



SUMMERHALL

FESTIVAL  
PROGRAMME  
2024

VENUE  
26

## ETHOS

The ethos of Summerhall is to keep faith with the founding principle of the Edinburgh International Festival, to 'heal wounds of conflict 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, multinational; 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

I am very excited to welcome you to Summerhall's 2024 Festival programme: a collection of beautiful work from some of the most creative and talented artists from around the world. The diversity of form and style across the performative and visual arts is better than ever and the variety of what is included here is astounding. You could spend the entire Fringe here and have no need to go elsewhere... in fact I invite you to do just that!

The world in 2024 continues to be a challenging and dangerous place to live, both internationally and at home. Since we all last came together, conflicts are not only ongoing but increasing, and there seems to be no end to the cost-of-living crisis that makes participating in this most wonderful of festivals harder and harder. The founding principles of the festival seem more important than ever: to 'heal the wounds of conflict through the language of the arts.'

We provide a safe space for artists to experiment, create, express ideas and share experiences. This is instrumental to the unique atmosphere generated in our building and we love that so many artists want to share it with one another. This feeling of community and support is so important to us.

We continue to put the artists, creative practitioners, and their output at the centre of our festival programme and thank those that are returning to Edinburgh or coming for their first Fringe, those who have braved and borne the extraordinary costs of participating, for also having faith in our ability to curate an arts programme that will offer incredible experiences to our audiences.

Summerhall continues to be a space for everyone. Whether you are engaging with our 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!

We couldn't do any of this without the unending support and dedication of the entire team that work tirelessly all year round to deliver this Fringe programme, I want to offer my deepest thanks to each and every one of you, you are all truly brilliant.

To everyone else, I hope you will enjoy this collection of work as much as we will and I ask you from the bottom of my heart to support live art, support the artists, support Summerhall, support the venues, support this Fringe and support the city.

**Sam Gough**  
Chief Executive

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## ARTIST SUPPORT

Here at Summerhall we continue to do all we can to support the artists and thank them for coming and spending time in our city. For 2024 we will be reintroducing the 'Support The Artist Ticket Scheme' where 100% of an additional £2 donated at checkout will go directly to the artists, giving audiences the choice to be able to directly support the shows they love so much.

After the huge success of 'Summerhall Surgeries' in 2023, we are running them again, looking to continue to provide opportunities for artists to showcase unfinished pieces of work to a room full of industry and peers. From the inaugural event in 2023, 10 of the 16 shows are working with producers, several have opened in theatres around the country and have had their first run. One, Lynn Faces (page 47) – excitingly, is in our programme. We couldn't be happier.

New for 2024, we decided to offer companies the option to take 100% of the ticket revenue, rather than the traditional ticket split with the venue, giving better peace of mind and giving them more autonomy over their shows.

We will also be giving the emerging and early career artistic practitioners of Scotland an opportunity to see Summerhall shows for free. We want to galvanise our next generation of creatives by equipping and immersing them in as much quality live art as we can, at no cost to them.

And of course, Lanyard Beer and Lanyard Gin will make a welcome return. These boutique small batch drinks are available at 2011 prices to all workers and artists of the Fringe, no matter the venue, simply upon presentation of a lanyard.



'I Think We Will Stay' by Sneeky Beast (Ruff Highgate-Betts and Haddi Conant)

# VISUAL ARTS

## PERFORMANCE

## ROUNDTABOUT

## LATE-NIGHT

It is my pleasure to present Summerhall's Visual Arts programme for Fringe 2024, an eclectic mix of world class exhibitions from local and international contemporary artists working in a variety of mediums.

Like the ancient alchemists who sought to turn base metals into gold, the artists whose work we present here harness their inner visions, and transform ordinary materials into works of beauty and meaning, offering insight into alternative perspectives.

From giant metal spiders to photographic documentation of the Washington DC punk scene in the 1970s, this exhibition season has something for everyone.

We invite you to come and explore Summerhall, encounter the unusual and celebrate creativity with us.

**Samantha Chapman**  
Head of Visual Arts

## COURTYARD COMMISSION 2024: TRANSFORMATION

For the third year running we are delighted to announce the annual Summerhall Courtyard Commission Project. 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. This year we invite artists to submit proposals for commissioned pieces that respond to the theme of 'transformation'.

We can't wait to see the myriad of ways local artists interpret the theme and to unveil the transformation.

### PREVIOUS YEARS' WINNERS:

**Nathan Price**  
**HIGH HOPES**  
2023

Nathan Price's work captures an intense feeling of fun, excitement and passion, using bright colours and bold shapes to captivate, intrigue, and ignite the imagination of the viewer. Placing emphasis on resourcefulness, Nathan utilises found materials, as well as reconstituting previous creations into new works, viewing his creations as continually evolving and adapting components towards the next thing.

**Fraser Gray and Martin McGuinness**  
**STAGE SET**  
2022

Often using found materials, industrial painting processes and traditional techniques, Fraser Gray and Martin McGuinness employ the processes themselves to construct meaning from what we see, exploring the material possibilities of the mediums they use to investigate the diverse material capabilities of their chosen mediums within their specific context.

**Pilar Garcia de Leaniz**  
**YOU ARE MAGIC**  
2022

Pilar Garcia de Leaniz is a Freelance Award-Winning illustrator and Graphic Designer Teaching Fellow at Edinburgh College of Art. Leaniz's works stems from a belief in the link between creativity and emotions. 'You Are Magic' seeks to capture wonder through vibrant colours and sunny illustrations. It stands as a visual tribute to the creative capacity within every individual.

**Damien Cifelli**  
**TAROGRAMMA**  
2022

Damien Cifelli is a multidisciplinary artist whose work explores the fictitious land of Tarogramma, a hidden world that explorers have long searched for in vain.

His work is focused on fictional anthropology and storytelling. Through painting and sculpture, he builds a detailed culture with its own aesthetic, way of life, and understanding of the world that is at once alien and eerily like our own.



# PAINTINGS OF MODERNIA

**Artist:** Sam Kissajukian

IN VITRO GALLERY 11.00-17.00

26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN

FREE

A bold exhibition with a comedic bent that explores the ineffable mental states of a comedian turned artist living with Bipolar. In 2021 Australian comedian Sam Kissajukian created 300 Paintings during a manic Bipolar episode. The outcome was an intense period of self teaching, diagnosis and reflection. This experience is detailed in the performance '300 Paintings' held Summerhall's Tech Cube Zero during the Edinburgh Fringe, which acts a precursor to this exhibition. See page 21.

This current exhibition highlights work from the last 2 years that explore the unique mental states associated with complex emotions, being a performer and living with Bipolar. The exhibition won Adelaide Fringe's 2024 "The Eran Svigos award for Best Visual Art for Solo Exhibition".

'Here's something I regret. This painting was my attempt to show the relationship between anxiety and avoidance. The landscape is populated with all the thoughts and ideas you have when moving towards a goal. The sky is where you hang anything not related to your goal, to do later. Eventually, the landscape of your mind reaches a saturation point and your "to do list" in the sky becomes full. You become acutely aware of the weight hanging over you so avoid looking up, but your mind is so overpopulated that the anxiety is overwhelming. You think, "If I can just get to my goal then everything hanging over me won't matter." Soon, the joy of the goal withers away and the sky becomes so heavy that it collapses onto you in an apocalyptic mental disaster, and that's when anxiety meets avoidance.

I understand this description is too intense for a wall label. So, when I first exhibited this work, I just wrote "Where's Wally". One day a man came up to me and said, "I've been searching for 4 hours and I can't find him". I paused awkwardly, long enough for him to scream, "Noooooooooooo!" and storm out. So, that's something I regret. But, who knows, maybe he is there.'



# FLUX

**Artist:** Helen Denerly

MEADOWS AND CORNER GALLERIES 11.00-17.00

26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN

FREE

'I love the excitement of standing in my scrap pile looking for that perfect part which will become a dog's jaw, a kestrel's tail, or the toe of a baby orangutan.

I am often asked, "Do you start by finding a piece of scrap to fit what you are making, or does the scrap inspire the idea?" It is a good question, and both are true. To lead or be led?

Each sculpture starts with an idea, a thought, a feeling at the time and after detailed research, sometimes a drawing. Much time is spent gazing at the scrap pile and then I find the parts, pieces of discarded metal filed according to shape in a rusting library of scrap. Then the drama of the process begins. The workshop becomes full of the sound of cutting, grinding and welding. Sparks, molten metal in flux as it all transforms to become some other form, another life.

I am as interested in the spaces I leave as the parts I put in. To me this is positive space, a place for the imagination to fill in the muscle and mass and feel the essence of the creature.

I am fascinated by our connection and disconnection to the natural world. We are so closely related to other mammals and if we let ourselves feel that then so many of life's questions are more easily answered.

Flux is a collection of sculpture created over the last two years. The shared love of Haiku, the joy and awe of the natural world, the horror of some of our actions, and the playful nature of being human.'

**Helen Denerly**



# THIS LIVING HAND

**Artist:** Calum Colvin

**WAR MEMORIAL GALLERY** 11.00-17.00

26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN

FREE

In this time of the emergence of AI and digitally created photographic imagery into the mainstream, Calum Colvin's collection reflects on mortality, creativity, and the essential role of the hand in artistic creation. The title, borrowed from an eight-line fragment penned by Keats during his final years in 1819, encapsulates the theme of the exhibition, exploring the significance of human touch and creative agency in art and photography amidst the digital age.

A Glasgow-born artist, Calum Colvin is a Professor of Fine Art Photography at the University of Dundee. Internationally renowned for his distinctive style of 'constructed photography,' Colvin's artworks are held in prestigious collections worldwide, including the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Art in Houston, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, where he resides. Blending sculpture and photography, Colvin's works are assembled tableaux of objects, meticulously painted and photographed, offering a unique perspective on the intersection of art, technology, and human expression.





Image: Lucian Perkins

# HARD ART

**Artist:** Photography: Lucian Perkins, Text: Alec MacKaye

**BASEMENT GALLERIES** 11.00-17.00

**26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN**

**FREE**

*HARD ART DC 1979*, a traveling exhibition and book, brings alive the birth of the Washington, DC punk scene and its lasting impact on music and culture worldwide. Featuring photographs by Lucian Perkins, these photos offer a singular, close-up view of a thriving, underground scene in obscure art co-ops and performance spaces of the nation's capital when a soon-to-erupt punk scene took hold with the Bad Brains, Trenchmouth, Teen Idles, the Untouchables, and the Slickee Boys, among others, at the forefront. Perkins, later a Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist for *The Washington Post*, was then a 26-year-old intern who photographed four shows over this pivotal five-month period. Alec MacKaye, then 14, attended most of the shows and appears in Perkins' photographs. His narrative and Perkins' photographs in *HARD ART DC 1979* offer an intimate exploration of 'the time before the time' that punk rock found firm footing in the U.S. The exhibition is curated by Lely Constantinople and Jayme McLellan.

# THE MEDIUM OF MADNESS

**Artist:** Robert McDowell

**LAB GALLERY, SUMMERHALL** 11.00-17.00

**26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN**

**FREE**

Albeit mostly beyond words, art is oxymoronic, a paradox to any who assume it is a medium of discourse like spoken language. Artists ask first 'what would it feel like to make that just like that, or instead, like this?', not what most viewers ask: 'what is the message?' The latter question artists ask of other artists' work.

Almost never said is: 'Art's prime purpose is to show that insanity can be deployed in healthy, constructive, productive ways, and, oddly often, is beautiful; if only more people could see their non-transgressive obsessions or self-doubts about what seems a pointless waste, but which can be redeemed when given an artist's mindset'.

As Japanese artist Kukiko Mitsui says, 'In all of it [art], apart from technical skills, the only virtues remaining are ethics like in music or dance, nothing else!' When conceptual art is merely highly efficient symbolism, it may be no better than good design. The subjective, emotional and sentimental are perennially important.

Works shown here are some of Robert's paintings, 1968-98, from exhibitions in museums, galleries and at festivals in Belfast, London, Hamburg, Kassel and Dubrovnik.



# RESTORATION

**Artist:** Jo Coates

LAB GALLERY 11.00-17.00

26 JUL-20 SEP: TUE-SUN

FREE

Bringing a damaged or dirty painting back to life is a real privilege. There are many different processes involved depending on the condition of the artwork, from relining to retouching, from using heavy irons and hammers to tiny delicate paintbrushes. It is so satisfying to make holes and tears in the canvas disappear, but the cleaning of the paint layer is usually the most exciting part as the years of old discoloured varnish, soot and dirt are removed to reveal the original colours and hidden details that the artist intended to be seen. On display, we have examples of what can be achieved with patience and attention to the dangers of creating any further damage, mindful of the artists' individual techniques. Alongside actual and photographic examples, we have some of her tools and materials.

Jo works as a picture restorer from a studio in Summerhall. She has a degree in Fine Arts from St Andrews University and studied restoration in Florence, Italy, training as an apprentice there for three years. She worked in Dublin for several years, at the Scottish Gallery in Edinburgh and is now freelance.



Sir Walter Scott

# PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS



## The Odyssey

Artist: John Kindness

Venue: Main Hall Ceiling

John Kindness presents a series of works based on Homer's epic – 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. Summerhall exhibits John Kindness's work on the panelled ceiling of the Main Hall, which is accessible during Fringe to those seeing a show and upon request at other times of the year.



## Feminine Futures

Curated by Adrian Sina

Venue: Long Corridor

The 'Feminine Futures' exhibition explores 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. In the highly competitive landscape of dance schools, public or 'underground' recitals, they had to forge their identity through the power of the image or face oblivion. The aspiration towards originality, autonomy and freedom gives a particular historical character to these works, embodying an inexhaustible source for future creativity.



## End of Pier Show

Artist: Charlie Stiven

Venue: Main Hall landing

A reflection on Brexit & its effects.....





# PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

## Mena Bazaar 2017

Axial Margins – Urdu Park  
Venue: Long Corridor



Meena Bazaar is a collaborative work by nine artists (Bina, Parveen, Rabina, Reshma, Ritu, Sabina, Sabrun, Shehzadi, Sunita) – homeless women living with their children in a government-run night shelter in Old Delhi. The work depicts a vibrant local market, in existence since Mughal times.

## Wall Drawing No. 1

Artist: Roger Elliot  
Venue: In Vitro Corridor



Wall Drawing No.1 explores the perception of the expressive potential of rational structures. It is not to be stood in front of, but rather moved around, from right to left and then back again and by viewing the drawing from different angles, we perceive a three-dimensional movement created by the geometric arrangement, resembling the isometric intersection of a cube.

## The Bone Library

Artist: Jenni Fagan  
Venue: Main Hall Corridor



Jenni Fagan was the Gavin Wallace Fellowship writer in residence at Summerhall from February 2019 to February 2020. During the fellowship, she worked on a new book of poetry, The Bone Library, and a new novel, Luckenbooth. She also wrote a series of texts for the walls of the building and engraved texts onto bones.

