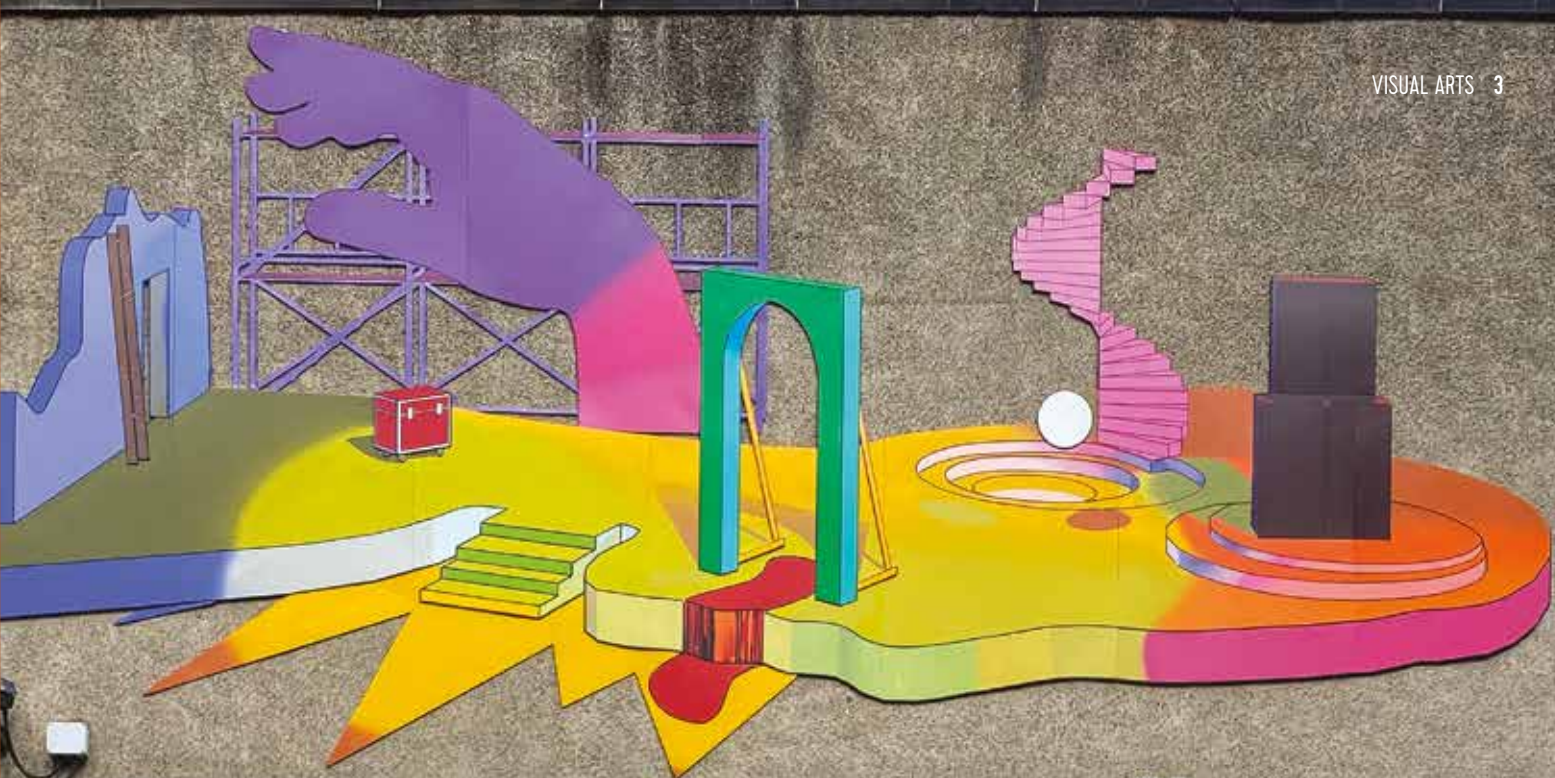
PERFORMANCE

ROUNDBOUT

MUSIC

We are delighted to present Summerhall's Visual Arts programme for Fringe 2023, a carefully curated season of interrogative and thought-provoking exhibitions from both local and international contemporary artists at varying stages in their careers. At a time in which arts and culture are drowning under the weight of economic crisis, our aims are simple: to support artists and creatives in their endeavours and to engage with and excite audiences, to make art accessible to all, and to allow culture to develop, unconstrained by the price of entry. We invite you to adventure through Summerhall, stumble upon and discover art, to ask questions and to delve into debate; to be challenged and inspired. We hope to see you there and to hear what you think!

**Samantha Chapman**  
Head of Visual Arts



# COURTYARD COMMISSION

## Open Call

We are over the moon to announce that the Summerhall Courtyard Commission Project will run for a second year in a row. 2022's programme featured Fraser Gray's Stage Set (pictured), Damien Cifelli's Tarogramma, Jamie Johnson's Circular Seas, Pilar Garcia de Leaniz's You Are Magic; an array of ambitious installations inspired by what the Edinburgh festivals mean to them.

Through a process of open-call proposal submissions and a panel selection, the project offers one local artist the opportunity to create site-specific work that will be exhibited on a permanent basis.

In light of current events and with cautious optimism for the future, we have asked artists to submit proposals for artworks that reflect on the theme of 'hope'; the hope that art and culture will prevail, serve as a sanctuary, bring us together and make us resilient.

# SYNTHESIS

**Artists:** Oana Stanciu, Danielle Macleod, Gak Yamada and Yuichiro Higashiji

**Curators:** Sam Chapman and Scott Hunter

**MEADOWS GALLERY** 11:00-17:00  
**JUL 27 - SEP 24: TUE-SUN**

FREE

The first annual SYNTHESIS exhibition is the result of an international cultural exchange programme devised by curators Scott Hunter and Sam Chapman and sees collaboration and collective experiment between Scottish-based artists Oana Stanciu and Danielle Macleod, and Japanese artists Gak Yamada and Yuichiro Higashi. Stanciu and Macleod incorporate elements of sculpture and surrealism into their practice and their Japanese counterparts, Yamada and Higashiji take a contemplative and conceptual approach to image-making. The resultant body of work is exhibited in this group show. As a continuation of this cultural exchange, SYNTHESIS will exhibit at Art Spot Korin, Kyoto, in October 2023.



# WEATHERVANES

**Artist:** Jian Yi in association with Summerhall

LOWER CAFÉ GALLERIES 11.00 - 17.00

TUE-SUN

FREE

Weathervanes is an immersive-multimedia exhibit and ritual dance theatre experience – a re-thinking of the beautiful and what is holy...

This mesmerising work by Jian Yi tunes into the collective psyche with audiences to create a dreaming state of mind; an architecture of queer futurity. This is a groundbreaking staging at Summerhall exploring questions of afterlife, ancestral memory, and an elemental connection to nature. Taking audiences on a transformative journey, the performance-installation asks the question of how to consider the human body in a way that restores our connection to ourselves. Advocating for radical self-acceptance and queer body-image positivity, Weathervanes resists English puritanical impulses which associate the naked body with shame, fear and denial, inviting us instead to celebrate our corporeal nature; promoting psychic-healing through dance intervention...

Produced by Journey to the East Productions in association with Summerhall/Eclipse and Tramway – it features an ensemble of dancers with a live musician, multimedia/FX created by Cryptic artist Heather Lander and a subterranean exhibition-installation space that audiences are free to wander through during the performance evenings, and also during the daytimes as a unique visual-exhibit.

'A manifestation of purity, of potential, of value and intrinsic grace' (Gareth Vile, 2021)

# MAKESHIFT

**Artists:** Nicky Hodge, Paul Keir, Alan Shipway

WAR MEMORIAL AND SCIENNES GALLERY 11:00 - 17:00

JUL 28 - SEP 24 TUE - SUN

FREE



Three artists, three sensibilities, one tendency: a makeshift approach to what might be called 'lyrical minimalism.'

Makeshift is what we end up doing with what comes to hand, invariably with simple elements. We find it is the hand (and the eye) that invent things best, not the mind. It is most often through the physical process, and maybe even only through the physical process, that the unexpected comes about.

What's makeshift is provisional too, and the work shown here can be seen as provisional attempts to address pictorial problems and to produce new visual meanings. We might not think of these attempts as final or definitive: it is the makeshift aspect of the work that best reveals its speculative purpose.

Most of what is sufficient to the three exhibiting artists in Makeshift has usually come about in this way: searching uncertainly, as if in the dark, while simultaneously alive to the possibility of finding this satisfactory rightness.



# THERE IS SOMETHING IN THE WAY

**Artists:** Angela Ford Lubna Kerr, Edyta Majewska and Gail McLintock + Scottish Female Creatives

**BASEMENT GALLERIES** 11:00 - 17:00

**JUL 28 – SEP 24, TUE - SUN**

**FREE**

This diverse exhibition of female artists responds to the theme of 'Women, Art and Inequality.' With an apt title borrowed from Sarah Kane's play 'Crave,' these multimediuem works offer socio-political 'docufiction,' autobiographical protest and provocative humour through art process and lived perspective. Ciocarlan intertwines portrait photography with text narratives around power imbalances and poverty, while Ford's film revisits alcohol misuse through a 'puppet self' juxtaposing the public gaze with revelations of recovery. Kerr's 'house flood' and losing her beloved coats spurs a new beginning and its threads of meaning, while McLintock's theatrical sculptures re-situate the failures and impacts of gender hate crimes - look out for the 'burnt unopened letters from a deviant.' Majewska makes the ordinary life extraordinary with her real autobiographical-wallpapers and visual story weaving.

The exhibition collaboratively challenges linear conventions and engages in the exposure and dismantling of ongoing barriers faced by women and artists. With ethnographical discourse around the support of older artists, the rich art making celebrates and claims possibility. For many of the creatives in the exhibition this is their first access to Creative Scotland funding.

Artist talks/events in relation to 'Women, Art and Inequality' and its research will take place:  
Pecha Kucha: July 30, Aug 14, Sep 10 16:00 - 18:00.  
Research Talk: 04 Sept 12:00 - 14:00

Funded by Creative Scotland and Supported by Summerhall.







# KIOSK

CHARLIE STIVEN

LAB GALLERY 11:00 - 17:00

JUL 28 – SEP 24, TUE - SUN

FREE

Utilising inherent principles within drawing, painting and sculpture, Charlie Stiven investigates the street kiosk as metaphor for social circumstance and condition.

Research conducted in a wide range of European locations into aspects of vernacular street architecture provided the tangible material to digest. This was accompanied by consideration of historical and current social / political / economic patterns and their effects.

The models are not copies of existing buildings, but rather structural amalgams and inventions composed through a manipulation of form, colour and surface to intensify their resonance and metaphorical character.

Within his working process, Stiven juxtaposes elements evolved from highly structured planning with those arrived at through chance. This mix of the hyper-conscious and the accidental is intended to give the work a psychological tension which mirrors the often-unpredictable consequences of human behaviour. The static objects are designed to evoke an atmospheric of flux, transience and uncertainty.

Made over the past 10 years, his highly crafted 3D constructions seek to bring a new dimension to the notion and meaning of 'the model' and its position within contemporary art.

# STILL MOVING

**Artist:** Owen Normand

**GALLERY BAR** 11:00 - 17:00

**JUL 27 - SEP 24, TUE - SUN**

**FREE**

This exhibition continues Normand's long-term interest in the still life genre as a space in which to explore themes of impermanence. Pulling on rich traditions from both Western and Eastern art history, including Vanitas still life painting and Japanese aesthetics, Normand gives the genre a makeover and shows it can be fresh and relevant in contemporary art.

Working mostly from his imagination, Normand experiments with technique and pushes his style into a new and distinct visual language. The paintings use translucent layers of acrylic paint and glazing medium to give them an insubstantial feel, with many passages being completed in one pass leaving little room for hesitation or correction. Normand aims to convey the motions with which the works were painted and to encapsulate some of the immediacy of a Japanese ink painting.

Since the pandemic and the worsening climate crisis, the artist says he feels the unpredictability of life more keenly than ever. The making of these paintings serves as a reminder to him that awareness of transience is no cause for nihilistic despair, but rather a wake-up call to bring vitality and appreciation into the present moment.



# PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS



**The Demarco European Art Foundation**  
Venue: The Demarco Wing

For over half a century Richard Demarco has been closely involved with the Edinburgh International Festival. As an artist, gallery director, conference organiser and teacher, he has been a potent force on the Scottish and international arts scene. The Demarco Archive is quintessentially a unique source of academic research into the history of The Edinburgh Festival in its 70th anniversary year and in relation to the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, which laid the foundations of The European Union.



**Feminine Futures**  
Curated by Adrien Sina  
Venue: Long Corridor

'Feminine Futures' exhibitions explore dance history in the feminine during the first half of the 20th century, unfolding new research perspectives with a corpus of rare or unpublished original photographs. Feminine contributions to avant-garde movements are always underestimated. The aspiration towards originality, autonomy and freedom gives a particular historical character to these works, embodying an inexhaustible source for future creativity.



**The Odyssey**  
Artist: John Kindness  
Venue: Main Hall Ceiling & Laboratory Gallery

Inspired by James Joyce's version of the Odyssey, Ulysses, Kindness draws on the detailed nature of the writing to inform the format of his visual representation, while employing his iconic 'museum as medium' approach to developing and exhibiting the work. The fundamental and timeless relevance of Greek mythology underpins Kindness' endeavour and gives rise to his use of modern forms while staying faithful to Homer's narrative and the natures of his characters.



## VISUAL ARTS

# PERFORMANCE

## ROUNDTABOUT

## MUSIC

It's 2023 and we're finally getting a chance to see what ideas have emerged since a global pandemic broke the status-quo. Artists are reporting back. They're highly critical of inequality, computing, solitude, intervention, and the state. They are also deeply reflective of personal circumstance that led up to and then defined an era so vastly different for everyone; points of juncture (what could have been done differently?), human rights, communities, mental health, and world histories.

You can tell these artists are working harder than ever before and the motive is the work itself having been disallowed for two years. With forensic detail, traditional narratives and forms have been re-examined; themes are fragmented, and as a result, more interdisciplinary. It's psychedelic, and challenges audiences to draw their own conclusions from a vast breadth of journeys on offer.

We've welcomed an amplified return of the Eclipse Award who have co-curated a showcase with us, and our collaboration has provided over £50,000 worth of support for Black and Global Majority artists. "It's so exciting to be supporting such an incredible array of artists with Summerhall in this third iteration of the Eclipse Award. We hope this model also gifts them an additional community of peers whilst performing at the festival." (Lekan Lawal – Artistic Director, Eclipse Theatre)

Birds of Paradise have come back to sustain the Mary Dick Award for D/ deaf and/or disabled artists into its second year, and the Autopsy Award (supported by Allan Wilson) has returned for a tenth year in collaboration with Feral Arts to champion experimentation at the festival. Reciprocal programmes with VAULT and Melbourne Fringe are back, as well as new partnerships from Adelaide Fringe, Iceland, Latinx America, Hong Kong, and Lithuania/Luxembourg.

It might feel like a while since lockdown, but the following pages are a snapshot of what fallow years produce. In that context, what we can learn from the experiences of others, should never be taken for granted.

**Tom Forster**  
Fringe Producer

## ARTIST SUPPORT

Summerhall is committed to help lessen the effect of spiralling costs and cuts to arts funding by reducing the financial burden of bringing work to the fringe, as well as creating additional pathways to further develop artists professionally.

We are introducing the 'Support the Artist Ticket Scheme', an additional option which asks the audiences to choose a slightly increased ticket price (£2) with 100% of that going directly to the artist, without commission, fee or split. There will be no membership required to be part of the scheme which means audiences can make the choice to be able to directly help the artists. This scheme is only available through the Summerhall box office and we guarantee that all of the additional money will reach the artist quickly, available when they need it, to help with their August bills.

