

Issue #8
Nov 2015

FREE
MAGAZINE

TAKE ME HOME



GOOD ON PAPER

AN INDEPENDENT, FREE
MONTHLY GUIDE TO MUSIC,
ART, THEATRE, COMEDY
& LITERATURE IN STROUD

Image: Igor Hofbauer



Museum in the Park
Stroud District (Cowle) Museum Service

Set in the heart of Stratford Park just outside Stroud, the Museum in the Park tells the story of the Stroud Valleys and wider district.

The Collections offer endless sources of fascination and delight; every time you visit a different object will catch your eye. The Art Gallery shows a changing programme of contemporary exhibitions, complemented by events and workshops for all ages. This is your Museum, so come and enjoy it!



Museum in the Park Christmas Weekend

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 December | 11am – 5pm

The Museum closes every December for its annual 'Deep Clean' and re-opens on New Year's Day. Join us for one final weekend of festive celebrations. See our website for full details of the traditional activities on offer.



'Collections' Saturday 14 – Sunday 29 November

Sarah Brooker (hand rolled felt) & Mariette Voke (watercolour, oils)

Sarah and Mariette share a love of collecting intriguing and quirky everyday objects. They also share a love of local museums where stories of everyday life are told through objects from times gone by. Look out for new work inspired by the Museum in the Park's unique collections.



'Felted Christmas Baubles' with Sarah Brooker Saturday 21 November | 2pm – 5pm | £35 (£25 MIP Friends)

Create some gorgeous Christmas tree decorations! All materials provided, including tea and cake. Booking necessary – call 01453 763394.



'An Afternoon of Watercolour and Collage' with Mariette Voke Sunday 22 November | 2pm – 5pm | £35 (£25 MIP Friends)

In this afternoon session we'll concentrate on painting spoons, those iconic everyday objects, using watercolour and vintage papers. Mariette will show you an easy technique that can be applied to painting other everyday objects. Beginners welcome. All materials provided, including tea and cake. Booking necessary – call 01453 763394.

For opening hours and full details of all our upcoming exhibitions and events see www.museuminthepark.org.uk

call: 01453 763394

EDITOR'S NOTE

WELCOME TO THE EIGHTH ISSUE OF GOOD ON PAPER - YOUR FREE MONTHLY GUIDE TO MUSIC CONCERTS, ART EXHIBITIONS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, COMEDY SHOWS AND LITERATURE EVENTS IN STROUD...

Keeping our notes brief this month. But exciting. We are having a party.

A 'post-launch(?) / we are still here!' party at the Prince Albert on Saturday 9th January, with a line-up consisting of Stroud musicians, poets, comedians, actors and photographers that have featured in the magazine since our first issue...

Including->Dennis Gould, Jonny Fluffy Punk, Miserable Malcolm (aka Bill Jones), Adam Horovitz, John Bassett, Paviny, a James Kriszyk photo booth and much more TBA soon....

Visit our facebook page for updates and further news.

P.S You are all invited.

GOP In The Name Of Love

Alex and Adam

goodonpaperstroud.info



ALEX HOBBS
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ADAM HINKS
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THE PRINCE ALBERT STROUD

SUNDAY 1ST	THE MOST UGLY CHILD, STUART O'CONNOR
MONDAY 1ST	SAM LEE*
THURSDAY 5TH	THE UNDERCOVER HIPPIE
SATURDAY 7TH	MR.TEA AND THE MINIONS
SUNDAY 8TH	SUNDAY SEWING SERVICE 3PM
WEDNESDAY 11TH	AMELIA CURRAN *
THURSDAY 12TH	AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL QUIZ & FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY 14TH	FLIPRON
SUNDAY 15TH	TOBIAS BEN JACOB, LUKAS DRINKWATER & MATT SELLORS
TUESDAY 17TH	SHEELANAGIG *
WEDNESDAY 18TH	SOLANA
THURSDAY 19TH	PROFESSOR NOHAIR & THE WIGLIFTERS
SATURDAY 21ST	TOM WILLIAMS
SUNDAY 22ND	AFTERNOON JAZZ
WEDNESDAY 25TH	TANKUS THE HENGE
THURSDAY 26TH	TROY FAID
FRIDAY 27TH	THE ESKIES
SATURDAY 28TH	CAROL PRACTICE 11AM
SUNDAY 29TH	THE LITTLE UNSAID



