

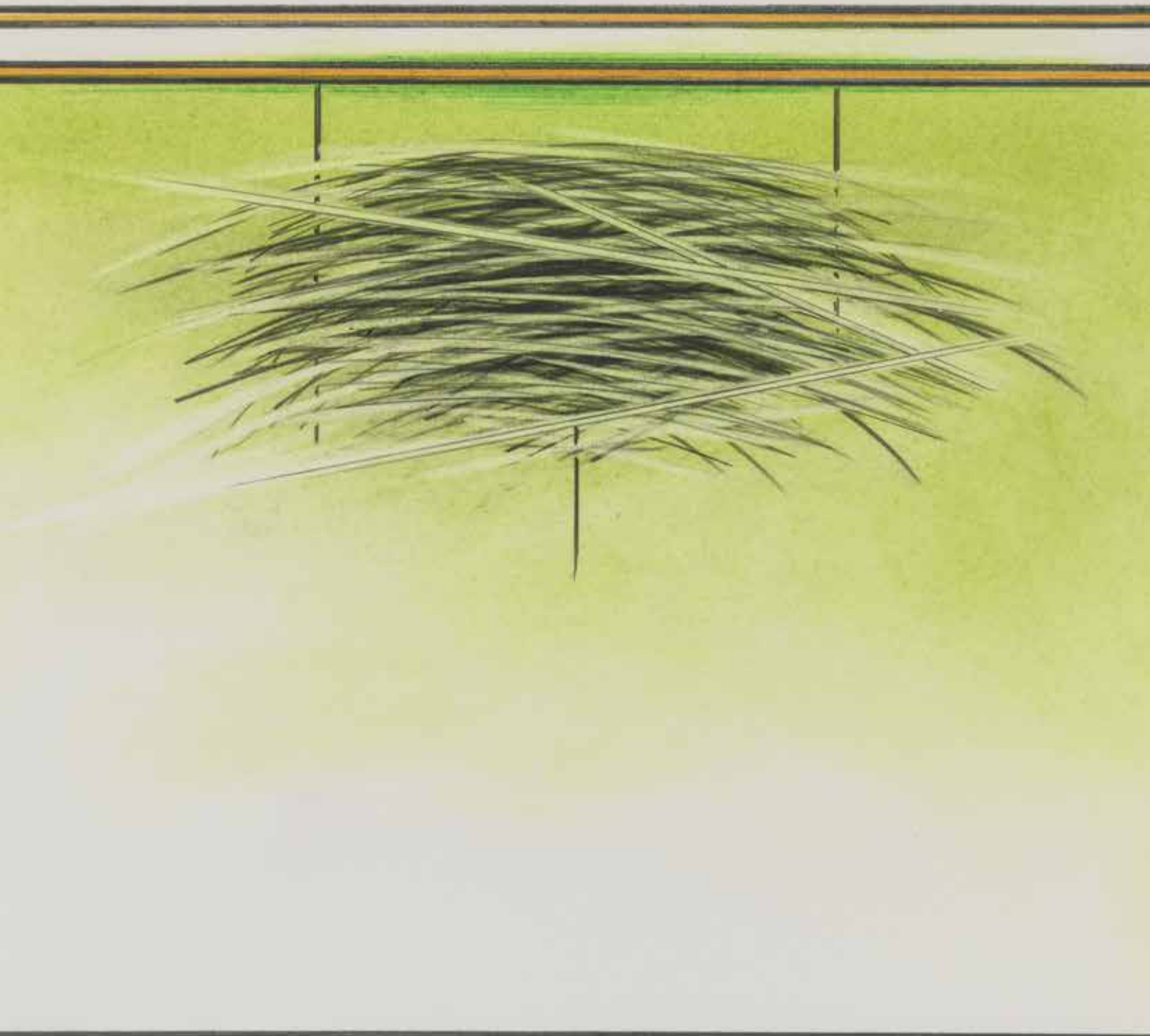


Spindle Ensemble / Situationism / Festival Guide 2021 / Zara Balfour  
Kingfisher Trail / Red Thread (Rauður Þráður) / Maja Lena Playlist

# ANN CHRISTOPHER

## *Broken Time*

15th May - 3rd July



**GALLERY PANGOLIN**

9 CHALFORD IND. ESTATE CHALFORD GL6 8NT

[www.gallery-pangolin.com](http://www.gallery-pangolin.com)

[gallery@pangolin-editions.com](mailto:gallery@pangolin-editions.com)

**01453 889765**

BROKEN TIME -13, 2020 - 2021  
pastel / crayon / graphite





**COVER ARTIST:  
MEGAN CRUA**

"I'M INTO NON-OBJECTIVE PAINTING, NON-OBJECTIVE PERFORMANCE AND INTO BEING NOT WHO I WAS 5 MINUTES AGO. I'M LETTING MYSELF FLOW AND BE STILL AT THE SAME TIME. THERE IS NO WRONG VISUAL EXPRESSION, MATCHMAKING OR COMPOSITION. I DON'T PUNISH MYSELF FOR MISTAKES ON PAPER, CANVAS, STAGE OR IN EVERYDAY LIFE. MY FAVOURITE THING IS TO PAINT NOTHING. HOWEVER, WHEN LINES BECOME SOMETHING RECOGNISABLE, I SIMPLY LET THEM BE. SO HERE WE ARE, A PAINTING ABOUT LIFE, DEATH AND NATURE."

@MALGORZATA\_ZAJAC

# EDITOR'S NOTE

## WELCOME TO ISSUE 72

Every year we put together a festival guide providing our readers with a definite guide to forthcoming festivals across the Stroud District but also throughout Gloucestershire. The April 2020 edition was due to be our biggest ever issue with a mammoth 12 page directory and was all designed and ready to go but of course we had to shelve it and go on a self imposed (yet brief!) hiatus.

It has of course been an uncertain time for festivals and the next few weeks/months/year ahead still contain many unanswered questions and what if's, however with the recent announcements there is a light at the end of the tunnel for some festival organisers and many are planning to go ahead either with live audiences, streamed online events or a combination of the two.

Knowing the festival organisers (and being one of them ourselves) they will only go ahead in a live setting if it's a safe enough environment for their crew, performers and ticket holders.

Stroud should be re-branded as a 'Festival District' - in a usual year it harbours many of them, each tirelessly promoting the work of local arts as well as inviting performers from further afield to their carefully curated lineups bringing audiences in their thousands from across the UK. Not to mention providing arts and culture for the local community and boosting the local economy.

If you are not planning on venturing forth to any of the festivals listed within please do consider supporting them in other ways. We need them. And they need us.

Long live the printed word.

Alex Hobbis and Adam Hinks

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## NOW OPEN

A new venue for creativity and collaborative working, in the heart of Nailsworth

We are delighted to be able to open our doors at Three Storeys. It may not be the launch party that we imagined, but we can't wait to welcome more people in, to our gallery, café and co-working space.



- Large open plan co-working space with a mixture of permanent and flexible desk spaces.
- Meeting room for hire.
- Accessible and spacious café offering drinks, cake and pastries for takeaway or at outdoor tables whilst restrictions are in place. See website for current opening hours.
- Adjoining gallery/workshop space to hire, with a programme of exhibitions ahead.
- 9 studios with resident creatives already enjoying their spaces on our first floor.

Tel 01453 798776  
info@threestoreys.co.uk  
www.threestoreys.co.uk

Three Storeys  
Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth,  
Gloucestershire, GL6 0JE

▶ Follow us on  
@ www.instagram.com/threestoreysnailsworth  
f www.facebook.com/threestoreysnailsworth

**WORKING  
CREATIVELY  
TOGETHER**

# NEWS

Arts and culture news from across the Stroud District

## ARTS

### EVERYTHING IS LIGHT

Everything Is Light, the extraordinary light show featuring a maze of illuminated tunnels and hidden rooms bathed in colour re-opens at the Sub Rooms this month.



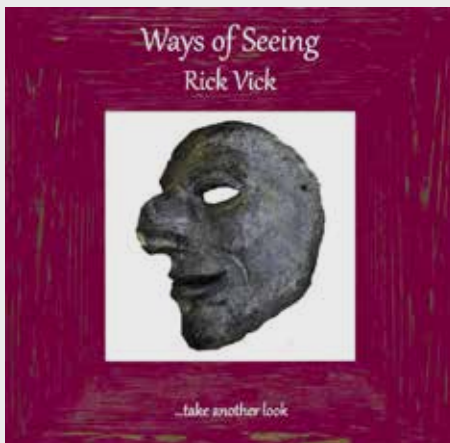
Created by Glastonbury Festival Pyramid Stage artist Jack Wimperis tickets are available from Monday 17th May and runs until the 22nd June. Ticket slots will give visitors entry to the event for an hour, visitors are asked to arrive no more than 10 minutes before their time slots to avoid queues.

[thesubrooms.co.uk](http://thesubrooms.co.uk)

## BOOKS

### RICK VICK

Before he died in 2019, Stroud-based poet and writer Rick Vick compiled a collection of his best poetry and short stories. With the help of publisher Chapeltown



Books, and local editors/writers Philip Rush and Steven John, Rick's family have posthumously published his collection under the title of 'Ways of Seeing'. This collection of prose and poetry takes the reader on a journey through many aspects of life and indeed offers you many ways of seeing. Ricks' mantra was, "Let the pen do the writing." He had a love of people that manifested itself on every level, from the encouragement of a shy, new poet at one of his workshops to his record-breaking seven appearances as a writer at the prestigious Stroud Short Stories.

[chapeltownpublishing.uk](http://chapeltownpublishing.uk)

## MUSIC

### MUSIC THAT MATTERS

Hawkwood, in partnership with Sea Change, continue their recently launched Music That Matters series this month with journalist, radio presenter and author of

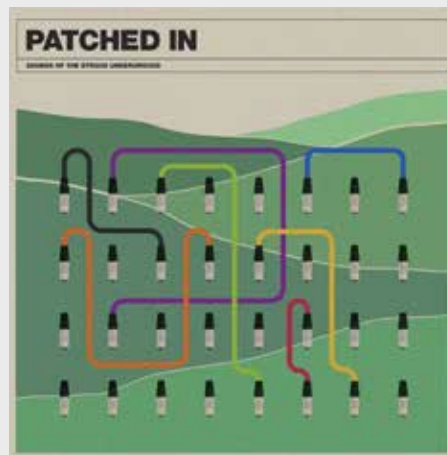


Document Your Culture; Emma Warren. Hosted by composer, author, artist and current Programme Curator for Hawkwood Matthew Shaw, the series explores the creativity, the communities and stories of a wide range of musical performers and projects. From music for healing and caring to equality and diversity to climate action and humanitarian issues. The online series also brings you live music and discussions, playbacks and in-depth conversation with the opportunity for you to also get involved. Other forthcoming guests include The Mirry Project, Alabaster dePlume and more tba...