## Protest Mask Project

Artist: Jane Frere  
Venue: Anatomy Theatre Corridor



The CAT – standing for Creative, Aesthetic Transgression – came first as a social media experiment for the selfie generation. The CAT leapt onto the wall first in protest of gentrification, then took on issues such as appalling breaches of human rights in Bahrain and Gaza; closer-to-home topics include Scottish independence and Brexit.



## Will Knight

Summerhall  
Venue: War Memorial Corridor

Will Knight's background in Architecture has instilled in him the importance of people and place, and the significance that one's environment has on their understanding of community and creativity. In 2018, Will Knight's Drawing at the Royal Scottish Academy Open Show was awarded 'The Summerhall Award', giving him the opportunity to exhibit work at the Edinburgh arts venue. The Summerhall drawings demonstrate an honest, observant and perceptive approach to this unique historic site, exhibited and recorded through carefully constructed scale drawings with pen, atmospherically inhabited with watercolour.



## Belarusian Political Prisoners

Voices Squeezing Through the Bars  
Venue: Old Lab Corridor

We display two installations which highlight the situation of political prisoners in Belarus. Massive human rights oppression followed the rigged presidential election in 2020 and thousands of peaceful protestors have been arrested. The names of 1,500 of those political prisoners are displayed in the courtyard, and the work of one artist who is serving 3 years of house arrest is displayed on a corridor wall. The artist's supposed 'crime', which led to her sentence, was merely that they displayed a flag. The flag displayed is the same as the one flying over Summerhall now.



## Nihad Al Turk

Venue: Old Lab Corridor

Many of Nihad Al Turk's deeply psychological compositions, informed by readings in literature and philosophy, can be read as allegorical self-portraits.

Central to his work are the thematic explorations of man's endurance amidst the power struggles of good and evil – an existentialist question that has engrossed the artist for some time.

Nihad Al Turk was born in Aleppo, Syria, in 1972. A self-taught artist, he began drawing at a young age and pursued painting in his adolescence before launching his artistic career in Syria in the late 1990s.



## Demarco European Art Foundation and Demarco Archive

Richard Demarco

### SUMMERHALL – BY APPOINTMENT

As Richard Demarco enters his 95th year we celebrate his contribution to the Edinburgh Festivals and The Demarco European Art Foundation archive, which is housed within Summerhall. The archive stands as a testament to the profound legacy of one of Scotland's most influential cultural figures.

This archive preserves the invaluable contributions of Richard Demarco to the realms of art, theatre, and cultural diplomacy. Spanning decades of artistic endeavour, the archive offers a rich tapestry of documentation, including photographs, correspondence, and ephemera, chronicling Demarco's collaborations with renowned artists from around the world.

From groundbreaking exhibitions to daring theatrical productions, Demarco's visionary spirit and unwavering commitment to fostering cross-cultural dialogue are palpable throughout the archive, serving as both a source of inspiration and a treasure trove for scholars, artists, and enthusiasts alike.



# GEORGE WYLLIE

THE WYLLIEUM, OCEAN TERMINAL GREENOCK 12.00-17.00

This Fringe, Summerhall celebrates the late George Wyllie and the launch of The Wyllieum, the new gallery in the heart of Greenock, dedicated to the life and work of the revered artist.

Born in Glasgow in 1921, Wyllie spent the majority of his working life in Gourrock. He served in the Royal Navy from 1942 to 1946 and drew on this experience to inform his artistic practice.

Emerging onto the art scene in the early 1980s, Wyllie's career trajectory was influenced by his connections with notable artists such as Joseph Beuys and George Rickey, as well as support from luminaries in the art world like Barbara Grigor and Richard Demarco. Renowned for his playful yet thought-provoking outdoor installations, Wyllie's work, including the iconic 'Straw Locomotive' and 'Paper Boat', reflected his deep reflections on societal issues such as consumerism and environmentalism. He passed away in 2012, leaving behind a legacy of art that continues to captivate and inspire audiences worldwide.

Around Summerhall are posters celebrating George's work and the Wyllieum's opening.

[wyllieum.com](http://wyllieum.com)



VISUAL ARTS

## PERFORMANCE

ROUNDTABOUT

LATE-NIGHT

2024 invites you to revisit the world as an adolescent. A time when, no matter what tribe you found yourself a part of or the amount of effort it took to earn those stripes, you were constantly questioning whether it was the right fit for you, more than willing to wipe the slate clean and start again at a moment's notice.

It isn't an invitation to be nostalgic; this collection of work feels much more pragmatic than that. It actively encourages you to employ the mindset of what you were in adolescence – kinetic energy that said nothing was true and everything was possible.

With voices from faraway places such as Brazil, Palestine, Singapore, Taiwan, Mexico, Vietnam, Chile, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, and South Africa, to stories devised around heartbreak, treadmills, dogs, sport, sperm donation, and maternal ambivalence, 2024 consists of lessons relearned using skills unavailable to us during adolescence, presenting a fascinating array of new ideas within a global community of thinkers and makers.

**Tom Forster**  
Producer and Programmer

## 1984

withintheatre



Image: Ole Hoff

1984 is a compelling physical theatre adaptation by Slavic actors, marking the 40th anniversary of Orwell's narrative. With inspiration from Nick Hern's play, it delves into themes of surveillance and control, offering a haunting and immersive experience that challenges perceptions of truth and reality. Against the backdrop of contemporary Russia and Belarus, where Orwell's novel remains banned, the performance takes on added significance, illuminating the enduring relevance of its cautionary themes. The play serves as a stark reminder of the dangers of unchecked power and the importance of preserving truth and freedom in society.

**Cast Members:** Anastasia Aush, Sofia Barysevich, Ivan Ivashkin, Igor Laskji, Nikolay Mulakov, Faiaz Valiullin

OLD LAB 11:40-12:40  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11  
£17 / £14.50 16+

## 1 IN A CHAMELEON

Narie Foster



Image: Matthew Priestley

How do we uncover our true colours in a world full of reasons to hide? A life-affirming, thought-provoking solo show about attempting to fit in everywhere yet belonging nowhere, from engineer, entrepreneur (Forbes 30 Under 30) and award-winning New York storyteller Narie Foster in her EdFringe debut.

From corporate business to funny business, Thai-Canadian Foster takes us on a raw, honest and oftentimes hilarious exploration of freedom and self-acceptance, spanning stand-up and physical comedy, poignant storytelling, tolerable whiffs of motivational speech and the unconventional use of hula hoops.

**Cast Members:** Narie Foster

*"An intelligent soul. Rich imagery and poetic flow. Nuanced theatricality"* Theatre Travels

RED LECTURE THEATRE 13:00-14:00  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11  
£17 / £14.50 16+

## 300 PAINTINGS

Sam Kissajukian



Image: Jasmine Rule

Winner of eight Australian Fringe Festival awards. Is art a joke? Sydney artist & comedian Sam Kissajukian examines 300 paintings created during a five-month-long manic Bipolar episode. An epic story exploring the artistic process, mental health and its ties to creativity.

**Cast Members:** Sam Kissajukian

*"A uniquely human experience"* ★★★★★ The List, 2024

*"An artistic statement of unlimited creative potential"* ★★★★★ Artshub, 2023

*"A brilliant and hilarious mind"* ★★★★★ FringeFeed 2024

*"The show deserves to be lauded far and wide. It's like nothing I've seen before and I'd pay to see it again."* ★★★★★ Glam Adelaide, 2023

TECHCUBE ZERO 10:55-11:55  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
£17 / £14.50 16+

ADAM RICHES:  
JIMMY

Tigco



Image: Matt Stronge

In 1974, Jimmy Connors was the greatest tennis player on Earth.

In 1991, he's getting annihilated at the US Open by his arch-nemesis' little brother.

What happened next was one of the greatest comebacks in the history of sport, when Jimmy, fuelled by the ghosts of his turbulent past, winds back the clock to remind the world what happens when you rattle the cage of a geriatric tiger, one last time.

Edinburgh Comedy Award-winner Adam Riches makes his Summerhall debut with this fast-paced, funny and intensely physical ride, deep inside the mind of an ageing, swaggering alpha.

**Cast Members:** Adam Riches

*"There's no-one else quite like him"* ★★★★★ The Independent

TECHCUBE ZERO 21:30-22:30  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
£17 / £14.50 16+

# ANATOMY FOR ACCOUNTANTS

Java Dance Theatre & Creative New Zealand



Image: Carlo Silva

A high-risk, high-return dance show. Witness every organ, nerve and muscle in the human body vibrating. Outrageous dancing, profit, loss, live music and the deconstruction of power at a price.

The economy meets the human body in a tour-de-force danced and spoken by 42 year old choreographer Sacha Copland with music played live by Chief Financial Officer Tristan Carter.

Sacha will price her assets, her liabilities and every aspect of her life.

This is a show for lovers of the human body and accountants.

**Cast Members:** Sacha Copland, Tristan Carter

*"Astonishing"* Audience Member

*"Visceral, bold, deep, stunning"* Audience Member

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 16:30-17:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

# ARCADE

DARKFIELD

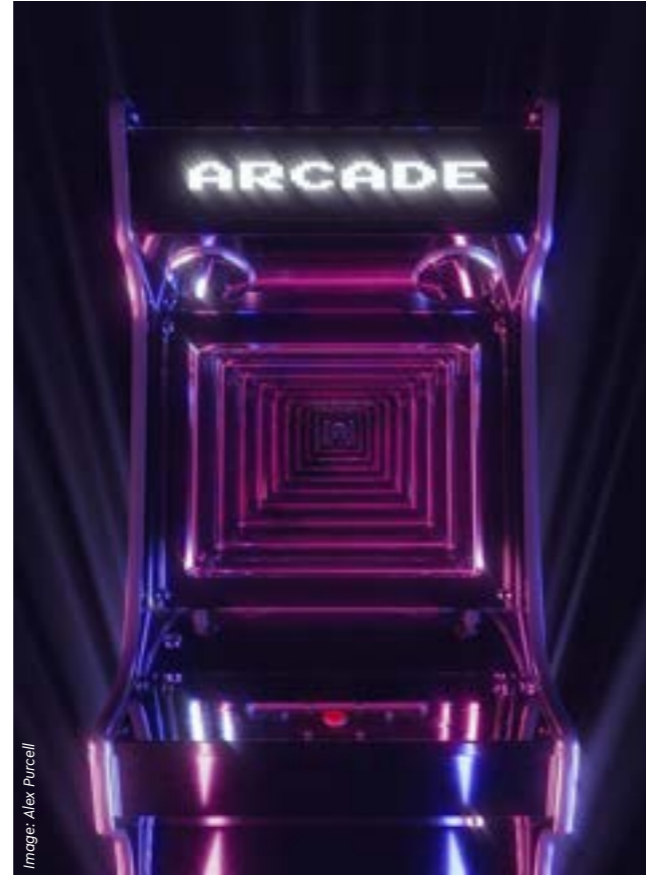


Image: Alex Purcell

ARCADE is the latest immersive audio experience from DARKFIELD. Using the nostalgic aesthetic of 1980's video games, ARCADE's interactive narrative explores the evolving relationship between players and avatars. Over 30 minutes in a completely dark shipping container, this choose-your-own-path experience will fully immerse the players using 360 degree binaural sound, sensory effects and a bespoke DARKFIELD ARCADE machine for each player. Players will be asked existential questions about free will and consciousness in a world where some may win and some may lose...

*"ARCADE awaits, promising to transport you to the future and spark captivating conversations...this immersive adventure invites you to embrace the unexpected and walk away questioning your own reality"* Left Lion, Nottingham

THE TERRACE MULTIPLE TIMES AVAILABLE

JUL 31 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£13 / £11 16+

# BARK BARK

Buzzcut



Image: Aaron Hammond Duncan and Dowon Jung

A dog with a bird-killing problem. Two people stitching their relationship together. A house filled with taxidermy animals. When a young couple responds to a dog-sitting advert expecting a free holiday, they stumble into an unexpected tradition. Using cameras, puppets, and diorama sets, five performers weave together a live animation told from the perspective of a dog.

A delicate, eerie, and amusing look at three lives, human and non-human, from emerging live-cinema company Buzzcut (Evening Standard Top Pick company VAULT Festival 2023).

*"Utterly spellbinding"* Isis Magazine

*"Innovative and mesmerising"* Daily Info

*"Gorgeously performed by both actors and technology"* Binge Fringe (For Previous Work)

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 12:00-13:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

# BIRDWORLD - NURTURE

BirdWorld

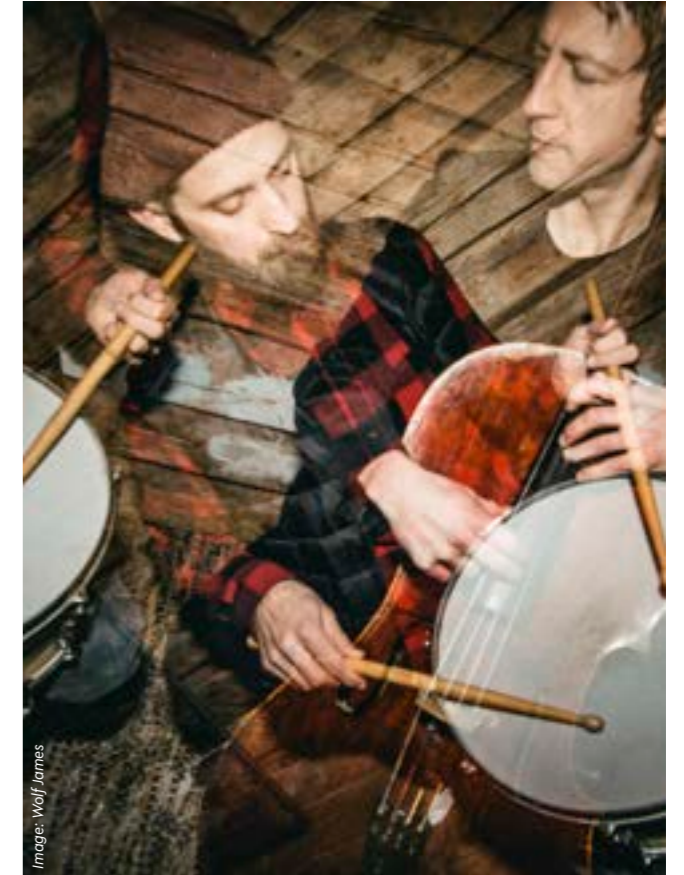


Image: Wolf James

*BirdWorld* attend their inaugural Fringe run on the eve of releasing 'Nurture' on Dugnad Records (Norway). With a set-up of cello, drums, kalimbas and percussion spanning alternative, electronic, Afro-Cuban and contemporary classical music, their field recordings form an integral part of their music with an interplay between industrial and natural soundscapes. Highlights include a Union Chapel concert filmed and recorded by NTS Radio, an electronic film score commissioned by London Contemporary Orchestra and performing at LSO St Luke's *Open Ear* series recorded by BBC Radio 3. *Nurture* is a significant leap into a new intimate and lyrical musical realm.

