Brighton Festival

Roll up, roll up
from Sat 1 May

Guest Director: Lemn Sissay
Arts outdoors, online and safely back on stage
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Brighton & Hove City Council

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
A Quick Ting On Afro (1 + beats)

Christian Adofo and Zainab Kwaw-Swanzy talk about The Black Girl Afro and Afrobeats

‘Go with the flow, my rhymes grow like an Afro’ – Big Daddy Kane

Black people in the diaspora have long been subject to curiosity – sometimes benign, oft times hostile – about elements of their appearance or culture. From the first day of school, the questions start flooding in: what’s that you’re eating? how does your hair grow? how do you move that way? does your colour rub off? The A Quick Ting series from Jacaranda Books addresses the more sensible of those questions with authority in a range of titles authored by Black authors intimately linked with the subjects, quashing long-circulating rumours to give answers direct from the source.

In this first-ever reading from the series, Christian Adofo and Zainab Kwaw-Swanzy unpack two subjects that are mathematically linked through the precision of numbers, with the language of Afros replete with 3Cs and 4As amidst its evolution as political symbol in the 20th century and statement of self-love in the Instagram age; and the fast-growing genre of Afrobeats moderated in 3-2s layered over 4/4 time. A Quick Ting on The Black Girl Afro and A Quick Ting on Afrobeats promise to be cultural landmarks, and, crucially, like the subjects they cover they should both grow on you.

Sun 23 May, 4.30pm
£10
Brighton Girls

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A Trick of the Eye: flipped eye at 20

Amina Jama, Niall O'Sullivan, Maia Elsner & Roger Robinson celebrate flipped eye publishing’s legacy

From its inception, flipped eye publishing has sought to disrupt the status quo, to take the world as it was and flip it, eschewing the familiar to explore diverse possibilities.

Twenty years of a questing approach to publishing and a fierce dedication to writer development has produced landmark books such as Warsan Shire’s much-quoted *Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth* and widely-recognised names, such as Malika Booker, Nick Makoha, Jacqueline Saphra, Inua Ellams and T.S. Eliot Prize winner Roger Robinson who appears at this celebration event alongside fellow poetry veteran Niall O’Sullivan and two poets of an emerging generation of the flipped eye crew, Amina Jama and Maia Elsner. Together, they represent tangible proof that flipped eye’s success is not a trick of the eye, but testament to a commitment to true diversity.

Four of flipped eye’s landmark poets demonstrate the publisher’s legacy supporting great talent.

Sun 30 May, 7.30pm
£10
Brighton Girls
Abigail Conway: The Candle Project

An ode to resilience, a celebration of shadow and light, an ancient ritual for our times

‘If light is scarce then light is scarce; we will immerse ourselves in the darkness and there discover its own particular beauty.’ Jun’ichirō Tanizaki, In Praise of Shadows

Participants are invited to make a tapered candle and cast words inside. As a candle slowly burns, remnant messages left behind become glimmering beacons of hope, whispers, for others to discover and take home.

*The Candle Project* is a spectacle and a participatory installation, built over a week by those who visit the space. With Abigail, participants assemble a traditional beeswax candle and place it amongst a large candle installation. A lighting ceremony at the end of the week marks a special moment, a communal burn, after a time of transition for many, perhaps unarticulated.
In a time when we are divided socially and politically, the candle project offers spiritual exchanges for all secular and non-secular communities. It represents our fragility and mortality in action, and how, ultimately, connecting with others helps us carry on.

When all is said and done, what words would you write to another...

**Participate in the Installation**

Supported by Abigail Conway, the sessions are free and open to all, however places need to be booked in advance as there are only 8 available slots per hour. The experience will last up to 45 mins.

Any young person under the age of 18 who would like to participate will need to be accompanied by an adult with their own ticket for the same time-slot.

Installation Mon 24–Fri 28 May 12pm–6pm Mon & Tue 12pm–8pm Wed–Fri Audiences can drop in during these times to view the installation process and deposit messages for the candles. (No booking required)

Candle-making sessions Mon 24-Fri 28 May, 12-7pm Candle-making sessions are FREE (must be booked in advance)

Lighting Ceremony Livestream Sat 29 May, 8pm Message Excavation Event Sun 30 May, 2pm–4pm Commissioned by The Spire This event is taking place in The Spire
Adrian Brendel and Joanna MacGregor

Two exceptional soloists perform sonatas by Britten, Bridge and Franck

Adrian Brendel cello
Joanna MacGregor piano

Britten Cello Sonata in C major Op. 65
Bridge Cello Sonata in D minor H.125
Franck Cello Sonata in A major FWV8

Two of the country’s most well respected musicians join forces for a special Brighton Festival Lunchtime Concert. Adrian Brendel, one of the most versatile cellists of his generation, performs with the acclaimed pianist Joanna MacGregor, who is now also Music Director of the Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra. In this epic programme, Britten’s brilliantly conceived and darkly witty sonata is partnered by a hauntingly beautiful work by Frank Bridge, composed in memory of the Great War, and one of Franck’s most deeply romantic works, which has been described as ‘a voyage of the soul.’

In association with Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra and Strings Attached

Wed 19 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
AMPLIFIED!

A group of diverse local young people share their own unique and deeply personal stories in an expression of creativity and confidence

AMPLIFIED, presented by Little Green Pig, is a personal expression of creativity and confidence from young people in the local area. Following intensive workshops and mentoring with writers, a group of young people from diverse backgrounds in Brighton & Hove will take to the stage to share their stories, exploring what they really care about.

75 mins
Suitable for ages: 11+

Sun 23 May, 1.30pm
Brighton Girls
£7
In a career that demonstrates a profound love for science, Angela Saini, award-winning journalist, author and broadcaster, has latterly become known for her no-nonsense myth-busting, famously calling the 2017 Google Memo, on supposed differences between males and females, ‘prejudice masquerading as fact’. Her last two books *Inferior* (2017) and *Superior* (2019) won wide critical acclaim, leading to Angela being named one of the world’s top 50 thinkers by Prospect magazine. At Brighton Festival for the first time in a unique free online event, she is joined by Kate Shaw of the University of Sussex, to discuss her career so far and her role in ‘Challenging Pseudoscience’, at the Royal Institution of Great Britain.

Thu 6 May, 7pm
Online
FREE but ticketed
ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES

A public artwork about birth, death and the journey in between, created by artist duo YARA + DAVINA

Birth, death and the journey in between are the starting points for this interactive artwork that celebrates life and acknowledges its ending. Taking the form of a traditional arrivals and departures board, the installation by the artist duo YARA + DAVINA displays names submitted by members of the public as a way of celebrating and commemorating a birth (an arrival) or a death (a departure). The boards capture the joy and sadness of any arrivals hall or departure lounge, and provide a very timely platform to welcome new life, honour the living and recognise death, loss and collective grief, through the act of naming.

Visitors and passers-by can contribute names by asking a guide at the site in Pavilion Gardens or via www.arrivalsanddepartures.net on a phone/laptop anywhere in the world. Integral to the work is a specially designed programme of events, talks and workshops which invites the public to engage more deeply with the themes, including Birth Café, Death Café, and a panel discussion on the subject of redefining grief. More special events to be announced.
**Arrivals + Departures opening event:**

What song would you like to be played at your memorial service? How would it reflect your life and how would you like to be remembered? Do you have a playlist put together for the birth of a child? Is there one song that stands out from that day?

To mark the opening of ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES, Yara + Davina will be recording a special radio show with Brighton station Radio Reverb, asking listeners to send in their dedications and songs to play on air. More details about how to submit a request to follow.