BISON KITCHEN NIGHT
EVERY FRIDAY

AMERICAN STREET FOOD, REAL AMERICAN
BBQ AND SOUTHERN SOUL FOOD

WWW.THEPRINCEALBERTSTROUD.CO.UK

facebook I LOVE THE PRINCE ALBERT

NOVEMBER UP AT THE ALBERT



MONDAY 2ND

SAM LEE & FRIENDS
£10 IN ADVANCE



WEDNESDAY 11TH

AMELIA CURRAN
£8 IN ADVANCE



TUESDAY 17TH

SHELANAGIG
£10 ON THE DOOR



BLURT/ TED MILTON

BY RUPERT HOWE

WITH HIS SLICKED-BACK MOHAWK, PUGNACIOUS ONSTAGE PERSONA AND WAY OF WRINGING PREVIOUSLY UNIMAGINED NOISES FROM A SAXOPHONE, TED MILTON HAS BEEN ASTOUNDING AND CONFOUNDING AUDIENCES SINCE THE LATE-70S WITH THE AVANT-GARDE, PUNK-JAZZ ANTICS OF HIS BAND BLURT. INITIALLY A PUPPETEER AND POET, HE FORMED BLURT IN 1979 ALONGSIDE HIS BROTHER JAKE, THEN THE BAND'S DRUMMER, AND GUITARIST PETER CREESE. SINCE THEN THE LINE-UP HAS BEEN THROUGH NUMEROUS CHANGES, BUT WITH MILTON'S SURREAL HUMOUR (ONE OF THE BAND'S BEST-KNOWN SONGS IS "THE FISH NEEDS A BIKE") AND CREATIVE ENERGY REMAINING A CONSTANT. NOW 73 AND BASED IN DEPTFORD, SOUTH EAST LONDON, THIS MONTH TED RETURNS TO STROUD - DUBBED "THE TOWN OF MAKE-BELIEVE" ON HIS 1989 RELEASE *KENNY ROGERS GREATEST HIT* - TO PERFORM SONGS FROM NEW ALBUM *BENEATH DISCORDANT SKIES* AND READ FROM THE *MILTON TEXT BOOK*, A COLLECTION OF SONG LYRICS AND POEMS SPANNING SOME 35 YEARS.



SO, TED, WHY NOW FOR THE TEXT BOOK?

"I haven't a clue! I'd only done very slim pamphlets before, whereas this one is a slim volume which has put on a bit of weight. Sam Britton, who I worked with on *In Kharms Way* [a theatre project based on the work of absurdist Russian writer Daniil Kharms] suggested using Kickstarter, which was great because it means you pre-sell everything and aren't left with a pile of 500 books thinking, 'What shall I do with these?' So it was all quite exciting. For a while I was waking up in the middle of the night and logging in to see if anyone else had subscribed!"

DID YOU APPROACH IT DIFFERENTLY TO, SAY, MAKING A RECORD?

"Not really, because I've always dabbled with the written word. When I decided to do the band I basically hijacked anything I'd written before and shoved it into the context of the, erm... music. Notice how I hesitate to say that word! [Laughs] Anyway, I just used my poems as songs without rearranging the words in any way. It all just seemed to fit. Plus I'm always making notes for something. *Beneath Discordant Skies* is all new material. Songs I've written in the last 18 months. I'm still at it!"

THERE ARE ALSO TRANSCRIPTIONS OF YOUR SAXOPHONE PLAYING IN THE BOOK. ARE THEY SUPPOSED TO BE MUSICAL POEMS OF SOME KIND?

"I think it's the first time anybody has seen it written down. People who know anything about music will realise it's completely unplayable, but it looks great. Today there are computer programs which can analyse a piece of music and give you a transcription in a very abstract form, but I've seen scores from 60s composers who invented their own system of notation and it's absolutely magical. It's like the Rosetta Stone or something."

IN THE EARLY-80S YOU WERE LABELLED "POST-PUNK". DID YOU FEEL PART OF THAT SCENE?

"What seems to have happened with hideous consistency is that I've fallen between stools from beginning to end. On the one hand it's

kind of idiosyncratic, but if you can't give it a label, you can't sell it. The nearest we got to being labelled was 'psycho-funk-Afro-punk-fake-no-wave-pogo-jazz'. I used that as publicity for quite a while."

YET YOU PERFORMED ALONGSIDE POST-PUNK BANDS LIKE JOY DIVISION AND GANG OF FOUR...

"Yes, but we didn't have anything to do with them stylistically. It was a coincidence, really. Just like the way Tony Wilson [founder of legendary Manchester label Factory Records] took a shine to us. We got a lot of publicity to begin with in the music papers and there was a big buzz about the band, but I'd only been playing saxophone for about six months. We were playing to full houses in London and all these record company people would turn up out of curiosity and then run away screaming, 'Noooo!'"

WAS THAT INTENTIONAL? YOU HAD QUITE A CONFRONTATIONAL PERFORMANCE STYLE...

"I certainly have been very aggressive towards audiences. In fact, on the odd occasions I've seen clips of early performances, I can't believe quite how aggressive I was. At that time it was like an attack. But as the years have gone by I've begun to take more notice of what we're doing together as musicians. Once it was just me attacking the audience with a sort of human rhythm machine going on behind me. Now it's become much more musically complex and there are times I actually try and play with the other musicians – rather than just dedicating the entire event to aggravating an audience!"

YOU'RE STILL PERFORMING AT AN AGE WHEN MANY PEOPLE HAVE RETIRED. WHAT'S THE SECRET?

"I sometimes wonder. There's quite a bit of pressure from nearest and dearest to ease off a bit. But I can't."

WHISKEY USED TO BE YOUR FUEL, RIGHT?

"Yes, Jim Beam. I got to drinking two bottles a day at one point. But I can't do that anymore."

Even the smell of it makes me feel quite queasy. I haven't taken an oath of abstinence, but moderation in excess is my motto these days."

YOU LIVED IN STROUD FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS. WAS IT EVER REALLY "THE TOWN OF MAKE-BELIEVE"?

"I don't even know why I said that, now! Though the Mason Road Task Force [mentioned in the song] really existed. Who were they? Just a bunch of yobs who were into beating people up."

IN YOUR EARLY DAYS IN STROUD YOU WORKED AS A PUPPETEER. DIDN'T YOU RECENTLY DO A SHOW INVOLVING A BARBIE DOLL AND A PING-PONG BALL?

"That's a little sequence called 'Molecule' which I do on occasion. It's a kind of performance animation where I come on stage with a violin case and a music stand and things go from there. It's improvised in the sense that I know what I'm trying to do, but it's very precarious because it can all just go horribly wrong. It's a very naked and nerve-wracking experience for me – which is probably why I don't do it too often."