**Cast Members:** Gregor Riddell – cello, bass, electronics  
Adam Teixeira – drums, percussion

*"Beautiful music!"* Jazznytt, Audun Vinger

TECHCUBE ZERO 15:35-16:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£15 16+

## B.L.I.P.S.

5 Feet Under & Love is the Drug



Image: Peter Tsimop

A wild ride of real-life circus psychosis, acrobatic madness, hula hoop hope and radical resilience. A peek through the beautiful lens of bat shit crazy.

Ever thought you could control the light switch? Or believed you were Jesus incarnate? Margot Mansfield has, and this is her story. At 19 she began experiencing Brief Limited Intermittent Psychotic Symptoms.

Told through beautiful imagery, home videos and circus virtuosity, *B.L.I.P.S.* is a touching retelling of the chaos of psychosis.

Co-written by Margot Mansfield, directed and co-written by acclaimed circus artist Jess Love.

**Cast Members:** Margot Mansfield

“★★★★★” *Upside Adelaide*

OLD LAB 10:00-11:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

## BLUBBER

Katie Greenall



Image: Claudia Legge

'In the beginning, Katie and Body were best friends. In the beginning, Katie and Body were infinite with possibilities...'

Katie's taken up synchronised swimming. She's buoyant and beautiful, but it's a lot harder than they thought. When the promise of campy fun and liberation fails to materialise, Katie feels further from her body than ever before.

Join Katie and Body on their quest traversing forgiveness, beauty and whales as they ask: what does care look like for a fat body?

Brand-new work from award-winning artist Katie Greenall produced by The Hale.

**Cast Members:** Katie Greenall

TECHCUBE ZERO 12:25-13:25

AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## THE BOOKBINDER

Trick of the Light Theatre



Image: Philip Merry - oxyloft photography

Trick of the Light's award-winning dark fairytale returns to Fringe to celebrate its 10th anniversary with a limited season in an atmospheric bookshop. *The Bookbinder* weaves shadowplay, paper art, puppetry, and music in an inventive one-man performance for adults and children 8+. Winner of Best of the Fringe (NZ Fringe), International Excellence Award (Sydney Fringe), and the Children's Theatre Award (Fringe World, Perth).

**Cast Members:** Ralph McCubbin Howell

“A real delight” *The Guardian*

“A beautiful, articulate and inventive show

that is as engaging as it is mysterious” *AllEdinburghTheatre*

TILLS BOOKSHOP 19:00-20:00 (9th, 16th & 23rd only) 20:30-21:30 (all dates)

AUG 8-9-16-23

£17 / £14.50 8+

## THE BOOKIES

KB Productions



Image: Cavan Images

Two Edinburgh bookies feel the pressure of signing customers up for online betting accounts, signing their own jobs away in the process. They come up with a plan to fight back. But a mountaineer from Mount Everest gets in their way. Writing duo Mikey Burnett and Joe McCann have written a piece reminiscent of Gregory Burke's *Gagarin Way*. *The Bookies* is a warts and all examination of the contemporary betting industry in the UK. Tackling the damage it causes, the toll it takes on those who work in the business and those who gamble, all told through the eyes of a veteran bookmaker and his young black cashier.

“A timely and exciting new piece of theatre”

★★★★ *The Wee Review*

“Witty & bold” ★★★★★ *The Scotsman*

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 19:35-20:50

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF DIFFERENCE

Das Clarks (Mr and Mrs Clark Ltd)



Image: Kirsten McTernan

Being different is a complicated business. It can be exciting, distressing, temporary, permanent, liberating, dangerous, painful, a cause for celebration. It's about bodies and language, memories and labels, perceptions and assumptions, acceptance and resistance. Join DAR, a queer, neurodivergent, curious, middle-aged Talking Heads fanatic, to consider some tricky questions around the subjects of difference, identity, positioning, labelling and belonging.

*A Brief History of Difference* is an interactive theatre piece rooted in conversation, knowledge sharing, questioning, personal narrative and performance.

Directed by Jo Fong. Supported by Arts Council of Wales/ Wales Arts International through the Wales in Edinburgh Fund.

**Writer & Performer:** DAR Rogers

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 16:15-17:15  
AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25  
£17 / £14.50 14+

## CATAFALQUE

Scissor Kick



Image: Andy Catlin

Fern doesn't get invited to dinner parties anymore. They used to love her tales of the macabre. But now? The mask is slipping.

*Catafalque* is a one woman eulogy to death through the lens of a civil celebrant. How do we grieve the ungrievable? How do you speak of death when no-one wants to look? A show about love, loss and a lifetime of secrets. Join Fern as she navigates the complexities of a grieving family and learns how to tell the truth when it repels even the bravest of us.

**Written by:** Amy Conway **Directed by:** Beth Morton

Praise for previous work:

**"Demonstrates such an intensely rich sense of care in creation"**

★★★★★ *Corr Blimey*

**"Boasts such a wealth of talent"** ★★★★★ *The Scotsman*

**TECHCUBE ZERO** 12:25-13:25  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11  
£17 / £15 16+

## BURNOUT PARADISE

Pony Cam & Parrot Ox

Four performers mount four treadmills. What begins as a simple wager between performer and audience becomes a desperate attempt to complete a series of escalating tasks that confront the limitations of the performer's bodies, spirits and minds.

This is not an endurance feat. Nor is it performance art. It is an unraveling realisation that the system we participate in is not designed for us.

A delusional and physical celebration of our collective struggle to establish clear boundaries in our lives.

**Cast Members:** Claire Bird, William Strom, Laura Aldous, Dominic Weintraub & Hugo Williams



Image: Cameron Grant

**MAIN HALL** 12:05-13:05  
AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
£17 / £14.50 12+

**"It's sheer bedlam in the most magnificent way, with the very nature of the show meaning the impending disaster trail will unravel wildly differently every night"** ★★★★★ *Time Out*

**"An admin apocalypse is upon the Pony Cam crew as they tackle arts funding in this unhinged and unmissable Fringe show. If watching an arts grant application's arcane and inscrutable complexities in real-time – complete with the attached Excel budget spreadsheet – isn't your idea of a gripping thriller, think again!"** ★★★★★ *SARussellWords*

# THE CEREMONY

Ben Volchok



Image: Kate Cameron

Pick of the Week at Adelaide Fringe Festival, 2024.

Welcome. Welcome to the ceremony. You're welcome. Thank you. Exploring ritual and tradition in the modern world, *The Ceremony* is experimental and interactive – part sermon, part group therapy, part comedy show (not a cult). Shaped entirely with the audience, the show is completely different every night. What's going on? Where are we? Who are we? Does this have a meaning? What does meaning mean? Hmm. Join me. And let *The Ceremony* begin...

**Cast Members:** Ben Volchok

*"Hilarious, moving, provocative ... extraordinary" ★★★★★* The List

*"Unique, intellectually spiky, spurious, definitely silly!"*  
Disrupting Stages

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 21:45-22:45

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

# THE CHAOS THAT HAS BEEN AND WILL NO DOUBT RETURN

Chalk Line Theatre



Image: Luce Newman-Williams

'If this town gave out a collective breath of exhaustion, buildings would shake across the whole of England.'

Two best mates. One HUGE party. Luton pinned by austerity. An evening of noughties bangers and shots of shitty gin mixed with the chaos of violence. A night to remember!

Winners of the 2022 Untapped Award, Chalk Line presents *The Chaos That Has Been and Will No Doubt Return*. Packed with swagger, it hurls at a rapid pace with linguistic vigour and unfolds in real time. It's a tapestry of violence and joy parading through Luton.

*"This is theatre birthed out of exasperation" ★★★★★*

(Time Out, for Blanket Ban).

*"Makes theatre seem essential when it so often doesn't"*

(Lyn Gardner – Stage Door, for Blanket Ban)

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 19:40-20:45

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

# COSMOS

Ashtar Muallem

Ashtar, a Jerusalemite artist, humorously explores her life and spirituality, balancing Palestine and France. Inspired by her story, she seeks divine connection. Through yoga, meditation, tarot, and hypnosis, she invites us on ceremony where poetry blends with humor.

Ashtar practices yoga, and meditation, and explores tarot reading on the internet. Her elastic body mirrors her dual life, between two countries, cultures, and languages, between solitude and togetherness. Sarcastically, she presents her beliefs. Over a ceremony, poetry blends with humor and subjectivity merges with the universal, embarking on a journey of balance, contradictions, and the beauty of interconnectedness.

**Director:** Clément Dazin

**With and by:** Ashtar Muallem

**Sound design:** Gregory Adoir

**Sound manager on tour:** Matthieu Ferrasson

**Light and stage design:** Tony Guérin

**Distribution:** Victor Leclère

**Distribution, touring and administration:**

La Magnanerie France



Image: Christophe Raynaud de Lage

**MAIN HALL** 21:15-22:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 12+



## CHICKEN

SUNDAY'S CHILD



Image: Eva O'Conner

Don Murphy is a proud Irish man, a hopeless ketamine addict and one of his generation's greatest actors. He also happens to be a chicken. Across one fateful night, the feathered Oscar winner shares his star-studded story with an intimate audience – from getting his big break, to his first bird on bird sexual experience, to navigating life in the celebrity spotlight. But along the way Don will be confronted with some harsh truths about himself, chicken kind and humankind.

Sell out run at the Edinburgh Fringe 2023. Winner of Filipa Bragança award for best female identifying/non-binary solo performer at the Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

**Cast Members:** Eva O'Conner

*"This show where a woman who plays a chicken who thinks he's an Irishman is unlike anything you've ever seen."* Playbill

FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM 16:15-17:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 16+

## DELUGE

Andrea Maciel & Gabriela Flarys



Image: Julia Testa

In the wake of a relationship, a woman attempts to contain the overflow of her thoughts. But something's blocked, there are leaks to fix in her house, the holes just keep getting bigger and the water is rising. A captivating and comedic piece of magical realism about the things we lose and how we grieve them. Blending true stories with fiction, movement, text, comedy and live music. Based on interviews with people wondering: 'who am I in the wake of a loss?'. Blurring imagination with reality by invoking a surreal, tender and humorous dreamscape.

**Cast Members:** Gabriela Flarys

*"Indefinable, wise, funny and charming."*

*"Catch her while you can" ★★★★★ Ed Fringe Review (on There She Is)*

*"A truly exceptional talent" ★★★★★ The Edit (on There She Is)*

TECHCUBE ZERO 18:15-19:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£15 / £13 12+

*"Nova Duh's burlesque performance weaves its way between the audience and is well-adapted to the space. Here g-strings, striptease and ass struts become about bodily freedom and the right to express oneself and one's sexual identity"* POV International

*"A success... The lighting and ambience cleverly changed according to the performer's mood, while the words were well complemented by Josh Herring's music"* Copenhagen Post

## THE DISAPPEARED

Down the Rabbit Hole Theatre

A wild, fun and sexy burlesque cabaret that tells the true story of a queer LatinX voice robbed of their freedom and forced into exile during a government coup in South America. Experience firsthand a final night of joy and freedom of expression before the Chilean government regime change, challenges the country's LGBTQIA+ community and robs them of their personal freedom and identity. Witness the last cry of hope from an oppressed community before joining the ranks of those that have been disappeared.

**Cast Members:** Nova Duh, Josh Herring

THE DISSECTION ROOM 13:45-14:55

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 18+

## DIVINE INVENTION

Tangram Theatre Company /  
Sergio Blanco / Daniel Goldman

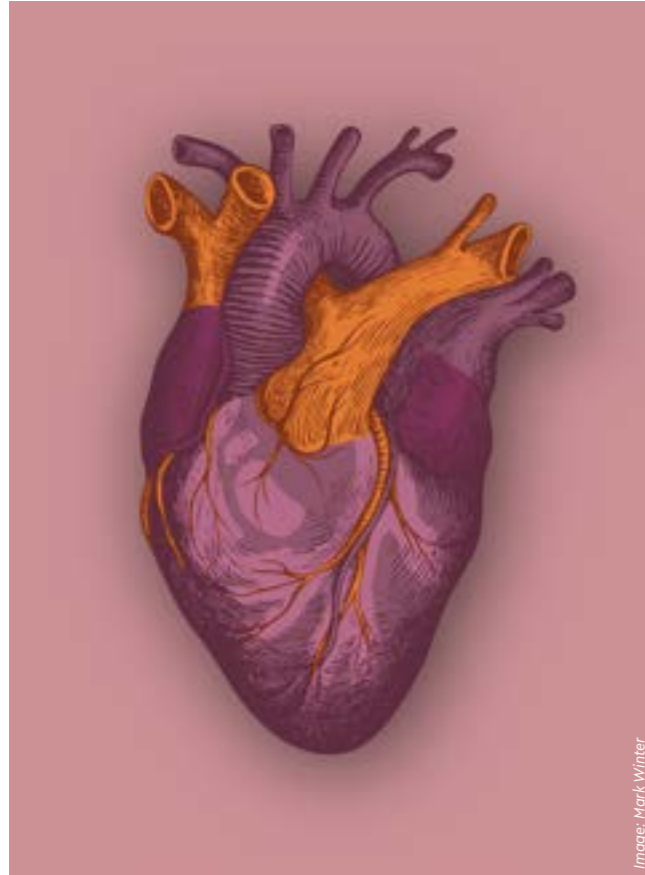


Image: Mark Winter

Part performance lecture, part auto-fictional gay memoir, discover this free-wheeling metatheatrical exploration of love through history, art, literature, music, and science by internationally-acclaimed Franco-Uruguayan playwright Sergio Blanco (Thebes Land). Sound clever? It is! Interweaving Sergio's first experiences of love with his boxing instructor, the story of Francis Bacon's doomed romance with George Dyer, and an eye-opening journey through the history of love, come enjoy this life-affirming new work from one of international theatre's most unique voices. Performed by multi-award-winning director, Daniel Goldman, don't miss this new 'collaboration to savour' by 'two masters of the form' (Lyn Gardner).

**Cast Members:** Daniel Goldman

*"A masterclass of mind over meta"* *The Guardian*  
(on *When You Pass over My Tomb*)

RED LECTURE THEATRE 14:30-15:35

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£14 / £11.50 14+

## FAILURE PROJECT

Yolanda Mercy



Image: Yolanda Mercy

A 'comedy drama'... Or 'dramedy' about Ade. Ade is a successful writer, or so it seems. She has everything she has ever wanted; her career is flying, she's (kinda) moved out of her mum's house, her situation isn't as complicated as she expected. Life is perfect?! But things don't always go how you plan, and Ade is about to find that out. The Failure Project explores what it means to 'fail' and if whether it is possible to recover.

Featured on the "artist to watch list" by the British Council. Summerhall Meadows Award Winner 2024.

**Cast Members:** Yolanda Mercy

*"Yolanda Mercy is one to watch"* ★★★★★ West End Wilma

*"Enormously engaging"* Lyn Gardner

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 13:30-14:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

# FAMEHUNGRY

Louise Orwin

*FAMEHUNGRY* is a helter-skelter nose-dive into the TikTok universe and the attention economy, asking what it means to be an artist now. Fusing performance art and very real and very live TikTok Experiences, join award-winning performance artist Louise Orwin as she cosplays as a TikToker in a real-life experiment hunting for fame and fortune.