We are also excited to be premiering our 'Surgery Series', an opportunity to share unfinished work with a collection of international and local peers and presenters, work that may well come to the fringe in the future, with organised peer-to-peer feedback. It will be a pathway for those unsure if the work is ready for an audience, to develop it and get it ready for the future, reducing the risk of presenting something that isn't quite there yet. There will be a very simple application process; is your work unfinished and wanting feedback?

Summerhall's annual awards give artist and financial support in order to participate in the Fringe. This year's winners include A Spectacle of Herself by TK for the Mary Dick Award (in partnership with Birds of Paradise) and An Alternative Helpline for the End of the World for the Autopsy Award (funded by Allan Wilson). This year we are also proud to announce the new 'Rewind Award', named after this year's winner, Rewind by Ephemeral Ensemble. The new award supports work that deals with stories of de-colonisation. We are delighted with the first winners of this new award inspired by the work they are premiering this year.

We will also be revisiting our subsidised food offer for artists, returning in 2023 with version 2.0 of the scheme, and with our friends at Pickering's Gin and Barney's Beer, we will be making a unique run of beer and gin (at a subsidised price) that is only available to artists and Fringe workers as a way of saying we appreciate your commitment to the city and to the Fringe. We want you to come and feel at home, here in our courtyard.

**Sam Gough**  
Chief Executive

# A COUPLE OF HUMANS

From Start to Finnish in association with Tsuumi Dance Theatre

Experience the beauty and complexity of human interaction with A Couple of Humans. Combining physical theatre and dance, this visually-stunning performance explores two fundamental questions: 'Who am I – and who are we together?' Reflecting on the challenges of social interaction in a world dominated by digital communication, this thought-provoking piece examines the role of relationships in shaping society.

**Cast Members:** Riikka Puumalainen, Antti Puumalainen

**MAIN HALL** 16:05-16:50

**AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20**

£15 / £13 8+



# A SPECTACLE OF HERSELF

Laura Murphy

Join Laura on a mission to serve herself up [in]appropriately for your consumption, in a bold, cinematic, acrobatic odyssey through the frontiers of mental health, queerness, rage & the 21st Century space race. Directed by Ursula Martinez, with Laura's critical and cheeky signature mix of autobiography, lip-sync, video and aerial rope, A Spectacle of Herself navigates the personal and political to seek out new worlds and ways to be seen.

Mary Dick Award Winner '23  
All shows are captioned

**Cast Members:** *Laura Murphy*

*"Blistering"* ★★★★★ Fest

*"A complex new form of solo-theatre"* Scotsman

*"Murphy's ability as a circus performer is mesmerising"* ★★★★★ WeeReview

MAIN HALL 12:55-13:55

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•8•9•10•11•12•13

£15 / £13 16+

## AMINA KHAYYAM DANCE COMPANY: BIRD

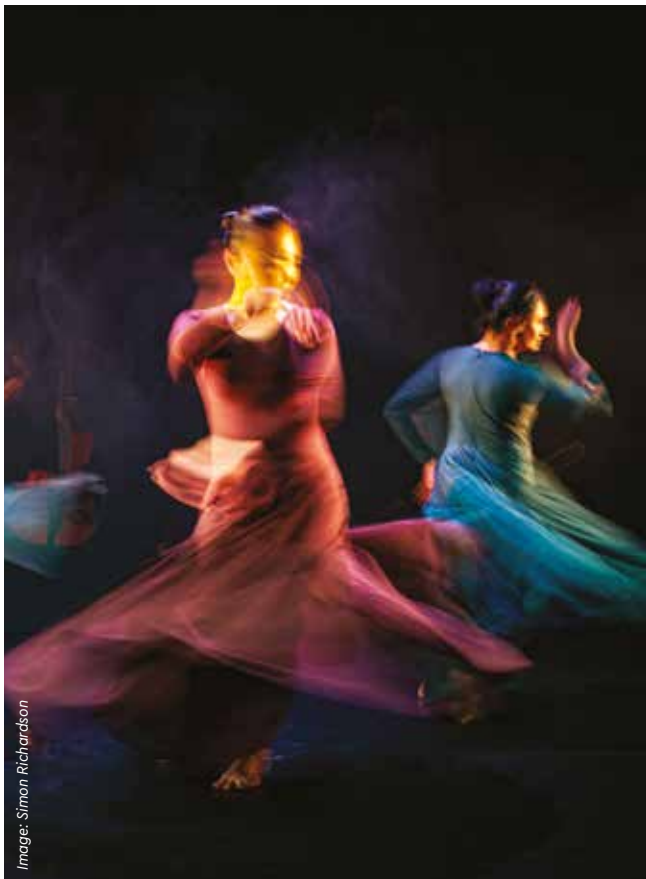


Image: Simon Richardson

A stage sequel to our critically-acclaimed dance film: Catch the Bird Who Won't Fly.

Bird explores a question: 'What happens when you run away from domestic abuse?' and the fear of the cultural stigma for those who escape it, or try to.

A trio of dancers weave the story to a specially-commissioned live music score by Jonathan Mayer.

**Dancers:** Jane Chan, Jalpa Vala, Sushma Vala  
**Musicians:** Debasish Mukherjee (tabla), Iain McHugh (cello), Pete Yelding (sitar) **Composer:** Jonathan Mayer

**OLD LAB** 19:20-20:05  
**AUG** 15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27  
 £15 / £13 8+

## AMINA KHAYYAM DANCE COMPANY: YOU & ME



Image: Tahmina Begum

Man meets Man, discovering a state of happiness he has never known before... but he has a wife and family at home.

A short dance piece choreographed from a south Asian feminist perspective, developed from AKDC's programme of workshops with women's community groups. The women shared their real-life experiences of a marriage in which their partner could not express his sexuality for fear of bringing shame to the family. This experience was developed with two LGBTQ+ performers. You and Me is a high-energetic piece bringing the spectacle and intensity of Kathak with the physicality of contemporary dance, featuring a live music score performed by internationally-acclaimed musicians.

**Dancers:** Shyam Dattani & Giacomo Pini  
**Musicians:** Debasish Mukherjee (tabla), Iain McHugh (Cello), Pete Yelding (sitar) **Performers:** Jonathan Mayer

**OLD LAB** 19:20-20:05  
**AUG** 3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13  
 £15 / £13 12+

# AN ALTERNATIVE HELPLINE FOR THE END OF THE WORLD

KATRINE TURNER

In 2020, Katrine Turner found herself newly unemployed and took up a temporary contract as an outsourced call handler on the Coronavirus Response Helpline. Handlers used an algorithm of 'yes' or 'no' questions to "diagnose" the problem of the caller. From this experience, Katrine created her own helpline for future catastrophes.

Book a phone call to the Alternative Helpline for a personal diagnosis or watch the performance live in the Old Box Office in the Summerhall foyer. Each phone call will lead to an outcome recommended by a computer algorithm – a piece of advice for the end of the world.

Autopsy Award Winner 2023  
(Supported by Allan Wilson)

**Cast Members:** *Katrine Turner*

**SUMMERHALL LOBBY / REMOTE** 12:30 for 15m until 19:00 every 15m

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27

£5 16+

## AN INTERROGATION

Ellie Keel Productions. Written by Jamie Armitage



Image: James Corrigan

'I don't seem like the type to do this sort of thing. Do I?'

A young detective works against the clock as she questions a suspect who looks like the least likely person to be linked to a murder. He's a devoted son, a successful businessman and a respectable member of society. But as the minutes tick away, the detective starts to suspect that all is not what it seems...

Inspired by real events, the debut play from the Tony Award-nominated co-director of *SIX: The Musical* is a gripping interrogation drama about power, deception, and our perspectives on the truth.

OLD LAB 13:10-14:10

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£17 / £15 14+

## ANYTHING THAT WE WANTED TO BE

Adam Lenson



Image: Guy J. Sanders

Everyone has that one big decision, that one big choice, that one big 'what if?'. There's a you that made that choice, and there's another you that didn't. Fifteen years ago, you stop training to be a doctor and choose to be a theatre director instead. But in 2019 when you are diagnosed with cancer, the various versions of you collide.

Merging gig, memoir and lecture, this life-affirming new show is about learning to accept the choices you made instead of worrying about the ones you didn't.

**Cast Members:** Adam Lenson

***"A life-changing performance about a life-changing event. It was such a treat spending an hour in Adam's poetical and philosophical multiverse"*** Jonas Georgsson, Producer, New Diorama Theatre

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 12:30-13:30

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 12+

# ARCADE

DARKFIELD

DARKFIELD presents ARCADE: an interactive narrative that uses the nostalgic 8-bit aesthetic of 1980's video games to explore the evolving relationship between players and avatars. This choose-your-own-path experience will fully immerse players in alternate environments in a completely dark shipping container, using 360 degree binaural sound and sensory effects. Players will be asked to address deep existential questions about free will and consciousness in a world where some may win and some may lose...

*"None are more hopelessly enslaved than those  
who falsely believe they are free"*

*Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe*

**THE TERRACE** From 11:45 for 30m until 20:45 every 45m

**AUG** 3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£12.50 / £11 14+

# BACON

Sophie Swithinbank,  
directed by Matthew Iliffe,  
produced by HFH Productions

It's Year 10's first day back at school. Mark is new and too scared to make friends; Darren is out of control and too scary to make friends. The two of them need each other – but neither would ever admit it.

The return of the multi-award-winning play, Bacon is an unflinching and unexpectedly humorous look at masculinity, sexuality and power, through the dizzying lens of youth.

Winner of the Tony Craze Award and three Off-West End Awards for Best Director and Best Performance in a Play. First performed at The Finborough Theatre, London.

*"Utterly compelling... beautiful and devastating to watch"*

★★★★★ *The Stage*

*"You will laugh, you will cry and you will be breathless when you leave"*

★★★★★ *Everything Theatre*

*"Unmissable"*

★★★★★ *To Do List*

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 15.30-16.45

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 16+



# BAKLÂ

MAX PERCY + FRIENDS

Baklâ: noun, Tagalog.

- 1) homosexual;
- 2) unable to reproduce;
- 3) F\*ggot.

Homonhon Island, 1521. The start of 300 years of Spanish colonial rule, sparking a genocide across the islands now known as the Philippines.

The loss of my ancestral homeland sends ripples through time, emitting a cultural amnesia. But is sex the best cure for a headache?

Dishonesty, toxic coping mechanisms, and the trials of self-liberation. Are you looking for a wild and sexy time?

A daring one-person physical theatre show about how intergenerational trauma takes shape in the modern Filipino.

Keep it Fringe Award Winner 2023

For Previous Show:

The Scotsman Fringe First Winner 2022

The Guardian's Top Pick of the Fringe

The Skinny's Top Pick of the Fringe

The Stage's Top Pick of the Fringe

**Cast Members:** Max Percy

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 13:00-14:00

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 18+



## BLUB BLUB

Trunk Theatre Project



Blub Blub is a story about chaotic cohabitation of two fish in an aquarium. One is jumping on a trampoline to escape, while the other is trying to break the wall. To make it even more complicated, they fall in love for no reason. Unique physical theatre along with puppets and mysterious live music will be combined with miniature sets and props that pop out of trunks. 2022 Fringe Korean Showcase five-star rated Trunk Theatre Project is back with a new charming piece.

**Cast Members:** Hyon Chaeah, Kim Min, Cho Yeeun, Park Jinho

*“Positively captivating, working seamlessly together to portray a cosy tale”* ★★★★★ The List

*“Whimsical, yet brilliant”* ★★★★★ TheSpyintheStalls.com

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 14:00-15:00

AUG 3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 8+

## BLIZZARD

Emily Woof



You are on stage, giving a lecture about neuroscience. You are speaking on behalf of your new partner, too ill to attend. He has asked you to read his paper verbatim, but you go off-piste. Within minutes, the stuff of life starts unravelling. Clothes decide they don't want be clothes anymore. A dress becomes reluctant to be seen in public.

Emily Woof's return to the stage in over 20 years, after her landmark shows Sex III and Revolver won back to back Fringe Firsts. Woof is a film actor, director and novelist.

Blizzard is a comic, urgent, philosophical adventure.

**Cast Members:** Emily Woof, Sam Woof

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 15:00-16:00

AUG 15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 12+



## CHICKEN

Sunday's Child



Image: Hildegaard Ryan

Chickens are a bit of craic. Their brains are the size of two shelled peanuts. But what about their hearts? They're big massive bleeding chicken hearts. Did you know chickens are incredible lovers?

A play about love, delicious white meat, fate and adventure. There's a chicken in the basement of Summerhall. Go and say hello.

WINNER: Scotsman Fringe First Award 2019 (Mustard).

**Cast Members:** Eva O'Connor

*"Almost perfect and unmissable piece of deeply moving drama"*

Sunday Independent (Maz & Bricks)

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 20:50-21:50

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 14+

## CLUB LIFE

Fred Deakin



Image: Fred Deakin

Lemon Jelly's Fred Deakin hosts an immersive joyride through Edinburgh's underground club scene in the 80s and 90s. Through spoken word, music, visuals and dance, this atmospheric show recreates an iconic and nostalgic moment in time.

Audiences are invited to join Fred in resurrecting the fashion tribes of the late 20th century and to recreate classic nights. As you hop from club to club, Fred shares his story growing up in the scene, and philosophy on club life. Clubs, he argues, provide an essential space for us to find our tribe and celebrate life in the moment.

Club Life is an untold story of decades on the dance floor searching for mayhem and magic.

**Cast Members:** Price Jones, Abbie Kane, Hana Nadira, Lily Smith, Ben Standish

**TECH CUBE ZERO** 21:00-23:30

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-10-11-12-13-17-18-19-20-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



## CREEPY BOYS

Scantly Glad Theatre

You're invited: twin orphans, The Creepy Boys, are throwing their 13th birthday party. It will have everything. Games. Gifts. Possibly Satan. Probably cake. Combining 00s sexy songs, satanic rituals and Willam Dafoe, these horny little boys do whatever it takes to make their birthday dreams come true. (Think Oh, Hello meets those twins from The Shining, meets My Super Sweet 16). From the creators of Something in the Water (Winner: Best Theatre, Adelaide Fringe 2021) comes a bizarre comedy with just a splash of the occult.

**Cast Members:** S.E. Grummett, Sam Kruger

*"Blisteringly anarchic and devilishly clever"* ★★★★★ InDaily

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 22:00-23:00

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



## DISTANT MEMORIES OF THE NEAR FUTURE

David Head

Welcome to the (near) future. Enter a world where romance has been "solved" by algorithms and Artificial Intelligence is commonplace. Five overlapping narratives, from space miners to tech moguls, weave together into a show that explores relationships; with technology, with creativity, and with ourselves. This is storytelling theatre that's equal parts funny and moving, featuring a unique performance generated by AI. Directed by Laura Killeen (Godot is a Woman).

*Praise for previous work:*

*"Sumblime"* ★★★★★ London Theatre 1

*"Very funny"* ★★★★★ London Pub Theatres

*"Stunning"* ★★★★★ EdFringe Review

*"Gorgeous"* ★★★★★ The 730 Review

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 17:45-18:45

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



## DO RHINOS FEEL THEIR HORNS OR CAN THEY NOT SEE THEM LIKE HOW WE CAN'T SEE OUR NOSES

Gangguan!

'What if the reason I don't like capitalism is that I just wanna chill out a bit?' Rhinoceroses or capybaras? Blackpink or something less cling-clangy? Two friends make a radio play for the internet - this week's episode is about the "rhinoceritis" epidemic in the 80s. Do Rhinos Feel Their Horns? is rooted in Eugene Ionesco's Rhinoceros, but re-asks what conformism means as we live in objectively the best time in human history. It is funny, bleak, sometimes joyous, always full of play. **Cast Members:** Cheryl Ho, Shannen Tan

*"The verve, creativity, and sensitivity to nuance displayed... make me excited as to what questions Gangguan! will throw up next"* Critics Circle Blog

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 11:45-12:45

AUG 15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 12+

# CONCERNED OTHERS

## Tortoise in a Nutshell

Scotland has the highest rate of drug-related deaths in Europe. In communities across the country families, loved ones and clinicians support people suffering with substance addiction.

