

Brighton Festival

Part 2

Roll up, roll up
from Sat 1 May



Guest Director: Lemn Sissay

Arts outdoors, online and safely back on stage


Brighton & Hove
City Council


ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

A national programme funded by
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ENGLAND

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Sofie Hagen - The Bumswing

Sofie Hagen lands at Brighton festival with a show about memories



One of British comedy's most exciting talents (although she's Danish), winner of the prestigious Edinburgh Best Newcomer Award, a cult podcaster, and now the author of the hugely successful book 'Happy Fat', Sofie Hagen lands at Brighton Festival with a show about the things you forget, the things you remember, and the things you wish you could forget. But also, there's a bit about bums.

★★★★ *"Superior hour of stand-up that shifts constantly and satisfyingly beneath your feet"* The Telegraph

★★★★ *"Comedically she's flying high...beautifully created narrative"* The List

14+

Wed 26 May, 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£17.50

Sophy Henn - Pizazz

The writer and children's book illustrator discusses her new series following the adventures of Pizazz



Ever wanted to be super? Not amazing, or good, but SUPER? Well Pizazz is....and she really wishes she wasn't.

Writer and children's book illustrator Sophy discusses her new series, following witty Pizazz, a child superhero (that's right, superhero) who just wishes she could be normal. Henn's hilarious story is brought to life by breath-taking illustrations as we follow the adventures of Pizazz and her mad family.

Sophy lives in Sussex and her debut picture book *Where Bear?* was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal and she was the World Book Day Illustrator in 2015 and 2016.

Mon 31 May, 10.30am
Brighton Girls
£7

Spectres

Authors Salena Godden, Maaza Mengiste & Evie Wyld discuss their books, and how background characters can shape narratives in unpredictable ways



There are times in a film when the supporting actor steals the show, as Whoopi Goldberg did in the cult classic *Ghost*. Intended to remain in the background, they edge centre stage, shaping the narrative in unpredictable ways. In these three novels – Salena Godden’s *Mrs Death Misses Death*, Maaza Mengiste’s *The Shadow King* and Evie Wyld’s *Bass Rock* – figures that are usually meant to be peripheral through denial, absence, erasure or pretence, haunt the narrative and invigorate already complex stories with unexpected twists and tensions. Whether based on historic events or imagined spaces, these spectres are proof of the power of psychology in making stories tick.

Sat 22 May, 7pm
Brighton Girls
£10
80

Strings of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

The string players of the RPO perform works for string orchestra by Mendelssohn, Ireland, Tchaikovsky and the contemporary American composer Jessie Montgomery.



Michael Seal conductor

Duncan Riddell leader

Jessie Montgomery *Starburst*

Mendelssohn String Symphony No. 10 in B minor

Ireland *Concertino Pastorale* for String Orchestra

Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings in C major Op. 43

The acclaimed musicians of the RPO explore the soundworld of works for string orchestra in all its elegance. From Mendelssohn's backward glance at the world of Bach and Haydn to the exuberant momentum of the contemporary American composer Jessie Montgomery, they chart a course through 200 years of irresistible melody and eloquence.

Mendelssohn was just 14 when he wrote his String Symphony No. 10, which combines serenity and dramatic dash alongside the composer's trademark tunefulness. In contrast, the *Concertino Pastorale* is a work of full-flowered maturity, displaying all the delicately drawn moods and textures that make Ireland one of the greats of 20th-century English music. Tchaikovsky's Serenade contains the famous 'Waltz', a loved and lilting melody that leavens the dignity of the other movements.

These classical masterpieces are spiced with Jessie Montgomery's *Starburst*, a lively miniature of Baroque intricacy which propels the string repertoire into the 21st century with infectious zeal.

Thurs 27 May, 4pm & 8pm
Brighton Dome Concert Hall
£25

Tell Me Something About Family

Lemn Sissay's new project, lighting up the world with stories, phrases and sayings about family



I have lived without family all my life. *And I've watched how many people looked deeply at their families through the pandemic, for better and for worse.* I have always wanted to know about family from the inside. So I am creating one that connects us throughout the world. *Will you be part of it?* This project starts with you and one friend (or relative) of your choice.

We have built a website to bring it all together to answer my one request 'Tell me Something About Family'. See the pin on the globe that's you. And I am asking if you would nominate someone else to 'tell me something about family'. There's another pin on the globe on the website. See. That's them.