BUT YOU SEEM TO THRIVE ON RISK-TAKING. ANYTHING GOES AS LONG AS IT'S NOT BORING, RIGHT?

"Not boring? Just keep me talking a bit longer! But actually I disagree. If you're a 'creative type', boredom is an indispensable tool. At times you've got to let everything fade away and get bored. Something is going to come into that void. You've got to come off the treadmill of aspiration. Get bored and you might stumble on something inadvertently... If you're lucky!"

.....
Rupert Howe is a freelance writer based in Stroud whose work has appeared in Q, Esquire and numerous now-defunct magazines, including The Face

BLURT (PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS) PLAY AT SVA'S GOOD SHED ON SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER, TICKETS ARE JUST £6 AND AVAILABLE FROM TRADING POST OR ONLINE AT SVA.ORG.UK

TO LISTEN TO THEIR NEW ALBUM VISIT:

BLURT.BANDCAMP.COM/ALBUM/BENEATH-DISCORDANT-SKIES



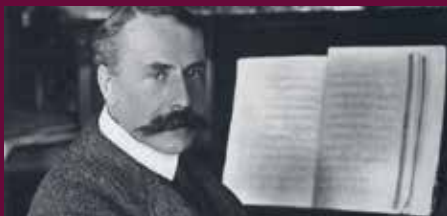
Image: Igor Hofbauer

A GUIDE TO CLASSICAL MUSIC IN STROUD

MUSIC IS A TRANSFORMATIVE ART. PLAYING, LISTENING,
COMPOSING, WATCHING, SINGING, CONDUCTING, RECORDING...
ALL OF THESE ACTIONS HAVE THE POWER TO INSPIRE AND AFFECT.
HERE IN STROUD WE ARE BLESSED WITH AN ARRAY OF MUSICAL
HISTORY, TALENT AND RESOURCES THAT CAN BE COMPARED TO THE
VERY BEST IN ANY COUNTRY AND ANY REGION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

BY VINCENT BROWN

ELGAR



Starting with local history we include Sir Edward Elgar, born in 1857, many of whose pieces have entered the British and international classical concert repertoire. Among his best-known compositions are the Enigma Variations, concertos for violin and cello, and two symphonies.

His sister Ellen Agnes became a Dominican nun in 1902 at St. Rose's Convent in Stroud. When Elgar visited he would play the organ and wrote a piece of music which he gave to the nuns at the convent.

The Dominican convent chapel organ was donated by Elgar and built by the renowned organ-maker Thomas Liddiatt and was later presented to the Church of the Immaculate Conception when the last Dominican Sisters left the convent. It was painstakingly dismantled and reassembled on a plinth under the rose window in the church in 1980, where you can still go and see it today

stroudcatholicchurch.com

MUSIC DYNAMICS

Walking into the centre of Stroud we can locate the shop Music Dynamics. Upstairs in this shop there is a wide range of musical instruments, amplifiers, and popular music to try and buy. What many people do not realize is that downstairs is a facility that connects Stroud immediately to some of the world's greatest choral composers boasting one of Europe's largest collections of vocal scores and choral performance CDs. Not only do they have sheet music available in the shop, but by visiting their sister company website ChoraLine you have access to the most remarkable range of choral music. You can literally connect to thousands of pieces of music by walking down a flight of steps. Where else can you find, in the same room, Stravinsky, Sinatra and Schoenberg, Bach, Bacharach and Barber, Copeland, Corelli and Couperin side by side?

musicdynamics.co.uk/choraline.com

CHRISTOPHER WIGGINS

In Music Dynamics you will also find the music of Christopher Wiggins. Christopher, who lives in the Cotswolds is a prolific composer with

more than 150 compositions to his credit. His works encompass the concerto, chamber

music, full orchestral pieces, choral works and educational music, all of which have been performed in more than 35 countries.

He has a particular interest in the Horn, composing music for Solo Horn to an ensemble of 18 Horns. His 'Four Suites for Eight Horns' are well known and often performed round the world.

Wiggins was honored as a Fellow of Trinity College of Music, London, in 1986. He is a life member of the International Horn Society, and also holds memberships in the British Music Information Center, the British Academy of Composers and Song Writers, the European String Teachers' Association and the Performing Rights Society

DAVE AYRE

A freelance double bass player, composer and music educationalist Dave has been involved in music education for over twenty years and worked on creative music projects with a variety of British orchestras and organizations including the Bath Festival, Britten Sinfonia, Brandenburg Sinfonia, the Children's Music Workshop, London Mozart Players and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as leading

many of his own projects. In 2004 he joined the acclaimed education team of Sinfonia Viva and helps deliver its innovative and award-winning programme to schools, colleges, hospitals and businesses in the Midlands.

As a bass player Dave works regularly with the BBC Concert Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, English Festival Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra, Manchester Camerata, Opera Holland Park and Sinfonia Viva among others. Dave also enjoys regular opportunities to play chamber music, most recently with the Dante Quartet and the New London Chamber Ensemble. He has performed with the Will Todd Jazz Trio, and his 'Jazz Collective' continues to entertain audiences nationwide. His Baroque Band is now bringing early music to audiences in pubs! 'Dave Ayre's Baroque Night' has become a popular regular fixture at the Prince Albert in Rodborough – there have been twelve "Baroque Nights" there since June 2012. He appears on the soundtrack for dozens of films and TV programs, and has worked with various artists including Damon Albarn, Sir John Dankworth, Lesley Garrett, The Jacksons, David Newton, Madonna, Ye-hudi Menhuin, Joni Mitchell, The Pet Shop Boys, Robbie Williams and U2

SARAH CONNOLLY

Sarah Connolly is one of the foremost British mezzo sopranos and has been nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award, a TMA Award, two Grammy Awards and won an Edison, Gramophone and South Bank Award.