Multi-award-winners Tortoise in a Nutshell present *Concerned Others*, an intimate tabletop performance that shares the stories of critically-underheard voices – accounts which paint us as a nation struggling to recognise a deadly culture of shame, ignorance and misunderstanding surrounding addiction and drug-related death.

Immersive soundscapes, shoebox installations, turntables, micro-projection and 32mm figures combine to create a multi-textured piece which explores a defining crisis.

MadeInScotlandShowcase.com

**Cast Members:** *Alex Bird*

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 14:45-15:30

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 14+

Image: Hannah Draper





## ECLIPSE: KILL THE COP INSIDE YOUR HEAD

Subira Joy

Spoken word and performance artist Subira Joy explores their experiences being targeted by the police as a Black, queer and trans person in the UK. Combining striking visual imagery with powerful language, this new work examines the impact of the police in our communities and how we internalise their role to repress and suppress ourselves into submission.

Tracing narratives of police encounters, while centering themes of violence, gaslighting and abuse of power, this work exposes how we impede our liberation when confronted by our inner cop.

**Cast Members:** Subira Joy

**ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE** 16:30-17:30

**AUG 22-23-24-25-26-27**

£15 / £13 18+



Image: Abhita Austin

## ECLIPSE: OOMMOO

Lula Mebrahtu

OommoO depicts the real-life events of first-generation immigrant Lula Berhane as she navigates the duality of her Habesha (Eritrean/Ethiopian) heritage and her British identity. An acronym for One-of-many-many-of-One, OommoO looks at the effects of memory loss on a displaced community. It asks what happens when you've left everything behind for the promise of something 'better', and better isn't 'better' after all? And when you have nothing but fading memories, what do you have? Interweaving language, custom and music with wearable tech MiMu gloves, OommoO is a poetic reflection of a visceral experience, unpacked through an Afro-futuristic East African lens.

**Cast Members:** Lula Mebrahtu

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 16:15-17:15

**AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27**

£15 / £13 12+

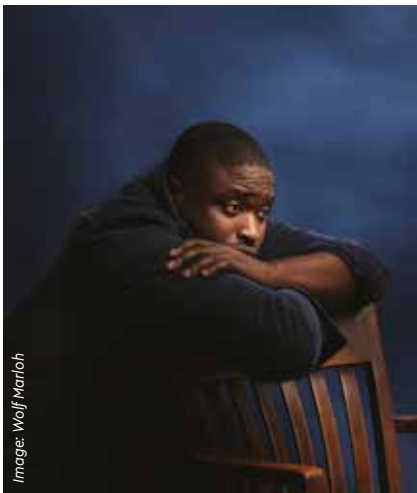


Image: Wolf Marloh

## ECLIPSE: PILOT

Lekan Lawal and Eclipse Theatre Company

The not-so-distant future.

A former investigator gathers fragments of an old manuscript that illustrate an untold story. As he pieces together recollections, writing, and footage, the lines between fact and fiction increasingly blur as a difficult truth emerges.

Pilot is a dynamic new work from Lekan Lawal, the award-winning Artistic Director of Eclipse Theatre Company that examines what might be gained if we let go of the stories that we tell ourselves.

**Cast Members:** Lekan Lawal

**TECH CUBE ZERO** 13:20-14:20

**AUG 3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27**

£15 / £13 16+

# ECLIPSE: MARVELLOUS AND THE SUNSHINE CITY BOYS

Mufaro Makubika, Tendai Humphrey Sitima, Lekan Lawal and Eclipse Theatre Company

All Marvellous can hear are the sounds in his head and the music in his heart. He wants to be a musician like his father Eddie. But of all the expectations Eddie has for his son, music isn't one of them. When an old bandmate of Eddie's, Bernard, turns up unannounced, he brings with him the music and ambition that the family thought lost. Old fissures are exposed as the family tries to find its song again.

Is legacy inherent in our children? And, if not, what is the burden of that?

**MAIN HALL** 19:10-20:10

**AUG 2•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27**

£15 / £13 14+



Image: Hector Manchego

## ECLIPSE: SIAPA YANG BAWA MELAYU AKU PERGI? (WHO TOOK MY MALAY AWAY?)

Khai & Faizal

Siapa Yang Bawa Melayu Aku Pergi? (SYBMAP?) is Faizal's love letter to Singapore, the country of his birth. It addresses themes of colonisation, identity, indigenous displacement, and the loss of culture, heritage and language. SYBMAP? is a lecture-performance that investigates Faizal's Muslim-Malay-Singaporean identity and his relationship with each noun, especially the latter two. As he teaches the audience about himself and the country that he still considers home, he explores what it truly means to be 'Singaporean' and 'Malay'. Nominated for Show of The Week at VAULT Festival 2023 and OFFest'23 (OFFIES).

*"This show is a stunning intervention in cultural normativity."* **Bec Martin**,  
Head of Programming, VAULT Festival

TECH CUBE ZERO 16:20-17:20

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13

£15 / £13 12+



Image: Denis Ntege

## ECLIPSE: WAITING FOR A TRAIN AT THE BUS STOP

Mwansa Phiri

'Seventeen minutes. That's how long it takes to die by train. I looked it up once.' Chilufya – you can call her Chili – doesn't know whether she is coming or going. Which makes perfect sense since her name literally means 'the lost one' and lost is exactly how she's felt most of her life. Struggling with low self-esteem and a waning sense of self, she finds herself being drawn into a dangerously controlling relationship. Interweaving spoken-word theatre with Zambian oral traditions, this dark comedy is a solo show exploring coercive control, cultural identity and mental health. Keep It Fringe Award Winner. **Cast Members:** Yaisa

*"This is an intriguing one."* *The Independent*

TECH CUBE ZERO 14:50-15:50

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 14+



Image: Brian Hartley / stillmotion

## ECLIPSE: WEATHERVANES

Jian Yi in Association with Summerhall

Weather vanes is an immersive-multimedia exhibit and ritual dance theatre experience – a re-thinking of the beautiful and what is holy... This mesmerising performance-installation by Jian Yi tunes into the collective psyche with audiences to create a dreaming state of mind; an architecture of queer futurity. Produced by Journey to the East Productions in association with Summerhall/Eclipse and Tramway – it features an ensemble of dancers with a live musician, and multimedia/FX created by Cryptic artist Heather Lander. Keep It Fringe Award Winner. Part of the MadInScotlandShowcase.com

*"A manifestation of purity, of potential, of value and intrinsic grace..."*

Critic Gareth Vile, on *Weather vanes* at Tramway DiG21

LOWER CAFE GALLERY 19:30 - 20:00 / 21:00 - 21:30

AUG Thursday-Sunday (installation open for access 11:00-18:00 otherwise)

£12 / £8 0+

# ECLIPSE: ELVIS DIED OF BURGERS

BLINK Dance Theatre

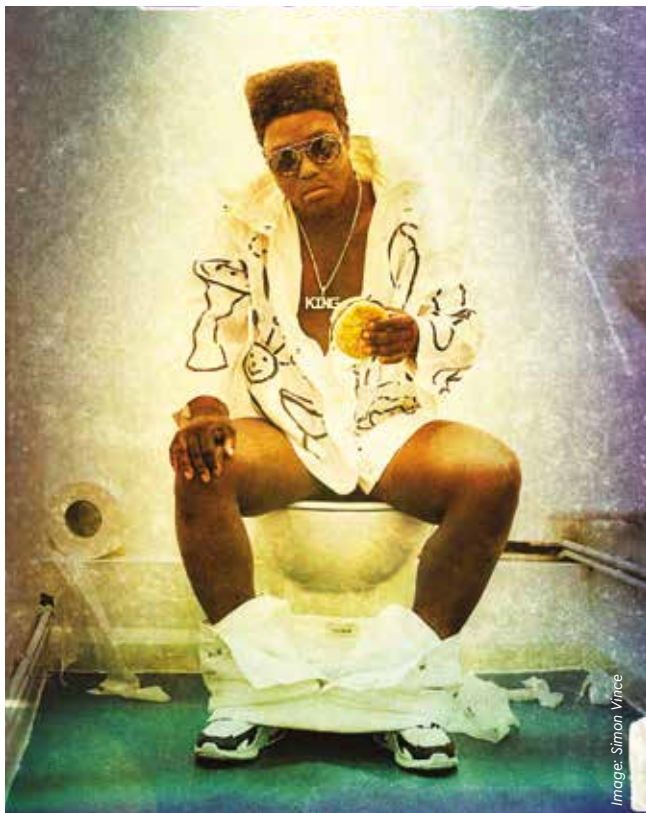


Image: Simon Vince

Elvis Died of Burgers is made and performed by the food-obsessed directors of Blink Dance Theatre. If they're not eating food, they're talking about food, dreaming about food, and now... dancing, rapping and rhyming about food. Take a seat at the table as the cast spill the tea on their food stories and deep dive into the King of Rock'n'Roll at the end of his life. Replete with their signature sensory and bizarre tangents... Good Food Gospel anyone? Elvis Died of Burgers has a non-linear narrative and uses semi-improvised dance, theatre and spoken word to create an exciting edge-of-your-seat experience for audience and cast alike. **Cast Members:** Rachel Gildea, Vicki Hawkins, Francis Majekodunmi, Delson Weekes **Music:** Mat Hawkins and Alastair McNeill, **Stage Manager:** Zoe Dowler, **Artistic Support Workers:** Connie Chinn & Laura Day, **Understudy:** Laura Day, **Inclusion Manager:** Siobhán Wedgeworth

**"No one in the world is doing what BLINK do"**

Dawn Rotheram, Arts Consultant

RED LECTURE THEATRE 11:45-12:45

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·9·10·11·12·13

£15 / £13 16+

# FOOL'S PARADISE

Britt Plummer



Image: Paul Westbrook

Have you ever fallen in love with someone across the globe only to be held captive in your own country? From award-winning artist Britt Plummer comes a painfully relatable and heartbreakingly hilarious autobiographical new work. An adventurer, dreamer and professional problem-solver, Britt sets out on an emotionally charged quest of romantic revelation and raw resilience to defy bureaucracy, hurdling the intricacies of modern relationships whilst attempting to maintain what remains of her sanity.

A delicately powerful journey of storytelling, clowning and physical comedy, Britt Plummer invites you to find out if true Paradise really is a Fool's errand.

**Cast Members:** Britt Plummer

**"A virtuoso at delivering focus, expressive physicality, and nuanced acting"**

Theatre Travels

OLD LAB 17:50 - 18:50

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 14+

# GOOD MORNING, FAGGI

Perplex Theatre Company



Image: Gummið Jóna

Good Morning, Faggi is an autobiographical musical where a gay actor in his prime tries to understand why he suffered a sudden nervous breakdown. To learn the truth, he sets out on a journey of diaries, letters and memories from the past.

Good Morning, Faggi premiered at the National Theatre of Iceland during 2021 Reykjavík Pride and went on to sell out over a 100 shows and tour the country twice. It has sparked vital, nationwide conversations about the human rights of queer people in Iceland and what it really means to belong.

**Cast Members:** Bjarni Snæbjörnsson

RED LECTURE THEATRE 20:45-21:45

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 12+

# GRIEF LIGHTNING: A SATIRE IN 78 SLIDES

Paper Mouth + Wicked Good Productions



Image: Matthew Steen

Part theatre, part stand-up, part PowerPoint presentation. One lecturer desperately tries to prove a popular Grease fan theory: that Sandy drowns in the opening beach sequence and the rest of the film is her coma fantasy. Adrift in a storm of conspiracy, the lecturer drags the audience down into a postmodern world of wigs, jackets and custom animation. In this multi-award-winning journey through Reddit, film and academia, Grief Lightning explores ideas of gender, pop culture and obsession – unpacking the iconic film, once and for all, with the intellectual rigor and chaotic scrutiny it so righteously deserves.

Melbourne Touring Award Winner

**Cast Members:** Mary Angley

★★★★★ On The Record

★★★★★ Stage Whispers

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 21:55-22:55

AUG 15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 16+



# GROWLER / WHERE YE FROM?

Aurora Nova

Growler is an 82-year-old, drum-banging, shamanic vulva. She's wise as witches with a lash-like tongue and a heart of gold. She'll take you on an alchemical, theatrical journey on her quest to 'heal the past, heal the future'. Through storytelling, spoken word, song and comedy, no stone is left unturned. Confronting and adorable, blazing the streets with her message to 'love the eejit out of ourselves', Growler is an inferno that summons our common humanity and warms the cockles of our collective heart.

Supported by Culture Ireland

**Cast Members:** Dee Mulrooney

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 19:00-20:00

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•14•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26

£15 / £13 18+





## GUB SMACKED

Leyla Josephine & Colin Bramwell

Hellraising poets and Fringe veterans Leyla Josephine (Hopeless, Daddy Drag) and Colin Bramwell (Umbrella Man) present GUBSMACKED, a brand-spanking new live event showcasing the best of writing in all its magical forms. Debuting exclusively at the Summerhall Fringe 2023, audiences will be treated to performances from both up-and-coming talent and luminaries from the worlds of page, stage and song. GUBSMACKED caters for dreamers and hedonists, for introspective cats and loudmouthed dogs alike. Bring your vulgar cousins, your precious granny, your hard-to-please stepdad Steve. We guarantee they'll leave with a head full of wonder and a big smacked gub.

TECH CUBE ZERO 21:00-23:00

AUG 9-16-23

£15 / £13 18+



Image: Doug Higman

## GUNTER

Dirty Hare

A true story of deception, magic and torture. 1605. Two boys have been murdered. Their mum wants justice. Hot from their five-star sell out, Belly Up, Dirty Hare presents GUNTER, a chaotic reimagining of the most notorious bewitchment case you've never heard of.

*Praise for previous work:*

*"Extraordinarily funny, ingeniously written drama" ★★★★★ Spy in Stalls*

*"Invigoratingly intelligent, unapologetically inappropriate" ★★★★★ View From Outside*

*"Knockabout nonsense" ★ Keith McKenna*

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 21:10-22:20

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



Image: Kamil Derda

## GUSŁA

Lubuski Teatr

Gusła is based on the second part and excerpts of the fourth part of Adam Mickiewicz's drama Dziady (Forefathers' Eve). World-famous director Grzegorz Bral (2004 and 2012 Fringe First Awards), founder of the Song of the Goat Theatre, has translated the Polish Romantic classic into a poignant, deeply emotional theatrical language. Growing out of a ritual in honour of the dead, Gusła touches not only on mourning and the loss of a loved one, but also on contemporary Poland and its great ideals. The fully musical production and Adam Łucki's magnificent costumes make this an extraordinary theatrical experience.