Let's light up the world with stories, phrases or sayings about family. So what is 'Tell Me Something About Family'? It is simply you're your answer to my request. You may write one line, one paragraph, one page or ten pages. It's that simple. 'Tell me...' is open to any person, of any age, from anywhere in the world, *starting with Brighton*, starting with you and the person you nominate. Every one of our families and every one of our stories is unique. Tell me something about family.

Tell me about the magical moments. Tell me about the horrible moments, the mythical moments and the mirth filled moments. Tell me about the places and what they made you feel. And tell me about how you feel. Tell me what you learned from your family and what you had to unlearn. Tell me about practical things. Tell me about when you moved house. Tell me about an ornament. It could be an ornament by the fireside or the wallpaper at home. Tell me about the smells of home, the cooking. Tell me about the sounds of home. The more specific your description, the better it will be. Please tell me something about family. Tell me about how you found out that you were adopted. Tell me about when you learned that you once had a sister for a short time or a daughter. Tell me about healing, about the time and the place. Tell me something about family because I have never had one and I would like to know.

The *Tell Me Something About Family* website will be live throughout Brighton Festival 2021.

From Sat 1 May

Online

FREE

Tenebrae: Lessons Learnt in Darkness

From first light to gathering dusk, a ravishing installation takes over the Theatre Royal, acknowledging a year of collective grief and courage in which so many have felt their lives slipping into the shadows.



Inspired by the liturgy of Tenebrae — the church ritual in which lights are gradually extinguished and the building recedes into darkness — a team of artists will fill the theatre with sound and light, inviting small groups of visitors to experience a haunting descent into darkness. The soundscape will include the work of 15 local writers whose voices will speak of some of the myriad ways in which we've all been living with the lights going out over the past challenging year.

The theatre will open at dawn, and stay open all day. Then, at sunset, the theatre will be filled with a uniquely staged performance of Couperin's haunting *Leçons de ténèbres*, a sublime setting of the Tenebrae ritual in which two soprano voices search for hope amidst the gathering shadows. As night falls across Brighton, the soaring sound of beauty, anguish and defiance will bear witness to the fact that even in darkness, some kinds of light never go out.

Tenebrae: Lessons Learnt in Darkness is a Brighton Festival Commission created by Neil Bartlett (Creator and Director), Paule Constatble (Creator and Lighting Designer), Isabelle Haile (soprano), Rosaleigh Harvey-Otway (Film-maker and Digital Producer), Reiko Ichise (Viola da gamba), Joseph McHardy (Musical director), Akila Richards (community writing Co-Curator) Christopher Shutt (creator and sound designer).

The fifteen writers who are contributing are: Maria Amidu, Jenny Arach, Sheila Auguste, Yvonne Canham-Spence, Helen Dixon, Josephine Hall, Sam Kenyon Hamp, Oluwafemi Hughes-Jonas, Joseph Lee, Simon Maddrell, Lucie Naish, Georgina Parke, Mark Price, Zaid S.Sethi, Sea Sharp.

A series of fifteen short graphic films capturing words and sounds from the installation will be available on our website and via our social media channels from Saturday 8 to Saturday 22 May.

Sat 22 May

Entry to the daytime installation is by pre-booked ticket only. Admission times are: 4.45am, 6am, 7.15am, 8.30am, 10.45am, 12pm, 1.15pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm and 5pm
Theatre Royal

12+

FREE (advance booking only)

These are intimate experiences with a small group of audience members sitting socially distanced on the stage

Wheelchair users please contact access@brightondome.org or 01273 260821 for more information

A Brighton Festival Commission

Live performance of Couperin's Leçons de ténèbres,
7.45pm
£25 (Fully Booked)

The Exchange

A new collaboration between internationally acclaimed artists and young people in Brighton & Hove

This online, live event will share the results of an 8 week exchange of creative ideas, influences and experiences to make something new. Join us for a step into the unknown and an explosion of creativity.



The collaborations involve visual artist Lucy Cran, theatre maker and Artistic Director of Battersea Arts Centre's Beatbox Academy, Conrad Murray, movement director Kane Husbands, cabaret artist Le Gateau Chocolat, Australian sound and site artist Madeleine Flynn plus young people working with local colleges and charities such as Amaze Sussex, Audio Active, BHASVIC, DV8 College, Hummingbird Project, Little Green Pig and Miss Represented.

LOOKOUT is working towards future generations of happier, motivated people inspired by a sense of possibility.