[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)

### SOUND RECORDS

One of Stroud's independent record shops Sound Records have just announced the launch of a new record label with the release of Patched In: Sounds of Underground Stroud, a compilation of electronic music from the town. This record is the first attempt to capture



the key sounds of the scene and features acts as diverse as the haunting electronica of Orbury Common, the post-punk jazz of Mermaid Chunky, the ethereal cello of Simon McCorry and glitchy hip-hop of Fidel Cutstro. The

record will feature a track from Blancmange legend Neil Arthur in his Near Future guise as well as the first ever recorded track by Woolheads, a collaboration between Sound Records' own Sean Roe and artist Uta Baldauf. Other acts involved are Mahon Sounds, Little Metropolis, Unicorn Ship Explosion and Phonsonic. Profits from the record are raising funds for local music venue, the Prince Albert, which was recently one of just four UK pubs featured on Tom Kerridge's BBC show Saving Britain's Pubs. The crowdfunder campaign launched to fund the project runs until the 7th May, for further info head to [crowdfunder.co.uk/patched-in](http://crowdfunder.co.uk/patched-in)

[facebook.com/soundrecordsstroud](https://facebook.com/soundrecordsstroud)

### EDWARD NEWELL

Local composer and musician Edward Newell has recently released his new solo album Nine Tracks on which he plays keyboards, cello, double bass and fretless bass. Newell's atmospheric instrumental music explores many moods, utilising both the textural and



the melodic. The cross-genre music blends diverse influences from classical works, soundtrack music, electronica and folk. Nine Tracks is available now from [edwardnewell.bandcamp.com](http://edwardnewell.bandcamp.com) and all major streaming platforms, including Spotify, iTunes and YouTube.

[edward-newell.com](http://edward-newell.com)

### LITERATURE/SPOKEN WORD

### READ GLOUCESTERSHIRE!

Between January and July 2021, Nailsworth based charity Read For Good want as many schools as possible taking part in READ Gloucestershire! Pupils



in Gloucestershire will be reading for fun – united in a shared purpose to help their school, to help children in hospital, and to help themselves. Whether it's running their Readathon, Dropping Everything to Read or joining one of their author events, there are lots of ways to get involved in their celebration of reading. All schools who are part of Read Gloucestershire! will be automatically entered into free prize draws to win bookish goodies...

[readforgood.org](http://readforgood.org)

## STROUD SHORT STORIES

Stroud Short Stories have just announced their 10th Birthday event which will take place online on the 9th May. 90 Gloucestershire writers submitted 125 stories



- just 4 short of their all-time record. Ten new stories by the winning authors - Nimue Brown, David Goodland, Diana Humphrey, Nastasya Parker, Kate Keogan, Jason Jackson, Cheryl Burman, Mhairi Gray, Sally Jenkinson, and Sean Quigley will be read via the SSS YouTube channel available to watch for free.

[stroudshortstories.blogspot.com](http://stroudshortstories.blogspot.com)

## CROWDFUNDER

## STROUD AGAINST RACISM

Stroud Against Racism, a community interest organisation tackling systemic racism in Stroud have just launched a crowdfunder campaign to enable them to produce creative projects, as well as a library and lots of resources to support anti-racism and learning in the community. They have also commissioned several artists to create visual and poetic work to be displayed on banners in a prominent position around town showcasing the excellent work of people from diverse communities living in Stroud and Gloucestershire. To support the campaign and for further info visit [crowdfunder.co.uk/stroud-against-racism](http://crowdfunder.co.uk/stroud-against-racism)



[stroudagainstracism.co.uk](http://stroudagainstracism.co.uk)

# MAJA LENA PLAYLIST

**“HERE’S A BIT OF AN ECLECTIC MIXTURE OF WHAT I’VE BEEN LISTENING TO RECENTLY, INCLUDING MULTIPLE INFLUENCES OF MINE, A SONG FOR EVERY MOOD, SOME OLD FAVOURITES, NEW FINDINGS AND SOME EXCELLENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FRIENDS. I’VE ALSO ENJOYED DANCING MORE THAN EVER OVER LOCKDOWN, SO I’VE BEEN LISTENING TO A LOT OF TRACKS THAT UPLIFT ME AND MAKE ME WANT TO MOVE AROUND, ESPECIALLY WITH THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING, LOTS OF FRESH ENERGY AND BEAUTIFUL GREENERY AROUND! HOPE YOU ENJOY IT TOO!”**

SEARCH ON SPOTIFY FOR ‘GOOD ON PAPER - MAJA LENA PLAYLIST’ OR SCAN THE QR CODE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE COLUMN.

1. **Enya:** Aldebaran
2. **Wye Oak:** Spiral
3. **Alessi Brothers:** Seabird
4. **The Velvet Underground:** What Goes On
5. **Rachael Dadd:** Connected To The Rock
6. **Aldous Harding:** Fixture Picture
7. **Wasuremono:** I Feel Fine (Hallelujah)
8. **Elsa Hewitt:** Rolling In Your Wall
9. **Mattie Delaney:** Tallahatchie River Blues
10. **Laura Groves:** Infinite Wisdom
11. **The Dandy Warhols:** Good Morning
12. **Satoshi and Makoto:** White Wall
13. **Kate Bush:** Sensual World
14. **Chairlift:** Amanaemonesia
15. **Leonard Cohen:** Lover Lover
16. **The Magic Lantern:** Bury Me Not
17. **Blake Mills:** Eat My Dust
18. **Yukari:** Am I Dreaming
19. **Captain Beefheart and His Magic Band:** Abba Zaba
20. **Cocteau Twins:** Aloysius
21. **Brownie McGhee:** One Thing For Sure
22. **Emily Barker:** Return Me
23. **Radiohead:** Little By Little
24. **Nine Inch Nails:** She's Gone Away
25. **Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith:** Wetlands
26. **HANA:** Chimera 2.0
27. **Piero Piccioni:** Mecxican Dream
28. **Grimes:** Symphonia IX (My Wait Is U)
29. **PJ Harvey:** O Stella
30. **Roger Doyle:** Spring Is Coming With A Strawberry In The Mouth
31. **Joe Hisaishi:** A Huge Tree In The Tsukamori Forest
32. **Bjork:** Hyper-ballad
33. **The Incredible String Band:** No Sleep Blues
34. **Boards of Canada:** Dayvan Cowboy

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA TO ACCESS THE PLAYLIST!





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# SPINDLE ENSEMBLE

BY PAUL HARPER



THE SECOND HIDDEN NOTES FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL AND AVANT GARDE MUSIC, WHICH WAS DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER 2020, WILL BE TAKING PLACE LATER THIS YEAR. THE FESTIVAL WILL FEATURE PERFORMANCES BY JONNY GREENWOOD AND PENQUIN CAFE, AND IT PROMISES TO BE A GREAT COMING TOGETHER AND A CELEBRATION OF THE SHARED EXPERIENCE OF LIVE MUSIC AFTER THE DROUGHT OF THE LAST YEAR. IN THE MEANTIME, THE RIPPLES CREATED BY THE FIRST FESTIVAL CONTINUE TO RESONATE THROUGH COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS WITH SOUND RECORDS, DEEPBED RADIO AND NOW WITH THE LAUNCH OF A NEW RECORD LABEL, HIDDEN NOTES RECORDS. THE LABEL, WHICH SEEMS LIKE A NATURAL EXTENSION OF THE FESTIVAL, BUILDS ON THE CONNECTIONS THAT FOUNDERS ALEX HOBBS AND ADAM HINKS HAVE MADE THROUGH THE FESTIVAL AND WILL BE A PLATFORM FOR PROMOTING NEW MUSIC.



Photographs by Tom Jacob



The first release will be *Inklings* by Spindle Ensemble, one of the standout performances from the 2019 festival. Spindle Ensemble are an instrumental quartet, formed in 2016, that are part of Bristol's music collective, Bloom. They perform original compositions by Daniel Inzani that sidestep the boundaries of classification, ranging easily and coherently between serialism, musique concrete and lush romanticism whilst drawing on influences from Steve Reich's counterpoints, through the lyrical sound poems and compositions of Erik Satie and Debussy, to Frank Zappa's free experimentation.

Daniel emphasises the collaborative nature of the band and describes his role of bandleader as being about curating the circumstances in which something can happen rather than being directive. The group, which features percussionist Harriet Riley, cellist Jo Silverston and violinist Caelia Lunniss, share a musical curiosity, an ability to listen closely to each other and to improvise, as well as a high degree of technical competence. Daniel is a multi-instrumentalist, although he principally plays piano. His compositional method involves sketching out an idea that the band will develop collectively. He describes this as a process of surrendering something in order to enrich the original idea, to be surprised by unexpected elaborations on an idea. The combination of instruments is

unusual but strikingly balanced and harmonious in the mix. The music is warm and melodic but there are moments of dynamic tension and discordance, and of jaunty exuberance. There is a spontaneity and energy that is perhaps a trace of the group's improvisational process. No one instrument dominates, with different players coming to the fore at different times. This latter characteristic is something that can be associated with jazz, and may be related to Daniel's experience of playing with jazz musicians, notably with the Ethiopian Jazz band Tezeta. Friendship and trust are essential elements of their working methods.

He has had little formal musical training and has developed his technical and compositional sensibility through experience of playing a wide variety of music in a wide variety of settings. In 2013, for instance, he collaborated with Gus Fairbairn, AKA Alabaster de Plume, on an album titled *The Jester - Alabaster de Plume's* own performances in Stroud have become legendary – near spiritual experiences. He has also worked as a producer, recording *Mandel* in Holy Trinity Church for their recent EP release.

When Daniel tells me that he studied maths at university, I am only slightly surprised. The music has a kind of freedom and lightness in the way that it steps outside of the formal confines

of genre, but there is an underlying mathematical precision, a satisfying internal logic and discipline, that sits happily alongside its melodic and expressive qualities. The openness of Daniel's approach is matched by the other members of the Ensemble, who, although classically trained, all have experience of playing with a diverse range of musicians.

Being hard to pigeonhole has meant that Spindle Ensemble are not limited to a particular kind of venue or audience. The music has a broad appeal and they are equally at home in concert halls such as the Southbank Centre or St George's Hall, independent venues such as the Goods Shed or festivals like Shambala.