Made in collaboration with an actual Famous TikToker, The Almighty Algorithm, and a host of TikTok-Famous Faces, *FAMEHUNGRY* asks what the future looks like if all roads lead to TikTok.

*"Like an episode of Whose Line Is It Anyway devised by Marina Abramovic"* *The Guardian* (previous work)

**Written, conceived and performed by:** Louise Orwin  
**Live Scoring:** AJ Turner or Lennie  
**Performer / TikTok Star:** Jaxon Valentine

MAIN HALL 16:15-17:25

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

Image: Frederick Wilkinson

*"Louise guides us through the strange world of TikTok and social media in real time. Her fascinating explorations offer a neat (and sometimes messy) balance between the cerebral and the visceral. This timely performance tackles important questions on artistry, technology, and generational difference."* Robin Deacon, Artistic Director, SPILL Festival

*"FAMEHUNGRY is an incredible watch - uncomfortable, uncanny, whilst also being incredibly funny. The audience become the voyeurs of Louise's obsessive online research, before she then turns the tables on us to consider our own online engagement and footprint."* Ellie Simpson, Pleasance

## FAN/GIRL

Bryony Byrne



Image: Edward Moore

Sparked by a conversation with a childhood friend that unearthed a long-forgotten obsession with football, Bryony wondered why all the girls she knew stopped playing football in their teens.

It's 1998: Geri Halliwell is leaving the Spice Girls, David Beckham is wearing a sarong, and somewhere in England a 10-year-old Bryony is pretending to be Eric Cantona. An absurd and tongue-in-cheek ride through British adolescence set against a backdrop of 90s football and pop. Directed by Fringe First-winner Ben Target, and packed to the brim with playful audience interaction, 90s bangers, clown comedy and drag.

**Cast Members:** Bryony Byrne

*"A playful, surprising and very timely show"* British Comedy Guide

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 12:10-13:10  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £17 / £14.50 14+

## FORKED

Jo Tan



Image: Jo Tan

Jeanette Peh — a highly-westernised Singaporean junior college valedictorian — decides to abandon law school to follow her dreams of studying acting in London, where she will hopefully find her accidental soulmate.

On arrival however, she is dismayed to find that her teacher and classmates label her as just one of the Asian students. Monsieur Laroche, her acting teacher, wants her to perform honestly by speaking in her native language. There's just one problem: Jeanette is beginning to realise she doesn't know what her native language is. In fact, she doesn't really know who she is at all.

Winner of Best Actress and Best Lighting – Straits Times' Life Theatre Awards 2020 (Singapore)

**Cast Members:** Jo Tan

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 17:45-18:55  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11  
 £17 / £14.50 16+

# HALF MAN || HALF BULL

Wright&Grainger with Oliver Tilney & Molly Morris

## PART ONE: THESEUS

A lad heads off to kill a monster.  
 To prove himself.  
 To make history.

A story about winning and what we lose on the way.

An adrenaline-fuelled retelling of THESEUS & THE MINOTAUR.

**THE DISSECTION ROOM** 18:40-19:30  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £17 / £15 12+

## PART TWO: DAEDALUS

A boy falls out of the sky.  
 His dad built wings.  
 To escape.

A story about inventing a way out, and what happens when we fall.

A heart-rending retelling of DAEDALUS & ICARUS.

**THE DISSECTION ROOM** 19:50-20:40  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £17 / £15 12+

HALF MAN || HALF BULL is an epic theatrical live album told in two halves, through soaring live music and searing spoken word. From the internationally award-winning Wright&Grainger (THE GODS THE GODS THE GODS, ORPHEUS, HELIOS), Oliver Tilney and Olivier Award-winning Producer Molly Morris.

Please note seated and standing will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

*"This company truly are the best at storytelling"*  
 ★★★★★ ThreeWeeks

*"Euphoric, incredibly powerful"*  
 The Stage on THE GODS THE GODS THE GODS



# GAMBLE

Hannah Walker & Co.



Image: Christa Halka

*Gamble* is a glittering, glamorous peek into the spectacular world of online gambling. A bittersweet multimedia show about addiction and its effect on families, friends and communities.

There's a girl who used to think gambling was all about big wins at the village monthly bingo. A decade later, the gambling industry is online and BIGGER than ever! Without realising it, it's made its way into the girl's home, her relationship, her joint account.

*"A shame-smashing delight of hilarity, raw emotion and an important marker of change"* ★★★★★ *The Independent*

*"Daring, challenging, thought provoking"* *Clean Slate, Financial Wellbeing Services*

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 16:30-17:25  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £17 / £14.50 14+

# HEARTBREAK HOTEL

EBKM



Image: Rebecca McMillan

This one's for the young hearts, the old hearts, and the broken hearts.

Story, science and a synth combine in an exhilarating performance that examines what happens in our bodies when we're bereft. From acclaimed New Zealand company EBKM (*Yes Yes Yes*), *Heartbreak Hotel* tracks a woman's broken heart in a wrenching and relatable journey that's studded with classic break-up songs and razor-sharp observations on the physiology of love.

**Cast Members:** Karin McCracken, Simon Leary.  
**Director:** Eleanor Bishop

*"Poignant, funny - and fantastic. At the heart of the show are the compelling performances of Leary and McCracken; hilarious, heart-warming and moving - often all at once"* *Theatreview NZ*

OLD LAB 16:10-17:25  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £17 / £14.50 14+

# A HISTORY OF FORTUNE COOKIES

Sean Wai Keung

Join performance maker and foodie Sean Wai Keung as he explores fortune cookies, as well as his own mixed-race identity. Write your own fortunes as he bakes cookies live while exploring the history of this most enigmatic of after-meal snacks. An intimate performance for ten people maximum, you will have the opportunity to write fortunes for yourself or for someone else.

Autopsy Award Winner 2024

**Cast Members:** Sean Wai Keung

FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM 12:15-12:45 & 12:50-13:20  
 AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26  
 £12 / £10 16+



Image: Brian Hartley

## HEAT ON REPEAT

Summerhall Cinema



Image: Michael Mann

Have you seen *Heat*?

Constantly judged by your more esteemed colleagues and friends for not watching a movie from 1995 at their convenience? Don't know when you'll next be able to commit to watching three hours of movie to silence them forever?

With *Heat on Repeat*, drop in whenever you want and just get it done. Watch it once, three times, or three minutes at a random interval. Be the cool one at the dinner party for a change.

You're welcome.

All proceeds go to the brand new Summerhall Arts charity.

#28 on "The 100 Greatest Movies of the '90's" *Rolling Stone*  
 #22 on "The Greatest Crime Films of All Time" *The Guardian*

RED LECTURE THEATRE 14:30-22:45

AUG 24

PAY WHAT YOU WANT: £2 / £6 / £10 / £14 18+

## THE HIDDEN GARDEN

JC movement production / Jill Crovisier /  
 Luxembourg Selection



Image: Boshua

Growing up we lose the ability to live in connection with our mind. We become increasingly preoccupied by what is useful. The desire for power, control and perfection. Man becomes comparable to a supernatural creature. Obsessed, this creature sucks the life out of those who dare to confront it. Dreams, simple pleasures and poetry are suffocated. *The Hidden Garden* is a mysterious place where the real and the fantastic are intertwined. A choreography inspired by the gothic novel, fantastic literature, and the modern customs of today's society.

**Choreographer & Performer:** Jill Crovisier

*"Poetic, powerful, funny, like no one else, it's surprisingly accurate. Mime, pantomime, magnificent dancer, actress, she is everything at the same time. She embarks us in a dizziness of emotions, sensations"* By Philippe Traversian, conteur-de-memoires.fr

TECHCUBE ZERO 15:35-16:15

AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+



*"Roof-raising, uplifting, and invigorating"*  
 Hollywood Reporter

## I'M ALMOST THERE

Audible and Francesca Moody Productions

Love at first sight is easy, letting it through the front door is a goddamn odyssey.

All he wants to do is let the perfect man in, but can he overcome his unhinged neighbour, a seductive cult, a self-obsessed vampire, and a cat intent on dragging him to hell?

From Audible and the award-winning producers of *Fleabag* and *Baby Reindeer*, *I'm Almost There* is New York favourite Todd Almond's rueful, hilarious and poignant modern love story in song about a man crossing a sea of doubts to find happiness...and good coffee.

MAIN HALL 14:45-15:45

AUG 1-5-6-9-10-11-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £15 12+

AUG 2-3-4-7-8-14-15

£16 / £14.50 12+

Photography: Rick Wenner / Design: Feast Creative

## HYPER

Jaxbanded Theatre



Image: Kilian Harrison

For decades Trans people have been using hyperpop to shatter standards of genre, gender and good taste.

Right now, the only thing Saoirse wants to shatter is her own f\*cking voice.

Told through live vocal modulation and manipulation, this is a rip-roaring and unabashedly Queer theatrical deep dive into Trans identity and music.

*Hyper* explores what it means to speak, sing and, for the audience (yes, you babe), to listen.

Supported by Culture Ireland.

**Cast Members:** Ois O'Donoghue, Fiona Larmon, Christopher O'Shaughnessy

**"Five stars is not enough" ★★★★★** *The Irish Times*

**FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM** 20:15-21:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

## ILLUMINATE THE DARKNESS

Bea Conner-Pohl



Image: Bea Conner-Pohl

This experimental theatre exposes the cultural stereotypes that are perpetuated by misinformation and ignorance that is associated with racism and sexism in America.

Women of different races and ethnicities were interviewed, illustrating their plights, their tragedies and their achievements.

It shows how they address the cultural inequities that affected them through their own unique ways of humour, common sense, heart and empowerment.

This new performance utilises storytelling, videos and audience participation.

**Cast Members:** Bea Conner-Pohl – *The Storyteller*

**RED LECTURE THEATRE** 16:05-17:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 16+

## IN DEFIANCE OF GRAVITY

Unleash The Llama Productions



Image: Mark Senior

Ezra Montefiore, is the greatest spirit-medium of all time. A master of the seance, levitation and telekinesis: he defies all scientific explanation.

But when details of a clandestine affair with Prince Felix Yusupov reach the ears of Rasputin and Russia's Imperial Court, he must fight not only for his reputation but also, his life.

From the makers of the sell-out smash hits *Jew...ish* and *Man of 100 Faces* comes an extraordinary story based on real historical events told through dynamic physical-theatre multi-rolling and stage illusion. Expect seances, spirit-possession and live levitation.

**Cast Members:** Saul Boyer and company

**"Seamless brilliance....Proper storytelling by a virtuoso performer"**  
*The Guardian (Man of 100 Faces)*

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 21:15-22:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## INSTRUCTIONS

SUBJECT OBJECT



Image: subject object

Every day a different unrehearsed performer takes to the stage, ready to receive instructions. Line-by-line a story unfolds, and a life unspools. A new show by makers of *work.txt*, ★★★★★ *The Guardian*

*Instructions* is about AI, creativity and the dying days of capitalism, performed by a different actor every day. They are about to give the performance of a lifetime as the borders between reality and fiction begin to blur.

By Nathan Ellis. Produced by SUBJECT OBJECT.

Praise for *work.txt*:

**"God, but I do love this" ★★★★★** *The Guardian*

**"Brilliantly conceived and highly original" ★★★★★** *The Scotsman*

**"Quietly affecting" ★★★★★** *The Telegraph*

**OLD LAB** 13:10-14:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

## JAMES ROWLAND DIES AT THE END OF THE SHOW

James Rowland and Attic Theatre Company



Image: Rosie Collins

A desert island disc spun from threads of the future. Full of the joy and wonder of being alive.

The third and final part of a trilogy that began with Learning to Fly, ★★★★★ (The Guardian), and Piece of Work, ★★★★★ (The Morning Star).

A show about life, humanity and, of course, James Rowland will die at the end of the show.

**Cast Members:** James Rowland

*"In its specificity, this narrative deftly touches on profound truths about what it means to be human. It captures, with remarkable precision, the joyful, sad, ridiculous mess of it all" ★★★★★*  
The Guardian

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 18:00-19:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £13 14+

## JOHN HEGLEY: DO HORSES HAVE TEETH, SIR?

John Hegley

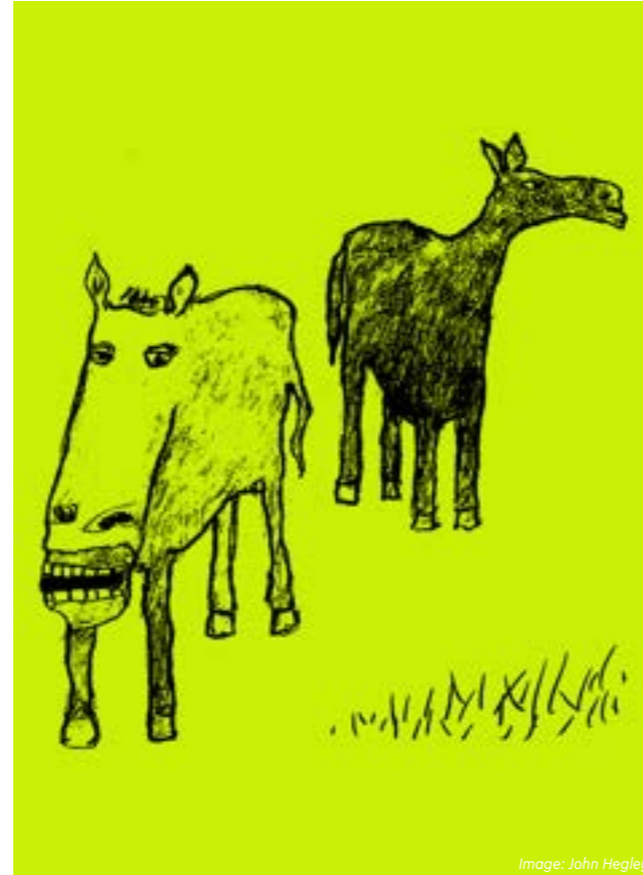


Image: John Hegley

For over thirty years Hegley has brought to the Edinburgh Fringe a show with a spattering of favourites alongside the new work to present to festival-goers. This year 'the new' involves his teaching. And learning. There are inter-actions – audience participation if you prefer, but it is more audience collaboration. And drawings. Quite a lot of them horses – mouths both open and closed. Myths, moths, no mathematics. Audio and visual stimulation. Entertainment. And thought provocation. Devised for adults but not unsuitable for the odd nine-year-old.

*"John Hegley is to potatoes what Wordsworth has been to daffodils."* The Observer  
*"Awesomely Mundane"* The Independent

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 13:30-14:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

## JULIETA

Gabriela Muñoz presented by Chamaeleon Berlin

*Julieta* tells the story of a woman – full of experiences and quirkiness – and the multiple layers that old age brings. Bursting with cheeky wit and a zest for life, Julieta shares her days with us and invites us into her home that has become her whole world. Through her daily routines we witness the different stages of life, and how our self-image warps accordingly. As her surroundings morph into a mirror house of memories, Julieta finds ways to adapt – and to bring us along.