On the operatic stage, highlights include 'The Composer' at The Metropolitan Opera, New York and Purcell's 'Dido' and 'Giulio Cesare' at Glyndebourne. Her concert and recital programs have also taken her around the world including the Carnegie Hall, Dresden Staatskapelle and The Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.

She was made a Commander of the British Empire in the 2010 New Year Honours list

sarah-connolly.com

STROUD CHORAL SOCIETY



The Stroud Choral Society has approximately 130 members and performs two major concerts a year with a professional orchestra, as well as a summer concert and a Christmas concert.

The SCS is blessed to have as its conductor Huw Williams who is the Director of Music of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, London where he directs the professional choir of men and boys. To give a sense of his standing his predecessors there include Tallis, Byrd, Purcell and Handel. He is an experienced performer and recording artist and has made over 20 recordings as accompanist with The Sixteen and with St Paul's and Hereford Cathedrals Choirs. He regularly conducts major orchestral and choral works such as Bach's 'B Minor Mass', Handel's 'Messiah' and Verdi, Brahms and Mozart 'Requiems'

stroudchoral.org

FIVE VALLEYS MUSIC CENTRE

Another wonderful facility is the Five Valleys Music Centre offering musical opportunities to children and adults who play instruments and sing. The Centre has orchestras, choirs, wind bands, string groups, a jazz band, a percussion group and a folk group. These facilitate the experience of being able to play in large ensembles as an extension to lessons and the musical activities in schools.

First Access (FA) and Starter groups are the first level. These are for members who are just starting out on their musical journey. Starter groups introduce participants at different levels;

following on from that the Junior Orchestra which combines Junior Strings and Wind and then at a senior level the South Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra. There are also opportunities for jazz and folk groups and choirs and percussion sections. The Centre has concerts every term involving all groups. Prospective students can attend two trial sessions without charge. There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up! All new students are assigned a senior student to help them until they feel at home...

fivevalleys.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk

STROUD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Stroud Symphony Orchestra was originally formed as the New Stroud Orchestra in 1980.

After a succession of conductors who incrementally raised the standard of playing and performance year on year, the orchestra appointed Jonathan Trim as its conductor.

Jonathan has composed a number of works with his symphonic poem, which was first played at the SSO concert in November 1993, being the largest work to date. In 2004 he was commissioned by the Stroud Town Council to compose a special piece commemorating Stroud 700.

The orchestra draws its members almost entirely from the Stroud district, and is proud to be able to present three concerts each year. In 1997 the orchestra members voted to change the name of the orchestra to its present name. It had clearly grown out of its title of "new" after 17 years of existence and it was thought it had transformed into a Symphony Orchestra and such the title should reflect the type of orchestra that it had developed into and so it became The Stroud Symphony Orchestra.

For the last few years the orchestra has supported various charities including the British Heart Foundation, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, Unicef Children's Fund, Survivors of Child Abuse, Homestart, and the Pied Piper Appeal

stroudsymphony.org.uk

DIANA YUKAWA



Diana Yukawa is an award winning solo violinist who has recently moved to the area. She began learning the violin at 5 years of age and through her colourful career to date has performed solo at such auspicious venues as Burj Khalifa for the 2012 New Year's Concert, to 100,000 people at the Dubai World Cup 2012, St. James Piccadilly, Cadogan Hall, to 60,000 at a Khalifa Stadium in Qatar and to a sold-out Hollywood Bowl. Diana has also collaborated with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, and BBC Concert Orchestra as well as other musicians including Jeff Beck and Craig Armstrong.

In the time since the release of her first two albums Diana developed her own revolutionary sound for her third release, "The Butterfly Effect"

dianayukawa.co.uk

MARTYN BRABBINS



British conductor Martyn Brabbins is chief conductor of the Nagoya Philharmonic, Principal guest conductor of the Royal Flemish Philharmonic and Music Director to the Huddersfield Choral Society. After studying

composition in London and then conducting with Ilya Musin in Leningrad, he won first prize at the 1988 Leeds Conductors' Competition. He has since that time guest conducted with leading orchestras across the globe. He is a great supporter of music and musicians and conducted in one whole day the 9 symphonies of Beethoven at the South Bank which I was privileged to experience. Brabbins is considered to be one of the leading conductors of contemporary music as well as being highly sought after for his interpretations of mainstream classical repertoire

intermusica.co.uk/artist/Martyn-Brabbins

Vincent Brown is a composer and pianist living in Stroud. He studied at Goldsmiths College and the London School of Contemporary Dance and performs at various venues throughout the UK and Europe vincentbrownmusic.com

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Holy Trinity Church

SAT 21ST

Stroud Symphony Orchestra

Program: Berlioz 'Les Francs Juges', Ravel's 'Piano Concerto in G' (with soloist Alexander Soares), and Saint-Saens 'Symphony No.3' (The Organ Symphony). Pianist Alexander Soares has performed at the Royal Festival Hall and Purcell Room, Southbank Centre, The Barbican Centre, The Wigmore Hall, and The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. He has been broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 numerous times and as a featured artist on 'In Tune' in 2011 £12/£10concs from Sub Rooms TIC/Under 14's free stroudsymphony.org.uk

