

# JULY 2024 WHAT'S ON

**PICKS OF  
THE  
MONTH**

## Stendhal Festival

Stendhal Festival offers you the chance to bring a little colour into your summer and “shake your tail feather”. The programme is packed with an amazing array of performances, art, workshops, and activities for all ages

**Read More on Page 04**

## Midsummer at The Lyric: A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Lyric brings the theatre outside this summer with a vibrant and spectacularly fun staging of William Shakespeare’s all time classic A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

**Read More on Page 20**



# School's Out for Summer

School's out, rain's in - summer in Northern Ireland has officially started! Good thing there's plenty happening this month to keep all ages entertained whatever the weather. Our picks this month include Northern Ireland's biggest grass-roots music and arts festival – Stendhal Festival. Stendhal Festival offers you the chance to “bring a little colour into your summer and shake your tail feather“, the programme is packed with an amazing array of music, performances, art, workshops, and activities. Another highlight in our guide this month is the Lyric Theatre's vibrant and spectacularly fun staging of William Shakespeare's all time classic *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which will be an open-air theatre experience in collaboration with the Belfast City Council's Belfast 2024 programme of events. This is the first staging the Lyric has undertaken in its outdoor space, where they will create a brand-new “Wooden O Stage”, for an immersive experience into Shakespeare's world-bending comedy.

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES

Looking for ways to bring social value to your business? We've a host of opportunities available for our business member network.



Opportunities for businesses to support 'The People's Panto', an innovative project which seeks to improve access to the arts during the festive period for families from disadvantaged communities.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



BookTrust NI is seeking support for their StoryTime initiative which aims to create engaging and enjoyable reading experiences for families, helping to build parental confidence and increase families' motivation to share stories at home.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



Prime Cut Productions are seeking partners who are interested in innovation, environmentalism and how digital and live projects can work together, to partner on their new production *Aurora* and support their outreach work.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



Artistic hub QSS Studios and Galleries is celebrating its 40th Birthday this year, there are lots of ways businesses can get involved, including opportunities for staff exhibition preview events, tours and community outreach.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# FAMILY FRIENDLY

## Messy Giggles - Messy Play, Music & Movement

**Boom Studios Bangor/Local Outdoor Sessions**  
**Sat 27 July**

A mashup of our Messy Mornings and our good pal Squiggles & Giggles, bring your wee ones for an extra fun-packed session of music, movement and art.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## Seussical Jnr

**The Avenue Arts Centre, Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 6FL**  
**26 & 27 July**

The Avenue Arts Academy junior summer project are proud to present Seussical Jr. Join our 30 strong cast as they take you on a journey of music and dance with all your D. Seuss favourite characters.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

**Grand Opera House**  
**23 July - 3 August**

A brand new production of the most fantasmagorical musical of all time flies into the Grand Opera House for two weeks only! A brand-new production of this much-loved family favourite stars Adam Garcia (Wicked, Kiss Me Kate, Coyote Ugly) as Caractacus Potts, Liam Fox (Emmerdale) as Grandpa Potts and Charlie Brooks (The Ocean at the End of the Lane, EastEnders) as the Childcatcher.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# FAMILY FRIENDLY

## Titanic Céilí

### Titanic Slipways 21 July

Go the Extra Mile by getting your dancing shoes on and taking part in the Titanic Ceili on the historic slipways as part of Belfast Tradfest.

► [Click here to see more](#)

## Cinemagic Young Consultants

### Ulster Museum & Flowerfield Arts Centre

Join the Cinemagic Young Consultants for 2 days to watch new international films, to debate and discuss and choose a selection to be included in the 2024 Cinemagic Festival Programme. Please bring a packed lunch/snacks for the duration of the event and please do not include products containing nuts due to any allergies children may have. Upon purchasing this ticket Cinemagic will email you a consent form to be completed ahead of attending the event. The event takes place in the Lecture Theatre in The Ulster Museum. Age 15-17yrs - 18 & 19 July; Age 12-14yrs - 20 & 21 July; Age 8-11yrs - 23 & 24 July at Ulster Museum or 25 & 26 July at Flowerfield Arts Centre Portstewart. Booking essential