MAIN HALL 14:35-15:35

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20

£15 / £13 16+

MAIN HALL 10:00-11:00

AUG 22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



Image: Josie Morrison Young

## HELP YOURSELF

Emma Ruse Productions, Jess Brodie and Victoria Bianchi

Have you ever felt like you didn't have the words? Have you ever felt like you wanted to say the exact right thing, but couldn't? Have you ever met someone so sad that you just wanted them to shut up? Then our Help Yourself seminar is for you! Help Yourself is a new performance by Jess Brodie and Victoria Bianchi that explores grief and friendship. Drawing back the veil of self-care and toxic positivity, the performers unpack their relationship with loss and empathy, and ask why humans struggle to accept sadness in themselves and others. **Cast Members:** Jess Brodie, Victoria Bianchi

*"Laugh-out loud funny (but ultimately heartbreaking)"* *Snack Magazine*

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 16:00-17:00

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 16+



## HER GREEN HELL

TheatreGoose

Trapped in the Peruvian rainforest, having survived a plane crash and a fall of 10,000 feet, seventeen-year-old Juliane is utterly alone and hopelessly lost. But she's the daughter of two Amazon zoologists – she knows what to do. Her Green Hell reimagines the true survival story of Juliane Koepcke in this odyssey of vivid storytelling with a captivating combination of physical theatre and puppetry. Interrogating our fractured relationship with nature, Juliane's story reveals the strength of humility in the face of insurmountable danger, and is as much about the rainforest's struggle to survive, as it is Juliane's. Debuted at VAULT Festival, 2023. **Cast Members:** Sophie Kean

*"A highly intelligent and emotional production"* ★★★★★ *Everything Theatre*

*"An astonishing debut from TheatreGoose"* ★★★★★ *Lost in Theatreland*

RED LECTURE THEATRE 13:15-14:15

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 10+

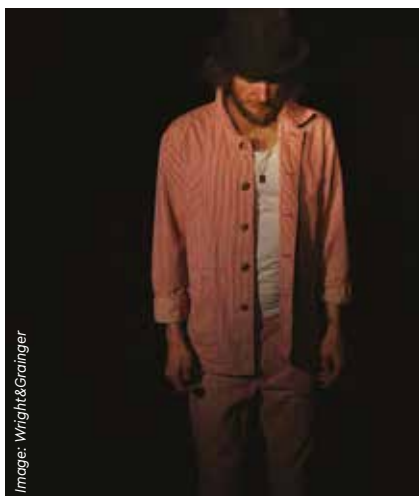


Image: Wright&amp;Grainger

## HELIOS

Wright&Grainger

A lad lives half way up a historic hill. A teenager is on a road trip to the city in a stolen car. A boy is driving a chariot, pulling the sun across the sky. Internationally-award-winning 'Masters of storytelling' (FourthWall) bring a brand-new story about little things that leave big marks. Following on from their hugely-acclaimed productions of Orpheus, Eurydice, and The Gods, The Gods, The Gods, join Wright&Grainger in a little room with a tape player and delicate tale to tell.

**Cast Members:** Alexander Flanagan-Wright

*"Incredibly powerful"* *The Stage*

*"Extraordinary"* *Adelaide Advertiser*

FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM 15:15-16:15

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 12+

## HORIZON SHOWCASE: THE TALENT

Action Hero and Deborah Pearson



Image: Ana Vitti

On stage is a small sound booth. Inside it sits a woman, alone: a voice-over artist. Off stage, in a space never seen but only heard, two disembodied voices ask her to conjure up voices for commercials, self-help audiobooks, meditation tapes, computer games, robo-calls... anything and everything. Is she the powerful protagonist in her own narrative? A puppet for capitalism? Or something else entirely...

This post-pandemic, post-human vocal soup wanders aloud about how the human voice lives on outside the body and what kind of ghosts will haunt us when we're gone.

**Cast Members:** Gemma Paintin

**MAIN HALL** 14:35-15:35  
**AUG 22-23-24-25-26-27**  
 £15 / £13 12+

## HORIZON SHOWCASE: THE TRAUMA SHOW

Demi Nandhra



Image: Tom Kennedy

Have you ever trauma dumped? TikTok says this show might do that, but don't worry, we can just trauma bond.

Demi is obsessed with childhood trauma: naming it, analysing it, healing from it, and getting on stage to perform it. (You can decide if that last one is a trauma response). Entering her 30s, Demi expected to be more whole, more healed, to not still feel like a child. Trauma lives in the body; the body keeps the score and we all know what that means.

Disclaimer: Demi doesn't know what that means.

**Cast Members:** Demi Nandhra, Omar Diallo

★★★★ *The Guardian* (Life is No Laughing Matter)

**MAIN HALL** 16:05-17:05  
**AUG 22-23-24-25-26-27**  
 £15 / £13 14+



# HIGH STEAKS

ELONIA Productions

HIGH STEAKS is a show about labia, labia-shaming, cosmetic surgery and, fundamentally, body lovin'.

ELOINA hangs two beef steaks from her labia, butchers them up and sizzles them on a grill. And...her mum is in the show.

Combining performance art and comedy clowning, HIGH STEAKS discusses rising demands in young people for labiaplasty – plastic surgery to make the labia smaller/more symmetrical. Through live conversations with her mum and recorded interviews with labia-owners, HIGH STEAKS is a call for increased visibility of varied vulvas and a celebration of our vulvas in all their shapes and sizes.

Vault/Summerhall Award Winner '23

**Cast Members:** Eloina Haines, Annie Haines

*"An atmosphere of real inclusiveness in which to potentially create a whole new way of seeing one's own body, whether you have labia or not"*

Ought to Be Clowns

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 16:30-17:30  
AUG 2•3•4•5•6•9•10•11•12•13

£15 / £13 18+



Image: Jemima Yong

## HORIZON SHOWCASE: ALWAYS ALREADY

Haranczak / Navarre Performance Projects

An 8-hour performance installation, using materials, text, song, sound, and movement to bring together plant, human and machine. Drawing on practices of weaving, pattern singing, and textile machines, Karen Christopher (Goat Island) and Tara Fatehi Irani work together to construct a machine of wood, rope, sheep wool, and 100 Forgotten Questions. The room becomes a loom, where songs and dances encapsulate themes of patience and perseverance. The 7th hour (17:30–18:30) is a thicker weave, a one-hour performance which we invite audiences to watch in full. Otherwise, audiences may come and go throughout the piece.

**Cast Members:** *Karen Christopher and Tara Fatehi Irani*

LIFECARE CENTRE, STOCKBRIDGE 11:30–19:30

AUG 23–25

£15 / £13 0+



Image: Paul Samuel White

## HORIZON SHOWCASE: A CRASH COURSE IN CLOUDSPOTTING

Raquel Meseguer Zafe / Uncharted Collective

An invitation to pause. To rest. To listen. A Crash Course in Cloudspotting is an intimate audio-sensory journey exploring the depths of human connection and the subversive act of lying down. Raquel Meseguer Zafe has gathered over 300 stories from people living with invisible disabilities and chronic illnesses. This immersive installation and performance invites you into the heart of these experiences, while participants across the UK illuminate the space with a gentle choreography of lights, showing patterns of rest unfolding in real time.

**Cast Members:** *Raquel Meseguer Zafe, Laura Dannequin*

THE INSTITUTE FRANCAIS (see website)

AUG (see website)

£15 / £13 12+

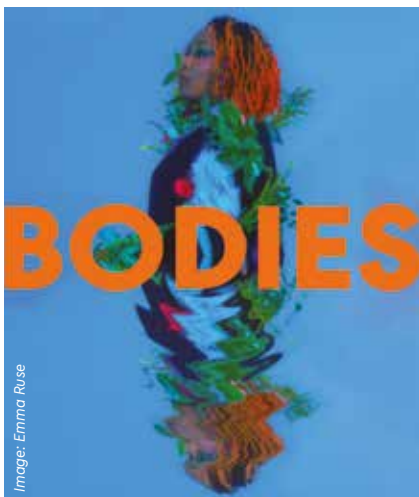


Image: Emma Ruse

## HORIZON SHOWCASE: BODIES

Ray Young

Young and their collaborators transform a swimming pool into a unique immersive environment for BODIES – an interactive performance that explores the essential character of water, its universal presence and the importance of collective action in achieving climate justice. Guided by Young, we are invited to gather in the pool for an active sensory experience – to float, discover and move in synchronisation. Here, the dynamics of individual and collective energies play out as powerful forces of creation and renewal as well as destruction and devastation. With our very existence now threatened by climate emergency, BODIES holds space for us as we navigate the entangled and complex relationship we have with the planet, and therefore the urgent responsibilities we have to each other.

SEE WEBSITE (see website)

AUG (see website)

£15 / £13 18+

# HYSTERICAL

Olivia Hall and Carrie Rudzinski



Image: Andi Crown

Fierce, feminist and f\*cking funny. Women are frequently told they are too emotional – too hysterical – to be taken seriously, to be leaders of countries and companies, to be believed when pointing to their own hurt. *Hysterical* challenges these myths with poetry that confronts body politics, systemic sexism and weeping uncontrollably in the supermarket.

Internationally-acclaimed poets Carrie Rudzinski and Olivia Hall deliver powerhouse performances that leave audiences feeling empowered and alive. Winner of Best New Aotearoa Play and Outstanding Performance Poetry at Auckland Fringe.

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 20:25-21:25

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 12+

# HOW TO DRINK WINE LIKE A WANKER

Anna Thomas



Image: Anna Thomas

Occasionally emotional, mostly ridiculous, *HTDWLAW* is a delightful story involving a fabulous flight of South Australian wines and 12-months of sobering self-discovery. Follow one woman's accidental journey from shallow wine novice to full-blown wanker – a little rudimentary knowledge to accompany her game face and voila, she became so much more! Part performance, part storytelling, part wine-tasting, with a full-bodied narrative and a moreish finish – don't miss this critically acclaimed, sell out show! **Cast Members:** Anna Thomas

*“It's impossibly intimate, like we're drinking her story, her life”*

★★★★★ GreatScot

*“An intimacy incomparable to other theatre experiences”*

★★★★★ On the Record

DISSECTION ROOM 13:00-14:00

AUG 15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 18+

## INSOMNIAC'S FABLE

From Start to Finnish in association with Agit-Cirk



Image: Patrick Baldwin

Insomniac's Fable is a delicate love story with a Hitchcockian glint in its eye. It invites its audience into a surreal dreamscape with evocative images and choreography by some of the world's most original artists. Its premise of 'boy meets dream girl' marries traditional ballet storytelling with contemporary circus – but asks what would happen if this dream girl grabbed hold of the narrative, subverting what was expected? This unique merging of juggling and dance will confound your expectations of what physical theatre can be.

**Cast Members:** Sakari Männistö, Erin O'Toole

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 11:00-12:00

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 8+

## JAMES ROWLAND: PIECE OF WORK

Attic



Image: Rosie Collins

James has been touring his storytelling theatre shows for half his adult life. This year was different. Upon returning home after a stint on tour, he received a letter that exploded his life. His tour then became a search for the person who sent it and a journey to maybe save a life.

This remarkable road trip follows James' critically-acclaimed, sell-out shows, Learning to Fly and The Songs of Friendship Trilogy. It features his captivating mix of story, comedy and music, and explores our collective sense of home.

**Cast Members:** James Rowland

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 18:00-19:10

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-27

£15 / £13 14+



# iCON

Sian Clarke

Welcome to iCON, a show in which everything is probably fine.

In a world that is crumbling and thoughts are spiralling and the void you used to scream into for sweet relief tells you to go f\*ck yourself, Sian Clarke asks: 'Can we all just TRY to have a nice time?'

A show about the world, a show about a breakdown, a show that doesn't f\*cking matter at this point anyway - it's just a way to pass the time.

Expect audience interaction, shit acting and a lot of meaningless crap.

**Cast Members:** Sian Clarke

*"Gloriously angry and endlessly funny - horrible - provocative strange"*

★★★★ The Scotsman

*"Sian Clarke changed the game with this show"*

★★★★★ The Feminist Fringe

*"Clarke is a confident performer and commands the stage"*

★★★★ The Wee Review

*"As hilarious as it is provocative"*

★★★★ North West End

RED LECTURE THEATRE 14:45-15:45

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 16+

## KLANGHAUS: DARKROOM



Image: Janine Everitt

Developed alongside climate scientists from UEA's Tyndall Centre and The Barn Aberdeenshire, this is an intense, profoundly emotional and affecting climate chaos wake-up call. Acclaimed at COP26, this is sound and senses virtual reality for the ears. A space to think and reflect from the creators of KlangHaus. Performed in total darkness for one person. 'Being alone in the dark invites you to imagine being alone with a complete climate breakdown, brings home the power of nature, the powerlessness of a single human in the absence of society. Humans need society' Catherine Rowett former Green MEP, Professor of Philosophy, UEA. **Cast Members:** Karen Reilly, Mark Howe, Jon Baker, Sal Pittman, Jeron Gundersen

**"A joy-inducing original"** ★★★★★ Donald Hutera, *Times*

**"The walls of the space and music are genuinely in dialogue with each other"** ★★★★★ Lyn Gardner, *Guardian*

LOWER CHURCH BASEMENT 12:00-14:00 every 30m

AUG 3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£13 16+

## KLANGHAUS: INHAUS

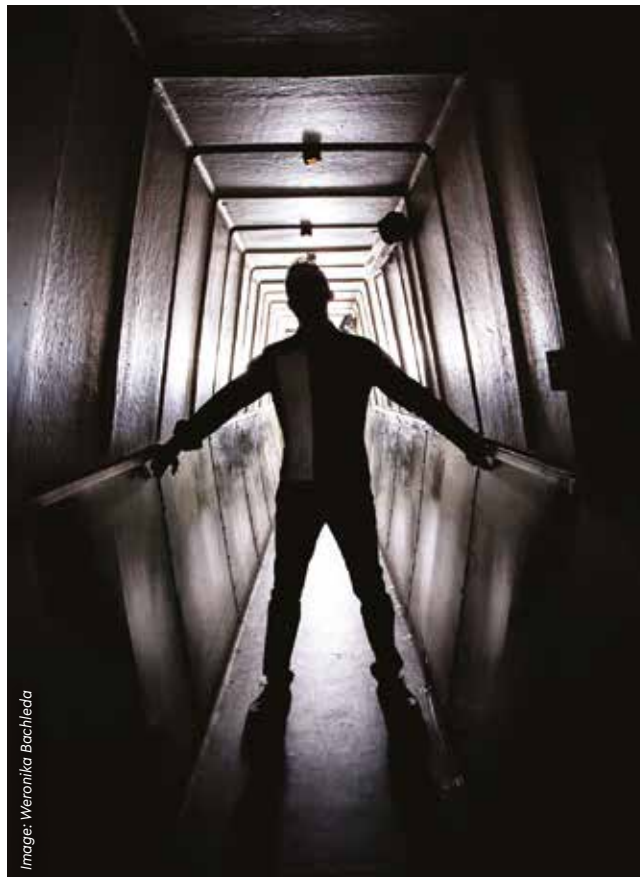


Image: Weronika Bacikleda

From the makers of KlangHaus, 'the most innovative presentation of live music I've ever seen, a total game-changer' (*Guardian*), InHaus continues to rip up the gig-going rulebook. You are in sound, light, integral as all hell breaks loose in a domestic setting. Full-on loud and pin-drop quiet. A true crossover experience, equally attractive to music, theatre and art audiences. Supported by Norwich Arts Centre. Keep It Fringe Award Winner. **Cast Members:** Karen Reilly, Mark Howe, Jonathan Baker, Jeron Gundersen, Sal Pittman

**"A blast of aural and visual magic ... a joy-inducing original"**

★★★★★ *The Times*

**"By turns lulls, terrorizes and invigorates the audience"** ★★★★★

Fiona Shepherd, *The Scotsman*

LOWER CHURCH BASEMENT 17:00 / 19:00 / 21:00

AUG 3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 12+

# LIGHTNING RIDGE

Catherine Wheels

Twelve-year-old Ashmol lives in the Australian Outback with his mum, dad, little sister Kellyanne... and her two invisible friends Pobby and Dingan.

When Pobby and Dingan disappear, Ashmol decides that there is only one thing to do for the sake of his sister – find them.

A story about the possibility of dreams, about a community coming together, the preciousness of hope and, how sometimes, we have to believe in the impossible.