Age 12+

BSL interpreted by Sue MacLaine

Presented by LOOKOUT and Brighton Festival

Thurs 20 May, 7pm

Online

FREE but ticketed

The Forked Forest Path

Enter into Olafur Eliasson's immersive installation at Fabrica, and explore the twisting pathways of a fairytale forest



Explore the twisting pathways of a fairytale forest that sprang up in the imagination of the internationally renowned Danish–Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson. This evocation of a forest taking over the gallery spaces of Fabrica is a fully immersive installation that enfolds viewers in the sights, scents and textures of a wood in winter.

A trail entices visitors into a dense thicket of branches, boughs and saplings, locally and sustainably sourced from Stanmer Park and Foxwood Forestry near Lewes. And, as in so many fairytales, a fork in the path hints of peril or happy endings. Which way will you choose?

Olafur Eliasson has transformed some of the world's most iconic spaces with his large-scale installations and stunning visuals, including Tate Modern, where his *The Weather Project* memorably inhabited the vast Turbine Hall. His beguiling and engaging work harnesses illusion and enchantment, and this Brighton Festival collaboration with Fabrica promises a stimulating experience for all ages and abilities.

More info on fabrica.org.uk

Tue 18 May–Sun 20 Jun, 11–6pm (closed Mon except Bank Holidays)

The Forked Forest Path is part of the Towner Collection on loan to Fabrica from Towner Eastbourne. It has previously been exhibited at Towner (twice) at the Whitworth Gallery, Manchester and at Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York.

The capacity in the gallery will be limited due to social distancing which may result in some queuing. Please visit the Fabrica website for details on the quieter times to visit the gallery to avoid queuing. Face covering must be worn during your visit unless you are exempt and track and trace will be in operation on entry.

FREE

The Informals II: Exhibition

The Informals II is an improvised documentary experience: an exhibition and performance by artists Polina Medvedeva and Andreas Kuhne, in collaboration with emerging talent from Brighton's music subcultures



Inspired by the artists' interest in improvisation, non-conformity and ways of living in the digital age, *The Informals II* explores the lives and stories of Brighton's youths. In a time when the political climate is not representative of them, they use their (music) culture to challenge stigmas and stereotypes and to reclaim public spaces.

The installation will bring together audio visual documentary footage collected by the artists in Brighton. Moving image, text, music and dialogue interlace, calling upon the audience to interact with, and create new narratives and meanings.

Head to Lighthouse's website for more information.

Sat 22 May–Sun 13 Jun, Wed–Sun 11am–6pm

Lighthouse

FREE but ticketed

The Informals II: Performance

An improvised documentary experience: an exhibition and performance by artists Polina Medvedeva and Andreas Kuhne, in collaboration with emerging talent from Brighton's music subcultures



For one night, Polina and Andreas will collaborate with local artists Phonetic, Bobbie Johnson, Ollie Hutchison and Marshall Mandiangu to deliver a live-scored, live-edited documentary, showcasing Brighton's extraordinary, creative, engaged, visionary youth culture.

Addressing the idea of a single narrative truth, the improvised performance will sketch an inclusive and collective portrait of a generation of digital natives.

Date and venue to be announced soon
FREE

The Nothing to See Here Hotel

With award winning duo, bestselling author Steven Butler and illustrator Steven Lenton



Check in to The Nothing to See Here Hotel, a hotel for magical creatures, where weird is normal for Frankie Banister and his parents who run the hotel. Find out more about this fabulously funny series with the hilarious Steven Butler – who will make you squirm with laughter – and allow Steven Lenton to draw you into the adventure as he sketches the characters right in front of your eyes. An event for all budding authors, illustrators, bookworms, those-suspicious-of-reading and little magical monsters.

Mon 31 May, 1.30pm

Brighton Girls

£7

The People's Cabaret (A Work In Progress)

Singer/writer Jessica Walker and composer Luke Styles hold a mirror up to the disturbing times we live in



In 2021 we find ourselves living through times of unprecedented social, cultural and economic change. Well...almost unprecedented. Track back 90 years, and there are striking parallels to be drawn with Europe and America in the 1930s, when Populism was on the rise, and much of the world found itself in the midst of a Great Depression. Back then, composers and writers responded to their times in biting, satirical tone. The songs of Weill, Eisler, Spoliansky, Hollaender and Brecht ranted against racism, capitalism and oppression, until their authors were forced to flee the country, in fear for their lives.