Subscription Rooms

THURS 19TH

Your Musical Memories

Relive your musical memories at these monthly afternoon concerts; enjoy classical pieces that have always lived in your heart, hear songs from musicals and arias from operas that have always been yours

to cherish. Trevor presides over a feast of talent from local performers and gifted young artists 2:30pm £6 (including tea & biscuits)

SAT 21ST

Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra

The award winning Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra, with conductor Glyn Oxley, will bring winter early to Stroud with a sparkling programme of Russian and Czech Music. Prokofiev's suite from Lieutenant Kije and Dvorak's eerie tone poem the Noon Day Witch will be followed by the magnificent Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky. A great opportunity to hear the county's finest young musicians fresh from their success at the National Festival of Music for Youth 7:30pm £10/£6concs/children under 14 free subscriptionrooms.org.uk

Christ Church - Nailsworth

SUN 22ND

Bristol Ensemble

Full of infectious tango rhythms, Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla's Four Seasons of Buenos Aires is

the South American answer to Vivaldi's great work, painting a musical impression of the four seasons in the composer's home city. There's a whistlestop trip around the globe with a performance of one of the nation's favourite works, Vaughan Williams' quintessentially English The Lark Ascending. Featuring Roger Huckle and Rachel Gough (violin), Carl Hill (viola), Robyn Aust (cello), Jub Davis (double bass) and Paul Israel (piano) 3pm £10otd

bristolensemble.com

Ruskin Mill - Horsley

FRI 13TH

Methera

Methera are four fine musicians who are blazing a trail through the uncharted territory that lies between folk and chamber music. Lucy Deakin (cello), John Dipper and Emma Reid (fiddles) and Miranda Rutter (viola) marry the cohesive structure of the classical string quartet with a scintillating sense of flow and freedom rooted in a deep understanding of the folk idiom 8pm £15/£12under 25s

rmt.org

MUSIC LISTINGS

You Tube

**G.O.P. YOUTUBE
PLAYLIST**

goo.gl/LUTWae 🔍

Each month we bring you our youtube playlist featuring artists taken from our music listings...
To access the playlist, type the above into your search engine. Enjoy.

Ale House

FRI 6TH

Steve & The Achievers

Upbeat Soul, Lowdown Blues, Rock n' Roll & Gospel 9pm Free

THURS 12TH/26TH

The Human Juke Box

Aron Atwood plays your selection acoustically 8:30pm Free

THURS 19TH

The Ale House Jazz Trio

Regular evenings of world class jazz with John (violin), Matt (guitar) & Dave (double bass) bringing together their combined experience of working with artists such as Dave Norton, Chick Corea & Sir John Dankworth to create a vibrant and unique sound 8:30pm Free

FRI 20TH

Thee Ones

A powder keg of Rhythm & Blues and broken strings. Echoes of singer, Nick Buckle's collection of 50's and 60's vinyl can be picked out in their style. It is said that shadows of The Doors and Captain Beefheart can be found dancing in their twisted grooves... 9pm Free

The Crown And Sceptre

FRI 6TH

Quiche?

Three piece performing blistering, high octane renditions of classic rock and roll songs from the last 50 years 8:30pm Free

THURS 12TH

Dr's Slash and Payne

Dispensers of acoustic moments for the discerning listener 8:30pm Free

FRI 13TH

Thee Ones

Raised on a diet of Dr John, The Meters and Captain Beefheart they are all about the groove...8:30pm Free

FRI 20TH

Subduction

A smoldering fusion of styles with a reggae feel. Sometimes light,

sometimes weighty with hard hitting undertones, always fresh, never dull 8:30pm Free

THURS 26TH

Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish Acoustic Session with Tim Potts 8:30pm Free

FRI 27TH

The Hawds from the Yeast

The Mushroom Men of Stroud play some alternative country music 8:30pm Free

crownandsceptrestroud.com

Lansdown Hall

FRI 13TH

Dick Gaughan

Dick Gaughan has been at the cutting edge of Scottish music for almost five decades as an early member of Boys of the Lough and later with the now-legendary Scottish folk-rock band, Five Hand Reel. Performing everything from free jazz, rock, country and ancient traditional Scots ballads 7:30pm £12adv from Subscription Rooms TIC/£14otd

FRI 20TH

Ardyn

'Moving away from their more acoustic roots as Kitten and Bear brother and sister duo Katy and Rob Pearson debut new material as Ardyn with more of an atmospheric psych-folk approach, reminiscent of Stealing Sheep and Daughter. The latter comparison is perhaps unsurprising considering Rodaigh McDonald produced their new EP as well as Daughter's debut album' - Faded Glamour 7pm £6adv available from alt-tickets.co.uk and gigantic.com

lansdownhall.org

The Prince Albert

SUN 1ST

**The Most Ugly Kid +
Stuart O' Connor**

The Most Ugly Child: a 6-piece country powerhouse, with rabble rousing fiddle breaks and pedal steel swells to make you weep

Stuart O'Connor: singer/songwriter with a psychedelic twist, Stuart is a full time travelling musician playing

over 1600 shows around the world in 8 years 8-10:30pm Free

MON 2ND

Sam Lee

Mercury prize nominated folk and traditional music specialist Sam performs with a spectacular band on this very exciting occasion. He will be performing his own compositions and those he has collected from around the country 8:30-11pm £10adv/£12otd