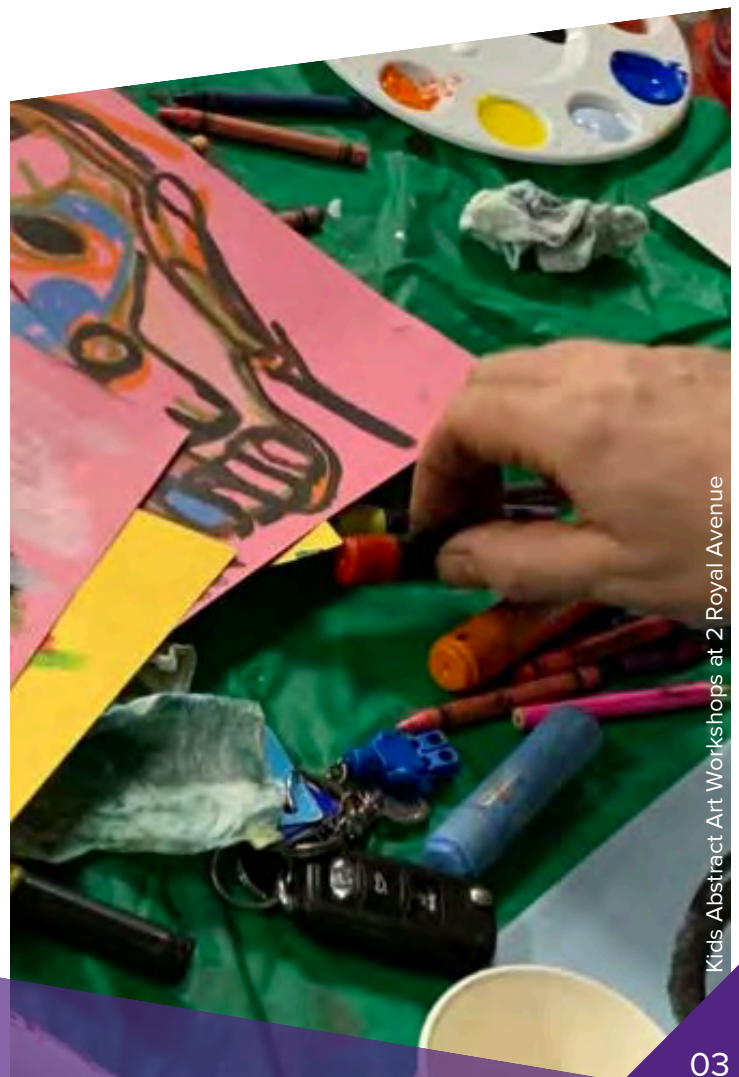
► [Click here to see more](#)

## Kids Abstract Art Workshop

### 2 Royal Avenue 6 July, 11am-12pm

Design and create your own finished pieces in our exciting new workshop, which is a chance to learn about the making of abstract art through demonstrations and guidance from our artists.

► [Click here to see more](#)



Kids Abstract Art Workshops at 2 Royal Avenue

# FESTIVALS

## Stendhal Festival

### Ballymully Cottage Farm, Limavady 4 - 6 July

Stendhal Festival is Northern Ireland's biggest and best grass-roots music and arts festival. With performances from the likes of Basement Jaxx, Embrace, The Wailers, Ash, The Magic Numbers, The Hothouse Flowers and the Ulster Orchestra taking place over Ballymully Cottage Farm, Limavady, there is certainly plenty of musical variety but did you know that the festival also has a dedicated family programme that caters to children and families of all ages? We only have room to pick out a few examples but go online to see the full programme.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

### Stendhal Festival: Heather Small

Without question one of the most recognisable voices in British popular music, Heather Small has seen and done it all in a stellar career. As Part of M People, hits such as 'Moving On Up', 'One Night In Heaven' and 'Search For The Hero' and albums like *Elegant Slumming*, *Bizarre Fruit* and *Fresco*, saw Heather achieve massive worldwide success.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

### Stendhal Festival: Skinny Living

Skinny Living's story is one of struggle, troubling situations and relentless hard graft. It's also one of synchronicity, chance meetings, and the unflinching belief that their glorious indie soul music will reach the audience it deserves. Their potential is there to see. Echoing Bill Withers, The Isley Brothers and Paolo Nutini, their songs shimmer with a timeless, gentle beauty, exquisite vocal harmonies and a lyrical wisdom that inspires optimism and reflection in equal measure.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

PICK OF  
THE  
MONTH

### Stendhal Festival: The Seeger Sessions Revival

The 13-piece band 'reviving' the spirit, energy and musical exuberance that was Bruce Springsteen's Seeger Sessions album and live shows. This diverse group of talented musicians deliver a high energy on-stage celebration with hits including 'Old Dan Tucker', 'Jesse James' and 'American Land' to name just a few.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

### Stendhal Festival: Toya Delazy

Zulu musician Toya Delazy has been smashing down musical and cultural boundaries with aplomb, playing sold out shows across London, to Glastonbury, Mixmag or Keep Hush. From hefty 200bpm pounding to extraordinarily complex polyrhythms, her beats and rhymes are multilingual, multicultural. Now based in London, the Zulu rapper, is no slouch as a producer; but she also knows how to pick the perfect collaborators to fit her "Afrorave" aesthetic.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# FESTIVALS



Belfast Tradfest Photo credit: Liam McBurney/Alamy

## Belfast TradFest

**Venues across Belfast**  
**21 - 28 July**

TradFest is back for its sixth-annual festival with 370 events of concerts, songs and dance, filling Belfast with traditional music to change 'the sound of the city'.

This summer's Belfast TradFest will feature an array of internationally acclaimed musicians, singers, and dancers, alongside emerging local artists.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Open House Festival: Picnic in the Park

**Ward Park Bandstand, Bangor**  
**Sundays in July**

A series of free events starting at 3pm each Sunday in July. Feel free to bring a picnic, camping chairs, and suncream. If you have any accessibility requirements please contact the organisers. Headline acts include The Gold Tips, Monday's Child, Jackie Rainey & The Sweet Treats.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## EastSide Arts Festival

**various venues**  
**25 July - 4 August**

EastSide Arts Festival encompasses a wide variety of artforms in a diverse, innovative and quirky programme that is unique to the East of the city. The Festival presents a showcase of the extraordinary artists, venues, spaces and communities of east Belfast for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Sailortown Festival