The songs written by these seminal artists are still regularly performed today, as illustrations of a past that must never be repeated, but where are the contemporary responses? Singer/writer Jessica Walker and composer Luke Styles hold a mirror up to the disturbing times we live in, and create a cutting-edge work for our age, integrating some of those great original numbers, with a brand-new cycle of songs about discrimination, social inequality, freedom of expression, and the rise of fake news.

This work in progress performance will be performed by singer Jessica Walker with accordionist Ian Watson. The live performance will be accompanied by an audience Q&A with the composer and writer.

Jessica Walker - 'A bewitching performer...' *The New York Times*

Luke Styles – 'an anarchic tone in which the influences of Alban Berg and Kurt Weill fuse merrily.' *The Independent*

This event is a work in development

Tues 25 May, 7pm
Unitarian Church
FREE but ticketed

The War of the Worlds

Inspired by Wells' novel and the famous radio play, this legendary science fiction thriller is playfully reimagined for our era of Fake News and 'alternative facts'.



'No-one would have believed in the early years of the twentieth century that this world was being watched...'

But we did believe.

We believed that Martians landed in New Jersey. We believed a water tower was an alien war machine. We believed a man walked on the moon. We believe everything the internet tells us and now the end of the world is being broadcast live...

There is nothing more alluring than a good story. When Orson Welles adapted The War of the Worlds, he wanted to create a thrilling radio drama that would 'feel' real. We believed that Martians landed in New Jersey. We believed a water tower was an alien war machine. We believed a man walked on the moon. Now we've come to believe everything the internet tells us, and the end of the world is being broadcast live... Fast forward to 2016, and the internet has replaced the radio as the medium through which we make sense of the world. We remain just as susceptible ...

Temporarily halted in their tracks by a world-wide pandemic, the aliens are back amongst us in 2021.

From award-winning theatre company, Rhum and Clay, *The War of the Worlds* is a gripping and funny new play written with Isley Lynn.

'deft and ingenious...a fast and clever show' The Guardian

Age 12+

BSL interpreted performance Sat 22 May, 2.30pm

Contains strong language and potentially sensitive content

Seating will be socially distanced or grouped in household bubbles

Originally Commissioned by New Diorama Theatre;
co-produced by Brighton Festival and HOME, Manchester.
Supported using public funding by Arts Council England

Presented as part of Brighton Festival's partnership with
Worthing Theatres & Museum.

20 May 7pm 21 & 22 May 2.30pm (BSL interpreted) &
7.30pm

Worthing Theatre

£20.50

this body is so impermanent...

Made in isolation by a group of virtuosic and singular artists on three continents, who have come together to create an hour-long meditation on this transformation and startlingly honest text



An hour-long meditation made by a trio of virtuosic artists on three continents under quarantine, “*this body is so impermanent...*” is a multi-disciplinary film performance based on a passage from the Vimalakirti Sutra, a foundational Buddhist text from the first century CE. Directed by renowned theatre director Peter Sellars, the project is a creative response to COVID-19, a call to community to learn and heal together during a time of sickness.

The passage used from the Vimalakirti Sutra is one of the most profound and penetrating descriptions of the human body in early literature, one that understands illness as more than affliction. It also acts as a messenger. The text contrasts the body that is impermanent, that is fated to be broken and destroyed, with the body of reality, with the body that is formed by all our good actions, wisdom, generosity, love, patience, morality, transcendence, and shared kindness and courage. Sellars orchestrates breath and brushstroke, movement and mindfulness into a visual poem of stunning power.

'this body is so impermanent...' becomes a memorial of shared suffering, and a message of beauty and hope.

Join Peter Sellars on zoom, live in discussion on 11th May.

Watch the film presentation online on our website on 12th May at 7.45pm with a short introduction and guided relaxation.

Live Zoom discussion with Peter Sellars, Tue 11 May,
7.45pm
FREE (ticketed)

'this body is so impermanent...' Film presentation with guided relaxation, Wed 12 May, 7.45pm

A co-production of the UCLA Boethius Initiative and the Fisher Centre at the Bard

Supported by June and Simon Li, the J.Paul Getty Trust and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Travelling Traditions

Reading and conversation featuring authors whose work is flavoured with the waters of a distant heritage



‘All water has a perfect memory and is forever trying to get back to where it was.’ – Toni Morrison

After a hugely successful début in 2019, we continue our Travelling Traditions strand exploring the enduring DNA of storytelling. This year the regions of focus are Central Europe and South Asia and we are lucky to welcome four of the most compelling writers of our times. Come and experience the rich, textured work of Romesh Gunesekra, Olivia Sudjic, Preti Taneja and George Szirtes.