Radioreverb.com

For information about other participatory events as part of this programme, please see the related events below.

Fri 30 Apr–Sat 8 May
(Fri 30 Apr 5–8pm, Sat 1–Mon 3 May & Sat 8 May 11am–8pm, Tue 4–Fri 7 May 12–8pm)

Co-commissioned by Freedom Festival Arts Trust (Hull) and Norfolk & Norwich Festival and Artsadmin with support from Create To Connect > Create to Impact through the Creative Europe programme of the European Union. Publicly funded through Arts Council England.

Development supported through the IN SITU Network in the frame of ACT project co-funded by Creative Europe, Without Walls Blueprint programme & a Seedbed Residency at 101 Outdoor Arts

This event is taking place in Pavilion Gardens
FREE
Artists Working with Data

A panel discussion as part of the HALO talks & workshops programme

A panel discussion about artists working with data and artists collaborating with scientists and researchers in non-artistic contexts.

Panel members include Mónica Bello (Curator & Head of Arts at CERN), Semiconductor (artist duo Ruth Jarman and Joe Gerhardt, creators of HALO) and Dr Mark Sutton (research fellow in experimental particle physics at University of Sussex and at the ATLAS detector at CERN). The panel discussion will be chaired by Donna Close (senior research fellow in the School of Media at University of Brighton) and is part of the Arts DRIVA (Digital Research Innovation Value Accelerator) programme.

Sat 1st May, 6.30pm
This event will be live-streamed online, to attend please book a free place

HALO by Semiconductor is at Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts as part of Brighton Festival 2021
Wed 19 May–Fri 4 Jun

Installation open Wed–Sun, 12–8pm
(additionally open Bank Holiday Mon 31 May)
BAIT with Live Score by Gwenno and Georgia Ellery

Mark Jenkin’s BAFTA-winning indie hit is accompanied by a new score performed live by composer Gwenno Saunders and cast-member Georgia Ellery.

Gwenno Saunders composer, performer
Georgia Ellery performer

_Bait_, the BAFTA-winning indie hit of 2019, is presented with a live performance of a new score by the Cornish–Welsh composer and musician Gwenno Saunders that builds on the original soundtrack she created for the film.

Mark Jenkin’s stark depiction of tensions in a Cornish community between a local fisherman and metropolitan incomers, is a lo-fi _tour de force_ filmed in black-and-white with a clockwork camera. With grainy and purposefully archaic visuals, _Bait_ blends social realism and political melodrama to create a potent commentary on very contemporary issues.
Gwenno Saunders, winner of the Welsh Music Prize, will perform her newly created live score with the Cornish composer, songwriter and musician Georgia Ellery, who also plays Katie in the film. Blending synth loops, violin drones and live vocals, Saunders draws on her background in dance, theatre and performance to weave a seamless tapestry of sound and image that adds new layers to this critically acclaimed masterpiece.

‘...a genuine modern masterpiece, which establishes Jenkin as one of the most arresting and intriguing British film-makers of his generation.’ ★★★★★
Mark Kermode, The Observer

Sat 22 May, 3.30pm & 8.30pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£18
Benson Wilson and Lucy Colquhoun

The baritone, winner of the 2019 Kathleen Ferrier Award, performs works by Schubert, Mahler, Britten and Ravel

Benson Wilson  baritone
Lucy Colquhoun  piano

Schubert  Nacht und Träume
          Erlkönig
          Im Abendrot

Mahler  Lieder eines fahrenden gesellen

Britten  The Salley Gardens
         The Foggy Foggy Dew
         The Last Rose of Summer

Ravel  Trois Chansons de Don Quichotte

In 2019 the New Zealand-born Samoan baritone Benson Wilson won the coveted Kathleen Ferrier Award, catapulting him to the forefront of the ranks of young singers. For his Festival debut, he performs a rich array of songs and Lieder by masters of the genre in a concert that promises plangent melody, tender emotion and thrilling artistry.

Thurs 20 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
Birth Café

As part of ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES events, you’re welcome to join us, eat cake and talk about birth.

Birth Café takes its lead from the Death Café movement, helping to provide a safe, non-judgmental space in which anyone and everyone is welcome to come and discuss their relationship to, and concept of, birth.

Birth Café was conceived by Laura Godfrey-Isaacs - artist, midwife and birth activist. The aim is to support open conversations about birth in order to build understanding and respect for its psychosocial, cultural and bodily significance for everyone. It’s also a great excuse to eat cake!

birthcafe.org

Sun 2 May, 2-4pm
FREE (ticketed)
Online
18+
Catrin Finch & Seckou Keita

Welsh harpist Catrin Finch and Senegalese kora player Seckou Keita return to Brighton Festival with a special live and livestreamed event.

Since the start of their partnership in 2013 the duo have built a formidable global reputation, with two acclaimed albums *Clychau Dibon* and *SOAR* capturing a magical meeting of minds and talents within a borderless musical landscape.

Their most recent album *SOAR* (2018) takes flight on the wings of the osprey, the magnificent bird of prey which recently returned to Wales after centuries of absence, and makes its annual 3,000-mile migration from the coasts of West Africa to the estuaries of Wales – an amazing natural connection which hit a resonance with the two artists.

Winners of ‘Best Duo/Band’ at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2019

‘Best Fusion’ Album in the Songlines Music Awards 2019 for *SOAR*

Top Ten World Music Albums 2018 MOJO & Songlines

‘they are now one of the most popular world music acts of this decade’ *Songlines on Catrin Finch & Seckou Keita*

A Mwldan Production

80 Minutes

Thurs 20 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25
Children’s Parade

Honouring the spirit of the iconic community event

The spectacular Children’s Parade traditionally marks the opening day of Brighton Festival. This year on Saturday 1 May, 10.30am, there will be an online fanfare and, although there will be no Parade in the city, we encourage families or school groups to celebrate locally in a way that is safe - whether this is in the playground, in the garden or at home. Though we cannot gather, we can still have a beautiful and fun celebration of creativity in a safe and inclusive way and everyone can get involved!

Community arts charity Same Sky (who has produced the much-loved event for over 30 years) will be offering alternative activities so that schools and community groups can make their own flags and artwork, and even learn a dance routine to the specially commissioned Children’s Parade music, to honour the spirit of the event.

Links to the tutorials will be available on Same Sky’s webpage https://samesky.co.uk/events/childrens-parade from Monday 19 April.

From Sat 1 May. Check brightonfestival.org for more information
Chineke! Chamber Ensemble

The Chineke! Chamber Ensemble perform Schubert’s beloved ‘Trout’ quintet alongside two folksong arrangements by the remarkable American composer Florence Price.

**Price** ‘Drink to me only with thine eyes’ and ‘Shortnin’ Bread’ from *Five Folksongs in Counterpoint*

**Schubert** Piano Quintet in A D667, ‘Trout’

Chineke! Orchestra has developed a strong reputation in the UK and across the world championing the work of Black & ethnically diverse musicians and composers both living and from the past whose work has been neglected. It is noted for the vivacity of its performances of the standard repertoire alongside rarities ripe for rediscovery.

Chineke!’s chamber ensemble performs Schubert’s beloved ‘Trout’ quintet, in which gossamer textures and infectious tunes conjure a summer idyll, alongside arrangements by the remarkable American composer Florence Price of two folksongs. Price drew on her African–American heritage to create music of rare depth and eloquence, spiking the great European classical tradition with the rhythms and sensibilities of spirituals and West African music.

Wed 19 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25
Performing works by Mozart and Schumann, the Consone Quartet specialise in authentic performance on period instruments.