*Inklings* was largely recorded before lockdown at various venues in Bristol (including St George's Hall), capturing the spontaneity of their performances using recording techniques that enable the listener to hear each instrument's position mimicking the audible experience as a live audience member. The recordings have been overdubbed with an orchestra, deepening the sound and augmenting the quartet with brass and percussion instruments.

Over the last year Daniel has moved to Stroud with his partner, who is a visual artist. When I first moved here, 16 years ago, I was told that everyone that I met in Stroud would either be an artist or an alternative therapist. Certainly there is

a critical mass of visual artists, which is part of the history and fabric of the town, but it seems to me that over the last couple of years it is musicians that I keep meeting and that there has been a steadily growing community of really interesting music makers that is gathering momentum and drawing others in its wake. Could we be seeing a Hidden Notes effect?

During lockdown Daniel has been playing the piano daily in Rodborough Parish Church, relishing the unique acoustic properties of the space. Once things are opened up again he is planning to programme public performances in the church. This could be a welcome addition to Stroud's widening range of music venues. Alongside events such as *Hidden Notes* and *Jazz Stroud*, scheduled for the autumn, and the longed for reopening of venues such as *The Prince Albert*, it augurs well for the coming year.

*Inklings* will be released on the 27th May, on vinyl, CD and digital download. The vinyl version will be accompanied by a special 12 page booklet which includes liner notes written by Nick Luscombe, host of BBC3's *Late Junction*. For further information and to pre-order the album visit [hiddennotes.co.uk/label](http://hiddennotes.co.uk/label) and [spindleensemble.com](http://spindleensemble.com)

PAUL HARPER IS A LECTURER AND WRITER ON VISUAL ART AND CRAFT.



# SITUATIONISM

BY TOM BERRY

SITUATIONISM - THE THEORY THAT CHANGES IN HUMAN BEHAVIOUR ARE FACTORS OF THE SITUATION RATHER THAN THE TRAITS A PERSON POSSESSES. BEHAVIOUR IS BELIEVED TO BE INFLUENCED BY EXTERNAL, SITUATIONAL FACTORS RATHER THAN INTERNAL TRAITS OR MOTIVATIONS.

Never has situationism felt so relevant than this last year, a perfect time then to check in with local purveyors of quality dance music Situation Sounds...

At the core of the collective are ex DiY DJ Mr Mulatto and long-established Stroud DJ Frank Situation. Frank booked Mr Mulatto for one of his Phat Nutz gigs at the Thekla in Bristol and the pair soon started writing music together at the Get It Together Studio in Stroud, running the Friends & Families record label alongside Rob Evans at the time.

It is a partnership that has endured many years and this year Situationism marks its 50th release, a considerable achievement for any label in this day and age. For those that aren't familiar with the Situation or BRS sound it is fundamentally a house-based groove but one seeped in a love of soul, funk, disco and jazz. Whether re-editing other producers, producing their own tracks or lighting up the dancefloor, Situation is a good time guaranteed but one that respects the heritage of disco and house music in doing so.

Situation (Edits) which was first formed along with Paul Walker, first came to prominence on the national scene with their edits being championed by DJ's including Greg Wilson who included their Situation Edit of Machine Gun in his BBC Radio 1 'Essential Mix' - widely regarded as one of the greatest DJ mixes ever made. Another key edit was Alice Russell and Quantic Soul Orchestra's Pushin' On which went on to become an official remix on the Tru Thoughts label as they liked it so much when they heard it.

Over time, it morphed into more of a collective with musicians and vocalists joining, leading to creating original tracks as Situation - Mr Mulatto and Frank Situation at the helm. I asked the guys how it feels to reach 50 releases and there is clearly a real sense of satisfaction that they have created and grown together into what is now considered an established label that people feel they can trust. They still have their finger on the musical pulse, their tracks have been played multiple times on BBC Radio 6 Music in the last year alone, justifying the investment of time they have put into the label over the years. The particular releases they are most proud of? Andre Espeut and Julian Sanza - Perfect System (Opolopo remix) and Situation feat. Andre Espeut - Beyond Compare (Laroye and Espeut vocal remix) are just two that spring to mind.

Moving forward they recognise the need for both keeping their sound and experimentation "We think it's a bit of both - we are always looking to find something interesting and new musically, however we definitely have a consolidated sound that we are being recognised for which at the same time is always evolving."

"We love to work with lots of different artists and musicians and usually see what projects come out of that. Local musicians and vocalists that we have worked with include Dom Thompson, James Payne, Phil Campbell, Jon Gray, Lauren Rimmel, Katie and Libby Vacara and Emma Ordonez." They have also

collaborated a lot with London based singer songwriter Andre Espeut and more recently South African based vocalist Venessa Jackson not to mention Ashley Beedle, Yam Who, Greg Wilson, and Tom Findlay to name but a few from the A list DJ world.

So what are the plans for the label going forwards? "We will continue as we have always done, to try and keep a simple philosophy with the label which is - if we like it, if it moves and grooves us, and we click with the artists - we will release it." They also intend to keep growing their new house series 2Up2Down with it's first three volumes already having been a big success. As if that wasn't enough they have a compilation album of deep house In The Bag forthcoming.

In what seems to be a particularly productive period, even by their standards, the lads have just finished a couple of BRS remixes for Groove Armada from their new album and Mr Mulatto has also found time during lockdown to support the Stroud Valley Artspace's Deepbed Radio. "It was perfect as a substitute for not being able to do club nights and DJing out I suppose. I was doing a weekly show for about 6 months so it really focused me, as well as helping out with some of the Listen Again parts of the station, however as time has gone on I haven't been able to commit so much but still have a regular show every month."

Finally, we have to ask, are there any live DJ nights planned? "We're keeping everything crossed! We are hoping to get the first Friday club night available at the SVA in Stroud after June 21st ...all being well of course..."

To listen to Situationism releases visit [situationism1.bandcamp.com](https://www.bandcamp.com) and follow them on facebook at [@Situation.Sound](https://www.facebook.com/Situation.Sound) for news and updates.

TOM BERRY IS A DJ AND CO-PROPRIETOR OF SOUND RECORDS, FOR EXCLUSIVE DJ MIXES VISIT [MIXCLOUD.COM/MONOBROW7](https://www.mixcloud.com/MONOBROW7)



**GOOD  
ON PAPER**

**FESTIVAL  
GUIDE**

OUR ANNUAL FESTIVAL GUIDE RETURNS!  
READ ON FOR OUR DEFINITIVE GUIDE  
TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVALS, FRINGES,  
OPEN STUDIOS, TRAILS, WEEKENDERS AND  
(SLIGHTLY) BEYOND.

**ARTS**

## STROUD DISTRICT

### STROUDWATER CANAL TRAIL

Cotswold Canals Connected project is proud to announce the Stroudwater Canal Trail 2021. Marking the start of a brilliant three years ahead for our canal communities, the trail has been adapted for this year to safely bring us together outdoors through exploring our wonderful canal from Brimscombe to Saul. Throughout May they will be promoting heritage trails, boat trips, performances and activities to inspire everyone to get out and about on the Stroudwater.

COTSWOLDCANALSCONNECTED.ORG

### GROUND WORKS: PLACE-TIME-MATERIAL

THURS 17TH - SUN 27TH JUNE

Running as part of this year's Select Trail, Ground Works will be welcoming artists and writers whose inspiration and concern is for our landscape and environment. It is the umbrella for two projects called 'Landlinks' and 'Earthbound', that were planned for May 2020 and Groundworks are delighted to be finally going ahead with an exhibition and linked events in June in the new Three Storeys Centre in Nailsworth. The exhibition and events aim to examine our collective response to landscape and place, how we react to exterior spaces and the impact of our changing environment. Curated by Kel Portman of 'Walking the Land' and Lizzi Walton.

GROUNDWORKS.ORG.UK

### META LAUNCH FESTIVAL

SAT 19TH JUNE - SUN 27TH JULY

A mini arts festival to celebrate the launch and collaboration of META, Weven and Tomari-Gi orbiting around their central and introductory exhibition 'Estival'. Events will include: private view, film nights, musical performance, paper wildflower workshops, botanical dyeing, basket weaving, family mask making, drawing and painting workshops, storytelling, artist talks and closing party...

WEVEN.CO.UK/EVENTS

### SELECT TRAIL

SAT 19TH - SUN 20TH/SAT 26TH-SUN 27TH JUNE

Select Arts, formerly SIT select, is bringing artists and the public together this summer through the Select Trail open studios. A rare opportunity to look behind the scenes and meet makers in their workspace, the Select Trail will renew the ties of community that make our local art scene. With a renewed focus on the Five Valleys, the studio visits will be supported by the Select Trail brochure and guided routes that make the most of what the locations offer. A new feature at this year's Select Trail is the Young Artist's collective which will platform selected emerging artists. There will also be a programme of events held online or in-person - government regulations permitting.

SELECTARTSPRESENTS.COM

### WORLD TEXTILES WEEKEND

SAT 26TH - SUN 27TH JUNE

The World Textiles Weekend returns to Bisley Village Hall featuring works by Linda Clift, Martin Conlan of Slow Loris, Nataliya Cummings of Experience Ukraine, Jennifer Evans of Jenpatola, John Gillow, Polly Lyster, Dorothy Reglar, Tiger Moth plus food, contemporary designed Asian wearables and much more...

TEXTILEFAIRS.CO.UK

### STROUD SACRED MUSIC FESTIVAL

SAT 3RD JULY

With the news of the end of legal limits on social contact at the end of June, the Stroud Sacred Music Festival are aspiring to hold an evening of transcendent joy with sacred music and dancing in and around St Laurence Church. It will be a scaled down version of the Festival and the talent will be from the prolific local scene. Watch this space...

SACREDMUSICFESTIVAL.ORG.UK

### CHALFEST

FRI 16TH-SAT 17TH JULY / SOLD OUT!

The Party on the Hill is back with a bang. Seb Fontaine, The Blockheads, Alexandra Burke, Bjorn Again and Dick and Dom take to the main stage whilst two other music stages cater for all tastes from hip hop to bluegrass. Throw in a load of free stuff for the kids, a comedy tent, traditional village green, community stalls, numerous bars and tasty food trucks and there really is something for everyone.

CHALFEST.CO.UK

### STROUD STEAMPUNK PICNIC PARTY IN THE PARK

SAT 14TH AUGUST

Steampunk returns to Stroud with a picnic event in Stratford Park and at the Museum in the Park. The day will feature a Steampunk Market, author talks, tea duels and other sporting events -including a version of cheese rolling! In the evening at Lansdown Hall there will be a lively party with performances by leading French Steampunk band Victor Sierra and the master of chap hop Professor Elemental.