THURS 5TH

The Undercover Hippy

Billy Rowan, a.k.a. The Undercover Hippy is a singer songwriter who brings together elements of folk, reggae, & hip-hop to create a truly unique musical experience 8:30-11pm Free

SAT 7TH

Mr Tea and The Minions

Cheeky Gypsy Party music! Balkan/Ska/Swing/Dub/Funk and much more....A Gypsy flavoured blend of many musical sauces! 8:30-11pm Free

WEDS 11TH

Amelia Curran

Hugely popular in her homeland songstress - Canada's 'The National Post' described Amelia thus .. "A bit like Leonard Cohen being channelled in a dusty saloon by Patsy Cline" 8:30-11pm Free

SAT 14TH

Flipron + Billy Shinbone

Their music was described by Music Connection as "Barrelhouse Britpop" which the band thought was a pretty good description. Other descriptions they like include "Psychedelic Honkytonk" & "like Stephen Fry wrestling with Ian Dury on a Mississippi riverboat" 8:30-11pm Free

SUN 15TH

**Tobias Ben Jacob, Lukas
Drinkwater & Matt Sellors**

Tonight Tobias returns to promote his new EP The Burning Low and playing his delicious brand of new folk. Support comes from Matt Sellors front man of Yes Sir Boss, launching a solo career after re-discovering his folk laden roots 8-10:30pm Free

TUES 17TH

Sheelanagig

Sheelanagig are 10 years young and

are heading out on an anniversary tour with their armoury of stringed instruments and a bagful of joint jumping tunes. If a combination of Taraf de Haidouks, Madness and Hot Club jazz ticks your boxes then this might be your new favourite band... 8:30-11pm £10adv/£12otd

WEDS 18TH

Solana

Hailing from all corners of Europe this 10 piece instrumental megaband reflects the diversity of their backgrounds and interests encompassing folk, swing, klezmer, flamenco, latin, reggae and trip-hop 8-11pm Free

THURS 19TH

**Professor No Hair and
the Wig Lifters**

Internationally renowned fast-fingered jazz and boogie-woogie piano trio from South-East London return to the Prince Albert 8:30-11pm Free

SAT 21ST

Tom Williams

Previously of Tom Williams and The Boat, he has moored up his band and taking his new album out on this solo venture. Tom has run a Pledge campaign to fund his album, with a % going to charity. More than a singer songwriter - otherwise the PA wouldn't have him on a Saturday night... 8:30-11pm Free

SUN 22ND

Jazz in the afternoon

Local jazz muso and fan Pete Vacara invites some friends and family to indulge with top class music this afternoon. It's his 70th birthday and there may be cake...

WEDS 25TH

Tankus The Henge

Previously a 'Top 10 band to see at Glastonbury' the enigmatic Jaz DeLorean fronts the show with a cheeky Dickensian jaunt and a mesmerising stage presence. Part steampunk, slightly fairground and very lovable the PA are thrilled to welcome them back with Lukas Drinkwater on bass 8:30-11pm Free

THURS 26TH

Troy Faid

"Anyone with an ear for earthy, passionately executed singer-songwriter folk & acoustic blues, ranging from Drake to Jansch, Benjamin Wetherill to Charlie Parr

should cook an ear towards this prodigious talent!" Norman Records 8:30-11pm Free

FRI 27TH

The Eskies

Purveyors of music that meanders from sea soaked waltz to Italian tarantella, from Brassy funeral march-esque lament to weep along Klezmar knees up, from chain gang holler to rag time finger snap 8-11pm Free

SAT 28TH

Prince Albert Carol Consort Practise

Come and learn the tunes and words for the spectacular Christmas Carol sessions the PA have over December. Visit www.albertcarols.uk for further info 11am Free (Evening gig TBC)

theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

Stroud Brewery

SAT 7TH

Dead Dog Cider

A lively and eclectic mix of English, Irish and American song always guaranteed to get the audience singing along and stamping their boots...7:30-10pm Free

SAT 14TH

The Two Anchors

A five piece shanty crew presenting sea songs and shanties sung harmoniously and with gusto. Plenty o' swash-buckling fun 7:30-10pm Free

SAT 21ST

Edd Donovan and the Wandering Moles

A highly distinctive contemporary folk singer-songwriter and favourite of the Brewery, Edd's songs reflects his interest in modern folk music and the work of such performers as Nathaniel Rateliff, Ane Brun, Fleet Foxes and Bowerbirds 7:30-10pm Free

SAT 28TH

Steve Page

Best known as front man for the Open Secrets, Steve's songs bring a contemporary edge to the musical traditions that Americana draws on. A consummate guitarist and exponent of claw hammer banjo 7:30-10pm Free

stroudbrewery.co.uk

Subscription Rooms

SAT 7TH

Threepenny Bit

Takes 8 of the finest young folk, jazz and classical musicians in Hampshire and lets them loose on the world of folk dance music

8pm £11adv/£10concs /£12otd/
£11concs/£5children

THURS 12TH

Keith James: Two Concerts

First Set: 'Always': Having now performed more than 1500 acclaimed concerts of iconic writers Keith has released an amazing landmark original album

Second Set: 'Solid Air': The Songs of John Martyn from 1970-76. This very personal and studied concert visits John Martyn's most rich and potent songs 8pm £14

FRI 13TH

The Music of John Denver

Chris Bannister will entertain you with some of John Denver's biggest hits including 'Annie's Song', 'Take Me Home Country Roads' and 'Leaving On A Jet Plane 8pm £15/£12.50 over 60's

SAT 14TH

Rolling Clones

There are no better deliverers of vibrancy, edginess, masterly musicianship and charisma on the tribute circuit, and all this by the strutting, trout-pouting Jaggernaut-load 8:15pm £13.50adv/£12concs/£15otd£13.50otdrconcs

FRI 27TH

Ferocious Dog + Folklaw & Gaz Brookfield

Creating their own take on Traditional Celtic folk, Ferocious Dog takes the traditional instruments; fiddles, whistles, mandolins and mixes them up with a bit of, raw, buzz saw rock n' roll attitude.