**Cast Members:** Gill Robertson

**"Impressively rebellious children's theatre" ★★★★★**

The Guardian (*Praise for The Voice Thief; 2015*)

**MAIN HALL** 11:30-12:25

**AUG** 4•5•6•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20

£15 / £13 8+



## LORENZO

Ben Target and Soho Theatre

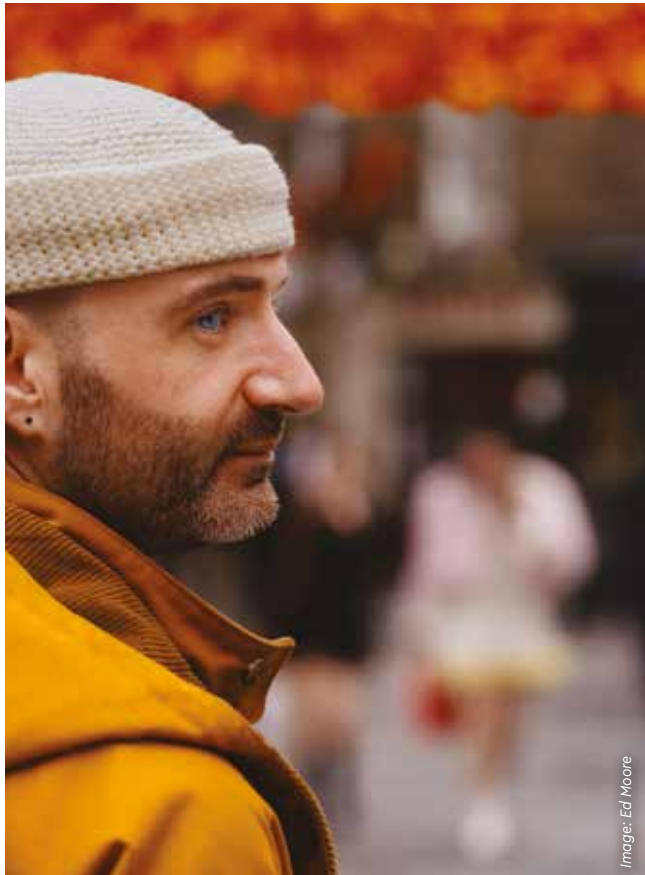


Image: Ed Moore

Ben Target is a critically-acclaimed performance artist and multi-award-winning comedian (yawn), but in 2020 he gave this up to become the live-in carer for an irascible octogenarian prankster. A life-affirming story about death, conveyed through the popular mediums of storytelling, servitude to the audience and live carpentry, a combination not seen on the world stage since Nazareth (circa 30AD). Directed by Adam Brace.

**Cast Members:** Ben Target

*“Imagine there was no Ben Target. The world would unquestionably be a darker, less interesting place”* [Chortle.co.uk](https://www.chortle.co.uk)

*“A beautiful, gentle, touching thing... spellbinding”* [Scotsman](#)

*“A true original and a legend in the making”* [Guardian](#)

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 11:55-13:00

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 14+

## LOVEFOOL

National Theatre of Luxembourg



Image: Véronique Kolber

Grace, a young woman hungry for affection and looking for love in all the wrong places, is forced to discover what healthy (self-) love might look like.

This brutally honest, hilarious and heartbreaking one-woman show navigates the impossibly confusing gender dynamics of modern love and champions the pursuit of healing.

Presented by the Théâtre National du Luxembourg; having played to sold-out audiences and received critical acclaim, this extraordinary piece of new writing received its UK Premiere at The Coronet Theatre.

**Cast Members:** Kristin Winters

*“The best theatre play I’ve seen this season”* [Luxembourg Times](#)

RED LECTURE THEATRE 19:15-20:15

AUG 2·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 15+

# MASS EFFECT

HIMHERANDIT Productions



Image: Christoffer Brekne

Mass Effect is an award-winning, high-intensity performance. Together, the cast push their physical limits, deal with exhaustion, motivation, and group dynamics. Spatial patterns carve out complex running formations and team collaboration becomes key, as they push to the limits of their physical thresholds, moving beyond exhaustion. Members of the local community join the stage in the end of the performance, pumping up the energy to offer that last push to keep going, filling the theatre with an energetic pulse and a total Mass Effect. A tremendous spectacle that fills the room with vitality and joy. Part of #Danish (Danish Signature Showcase). CPH Culture Award: Best Dance. National Theatre Award Nominee: Best Dance. **Cast Members:** Aris Papadopoulos, Theo Marion-Wuillemin, Elise Ludinard, Paola Drera, Heli Pippingskold

*"Mass effect leaves the audience in blissful euphoria"* Cph Culture.

MAIN HALL 12:55-13:45

AUG 15-16-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26

€15 / €13 16+

# NOMAD

Gözde Atalay & Tucan Riot



Image: Erimi Vamikkoti

Nomad is a tender, non-verbal account of the life of an immigrant in Europe and her search for legal status. Both funny and tragic, this physical theatre performance tracks the point of view of three characters: Ayşe (a migrant from Turkey), Eric, (a police officer) and the Paper Creature (an embodiment of bureaucracy and paperwork).

Gözde Atalay brings to the stage her own experience of being an immigrant in Europe.

**Cast Members:** Gözde Atalay

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 17:30-18:30

AUG 15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

€15 / €13 12+

# NAN, ME & BARBARA PRAVI

Hannah Maxwell

In 2021, Hannah Maxwell moved back to the home counties to care for her recently bereaved grandmother. But this show isn't about that. It's about France's Eurovision star Barbara Pravi, who's just lovely. In-between cooking, cleaning and Countdown, Maxwell escapes into an intensifying fantasy of ballroom dances, heartfelt ballads, fluent French and definitely-not-creepy plots to engineer a meet-cute with a random foreign celebrity. It's La La Land meets Mission Impossible meets Hannah's nan.

**Cast Members:** Hannah Maxwell

*"Sublime one-person theatre"* The Adelaide Show

*"Hannah Maxwell is a future star"* To Do List

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 17.15-18.25

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 16+



# OAT MILK & HONEY

MO-KO Piano & Circus

Witness the highly-anticipated international premiere of the multi-award winning Oat Milk & Honey.

Oat Milk & Honey is an avant-garde blend of poetic live music and breathtaking acrobatics performed by two of Australia's leading performing artists, elegantly reflecting on the raw human experience of anxiety. By tightly interweaving an elite performance of music and acrobatics, Oat Milk & Honey provides a sophisticated safe space to laugh, cry, breathe and heal.

**Cast Members:** Amanda Lee, Nathan Chettle

**WINNER:** Best Circus Weekly Award, Adelaide Fringe 2023

**WINNER:** Edinburgh Fringe Award, Adelaide Fringe 2023

*"A new, compelling form of storytelling" ★★★★★ Indaily*

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 10:00-11:00

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•27

£15 / £13 0+



# OH MY HEART, OH MY HOME.

Casey Jay Andrews

The meteorite shook the ground as it landed, igniting a chorus of barking dogs. Neighbours reported a blast of flames, it felt as though the house trembled.

Voices, soft and low, linger in corners; each a note in the composition of a home. The scrape of a chair, the distant hum of family dinners, laughter, a symphony of footfall on stairs.

The kitchen tiles hold us while we dance, the house sings, outside the world fades.

Gathered around a doll's house, Fringe-First winning storyteller Casey Jay Andrews weaves a delicate fable about the capacity a place has for holding a feeling. An intimate story about sanctuary, belonging and loneliness.

*The Archive of Educated Hearts: Fringe First Winner*

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 13.15-14.15

**AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•22•23•24•25•26•27**

**£15 / £13** 12+



# PARTY SCENE: CHEMSEX. COMMUNITY. CRISIS.

THISISPOPBABY

Journey into the underbelly of queer culture and experience a sweaty pulsing dance theatre show exploring the complexities of desire, intimacy, isolation and addiction. With an international company of incredible performers, Party Scene celebrates the heady high of the session but poses tough questions around drug use, sex, consent and mental health in the queer community. A bold and wild ride, the show sparks conversation around identity, self-worth, isolation, homophobia, family and care.

Part urgent gathering, part explosive event, Party Scene asks: when does an underground scene become a community crisis, and when is it time for the party to end?

Supported by Culture Ireland

**Cast Members:** Liam Bixby, Anderson de Souza, Carl Harrison, Matthew Morris

*"THISISPOPBABY has redefined modern Irish Theatre"*

★★★★ *The Irish Times*

MAIN HALL 17:35-18:40

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-9-10-11-12-13-16-17-18-19-20-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+

# PAPILLON

Helen Simard & We All Fall Down  
Interdisciplinary Creations

What can we expect from the unexpected? What can we recognise in a world governed by unpredictability? Street and contemporary dance collide as three dancers weave in and out of sync through a complex choreographic partition, supported by a live, hypnotic musical soundtrack that blends the sounds and rhythms of jazz, hip-hop and drum'n'bass. Inspired by chaos theory and complex mathematical equations, Papillon is an emotional, engulfing reflection on metamorphosis, order and disorder, singularity and similarity, and the importance of human connection in trying times. A powerful performance that will have audiences dancing in their seats.

**Cast Members:** *Nindy Banks, Mecdy Jean-Pierre, Victoria Mackenzie, Walid El-Mounzer, Roger White, Ted Yates*

**TECH CUBE ZERO** 19:20-20:20

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 0+

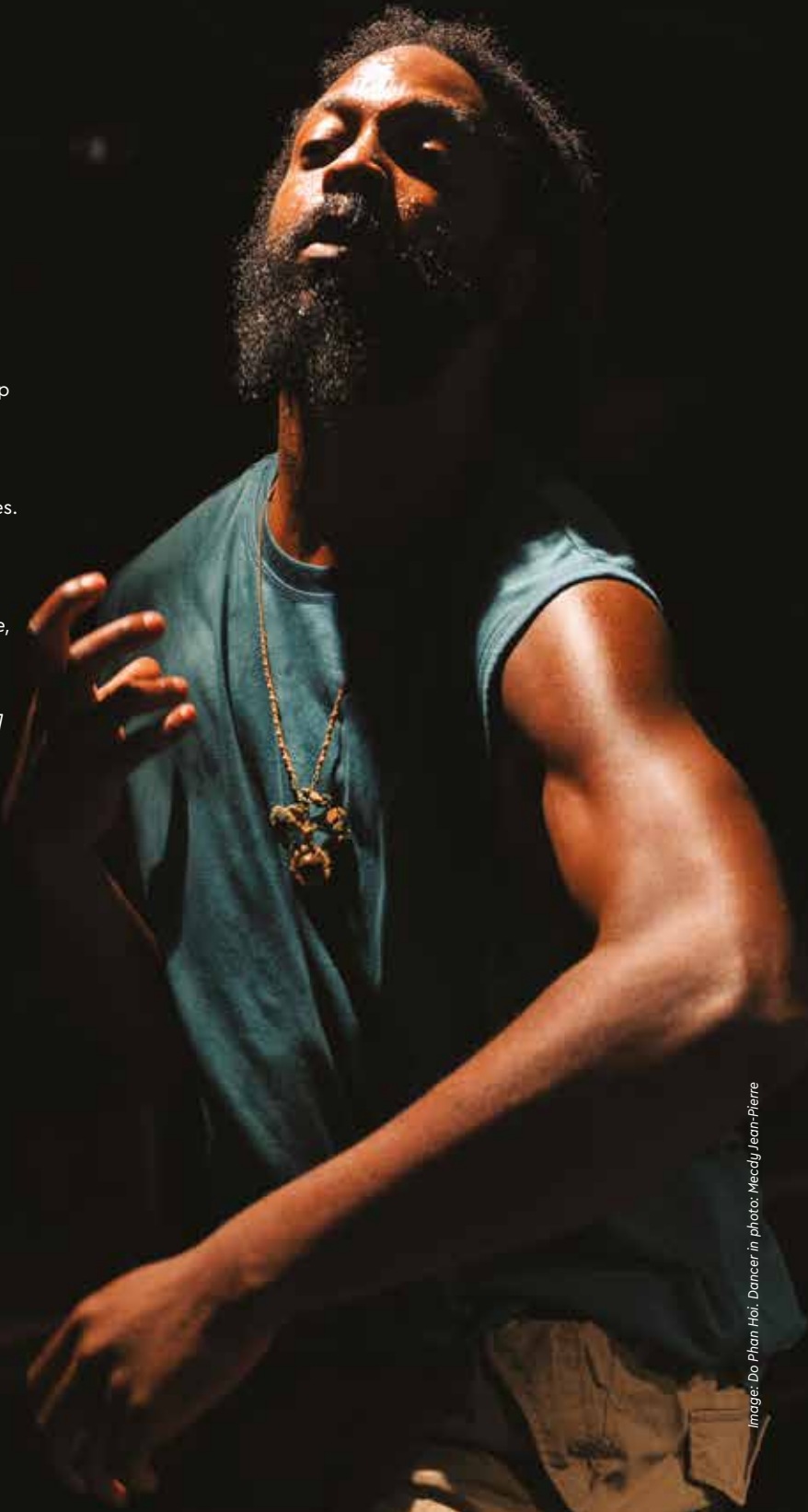


Image: Do Phan Hoi. Dancer in photo: Mecdy Jean-Pierre

# PLAYING LATINX

MarianaMalena Theatre & Guido Garcia Lueches

Do you have what it takes to be a successful Latinx? Half stand-up, half Latinx drag-king act, Guido Garcia Lueches' fun, politically-incorrect seminar will coach the audience on how to be a good immigrant.

This one-human show merges spoken-word poetry, comedy and music to explore both what the Latinx label means in the UK and, on a more personal level, the lengths we all go to fit in.

**Cast Members:** *Guido Garcia Lueches*

OffComm Winner 2022

Keep It Fringe Fund Winner

*"A show to admire, a performer to look out for"* [OughtToBeClowns.com](http://OughtToBeClowns.com)

*"A standout piece of fringe theatre"* [TomBolton.co.uk](http://TomBolton.co.uk)

*"A scathing critique of British exceptionalism"* [The Play's The Thing UK](http://ThePlay'sTheThingUK)

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 18:55-19:55

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 14+



Photo by Peter Stray. Artwork in the photo by Al Orange

## RAMALAMA DING DONG

Roshi Nasehi

An innovative solo multimedia theatre piece from Welsh-Iranian performer Roshi Nasehi inspired by her real-life experiences of funny, surreal and intimidating racism. Earning comparisons to Stewart Lee this show combines experimental approaches to stand-up, storytelling, singing and live sound art. **Cast Members** Roshi Nasehi

*“One of the most singular voices working at the moment”* Mixmag

*“Compared to Stewart Lee, Hannah Gadsby and Meredith Monk, Roshi is challenging and clever with a quick-witted way of whipping up laughs out of the absurd and awful... she takes a sledgehammer to some of the bigotry she’s encountered as a musician of Welsh-Iranian heritage”* Metro

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 21:55-22:55

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13

£15 / £13 14+



Image: Siobhan Hogan

## SAD

Brigitte Aphrodite & Quiet Boy

A musically driven experience from the creators of 'My Beautiful Black Dog' & 'Parakeet'. 'SAD' is an exploration into how life's natural cycles and grief affect the human condition. Offering comfort at its lowest points and absolute freedom, joy and clarity when the light eventually floods.

Inspiration for the project came when Gaz Tomlinson (Quiet Boy)'s mum died. This led Brigitte & Gaz to think about hibernation, light, cycles & leaves falling. Naturally they turned to music to help with the grief and what was composed in this period is the foundation of the music & songs performed in 'SAD'.

**Cast Members** Brigitte Aphrodite & Quiet Boy

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 15:00-16:00

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13

£15 / £13 16+



Image: Diana Lindhardt

## SENSUOUS GOVERNING

Sisters Hope

Sensuous Governing is an immersive and otherworldly journey into the governing structures of our society.

During the manifestation you will explore your poetic self – as well as hopes and dreams for a potential future society called Sensuous Society. A new world where everything is governed by the principles of the aesthetic dimension. During the manifestation you will meet several of the Sisters Hope performers who will guide and facilitate you on your journey.

Part of #DANISH (Danish Signature Showcase)

DANISH CONSULATE 15:00-17:00

AUG 4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20

£10 16+

# REWIND

Ephemeral  
Ensemble

Inspired by testimonies of Latin American refugees and migrants, internationally-acclaimed Rewind remembers those who endured, and those who continue to live under authoritarianism. Through energetic physical theatre, compelling live music and vibrant visuals, Ephemeral Ensemble uncovers the timeless and universal struggle for social justice.