STROUDSTEAMPUNK.WEEBLY.COM



World Textile Weekend

Dorothy Reglar

### NAILSWORTH FESTIVAL

FRI 20TH-FRI 27TH AUGUST

The Nailsworth Festival aims, for one week of the year, to bring something a little different to the cultural life of our community, providing something for everyone. As ever, on Festival Saturday (21st August) there will be free entertainment and market stalls in the town centre. Evening events will include: US born country blues artist Michael Roach, in a rare performance with his daughter, Sadie; stand-up poet, comedian and broadcaster, Elvis McGonagall; a one-woman play starring Liz Grand and new songs and jazz standards with Helen Porter.

NAILSWORTHFESTIVAL.ORG.UK

### THE PRINCE ALBERT BEER, CIDER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

WEDS 25TH - MON 30TH AUGUST

The Prince Albert Beer, Cider and Music Festival would have been in its 12th year in May 2020 so this special August outing is making up for the two that didn't happen, but most importantly it's celebrating 25 years at the Albert of Lotte, Miles and their family at the helm of this wonderful friendly and inspiring pub. Bands, poets, kids events and a huge selection of beer and cider will be in place for the party of the year. Tickets available later in the year when they have all the latest regulations in place...As the friendly hosts say - "Come on up the hill for the best weekend of the year..."

THEPRINCEALBERTSTROUD.CO.UK

### THE OUTER FRINGE

FRI 27TH - MON 30TH AUGUST

A full 'Covid Secure' weekend of live music, a beer festival and great food. Confirmed Acts include: The Leon Daye Band, Shady Past, The Loan Sharks, Chinese Burn, Howling Matt, Texas Tick Fever, Trevor Babjack Steiger, Luke



Chalfest

Basement Jaxx (2018)





## Hidden Notes Festival

Jonny Greenwood

Philbrick, Earl, Woo Town Hillbillies, The Bob Porter Project, Stroud Red Band, jerksauceproject and many more yet to confirm! The Famous Chilli Cookoff also comes back on the Sunday, with local chefs competing for the coveted Cup alongside Americana bands. Bank Holiday Monday will see the return of Erin Baker's fabulous Veggie/Vegan Pad Thai Noodle Bar after the slow march down Horns Road with the Stroud Red Band.

[CROWNANDSCEPTRESTROUD.COM](http://CROWNANDSCEPTRESTROUD.COM)

## STROUD ARTS FESTIVAL

FROM SEPTEMBER

Planning continues at pace for the Stroud Arts Festival, who will present a Season of Events designed to celebrate both the Arts in Stroud and the 75 year Anniversary of the Charity. Curated by Festival Guest Artistic Director Dave Ayre, a freelance double bass player, composer and music educationalist, their programme of events will launch in September 2021 and right through to Spring 2022. Their line-up will be announced later this Spring.

[STROUDARTSFESTIVAL.ORG](http://STROUDARTSFESTIVAL.ORG)

## JAZZ STROUD

SUN 5TH - SUN 12TH SEPTEMBER

Jazz Stroud is an artist-led weekend of jazz influenced music that embraces all aspects of the jazz spectrum, ranging from the more traditional forms of jazz to improvised electronic music, experimental hip-hop and beyond. With a combination of free daytime events, outstanding evening concerts, late night live sessions and club nights, the weekend should provide something for everyone. Jazz Stroud 2021 has moved from its usual May spring bank holiday slot and has rescheduled from Sunday 5 to Sunday 12 September. Line up to be announced!

[JAZZSTROUD.ORG](http://JAZZSTROUD.ORG)

## STROUD THEATRE FESTIVAL

FRI 10TH - SUN 12TH SEPTEMBER

Stroud Theatre Festival will return for its 9th year with 40 theatre companies performing a wide range of shows including comedies, dramas, children's shows and spoken word. The performances will take place in a range of venues including Stratford Park, Lansdown Hall, St Laurence Church, The British School at Star Anise, the Old Town Hall and other new venues. This year will feature new street performances written

by members of the Everyman Writers Lab as well as a host of other premieres and established festival favourites. Ticket prices will be £6 with a Stroudie Special allowing 6 shows for the price of 5.

[STROUDTHEATREFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://STROUDTHEATREFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

## WOTTON BLUES FESTIVAL

FRI 17TH-SUN 19TH SEPTEMBER

A weekend of live blues music across 6 venues in the heart of Wotton-under-Edge. The Festival is a free non-profit event, completely organised and run by a team of dedicated volunteers, along with the generous support of their sponsors and partners - allowing them to bring you a weekend of high-quality music with a great community-based atmosphere. Wotton Blues Festival are planning to run a full event subject to any COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time, and the availability of venues and bands. Get the dates in your diaries and keep an eye out for updates on their website, social media channels and newsletter.

[WOTTONBLUESFEST.ORG](http://WOTTONBLUESFEST.ORG)

## SITE FESTIVAL

OPEN STUDIOS + ART-MEETS-FASHION  
SAT 18TH SEPTEMBER - SAT 2ND OCTOBER

After a year's break, Site Festival are happy to be bringing back the festival and Open Studios this September and are looking forward to sharing the convivial atmosphere of artists opening their studios on the weekends of 18-19th and 25th-26th in a more relaxed atmosphere. The Site Festival will also be bringing together the innovative and distinctive worlds of sculpture and fashion together for sensational art-meets-fashion collaborations with exhibitions, talks, films and workshops culminating in a catwalk event and club night for the last weekend (1st- 2nd October).

[SITEFESTIVAL.ORG.UK](http://SITEFESTIVAL.ORG.UK)

## HIDDEN NOTES

SAT 25TH-SUN 26TH SEPTEMBER / SOLD OUT!

Founded by Good On Paper Hidden Notes focuses on presenting the works of contemporary classical and avant-garde composers rarely seen together on the same stage whilst also providing the artists with a platform to perform new music and collaborations in intimate spaces. This year's festival includes none other than Penguin Cafe headlining the Saturday and Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood with Katherine Tinker, Oliver

Coates and Daniel Piore closing the festival on Sunday. Other performers include Erland Cooper, Poppy Ackroyd and Peter Broderick plus additional events including screenings, woodland concerts, exhibitions and more...

[HIDDENNOTES.INFO](http://HIDDENNOTES.INFO)

## STROUD BOOK FESTIVAL

WEDS 3RD - SUN 7TH NOVEMBER

This year's Stroud Book Festival, now in its sixth year, will run from 3-7 November and (COVID constraints permitting) will be held at the Sub Rooms, Lansdown Hall and other venues around Stroud. The full line-up will be revealed this summer, with events designed to entertain, inform and inspire readers of all ages, and celebrate books and authors both local and from further afield. Taking in fiction, poetry, business, history, politics, the environment, psychology, nature-writing and events for children and families, our programme will consciously reflect on current affairs, and how we might build better and more compassionate communities for all. The festival is thrilled to continue their association with Stroud Short Stories for their event on Sunday 7th, as well as their partnership with Dialect, the Gloucestershire-based platform for rural writers, for their programme of workshops. The festival's annual Schools' Day for Gloucestershire primary schools take place both in-person and virtually on Thursday 4th.

[STROUDBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG.UK](http://STROUDBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG.UK)



## Site Festival - Open Studios

Adam White

## ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### CHELTENHAM JAZZ FESTIVAL

SAT 1ST - SUN 2ND MAY

A free-to-view, digital event across the May Bank Holiday weekend streamed on the Cheltenham Festivals YouTube channel, the festival will present an array of world-class shows from established stars and emerging talent from across the jazz, pop and soul spectrum. Including Steve Winwood, Soweto Kinch, Cleveland Watkiss, Jason Rebello, Marisha Wallace, Yelfris Valdes, Ayanna Witter-Johnson, Jason Rebello + Tim Garland and Jas Kayser. Hosted by Cerys Matthews and the Festival's Artistic Curator Gregory Porter.

[CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/JAZZ](http://CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/JAZZ)

### LIVING CRAFTS FESTIVAL

SAT 29TH - MON 31ST MAY

Living Crafts Festival is an arts and crafts extravaganza celebrating the



Jazz Stroud

Steam Down (2019)

UK's finest designer-makers. Come experience craft through workshops and demonstrations, and shop for unique handmade designs.

[LIVINGCRAFTS.CO.UK](http://LIVINGCRAFTS.CO.UK)

### CHELTENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL

THURS 10TH - SUN 13TH JUNE

Cheltenham Science Festival returns with a unique hybrid four-day event. The UK's most respected scientists and thinkers including Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw, Hannah Fry, Adam Rutherford, Robin Ince, Claudia Hammond and Cosmic Shambles Network appear. Guest Curators are Paul Nurse, Camilla Pang and campaigner Gina Martin exploring the Festival theme 'Be The Change' with a panel of young activists. In-person tickets available to buy, with events streamed online for free and to watch via subscription on-demand. There are 50+ free online events for families and schools and more activities via the hands-on Discover Zone.

[CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/SCIENCE](http://CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/SCIENCE)

### CHELTENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL

FRI 2ND - FRI 9TH JULY

Cheltenham Music Festival celebrates the best of British music including the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Jess Gillam, Dame Sarah Connolly, Steven Osborne, walks, talks, film music and more. World premieres include a new opera, a choral work giving voice to asylum seekers and a live-streamed digital event addressing climate change. The weekend of 9-11 July sees a joint Cheltenham Music Festival/Cheltenham Jazz weekend of free outdoors music in Imperial Gardens.

[CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/MUSIC](http://CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/MUSIC)

### 2000 TREES FESTIVAL

THURS 8TH - SAT 10TH JULY

The multi award winning 2000trees is a 15,000 capacity music festival set in the rolling Cotswold Hills. You'll get 3 nights camping and a friendly, intimate atmosphere - plus amazing food and locally produced ciders, ales and lagers. The festival is all about the music with over 120 of the absolute best new and underground acts from the worlds of rock and indie, plus some more established acts to close out the night...This year's headliners include Jimmy Eat World and Thrice.

[TWOHUNDREDTREESFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://TWOHUNDREDTREESFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

### GUITING MUSIC FESTIVAL

FRI 23RD JULY - SUN 1ST AUGUST

For half a century the Guiting Music Festival has been a delightful niche festival to enliven the Cotswolds' summer calendar, bringing an exciting variety of highly talented performances of Classical, Jazz and Blues music by artists from around the world. In that time it has built up a strong band of very loyal supporters. The festival is held in the beautiful and unspoilt Cotswold setting of Guiting Power, near Stow-on-the-Wold in Gloucestershire's Cotswold Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and this year features concerts by the likes of Stacey Kent, Xuefei Yang, Joanna MacGregor and more...