Tour support from the King of the West Country, Gaz Brookfield and local support from foot-tapping whirly-jiggers Folklaw 8pm £12adv/£14otd

SAT 28TH

Buzzcocks + Borrowed Time

Buzzcocks are the true godfathers of punk-pop, having laid down that infinitely superior archetype. They are also a band with a past, present, and future. It is a history the group's members could never have imagined back in the hot punk rock summer of '76...8pm £21adv/£24otd

FRI 6TH

Redwing

Lechlade based Redwing bring their acoustic set of classic and contemporary rock, pop, country, folk covers & original songs to Stroud 8pm Free (Mr Twitchetts)

WEDS 8TH

Simply Acoustic

A trio of vocals, guitar and fiddle with a diverse repertoire of lesser known contemporary songs with original arrangements and harmonies 7:30pm

Free (Mr Twitchetts)

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA

FRI 6TH NOV

Sean Roe, JunKroom Records hosts John Street Social Club

An evening of Japanese music, film and dance with special guest Natsuko Kono. See p19 for further info! 7 - 11pm (John Street)

THURS 12TH

Stroud Jazz Sessions presents Cathy Jones

Bristol based Cathy Jones is a most excellent bebop bossa vocalist with a beautiful voice and pulsing rhythm. She will open with a short set, followed by the Stroud Jazz Sessions usual energeti-frenetic jam for all-comers 8.30 -11pm £5otd (John Street)

FRI 13TH

Shiraz Akoo, Mark Darbyshire and Elvis hosts John Street Social Club

An evening of sublime discovery, as Elvis, with his childlike curiosity and straightforward Southern Manner finds out about stuff. Presented in association with 'Redemption on Middle Street' - a group exhibition curated by Shiraz Akoo £1 membership otd 7 - 11pm (John Street)

SAT 14TH

Blurt live with special guests

Ted Milton returns to Stroud with his iconic band, Blurt. See p4-5 for further info! 8pm £6adv from Trading Post or online via sva.org.uk/£8otd (Goods Shed)

THURS 19TH

John Street Blues with Hipkiss

Regularly monthly blues night with a full set from invited guests plus open mic, archive footage and blues on vinyl. Hipkiss, features Patsy Gamble (sax) and Muddy Manninen (guitarist from Wishbone Ash). If you are a musician with a blues song that you feel needs to be heard then just turn up and find a slot somewhere in the evening! 8pm £3adv from Trading Post/£5otd/ musicians free (John Street)

FRI 20TH

Eraserhead with live soundtrack from Sheena

Eraserhead is a 1977 American surrealist body horror film written and directed by David Lynch telling the story of Henry Spencer, who is left to care for his grossly deformed child in a desolate industrial landscape. Local band Sheena will be performing a live soundtrack to accompany the film 7:30pm £3adv from Trading Post/£5otd (Goods Shed)

SAT 21ST

From Ska to Dub: Frankly Skanky & Special Guests

A night of live Dub, Reggae and Ska in aid of Syrian Refugees. If you're one for the slow rolling dub style tracks then you'll love to move to these Stroud reggae heads. The Mighty John Street Ska Orchestra cover ska tunes made popular in the 60s and 70s boasting a 9 piece brass section. Plus special guest 7:30pm £6otd (Goods Shed)

THURS 26TH

Patsy Gamble & Muddy Manninen

Saxophonist, keyboard player and vocalist Patsy Gamble and Wishbone Ash guitarist Muddy Manninen perform their original songs for the first time, stripped back in a cool and intimate setting 8pm £5otd (John Street)

SAT 28TH

Grasscut + Body Clocks & From White to Gray

Grasscut are made up of Andrew Phillips and Marcus O'Dair. They've previously released two albums on Ninja Tune and their combination of music and visuals brilliantly re-imagine the landscape in glitches, crashing percussion, snatches of old 78s and disconcerting sampled voices. Supported by Body Clocks and From White to Gray 8pm £6adv from Trading Post or online via sva.org.uk/£8otd (Goods Shed)

sva.org.uk

Twisted Fix

FRI 6TH/13TH/ 20TH/27TH

J Keylex & Friends

Twisted Fix's resident DJ bringing the very best in - House / D&B / Hip Hop / Dance & everything in between...11pm - 3:30am Free before 12/£5 after 18+

SAT 14TH

F*UK NOSE 002

A night of old school Jungle and Drum & Bass ft. Tek Gremlin, Seanie G, Instinct and Khemikal 10pm - 4am £4 18+

SAT 28TH

THC & Mastaplan Sound-systems Presents: Bass Hertz

Two rooms of DnB / Techno / Jungle/ Garage/Bassline/Tek/Gabba/Minimal ft. Slinks - A4T, Leeroy, Astrofonik + loads more...9pm-4am £5 before 12/£7 after 18 +

The Convent - Woodchester**SUN 1ST****Jaz Delorean**

Jaz Delorean, the rogueish singer and writer of international touring rock 'n roll villains Tankus the Henge has a tender side...8-11pm £10