**Sailortown**  
**26 - 28 July**

Throughout the three day festival, you can explore free exhibitions relating to the past, present and future of Sailortown and support Sailortown Regeneration. Cabaret, bingo, afternoon tea - something for everyone! Check out the programme online.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# GET INVOLVED

## Leaders on Arts Boards

### Applications NOW Open Apply by 15 July

Aspiring board members are being invited to apply for Arts & Business NI's Leaders on Arts Boards programme, a pioneering professional development and board placement initiative, which is open to individuals of all ages, abilities and backgrounds who are interested in developing their leadership skills and taking up a new position on the board of a local arts organisation. Through the initiative participants develop strategic leadership skills, meet likeminded people and gain experience of contributing to a board that matches their interests and expertise. Interested professionals are encouraged to apply by 15 July 2024.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



▶ **Strategic leadership and governance training**

▶ **Open doors and ignite new connections**

▶ **Matched with an arts board that aligns with your skills and interests**



Curious about our Leaders on Arts Boards Programme? Watch our information webinar to find out everything you need to know to take part. We'll dive into the details, discussing both the Young Leaders and Business Leaders programme tiers, covering the application process, course information, how we make board matches and the benefits of taking part.

▶ [Click to Book](#)

# GET INVOLVED

## Ulster Youth Opera workshops (age 8-18)

**Ardhowen Enniskillen - 4 July**  
**MAC Belfast - 6 July**  
**The Playhouse Derry - 8 July**

Do you know a young person who loves singing and acting? Ulster Youth Opera sessions are now available in Belfast, Derry and Enniskillen! Members work with professional singers, directors and pianists to build vocal, acting and movement skills while learning about this amazing art form. 8-13 sessions and 14-18 sessions available, with no music reading ability or singing grades required. Just join in and enjoy the magical world of opera! Only £3 per session! "My daughter has loved both the singing and drama aspects of these sessions – she loves the magic of watching what it becomes. She came out empowered, joyful, confident and enthusiastic for the next challenge!" For more information see the webpage.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Murder Trial Tonight II

**Ulster Hall**  
**5 & 6 July**

This unique and captivating immersive theatre experience invites audiences to step into the shoes of a juror and participate in a thrilling murder trial. In this new case, audiences will delve into the dark and mysterious world of a newly married couple whose anniversary dinner takes a tragic turn. Heather Banks, the protagonist, reports a road rage incident involving a driver of a white transit van and provides a detailed e-fit of their attacker.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## The Bruiser Arts Academy

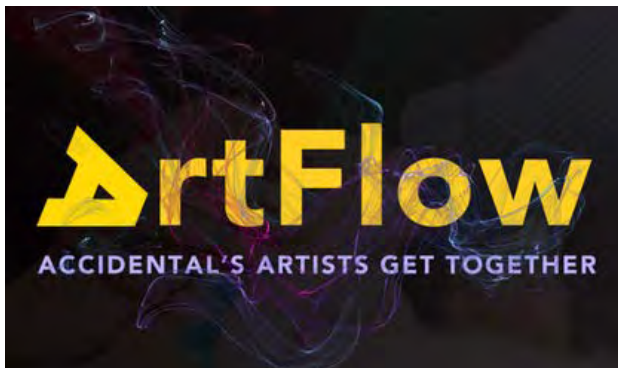
**The MAC, Belfast**  
**July & August**

Are you passionate about performance? Do you want an opportunity to hone your skills? We'd love to see you audition for The Bruiser Arts Academy 2024! We offer courses for young people age 12-18 and 18+. During the programme, we focus on enhancing performance skills and professional development, equipping our students to perform at the best of their ability. Serious stuff aside, it's a lot of fun too. You'll work with Northern Ireland's best directors, musicians and dancers to create a showcase performance to show the world what you're made of!

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# GET INVOLVED



## ArtFlow: Accidental's Artists Get Together

**Accidental Theatre, Belfast  
7 July**

ArtFlow is a monthly Sunday where Accidental's venue opens up for artists to come in, meet other artists, exchange skills, culture, and personal life together. These sessions aim to foster collaboration between different artforms and to provide support, space, and motivation to bands, writers, performers, and individual artists.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Belfast Summer School of Traditional Music

**Ulster University, York Street  
22 - 26 July**

The Summer School's team of tutors is made up of internationally renowned performers with proven track records as teachers and educationalists. From beginner classes to intermediate and advanced, slow sessions and a variety of afternoon events including talks, demonstrations and taster sessions; there's something for everyone.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Summer Intensive: Introduction To Mosaic

**Crescent Arts Centre  
22 - 26 July**

This week-long Summer course is an introduction to the basics of mosaic. Starting with card mosaic you will be shown the methods of mosaic making. Then using traditional glass tiles and broken crockery you will create your own mosaic picture to take home. Some materials will be provided but please bring along any chipped or broken crockery that you would like to recycle! Once you have mastered the techniques of mosaic you will be able to use it at home to create all sorts of things from mirrors to planters. Age 18+

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# GET INVOLVED

## Summer Intensive: Introduction To Watercolour Painting

**Crescent Arts Centre**  
**22 - 26 July**

This week-long Summer course is an introduction to watercolour painting and a fun way to begin using the medium. It is especially for those who might feel unsure if they can do it or for those who want an easy way to start. You will learn a variety of techniques and produce a small painting each session, under the step-by-step guidance of the tutor. You need no experience of painting - just a willingness to have a go! A basic materials list will be provided prior to the course starting. Age 16+