[GUITINGFESTIVAL.ORG](http://GUITINGFESTIVAL.ORG)

### FRESH ART FAIR

FRI 6TH-SUN 8TH AUGUST

Britain's biggest provincial art fair returns to Cheltenham Racecourse 6th - 8th August hosting 45 leading UK galleries and a spectacular outdoor Sculpture Park. There'll be 5,000 original prints and paintings, sculpture, glass and ceramics from over 500 artists, established professionals, emerging talent and famous names like Hockney, Hirst, Banksy, Blake, Picasso, Matisse and Miro. Talks, Demos, Bonhams valuations, free parking and a licensed cafe.

[FRESHARTFAIR.NET](http://FRESHARTFAIR.NET)

### WITCOMBE FESTIVAL

FRI 27TH - SUN 29TH AUGUST

Now in its ninth year, Witcombe Festival has become a top annual event in Gloucestershire and is one of the

fastest growing music festivals in the UK. The 2021 return will be headlined by global superstars Tinie, John Newman and Basement Jaxx and also includes the likes of Andy C, DJ EZ, Joel Corry, DJ Luck & MC Neat, Artful Dodger and Raye, alongside Nathan Evans viral sea shanties and local fan favourites Duke.

[WITCOMBEFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://WITCOMBEFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

### CHIPPING CAMPDEN MUSIC FESTIVAL

MON 6TH-MON 20TH SEPTEMBER

Hear some of the world's greatest musicians in one of the country's most beautiful churches. "One of the finest acoustics I encountered in my 60 year career" Alfred Brendel. Artists include: Paul Lewis, Mark Padmore, Steven Isserlis, Mishka Rushdie Momen, Elisabeth Leonskaja, La Serenissima, Steven Osborne, Cuartetto Casals, Camerata RCO, Ex Cathedra, Lucy Parham, Harriet Walter. "The Chipping Campden Music Festival brings world-class artists to a wonderful venue. Having the chance to hear concerts of outstanding quality in such a setting is the purest joy." Bernard Haitink

[CAMPDENMUSICFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://CAMPDENMUSICFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

### TETBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL

THURS 30TH SEPTEMBER - SUN 3RD OCTOBER

Tetbury Music Festival returns to St Marys' Church offering another enticing and varied programme of concerts. The line up of internationally acclaimed artists include: Heath Quartet, Eusebius String Quartet, Pavel Kolesnikov, Carolyn Sampson and more.

[TETBURYMUSICFESTIVAL.ORG](http://TETBURYMUSICFESTIVAL.ORG)

### THE TIMES AND THE SUNDAY TIMES CHELTENHAM LITERATURE FESTIVAL

FRI 8TH-SUN 17TH OCTOBER

Still leading the way in celebrating the written and spoken word, the world's first literature festival will Read the World, presenting the best new voices in fiction and poetry alongside literary greats and high-profile speakers. The Festival's pioneering mix of in-person and online events won it a coveted FutureBook 2020: Best Lockdown Event award and its Literature for Schools programme inspires a love of books in thousands of school children.

[CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/LITERATURE](http://CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS.COM/LITERATURE)



Stroud Book Festival

Lemn Sissay (2019)



# World Textiles Weekend

## 2021

**SATURDAY, June 26th**

10.00am - 5.00pm

**SUNDAY, June 27th**

10.00am - 4.00pm

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**Nataliya Cummings of Experience Ukraine:** Lovely rugs, clothes & artefacts from Ukraine.

**Jennifer Evans of Jenpatola:** Decorative Textiles and Jewellery sourced in India

**John Gillow:** African, Indian and South East Asian Textiles plus his own textile books

**Polly Lyster:** Dyeworks - lovely linen, hemp or silk garments & cloths dyed in natural shades with indigo shibori a speciality

**Dorothy Reglar:** Individual garments by designer maker Dorothy, plus baskets & artefacts from Thailand and Laos.

**Tiger Moth:** rugs, cushions, scarves and jewellery from around the world

*Other stalls yet to be finalised when going to press*

**OUTSIDE - Fabazaar:** Contemporary designed Asian wearables, textiles & homeware

Information from **Bailey Curtis** on 01453 823375  
[bailey@baileycurtis.com](mailto:bailey@baileycurtis.com) or [www.textilefairs.co.uk](http://www.textilefairs.co.uk)



*Delicious food by the lovely Jo - offering coffee, teas, cakes & light lunches.*

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[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)



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# ZARA BALFOUR

BY JANE MILLICHIP  
IMAGES BY MARK HAKANSSON

**IMAGINE LIVING IN THE REMOTE DOLPO REGION OF NEPAL. YOUR VILLAGE IS NESTLED IN A BEAUTIFUL CLEFT IN THE HIMALAYAN MOUNTAINS. YOUR COMMUNITY IS PEACEFUL AND COLLEGIATE, AND YOU FARM COLLECTIVELY. SOUNDS IDYLIC.**

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You live at least three days trek from any passable road. The rough path to your village is fraught with peril – insecure mountain paths, landslides, and threadbare rope bridges over raging rivers. No national grid, no phone signal, no doctors, no teachers, hardly any sanitation. Sounds challenging.

Imagine having a daughter in your remote village. She will receive no formal education, she will start work on the land as soon as she is physically able, and she will probably be married before she is 16. Your only opportunity to educate her is to send her, aged 4, to a residential school in Kathmandu. She will receive excellent education, good care and moral guidance, and the precious gift of opportunity. But you won't see her, or talk to her, for at least 10 years. And she may well spend much of that time wondering why you sent her away, in the belief that you do not love her. Sounds unbearable.

This heart-breaking dilemma sits at the heart of the multi-award-winning feature documentary *Children of the Snow Land* by Zara Balfour and Marcus Stephenson, in which they followed three 16-year-old students from their school in Kathmandu to the far reaches of the High Himalayas to meet their parents for the first time in 12 years. It is an honest and thoughtful film that

packs a sizable emotional punch. And far from being a niche tale of indigenous peoples, it is a truly universal story; about belonging, the meaning of parental love, and the resilience of youth.

I spoke to the film's producer/director Zara Balfour on the eve of the Stroud Film Festival screening last month. Her journey on the film began in 2012, whilst filming with an education charity in Nepal. They received a request from the founder of Snowland School in Kathmandu seeking help in reconnecting his students to their families. Buddhist monk, Guru Rinpoche, had set up Snowland School many years before to offer education to the youth of the remote villages of the High Himalayas, a place where 70% illiteracy and minimal infrastructure leave its youth ill-equipped to prosper outside the region. Guru Rinpoche brought opportunity through education. But not without a heavy price. Snowland School does not have the resources to maintain contact with the families, or to send its student home.

"I had been looking for a story for a feature documentary for some time, and this seemed really interesting," says Balfour. So, she self-funded a trip to Kathmandu, met Guru Rinpoche and his students, and realised the physical and



emotional magnitude of what a 'journey home' would be.

Back in the UK, initial attempts to raise financing for the film fell on deaf ears, as film executives made the classic - and incorrect - assumption that the film would be too niche, or too worthy. So, Balfour and her co-producer Stephenson continued to self-fund.

They returned to Kathmandu to cast the documentary, selecting three students to follow on their journeys home; Nima Gurung, Tsering Deki and Jeewan Mahatara. "Nepalis are quite reserved, so we were looking for people with charisma, but who also had a sense of narrative, because we would need them to make video diaries for some of the journey," says Balfour.

Herein lay one of the biggest challenges for the filmmakers. How would they convey the enormity of the emotional journey of these innately shy and respectful people, via video diaries? "We trained the children in film-making, and we coached them, to help them feel more comfortable talking to camera. But we didn't know if it would work," says Balfour.

Although it would have made the film easier to edit, Balfour elected not to use a 'voice-of-God' voice-over to propel her narrative and load it with western interpretation. Instead she relied on the students, teachers and families

to tell their own stories, in their own voices. Consequently, the film has a calm timbre which convinces through the understated commentary of the students.

Balfour and Stephenson made seven trips to Nepal, to film school life, the journeys home and two of the family reunions. The reunions were not what they expected. No tears of joy or telegenic primetime TV gushing; these were quiet and muted meetings. Balfour recalls her surprise: "I was quite shocked at first, and so were the students. I had to re-think, it wasn't what we'd planned for." But the film is more honest for these pared-back and un-staged scenes, and the slow and gentle re-acquaintance of Tsering Deki and her mother is deeply touching.

During filming Balfour secured the financial support of independent documentary specialists Dartmouth Films, and Dartmouth's founder and respected documentary film-maker Christopher Hird came on board as Executive Producer. Dartmouth also secured international distribution for the film, and it has enjoyed both cinema and video-on-demand release internationally. The film is currently available to view on-demand on Curzon Home Cinema in the UK.

But the Snowland story does not end here. All three students have now left

Snowland School, and they are studying and training in Kathmandu. Crucially, they are also still engaged with their families and communities, forming the vital cultural bridge that Guru Rinpoche had hoped for.

Since making the film, Balfour has started a non-profit organisation, Snowland Journeys, alongside Director of Operations Phil Briggs, to fund the journeys home each year for the students of Snowland School. They also provide social workers and development experts to assist with reintegration and prepare both parents and students for their reunions. At the recent Stroud Film Festival screening, Briggs said: "If we work with children from a really young age, we can get them ready for this massive journey home. It's a longitudinal journey.

"But it's small steps," continued Briggs, "There is no infrastructure, and until there is, progress will be slow." Briggs hopes Snowland Journeys will soon provide portable solar panels for the students to take on their journeys home so more villagers can contact their children at Snowland School, at least once a year.

And if you still need convincing about the relevance of this story to the western experience, then look no further than Snowland Journeys' Lockdown Lessons; classes for lockdown-addled

UK teenagers, using the experience and testimony of the Nepali students to inspire and build resilience. This 'return path', using the Nepali experience to provide life lessons to UK teenagers, is a particularly pleasing development in Balfours' own Snowland journey.

Zara Balfour is an accomplished film-maker and campaigner who has connected the dots to show us that even in the least 'connected' parts of this world, our sense of belonging, the loss and renewal of familial bonds, and the hope we hold for our children, are truly universal.

.....  
If you would like to know more about Snowland Journeys' treks, outdoor experiences, and fundraising go to: [snowlandjourneys.com](http://snowlandjourneys.com). Also check out Snowland Journey's Gurkha Getaway weekend at Hawkwood College, Stroud (21-23 May) [snowlandjourneys.com/gurkha](http://snowlandjourneys.com/gurkha)

.....  
For further information on Children of the Snow Land including future screenings and the trailer visit [childrenofthesnowland.com](http://childrenofthesnowland.com)

—  
A FORMER JOURNALIST, JANE HAS WORKED IN THE INTERNATIONAL TV BUSINESS FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, ACROSS PRODUCTION, COMMISSIONING AND DISTRIBUTION. SHE IS NOW CHIEF CONTENT OFFICER OF SKY STUDIOS, THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION ARM OF SKY.