Agata Daraškaite violin
Magdalena Loth-Hill violin
Elitsa Bogdanova viola
George Ross cello

Mozart String Quartet K421
Schumann String Quartet No. 1 A minor Op. 44

The Consone Quartet’s mission is to recreate the sound world of the classical and early-Romantic eras using authentic instruments.

The quartet’s fresh approach always brings a great vitality to their recitals and this performance of Mozart and Schumann will give the players a chance to revel in music that swings from anguished introspection to exuberant vitality. We are delighted that this concert marks the quartet’s festival debut.

Mon 24 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
Daily Profundis

Simon Butteriss reads De Profundis in its entirety in daily episodes

While in prison, Oscar Wilde wrote his astonishing, book-length love letter to the young man who had destroyed his life. Allowed one piece of paper at a time and no revisions, it is nevertheless an unflinching, forensic analysis of their uniquely destructive relationship; part-confession, part accusation, it interweaves a meditation on Christ no churchman could ever have written and a dissertation on Art only Wilde could have written.

In our strange new world, it is an inspiration to discover that Oscar Wilde survived his long isolation through an unwavering belief in love and the resilience of Art.

Simon Butteriss reads De Profundis in its entirety in daily episodes of around 20 minutes or available to download as a complete performance.

Daily episodes will be available on this webpage (https://brightonfestival.org/whats-on/daily-profundis-1366/) at 9pm every night at 9pm, Sat 1–Sat 15 May

Full reading will be available for download after the event finishes

1-15 May, 9pm each evening
Online
FREE
Dear Nature by John Newling

New music for solo cello by Sally Beamish and Lisa Heute links letters from John Newling appealing for a closer relationship with Nature

John Newling *Dear Nature*
Sally Beamish composer
Lisa Heute composer
Reece Straw film maker

Eighty-one letters written over 81 consecutive days. Letters that confront our ongoing relationship with Nature; letters that question, confess and address. Socially engaged artist John Newling’s letters to Nature form a poetic manifesto for our relationship with the natural world. Part impassioned plea, part exercise in truth and reconciliation, they are written frankly and intimately as if to a loved-one, attempting to forge a closer, more fruitful relationship.

Now, in a thought-provoking co-commission by Brighton Festival, composers Sally Beamish and Lisa Heute have linked a selection of these letters using a series of pieces for solo cello. The letters, read by members of John’s community, are juxtaposed with Reece Straw’s mesmerising images of nature and live performance of the new solo cello works. An appeal for a new state of mind for the future, rooted in hope, balance and respect.

World premiere of a Brighton Festival co-commission

A co-commission with Brighton Festival, Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft and Ars et Terra Festival supported by Sacem

Mon 24 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£18
In these uncertain times, amidst a global pandemic and social isolation, we offer you the time and space to come together and talk about your thoughts and feelings around death and dying.

Death Cafe’s aim is to increase awareness of death to help people make the most of their finite lives, with no agenda. Please bring yourselves, some tea and cake, and we will let the conversations unfold. Do bear in mind this is not a grief support or counselling session group. This event is part of ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES and hosted by Louisa Parsons and Nicolette Thornton, Brighton Death Café.

Louisa and Nicolette are passionate individuals who feel it is vital to talk openly about death and dying, each with their unique professional and personal experiences of death.

Deathcafe.com

Tue 4 May, 7-8.15pm
Online
FREE (ticketed)
18+
Eliza & Martin Carthy: East

A specially crafted evening of musical and poetic works inspired by mesmerising myths, legends, poems, ballads and dance from England’s Eastern seaboard

Band Eliza Carthy, Martin Carthy, Sheema Mukherjee, Barney Morse-Brown, Ewan Wardrop

Special Guests Kenneth Cranham, Wilko Johnson, Miranda Richardson

Visuals Marry Waterson

Compiled and curated by Eliza Carthy and her father Martin Carthy - one of folk music’s greatest and best-loved innovators who continues to pioneer new ideas into his 80s - he celebrates his 80th birthday this May. The stage will also be brought to life with original artwork by Marry Waterson and Projectionist Slim Verhoef.
Eliza Carthy is undoubtedly one of the most impressive and engaging performers of her generation. Twice nominated for the Mercury Prize and multiple-award winner at the BBC Radio Two Folk awards, Eliza has performed and recorded with a diverse array of artists including, Paul Weller, Rufus and Martha Wainwright, Patrick Wolf and Bob Neuwirth. More than most, Eliza Carthy has revitalised folk music and captured the most hardened of dissenters with intelligent, charismatic and boundary-crossing performance.

Originally commissioned by Norfolk and Norwich Festival, Eliza is curating an exciting line up of guest appearances from Kenneth Cranham, Wilko Johnson and Miranda Richardson. East will take audiences on an alluring journey between land and coast, exploring the great stories and traditions of the East.

Sat 29 May, 3pm & 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25
Global Conversations: A Heritage of Resistance

Befekadu Hailu (Ethiopia) & Eyob Derillo (UK) unpack their roots in resistance and imagine what Ethiopia’s future might be.

In the 13th Century the Christian Kingdom of Ethiopia resisted the Sultanate of Ifat and the Ifat’s quest to expand the reach of Islam into their territory; in the early 17th Century, ordinary Ethiopians resisted their King’s conversion to Catholicism; in the 20th Century, resistance birthed in churches and from women’s movements thwarted the Italians’s quest to colonise Ethiopia, famously winning the battle of Adwa and defying the Fascist Italian forces during a 5-year occupation. In spite of large-scale theft of its artefacts and betrayals by allies in the past, Ethiopia has managed to remain, largely through the spirit and endurance of its civilian population a defiant, proud and vibrant nation. What are the foundations of that heritage and how does it affect where Ethiopia goes next internally and on the global stage?

Delivered in Amharic, for the first time in Brighton Festival’s history, two young Ethiopian thinkers unfurl the past and imagine how it weaves into the fabric of the future.

Fri 14 May, 7pm
Online
£5

Amharic with English subtitles
Global Conversations: A Poet’s Music

Award-winning poets Nathalie Handal and Kayo Chingonyi share music and poetry

If we think of meter as kin to the metronome, the line-ending suitor to a singer’s signature phrasing, it becomes clear that poetry has always danced with music. A Poet’s Music celebrates this relationship unashamedly, bringing together two of the world’s finest contemporary poets – Lannan Foundation Fellow, Nathalie Handal and Dylan Thomas Prize winner, Kayo Chingonyi – to share their work and have a conversation around music and what it means to them and their poetry. The conversation will feature music chosen by the writers and a playlist will be released after the event.

Fri 21 May, 7pm
Online
£5
Global Conversations: African Diaspora Movements

Courttia Newland (UK) & Dr Kelvin C. Black (USA) discuss African Diaspora Movements, from tap dance and patois to South African viral hit Jerusalema

Before African dance challenges like Azonto started to spread and appear in global music videos in 2013, there were commentators in the margins noting the DNA shared by Black diaspora dances like Krump and Boogaloo to traditional dances on the mother continent. Those connections are but small markers of a catalogue of unexplored, retained rhythms and cosmologies that inform and underpin culture in the global African diaspora, and the world at large. What happens when we acknowledge them, using them more deliberately as foundations for cultural and societal innovation? Novelist, screenwriter and playwright, Courttia Newland discusses this inheritance from Africa with Dr Kelvin C. Black, Assistant Professor of Transatlantic Studies at Hunter College, New York.

Sat 8 May, 7.30pm
Online
£5
Global Conversations: Myth and Discovery

To celebrate the 180th anniversary of The London Library, Monique Roffey (UK) and C Pam Zhang (USA) come together to discuss the common themes of myth and discovery.