**Cast Members:** Gabriela Muñoz, Gemma Raurell Colomer

*"A warm-hearted comedy created with great empathy that takes a close look at the oddities of human behavior"*  
Tagesspiegel

*"Gabriela Muñoz redefines the contours of clowning with Julieta, a play of great theatricality, punctuated by delicate humor and infinite tenderness"* Revue Jeu

MAIN HALL 10:35-11:35

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 12+



Image: Gianluca Quaranta

## KAFKA'S APE

Noma Yini Pty Ltd



Image: Zivanai Matangji (Centre for the Less Good Idea)

An accomplished South African adaption of Franz Kafka's acclaimed short story *A Report to an Academy*. The play tells the story of an ape named Red Peter who is captured on the Gold Coast. In his quest to break out of his confinement, he learns to imitate humanity and contests identity based on outward appearance. Through the personal narration of his journey, Red Peter questions the understanding of otherness and othering in contemporary society.

Miyambo has toured and received multiple accolades for this powerful performance worldwide, including Winner of the Silver ovation award (Grahamstown National Arts Festival 2016), Winner of Outstanding Performance award (Prague Fringe Festival 2019), Best Satire Award (New York's United Solo Festival 2019) and the Graham F. Smith Peace Foundation Award (Adelaide Fringe Festival 2021), among others.

**Cast:** Tony Bonani Miyambo **Director:** Phala O Phala

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 10:40-11:40

**AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26**

£17 / £14.50 12+

## L'ADDITION - HERE & NOW SHOWCASE

Bert and Nasi



Image: Christophe Reynaud de Lage

Two performers armed with (or trapped in) a single scene – a customer orders a drink from a waiter. And then things go awry. Played again and again, the scene starts spinning out of control. Nightmarish spiral or grotesque farce? Roles flip back and forth. Who's serving and who's being served? Directed by Forced Entertainment's artistic director Tim Etchells and created with the brilliant performance duo Bert and Nasi, *L'Addition* is a complex, hilarious and explosive performance. Presented as part of the Here & Now showcase which selects exceptional performance created in England, ready for international distribution.

**Cast Members:** Bertrand Lesca and Nasi Voutas

*"The performers shine in this hilarious farce to be consumed without moderation"* *L'Humanité*

**OLD LAB** 11:30-12:40

**AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25**

£17 / £14.50 14+



# JUNE CARTER CASH: THE WOMAN, HER MUSIC AND ME

National Theatre of Scotland and Grid Iron Theatre Company

The story of one of country music's most iconic voices: June Carter Cash. In this raw yet uplifting show, Charlene Boyd gets to grips with a life less ordinary. More than a simple biography, this play with songs sees Charlene explore her relationship with her musical heroine and their shared experience as performers and working mothers. A powerful, personal journey of discovery stretching across the Atlantic from the Appalachian Mountains to the Glasgow high-rise flats, their tale is one of empowerment, endurance and perseverance. Written and performed by Charlene Boyd and directed by multi-award-winning Cora Bissett. Part of Made in Scotland Showcase.

**Cast:** Charlene Boyd **The Band:** Ray Aggs, Amy Duncan, Harry Ward

**THE DISSECTION ROOM** 16:20-17:40

**AUG 2-3-4**

£12 / £10 16+

**AUG 6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24**

£17 / £14.50 16+

Doors and bar in the Dissection Room open from 16:00. Bar closed during performance

Image: Jessica Haralwick



## LESSONS ON REVOLUTION

Undone Theatre and Carmen Collective



Image: Jack Sain

1968. Three thousand students occupy the London School of Economics, in the most significant protest in a generation.

2024. Two friends try to work out what radical change means today, searching through archives, photos, first-hand accounts.

Hot off Soho Theatre, *Lessons on Revolution* takes over Summerhall. This ★★★★★ theatre piece is a gripping journey through global and personal history which asks: in a new age of inequality and injustice, how can the voices of the past give us hope?

*"Compelling and galvanising"* James Graham

*"One of the biggest highlights of my year in theatre"*

★★★★ Theatre and Tonic

FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM 14:15-15:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

## LITTLE DEATHS

Nuthatch and Scissor Kick



Image: Rich Larkos

'This is just the start. Of Everything. Of Us.'

It's the late 90s. Charlie and Debs have perfected their Wannabe routine. They're drenched in Impulse Blue. And they're each other's Everything.

But as the world pulls them in different directions, their friendship begins to strain. It dies. Again and again and again.

If a female friendship dies many deaths, how many can they survive?

Spanning 25 years and the countless lifetimes of one friendship, this new romcom explores the heartbreak of platonic love.

**Written by** Amy Yeates

**Directed by** Claire O'Reilly

OLD LAB 20:55-22:05

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## LYNN FACES

Co-commissioned by New Diorama Theatre, Norwich Theatre and Theatre Royal Plymouth, written by Laura Horton

Nearing 40, painfully shy, and emerging from a toxic break-up, Leah forms a punk band inspired by Lynn from Alan Partridge. As she takes to the stage with no musical ability, will this gig push Leah further over the edge, or help to regain her confidence and find the hope she needs to move on?

A funny, farcical and poignant exploration of the impact of abusive behaviour, the power of friendship, and how silliness can be healing.

*Lynn Faces* is a new play by multi-award-winning writer Laura Horton, following her Fringe First-winning show, *Breathless*.

**Cast Members:** Laura Horton, Madeleine MacMahon, Peyvand Sadeghian

MAIN HALL 19:35-20:45

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+



Image: Dom Moore

*"Laura Horton's poignant comic monologue delivers a sympathetic portrayal of a sample-sale hoarder"* Critic's Pick in the New York Times

*"Madeleine MacMahon performs engagingly as Sophie in a show that is as absorbing as it is sensitive"* Guardian review for *Breathless*, 2022

## LITTLE SQUIRT

Darby James and Quiet Riot



Image: Liv Morison Photography

Join Australian musical comedian, Darby James for his multi-award-winning cabaret about the process of sperm donation. On this unforgettable voyage with all original songs, Darby clicks a Facebook ad and gets swept up on an hilarious, heartfelt adventure. As he navigates medical questionnaires, psychological evaluations and musings on potential parenthood, Darby finds himself stranded as a seaman in moral purgatory, facing the question: should we be having children?

Winner of the Edinburgh Touring Award and Best Cabaret at Melbourne Fringe Festival 2023, and nominated for six Green Room Awards, Darby James dives headfirst into his international debut.

**Cast Members:** Darby James

*"James is a major talent on the ascent..."* ★★★★★ Theatre Matters

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 19:40-20:40

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 16+

## OH, CALM DOWN

Charlotte Anne-Tilley & Tom Bevan Creative Ltd.



Image: Charlie Lyne

1999. Lucy is in labour. She's just been handed a document to sign and her sense of self is beginning to deteriorate.

2024. Claire is an art student. Her latest panic attack means her art course could be over. Oh, and she can't stop contemplating her own mortality.

Misdiagnosis, mistreatment and misinformation were rife back then. And still are now...

Claire and Lucy have OCD. But they don't know that yet.

From award-winning ALMOST ADULT writer-performer Charlotte Anne-Tilley (★★★★★ EdFestMag) and DESTINY (★★★★ Guardian) producer, Tom Bevan.

**Cast Members:** Charlotte Anne-Tilley and Maddy Banks

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 15:00-16:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

# OR WHAT'S LEFT OF US

Sh!t Theatre and Soho Theatre

Multi-award-winning 'magnificent Fringe legends' (Time Out) Sh!t Theatre are back! And we're totally fine! Actually all things considered, we're ok. Feeling alright. Thriving, even? That's a bit far, but we have learnt some folk songs. We've got into folk recently and it's been really helpful. Come and sing some folk songs with us! A swift 60 minutes of classic folk followed by a singaround in the Summerhall bar. Because we need a drink, don't we? But we're doing ok.

A true crime show about folk music and grief.

*"Few companies make shows that are so consistently, outrageously fun"*

The Guardian

\*fun not guaranteed.

This show runs at 60 minutes, but is followed by a chance to continue singing\* and drinking\*\* together elsewhere at Summerhall. Please join us after the show for the singaround if you would like to.

\*singing not obligatory \*\*drinking not obligatory

**Cast Members:** Louise Mothersole, Rebecca Biscuit

TEHCUBE ZERO 16:45-17:45

AUG 1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 14+

*"Theatre that is true, hilarious and horrifying"*

★★★★★ The Independent

*"An unlikely pair of state-of-the-nation playwrights"*

★★★★★ The Guardian

*"Surreal, clever and hilarious"*

★★★★★ The Daily Telegraph



Image: Claire Nolan

## OLD MAN

Jon & Olliepost operative



Image: Jussi Virkkumaa

Turn on the radio, have a cup of tea – and don't forget to take your pills! Get ready for an action-packed journey through the imagination of a playful, solitary old man as he discovers treasured souvenirs from raising his late son. Mischievously recreating childlike memories with an undercurrent of grief, *Old Man* is a masterpiece of modern clowning, where the anguish of loss is beautifully juxtaposed with innocent joy.

This show is non-verbal, and blends physical theatre, clowning and mime. WINNER: Brian's Life Award, Prague Fringe 2023.

Directed by Oliver Fife-Nilsson, produced by Ellen Fife-Nilsson.

**Cast Members:** Jonathan Tilley

*"Slick, silly and above all sentimental – Old Man delights and dazzles with clownish charm"* *Binge Fringe Magazine*

RED LECTURE THEATRE 11:30-12:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 12+

## OommoO - I AM A WALKING UNIVERSE

LULA.XYZ



Image: Lula Mebrahtu

It's the Black Women Curse'. AfroFuturism through an East African lens of a first-gen immigrant.

Lula is a walking Universe, Godlike, with the power to create life. When the mind forgets but the body doesn't, every traumatic event is etched into the fabric of DNA. Memories manifests themselves like a pollutant, causing her powers to misfire. She is Earth personified.

Why have we done this to her?

Ethereal artist Lula Mebrahtu (aka LULA.XYZ) presents the spiritual successor to 2023's OommoO – 'one of the most original experiences on offer' (theqr.co.uk).

Summerhall Meadows Award Winner 2024

**Cast Members:** Lula Mebrahtu

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 13:40-14:40

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## OUTPATIENT

Crowded Room in association with Reading Rep Theatre



Image: Crowded Room

DEATH. It's coming for us all, so why don't we talk about it?

Well, Olive is bloody well going to. Via an earth-shattering piece of serious journalism that'll be her ticket off the entertainment desk and into a Pulitzer prize.

But when Olive starts recruiting dying people to interview for her hot take on mortality... the last thing she expects is to become one of them.

Based on real events, *OUTPATIENT* is the first solo show from Harriet Madeley: an interrogation of invincibility that will make you laugh... and so live longer.

**Cast Members:** Harriet Madeley

*"You emerge with your consciousness altered. Quite unforgettable"* *(The Spectator on The Listening Room)*

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 10:30-11:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## OWEaDEBT

HEYwire Theatre



Image: Joel Sims

Do you believe in true love? Meet Odette, a chain-smoking half-swain, half-ballerina stuck in limbo, looking for someone to give her an undying vow of love to free her. Come to a love story you will not forget, filled with pointe, comedy, and heroes where anyone can break her curse, maybe even you.

Special thanks to the creative team of Mump & Smoot and Meegan Sweet.

**Cast Members:** Lauren Brady

*"Deeply layered and confronting"* ★★★★★ *The List UK*

*"Strikingly strong piece of theatre"* *GLAM Adelaide*

*"Spot on comedy"* *APT613*

RED LECTURE THEATRE 19:25-20:25

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

£17 / £14.50 16+

## PARTY GIRL

Purple Tape Productions



Image: Jay Gardener

Fairy Sprinkles isn't your average fairy...

In this award-winning rock 'n' roll show from Lucy Heffernan, all the glitzy hell of a kid's birthday party explodes out on stage to rip apart class, challenge traditional feminine behaviour, and explore the impact of mental illness on family.

Telling stories from Heffernan's life and times as a Birthday Party Fairy, and featuring five original rock songs – don't miss this intimate, funny, and deeply moving work.

Winner: 2023 Adelaide Fringe Weekly Award – Best Theatre / Physical Theatre.

**Cast Members:** Lucy Heffernan

*"This one woman show by the outstanding Lucy Heffernan is sure to be the next Fleabag"* ★★★★★ GlamAdelaide

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 21:20-22:20

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## PISKIE

BoonDog Theatre



Image: Ouida Burt

'If you follow someone down a path you don't recognise, you risk not being able to find your way back'.

When Ouida was a child her father sleepwalked out of the house... never to return. Ouida suspected her imaginary friend 'Bert' led him astray, but her family insisted he'd abandoned them and she must give up all notions of imaginary things. Years later Ouida is a respected therapist, debunking the irrational and fantastic... But what will you believe?

This beautiful, darkly comic story about magic versus cynicism leaves audiences charmed – and just a little bit spooked.

**Cast Members:** Lucy Roslyn

*"A masterclass in the art of monologue"* Edinburgh Guide

*"Bewildering acting talent... an emotional tour-de-force"* Broadway Baby

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 12:00-13:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

# PSYCHOBITCH

W!ld Rice

When tasked by her tech CEO fiancé to explain the four times she has cried in public since they started dating, overachieving journalist Anya Samuel can't help but bring her A-game. As she prepares a slide deck complete with animated infographics of her menstrual cycle, Anya is forced to confront harsh truths about who she really is and what she actually wants. Written with searing wit and insight by Amanda Chong, *Psychobitch* is a thought-provoking one-woman show boldly dissecting gender power dynamics and toxic relationships, while challenging us to examine the concessions we make in our search for love.

Nominated for Best Director, Best Original Script, Best Actress – Straits Times' Life Theatre Awards 2024 (Singapore)

**Cast Members:** Sindhura Kalidas

TECHCUBE ZERO 19:45-21:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

*"A laugh-out-loud look at female empowerment... Chong's script is a well-crafted one-two punch that follows up crowd-pleasing jokes with quieter, emotional scenes... Kalidas is eminently watchable, filling the stage with dynamism despite the spare set"* The Straits Times (Clement Yong)

*"Chong's script is at once hilarious and heartbreaking... carried by a truly phenomenal performance by Sindhura Kalidas who keeps us rapt throughout... a rollercoaster production that will have [you] laugh out loud one minute and choke back tears the next"* Crystalwords (Naeem Kapadia)



## PLEWDS

Kathrine Payne



A cocky gay clown in therapy. A clueless detective. An X Factor sob story.

Pop culture and queer drama drama drama collide against a rainbow backdrop.

A surreal, fast-paced and darkly funny exploration of a queer relationship gone bad. Blending clowning, drag and a subversive take on the trauma-parading solo show, plewds is about the lengths we'll go to avoid what's right in front of us, in a story where the villains don't look like villains.

Being queer is the best, right?

Mary Dick Award Winner 2024

Made with support from Camden People's Theatre

**Cast Members:** Kathrine Payne

**OLD LAB** 19:25-20:25

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## PRECIOUS CARGO

sruth-mara in association with An Lanntair



As children they were evacuated from a war zone. Fifty years on, Barton and Andy are still trying to find out who they are. Precious Cargo is a powerful, timely new show about the life-long impact of the Vietnam war, by Australian writer-performer Barton Williams (Huynh van Cuong) and Hebridean composer Andy Yearley (Nguyen Tang). Drawing on interviews with Operation Babylift adoptees from across the world, it is a story about the chaos of conflict, childhood trauma, racism, and a generation running out of time to find lost families. Directed by Fringe First winner Laura Cameron-Lewis.