Drawing from the science of Forensic Anthropology, the first in history to investigate human rights violations, witness the investigation of a crime that slowly reveals Alicia's identity: a woman who dared to resist.

**Cast Members:** Alex Paton, Andres Velasquez, Eyglo Belafonte, Josephine Tremelling, Louise Wilcox

Winner of Rewind Award

*"Physical Theatre at its finest"* ★★★★★ *Everything Theatre*

*"A masterclass...hugely watchable and exceptionally powerful"*

★★★★★ *Act Drop*

*"Powerful"* ★★★★★ *The Reviews Hub*

OLD LAB 11:40-12:40

AUG 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 14+



## SEA WORDS

Olly Gully in association with NTA Productions



Image: Stephanie Mackrill

'Hope is a runaway dog, and you think you're holding its tail but you're holding its shit.' Chris and Christine are a seasoned seaside double-act. But when Christine mysteriously refuses to perform, Chris' chaotic solo-effort takes both dangerously out of their depth. Written and performed by award-winning theatremaker Olly Gully (*Hear Myself Think*, *Dietrich: Natural Duty*) and directed by Sophie Merzell (*Told by an Idiot*), this camp and irreverent new play takes a darkly-comic cannonball into the heart of the untameable deep. *Keep it Fringe Award winner 2023*

**Previous work:** *BankSA Pick of the Fringe Award 2020*, *Adelaide Critics Circle Award 2019*

**"Enchanting, immensely enjoyable and profoundly touching"**

★★★★★ *Fest (on Natural Duty)*

**"Exudes class and excellence" ★★★★★**

*Broadway World (on Natural Duty)*

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 17:15-18:15

**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 16+

## SOLDIERS OF TOMORROW

Aurora Nova presents The Elbow Theatre



Image: Gail Meri

Playwright and performer Itai Erdal writes of a day when his eight-year-old Israeli nephew came home from school with an empty box to be filled with goods for soldiers on the front lines. Inside the box the boy's teacher had written: 'To the soldiers of today from the soldiers of tomorrow.' A former Israeli soldier, Erdal shares some of his actions in the army, revealing a personal and frank context to the Arab Israeli conflict and the Occupation of Palestine. In his guilt and frustration, one can see reflections of a nation in turmoil.

**Cast Members:** *Itai Erdal, Emad Armoush*

**"Succeeds in injecting empathy into divisive political discourse"**

*The Vancouver Arts Review*

**OLD LAB** 14:50-15:50

**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 12+

# SLASH

Emily Allan and Leah Hennessey

The Blond (Emily Allan) and The Dark Haired One (Leah Hennessey) attempt to transcend the banality of identity and the terror of consciousness through cosplay, anglophilia, critical theory and song. Incorporating fan-fictional pairings such as Lennon/McCartney and Sherlock/Watson, interspersed with meta-commentary by infamous second-wave feminists (Camile Paglia, Andrea Dworkin) and mashed up 80s punk songs, they guide the audience through an infernal fantasia of perverted intertextuality.

Described as 'prankish genius' (The Paris Review) and 'the ultimate fanfiction play' (Syfy), *Slash* is a 'pop feminist tour de force' (Office) about the erotics of collaboration and friendship.

**Cast Members:** *Emily Allan, Leah Hennessey*

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 22.15-23.15

**AUG** 2•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 14+



Image: Guy J Sanders

## SUMMER CAMP FOR BROKEN PEOPLE

REcreate Agency and Grace Dickson Productions

Summer Camp For Broken People is a dark comedy about rape, losing your mind, and finding yourself. After a violent sexual assault, a 40-something single mum thinks she's 'fine' until an invitation to a Christmas party sends her spiralling. Summer Camp For Broken People by Emily Beecher is a deeply personal show about sexual violence, motherhood, mental health and, ultimately, love. This autobiographical, one-woman show, based on writings while Emily was at a psychiatric hospital, shines a light into the darkest of places. It's a bold, brave and empowering show about how mental illness infects our lives, our capacity for pain and what it takes to put a shattered spirit back together.

**Performer:** Emily Beecher, **Alternate Performer:** Charlie Coletta

**ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE** 13:30-14:30

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 16+



Image: Xu Kelvin

## TAIWAN SEASON: THE WAY BACK

The Double Theatre

The tale of a shattered body trying to find itself in a time of war. Using movement, text, light, sound and puppetry with great ingenuity, The Double Theatre's family show is a creative and playful response to the state of the world today. At the centre of it all is a displaced boy trying to become whole again as he escapes the battlefield via a sustaining dream of music. Funny, heartfelt and poetic, this family-friendly show is like a flower blooming in the ruins.

European premiere.

**Cast Members** Wang Heng, Chen Lu-Huan, Chen Yi-Chin, Liu Jui-Chu, Luo Cheng-Yo

**OLD LAB** 16:20-17:20

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 5+



Image: Rere Chang

## TAIWAN SEASON: WORLD IN A WORD

Double & Cross Theater Group

Language is the springboard for fun and games in an interactive, family-friendly production. This work explores sounds and shapes sounds and shapes as tools for cross-cultural human communication.

Double & Cross theater Group is at the forefront of creating performances for children in Taiwan. The company's skillful use of movement, music, images, and objects engages audiences of all ages.

European premiere.

**Cast Members** Peng Hao-Chin, Hsu Li-Li, Ku Fong

**CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE** 09:45-10:30

AUG 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£13 / £10 3+



# STUNTMAN

## SUPERFAN

An intensely physical, funny and tender duet by two men wrestling their relationship to violence – both on-screen and off. Stuntman explores the relationship between violence and masculinity, and the impact this has on our perceptions of men. Fusing the Pow! Biff! and Wallop! of over-the-top stunt fights with personal stories of violence from the performers' lives, this is a show for anyone who has ever enjoyed a violent action movie (but felt a bit weird about it).

Part of the [MadeInScotlandShowcase.com](http://MadeInScotlandShowcase.com)

**Cast Members:** David Banks, Sadiq Ali

*“A thoroughly exhilarating 60 minutes that certainly pulls no punches.”*

★★★★★ *The Recs*

**TECH CUBE ZERO** 17:50-18:50

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25

£15 / £13 14+



# TERRE

Aurora Engine



Blending collected sounds of nature with harp, voice, piano and French horn, Aurora Engine presents a series of environmentally-inspired electroacoustic compositions. Expect pitch-shifting blackbirds, rhythmic honey bees, 'sonic trees' and ocean soundscapes amongst beautiful, beguiling songs. Commissioned by Sound Festival (2022), this sonic exploration of Scottish landscape invites audiences to submit voice and nature recordings in advance, which will be then weaved into the performance.

Fusing real instruments, voice and progressive electronica, Aurora Engine's work encapsulates a singular and striking auditory world.

Part of the [MadeInScotlandShowcase.com](http://MadeInScotlandShowcase.com)

**Cast Members:** Deborah Shaw

**ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE** 16:30-17:30

**AUG 16-17-18-19**

£15 / £12 8+

# THE (HONG) KONG GIRLS

PK Wong, Alice Ma & Justyne Li



Originally a negative label for women in Hong Kong, 'Kong Girl' has evolved through political and social changes to take on new meanings. Three female choreographers use totally different approaches to tell their own stories and to show their 'Kong Girl' identity with multi-perspectives. A horrifyingly ferocious triple-bill of politically infused, cutting edge contemporary movement.

**Cast Members:** PK Wong, Alice Ma, Justyne Li

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 17:30-18:30

**AUG 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13**

£15 / £13 12+



Image: Christa Holka

## THE DEATH & LIFE OF ALL OF US

Victor Esses

Mixing documentary footage, storytelling, and live-music, *The Death & Life of All of Us* is a funny and poignant exploration of family secrets, shame, and embracing our imperfections. At 19, Victor found his long-lost great-aunt Marcelle in Rome. She had moved from Judaism to Christianity, Lebanon to Italy, changed her name and kept a secret for life. He started making a documentary about her life. 20 years later, he still hasn't completed it... Victor Esses returns to Summerhall after the critically-acclaimed *Where to Belong* in 2019. **Cast Members** Victor Esses, Enrico Aurigemma

*"There is a delightful softness too, both in his performance, style and writing"* *The Stage*

*"A beautiful story spanning continents and generations"* ★★★★★ *A Younger Theatre*

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 11:30-12:25

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 12+

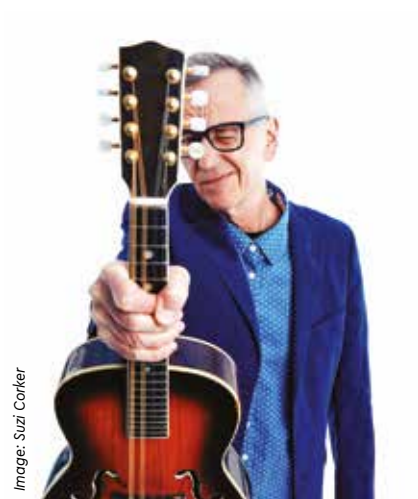


Image: Suzi Corker

## THE EARLY WORD

John Hegley

This new show from comedic poet John Hegley is an 'awesomely mundane' bonding experience. There will be cardboard crabs, drawings of horses, snails, slugs and cats. You will be invited to sing along.

**Cast Members** John Hegley

*"Just because he is one of the funniest men alive, do not underestimate his dedicated gentleness"* *The New Statesman*

*"His words are dry and whimsical and quite often make little sense"* *The Luton News*

RED LECTURE THEATRE 10:15-11:15

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 8+



Image: Stephanie Daughtry

## THE FISH BOWL

Fish Bowl Productions

How does a person with Dementia experience the world? How can we better connect with people in the often challenging environment of aged care? This award-winning experimental theatre piece explores communication, ageing and identity through the real-life stories of people living with Dementia. The play celebrates the rich characters you find in aged care, the wisdom they impart and the ways in which communities can find creative new forms of communication. Winner of the Holden Street Theatre Award and the BankSA Award for Best Theatre and Physical Theatre.

**Cast Members** Matthew Barker, Stephanie Daughtry

*"A powerful examination of living with dementia and what that looks like on both sides..*

*This play is one of importance and urgency"* ★★★★★ *Theatre Travels*

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 10:25-11:25

AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 16+



Image: Sura Choi

## WAIT!

Haddangse

This children's show invites you to the small, but big world that blooms when a child waits. Bada waits for Daddy at the whale rock. After all their friends go back home, what's left next to Bada is an old baseball glove given by Daddy. At sunset, the dark waves come...

At that time Bada's memories jump out of the glove and travel with Bada to a new world of imagination, swimming into the deep sea and journeying to a place far higher than space. Using wildly inventive projection and puppetry, this fantastical daydream will leave audience members of all ages with a new vision of stagecraft.

**Cast Members** Bada, Woojoo, San, Seojin

**OLD LAB** 10:10-11:10

**AUG** 4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13

£15 / £13 5+



Image: Maggie Dunleavy

## WELCOME TO THE BIG SHOW

Gara in association with Jess Donn

One year ago, Gara got top surgery. This decision caused a family schism. It also led to one mystical phone call with Gara's all-American, Midwestern dad, leaving questions regarding his personal journey through queerness. A love letter to unique upbringings, self-discovery and devoted fathers, this cinematic sensation from stand-up dance comedian Gara is complete with musical numbers, dancing wrestlers and 80s camp. Welcome. Welcome to The Big Show. Keep It Fringe Fund Winner.

**Cast Members** Gara

*"Honey, you simply must see Gara at the Fringe"*

Catherine Cohen (*The Dave's Best Comedy Newcomer 2019*)

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 20:30-21:30

**AUG** 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 18+



Image: Jo Hanley / Wellcome Collection / Mamoru Iriguchi

## WHAT YOU SEE WHEN YOUR EYES ARE CLOSED / WHAT YOU DON'T SEE WHEN YOUR EYES ARE OPEN

Mamoru Iriguchi

Monster vs Hero, TV Camera vs Reporter, Husband vs Husband: their battles and rituals. This new show asks what it means to 'see' and to 'be seen' in live performance, where audience and performers view the same event from different perspectives. All performances relaxed, captioned and with audio description. Contains brief nudity.

**Cast Members:** Mamoru Iriguchi, Gavin Pringle

*"The show very beautifully integrates its play with the caprices of visual perception into the performers' own stories"* Audience member

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 19:15-20:15

**AUG** 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27

£15 / £13 12+



# THE GODS THE GODS THE GODS

Wright&Grainger

12 tracks; 4 stories; 3 performers; 1 remarkable event. Wright&Grainger (Orpheus and Eurydice) return to Summerhall with an exclusive clutch of late night performances of their multi award winning, critically acclaimed piece of theatre woven from soaring music and searing spoken word. Fresh from an international tour, including dates at the Sydney Opera House and Melbourne's Brunswick Ballroom, The Gods The Gods The Gods lands in Summerhall's signature space, filling the Dissection Room with big beats, banging basslines and heart wrenching narratives to create transporting communal experience.

**DISSECTION ROOM** 22:45-01:00  
**AUG 10-17-24**

£15 / £13 / £5 18+

## WHEN WE DIED

Alexandra Donnachie and Carbon Theatre



Image: Ali Wright

He's dead, and it's her job to prepare and present his body for his family's final goodbye. She often imagines what each person's life was like. But today she doesn't have to imagine who he is. She knows this man. Faced with the body of the man who raped her 11 months ago, *When We Died* is a striking new play about one woman's choice to confront her trauma and tell her story: on her terms.

**Cast Members:** *Alexandra Donnachie*

***"Donnachie is really terrific - her body turning and twisting, bending and swaying ... It's quietly hold-your-breath gripping"***

Lyn Gardner, *Stagedoor*

★★★★ *The Independent*    ★★★★★ *The Reviews Hub*

**ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE** 19:40-20:40

**AUG** 2·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 14+

## WHO KILLED MY FATHER

Based on the book by Édouard Louis,  
translated by Lorin Stein

Surrogate Productions



Image: Emily Macinnes

Growing up gay in a small town in France, Édouard endured the violence and homophobia of his alcoholic, right-wing father, a factory worker. Now, Édouard confronts him, uncovering a startling connection between political decisions and his father's broken body. Louis sets about rewriting the recent social and political history of France, exposing how the consequences of neo-liberal 'reforms' inflicted on the lives of workers are lived out in their own bodies.

*Who Killed My Father* is an intimate declaration of love from son to father and a defiant call for social justice.

**Cast Members:** *Michael Marcus*

★★★★★ *The Scotsman*

★★★★★ *The Stage*

**OLD LAB** 10:10-11:10

**AUG** 22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 / £13 14+

# WILL PICKVANCE: FIRST PIANO ON THE MOON

Will Pickvance

William's piano tricks are so impressive, school have chosen him to play at Mozart's birthday celebrations. Oh dear. He only does tricks. A chase through Salzburg. A moonlit haunted house. Enter Mozart, to swap genius insight for a glimpse of the future.

There's a new stage set with immersive hand-drawn animations for Fringe 2023. And having adapted his original solo show as a two-hander for audiences in China, Will liked it so much, he has reworked this new version for Edinburgh to include a special guest.

A performance for the 6 years+ in all of us. Children over the age of 18, come and be enchanted, with or without kids.

*"Wonderfully engaging storytelling, lovely piano playing and delightful animations"*

*The National*

*"About the power of music to transcend time, and about how real genius always welcomes the new"*

*Joyce MacMillan, Scotsman*

**TECH CUBE ZERO** 11:50-12:50

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 6+



# WITHOUT SIN

Without Sin



Image: Ste Murray

Without Sin is a contemporary confessional for the modern sinner. Reclaiming the penitential rite as a non-judgmental exercise in healing and reflection, the piece invites participants to consider how our relationships with people and place are evolving at this transitional moment. What's been lost? What have we found? And what does it mean to live together when the world is being torn apart? Created by an award-winning international team of designers and theatre-makers, Without Sin is a space to listen and be heard, away from the digital divide.