Monique Roffey’s Costa Book of the Year-winning *The Mermaid of Black Conch* and C Pam Zhang’s Booker-longlisted *How Much of These Hills is Gold* are two of the boldest and most beautifully written novels of the last year. Lyrical, fierce and subversive, they weave mythology, landscape and feminism into vividly imagined storytelling, challenging and revisioning colonial history.

In partnership with The London Library, combining our Global Conversations series with their 180th anniversary celebrations, we bring both writers together across two continents to discuss the common themes of myth, discovery and the lure and lore of the frontier.

The London Library is a beautiful historic lending library in central London, a treasure trove of one million books on 17 miles of shelves. For its 180th anniversary, it is celebrating libraries as spaces of community, discovery and refuge.

Mon 3 May, 2pm
Online
£5
Global Conversations: Writing Work

Two pivotal writers of the future, Kiley Reid (USA) & Hiroko Oyamada (Japan), unpack the culture of work and what it tells us about being human

‘To be an artist means never to avert one’s eyes.’
Akira Kurosawa

Moments of illumination in fiction often come when we least expect them, flooding us with emotion in the blink of an eye. Yet, often the roots of these moments lie in acts we would consider commonplace. What is the trick of finding the extraordinary in quotidian functions like work? How do writers achieve an accurate portrayal of the mundane while also taking the reader on a journey? Kiley Reid, American author of Such a Fun Age, discusses these questions with Japanese writer Hiroko Oyamada, whose The Factory unfolds in a massive industrial complex, the very centre of work in the modern world. Interpreted by Mariko Iwasaki, two pivotal writers of the future unpack the nature and meaning of work and what it tells us about being human.

Fri 7 May, 7pm
Online
£5
Glyndebourne’s Jerwood Young Artists

Members of Glyndebourne’s Jerwood Young Artists’ scheme perform operatic excerpts from every corner of the repertory.

A special concert presenting members of Glyndebourne’s Jerwood Young Artists’ scheme. Glyndebourne works with the Jerwood Charitable Foundation to support the development of young singers; this is a unique opportunity to hear great voices of tomorrow — today.

Full artists list and programme to follow

Wed 26 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
Guess How Much I Love You!

Join professional storyteller Liz Fost for a very special event celebrating the 25th anniversary of the beloved tale

Guess How Much I Love You (Sam McBratney/Anita Jeram) is one of the best-loved family picture books and now there is an enchanting new story about friendship. Join professional storyteller Liz Fost for a very special event featuring the original beloved tale and introducing Will You Be My Friend. This is the perfect event for young families looking for a heart-warming story time.

Sun 30 May, 10.30am
Brighton Girls
£7

Age 3+
HALO

A multisensory experience of matter formation in the early universe, by Brighton based artists Semiconductor

HALO is a large-scale immersive installation made by renowned Brighton based artist duo Semiconductor following a residency at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics.

Step into an intricate mechanical structure operated by data collected at CERN which recreates the conditions shortly after the Big Bang. HALO is a multisensory experience of matter formation in the early universe generated through projections and sound played out upon hundreds of vertical piano strings. Allowing us to look at and listen to this data gives audiences a sense of something bigger than themselves, inspiring awe and wonder at the complexity of nature, and at the elaborate systems humans create to understand the world around them.

Semiconductor is Ruth Jarman and Joe Gerhardt who are known for their innovative artworks which explore the material nature of our world and how we experience it through the lenses of science and technology, blending experimental moving image techniques, scientific research and digital technologies.

Wed 19 May–Fri 4 Jun, 12pm–8pm
Open Wed–Sun, plus Mon 31 May
Attenborough Centre for Creative Arts
FREE
HALO 11–16yr old Workshops with Leap Then Look

A workshop for ages 11–16 as part of the HALO talks & workshops programme

Interactive online workshops with innovative art educators Leap Then Look responding to Semiconductor’s HALO. Young people are invited to experiment with sound and object making, using household objects as materials to explore the way that HALO translates scientific data. For secondary school aged children.

Sat 22nd May, 10-10.45am & 11.15am-12pm
Online
FREE but ticketed

HALO Family Workshops with Leap Then Look

A workshop for children age 5+ as part of the HALO talks & workshops programme

Innovative art workshop leaders Leap Then Look invite families with children of all ages (recommended age 5 and up) to take part in an interactive online workshop where you can create your own artwork in response to HALO. Experiment with sound and object making, using the objects you have at home.

Sat 8 May 9.30am–10.15am & 10.45am–11.30am
Sat 15 May 9.30am–10.15am & 10.45am–11.30am
Online
FREE (ticketed)
Age 5+ (accompanied by adult)
HERSTORY

A city-wide audio storytelling experience that uncovers the stories of women usually hidden from history.

HERSTORY is a city-wide audio storytelling experience that uncovers the stories of women usually hidden from history. These are the real stories of Brighton-based women as they live through the COVID-19 pandemic. Insightful and inspiring, HERSTORY carves out a space where women can be heard. We invite you to discover and listen to a trail of stories that celebrate the truth and power of women all around us.

Scan a unique QR code at listening posts in Hangleton, Moulsecoomb, Whitehawk and Central Brighton to discover the stories and portraits of women from Brighton.

If you don’t have access to a smart phone or tablet, there will be hub locations around Brighton where you can listen to the stories. The portraits will also guide you to the nearest listening locations.
Find out more information about the writers, storytellers and performers, and locations across Brighton at www.herstorytrail.com.

From Sat 1 May
Various locations around the city

14+. Please see individual portraits for trigger warnings.

Co-commissioned by Brighton Festival, Arch 468 and Lighthouse and created by Stef O’Driscoll. Produced with support from Re-Imagine Europe, co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union, and additional funds from Brandwatch.

Special thanks to Audio Active, Brighton People’s Theatre, Bottega Rooms, Cascade Creative Recovery, Little Green Pig, Miss Represented and Trans Creative.

FREE

Hic Sunt Leones - Hunting for New Physics at the Large Hadron Collider

A talk about the science behind HALO, as part of the HALO talks & workshops programme
Professor of Physics at the University of Sussex Antonella De Santo gives a talk about the science behind HALO.

The Large Hadron Collider (or LHC) is the world’s largest and most powerful particle smasher. Based at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, it recreates conditions that existed in our universe shortly after the Big Bang. Antonella De Santo works on the ATLAS experiment at the LHC, where, after the momentous discovery of the Higgs boson, she is exploring the ‘terra incognita’ beyond the Standard Model of Particle Physics. She will present highlights from this exciting journey.

Antonella became the first female Professor of Physics at the University of Sussex in 2013, having joined the university in 2009 to set up a new research group working on the ATLAS experiment at CERN’s Large Hadron Collider. Prior to that, she had taught and conducted research at: Royal Holloway, University of London; the University of Oxford; CERN; and the University of Pisa, where she had also obtained her PhD in the late 1990s, working on the search for neutrino oscillations at CERN. In 2017 Antonella was awarded a Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award.

Tue 11 May, 6.30pm
Online
FREE
HOME: THE MUSEUM OF ORDINARY PEOPLE (MOOP) and MNEMOSCENE

Discover fascinating stories of ordinary people in this immersive exhibition

A row of terraced houses used to stand where Brighton’s Phoenix Gallery is now. In the Sixties, they were bought and demolished to make way for office space. Apart from one. Harriet Silvester – who lived in the middle – refused to move out of her home.