**Cast Members:** Barton Williams

**"Outward looking, unsentimental and sincere" ★★★★★**

*The Guardian on sruth-mara's debut production, Move-Gluasad*

**DEMONSTRATION ROOM** 15:10-16:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

# QUEENS

Anne Welenc, Made In Germany Showcase

Mary Stuart and Elizabeth I return as undead, washed-up drag queens when a powerful force opens the gates to the present. Together with Penthesilea and Valkyrie, they have lived in limbo for centuries, ruling over various sub- and parallel worlds. As they grapple with their shared history and enduring patriarchal power structures, the idea of a joint rule emerges. Moving between opera, drag and drama, Anne Welenc's directorial debut QUEENS plays with historical and pop cultural legacies in a bold and provocative exploration of gender, power and identity. For fans of dramatic queens, drag and absurd-comic musical theatre.

**Cast Members:** Daniel Hellmann, Valerie Renay, Shlomi Moto Wagner

**MAIN HALL** 21:15-22:15

AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 14+

**"This is an outstanding example of show-don't-tell" ★★★★★**

*The Skinny, on previous show Traumgirl*

**"Welenc is a commanding force on the stage" ★★★★★**

*The Skinny, on previous show Traumgirl*



Image: Anne Welenc

## PUDDLES AND AMAZONS

Guy Woods, Rachel Flynn, Balenji Mwiche



Image: Amy Urquhart

A mother dies. A boy eats an ice lolly and freezes internally. A father cries yellow tears into snow. A lover cleans urine from his grandmother's favourite carpet. Performer and bedroom foley artist Guy Woods tells the story of a cold boy's adolescence.

'Beautifully written and performed', 'Excellent storytelling, so engaging, and a great use of multimedia sound', 'Love the piss' (Audience Reviews from performance at the Tron Theatre, 2023)

*Puddles and Amazons* is a queer coming-of-age story of grief, male tenderness and fluids. Featuring live audio mixing, mild audience interaction, and water.

Part of Made in Scotland Showcase

**Cast Members:** Guy Woods

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 16:40-17:40

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

## REVENGE: AFTER THE LEVOYAH

Plotnek Productions & Nick Cassenbaum



Image: Christa Holka

Nick Cassenbaum's two-hander comedy heist, directed by Emma Jude Harris, romps through 2018 Jewish Essex. Through madcap comedy and biting satire, this explosive tale blows the roof off what it means to be Jewish in the UK.

Twins Dan and Lauren meet ex-gangster Malcolm Spivak at their grandfather's funeral. Malcolm, who's 'had enough', enlists the siblings in a ragtag Yiddishe plot to kidnap then-Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn.

*REVENGE: After the Levoyah* examines antisemitism in the diaspora, the dangers of collective hysteria, and how far one nonagenarian can throw a jar of chraine from a moving vehicle.

**Cast Members:** Gemma Barnett, Dylan Corbett-Bader

*"Subversive, hilarious and gleefully violent"* Tommo Fowler, Vashti Media

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 15:00-16:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## SHOW PONY

by still hungry & Bryony Kimmings  
presented by Chamaeleon Berlin

Do you know what happens to acrobats when they hit middle age? Neither do still hungry, but they're going to use every trick they have to try and figure it out. Packed full of love, laughter and lunacy, *Show Pony* is a joyful scream into the face of the patriarchy that challenges us to question our prejudices towards age and femininity, on stage and off. By the makers of 2019's award-winning hit *Raven* (Scotsman Fringe First, Three Weeks Editor's Award).

**Cast Members:** Lena Ries, Anke van Engelshoven, Romy Seibt

MAIN HALL 10:35-11:35

AUG 13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

*"A new perspective  
on women in circus"*  
Arte Journal

*"Gorgeous and  
brutally honest"*  
Berliner Morgenpost



Image: Solas Portraits

## SISTERS THREE

TheatreGoose



Image: Sophie Kean

Inside Chekhov's masterpiece, Olga, Masha and Irina are trapped in a cycle of disappointed hopes, heartbreak and inertia. But this time, it's going to be different.

Looking for answers, this trio investigate the trope they have been written into, from Greek mythology to the Sugababes. Harnessing the raucous energy of girlhood and the wildness of three women on the brink, *Sisters Three* sets ablaze a construction of femininity drawn by men, to find hope in the ashes.

TheatreGoose return to Summerhall following their OFFIE-nominated and BBC Popcorn Award-longlisted debut *Her Green Hell* in 2023.

**Cast Members:** Sophie Kean, Abby McCann, Angela Sant'Albano

*"Not a million miles away from... Complicité, one hell of a compliment" ★★★★★ (The Stage)*

ANATOMY LECTURE THEATRE 21:10-22:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+

## SON OF A BITCH

The Thelmas in association with Josie Underwood



Image: Karla Gowlett

Written and performed by award-winning comedian, actor and writer Anna Morris, *Son of a Bitch* is a brutally honest and darkly funny monologue about a woman who is caught on camera calling her four-year-old son a c\*nt during an air-rage incident.

When the video goes viral, Marnie's life violently unravels. Now the whole world knows her darkest secret, but what happened before someone pressed record and captured the worst 10 seconds of her life?

This debut play is a bold one-woman piece about maternal ambivalence.

**Cast Members:** Anna Morris

*"A marvellous comedy writer and extremely gifted comic actress" Willy Russell*

DEMONSTRATION ROOM 18:10-19:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 14+



## TAIWAN SEASON: LOST CONNECTION

Seed Dance Company

Addicted to any mobile devices or know others who are? If so, Wen-Jen Huang's restlessly swift, hot-wired dance quartet should produce jolts of recognition. Her dynamic new work is based upon the contemporary socio-cultural phenomenon of phubbing (paying more attention to one's mobile, etc. than to the people you're with). Guided by the choreographer's laser-like kinetic intelligence, the dancers slice and slide through space with a desperate, unpredictable energy. Fair warning: their self-absorbed, pressure-cooked state of being could be both exciting and distressing. European premiere.

**Cast Members:** Huang Wen-Jen, Wang Ping-Ho, Chen Tzu-Yin, Kabiduan•Kalayunyang

Image: Lee Kun-yeon

MAIN HALL 13:35-14:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25

£16 / £13 8+

## SUITCASE SHOW

Trick of the Light Theatre



Image: William Duignan

A traveller arrives at a border with a stack of battered cases. From within them, whole worlds will emerge...

Suitcase Show is an eclectic box set of short stories. Dark, spiky, and comic, each one is told out of a suitcase. The staging is inventive, from lo-fi shadowplay to wireless projection, from dancing disembodied hands to narratives that crackle from a 70s stereo suitcase. Trick of the Light is an award-winning company from Aotearoa / New Zealand renowned for crafting inventive shows with engaging narratives. Past work includes: The Road That Wasn't There, Tröll, and The Bookbinder.

**Cast Members:** Ralph McCubbin Howell, Hannah Smith

*"A masterful weaving of stories... Crafty as all hell"* Art Murmurs

*"Few words are capable of capturing the magic this innovative theatre company brings to the stage"* Regional News

OLD LAB 14:40-15:40

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 12+

## SURRENDER

Sophie Swithinbank, Phoebe Ladenburg, HFH Productions, and Nancy Medina



Image: Alan Hatford

Mother is in prison. Daughter – from whom she has been estranged for 13 years – has come to visit. Closely watched by security personnel, they have 1 hour.

As unreliable as she is charming, Mother recounts her version of events, knowing this is their last chance to reconnect. Along a blurry journey of sleep deprivation and abandoned love, we discover the true reason for her imprisonment and ask: how can you keep a hold of yourself when you're forced to get lost in your keeper.

A new play from the writer of the multi-award-winning Bacon.

**Cast Members:** Phoebe Ladenburg

*"Beautiful and devastating"* ★★★★★ The Stage

*"Unmissable"* ★★★★★ To Do List

TECHCUBE ZERO 13:55-15:05

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £15 14+

## THROUGH THE MUD

Stellar Quines and Royal Lyceum Theatre

'A fierce 70 minutes of music and protest' (The Scotsman)

The story of two generations of women activists in the struggle for black liberation in America. One, notorious Black Panther Assata Shakur, the other a college student at the beginning of the Black Lives Matter movement in Ferguson in 2014. Against a stunning soundtrack of gospel and blues sung live, the show explores what it takes to become a revolutionary. Originally performed as *Woke*, written by Apphia Campbell, Fringe First winner and creator of the hit show *Black is the Colour of My Voice*.

Part of [madeinscotlandshowcase.com](http://madeinscotlandshowcase.com)

**Cast Members:** Apphia Campbell, Tinashe Warikandwa

*"Brave and remarkable"* ★★★★★ The Scotsman

*"Terrific performances"* ★★★★★ The Skinny

MAIN HALL 17:55-19:05

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 14+



## WEATHER GIRL

Francesca Moody Productions



Photography: Michael Wharley / Design: Feast Creative

Smile while it burns.

Stacey is a California weather girl. An oversexed and underpaid harbinger of our dying planet. But today, her regular routine of wildfires, prosecco and teeth whitening descends into a scorched earth catastrophe before she discovers something that will save us all. A dizzying rampage into the soul of American strangeness.

The award-winning producers of *Fleabag* and *Baby Reindeer* bring you a blistering dark comedy about wrecking the places we love, from Lucille Lortel-nominated Brian Watkins, creator of the hit Amazon series *Outer Range* and Drama Desk-nominated director Tyne Rafaeli.

**Cast Members:** Julia McDermott

CAIRNS LECTURE THEATRE 18:00-19:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-7-8-13-14-15

£15 / £13.50 12+

AUG 5-6-9-10-11-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£16 / £14 12+

## WEREWOLF

Binge Culture



Image: Vanessa Rushton

Surrender yourself to a comedy-thriller experience inspired by the classic game of deception. What feels like a game by daylight takes on new life when plunged into the dark.

Created by one of New Zealand's most innovative theatre companies, *Werewolf* features chilling sound design and a unique immersive style; you can be a fly on the wall or take charge of the situation. However you decide to play it, you will become part of a community coming together to make it through the night.

But what is hiding in the darkness that is making everyone so nervous?

**Cast Members:** Stella Reid, Joel Baxendale & Hannah Kelly with Karin McCracken

*"brings the audience centre stage in a race against time to survive"*  
Theatreview

FORMER WOMENS LOCKER ROOM 18:15-19:15

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 12+

## WILL PICKVANCE: WONKY

Will Pickvance



Image: Peter Dibbin

We might swing by Satchmo's, blow out of town on aeolian pipes, hammer blow, tapping toe, jam with the Lotos-Eaters. Then again, we might head somewhere entirely different.

I can't say exactly what notes I'm going to play. Not till the moment they spill out onto the piano keys, commit themselves to the past, the rear view mirror. Don't look back. Decisions on the bonnet. I'll be your pilot, your tour guide.

Piano solos, stories and the stuff of life.

**Cast Members:** Will Pickvance

*"Wonderfully engaging storytelling, lovely piano playing"*  
The National

*"There are points where no words are necessary, where the dexterity and inventive fusion of songs say it all"* The List

OLD LAB 17:55-18:55

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 8+

## YOU'RE NEEDY (SOUNDS FRUSTRATING)

tasteinyourmouth



Image: Simon Lazewski

Nominated for Best Production at Dublin Fringe Festival 2023, *You're Needy (sounds frustrating)* is a site-specific piece for one audience member about a woman's retreat from everyday life in pursuit of peace, solitude and 'wellness'. Carrie's moved into her bathroom. She's living on slim noodles and chopped parsley baths. Every week she's visited by a volunteer hired to help her reintegrate into society. This week, it's your turn. Take an ocean breath and snort a line of rock salt. It's time to peel off those cucumbers and take a long hard look at yourself. Supported by Culture Ireland.

**Cast Members:** Laoise Murray, Heather O'Sullivan

*"An eerie, claustrophobic and thought-provoking show for an audience of one"* ★★★★★ The Irish Times

MEET OUTSIDE TILL'S BOOKSHOP 14:00-14:30 16:00-16:30 18:00-18:30 20:00-20:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£12 / £10 14+

## SUMMERHALL SURGERIES

Summerhall Arts is excited to announce the return of Summerhall Surgeries.

Summerhall Surgeries began in 2023 as a new artist support and development initiative, as a partnership between Summerhall Arts and the Fringe Society. Running as part of and during the Fringe, it was an opportunity for artists to showcase a piece of unfinished work to local, national and international industry and peers in order to receive vital feedback to inform the work's development - and be paid for doing so. The events were free to attend with some informal networking afterwards.

2023 saw 16 artists present their work to over 270 people across 4 events, gaining extensive feedback, new collaborators and programming opportunities. We received over 100 applications from 14 countries and from the 16 that were chosen, 10 are now working with producers, several have opened in theatres around the country and have had their first run. One piece, Lynn Faces by Laura Horton, is in our 2024 programme, while another hopes to feature in 2025. Artists from all over the world have praised this scheme, making clear that opportunities for work that is almost ready to present are valuable and needed.

We were set to re-run these much-needed sessions, ensuring a pipeline of outstanding new writing to take into next Fringe and beyond. Sadly, our partners are no longer able to support Summerhall Surgeries - but all is not lost!

Summerhall Arts will run Summerhall Surgeries as an independent venture this August. The events will be presented on a slightly smaller scale with fewer artists involved, but will offer the same fee and support as before, creating the same vibrant and collaborative environment we were so excited by last year.

In the meantime, we are actively looking for new partners to help us deliver and expand future Surgeries - and perhaps even deliver this year's opportunity at its intended level. All funds raised go directly to the artists that are participating. Summerhall does not benefit financially from the Surgeries. We offer time, space and resources in kind. Our priority is to give money and opportunity to the artists making bold and innovative work, allowing the creative sector to flourish.

If you are an artist looking to showcase an unfinished piece in a Fringe environment and expand your networks, Summerhall Surgeries is for you.

If you are able to support this scheme please get in touch via [info@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:info@summerhall.co.uk)

For more information on taking part or reserving a seat in the audience please check our website: [summerhall.co.uk](http://summerhall.co.uk)

## LUSTRUM AWARDS

Since 2015 Summerhall has awarded The Lustrum award to unforgettable festival shows, and those productions that best encapsulate the spirit of the first International Festival in 1947. Judged by Robert McDowell (Summerhall director), the Demarco Foundation, Beyond Borders, Jack Klaff (actor) and Mark Cousins (filmmaker), these awards are given to shows performing across Edinburgh.

The awards are co-sponsored by Summerhall Distillery.