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Outburst Salon: discussion

**The Good Room, Bullitt Hotel**  
**8 July**

Salon is Outburst's monthly discussion space on issues and ideas in queer art. This time we ask... who is calling the shots when it comes to what queer ideas and art gets funded, showcased and past the algorithmic gatekeepers? Are institutional & corporate diversity and inclusion agendas impacting the radical potentials of queer art and culture? Come get involved in the discussion or just listen in, everyone is welcome. Booking essential.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## InterAct Youth Arts Festival

**Millennium Forum**  
**8-20 July**

Hosted by the Millennium Forum alongside its enthusiastic Youth Forum, this year's event is hitting the road, bringing a burst of creative energy to local community centres, St Mary's Youth Club, Lincoln Courts Youth & Community Association, Culmore Community Centre, Newbuildings Community Centre, Learning Pool and also in-house at the Millennium Forum.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# VISUAL ARTS & LITERATURE

## Boom Studios Art Exhibition: 10 x 10 @ 10

### The Gallery Whitehead 1 - 31 July

Part of Boom Studios' 10th birthday celebrations, 10 artists past and present show 10 works each in this wonderful gallery. Join us for the opening event on 6th July (6-8pm) or visit any time during opening hours in July.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Sketch Walk on Tour! Whitehead & Gallery Visit

### Whitehead Promenade 27 July

Normally based in Bangor, Boom Studios' sketch walk class goes on tour this month! Join us in Whitehead to capture the beautiful promenade and seafront vistas before heading in to The Gallery Whitehead for a tour of our 10th anniversary exhibition. Led by exhibiting artist Jenni Robinson.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Belfast Stitched

### Belfast Exposed Until 27 July

Leon Krige is a South African photographer and architect on a mission to capture the intricate urban landscapes of major cosmopolitan cities. His unique photographic approach predominantly involves high-resolution photography, primarily conducted during the night time hours. After an engaging and insightful opening event, Belfast Exposed is delighted to host Leon's latest show until the end of July.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## 'Degrowth Utopia'

### Belfast Exposed 4 - 27 July

Kicking off the Belfast Exposed Emerging Curator Programme, 'Degrowth Utopia' borrows the economic concept of 'degrowth' as a departure point to explore an alternative future where ecological sustainability replaces the system of capitalism. Grace O'Boyle is a curator and writer from Donegal currently based in Dublin and 'Degrowth Utopia' features the work of Joshua Jensen and Ró Dennis.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## 'Sanctuaries' by the Queer Artist Forum

### Belfast Exposed 4 - 27 July

The Queer Artist Forum is proud to present its second group exhibition facilitated by Belfast Exposed. 'Sanctuaries' will feature the work of several local lens-based artists, each tackling themes of both religious and broader cultural judgement of queer individuals, and their forms of resistance.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# VISUAL ARTS & LITERATURE

## Silver Screening: The Odd Couple (1968)

**Strand Arts Centre at Connswater  
Shopping Centre  
25 July at 2pm**

At our new home in Connswater Shopping Centre during Strand's refurbishment! Silver Screenings is a great opportunity not just to see a movie classic, but also for people to meet and interact, and enjoy a trip down memory lane. Films are chosen with seniors in mind but open to anyone who loves a classic movie! Tickets are £4 and include free tea, coffee and biscuits. American comedy film directed by Gene Saks starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau as two divorced men – neurotic neat-freak Felix Unger and fun-loving slob Oscar Madison – who decide to live together which has interesting consequences. Our new Connswater space has limited capacity (25-30) pre-booking is recommended. Part of EastSide Arts Festival.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Inquiry

**Belfast Exposed  
2 May - 29 June**

This exhibition is an ongoing body of work by Chad Alexander. The series was created in Belfast and centres on people, predominantly men, and urban spaces the artist knows personally or has encountered by chance. Alexander explores how conflict has impacted and shaped certain masculine identities, which are often associated with violence and "manliness". The work explores the links between how a heritage of conflict is dealt with and the emergence of new violence among people and communities. This exhibition is curated by Dawn Richardson of Hosta Projects, supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, NI Mental Health Arts Festival and Belfast Exposed.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Glass Runway

**Craft NI Gallery  
until 25 July**

The Glass Society of Ireland, in collaboration with The Council of Irish Fashion Designers, is delighted to present a unique exhibition of wearable glass! This show is aimed at addressing gender equality, diversity and inclusion in the fashion world through exploring glass as a wearable material for all. The exhibition will feature 20 artists and designers showing collaborative and individual pieces which include glass bags, millinery, dresses and jewellery. The industry term "Glass Runway" refers to gender inequality which touches many arms of society.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# VISUAL ARTS & LITERATURE

## EastSide Arts: Belfast Literary Summer Yard Sessions

### Templemore Baths 25 July

Following last year's festival success, the Thomas Carnduff Appreciation Society offers its second literary Summer Yard Session. This year's theme is 'Borders, Boundaries and Barriers'. The session features a panel of renowned authors, chaired by Dr. Connal Parr and featuring Rosemary Jenkinson, Wendy Erskine, Tony Black, Heather Currie and Eddie Currie, with Stephen Knox as MC. Together they will celebrate the rich literature and language traditions of Northern Ireland and across our shared Isles. Age 18+