An immersive exhibition created around the exact space where her house once stood, HOME presents fascinating, heartbreaking and uplifting stories of ordinary people. MOOP and Mnemoscene have collaborated with members of the public to explore how their collections of everyday objects, photos and documents can be curated to represent our emotional connection with the home and showcase untold narratives that chronicle real people’s lives.

Visit www.harriets.house to experience HOME virtually from your own home
Sat 1–Tue 18 May

Exhibition Open Wed 19 May–Sun 6 Jun
(Thurs-Sun, 1pm-5pm)
(opening times subject to change)

Please pre-book a free, timed slot in advance of your visit. Booking opens soon

Phoenix Art Space & Online
FREE
House Mother Normal - Online

A digital installation inspired by BS Johnson’s celebrated novel, directed by Tim Crouch.

Friend (if I may call you friend), these are also our friends.

Ron, Rosetta, Ivy, Charlie, Gloria, Sarah, Sioned and George. Under the watchful eye of House Mother, eight residents of the strangest care home recall their pasts and narrate their terrifying present: the twitcher, the song, the Christmas Crackers, the Pass the Parcel, and Ralphie’s ‘long, probing, red tongue’. Nine faces. Nine voices orchestrated into a spoken-word symphony of old age and absurdism.

In the early 1970s, BS Johnson was at the forefront of the English literary avant-garde. Marking its fiftieth anniversary this year, his celebrated novel House Mother Normal is given the equivalent of a digital remastering by Brighton artist and ‘the country’s pre-eminent experimental playwright’ (The Stage), Tim Crouch.

This filmed is also available to experience as a site specific installation at 6 Dukes Lane, Brighton BN1 1BG.
‘New Perspectives has been a pioneer during the theatre shutdown.’ Lyn Gardner, Stagedoor

42 minutes

Age recommendation 16+
Contains material that some might find offensive

World Premiere

New Perspectives/Brighton Festival
Film by Shared Space and Light
Sound by Thor McIntyre-Burnie

This event is also available to experience as a site specific installation from 17-31 May at 6 Dukes Lane, Brighton BN1 1BG

5 - 31 May 2021
ONLINE
£5
House Mother Normal - Site Specific

A digital installation inspired by BS Johnson’s celebrated novel, directed by Tim Crouch.

Friend (if I may call you friend), these are also our friends.

Ron, Rosetta, Ivy, Charlie, Gloria, Sarah, Sioned and George. Under the watchful eye of House Mother, eight residents of the strangest care home recall their pasts and narrate their terrifying present: the twitcher, the song, the Christmas Crackers, the Pass the Parcel, and Ralphie’s ‘long, probing, red tongue’. Nine faces. Nine voices orchestrated into a spoken-word symphony of old age and absurdism.

In the early 1970s, BS Johnson was at the forefront of the English literary avant-garde. Marking its fiftieth anniversary this year, his celebrated novel House Mother Normal is given the equivalent of a digital remastering by Brighton artist and ‘the country’s pre-eminent experimental playwright’ (The Stage), Tim Crouch. This is a filmed installation to be experienced online and, from Mon 17 May, in physical space.
This filmed site-specific installation is also available to experience online from Wed 5–Mon 31 May.

‘New Perspectives has been a pioneer during the theatre shutdown.’ *Lyn Gardner, Stagedoor*

Mon 17–Mon 31 May (not Wed 19 & Wed 26 May)
2.30pm, 3.45pm, 5pm, 6.45pm, 8pm & 9.15pm
£5
8 Duke’s Lane, Brighton BN1 1BG

42 minutes

16+ (contains some material that people might find offensive)

World premiere

New Perspectives/Brighton Festival
I See Red

Miss Represented’s short film gathers material drawn from discussions and work created over the last two terms with young women across secondary schools in Brighton and Hove.

*I See Red* explores questions around anger - how do we manage and cope when we feel angry? We know that anger can be a symptom of underlying difficulties including depression, anxiety, addictions and other mental health problems. Where does it come from and what is the impact? How do we pull ourselves back when we are seeing Red? What helps?

Miss Represented’s short film gathers material drawn from discussions and work created over the last two terms with young women across secondary schools in Brighton and Hove. Our groups have been spending time exploring themes around anger, things that make them feel angry and why, and how to channel some of these feelings away from the negative, towards something positive.

Miss Represented is a creative arts project, produced by Brighton Dome, that works with young women who face challenging life situations. Through building positive relationships and using the arts as a safe way to understand their experiences, Miss Rep helps the girls build resilience, self-worth and a sense of control over their lives.

In addition to accessing this film through our website, it will also be screened in community venues as part of *Our Place*.

1 - 31 May
Online and Our Place
FREE
Isata Kanneh-Mason

Isata Kanneh-Mason’s Festival debut performing a showcase spanning three centuries, including works of Mozart, Chopin and Gershwin

Isata Kanneh-Mason piano

Mozart Piano Sonata No. 14 in C minor K457
Chopin Ballade No. 2 in F major Op. 38
Gershwin Three Preludes
Barber Piano Sonata in E-flat minor Op. 26

Isata Kanneh-Mason is one of the UK’s most exciting new classical talents, and for her Festival debut she performs a programme that spans three centuries, perfectly displaying the full range of her skilful artistry. Mozart’s graceful C minor sonata, which already looks forward to the burgeoning Romanticism of Beethoven, is followed by Chopin’s Op.38 Ballade, pretty and powerful by turns. Then Gershwin’s scintillating syncopation gives way to Barber’s bold expressionism as Isata brings us into the 20th Century. This recital, full of colour and contrast, is a glorious showcase for this outstanding pianist.

Tues 25 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
Jacqueline Wilson

The beloved children’s author joins us for an online event to talk about past work and her latest novel, The Runaway Girls

Join the much-loved author Dame Jacqueline Wilson online to discover how she started her writing career, find out how she created some of her best-loved characters, and hear about her brand-new book aimed at readers of 10+.

The Runaway Girls takes readers back to Victorian London and the world so memorably recreated by Dame Jacqueline in her best-selling Hetty Feather. When Lucy Locket runs away from home, she makes friends with the street performer Kitty Fisher. Soon the girls from very different backgrounds find that they can depend on each other to survive, but the streets of Victorian London are dangerous and soon they find themselves under threat from thieves and — even worse — the Workhouse!

Sat 15 May, 2pm
Online
£5
Josie Long

Three time Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee Josie Long is back with her most critically-acclaimed show to date

After a brief hiatus, during which she had a baby, started bringing the baby up, and found herself in the middle of a global pandemic with quite a few questions.

How do you bring someone into a world which people kept telling you was ending even before 2020 happened, and where our day-to-day reality is now baffling enough for an adult, let alone a baby? This show is about the mind-bending intensity of new motherhood (in, and out of, a pandemic) - but mostly about kindness, gentleness, and joy. The aim, even though it sounds like a big ask, is for you to come out of it feeling optimistic for the future. At the very least, there are some funny voices in it, and that’s not nothing.

14+

Tues 25 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£17.50
Le Gateau Chocolat - LIMINAL

The opera occasional black bearded diva comes to the BRIGHTON DOME after a year in absentia with this one-night-only treat - Liminal

This specially curated song cycle is a meditation on a forced untethering; where do we go and who do we become when we lose our anchor?

Revealed is a portrait of the undressed artist as man, shaped by experience, made by art, rendered anew as he tries to articulate a year of turmoil and change.

This is Le Gateau Chocolat on the threshold exploring the bittersweet richness of the dark.

A welcome return to live art: this is Liminal.

Age 12+

Contains haze

Sun 30 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£20
Lemonade: Music on the move

A location-based music exploration

Explore & discover exclusively composed songs hidden across the Brighton landscape. Ranging from hip hop to experimental to UK jazz and neo soul, inspired by theme of this year’s Festival, ‘Care’.