Thurs 27 May, 7.30pm
Brighton Girls
£10

Twitch!

M. G. Leonard shares what she learnt while writing her latest book



Join the bestselling author as she shares what she discovered about birdwatching when writing her brand new book *Twitch*. Always engaging and humorous, M. G. Leonard will introduce the birds who've become characters in the story, and Twitch, a twelve-year-old boy who prefers the company of birds to that of humans. Can Twitch use his talent for bird-spotting to track down an escaped robber who's hiding in his local nature reserve? This book is a glorious mystery adventure about friendship, bravery and the wonder of birds! The event is perfect for young nature enthusiasts, birdwatchers and detectives in the making.

Age 8+

Sun 23 May, 10.30am

Brighton Girls

£7

100

Under the Wild Wood Tree

A twilight, nature-themed woodland walk in which Same Sky's light sculptures and live choral music from Brighton Festival Chorus transform Stanmer Woods



As dusk draws in, follow a lantern-lit trail through a dreamlike realm in which music and sculpture transform Stanmer Woods into a charmed sensory experience. With soundscapes murmuring from the trees and Same Sky's light sculptures glowing in the gloaming, the woods take on a special enchantment, enhanced at two points along the way by Brighton Festival Chorus performing choral works of translucent beauty and hypnotic power: Eric Whitacre's *Sleep* and Frank Ticheli's *Earth Song*.

This nature-themed woodland walk is a gentle immersion into the half-world between day and night: a delightful adventure enlivened by luminous encounters and evocative sounds.

Meeting point TBC

Brighton Festival Commission

21-23 May

21 & 23 May 8pm, 8.30pm, 9pm & 9.30pm

22 May 7.30pm (relaxed performance), 8.30pm, 9pm & 9.30pm

Stanmer Woods

£12

Up My Street

Step into augmented reality in this street art and performance trail, allowing digital dancers to climb and dance around the real streets and buildings of Brighton



Conceived and directed by Kwesi Johnson and created by digital technologists FENYCE, this mixed reality group experience transports audiences into digital worlds through the sounds of world champion beat boxer Hobbit and graffiti art from Scotty B/Brave Arts. Experienced through a smart phone, the trail presents themes around migration and culminates in a chance to use your phone like a spray can and create your own virtual street art together, interacting with other audience members and the real world around you.

Each performance is for a socially distanced audience group of 5 people and is led by Kwesi. This is a walking experience and you will cover approximately 1 mile of distance over 40 minutes.

The smartphone will be provided but you are encouraged to bring your own set of headphones.

12+

Outdoor trail starting at Brighton Dome

FREE (ticketed)

Co-commissioned by Brighton Festival and supported by Without Walls

Development supported by the University of Portsmouth

1-2 May

10.30am, 12pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 5pm

Outdoors

FREE but ticketed

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Vintage Poets

Vintage presents some of its new stars for the future:
Romalyn Ante, Jay Bernard and Seán Hewitt.



In the midst of poetry's much-trumpeted renaissance, Vintage publishing through its imprints Chatto & Windus and Cape, has been building a formidable list of poets that are pushing the envelope and engaging new readers. Beyond audiences, there has been remarkable critical success as well, with a healthy number of the last few T.S. Eliot and Forward Prize winners coming from the Vintage stable – their names, Ocean Vuong, Sarah Howe, Fiona Benson, Danez Smith slipping into conversations across the country.

Working in partnership with Brighton Festival for the first time, Vintage presents some of its new stars for the future: Romalyn Ante, Jay Bernard and Seán Hewitt.

DATE AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

Brighton Girls

£10

Ways of Being True

Three storytellers discuss what constitutes historical truth and the tools they use to illuminate the blind spots of dominant narratives



Who makes the world we live in? Who is good and who is bad? The history books tell us one thing, but time and access to a greater variety of sources is proving how skewed the so-called truth can be. We have gathered, **Aida Edemariam**, whose account of her grandmother's life, *A Wife's Tale*, gives an intimate spin on Ethiopian history; **Nikesh Shukla**, who has just released a memoir, *Brown Baby*, that looks both forward and backward; and filmmaker **Stella Corradi** who directed *Sitting In Limbo*, Stephen Thompson's searing account of the Windrush scandal. Together, they discuss the choices that confront any storyteller tasked with retelling history. What, for them, are the ways of being true?