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## EastSide Festival: The Short Story Writers' Toolkit

### EastSide Visitor Centre 27 July

Interested in writing short stories? Struggling to know where to start? Wondering how and when to end your story? This interactive course, facilitated by Belfast-based writer Jan Carson, will guide you through the basics of writing imaginative and engaging short stories. The session will focus upon key themes such as developing ideas, writing believable characters and convincing dialogue, plot, structure, pacing and concision. This workshop will be engaging, fun and packed full of useful tips and exercises. It's suitable for beginning writers. All you need is a notebook, a pen and a fully functioning imagination.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## EastSide Festival: Return to Stillness – Poetry Reading and Q&A

### St Martin's Church, 88 Newtownards Rd. Belfast BT4 1GW

#### 28 July

In a world of constant noise, let these poems give you a moment of peace. Acclaimed poets Maureen Boyle and Deirdre Cartmill create a stillness in their work, connecting with something deeper. The Last Spring of the World is Maureen Boyle's second collection, untold stories of place and people - from Boyle's hometown, Strabane to John Donne's wife Ann on the Isle of Wight. The Wind Stills to Listen was birthed when Deirdre Cartmill had two heart attacks, days apart, at the age of 43. These unflinching poems dive into grief, explore boundaries, and let us hear the voice of Mary Magdalene sing out. Signed copies of the books will be on sale.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Submissions now open for catflap #4

### Outburst Arts Deadline noon Monday 29 July

Submissions are now open for the 4th edition of catflap, Outburst's acclaimed annual publication of smart new queer writing with a disco heart. catflap loves exciting, sharp, bold, tender, daring queer commentary and poetry; send your queer essays, curious critiques, and personal provocations that ask vital and beautifully dangerous questions. What you can submit: 1. Essays of up to 5,000 words 2. Two or three poems (maximum). Email your work in Word or PDF format only to [hello@outburstarts.com](mailto:hello@outburstarts.com) with the email subject line CATFLAP SUBMISSION 2024. More information on the website.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# MUSIC & DANCE

## Springtime, Summertime and Mischief - free live gig

### Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart 27 July, 12-1pm

Join us for an hour of arias and songs on a theme of 'Springtime, Summertime and Mischief!' featuring free live gigs on the Flowerfield Arts Centre terrace, where top local performers will serenade you in the beautiful surroundings of Flowerfield Park. So pack your picnic, grab your camp chairs or bring a cosy blanket and join us for a delightful Saturday Lunchtime Live in the Park performance as part of The Red Sails Festival.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## EastSide Electronics 2024: Lil' Louis (The Founding Father of House)

### C.S.Lewis Square, Belfast 27 July

The Night Institute returns with their flagship open air celebration of Electronic Music at C.S. Lewis Square. Pioneer, Icon, Mogul, and Renaissance man are all words that describe Lil Louis. An international Artist, Producer, Songwriter, DJ, Author and Director, Lil' Louis is credited as being the Founding Father of House Music. This Summer he celebrates 50 years in music alongside Timmy Stewart, Jordan Nocturne, Ricky Chong & Kate Harahan. Age 18+ with ID.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## Mélange of Mezzi - a free summer lunchtime recital

### First Church, Rosemary St, Belfast 24 July 1.15 - 2pm

A free lunchtime concert performed by NI Opera mezzo-sopranos, accompanied by piano, as part of the Summer Recital Series at First Church Belfast on Rosemary St. Doors open 1pm, all welcome!

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Seán Maguire: Ómós

### The MAC Belfast 23 July

Join Tradfest as part of their Summer Festival, in association with The Seán Maguire Music Society. Featuring Cathal Hayden, Tara Breen, Zoe Conway, Niall Murphy, Seán Smyth, Conor Caldwell, Ryan Molloy, River McGann, Johnny Murphy & Students.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# MUSIC & DANCE

## Opera at The Courthouse

### The Courthouse, Bangor 31 July, 7pm

Join us for a one hour performance of arias and songs in The Courthouse in Bangor – our first time performing in this wonderful venue! Enjoy a performance of some of opera's best-loved arias, duets and songs along with some hidden gems, directed by Northern Ireland Opera's Artistic Director, Cameron Menzies. Whether you are a fully-fledged opera fan or want to try something new, come and experience some beauty and escapism with Northern Ireland Opera in a relaxed and enjoyable performance.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Cosmic Jam

### Accidental Theatre, Belfast 23 July

Accidental Theatre open mic. We're providing a full backline so you can rock up and experiment with a range of instruments and an excited audience. Whether you're a jazz trumpeter or a funk ensemble, producing hip-hop or playing modular synths, any person with any style can jump up on stage and perform or jam with anyone else. You can book your performing slot or get an audience ticket to enjoy listening to exclusive music of different styles. BYOD Policy.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## July Sundays on the Maritime Mile

### Various locations along Belfast's Waterfront

#### 28 July

As part of the Go the Extra Mile campaign, Sundays on the Maritime Mile are back, offering free music performances running from 12 noon to 5pm the last Sunday of the month until August, popping up at various locations along Belfast's waterfront.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