The experience brings together local, emerging and international artists, including Gwenno, Normanton St., Miri FLC (AudioActive), Bunty (Rosehill Tavern) and more tbc. Plus, hear the stories that inspired them to create the music for that location, before each song starts.

Brought to you by brand new location-based music platform, Lemonade, who are releasing their public beta version * for the very first time for Brighton Festival 2021.

Join us, and see the city with new ears.

For more information on Lemonade please visit https://www.getlemonade.co/

* this public beta is compatible with iOS phones only. Please visit brightonfestival.org for more information

1-31 May
Live is Alive!

A laid-back evening of subtle moves and tight grooves from jazz, soul, reggae, ska and beat poetry.

We are excited to be able to present this rescheduled Live is Alive performance celebrating Brighton’s vital music scene.

Dakka Skanks
presented by The Prince Albert

Dakka Skanks bring hard reggae, ska, dub and punk rhythms together in a fresh style. Clara Byrne’s mesmerising lead vocal cuts through like a wave of emotion, her lyrical integrity straight from the soul, with serious social and political issues explored through dramatic delivery.

Super Dupes
presented by Komedia

Initially something of a social call, Super Dupes soon evolved into a zippy set of groovy and diverse material ranging somewhere between funk, jazz, Afrobeat and fusion. Super Dupes deliver melodic, hand clapping, foot stomping musical nuggets with passion and aplomb.
AFLO. and the Poets
presented by Latest Music Bar

AFLO. and the Poets are a collective comprised of individually talented Black artists. Khanyisa (they/them) is a proud mixed raced, queer, non-binary soulful singer/songwriter mixing a fusion of soul, jazz, folk and funk who exudes tenderness, sincerity and sass. Priss (she/they) is a poet and spoken word artist telling their stories and lived experience through verses, bars and pars. AFLO. the poet (she/her) is a spoken word artist with a rhythmic flow and a voice heard all over Brighton at recent Black Lives Matter marches. Together, they bring you the heartbreaking and empowering sounds of the revolution - definitely a treat for the ears, mind and heart.

Fri 21 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£15
Looking for Clues
Meet the authors of the hottest whodunnits around, with Robin Stevens, Sharna Jackson and Elly Griffiths.

Robin Stevens, author of the best-selling Murder Most Unladylike series, and Sharna Jackson, creator of irresistible duo Nik and Norva in her debut High Rise Mystery, will be chatting to Elly Griffiths about murder, mystery and what makes a great detective. Elly Griffiths, best known for her grown-up Ruth Galloway crime novels, has written her first children’s mystery, A Girl Called Justice, the first book in a new series starring the fearless super-smart super-sleuth, Justice Jones.

Sat 8 May, 2pm
Online
£5
Mark Watson: How You Can Almost Win

In 2017, Mark Watson was asked to go on Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls. It wasn’t really for him.

In 2017, Mark Watson - a man prone to considerable anxiety, with multiple phobias and a history of piss-poor self-esteem - was asked to go on Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls. It really wasn’t for him at all because his favourite things include safety, comfort, food and not being scared and miserable. But the experience changed the shambolic comedian for the better, and now he’s written a sort of motivational talk about what it taught him. But still with jokes.

★★★★★ “Quite unlike anything else I’ve seen in almost 20 years of covering the Fringe...witty, warm, perfectly judged” Telegraph

★★★★ “This is a stand-up operating at the very top of his game” Independent

Fri 28 May, 8.30pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£17.50    14+
Meet author Benjamin Dean, whose joyful LGBTQ+ adventure *Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow* was Waterstones’ Children’s Book of the Month this February. Join Benjamin to hear about his publishing journey and the inspiration behind this story about family, love and inclusivity; plus get tips on writing your own colourful adventures.

Sat 22 May, 2pm
Online
FREE
Michael Rosen’s Brighton Birthday

Writer and poet Michael Rosen celebrates his 75th birthday at Brighton Festival, sharing stories of his life and work with Hannah Azieb Pool

One of Britain’s best loved writers and performance poets for both children and adults, Michael Rosen has published over 100 books, won myriad awards, and served as UK Children’s Laureate from 2007-2009. He is also a tireless activist for social justice and widespread access to reading, a former guest director of Brighton Festival and certainly one of Britain’s most famous survivors of the Covid-19 virus. After an eventful year that did not stop him from publishing two new books, we are ecstatic to be able to celebrate Michael at Brighton Festival for his 75th birthday. Specially invited by this year’s Guest Director, Lemn Sissay, he will be in conversation with journalist, author and curator, Hannah Azieb Pool, sharing some of his work and unpacking his remarkable life in letters.

DATE AND TIME OF THIS ONLINE EVENT TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON
Monteverdi Vespers

An intimate and audacious new take on Monteverdi’s *Vespers* performed by this dynamic ensemble

La Nuova Musica

**David Bates** conductor

**Julia Doyle** soprano  
**Ben Johnson** tenor  
**Benjamin Hulett** tenor  
**Alessandro Fischer** tenor

An ensemble of startling verve and versatility, La Nuova Musica has established a reputation as one the most dynamic consorts around. Now it provides a bold new take on Monteverdi’s monumental masterpiece the *Vespro della Beata Vergine*, a feast of sacred music unrivalled in the repertoire.
Relishing the worldly texts which Monteverdi chose to punctuate the psalm settings of the vespers, music director David Bates further blurs the boundaries between the sacred and the secular by adding other erotically charged works, including madrigals and excerpts from Monteverdi’s opera *L’incoronazione di Poppea*. The result usurps the religious nature of the piece to achieve something closer to the Renaissance synergy of heart, mind and body that would have been familiar to Monteverdi and his patrons.

This audacious but historically appropriate interpretation, using just ten solo singers and continuo players, revels in vocal virtuosity and the intimacy of sacred storytelling.

‘La Nuova Musica [is] as lively a collection of instrumentalists and singers as the world offers’ *The Times*

Sun 23 May, 4pm & 8.30pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25
One Two Three Four: The Beatles in Time

Celebrated journalist Craig Brown reads from his unique Beatles biography in conversation with Dymphna Flynn

‘Consistently hilarious and eye-opening’ Tim Adams, Observer

It’s over 50 years since Sir Paul McCartney announced the break-up of the Beatles and Craig Brown, the only person ever to have won three different Press Awards in the same year (best humourist, columnist and critic), has written a new biography of the Fab Four.

One Two Three Four: The Beatles in Time is a hilarious, kaleidoscopic book – part biography, part memoir, part anthropology, it’s a fascinating examination of The Beatles phenomenon. Presented by Craig in his unique style, sharing some of the sublimely strange findings from this new biography – the intriguing minutiae of The Beatles’ day-to-day lives with broader questions about their effect.

A must for any Beatles fan!

Thu 20 May, 7.30pm
Brighton Girls
£10
56
Our Place

A FREE Community Celebration of Creativity for Hangleton and Knoll, East Brighton and (for the first time) Moulsecoomb and Bevendean

Community meets creativity for the fifth year running as residents of Hangleton and Knoll, East Brighton, Moulsecoomb and Bevendean welcome Our Place.

Our Place is a celebration of creativity, working in partnership with community steering groups to support them to select, programme and produce art projects, performances and events for their communities, taking place in their neighbourhoods. We are delighted that Moulsecoomb and Bevendean will be hosting their first Our Place festival this year, bringing the community’s creative visions to life.