Sun 23 May, 7.30pm
Brighton Girls
£10
104

Window Gallery at Phoenix Art Space: Care

Our Phoenix studio artists have been invited to consider the theme of 'care' for a group exhibition. What does care mean within the context of a global pandemic? How can we better care for ourselves, our communities and our environment? Artworks in this exhibition have been selected by Beth Burgess, Executive Producer of Brighton Festival.



Virtual Open Studios

Join us this May for Virtual Open Studios to discover the vibrant community of artists behind the doors of Phoenix Art Space. Watch a series of interviews with our studio artists and enjoy additional content about their dedicated workspaces and creative practices.

Sat 1–Sun 30 May, 10am–5pm (closed Mon & Tue)
Phoenix Art Space
FREE

Without Walls @ Our Place

Discover exhilarating FREE and NEW pop-up performances from some of the UK's most innovative outdoor companies



Bring your family to your local park to celebrate the return of live performance from hip-hop to aerial dance in joyful style!

This year, these Without Walls presentations are part of *Our Place* – our community celebration of creativity – please see our website for more information on other events running as part of the exciting *Our Place* programme.

Performance schedule:

Fri 28 May at the Manor Gym (outside)

Roll Play and Black Victorians double bill

Sat 29 May at the Manor Gym (outside)

Rascally Diner

Roll Play and Black Victorians double bill

Sun 30 May at Hangleton Park

Rascally Diner

Damae Dance and Why double bill

See brightondome.org for more information about each performance

Fri 28 May, early evening, outside at the Manor Gym

Sat 29 May, 10am–6pm, outside at the Manor Gym

Sun 30 May, 10am–6pm, Hangleton Park

FREE but ticketed

(Tickets will first be offered to the local Our Place communities. For information on any further ticket releases please check our website from the beginning of May)

Sun 30 May performances of Why will be BSL interpreted by Sue MacLaine

Yolk and Aliens

Set within a personal memory shop, we invite you to experience a truly unique journey from Jane Horrocks



Co-created by Jane Horrocks, Molly Vivian, Francesca Levi and Camilla Clarke.

Combining a collection of archive material from VHS home footage to diary recordings the team has created a memory shop full of treasures and horrors. We follow the formative years of Molly (Jane's daughter) and the latter years of Barbara (Jane's mum). A combination of innocence and Alzheimer's. This jumble of memories invites the audience to try and piece together their own story and what it really means.

12+

Mon 17–Mon 31 May (closed Wednesday)

11am–12pm

12.30–1.30pm

2.30–3.30pm

4–5pm

5.30–6.30pm

8 Duke's Lane, Brighton BN1 1BG

£5 (book in advance)

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Yolk and Aliens - A Conversation with Jane Horrocks & collaborators

Following the showing of these new films join the discussion with the creatives as they explore memory.



This is an exclusive opportunity for audiences to hear more about the creative process and share their experience of the 'Yolk & Aliens' film installation which explores multi-generational memories shared between mother and daughter and daughter and mother.

Jane will be in conversation with her collaborators Francesca Levi (artist), Molly Vivian (musician), and Camilla Clarke (designer) chaired by actress and writer Esther Coles as well as Q&A with the audience.

Free coffee, tea and pastries will be available during the discussion.

This event will take place at Brighton Dome Café

22 & 29 May, 11am
Brighton Dome Café Bar
£10

Plan Your Visit

Here is the information you need to safely plan your best Festival experience

Booking tickets

Everything you need to know about booking tickets for the Festival

How to book

Online - You can book online 24 hours a day for any event that has a 'Book Now' button. Events without a 'Book Now' button are either non-ticketed events or fully booked.

Members should always log-in first.

Phone - 01273 709709 Lines are open: Mon - Sat, 10am - 5pm (Until Fri 4 May)

In person - Ticket office opening times in May tbc. Please note our Ticket office has now relocated to Church Street

For ticketing queries

If you have a specific ticketing query please email tickets@brightondome.org and we will respond as soon as we can during opening hours.

Good to know

If collecting tickets, please bring the same card used to purchase online or by phone. There is a £2.50 per order charge for all phone and online bookings (not applicable to Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival Members). Postage charges (60p standard post or £1.75 signed-for delivery) also apply.