Image: Opera at the Courthouse. Press eye



# MUSIC & DANCE

## Dragaoke with Lady Portia

**The Portico of Ards  
15 July**

Presented in association with Portaferry Gala, this is karaoke with a difference - it's hosted by the utterly fabulous Lady Portia Di'Monte! If you love to sing, preferably in tune (do feel free to practise!), and feel able to get up on the stage after a gin or two.... this is the event for you! And if you're having palpitations at the very thought then come along and watch the spectacle! Supported by Ards and North Down Borough Council.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## The Giulia Marro Trio

**Black Box (Green Room), Belfast  
7 July**

The Giulia Marro trio is led by Northern Irish clarinet player and vocalist Giulia Marro. These Birmingham based musicians came together 3 years ago sharing their passion for music from the 1920's–1940's. Giulia, a rising star on the UK jazz scene, has led bands across the West Midlands and Northern Ireland in popular jazz venues and captivates audiences with her warm vibrato filled tone. She will be joined by two of Birmingham's best rhythm section players, Ben Love and Tom Ward, both virtuosic players who have performed as side men and band leaders across the UK. They will play original compositions and their own arrangements of tunes from the swing era. Presented by Moving On Music.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Róis + Córás Trio

**Crescent Arts Centre  
26 July**

Róis is an Irish composer, multi-instrumentalist and performer whose songs explore diverse modes of expression; forging an idiosyncratic blend of folk and Sean-nós, electronics, jazz harmony and extended vocal techniques. Always changing her set lists for each performance, people describe them as transcendent and unearthly. Belfast's Córás Trio are steeped in free improv, electronic music, and the city's "seisiún" or session scene. Comprising of Kevin McCullagh (fiddle, electronics), Paddy McKeown (guitar, electronics) and Conor McAuley (drums), the trio are part of a new creative wave of musicians based in Belfast exploring how traditional music relates to the experience of the 21st century. Presented by Belfast TradFest.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# MUSIC & DANCE

## Sarah Beth Briggs

### The Portico of Ards 12 May

Pianist Sarah Beth Briggs – an artist of extraordinary magnetism (Michael Kennedy, Daily Telegraph) – is a leading recitalist, concerto soloist, and chamber musician. Her professional career was launched at the age of eleven when she became the then youngest-ever finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year and a recipient of a Dame Myra Hess Award. Sarah is a celebrated artist at societies and festivals throughout the UK, acclaimed by promoters and critics for her performances and for her engaging and informative introductions to recital programmes. Supported by Lottery Project Funding from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



Sarah Beth Briggs at the Portico of Ards

## The 4 of Us

### The Portico of Ards 18 May

David Hull Promotions Presents – The 4 of Us. We are delighted to welcome back the gorgeous sound of Brendan & Declan Murphy. Performing the highlights of their award-winning career, along with new material from their upcoming album “Crescent Nights”, this show will be a chance to hear “Mary”, “Washington Down”, “Sunlight”, “She Hits Me”, and many more classics in an acoustic setting - in the beautiful surrounds of the grade A listed architecture of Portico.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## City of Derry Jazz & Big Band Festival presents: Paul McIntyre with Special Guests

### The Playhouse Derry 5 May

The Paul McIntyre Quartet features Paul on sax and piano. Paul is delighted to be joined by Hugh Buckley guitar (Dublin), Rodolfo Cervetto drums (Genoa, Italy) and Dan Bodwell double bass (USA). This fabulous quartet shall perform music from the Great American songbook and classics from the Hardbop and Modern jazz eras. The line up and ambience of the quartet morphs and transitions as Paul selectively performs pieces on sax or piano.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# SEE A SHOW

## Ghost: The Musical

### Belvoir Studio Theatre 17 - 20 July

Adapted from the beloved movie, Ghost The Musical follows Sam and Molly, a young couple whose connection takes a shocking turn after Sam's untimely death. The bond of love transcends the boundaries of life itself and, desperate to protect her, Sam turns to Oda Mae Brown, a storefront psychic, to help him communicate with Molly. Ghost The Musical is a poignant romance that builds comedy, suspense, and deeply felt emotion to an ethereal climax that you will never forget.

► [Click here to see more](#)



## Annie Jr

### Belvoir Studio Theatre 24 - 28 July

NISMAT Theatre School is proud to bring their Summer Project to Belvoir Studio Theatre! After last year's sellout run of Matilda they return with the tale of the plucky orphan Annie, who charms everyone around her in this heartwarming tale. Featuring some of the most well-loved musical numbers of all time from Hard Knock Life to Tomorrow, we promise you a showstopping performance from our young people, who have been working tirelessly on bringing this story to life.

► [Click here to see more](#)