Supported by Culture Ireland

**Cast Members:** *You, a stranger, and the box*

*"I left under a spell of catharsis and hugged a stranger"*

Peter Crawley, *Sunday Times*

**COURTYARD** 12:00 for 20m until 20:00

**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£7.50 18+

# YOU ARE GOING TO DIE

Adam Scott-Rowley



Adam Scott-Rowley (creator of the award-winning ★★★★★ THIS IS NOT CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT) presents YOU ARE GOING TO DIE. Performed entirely naked, a nail-biting descent into existential anxiety. A surreal meditation on annihilation. A shared purge illuminating the darkest corners of the human psyche and revealing compassion and humour in the most unlikely of places. **Cast Members:** Adam Scott-Rowley

*"Deeply sad in parts, this performance is a scream for help, and it sounds beautiful"* ★★★★★ *The Independent*

*"A physical theatre masterpiece."* ★★★★★ *Culture Vulture*

*"A yummily ambiguous tone that straddles hilarity & melancholy."*

★★★★★ *Fringe Biscuit*

**OLD LAB** 20:50-21:50

**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27

£15 18+



# WOODHILL

LUNG and The North Wall

'I dance in the horror of grief.'

Three men at Woodhill prison are dead. Their families demand answers. This is a call to arms about the crisis facing prisons.

Gut punching choreography and unflinching beats shine a light on the hidden story of HMP Woodhill. Lyrically told in their own words, three families investigate what happened to their boys. What they discover is so haunting, it turns their world upside down.

An explosive true story by multi award winning LUNG and The North Wall.

## WINNERS OF

Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award  
Sit Up Award for Audience Engagement  
Fringe First

MAIN HALL 20:55-22:10

AUG 2•4•5•6•7•8•9•10•11•12•13•15•16•17•18•19•20•22•23•24•25•26•27

£15 / £13 16+



**"Brave and astutely political" ★★★★★**

WhatsOnStage (on Trojan Horse)

**"Long live LUNG" ★★★★★**

The Stage (on Who Cares)

**"Devastating and damning" ★★★★★**

The Guardian (on Chilcot)

VISUAL ARTS

PERFORMANCE

# ROUNDABOUT

MUSIC

Welcome to Roundabout, Paines Plough's pop-up amphitheatre with state-of-the-art lighting and sound, and where every seat is the best seat in the house. 168 people are wrapped around the stage, watching new plays from the UK's most exciting writers, in a thrillingly atmospheric, spaceship-like theatre.

Since its beginning, the big yellow tent has existed to serve our mission as a company; to showcase the breadth of new writing talent that the country has to offer, and to platform stories from all sections of society. There will be deep reflection, hope, righteous fury, and lived experiences you might never have considered before.

Oh, and there will be laughter as well. Lots of it.

We'd like you to take these stories home with you, to keep them with you for a while, and hopefully you will fly the flag for new writing wherever you are. Come and join us.

# FIRST THING (WORK IN PROGRESS BY DANIEL KITSON)

Daniel Kitson

A few days ago I saw a little boy slapping a wall. He wasn't angry. There was no aggression in it. It felt more like he was enjoying the existence of the wall. Finding comfort in its solidity. Giving it a slap. After a minute his mum called and he went to leave. Then he stopped, turned back, gave it one more slap and ran off. I reckon he gets it. Anyway, this show won't be about that incident. Or that boy. Or walls. But it will definitely be over by noon.

**ROUNDABOUT** 10:30 - 11:30

**AUG** 2•3•4•5•6•7•9•10•11•12•13•14•16•17•18•19•20•21•23•24•25•26•27

**E10** 16+



## POLKO

RJG Productions



Image: Andy Feltham

As teenagers, Emma, Joe and Polko thought they'd never grow apart. Then time passed. When Emma returns to the suburb of their childhood ten years later she discovers nothing, and everything, has changed. Joe is stuck, living with his mum while working part-time in a hotel; and Polko has vanished, leaving a cloud of stories and misremembered nights in his wake. Set in the front-seats of a parked car, Polko is a modern memory play about the places we call home, and the people we leave behind.

**ROUNDAABOUT** 11:50 - 12:50**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·19·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£16 / £10 14+

## ENGLAND & SON

HOME Manchester &amp; Tin Cat Entertainment



Image: Greg

"Any nation that devours another will one day devour itself".

This is a one-man play written for Mark Thomas by award-winning playwright Ed Edwards (The Political History of Smack and Crack).

With some deep, dark laughs - and some deep, dark love - England & Son emerges from characters in Mark's childhood and Ed's lived experience in jail. Prepare for a kaleidoscopic odyssey where disaster capitalism, Thatcherite politics and stolen wealth merge into the simple tale of a working-class boy who just wants his dad to smile at him and ruffle his hair.

**ROUNDAABOUT** 13:10 - 14:10**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£16 / £10 14+

## SALTY IRINA

Broccoli Arts in association with Thistle and Rose Arts



Image: Eve Allin, Stef Felton &amp; Emily Cosantis

A thrilling new play by Eve Leigh and directed by Debbie Hannan, Salty Irina is about two girls falling in love and fighting nazis. After a series of racist murders in their town, Anna and Eireni decide to infiltrate a far-right festival to identify the culprits. But when the nature of their relationship is uncovered, their safety is under threat.

A coming-of-age story set against the rise of the far-right.

**ROUNDAABOUT** 14:30 - 15:40**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·19·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£16 / £10 14+

## LADY DEALER

Grace Dickson Productions



Image: Freya Bateson

For Charly, every day is the same. They used to be different, when there was Clo, but there isn't Clo anymore and she doesn't want to dwell on that. She just wants to chug coffee, blast Beastie Boys and deal drugs. Simple. But when Charly suffers a power cut, she's forced back into the real world; a world of knockoff Morrisseys, disapproving mothers and, ultimately, a world she has to navigate alone.

Lady Dealer is a mile-a-minute poem play by Martha Watson Allpress about self-forgiveness, the exhaustion of trying, and mistaking self-destruction for self-preservation. It's also about weed.

**ROUNDAABOUT** 16:00 - 17:00**AUG** 2·3·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·19·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£16 / £10 16+

# BANGERS

Danusia Samal

It's club night and the tracks are spinning. Two headliners crossfade between stories of love, sex, and losing their creative spark – set against a backdrop of precarious lives in urban London. Featuring original tracks inspired by early noughties and present-day R&B and Garage, Bangers follows the highs and lows of two strangers struggling with their own pasts, while hurtling towards the future.

All the while, the DJ continues to play, dropping words of wisdom and banger after banger.

*"A True Masterpiece"* ★★★★★

WhatsOnStage

**ROUNABOUT** 18:50-20:00

**AUG** 2•4•5•6•7•9•10•11•12•13•14•16•17•18•19•20•21•23•24•25•26•27

£16 / £10 14+

## STRATEGIC LOVE PLAY

Paines Plough, Soho Theatre, Belgrade Theatre,  
in association with Landmark Theatres



So they've both swiped right. Now they're meeting for the first time. Facing each other. As if that's a normal thing to do.

But she's being uncomfortable, and he's a total bore. The vibe is horrific and the banter is even worse. But something is keeping them in their seats. Something is making them stay. Welcome to your hot date.

With acid wit, Miriam Batty's new play takes a scalpel to modern romance, interrogating what we really talk about when we talk about love.

ROUNABOUT 17:20 - 18:30

AUG 2·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·19·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£15.50 / £10 14+

## BULLRING TECHNO MAKEOUT JAMZ

Ellie Keel Productions and Paines Plough



'I proper thought I was gonna be a hybrid, edgy, sexy kind of brum town Basquiat with a garnish of Banksy and national treasure potential of David Hockney'

Winner of the Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting 2022, Bullring Techno Makeout Jamz follows Nathaniel, a young man approaching what appears to be his quarter life crisis. Join Nathaniel on his journey of self-discovery as he explores Black masculinity through Beyonce lyrics, techno raves and the deeply intimate relationship a man has with his barber.

ROUNABOUT 20:20 - 21:20

AUG 2·4·5·6·7·9·10·11·12·13·14·16·17·18·19·20·21·23·24·25·26·27

£16 / £10 14+

## HEART

Jade Anouka



Image: Michael Shefford

Jade Anouka's debut play is a raw and honest exploration of love, loss, and self-discovery. The play tells the story of a woman grappling with the end of her marriage and the beginning of a new chapter in her life. Told through poetry, HEART celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the beauty of human connection. With live music and sound design by 4x UK Beatbox champion Grace Savage, this groundbreaking play is a must-see for all the misfits, all those who have ever felt 'other'.

**Cast Members:** Jade Anouka and Grace Savage

ROUNABOUT 23:00 - 00:00

AUG 24·25·26

£15 / £13 12+

## LATER

Paines Plough and Friends



Welcome to LATER, Paines Plough's late-night roster of one-off performances.

Here's the deal: take a lucky dip, and you get a show from one of the hottest companies and artists at the Fringe.

Previous performers include Travis Alabanza, Rosie Holt, Phil Wang, Wright & Grainger, Lauryn Redding, The Wardrobe Ensemble and Middle Child.

Bring your drinks in and round off your day the right way.

ROUNABOUT 23:00 - 00:00

AUG 10·11·12·17·18·19

£8 / £7 16+

# THE LAST SHOW BEFORE WE DIE

Hotter Project and Ellie Keel Productions

"Riotously funny" ★★★★★ *Evening Standard*

Ell and Mary have been dead for three years, but now they've come back to life (and the stage) with one question on their minds: how do you know when it's the end?

Inspired by zombies, heartbreak, and the humble cockroach, *The Last Show Before We Die* is an existential cabaret about the big things in life. And death. From the creators of smash-hit shows *HOTTER* and *FITTER*.

**Cast Members:** *Mary Higgins, Ell Potter*

**ROUNDBOUT** 21:40 - 22:35

**AUG** 2•4•5•6•7•9•10•11•12•13•14•16•17•18•19•20•21•23•24•25•26•27

£18.50 / £12 **14+**





VISUAL ARTS

PERFORMANCE

ROUNDTABOUT

# MUSIC

Welcome to the Nothing Ever Happens Here Fringe Music Programme 2023! After a hugely successful (and nerve-racking!) 2022 edition post-Covid, it feels great to be back and opening-up our Dissection Room to some of the most exciting and innovative musicians and DJs working today. As a permanent and intrinsic part of Edinburgh's live-music infrastructure since 2015, we pride ourselves on providing a steady stream of international artists, as well as a home for our own world-class local musicians, for Edinburgh's gig-going patrons year-round. With our August Fringe programme lying at the beating heart of our calendar year, it provides us the chance to showcase the best of what we offer at Summerhall and we're hugely excited to present to you our 2023 line-up of shows. This year Nothing Ever Happens Here (NEHH) alongside our brilliant and longstanding collaborators: 432 Presents, World Headquarters, DF Concerts, Jamie Pettinger at EHFM, and Nick Herd at Braw Gigs, is delighted to announce a bumper-edition of artists to make you dance, laugh and cry – reminding our audiences that nothing beats the experience of watching great music, in a great room, with a great crowd. From indie to afrobeat, trad to hardcore, cheesy pop to techno, and up-and-coming to legend, there is something for everybody in the next few pages. Buy a ticket, grab a pint and I'll see you down the front!

**Jamie Sutherland**

Music Programme Manager

Nothing Ever Happens Here – Summerhall



# KATHRYN JOSEPH

NEHH Presents

SAY Award-winner Kathryn Joseph returns to Summerhall's Dissection Room with songs from her new album, *For You Who are the Wronged*. Unspoken truths take flight in songs that simmer and seethe with quiet anger, as Joseph gives voice to those robbed of their own. This record is a statement of abuse observed; its narrative woven with complexities, futility and stasis.

An unmissable, intimate show from one of Scotland's premier artists.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 12

£20 16+ STANDING ONLY



## MULL HISTORICAL SOCIETY + VERY SPECIAL GUESTS: RANDOLPH'S LEAP

NEHH Presents

Colin MacIntyre is a multi-award-winning musician, producer, playwrite and author for adults and children. Born into a family of storytellers and writers, and raised on the Isle of Mull in the Hebrides, he has released eight acclaimed albums to date, most notably under the moniker Mull Historical Society.

*"Scotland's Top Creative Talent"* Glenfiddich Spirit of Scotland Awards

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 4

£17.50 16+ STANDING ONLY



## WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS

NEHH Presents

Celebrated indie favourites We Were Promised Jetpacks formed in Edinburgh back in 2003 whilst still at school. Known for their emotive lyrics and energetic performances, the band's sound is characterised by anthemic indie-rock, blending atmospheric guitars with heartfelt vocals. With a career spanning almost two decades, they have released several critically-acclaimed albums, most recently 2021's *Enjoy the View*, and have captivated audiences worldwide with their dynamic live shows.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 7

£18 7+ STANDING ONLY



## LOST MAP 10TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

NEHH & Lost Map Present

Throughout his career Pictish Trail has resolutely furrowed his own path, steadily creating a unique catalogue of recordings and performances, while eschewing the blueprint of the predictable singer-songwriter in favour of something untidy and intriguing. When not putting out his own music as Pictish Trail, Johnny Lynch is a fulcrum of the British independent music community. Through his label, Lost Map, he champions a diverse and idiosyncratic array of extraordinary talent, helping to elevate the likes of Rozi Plain, Alabaster dePlume, Bas Jan, Callum Easter and Free Love.

DISSECTION ROOM 20:00 - 01:00

AUG 16

£20 16+ STANDING ONLY

## BREABACH

NEHH & Made In Scotland Present...



Image: Somhairle MacDonald

Current BBC Alba Folk Band of the Year, Breabach are securely ranked among Scotland's most skilled and imaginative contemporary folk acts, uniting deep Highland and Island tradition with innovative musical arrangements, songs and step dance. Their 17-year adventure includes live performances from Sydney Opera House to Central Park NY. They have racked up an impressive array of accolades, including five Scots Trad Music Awards, nominations as Best Group in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and European Album of the Year in The Songlines Music Awards.

MadeInScotlandShowcase.com

### DISSECTION ROOM

AUG 22 19:00 - 22:00 • 23 18:00\* - 19:30 / 20:00 - 23:00

£18-£20 16+ STANDING ONLY \*23 @ 18:00 - UNRESERVED SEATING

## REBECCA VASMANT ENSEMBLE

NEHH Presents



Glaswegian musician, producer, DJ and curator Rebecca Vasmant leads a live ensemble featuring some of the movers and shakers of the new Scottish jazz scene. Formed following the sell-out album *With Love, From Glasgow* (2021), their sound tells a love story to Scotland, through ethereal and floating textures.

*With love from Glasgow* received international acclaim and press, including Album of the Week from Jazz FM, BBC Radio 6 and Worldwide FM, as well as reaching the top ten position in the International Jazz Album Charts.

### DISSECTION ROOM 19:00-22:00

AUG 20

£16.50 16+ STANDING ONLY

## WITHERED HAND

NEHH Presents



Image: Ian West

Edinburgh-based cult indie songwriter Withered Hand (Dan Willson) is back with his first new album in nine years. *How to Love* was recorded with (Mogwai Producer) Tony Doogan in Glasgow; the new record features guests King Creosote and Kathryn Williams (both of whom are long-standing collaborators).

### DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 24

£17.50 16+ STANDING ONLY

## SOUL FOUNDATION

NEHH Presents



Are you ready to groove your stuff to Motown, a little Northern Soul with a sprinkling of disco? Then hold on to your Detroit vinyl, as this band are right up your alley. The Soul Foundation are a high energy, edgy, monster of an act, influenced by some of the greats: Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight, Temptations and many more. This nine-piece never disappoint with their Big Band. Expect four-part harmonies, blustering horns and an incredible rhythm section.