# KINGFISHER TRAIL

BY LORNA JENKINS

## A tiny but mighty little bird is bringing business, arts and local communities in the Cotswolds together to create an amazing arts trail, while raising much needed funds for children and young people.



The Kingfisher Trail is a brand new accessible public art trail, with 21 large scale models decorated by local artists.

There are two routes - in the west, the Severn Trail will follow the tributaries of the River Severn and the Cotswold Way along the dramatic escarpment. In the east, the Thames Trail will link Cotswold villages and the waterways and tributaries of the River Thames. Each trail will have 10 magnificent kingfisher sculptures.

The trail is the brainchild of Cotswolds National Landscape, and Partnerships and Fundraising lead James Webb says it was a challenge to find which animal to feature. "We had a lot of discussion about it for a couple of weeks," James, who lives in Rodborough, tells me over Zoom. "We had a few ideas - there was the hare trail a few years ago, but we wanted to go one better. We started thinking about the Cotswolds - why it's special - hills, woollen industry, all powered by mills and water. We've got the River Thames and the River Severn; our two biggest rivers on our doorstep. So there was a really powerful water theme, then once someone said kingfisher we thought yeah that's it."

The kingfisher, a small but unmistakable bright blue and orange bird, also has a few other connections that offer comfort and hope in this strange time. According to the RSPB, Kingfishers are amber listed because of their unfavourable conservation status in Europe. They are also listed as a Schedule 1 species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act offering them additional protection. "We also work with lots of conservation projects," James explains. "Kingfishers took a real hammering for a long time from the industrial revolution onwards, their habitats either destroyed or heavily polluted, they also suffered from hunting, and from predation by the non-native American mink. Over the course of the summer, they can nest about three or four times. Sometimes they lose their brood when the river

floods. Despite all that, at any given opportunity, they bounce back. They are really tough little birds. So that connection with Covid, that resilience, brings a subtle message of hope. This is a bird that survives and bounces back, this is what we think about the communities we're trying to support. And they're beautiful!"

As well as the 20 decorated birds, there is the 21st kingfisher - the Flying Kingfisher - which will move to a new location each fortnight and could be found anywhere in the Cotswolds. The trail will end in an auction in October, where James hopes some additional funds will be made to reinvest into young people and rural skills in the area.

Most of the artists are local - with many from Stroud and Cheltenham. Names many will recognize include PJ Crook, Imogen Harvey-Lewis, Andy 'Dice' Davies, Ed Swarez, Kerry Phippen and Guy Warner. "We also invited students from [National] Star College to get involved and also beneficiaries from a charity called Art Shape - we wanted some community involvement there as well," James adds. Art Shape runs a countywide programme of arts courses and projects with a specific focus on disability issues and social inclusion, while National Star is a provider of specialist further education, training, personal development and residential services for people with physical and learning disabilities.

There are quite a mix of mediums and styles in the artists, something James and his team hope will attract a diverse group of visitors to the area. "One of the things we wanted was to be able to go out on a Saturday morning and try and see three or four kingfishers, and each one will be a surprise and different from the last because you've got these different styles," he says. "Andy Davies said [the street art style] will bring an element of cool to the trail, and I agree with him. The idea that you could get a group of young people from Gloucester who

come and decide to spend a morning or afternoon in the countryside - that's brilliant, that ticks the boxes for us." You might have seen street artist Andy 'Dice' Davies' work on the Honeybourne Line in Cheltenham, the beautiful image is inspired by his daughter.

PJ Crook is also a well-known artist who usually works on a monumental scale. She says she hasn't planned much for her kingfisher. "As I work quite intuitively I don't usually make preparatory drawings but like the whole thing to evolve on the canvas; often the accidental or seeming mistake can suggest a completely new way of thinking. So it won't be until I have my kingfisher that I will begin that creative journey. Sometimes I will dictate to it and at other times it to me."

Also involved is Selsley-based illustrator Imogen Harvey-Lewis: "I kind of beaver away doing my own artwork in a bit of a bubble so it's always surprising and nice when something interjects from the side," she says. "I've never been involved in a trail before, but I've always felt I'd love to do one." You'll have seen her graphic, eye-catching work on the side of the Stroud Brewery.

Another Stroud-based artist who likes to work large scale is Ed Swarez, who promises "to go completely off-piste" and "stir things up a little bit and be controversial in a good way, a talking point that gets people outdoors" with his kingfisher - we can't wait.

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The Kingfisher Trail 2021 will be launched on the Spring Bank Holiday on 31st May and run until October half-term. For more information, visit: [kingfishertrail.org](http://kingfishertrail.org)

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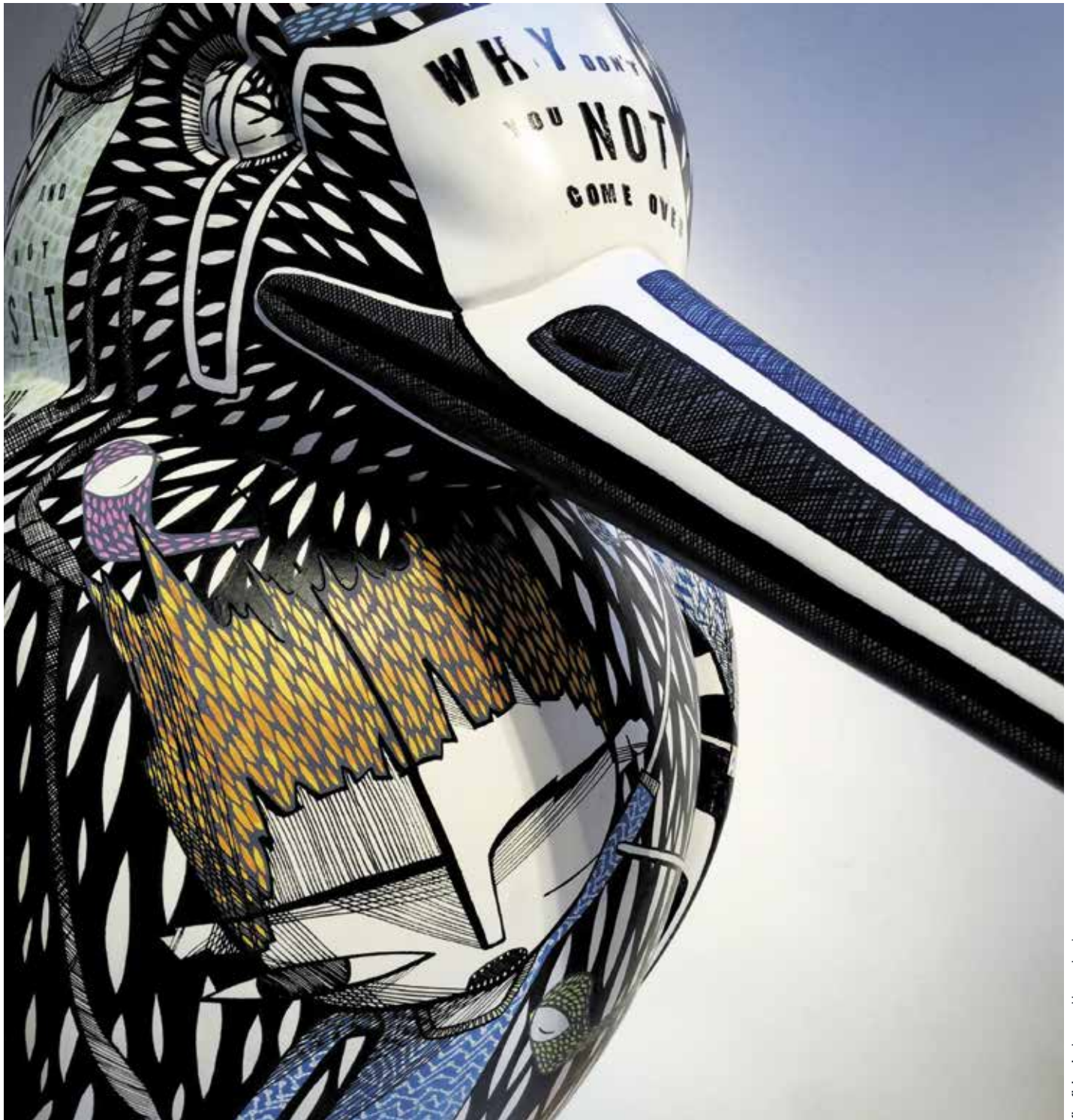
LORNA JENKINS IS AN EDITOR AND FREELANCE JOURNALIST FROM STROUD. SHE ALSO PAINTS AND SELLS HER WORK DURING STROUD OPEN STUDIOS AND IN MADE IN STROUD. INSTAGRAM: @LORNAPAINTSANDWRITES





**“I’VE NEVER BEEN INVOLVED IN A TRAIL BEFORE, BUT I’VE ALWAYS FELT I’D LOVE TO DO ONE...”**

IMOGEN HARVEY-LEWIS



Kingfisher by Imogen Harvey-Lewis

## EXHIBITION SPACE:

# RED THREAD

[RAUÐUR ÞRÁÐUR]

A STROUD BASED COLLABORATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY AND TEXTILE PROJECT FROM ICELANDIC PHOTOGRAPHER EMILIE SANDY AND DUTCH WEAVER ERNA JANINE, RED THREAD EXPLORES DIFFERENT STORIES, EXPRESSIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF MOTHERHOOD THROUGH INTIMATE CONCEPTUAL PORTRAITS OF ELEVEN WOMEN. IN ICELANDIC, 'RAUÐUR ÞRÁÐUR' - RED THREAD, IS A COMMON EXPRESSION, MEANING "THE MAIN THEME OF A STORY". TIES AND CONNECTIONS OF MOTHERHOOD ARE EXPLORED THROUGH THIS BODY OF WORK.

The exhibition features anonymous photographs, co-created by Emilie and the participants - where the women creatively utilise unique red, hand-woven pieces of cloth created by Janine in order to freely express their experiences of motherhood.

Weaving is an ancient technique typically performed by women, to create and provide cloth to dress their families with. Weaving was often a group activity, which would be accompanied by sharing stories and songs. It is also connected to various mythologies: The Tapestry of Life and The Threads of Destiny. The symbolic presence of the cloth in the photographs was used to inspire the sharing of stories. Cloth can both hide and reveal, protect and constrain, wrap wounds or carry loads.