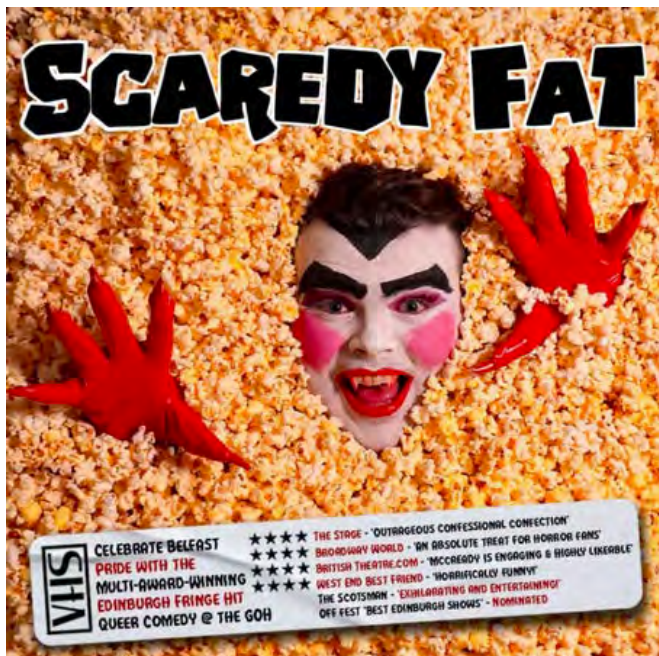
## Paul Smith

### Millennium Forum 4 - 6 July

Get ready to experience the jaw-aching, laugh-out-loud comedy that only Smith can deliver. This is Paul Smith's biggest and funniest tour show yet, and it promises to have you rolling around in laughter with every joke. The show features a mix of his trademark audience interaction and hilarious true stories from his everyday life.

► [Click here to see more](#)

# SEE A SHOW



## Scaredy Fat

**Grand Opera House**  
**23 - 27 July**

Scaredy's working the late shift at the cinema. Stuffed with steamy recollections of Carrie and Candyman, Scaredy should be in ecstasy but evil horror host Count Calories keeps cutting in on the fun. It's time for Scaredy to face their fears and stop being such a big Scaredy Fat. Winner of the LET Award 2023 and Nominated for four Dublin Fringe Awards including Best Performer, the big gay smash hit from the team behind Two Fingers Up is not to be missed.

► [Click here to see more](#)

## Anton & Giovanni: Together - The Live Tour

**Waterfront Hall**  
**15 July**

Strictly Come Dancing's Anton Du Beke and Giovanni Pernice return to the stage and promise more fun, more dance, more song, and even more entertainment. Together will be a mesmerising experience for all ages, showcasing the duo's incredible talents and irresistible chemistry on stage! With a collection of breathtaking routines, innovative choreography, and a seamless blend of traditional and contemporary dance styles, plus musical theatre, Anton and Giovanni guarantees an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

► [Click here to see more](#)

## Luke Kidgell: Happy Hour

**Ulster Hall**  
**31 July**

After his sold out International 'Cheers to that!' tour, Luke Kidgell is back on the road with his brand-new show 'Happy Hour'. Luke has amassed over 3.5 Million fans online for his viral stand up videos, often showcasing outrageous and quick witted crowd interactions. Luke is also known for co-hosting the Luke and Meg Podcast, the BLT podcast and for his multiple comedy specials which feature on YouTube and Amazon Prime. Now he is bringing his brand new stand up show 'Happy Hour' all around the country.

► [Click here to see more](#)

# SEE A SHOW

## Sunset Boulevard

**Grand Opera House**  
**18 - 20 July**

A Grand Opera House Summer Youth Production. Based on the Billy Wilder film of the same title, the Paramount Pictures film is famously rated as one of the greatest films ever made. The musical version, with its heart-stopping music, will give the immense talents of the Theatre's Summer Youth Production's young stars the perfect platform on which to shine and captivate audiences.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope (1977)

**Strand Arts Centre**  
**4 & 5 July**

How could we not screen Star Wars before we closed for refurb? Luke Skywalker joins forces with a Jedi Knight, a cocky pilot, a Wookiee and two droids to save the galaxy from the Empire's world-destroying battle station, while also attempting to rescue Princess Leia from the mysterious Darth Vader.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## The Bitter Fringes Comedy Shows

**Accidental Theatre, Belfast**  
**2 - 26 July**

Accidental Comedy Club presents The Bitter Fringes, a season of Edinburgh previews and work in progress shows from some of the best local acts either going to Edinburgh or too broke or lazy to bother.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



# SEE A SHOW

PICK OF  
THE  
MONTH

## Midsummer at The Lyric: A Midsummer Night's Dream

**Lyric Theatre, Belfast**  
**4 - 7 July**

The Lyric brings the theatre outside this summer with a vibrant and spectacularly fun staging of William Shakespeare's all time classic A Midsummer Night's Dream – where lovers fall in and out and in to love, spirits and sprites haunt the forest, an actor turns into a donkey and magic and mischief abounds everywhere. This open air theatre experience is part of Midsummer At The Lyric, in collaboration with the Belfast City Council's Belfast 2024 programme of events. This is the first staging the Lyric has undertaken in its outdoor space, where they will create a brand-new "Wooden O Stage", for an immersive experience into Shakespeare's world-bending comedy. The production will be delivered in collaboration with ArtsEkta, Chinese Welfare Association, Rogue Encounters with live music provided by Beyond Skin.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## The Daughters of Róisín

**Lyric Theatre, Belfast**  
**23 - 26 July**

A hard-hitting play that explores the harrowing history of church and state-sanctioned abuse against pregnant women out of wedlock in Ireland over the last 100 years. Moving, angry and fuelled with fiery activism, this one-woman show is a rallying cry for women everywhere to rise up, stand tall and eradicate Ireland's ancient shame. Inspired by Aoibh Johnson's great-grandmother, the play has toured widely across Ireland and the UK, including sell-out shows in London, Belfast and Dublin. The play also had its Australian debut at the Adelaide Fringe in 2019.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# Opportunities & Noticeboard

## Accidental Theatre

We at Accidental are looking to expand our reach to migrants, immigrants and community groups to get them involved in the opportunities we offer at Accidental, to best serve the wider community in Belfast and Northern Ireland. You can send an email to [info@accidentaltheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@accidentaltheatre.co.uk) for all inquiries and for sharing opportunities.