### DISSECTION ROOM 21:00 - 03:00

AUG 18

£18 18+ STANDING ONLY

# THUMPASAURUS

DF Concerts Presents

EPISODE ONE: IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS THUMP

In the beginning there was thump... The primordial groove of the Universe. Thump thumped its way through all things. In the beginning groove was harmony, and harmony was groove, and it was good.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 13

£14 16+ STANDING ONLY



## DEAFHEAVEN

432 Presents



For the past ten years, seminal San Francisco band Deafheaven has been driven by evolution and innovation within themselves and their respective genres. With their forthcoming album, *Infinite Granite*, available August 20th via Sargent House, they've taken another giant leap forward.

With production from Justin Meldal-Johnsen, known for his stellar work with M83, Wolf Alice, Paramore and Metric, among others, Deafheaven embarks on a new chapter of defiant beauty.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 21

£25 16+ STANDING ONLY

## AN EVENING OF JOY

WITH FRANCIS DAULERIO, LOUIS ABBOTT,  
KRIS DREVER & MORE

NEHH Presents



Francis Daulerio is a poet and teacher from Blue Bell, Pennsylvania returning to Edinburgh in support of his newest collection of poetry. Francis brings his collaborative *An Evening of Joy* series to Summerhall with special guests Louis Abbott (Admiral Fallow), Kris Drever (Lau), Laurie Cameron and more. Come celebrate the bits of life worth living and the losses that bring us together in a superb blending of music and poetry.

*"Relentlessly hopeful"* Sean Carey, *Bon Iver*

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 17

£16 16+ STANDING ONLY

## LONDON ASTROBEAT ORCHESTRA

NEHH Presents



The London Astrobeat Orchestra have ignited a movement where cult western band repertoires are blended with African influences and have made quite an impact in doing so. The band bring together the finest West African session musicians in the UK with legendary band leader and bassist Edd Bateman hosting rhythmic influences from Senegal, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Cameroon and Congo.

Featuring members from Kanda Bongo Man's touring line-up, with Bel-angeni Jeannot Musumbu on guitar, Felix Ngindu Kasanganyi on drums, blues rock and astropheric soundscaping guitarist and vocalist Londoner Julian Burdock, and renowned Guinean Master Griot kora player Mosi Conde.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 5-6

£18 16+ STANDING ONLY

## FLEETWOOD MAC'S RUMOURS WITH THE TRANSATLANTIC ENSEMBLE

World Headquarters Present



After multiple sell-out shows at Summerhall, the Transatlantic Ensemble is back by popular demand for a Fringe special. They will perform Fleetwood Mac's iconic Rumours album in its entirety, plus many other well-known Fleetwood Mac classics.

Experience one of the greatest albums of all time, lovingly and accurately recreated live. Rumours has sound-tracked the lives of multiple generations. If you are a fan of the album, this stunning performance by the Transatlantic Ensemble will fill you with joy and nostalgia.

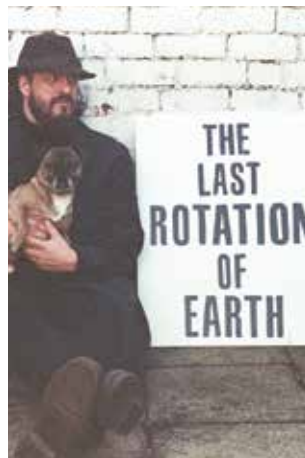
DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 9-10

£21 16+ STANDING ONLY

## BC CAMPLIGHT

432 Presents



Is there a curse that says Brian 'BC Camplight' Christinzio cannot move forward without being knocked back? That the greatest material is born out of emotional trauma? Whilst making his new album, *The Last Rotation of Earth*, Christinzio's relationship with his fiancé crumbled after nine inseparable years. The album follows this break-up amid long-term struggles with addiction and mental health. The outcome is an extraordinary record, with Christinzio describing it as 'more cinematic, sophisticated and nuanced than anything I've done before.'

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 25

£22.50 16+ STANDING ONLY

## BUCK MEEK

432 Presents



Following an exceptional sold-out show in Edinburgh, Big Thief's Buck Meek brings his solo band back to Scotland. Producer and engineer Andrew Sarlo (who produced the first four Big Thief LPs, all of Nick Hakim's LPs and contributed on Bon Iver's *i,i*) agreed to record Buck Meek's second full-length LP, *Two Saviors*, under the conditions that they make the album in New Orleans during the hottest part of the year, spend no more than seven days tracking, record the LP all live on an 8-track tape machine with only dynamic microphones and no headphones, and without allowing the players to hear back any takes until the final day. The band worked within these limitations, encouraging every recording to be imbued with the living, intuitive and human energy of a first take.

DISSECTION ROOM 19:00 - 22:00

AUG 26

£17.50 16+ STANDING ONLY

# MICHAEL HEAD & THE RED ELASTIC BAND

432 Presents

Michael Head – legendary Liverpool songsmith and former member of acclaimed groups The Pale Fountains and Shack – returns to Scotland this summer with his Red Elastic Band for a showstopper at Edinburgh Summerhall on 11 August.

**DISSECTION ROOM** 19:00 - 22:00

**AUG 11**

£27 16+ STANDING ONLY

CHEQUES  
CASHED

Summerhall's Opening Party:

# OPTIMO ESPACIO

## W/IT EYES OF OTHERS

NEHH Presents

The duo of JD Twitch and JG Wilkes return to Summerhall's Dissection Room with another one of the eclectic and euphoric sessions that made them legends in the Glasgow and the international club scene. Going strong for over 25 years, Optimo Espacio are still throwing some of the best parties on the planet.

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00 - 03:00  
AUG 4

£15 18+ STANDING ONLY



# MAGIC NOSTALGIC

NEHH Presents

Fresh from selling out Glasgow's legendary King Tuts Wah Wah Hut on Hogmanay 2022, the wheel will make its way along the M8 and return to the city where it all began, on Market Street, way back in 2009. The night came into fruition at The Electric Circus and has since been a hit at festivals such as Rewind and Download.

A simple concept: there is a wheel which is divided into different musical genres and a lucky punter gets the opportunity to spin it every half-hour. The music selected soundtracks the following 30 minutes. One minute you could be hands in the air, screaming along to a power ballad, and the next, spinning your partner around the dance floor to Motown and Soul.

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00 - 03:00  
AUG 5

£12 18+ STANDING ONLY

## CLUB SYLKIE

Club Sylkie Present



From the depths of Cowgate comes Club Sylkie: a sweaty, queer dance made up of heavy bass, rave influences and high-octane club music.

Join Club Sylkie residents and esteemed guests in the unique setting of Summerhall's Dissection Room as they take you on a journey through techno, broken beats and soaring tempos as the night unfolds. Previous guests include: LCY, aya, Nick León, Diessa, SHERELLE, Kavari, EMA, mi-el and more. Expect an evening of riotous club sounds from start to finish!

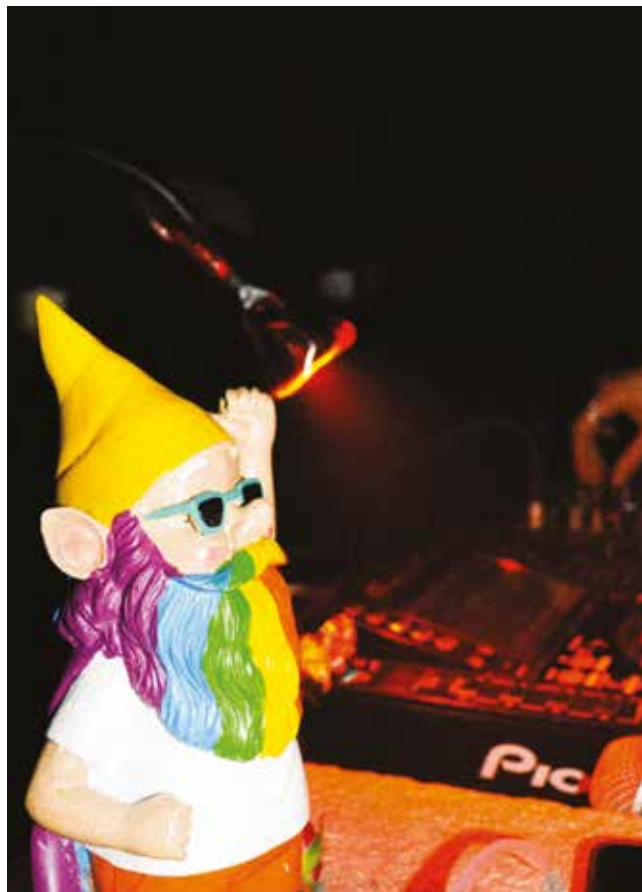
**DISSECTION ROOM** 23:00 - 3:00

**AUG 19**

£10 18+ STANDING ONLY

## FEMMERGY

Femmergy Presents



Femmergy is an intersectional space to celebrate femme joy and art, and have a good boogie. They work to platform DJs and artists from marginalised genders and prioritise inclusivity and safety. Get your dancing shoes on and come join us for your fave femme night somewhere new. Everyone is welcome!

**DISSECTION ROOM** 23:00 - 3:00

**AUG 12**

£10 18+ STANDING ONLY

# AUNTIE FLO - LIVE SET FEAT. SARATHY KORWAR

NEHH Presents

Revered jazz drummer Sarathy Korwar and global dance music pioneer Auntie Flo present their debut collaborative project – a bold sonic exploration of propulsive, tabla-infused rhythms and meditative synths and drones.

Following their first live performance together at last year's Dialed In Festival, the duo come together on Make Music with Shruti Dances. The unique collection of dancefloor-ready tracks is influenced, but not tied down, by traditional Indian instruments and ambient sounds. This is the first opportunity to hear the brand-new project from two of the UK's leaders in contemporary music circles.

**DISSECTION ROOM** 23:00 - 03:00

**AUG 11**

£16.50 18+ STANDING ONLY



## 249'S RAMSHACKLE QUEER PARTY FOR ALL

NEHH Presents



Like a rainbow after a storm, 249's Ramshackle Queer Parties popped-up just as Edinburgh was "coming out" of lockdown. Always featuring a titillating line-up of live-music, DJs, open-mic and fun and games, the parties have won the hearts of Edinburgh punters young and old.

*"A joyous and chaotic queer party"* *The Skinny*

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00 - 3:00

AUG 25

£9 / £6 18+ STANDING ONLY

## MESSENGER SOUND SYSTEM

MSS Presents



Messenger Sound System – Original Roots Advertiser, established 1987.

Bongo Club resident from '97. Holding the Roots and Culture corner from that time 'til now. Playing Conscious Reggae Muzik for the upliftment of each and everyone. Vibes alive every time! Featuring the legendary MC Afrikan Simba (London) alongside local fave Ras Ista Lion on the mic; bringing the conscious Word Sound to the people. Powered by the sweetest sound around town – bass line dropping warm n heavy. Edinburgh's longest running club night for a reason – the original Sound System experience.

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00 - 3:00

AUG 26

£12 18+ STANDING ONLY



# MICROSTERIA

Summerhall's Closing Party:

## MICROSTERIA

NEHH & Maranta Present...

Welcome to MICROSTERIA, where the micro is made massive. For Summerhall's Fringe Closing Party, synth-pop duo MARANTA host another in their series of immersive nights, inviting you into the sensory world of MICROSTERIA. Alongside visual artist Chell Young, they bring the illusory spectacle of MICROSTERIA to the Dissection Room. A phantasmagorical night of live electronically-mutated music, visual art, film, costume and performance.

Immerse yourself fully in the organismic world of Microsteria and come as your favourite amoeba. Dress-up encouraged!

DISSECTION ROOM 22:00 - 03:00

AUG 27

£14 18+ STANDING ONLY

# SUMMERHALL DISTILLERY

## THE SPEAKEASY EXPERIENCE

Pickering's Gin &  
The Broody Hen Scotch Whisky



Hidden within our secret Workshop and tucked away from the Summerhall Courtyard, you will find The Speakeasy Experience. Give the secret password on the door and our bartender will welcome you into the forbidden cocktail bar masked as a distillery workshop. Guests will enjoy a table service cocktail experience, whilst learning about the illicit establishments that thrived during the 1920s prohibition. You will be served two cocktails typical from the prohibition-era made with Pickering's Gin and The Broody Hen Scotch Whisky.

**THE OLD WORKSHOP** 19:00  
AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27  
£20 18+

## SAMPLES AT THE STILL ROOM

Pickering's Gin &  
The Broody Hen Scotch Whisky



The experience includes a guided tasting of three small batch spirits and a tour of our still room. Our still room is found in the heart of Summerhall, nestled in the old dog kennels of the Old Royal Dick Vet School. Since becoming Edinburgh's first exclusive gin distillery over 150 years ago, our small and quirky distillery has evolved to produce and bottle gin, vodka and whisky.

**SUMMERHALL DISTILLERY** 12:00 & 13:00  
AUG 2·3·4·5·6·7·8·9·10·11·12·13·15·16·17·18·19·20·22·23·24·25·26·27  
£12.50 18+









# HOW TO FIND US

Summerhall is at the east end of the Meadows, on a street called Summerhall. We are a five minute walk from George Square Gardens, and a fifteen minute walk from the Royal Mile. The closest bus stops are Bernard Terrace and Buccleuch Terrace, which are both within a two minute walk of Summerhall.

There is cycling parking in the courtyard, but there is no on-site car or motorcycle parking.

Summerhall  
1 Summerhall  
EH9 1PL



**Cover Image:** Copyright Ernie Button, from the book *The Art of Whisky*, published by Chronicle Books. Image Description: "This image was created with the dried remains of Aberlour A'bunadh whisky after enjoying a dram. After consuming the last drop, the remaining residue dries and leaves these intricate patterns in the bottom of the glass which Mr. Button has captured in his studio with his camera."

Also pictured from *The Art of Whisky*: The Glenlivet

Brochure Design & Print by Alba Printers Ltd

# THE VENUE

Summerhall is a unique cultural village, dedicated to creativity and exploration, the former Royal Dick Veterinary School, explore our nooks and our crannies, our original and eclectic spaces everything from the 1890's to the 1980's!

## THE ROYAL DICK

Our jewel in the crown is the 'The Royal Dick' an independent bar and restaurant, originally the old Small Animal Hospital, where you would bring your pets if they were unwell and still dog friendly now! A museum to the ephemera of the past, brought up to date by the offering of freshly made food and drinks including 'Pickerings Gin' and 'Broody Hen Whisky' and 'Barney's' beer - both produced from the distillery and brewery onsite, made 20 yards from the bar! - The bar is open daily until late.

## THE COURTYARD

A perfect place to relax and soak up the fringe atmosphere, between shows or when you need a place to pick your next on. It is also where you will find our festival bars and food concessions. Premiering this year is 'Summer Slice' for fresh pizza and we are delighted to welcome 'Rost' back to Summerhall, one the founders of the famous 'Pitt' food market with their local Scottish fusion street food. The courtyard will be packed full of surprises in every corner, make sure you keep your eyes peeled for specifically commissioned public art, creative innovative interventions, and those other things you know you cannot categorise but know you will never forget!

## TICKETLESS FRINGE

As part of our efforts to become as paper-free as possible, Summerhall is taking part in a festival-wide scheme to remove paper tickets from the majority of Fringe venues. This means that you will be able to book tickets on our website wherever you are, and receive your e-tickets instantly via email. If you do not have the technology to book e-tickets or require assistance for accessibility reasons, please get in touch with us and we will happily facilitate this for you.

## FLYER-FREE FRINGE

Year-round and during Fringe, Summerhall is a flyer free zone. We want to create a space where audiences and performers alike can enjoy the festival atmosphere without constant interruption, and at the same time do our bit for the planet.

## REUSABLE CUPS

Summerhall is using a reusable polycarbonate cup across the festival this year to reduce the environmental impact of single use plastics. Please help us by returning your cup to the recycle points where it will be washed and reused. Where we can't use these cups, we will be using recyclable cups made from recycled plastics.

## RECYCLING POINTS

There are many recycling points throughout Summerhall, please help us help the planet by recycling the appropriate places.

INTRODUCING...

# SUMMER SLICES



SUMMERHALL