### 2023 WINNERS

**ANDRONICUS SYNECDOCHE** Song of the Goat Theatre (Zoo)

**BIRD** Amina Khayyam Dance Company

**BLUB BLUB** Trunk Theatre Project

**CHICKEN** Sunday's Child

**CREEPY BOYS** Scantily Glad Theatre

**THE EARLY WORD** John Hegley

**ENGLAND & SON** Mark Thomas

**GROWLER** Growler

**GUSLA** Labuski Teatr

**HELIOS** Wright&Grainger

**HIGH STEAKS** Eloina Productions

**INSOMNIAC'S FABLE** Start to Finnish

**MASS EFFECT** HIMHERANDIT Productions

**NAN ME & BARBARA PRAVI** Hannah Maxwell

**OAT MILK & HONEY** MO-KO Piano & Circus

**OOMMOO** Lula Mebrahtu

**REWIND** Ephemeral Ensemble

**SLASH** Allan & Hennessey

**SOLDIERS OF TOMORROW** Itai Erdal

**A SPECTACLE OF HERSELF** Laura Murphy

**TAIWAN SEASON: THE WAY BACK** The Double Theatre

**WOODHILL** Lung



VISUAL ARTS

PERFORMANCE

ROUNDABOUT

LATE-NIGHT

Welcome to Roundabout, a pop-up amphitheatre with state-of-the-art lighting and sound, where every seat is the best seat in the house.

Inside, 168 people are wrapped around the stage, enjoying new plays from the UK's most exciting writers, in a thrillingly atmospheric, spaceship-like theatre.

This year, Paines Plough celebrates its 50th birthday, and this big joyous yellow dome celebrates its 10th.

So here it is: our celebration.

We have another packed programme showcasing some of the very best new writing that the country has to offer. Just like the plays and the writers we have championed across our 50 years, these are stories that blaze with laughter, hope, love and fury.

They come from voices and perspectives you might never have heard before, speak about the world in new ways, and hold a mirror to our relationships with ourselves and one another.

We hope you love them just as much as we do.

# EVERY BRILLIANT THING

Paines Plough and Second Half Productions

Ten years on from the play's debut, a new production of the smash-hit comes to Roundabout, directed by Duncan Macmillan and performed by Jonny Donahoe.

You're seven years old. Mum's in hospital. Dad says she's 'done something stupid'. She finds it hard to be happy. So you make a list of everything that's brilliant about the world. Everything worth living for.

Ice cream.

Water fights.

Staying up past your bedtime and being allowed to watch TV.

The colour yellow.

Rollercoasters.

People falling over.

A play about depression and the lengths we go to for those we love.

*Every Brilliant Thing* is a play about depression and the lengths we will go for those we love.

**Cast Members:** Jonny Donahoe

ROUNDABOUT 11:45-12:55

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24

£17 / £14.50 14+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22

£16 / £14.50 14+

ROUNDABOUT 23:00-00:10

AUG 8-15

£16 / £14.50 14+





Image: Sam Ward

## NATION

YESYESNONO

'Here we all are... sat together in one room. One room. One audience. One... beautiful nation.'

From the creator of we were promised honey! and Five Encounters on a Site Called Craigslist comes a new experiment in storytelling. It's the story of a nation. It's the story of a theatre. It's the story of an audience. Outside there are people trying to get in. And in the middle of the room... apparently a show is taking place.

**"YESYESNONO make shows that feel completely different to anybody else"** Exeunt

OffWestEnd Award Finalist 2022 – Best Production  
Total Theatre Award Winner 2017

**Cast Members:** Sam Ward

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

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 12+

AUG 5-7-8-12-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 12+

## REFUGEE!

62 Gladstone Street presents in association with Landmark Theatres and THE UPSETTERS

A play about survival.

An archive for future generations. Collect, document, what have you witnessed?

'Nobody is a nobody. Life just moves.

Hope is hope is hope again. I have a harness.

Refugee.

I have a tightrope.

Refugee.

The stars. The moon. We all have something to play for. The sun. The sea.

You are not my enemy.'

**Cast Members:** Adi Detemo, Elina Akhmetova, Alaa Shehada & Sara Diab

**ROUNDABOUT** 11:45-12:55

AUG 25

£16 / £14 14+

**ROUNDABOUT** 23:10-00:20

AUG 22-23

£16 / £14 14+

## BELLRINGERS

Atticist, Ellie Keel Productions & Hampstead Theatre

*'What do you want me to say? That the world's ending? Would that be helpful?'*

The mushrooms are encroaching, fish are falling from the sky, and in a belltower Clement and Aspinall are waiting for lightning to strike. Superstition says that the ringing of church bells can dispel a storm. When it feels like the apocalypse is here, anything is worth a shot.

The Stage Producer of the Year, Ellie Keel Productions, and award-winning Atticist return to Roundabout with a debut play about being young at the end of the world. Finalist: The Women's Prize for Playwriting 2024.

**ROUNDABOUT** 13:15-14:20

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-7-8-9-10-11-12-14-15-16-17-18-19-21-22-23-24-25-26

£17 / £14.50 0+



Image: CWA Design

# MY MOTHER'S FUNERAL: THE SHOW

Paines Plough

**Abigail's mum is dead. But it turns out she can't afford her to be.**

Did you know how expensive it is to die? It's £4000 for the funeral. Extra for flowers. And even more if you want sausage rolls. Otherwise, she will get a council funeral and an unmarked grave.

Then, when a theatre suddenly pulls out of Abigail's new project, she is asked to write about something else. Something more raw, from her 'unique working class lens'. Something that will make the audience feel really, really bad about themselves. Audiences like that, apparently.

Yep. To afford the funeral, she has to write about her mum.

With power and playfulness, Kelly Jones's new play tackles the inequalities around death, and the cost of turning your loved ones into art.

**ROUNDABOUT** 14:40-15:50

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 14+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 14+

Image: Paines Plough



Image: Bradley Martin

## HOW I LEARNED TO SWIM

Prentice Productions in Association with Brixton House

Jamie can't swim. Bit awkward when you're 30. Fuelled by guilt and a need to mend her broken family, Jamie is taking on her biggest fear. The ocean.

With the help of a chipper swim instructor, a shady spiritual guide and one cathartic crab sandwich, she's questioning: 'How many lengths does it take to wash away regret?'

Brilliantly witty, deeply heartfelt, this play explores what lies beneath the surface of Black people's relationship to water.

Somebody Jones' searing debut is "funny with fear, liberating with grief" (Fringe Review) and impossible to walk away from unchanged.

**ROUNDBOUT** 16:10-17:10

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 16+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 16+



Image: Michael Windsor-Ungureanu

## PLAYFIGHT

Grace Dickson Productions and Theatre Uncut

No one likes crusty knickers and a broken heart. But that's just life, isn't it?

Three friends grow up under an ancient tree. They're filthy, brutal and full of hope. By turns hysterical and poignant, *Playfight* is a searing probe of their inner lives as they hunt for love. Proper, ugly love. As their roots sink deeper, the branches stretch higher... so they decide to climb.

Multi Fringe First-winning team Julia Grogan (*Gunter*), Theatre Uncut and Grace Dickson Productions present *Playfight*, shining a vivid light on adolescent desire in a landscape of rising sexual violence.

**ROUNDBOUT** 17:30-18:30

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 16+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 16+



Image: Aimee Morley

## TONES: A HIP-HOP OPERA

Wound Up Theatre

A man in a battle with his identity and on a journey through the depths of Black-British culture, class and belonging. What happens if you're not black enough for the ends, but too black for the rest of the world?

*Tones* combines the gritty underground sounds of Hip-Hop, Grime and Drill with the melodrama of Opera to present a piece of gig theatre like no other, as Jerome, aka The Professor, navigates his way through a treacherous path to self-discovery.

**Cast Members:** Gerel Falconer

**ROUNDBOUT** 18:50-19:50

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 14+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 14+



Image: Michael Wharley and design by Feast Creative

## VL

Francesca Moody Productions

Max and Stevie are just two wee guys trying to survive in an ordinary Scottish secondary school. But to survive, sometimes you need to hide. And there's no hiding when you're a VL.

VL = Virgin Lips. It means you've never kissed a lassie, or a laddie. The longer you stay a VL, the more of a VL you become.

The producers of *Fleabag* bring you another raucous and riotous comedy from the Fringe First Award-winning writers of *Square Go*, about young boys trying to navigate love, romance and status in the chaotic hormonal pressure cooker of a small-town school.

**ROUNDBOUT** 20:10-21:20

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 12+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 12+



Image: Jade Ang Jackman

## MAIN CHARACTER ENERGY

Temi Wilkey

This is Temi's show. It's all about her. Not you. Her. Temi got veeery good at being everybody's sassy best friend. Growing up a black girl in a white world shunts you into playing a side character in your own life. But now she's stepping into her *Main Character Energy* and it's your privilege and pleasure to give her all the attention she deserves. As self-aware as it is self-indulgent, this show is a high-energy cocktail of comedy, audience interaction and cabaret. An excuse to show Edinburgh how radiant Temi is.

**Cast Members:** Temi Wilkey

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

AUG 1-2-3-4-9-10-11-12-16-17-18-23-24-25

£17 / £14.50 16+

AUG 5-7-8-14-15-19-21-22-26

£16 / £14.50 16+



## 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, Wright&Grainger, Lauryn Redding, The Wardrobe Ensemble and Middle Child.

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

**ROUNDBOUT** 23:10-00:10

AUG 9-10-16-17

£8 / £7 16+

VISUAL ARTS

PERFORMANCE

ROUNDBOUT

LATE-NIGHT

As the great Beastie Boys once said: 'You gotta fight for your right to party'. And here at Summerhall, we take this affirmation very seriously. At a time when venue closures and event cancellations are rife, it's important that we continue to place emphasis on and celebrate the diversity of club culture and all the organisers, DJs, audiences and more that keep the party going. So this year, we're proud to bring you a late-night programme that features world-class artists, incredible collectives and some of the best of Edinburgh's nightlife. We all know the Fringe as an annual hotbed of creativity, innovation and groundbreaking new work, but since its inception, it's also always been about the gathering of communities, like-minded collaborators and pals, both old and new. And what better place to bring people together than on the Dissection Room dancefloor? Summerhall's late-night programme boasts a series of nights that are varied and inclusive, from queer clubbing institutions and impromptu raves to cult heroes and stars of ballroom culture. Everyone is welcome – join the party and catch you at our afters!

**Arusa Quereshi**  
Music Programme Manager  
Mare Music

## FEMMERGY AT THE FRINGE!

Femmergy Presents



Femmergy is an intersectional space to celebrate femme joy and art and have a good boogie. We work to platform DJs and artists from marginalised genders and prioritise inclusivity and safety.

We are so excited to be collaborating again with Summerhall for the Fringe opening party after selling out last year! Get on your dancing shoes and come join us for your fave femme night somewhere different!

Everyone is welcome.

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00-03:00  
AUG 3

£10 18+ STANDING ONLY

## MARE MUSIC AFTER HOURS



The lights dim, the tunes go on and the doors open – this August, the Library Gallery transforms into your new favourite Fringe House Party.

Mare Music: After Hours boasts a rotating line-up of Edinburgh's best DJs and exciting guests, curated by Edinburgh legend Arusa Quereshi – keep a close eye on socials for announcements!

Chilled post-show drinks or impromptu rave, it's up to you – just grab your pals and discover what's waiting for you after the sun goes down on Thursdays and Sundays throughout the festival.

LIBRARY GALLERY 21:00-01:00  
AUG 8·11·15·18·22·25

FREE 18+ STANDING ONLY

## HOT MESS

Sneaky Pete's Presents



Scotland's longest-running, most-beloved queer clubbing institution. Since 2010 Hot Mess has brought devoted crowds of dancers a playful taps-aff delight month after month. This Edinburgh festival special will be our biggest Hot Mess ever.

Eschewing big-name guest DJs and performance acts, the party's success derives from ecstatic and arousing music played by resident Simonotron: tear-drenched orchestral disco, high-NRG classics and bleepy psychedelic techno.

Offering dancefloor comfort and joy for people of all genders, sexualities, ethnicities and ages, Hot Mess will blow your mind, give you little forehead kisses and call you a good boy.

DISSECTION ROOM 22:00-03:00

AUG 9

£15 18+ STANDING ONLY

## OPTIMO ESPACIO

Optimo Presents



Optimo returns to Summerhall, their Edinburgh Spiritual home for their first East Coast party of 2024.

After a hectic summer touring schedule, JD Twitch and JG Wilkes are back at one of their favourite stops, at a time when the buzz is always off the scale. Expect a no-holds-barred four hours of dancefloor detonation and of course, as it is Optimo, be prepared to expect the unexpected.

DISSECTION ROOM 23:00-03:00

AUG 16

£15 18+ STANDING ONLY



## Q'IWA VOGUE NIGHT

Q'IWA Presents

Hold on to your wigs because Q'iwa is bringing a night of ballroom culture you won't forget! Vogue beats, an international Drag Race star with the hottest performers and dancers, renowned international and local DJs - baby this line-up is 10s across the board. Giving you a taste of authentic ballroom culture, we will have showcase performances from the local scene and very special international guests - basically queer expression at its finest! Everyone is welcome, we operate a "no hate" and "yes love" policy. Just spectacular vibes all night, so come dressed to impress and see you on the dancefloor honey.

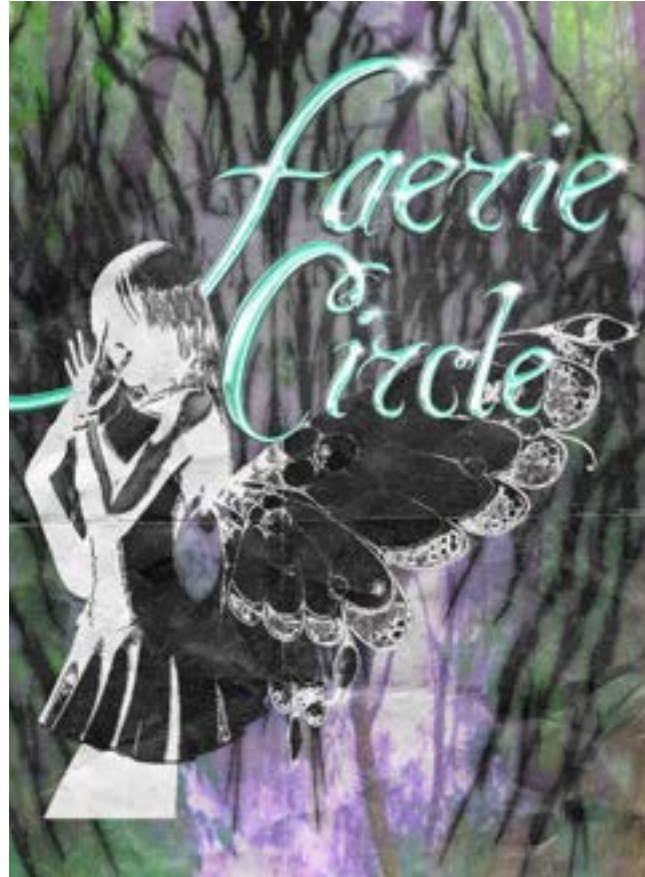
DISSECTION ROOM 23:00-03:00

AUG 10

£14 / £10 18+ STANDING ONLY

## FAERIE CIRCLE

Ratarsed Presents



Faerie Circle is an exciting new night to amplify the voices of divine feminine and queer performers, reclaiming fast and hard rhythms, providing a safe place to lose ourselves to the night. Featuring special guests, open decks, visual art, hardcore and faerie dust.