Pay-it-Forward

This year we're asking you to join the Pay-it-Forward movement and help more people experience Brighton Festival. Pay an extra £5 when you book your tickets and we'll match it to give a £10 Pay-It-Forward Festival Ticket Voucher to someone unable to afford the opportunity. Vouchers will be distributed at Your Place, local schools and our partner organisations.

Booking Protection

You can now protect your tickets with a Booking Protection Guarantee. The cost is minimal and you are provided with a full refund if you are unable to attend the event in a range of circumstances outside your control. Simply select a Delivery Method including Booking Protection when you book your tickets. Your booking refund protection must be purchased at the time of booking. For more details please contact the ticket office.

Your Safety

How we keep you, our artists, our staff and volunteers safe

COVID 19 - Keeping you safe

We are re-opening and looking forward to welcoming you back! Brighton Festival is following National Guidelines on COVID-19 to ensure that when we are permitted to open again, that we are doing so safely. In over 50 years we've never cancelled our Festival, so cancelling in 2020 was heart-breaking. We are over the moon to be able to hold socially distanced events and we have worked hard to create a safe environment for you, as well as our artists and staff. To read our COVID safety FAQs please contact the ticket office.

To keep you safe while you are at the Festival we have:

- Limited overall capacity
- Socially distanced seating layouts and plenty of space at outdoor events
- Face coverings are compulsory for audience and staff inside venues, at outdoor events face coverings are encouraged
- Staggered arrival and departure
- Reduced capacity and adjustments within toilets
- One-way systems where possible
- Social distancing markers
- Signage and staff to remind everyone what is required – Give space, wash your hands and wear your face coverings
- Enhanced high touch point cleaning
- Enhanced ventilation

- Contactless ticketing and payments
- Hand sanitising stations
- Track and Trace using the QR code on arrival or by speaking to a member of our team
- Temperature checking on entry to indoor space for the audience and for our staff and artists

When Not to Visit

Please do not visit us if you or a member of the family have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms or have been asked to isolate following a Test and Trace call. We are offering refunds or ticket exchange to anyone who reports to us 3 hours prior to the performance that they cannot attend for the reasons given above. We can't do this without you, so thank you for trusting us and for joining us in celebrating live arts again. The Main symptoms of COVID-19 are: A new continuous cough, A high temperature, A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia).

Security

Like all public buildings and spaces, Brighton Dome has a number of security measures in place to help minimise the possibility of a terrorist attack in the venues. These measures include procedures should an attack actually happen. As a matter of course, our visitor services team are in regular contact with counter terrorism Police who provide regular briefings to us and recommendations about how we can enhance our security across our venues. In addition, we work closely with them to ensure that we are fully prepared to deal with any potential incidents on site. To make your visit as safe, secure and enjoyable as possible we carefully assess each event alongside the current security risk set by the government to decide what security measures need to be in place.

These additional security measures may include bag checks, limitations on what can be taken into the auditorium and ticket checks on the outer gates of the venue.

Bags

Owing to COVID-19 there is no cloakroom operating at events currently and all items must remain with the owner. Please avoid bringing bags to the venue and do not try to bring any larger items with you. Only bags no larger than an A3 piece of paper 35cm x 40cm x 19cm are permitted.

Regular Reviews

We work hard to protect the safety and security of our visitors, performers and staff and where possible to mitigate against the likelihood of an attack. We will be continually reviewing the measures we have in place as appropriate and in line with relevant direction from the security services. You can play a part in keeping yourselves and the rest of the audience safe by being vigilant to unusual behaviour or items and reporting any concerns you have to our Duty staff.

Festival Accessibility

Making sure that everyone can enjoy the Festival

Ensuring accessibility for all

Brighton Festival is making more and more events accessible to more people through a variety of assisted formats: Audio Description, British Sign Language interpretation, Relaxed Performances, Captioning and pre-event Touch Tours

Venue Access

There are over 30 Brighton Festival venues and each is a unique space. Details of access provisions can be found on individual venue pages on brightonfestival.org. If you have any queries, please call the venue directly. You may also contact Brighton Festival's Visitor Services Team - Call 01273 261525 / 542

Access Enquiries

For further access information, email access@brightonfestival.org or call our Visitor Services Team - Call 01273 261525 / 542

Blue Badge parking in Brighton

Customers with a Blue Badge can park in disabled bays, pay & display bays and shared use bays in Brighton & Hove. Also car parks throughout Brighton & Hove have different policies on disabled parking. To make sure you aren't given a parking ticket you should read the signs carefully when you enter the car park. Visit Brighton and Hove City Council's webpage for more information on Blue Badge parking.