The photographic sessions enabled both the subjects and Emilie, to share their experiences, within a safe creative space. By excluding their faces, the participants were inspired to become completely open and honest in front of the camera. Many women are self-conscious of their bodies, which are an ever-changing landscape, shaped by pregnancy, motherhood and the passage of time. Bodies that can create life and carry the legacy of our mothers and grandmothers. The creative sessions of this project encouraged a sharing of motherhood stories, creating an open platform to explore the role of a mother, of all our mothers and of motherless mothers.

The images represent women and motherhood; the cloth (almost tribal) symbolising a tribe of women surrounded by ancient wisdom and reclaiming the power to be free. Expressing their unique and personal journeys, through a collaborative and performative photographic process.

Red Thread (Rauður Þráður) takes place at Lansdown Hall and Gallery from the 12th - 17th May with a private view on the 13th. The exhibition will be open from 10am till 4pm on weekdays and 10am till 6pm on the weekend. For further information visit [lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org)

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**Emilie Sandy** - Emilie's childhood in Iceland, was an environment rich in eccentrics and artists. The deep impression created by this diverse background, has lent itself to a photographic style that is entirely her own: poignant, elegant and feminine. Emilie's formal education comprises both fine arts and communications. With a keen focus for style and character, her portrait work typically captures the nuances of human individuality, which she uses in a wide variety of projects. [emiliesandy.com](http://emiliesandy.com)  
.....

**Erna Janine** - Originally from The Netherlands, Erna Janine has lived in Stroud for the past seven years, where she weaves and dyes in her studio at the Centre of Science and Art on Lansdown Road; as well as running her Freeweaver SAORI studio in London. Janine also regularly travels to India and Japan for textile based residence, and is the founder of The Japanese Textile and Crafts Festival, which she hosts in London biannually. [freeweaver.co.uk](http://freeweaver.co.uk)







## ART

### GALLERY PANGOLIN

#### SAT 15TH MAY - SAT 3RD JULY

**Ann Christopher: Broken Time**  
Ann Christopher's solo exhibition - Broken Lines - is a first at Gallery Pangolin and includes a series of fifteen new drawings created during lockdown. Christopher's work explores and draws from found lines, shapes, colours, patterns and shadows, seen in the everyday, happened across, ordinary objects; phone wires, window frames, rock formations and the spaces between them.

[gallery-pangolin.com](http://gallery-pangolin.com)

### GALLERY 1673

#### SAT 8TH - SUN 16TH

##### Elemental Landscapes

An exhibition of pots and prints by internationally acclaimed artists, Matthew Blakely and Laura Boswell at Gallery 1673, the Clay Loft. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10am-5pm and evenings by appointment.

[theclayloft.co.uk/gallery-1673](http://theclayloft.co.uk/gallery-1673)

### HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

#### MON 3RD - MON 17TH ONLINE

**Mindful Drawing with Anna Black**  
Mindful Drawing is an exploration of drawing as meditation. You will experiment with different exercises involving the senses and mark-making. There will also be short periods of guided meditation. No prior meditation or drawing experience is needed. 4pm £75

#### TUES 4TH - TUES 18TH ONLINE

##### How To Paint The Sky

The Art of the Sky – a watercolour course. This course of three live workshops will teach you how to paint in watercolour a range of varied cloud formations and skiescapes. As you learn different approaches and techniques for depicting the sky, we'll inspire you with cloud poetry and simple explanations for why clouds look the way they do. Whether you're an experienced watercolour artist or you've never painted before, this course will encourage you to add drama and emotion into a landscape with the help of the sky. 6:30pm £120

[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)

### IMAGINE THERAPEUTIC ARTS

#### WEDS 28TH APR - WEDS 14TH JULY

##### Art of Ageing Groups

Two parallel group sessions on the same day: in the studio (10am-12:30pm) and online via Zoom (9:30am-12pm). In the sessions, there will be facilitated

process-oriented artistic activities, biographical conversations and some creative writing. Join in and share what it is like to be growing old in the current times. Work creatively with nature and with stories, both personal and archetypal, exploring memories, wishes and open questions, within a multicultural environment. The intention is to maintain our spirit young, to value old age, to see a long life as a gift to share, by developing our imagination. £30 per session/£25concs

#### THURS 22ND APR - THURS 15TH JULY

##### Nature of Water: Mosaic Making Group with Robin James

This mosaic course, with Robin R James will be enjoying the inspiration gained by the many aspects of water. Water takes on many forms, gives us life, can be gentle or fierce. You will explore the nature of water through patterns, symbols, and colours. All materials supplied. These will include mirrors, boxes, candle holders and a beautiful array of tesserae, gems, and shells. Suitable for both beginners and those with some experience. 7-9pm £270 (£240) 12 sessions. It is possible to book separately the two blocks of 6 sessions (£145/£125 each). The first session can be taken as a taster, the cost is £23.

#### WEDS 5TH MAY - WEDS 14TH JULY

##### Children Art Club

A studio space for children to explore a variety of themes, facilitated by Anne Tandree, therapeutic arts practitioner. Different art media will be used to encourage self-expression in a supportive and inspiring environment. 9-13 year olds. 4:30-6pm. The first session can be taken as a taster (£15). £135 (£115) / 10 sessions (all materials included)

#### THURS 22ND APR - THURS 15TH JULY

##### Mosaic Group for 11-16 Years Old

An enjoyable and relaxed way for young people aged between 11 and 14 years old (siblings up to 17 years old can join, at a discounted fee) to explore this fascinating craft through patterns, symbols, and colours with Robin R James. A rich variety of materials will be supplied, including boxes, mirrors, name plates, to decorate and take home. 4-5:30pm All materials are included. Cost: £165 (£150) 12 sessions. It is possible to book separately the two blocks of 6 sessions (£90/£80 each). The first session can be taken as a taster, the cost is £15.

#### MON 19TH APR - FRI 16TH JULY

##### Studio Practice Sessions

This is an open studio space for you to pursue your own artistic process. The group is facilitated by one or two therapeutic art practitioners, who are available to support the participants artistically, technically and – if needs be – emotionally. The emphasis, however, is on the members to develop their own work, in a supportive and social environment. This is a particularly good space in which to develop a theme or a body of work over a period of time. There is the possibility, if you wish, to share and review your work in the social context. Mon/Tues 2-5pm, Fri 7-9pm. £7.50/hour, or £20 for a 3-hour session.

These sessions run through term times, new members can join at any time. Basic art materials are provided. In case of financial hardship, Imagine Bursary Fund or individual grants (within certain criteria) are available. Please, enquire for further information.

#### TUES 20TH APR - TUES 13TH JUL

##### Clay Sculpture

Within the Studio Practice Session, this is a congenial artistic atmosphere, where you will be able to work with clay independently and/or under experienced guidance. You are welcome to bring your own ideas to start your process, or ask for support in finding a theme that suits your interests and wishes.

Cost: £7.50/hour, or £20 for a 3-hour session. Different kinds of clay supplied, firing will be available at a separate cost.

[imagine-therapeutic-arts.co.uk](http://imagine-therapeutic-arts.co.uk)

### LANSDOWN HALL AND ART GALLERY

#### WEDS 12TH - MON 17TH

##### The Red Thread

A collaborative project from photographer Emillie Sandy and Weaver Erna Janine that explores – and celebrates – women and motherhood. Weekdays 10am-4pm/Weekends 10am-6pm

[lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org)

### PEGASUS ART

#### SAT 22ND

##### Portraiture: All you need to know

This workshop is a complete introduction to portraiture and covers all you need to know to capture a likeness. From traditional pencil studies to quick people sketching, this is the perfect boost you need to start drawing people! Go to [valerian.co.uk](http://valerian.co.uk) or call 07584436655 to book. 10am-4pm £75

[pegasusart.co.uk](http://pegasusart.co.uk)

### THE SUB ROOMS

#### MON 17TH MAY - TUES 22ND JUN

##### Everything Is Light

Everything is Light is a fantastic family attraction featuring a maze of illuminated tunnels and hidden rooms bathed in colour – all from the unbridled imagination of Jack Wimperis. Ticket slots will give visitors entry to the event for an hour, visitors are asked to arrive no more than 10 minutes before their time slots to avoid queues. To manage numbers and ensure that our visitors, performers and team remain safe Everything is Light will be ticketed to a limited capacity to ensure physical distancing. All visitors must book tickets in advance via our box office, on our website or in person prior to the event. Due to the high demand for tickets visitors are strongly advised to book early. maximum of 6 tickets per individual applies. Brought to Stroud with the generous support of Arts Council England, Stroud Festival, d&b audiotechnik and SFL.

[thesubrooms.co.uk](http://thesubrooms.co.uk)

### SVA

#### SAT 15TH MAY - SAT 5TH JUNE

##### Colin Higginson: In The Manner In Which It Appears

The artist is interested in how we relate to the natural world through objects whether found, made, domestic or mundane. The use of materials and process of experimentation are an important aspect of the work. Materials such as graphite, copper sulphate and resin are utilised to create work that alludes to geological and archaeological objects. A more playful and personal quality is brought to the work with the inclusion of a large figurine, offering a narrative between the different pieces within the exhibition.

[sva.org.uk](http://sva.org.uk)

### THISTLE BY NATURE

#### MON 17TH

##### Spring Living Wreath Workshop

Learn to create a seasonally inspired living garden by planting an array of spring bulbs and summer bedding plants into your wreath, watching them flower, grow and change on your door as the season progresses... 11:30am-2pm or 3:30-6pm. £45

#### FRI 21ST

##### British Grown Spring Posy Workshop

Learn to alchemise Gloucestershire grown floral produce into a seasonal posy with a unique Thistle by Nature approach to form & texture, using the traditional spiralling technique to ensure each stem has its space



to shine. 10:30am-12:30pm or 2:30-4:30pm.£40

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

## PREMA

### SAT 29TH

#### Lino Print In Silhouette

Spend an inspiring and illuminating day with printmaker Beth Jenkins to design, cut and print your own designs in silhouette (a technique that allows you to create striking and highly original prints). Using coloured papers and inks, you will learn how to experiment with different methods of inking your prints so that each one is unique, as well as how to produce a limited edition. Perfect for beginners as well as those who would like to expand their printmaking knowledge. 10am-4pm £38/£35concs

[prema.org.uk](http://prema.org.uk)

## NEW BREWERY ARTS CIRENCESTER

### WEDS 19TH MAY - WEDS 16TH JUN

#### Beginners Illustrative Watercolour Class

This course is designed to build your confidence as you take your first steps into watercolour painting. With the regular practice that comes with this weekly class, you'll come away with a knowledge of colour theory,

an understanding of composition, and five beautiful pieces of artwork to show for it. For more information and to book, visit the New Brewery Arts website. 2-4:30pm £130

[newbreweryarts.org.uk](http://newbreweryarts.org.uk)

## CIRCUS

### GIFFORDS CIRCUS

#### WEDS 19TH - MON 24TH

#### The Hooley

Giffords Circus continues to push the boundaries of circus artistry by combining high production value with creative flair and attention to detail, with acclaimed production designer Takis bringing his magical touch to the production with their biggest set ever. The Hooley 2021 stars Tweedy the Clown, Nancy Trotter Landry, Lil Rice, Rebecca Musselwhite, and Duo Imagine, with live music from the Giffords Circus band directed by musical director James Keay. Following the show Giffords unique travelling restaurant, Circus Sauce, will be open serving three-course hearty locally-sourced seasonal feasts and new for this year – there is a licensed bar and all socially distanced. Fennell Farm, Stroud.