Local communities can take part in a month of exciting events including theatre, dance, music and poetry created for specific groups and locations. At the heart of these events will be an Artist in Residence, supported by Phoenix Arts Space, creating uplifting visual arts projects through a series of public workshops, and culminating in public art installations for all to see.
As part of the celebration, *Our Place* will be hosting an exciting programme of outdoor performances from Without Walls at The Manor Gym and in Hangleton Park on the weekend of Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 May.

If you are local to these communities, please check the website at the beginning of May or join our Facebook event pages for the full line-up:

Our Place Hangleton
Our Place East Brighton
Our Place Moulsecoomb

‘Our hope for *Our Place* is that it brings a sense of belonging within the festival, and provides easy access to exciting arts events that feel relevant to our community. It is an opportunity to wake up outdoor spaces in Moulsecoomb and Bevendean as we come out of lockdown – to celebrate them, see them enjoyed and lived in and offer a sense of connectedness between the community spaces that link us together.’ Helen, steering group member and interim manager at the Bevy

*University of Sussex is a proud supporter of Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival, where courage and creativity go hand in hand.*

Supported by University of Sussex and The Rayne Foundation

This community programme is created with, and developed by, the Hangleton and Knoll Project, the Trust for Developing Communities and the Bevy
Paul Lewis

One of the world’s great pianists Paul Lewis in recital, performing works by Mozart, Mussorgsky and Scriabin

Mozart Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major K331
Scriabin Five Preludes Op. 74
Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition

One of the world’s great pianists guides us through three epochs of classical music. From the joyful grace of Mozart’s classicism via the full-blooded Romanticism of Mussorgsky to the last works of Scriabin, poised on the threshold of 20th-century atonality, this recital harnesses the verve and versatility that have made Paul Lewis one of the leading artists of our time.

The Piano Sonata K331 ranks among Mozart’s best-loved pieces; the virtuosic third movement, the Rondo ‘alla Turca’, is one of his most toe-tappingly recognisable melodies. Scriabin’s Five Preludes are profound works that depict, in the composer’s own words, grief, exhaustion and a shout in the night. Pictures at an Exhibition is familiar in its orchestral version, but was written as a piano suite dense with mood and melody.

Overflowing with lyricism, emotion and profound insight, these works are a sublime showcase for Lewis’s astonishing artistry.

‘Lewis brought his customary intelligence and intensity… with endless shifts in colour and weight. The fearsome technical demands…were met with unshowy dexterity.’

The Guardian

 Tues 18 May, 4pm & 8pm
 Brighton Dome Concert Hall
 £25
Pier to Pier

What is it like to live on the edge? What keeps us balanced in turbulent times? What do we feel when we look to the horizon?

‘There was nothing between the sea and the sky. I had to keep looking back. But out there was a complete black hole. Completely black, not anything, nothing at all.’

Ron, Fisherman. Goring.

Pier to Pier is a public artwork exploring the 14 miles between Brighton Pier and Worthing Pier. RAPT interviewed 14 people who live or work on the coast and worked with a coastal choir to create an immersive sound installation played from an audio bench travelling the Sussex Coast. With Sound Design by Lewis Gibson and Music by Jocelyn Pook.

A sea swimmer, a whale stranding expert, someone who left, someone who stayed, a nurse, a coastguard, a fisherman, a mother, a child, a scientist.
Look for the orange bench. Take a moment. Sit, look out and listen.

Follow the bench’s journey here - www.pier-to-pier.com

RAPT creates socially engaged performance projects, facilitating the coming together of artists, researchers and communities. RAPT searches for new ways to bring these groups together in unique collaborations; making work which invites audiences to see the extraordinary in the everyday.

Various locations on the seafront between Brighton Pier and Worthing Pier

10 May - 6 Jun
24hrs
FREE
Rain Before Rainbows


Join bestselling children’s author Smriti Halls for a storytelling event full of hope and inspiration. In Rain Before Rainbows, a girl and her companion fox travel together through dark uncertain times with storms, waves and monsters until they find their way out of the darkness and into the forest which is full of hope, life, friends and rainbows. Hear about Smriti’s writing, inspiration and discover and draw your own animal companion!

Age 3+

Sat 22 May, 11am
Online
FREE
Rainbow Grey
A fun-filled and magical drawalong with Laura Ellen Anderson

Join Laura Ellen Anderson on a rainbow-filled adventure into the world of Celestia, an enchanting kingdom in the sky. Meet the magical Ray Grey and learn how to draw her exploding cloud cat, Nim. A technicolour, fun-filled session of stories and drawings.

Sat 15 May, 11am
Online
FREE
Ray Lee: Points of Departure

Against the backdrop of night, take a walk through the atmospheric industrial landscape of Shoreham Port and be dazzled by otherworldly sound and light installations.

Wondrous machines emerge from the darkness to a strange but haunting effect - monumental kinetic sculptures that seemingly defy gravity as they spin and whirl in an endless dynamic dance.

In this one-of-a-kind event you are treated to a viewing of Ray Lee’s spectacular sculptures, brought together for the first time. Towering metal tripods sing out a hypnotic siren call, while lights whirl in mesmerising orbits of colour. A series of giant towers holding suspended speaker cones gradually swing higher and higher until each arm soars up over the heads of the audience - ringing with electronic tones that create a transfixing harmony of pulsing drones.

The structures sing an alien song, a sci-fi symphony that points to a future departure to other worlds and another universe.
‘Mesmerizing’ New Yorker Online on Ray Lee’s work

Entrance to the event is opposite Shoreham Port car park on Basin Road South, adjacent to Carats Café

Advance Booking Only

This is an outdoor, socially distanced event for household groups and small capacity at each entry time.

Travel info:
Limited car parking available off Basin Road South BN41 1WD. If arriving by public transport, or walking from north of the River Adur, please allow enough time to cross the locks as vessels do pass through.

Closest public transport: Bus - 700 Grange Road stop, Southern Rail - Southwick station. It is recommended to check times of last buses and trains.

Access via Basin Road South BN41 1WD

Please dress for the weather and wear suitable footwear for rough terrain. No dogs permitted except guide dogs. Wheelchair users please contact access@brightondome.org or 01273 260821 for more information

1-2 May, 5-9 May, 12-16 May, 19-23 May
8.30pm, 9pm, 9.30pm, 10pm, 10.30pm
Shoreham Port
£15
Recovery Poems

An inspiring light poem, visiting public spaces throughout the City

‘At what point do we fall into each other’s arms and dance again loosening our shadow?’

How do we commemorate what’s been lost as we start to take tentative steps to coming out of lockdown? What do we want to hold onto and grow? What positive changes can we make to society and ecology as we recover from the pandemic? Emergency Exit Arts (EEA) presents the Recovery Poems.

Through talking and listening to communities, artists Robert Montgomery, and Deanna Rodgers are creating an inspiring light poem that will visit public spaces throughout the City on the opening weekend of the festival. Spot it live or follow on social media as we emerge from the pandemic.

Sat 1–Sun 2 May, all day
Various points across the City

Brighton Festival is a partner in Without Walls, working with festivals and artists and bringing fantastic outdoor arts to people in towns and cities across the UK. Find out more on withoutwalls.uk.com

FREE

66
Redefining Grief

Loss is not just about death. We grieve losses of all kinds: people we loved, people we couldn’t love, pets, relationships, lifestyles, our jobs, a home, friends, freedoms, our dreams and even our dignity.

When someone dies we also often grieve not only their death but the consequence of their death: a lack of support, financial instability, lost hopes. In the time of Covid how can redefining grief help us know what we can realistically expect of ourselves as we grieve, and step forward feeling stronger?