Information on parking in local bays

New Road parking spaces - Max stay: 3 hours

Church Street Bays - No time limit on stay

You may also park on a single or double yellow line for up to 3 hours as long as there is not a loading restriction (marked by stripes on the kerb). You must make sure that the time disc is set to the time that you left the vehicle.

The following car parks do not charge Blue Badge holders for parking

- Black Rock
- Carlton Hill
- Haddington Street
- High Street
- King Alfred
- Norton Road
- Oxford Court
- Rottingdean Marine Cliffs
- Rottingdean West Street

Making our website accessible

We have implemented YouAccess by Grandad Digital to make this website accessible for all visitors. This is a simple and innovative tool that allows Users to tailor their website experience to suit their specific needs.

Clicking the icon anywhere on the website will give you access to a panel where you can configure how you view this website's content.

Our Access Scheme

Help us provide you with the best possible service so you have an easy and enjoyable visit every time you book a ticket and attend a Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival event. By letting us know your access requirements we can support your visit from start to finish, allowing us to: book the best seats for you, give you information about our upcoming accessible performance, ensuring complimentary personal assistant tickets are always available. For assistance completing the form and for more information please contact 01273 261541 or access@brightondome.org

Assisted shows

Every year, we make more and more of our performances accessible to a wider audience through a range of assisted shows. Check our event information for more information about the different types of assisted shows on offer. To book assisted shows call our Ticket Office on 01273 709709 or email tickets@brightondome.org

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyards

Not all disabilities are visible – some are not immediately obvious such as autism, chronic pain, dementia, anxiety, visual or hearing impairment. Not all people with hidden disabilities require assistance. But if you do, wearing the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard discreetly indicates that you need additional support, help or a little more time. Our staff are trained to recognise the lanyard, to understand that not all disabilities are visible, and to offer additional support where needed. We can provide you with a lanyard.

We can offer:

- Early entry into the venue or the auditorium, to avoid queuing and/or crowds
- Use of our lowered counter service point in the foyer bar
- Access to radar keys to open accessible toilet facilities
- Additional assistance from staff (e.g. escort to seats)

For your own lanyard or if you have any queries, please contact visitor services: call 01273 261525 or email access@brightondome.org

Brighton Festival & Brighton Dome Membership

Your donation goes a long way - from supporting artists, to music education for young people & more

Our Members enjoy priority booking on a wide range of Brighton Dome performances, plus a whole week of priority booking for Brighton Festival - giving you early access to a whole host of shows throughout the year.

Main benefits members can enjoy:

- Priority booking on selected Brighton Dome shows throughout the year
- A week of priority booking on ALL Brighton Festival events
- No per order charge on ticket purchases (excludes postage)
- 20% discount at Brighton Dome Cafe-bar
- Invitations to special Members-only events.
- Occasional ticket offers for selected events throughout the year
- 30% discount on parking at NCP Theatre Car Park (Church Street)

To buy a membership, please visit brightonfestival.org or contact our Ticket Office on 01273 709709 or email tickets@brightondome.org

Individual Membership

Priority booking, discounts and invitations for one person

Annual price: £35 per year for one named individual

Double Membership

Best for two people living at the same address

Annual price: £60 per year

Family Membership

Best for up to four people living at the same address

Annual price: £105 per year

Young Person's Membership

Best for people under 25

Annual price: £30 per year

Student Membership

Best for people with a valid student card

Annual price: £30 per year

Make a Donation Today

Your donation goes a long way - from supporting artists, to music education for young people & more

The closure of our venues and the cancellation of Brighton Festival has had a huge impact on our charity and the talented artists from around the world who perform on our stages. We know we need to fight hard to stay here for our community because we will need the arts more than ever when we come out the other side of this pandemic. Your support will help us look forward to the future with confidence and help us deliver our mission to open up the arts for everyone.

Support us with a text message

As a charity, it's hard for us to close. We want to do everything we can to support the arts sector as we all deal with these unprecedented times. We'll be working hard to find ways to survive the financial impact – and it would make a huge difference to us if you would consider making a donation

Text BTNFEST to 70971 to donate £10

Text BTNFESDT to 70970 to donate £5