## Building Volunteers & Digital Volunteers

### Accidental Theatre

If you're interested in any form of live arts, video production or live streaming, the regular events at Accidental give you the chance to develop your skills, meet artists, technicians and community groups. You can contact us to volunteer to help support the Accidental building or our live performances such as our comedy, music and theatre shows. We're looking for volunteers to support out front of house, digital and outreach teams.

## Painting and Organisational tidy up

### The Avenue Arts Academy CIC

Join our team of volunteers to paint the interior of our building and to help with general tidy up, hanging of pictures etc. Find out more by email to [siobhan@avenueartscic.co.uk](mailto:siobhan@avenueartscic.co.uk)

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Boom Studios

### Bangor

Boom Studios has a range of volunteering opportunities, including events, classes and in-house studio tasks. Join our volunteer pool to receive the current sign-ups and then quarterly recruitments.

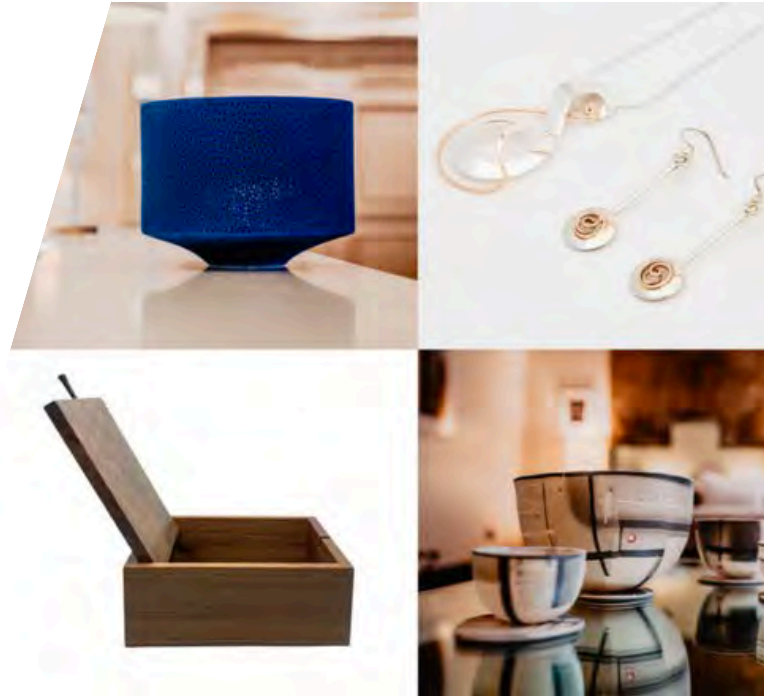
▶ [Click here to see more](#)

# Opportunities & Noticeboard

## Corporate Craft Showcase

Craft NI Gallery are delighted to invite local businesses and professionals to view our Corporate Craft Showcase, which highlights unique, quality work, handcrafted by local designer-makers here in Northern Ireland. Find unique, quality pieces for your business needs, handcrafted here in Northern Ireland. Whether you are looking to mark an achievement, celebrate a colleague's retirement or thank a valued client, consider marking the occasion with a meaningful, well-chosen craft piece, and take pride in promoting Northern Ireland's rich cultural heritage. Stop by the Gallery, ring us on 028 9032 9342 or email Andreea at [andreea.mcmanus@craftni.org](mailto:andreea.mcmanus@craftni.org)

▶ [Click here to see more](#)



## Belfast TradFest

**21 - 28 July**

Festival dates for 2024 are Sunday 21 - Sunday 28 July. Availability can include any or all of those days/evenings. You are guaranteed: Event and festival experience - Lots of time to enjoy the atmosphere, the musicians and music - Belfast TradFest branded T-Shirts - Meet like minded volunteers - An unforgettable experience. Find out more by clicking through the link.

▶ [Click here to see more](#)

## Belfast Exposed

**Various - monthly and ongoing**

Belfast Exposed hosts a variety of cultural events, exhibitions and experiences throughout the year for visitors to enjoy, whether book launches, Artist Talks, openings and more. On the first Thursday of each month, the city centre comes alive with 'Late Night Art', allowing galleries, studios, institutions and venues to open their doors. and Belfast Exposed welcomes close to 2,000 visitors and we require volunteers to greet them and ensure public safety. The same applies to our regular gallery opening hours, manned by a faithful rotating team of volunteers. If you would like to be involved, contact us at [info@belfastexposed.org](mailto:info@belfastexposed.org)



**Arts &  
Business**  
Northern Ireland

# A&B NI EVENTS



## Fundamentals of an Arts Board Membership

Date & Time: 21st August 2024, 12:00- 14:00

Where: Online

Cost: A&BNI Members: £10+VAT. Non-Members: £25+VAT

Booking Link: [Book now!](#)

This online session looks at best practice and at the realities of arts charity governance. We'll take a thorough look at the compliance requirements of being on a Board, covering roles and responsibilities plus managerial, legal and financial duties. But that's only half of the picture! It will also discuss organisational performance, business models, income streams and what makes a Board/Board Member effective.



[w: artsandbusinessni.org.uk](http://www.artsandbusinessni.org.uk)