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

## FILM

### THE SHOP SESSIONS

Sound Records and Good On Paper Presents: The Shop Sessions - regular vinyl sets featuring some of the best DJ's from across the Stroud District, Gloucestershire and further afield out of Sound Records - Stroud's independent record shop. Head to the Good On Paper vimeo page for previous sets from Tom Monobrow, Sean Roe, the Donnelly Sisters, Moira Moin, Mendoza, DJ Matty B, DUBBU, MR Benn, Tom Piper and more...

[vimeo.com/goodonpaper](http://vimeo.com/goodonpaper)

### THE RECORD SHOP SESSIONS

Hidden Notes and Sound Records Presents: The Record Shop Sessions - a new series featuring contemporary classical/avant garde artists performing out of the popular independent record store situated on the high street of Stroud, amidst a plethora of records, neon signs, music magazines, a till and the occasional appearance of Enid; the vinyl loving record store cat...

[hiddennotes.co.uk/  
recordshopsessions](http://hiddennotes.co.uk/recordshopsessions)

## SPOKEN WORD/ LITERATURE

### DIALECT

#### SAT 8TH ONLINE

Grow Your Garden From Seed Part spell, part deep dive into specific plants, part poem/essay workshop. With plantswoman and poet Alice Willitts, come and write into existence the seeds for sowing your garden. 10am-1pm £20

[dialect.org.uk](http://dialect.org.uk)

### HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

#### TUES 4TH ONLINE

#### Conversations That Matter: Life Lessons From Nepal

A new episode of the Conversation that Matter series that will take you to faraway places, consider a reality outside your own, and that will fill you with amazement for the human spirit's extraordinary capacity to survive and thrive in difficult circumstances with meagre resources. With Zara Balfour and Phil Briggs. 7pm

#### TUES 4TH - TUES 18TH ONLINE

#### Advanced Nature Writing with Stephen Moss

Naturalist, author and academic Stephen Moss has now run several

## PORTRAITURE: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

This workshop is a complete introduction to portraiture and covers all you need to know to capture a likeness. From traditional pencil studies to quick people sketching, this is the perfect boost you need to start drawing people!



Saturday 22nd  
May, 10-4pm.  
Pegasus,  
Stroud, £75

For more information or to book, visit  
[www.valerian.co.uk](http://www.valerian.co.uk) or call 07584436655.

Gallery

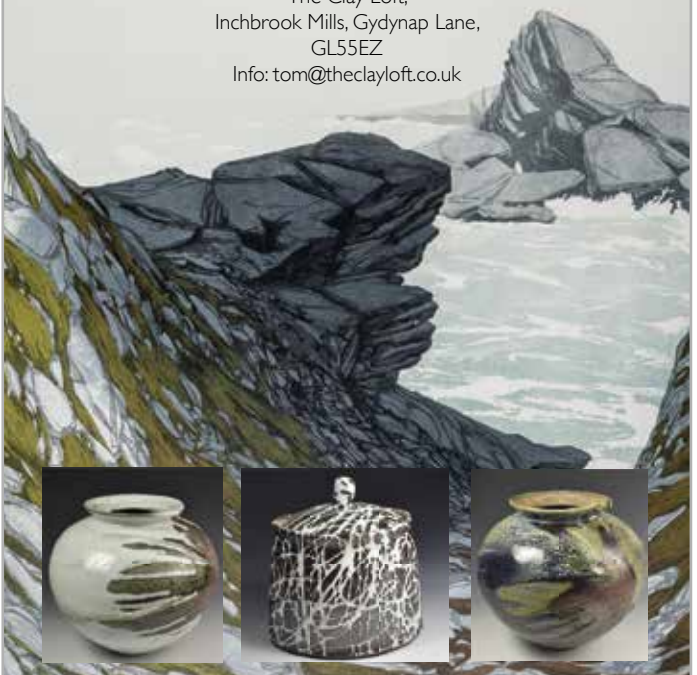


### Elemental Landscapes

An exhibition of pots and prints  
by Matthew Blakely and Laura Boswell

8th, 9th, 14th, 15th, 16th May, 10am – 5pm  
8th to 16th May, evenings by arrangement

The Clay Loft,  
Inchbrook Mills, Gydynap Lane,  
GL55EZ  
Info: [tom@theclayloft.co.uk](mailto:tom@theclayloft.co.uk)



successful and popular online and in-person taster courses on Nature Writing for Hawkwood. Join Stephen now for a course on Advanced Nature Writing, which will take you to the next stage, with advanced techniques, advice on getting an agent and a publisher, and on writing proposals for articles and books. Like the previous courses, this will also help you connect with the natural world, and be inspired by nature. 4pm

**TUES 18TH ONLINE**

**Music That Matters With Emma Warren**

Tune in for a Music that Matters episode with journalist, and radio presenter author Emma Warren. This event will be hosted by Hawkwood Curator Matthew Shaw. Emma Warren has built a career writing in the music industry and bringing people together to discuss culture-making and collective activity. Emma hosts a monthly radio show on Worldwide FM where she invites regular special guests and talks about all things music culture. Emma's book Make Some Space was a project to document the Total Refreshment Centre (TRC) social centre in London, to bring to pages its moment in culture. The TRC closed in part in 2018 but remains open as a music studio & recording space. Emma's latest book is called

Document Your Culture, designed to help you tell the story of a space or a community. It is a companion piece to Make Some Space. 7pm £7/£5concs

**WEDS 19TH ONLINE**

**Conversations That Matter: Futures Legacy**

A one hour journey into the powerful capability of Futures Literacy. Giving a taste of what it has to offer you, how you can apply it and why UNESCO named it a critical competency for the 21st century. Facilitators: Loes Damhof, Alex Lambie and Steve Fuller. 7pm

[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)

**STROUD SHORT STORIES**

**SUN 9TH ONLINE**

**10th Birthday Event**

Free and unticketed on YouTube via links on SSS website. Ten new stories by Gloucestershire authors - Nimue Brown, David Goodland, Diana Humphrey, Nastasya Parker, Kate Keogan, Jason Jackson, Cheryl Burman, Mhairi Gray, Sally Jenkinson, and Sean Quigley. 7:30pm

[stroudshortstories.blogspot.com](http://stroudshortstories.blogspot.com)

**RADIO/PODCASTS**

**DEEPBED RADIO**

A project led by artists and supported by artists that has set the task of profiling DJs and audio projects with roots or threads to artist led hubs in the Stroud and Gloucester area. Deepbed is an online station but it's also a meeting place for an emerging artists community with a common interest in each other's creativity. Follow Deepbed on facebook and instagram for weekly programme schedules and the website to listen back to previous shows or download the new app!

[deepbedradio.org](http://deepbedradio.org)

**STROUD LOVE RADIO**

Stroud Love Radio is a local live and interactive 'pirate radio meets chatroom'. A DJ collective playing MOBO and World music SLR features 14 of Stroud's favourite DJs performing every weekend, Friday evening to Sunday..Selection ranges from the Northern Soul of veteran DJ Andy Edwards through to the Acidiscotek of Crooked Stylus. To listen, follow Stroud Lockdown Radio Facebook page, clicking on the links posted at showtimes.

[facebook.com/stroudlockdownradio](https://facebook.com/stroudlockdownradio)

**THE THUNDER MUTTERS**

Poetry and traditional folk fiddle music from the British Isles presented by poet Adam Horovitz and fiddle player Becky Dellow. Featuring poets such as John Clare, Thomas Hardy, Blake and other Romantic poets with fiddle tunes from 18th and 19th...The Thunder Mutters is a podcast in love with music, and with the music of words. Presented fortnightly by poet Adam Horovitz and fiddle player Becky Dellow, it takes its name from the poem by John Clare.

[the-thunder-mutters.captivate.fm](http://the-thunder-mutters.captivate.fm)

**OUTDOOR**

**GURKHA GETAWAY**

**FRI 21ST - SUN 23RD**

Gurkha Getaway weekend at Hawkwood College. The world's first Gurkha activity weekend gives you the chance to experience the lifestyle of a Gurkha in the great outdoors, learn about their culture and history, take part in fun physical activities, and eat Nepalese curry cooked by the Gurkha chefs around our campfire. Includes film screening of award-winning feature documentary Children of the Snow Land, plus Q&A with director and NGO partner.

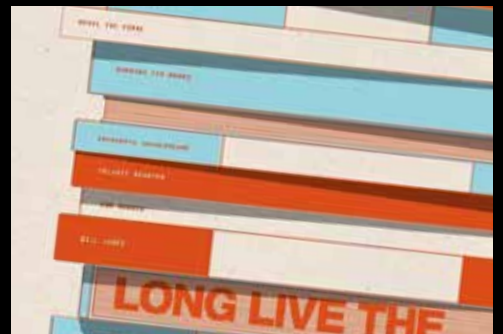
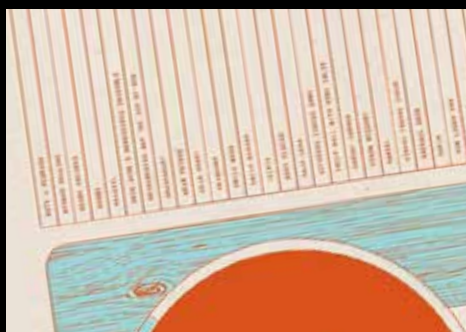
[snowlandjourneys.com/gurkha](http://snowlandjourneys.com/gurkha)

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# Everything Is Light

**May - June 2021**

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MORE DETAILS, ENTRY TIMES AND  
TICKET PRICES

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