Emma Curtis, Funeral Celebrant and Grief & Resilience Therapist, will be joined by special guest Cara Mair, Founder of Arka Original Funerals, Funeral Director and Consultant and Davina Drummond, artist/activist ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES.

18+
Free (ticketed)

Redefining Grief is part of the ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES events programme.

Thurs 6 May, 7.30pm
Online
FREE but ticketed
**Rider Spoke - Blast Theory**

Cycle through the streets, searching for the perfect place to hide a secret. Ride on and the voices of strangers will draw you to new and unknown places.

*Rider Spoke* invites you on a ride guided by a smartphone app with a narrator and a delicate score by Blanket. Think about the people in your life while you search for hiding places. Record messages and share them with strangers you will never meet. To cycle alone, in the evening, with no particular destination offers a rare freedom.

*Rider Spoke* premiered with a sold-out season at the Barbican in London and has since been shown in 20 cities worldwide.

Based in Brighton, Blast Theory create internationally celebrated experiences that explore how we connect with strangers and how technology shapes society.
‘A gloriously enlivening piece of theatre... the show’s greatest gift is that it manages to embrace the remorseless rush of the City while insisting on the individual’s ability to pierce it with quiet reflection.’ Metro

Please see brightonfestival.org for access information and details about bikes

Rider Spoke at Brighton Festival 2021 is supported by BTN Bikeshare.

**Life’s a ride. Discover Brighton & Hove and join the cycling revolution.**

**Age 16+**

Sat 1-Sun 23 May, 6–9.30pm (slots available every 15 mins)
Meeting point on New Road, opposite Theatre Royal
Brighton

Rider Spoke was developed in collaboration with the Mixed Reality Lab at University of Nottingham, Sony Net Services and the Fraunhofer Institute as part of the European research project IPerG (Integrated Project on Pervasive Gaming). Blast Theory is supported by Arts Council England.

1-3 May, 5-9 May, 11-16 May, 18-23 May
6pm-9.30pm
Brighton city centre
£10
Roberto Ruisi and Sten Heinoja

Performing music by Debussy and Beethoven’s mighty ‘Kreutzer’ Sonata

Roberto Ruisi violin
Sten Heinoja piano

Debussy (arr. Craig White)
Préludes: Bruyères
La Puerta del Vino
Canope

Debussy Sonata for Violin and Piano
Beethoven Violin Sonata No 9 in A major Op 47, ‘Kreutzer’

From the deft musical impressionism of Debussy to the immense scope and emotional depths of Beethoven’s ‘Kreutzer’ sonata, the British violinist Roberto Ruisi and the Estonian pianist Sten Heinoja chart the unique expressiveness of the violin–piano duo in music that is tender and titanic by turns.

Mon 17 May, 1pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£10
Robot Selfie

Brighton Festival invites you to be drawn by Kaleider’s wall drawing robot…

Robot Selfie will be a massive mural of the public, drawn by a wall-drawing robot on the side of Brighton Met College’s new building over 4 days from Friday 28 May.

From Wednesday 26 May, you can join in. Just take a selfie and Kaleider’s non learning AI will interpret it into a line drawing. When you are happy with what it comes up with, press submit and your face could join hundreds of others in a giant mural created by a wall-drawing robot. Wherever you are in the world you will be able to submit your selfie and watch via a livestream as the massive mural emerges over four days.

At a time when we’ve been distanced from each other, unable to touch, unable to gather in public space, Robot Selfie brings us together, strangers next to each other in solidarity.

You will be able to submit your selfie via an accessible dedicated website using your mobile or any internet enabled device. The website will open for submissions on Wednesday 26 May. We’ll publish the website address on our website, and on all our social channels.
Watch the robot draw live from midday–8pm, Friday 28–Monday 31 May in the Greater Brighton Metropolitan courtyard.

The finished mural will stay on display at Greater Brighton Metropolitan College’s courtyard throughout June.

Submit selfie from Wed 26 May
Robots drawing Wed 26–Mon 31 May, 12pm–8pm

Greater Brighton Metropolitan College Courtyard, Pelham Street, BN1 4FA

A Kaleider Production
Conceived and directed by Seth Honnor, with Andy Wood and Thomas Duggan
Fabricated with Robotriks Ltd.

Robot Selfie has received R&D investment through Without Walls Blueprint.

Robot Selfie is supported by Without Walls and commissioned by Brighton Festival and Norfolk & Norwich Festival.

An iteration of Robot Selfie called A Portrait Without Borders, made for online audiences specifically in response to Covid-19 was originally commissioned by Freedom Festival Arts Trust.

Part of the Creative Europe funded InSitu Network ‘ACT’ 2017-2020 as an international collaborative project in response to Covid-19.

Supported by Digital Democracies and InSitu.

28-31 May, 12-8pm
Greater Brighton Metropolitan College Courtyard
FREE but ticketed
Schwanengesang

Baritone Roderick Williams is joined by rising stars Ella Taylor and Themba Mvula to explore Schubert’s Schwanengesang

Roderick Williams baritone
Ella Taylor soprano
Themba Mvula baritone
Ella O’Neill piano
Ana Manastireanu piano

Mature artistry and thrilling young talent combine for a refreshing take on Schubert’s song cycle Schwanengesang (‘Swan Song’). As part of the new ‘Momentum: our future, now’ collective, in which distinguished performers share their artistry and their concerts with the cream of emerging talent, the great baritone Roderick Williams is joined by soprano Ella Taylor and baritone Themba Mvula to explore the 14 settings of poems by Rellstab and Heine that embrace themes veering from love and nature to bitterness and despair.

Taylor and Mvula will each select one song from Schwanengesang to perform alongside another Schubert lied which they have chosen to complement it. Williams will perform the rest of the cycle, and each of the pianists, Ella O’Neill and Ana Manastireanu, will accompany half of the recital — one performing the Rellstab settings, the other the Heine.

At a critical time for young artists, this unmissable recital is a great way to join established names in supporting our brightest rising stars.

Mon 17 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25
Semiconductor in conversation with Ariane Koek

A talk from artists Semiconductor, as part of the HALO talks & workshops programme

A chance to hear the Brighton based internationally acclaimed artists Semiconductor discuss their creative practice with Ariane Koek, founder of Arts at CERN, creative producer and curator in the fields of arts, science and technology.

Semiconductor is UK artist duo Ruth Jarman and Joe Gerhardt. Over the past twenty years of collaboration they have become known for a unique and innovative body of moving image works, sculptures and installations which explore the material nature of our physical world and how we experience it through the lens of science and technology.

Their works often evolve from intensive periods of research into scientific disciplines, this has seen them as artists in residence at internationally renowned science laboratories, including; CERN The European Laboratory of Particle Physics, Mineral Sciences Laboratory, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C and The NASA Space Sciences Laboratory, UC Berkeley California.
Semiconductor have exhibited their work internationally including at The 14th Media Art Biennale Santiago, Chile, City Gallery, New Zealand, CCCB, Barcelona, 21st Biennale of Sydney, Australia, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, ZKM, Karlsruhe, ArtScience Museum, Singapore, House of Electronic Arts, Basel, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, FACT, Liverpool, Royal Academy of Arts, London.

Thu 13 May, 6.30pm
Online
FREE
Snow Foal and Otters’ Moon

Author Susanna Bailey discusses her children’s novels and how the natural world can care for us all.

Author and previous social worker, Susanna Bailey, discusses her children’s novels, *Snow Foal* and *Otters’ Moon*. Susanna’s books sensitively consider real-life challenges for children and families, whilst highlighting the power of the natural world – and of stories themselves – to care for us all.

Age 9+
Sat 8 May, 11am
Online
FREE