*'Someone who violates a faerie perimeter becomes invisible to mortals outside and may find it impossible to leave the circle. The fairies force the mortal to dance until they collapse in ecstasy'.*

DISSECTION ROOM 22:00-03:00

AUG 17

£14 / £9 18+ STANDING ONLY

## 249'S RAMSHACKLE QUEER PARTY FOR ALL – FRINGE SPECIAL

249 Nights Presents



249 is a Ramshackle Queer Party for All, flaunting exciting live acts and DJs from Edinburgh's music scene. After tearing Summerhall a new one last year, this year's event is hotly-tipped for the prestigious "Best in Fringe for Queer Minge and a Dance Award 2024". Hosted by Alice Rabbit, Scotland's hardest drag queen, featuring live club anthems from local superstar Chloe Roze and hunners more besides.

DISSECTION ROOM 22:00-03:00

AUG 23

£12 / £8 EARLY BIRD / £10 PRE-SALE 18+ STANDING ONLY

# LUCKYME® FESTIVAL CLOSING PARTY

Local and international label LUCKYME® return to their tradition of Edinburgh Festival parties with a line-up befitting their extensive roster: joining the dots between club music, hip-hop, jazz and the undefinable space between.

Previous Festival guests include Ben UFO, Rustie, TNGHT, Eclair Fifi and Benji B.

DISSECTION ROOM 22:00-03:00

AUG 24

£15 18+ STANDING ONLY







## Edinburgh International Film Festival

### 15-21 August 2024

Rebooted, relaunched and revitalised, Edinburgh International Film Festival (EIFF) looks to the future. The festival will be a global player celebrating the very best that cinema has to offer in a modern, energised context.

Local and international audiences will enjoy the depth and breadth of our programme, plus the chance to encounter new work in unusual and exciting venues right at the heart of the Fringe, in our beautiful city.

Emerging filmmakers compete for a meaningful financial reward, placement and showcasing in our ultra-selective programme.

Our industry programme will also provide the opportunity for encounters between industry veterans, experienced professionals, and emerging talent.

We are thrilled to be partnering with Summerhall for the first time this year, with screenings happening in the Red Lecture Theatre and other non-traditional spaces across the city.

## The Programme

- World Premiere feature films competing for the newly launched Sean Connery Prize for Feature Filmmaking Excellence and a Short Film Prize.
- Out of Competition UK premieres for films from around the world.
- A Midnight Madness programme celebrating the best in global genre cinema.
- A programme of retrospectives bringing film history and culture into the now.
- A dynamic industry programme for professionals to foster meaningful connections.

Partnership with new venues like Summerhall will grow an exciting relationship between audiences across artistic forms, with public and industry guests experiencing all the Fringe has to offer alongside our renowned programming.

We invite creators, industry leaders and independent film fans who want to be a part of the reimagining of a world-class festival to bookmark the EIFF website and start planning their trip to Edinburgh in August.

Passes go on sale early June and full line up announced 3 July.

[@edfilmfest](#) [edfilmfest.org](https://edfilmfest.org)

Images: Chris Scott, Lloyd Smith



# SUMMERHALL ARTS — WHAT ARE WE?

Summerhall Arts is a newly-formed and independently-governed charitable organisation housed within Summerhall. Our vision is to become Edinburgh's leading arts organisation, which cultivates creativity, fosters cultural exchange and enriches lives through a vibrant and inclusive programme of multi-disciplinary arts. We will deliver screenings of cultural cinema, exhibitions of contemporary art, and performances of new writing, adding to the cultural fabric of the country.

In response to the changing landscape of the arts in Scotland, Summerhall Arts has been established to protect an increasingly fragile artistic community and build on the important work in the visual and performative arts that has taken place at Summerhall since 2012.

At this critical time we desperately need to raise funds to deliver this ambitious and diverse programme of opportunities, for Edinburgh and Scotland-based artists to showcase their ideas and creativity in cinemas, on stages and in galleries.

Summerhall Arts supports opportunity, inclusivity and accessibility, and develops emerging and early-career artists, providing a safe space for creatives to play with form and find a voice.

In the current economic landscape and in the face of cuts to arts funding and a lack of suitable spaces, we need your help to ensure incredible events like the Edinburgh Fringe are populated with outstanding Scottish work.

We would love your support; there is more information on our website, but you can donate through the QR code here:



Thank you for your support.



## THE SPEAKEASY EXPERIENCE

Summerhall Distillery



Michaela McStay - Summerhall Distillery

Take a step back in time to the lively 1920s at our hidden bar, nestled away from the hustle and bustle of Summerhall's courtyard. Behind the inconspicuous workshop door lies a clandestine entrance to our prohibition-era bar. Your host will greet you in authentic attire, setting the scene for a nostalgic experience complete with era-appropriate drinks and music. Enjoy an hour of pre-theatre drinks, including two expertly crafted historical cocktails to kickstart your festival evening.

*"Drinks were delicious, would definitely recommend!"*  
audience member

*"Transported back to USA and the 1920's - music, cocktails, such a treat!"* audience member

SUMMERHALL DISTILLERY 19:00-20:00

AUG 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26

£20 18+



**THE ROYAL DICK  
KITCHEN OPEN DAILY**



# THE ROYAL DICK

The Royal Dick was once the Small Animal Hospital of the old Dick Vet School, now creatively transformed into a completely unique destination pub. The décor is a quirky mix of art from all over the world mixed with the authentic veterinary ephemera from the last 100 years.

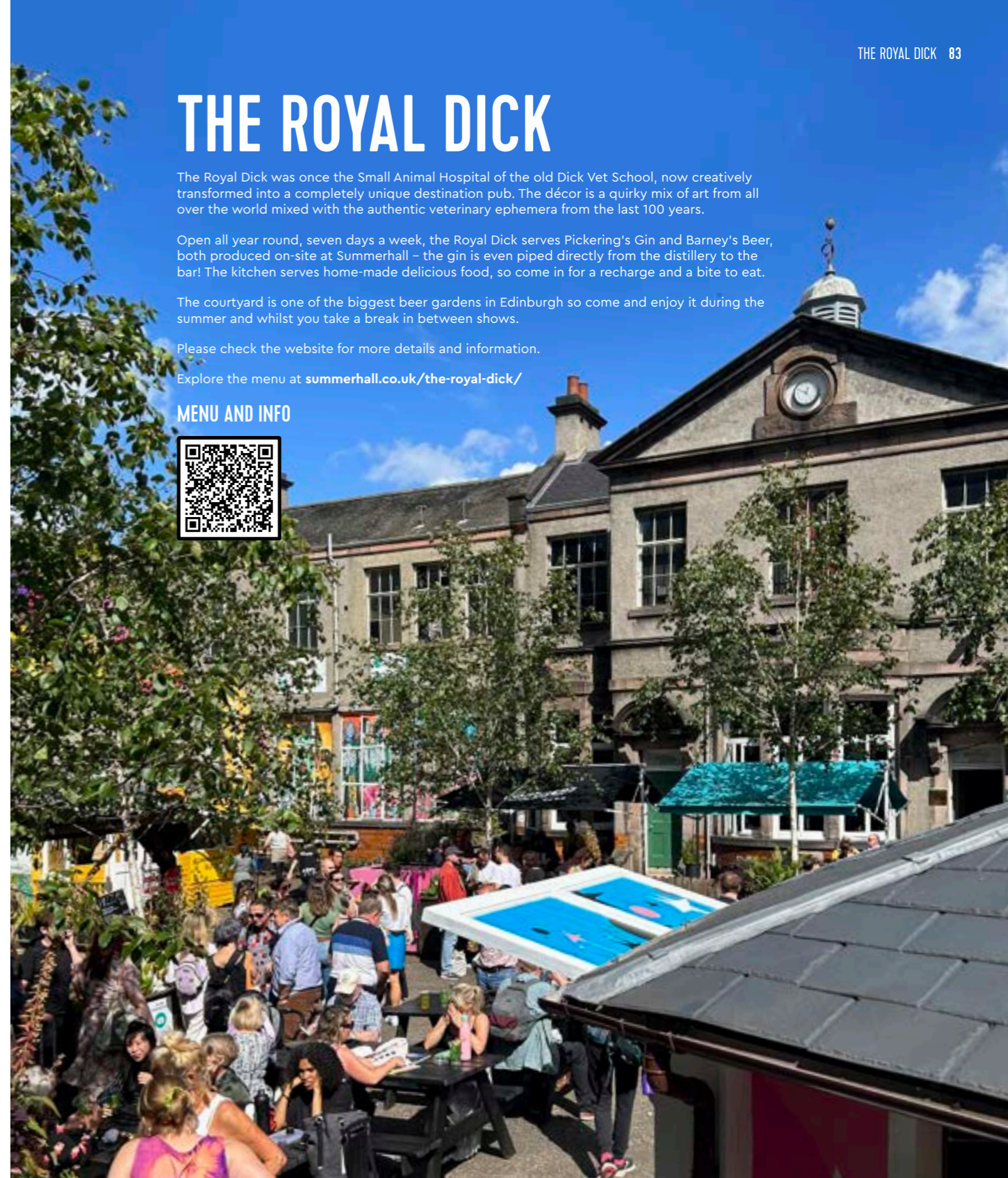
Open all year round, seven days a week, the Royal Dick serves Pickering's Gin and Barney's Beer, both produced on-site at Summerhall – the gin is even piped directly from the distillery to the bar! The kitchen serves home-made delicious food, so come in for a recharge and a bite to eat.

The courtyard is one of the biggest beer gardens in Edinburgh so come and enjoy it during the summer and whilst you take a break in between shows.

Please check the website for more details and information.

Explore the menu at [summerhall.co.uk/the-royal-dick/](http://summerhall.co.uk/the-royal-dick/)

### MENU AND INFO







# HOW TO FIND US

Summerhall is at the east end of the Meadows, on a street called Summerhall. We are less than a ten-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



# THE VENUE

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

## THE ROYAL DICK

The jewel in our crown is the 'The Royal Dick', an independent bar and restaurant, originally the old Small Animal Hospital, 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 'Pickering's Gin', 'Broody Hen Whisky' and 'Barney's' beer - 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 performances or when you need a place to sit and pick your next show. It is also where you will find our festival bars and food concessions. The courtyard will be packed full of surprises in every corner; make sure you keep your eyes peeled for specially-commissioned public art, creative and innovative interventions, and those other elements you can't 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.

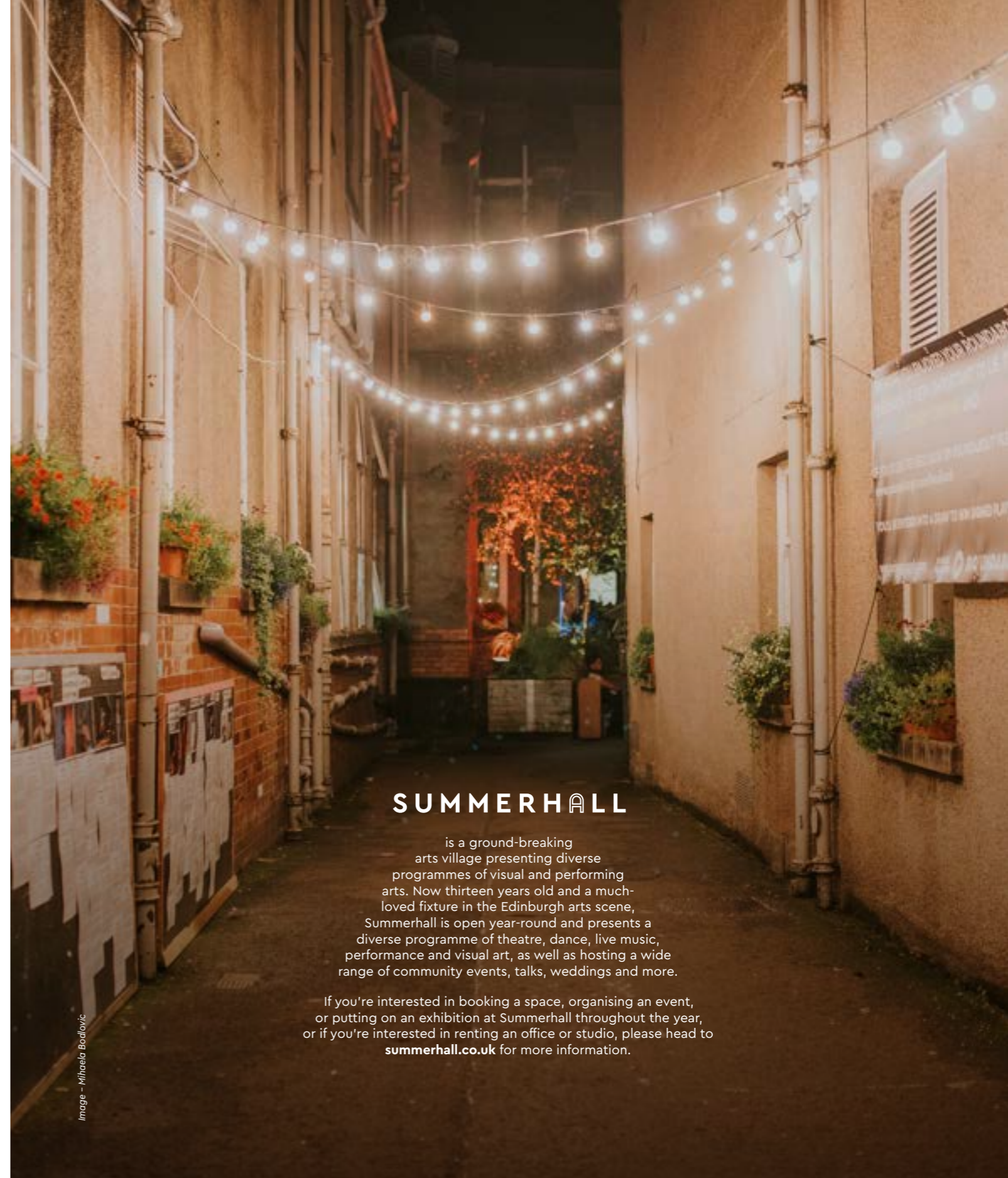
## REUSABLE CUPS

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 at the appropriate places.

Our amazing team are here to welcome you and be on hand to point you in the right direction, as well as giving you some advice on what to see next.



## SUMMERHALL

is a ground-breaking arts village presenting diverse programmes of visual and performing arts. Now thirteen years old and a much-loved fixture in the Edinburgh arts scene, Summerhall is open year-round and presents a diverse programme of theatre, dance, live music, performance and visual art, as well as hosting a wide range of community events, talks, weddings and more.

If you're interested in booking a space, organising an event, or putting on an exhibition at Summerhall throughout the year, or if you're interested in renting an office or studio, please head to [summerhall.co.uk](http://summerhall.co.uk) for more information.