THURS 5TH**Simi Stone**

"Absolutely fascinating I love the sound she makes – just so beautiful, recalls the spirit of Carole King" - Bob Harris, BBC Radio 2 8:30-11pm £7.50

FRI 6TH**Sarah McQuaid**

A voice likened to malt whiskey, melted chocolate and honey poured into wine 8-11pm £10

SAT 7TH**The Grahams**

"Sumptuous and flexible croon" – New York Times 8-11pm £10

SUN 8TH**Mawkin**

One of brit-folks brightest new guns: a blistering 5-piece band fusing folk, blues and rock 8-11pm £7.50

THURS 12TH**The Treacherous Orchestra**

"a pounding, sweaty, meaty debut which promises much and delivers evenmore: miss out at your peril" – Songlines ***** 8-11pm £15

FRI 13TH**Mark Morriss**

Mark Morriss is a singer songwriter who famously made his name fronting English indie outfit The Bluetones 8-11pm £15

SAT 14TH**Kevin Pearce**

Pearce is due to perform only a handful of one off gigs in the UK this year – one of which we're extremely privileged to host here at The Convent 8-11pm £10

SUN 15TH**Dana Immanuel & The Stolen Band**

Dana Immanuel is a banjo-toting, whiskey-drinking, poker-playing singer-songwriter currently operating from a north London hideout 8-11pm £7.50

WEDS 18TH**Martin Harley**

Renowned for his prowess as a slide guitarist, Martin Harley is a phenomenally talented guitarist and singer/songwriter 8:30-11pm £15

THURS 19TH**Mark Billingham and My Darling Clementine**

Song and story come together in a powerful and moving show exploring the everyday tragedies of ordinary people falling in and out of love 8:30-11pm £10

FRI 20TH**Blue Rose Code**

"Seriously, can't recommend Blue Rose Code enough, cannot stop listening." Ewan McGregor 8-11pm £10

SAT 21ST**Tom Baxter**

Witness him live, and you'll be part of an audience totally captivated by what they're watching – if a pin drops, you'll hear it! 8-11pm £10

SUN 22ND**James Yorkston**

One of the most influential singer / songwriters on the Scottish folk scene 8-11pm £10

FRI 27TH**Kathryn Williams & Michele Stodart**

Kathryn has been making music to critical acclaim for 15 years. Her new album Hypoxia, inspired by Sylvia Plath's The Bell Jar, is out now 8-11pm £10

SAT 28TH**Topette**

New Anglo-French acoustic dance band Topette – a collective of uninhibited musical adventurers playing self-penned and traditional music 8-11pm £7.50

SUN 29TH**Marry Waterson & David A Jaycock**

Marry Waterson returns with a brand new album made in collaboration with David A. Jaycock on 20th November, entitled Two Wolves 8-11pm £10

theconvent.net



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Sunday 6 December, 3pm
Chamber music by Brahms & Haydn

Sunday 22 November, 3pm
Piazzolla & Vaughan Williams

Sunday 17 January, 3pm
Schubert's Trout Quintet

TICKETS £10 on the door

For full programme details visit www.bristolensemble.com

JOE MAGEE

BY BECKY MILLS

FROM THE AGE OF EIGHT, JOE MAGEE FOUND HIMSELF OBSESSED WITH ART, STAYING UP LATE INTO THE NIGHT TO DRAW AND CREATE. FOLLOWING AN ART FOUNDATION AT WIRRAL METROPOLITAN COLLEGE AND A BA (HONS) IN GRAPHIC DESIGN FROM LONDON COLLEGE OF PRINTING, MAGEE BEGAN WORK AS AN ILLUSTRATOR AND FILM-MAKER IN 1989. HE HAS SINCE PRODUCED OVER 2000 PUBLISHED IMAGES, BOASTING LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH PROLIFIC CLIENTS SUCH AS TIME MAGAZINE, THE INDEPENDENT AND THE GUARDIAN, IN ADDITION TO SOLO AND COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITIONS AND THE PRESENTATION OF HIS WORK AT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS. FOUR YEARS AGO HE SET UP RESIDENCE IN STROUD, WHERE WE SIT DOWN TOGETHER, CHASED BY THE SOFT SLANTING LIGHT OF EARLY AUTUMN, TO REFLECT ON HIS CAREER.

It can be a challenge, and perhaps a reductive exercise, to attempt to define an artistic style over such an extensive body of work. Certain recurrences are apparent: a use of striking colour, a sense of movement, as seemingly incongruous images dissolve and disperse into one another, imploring fresh scrutiny. Yet it remains difficult to define Magee's style with precision. This sense of stylistic fluidity is part of the appeal, and something, Magee explains, that evolved early on. Having left university, Magee landed on his feet working for a company selling Apple macs to design companies. Here, he began using the company's imaging software, which allowed him to mix media within a single medium, combining a range of aesthetics from photography to screen printing. "Instantly I knew I wanted this as my medium" Magee explains. From here, digital software became the language through which he expressed his ideas, granting a freedom to his aesthetic that continues into his current pieces and is reflected in the variety of collaborative projects he has been engaged in over the course of his career.

The strength of his work, Magee believes, lies in his ability to generate ideas, and respond to concepts with a visual image. Editorial illustration was thereby the primary field to which he was drawn and where his huge success is most evident. Magee perceives collaborations with editorial publications as an exciting challenge, finding that the most positive outcome arises when there is a foundation of trust between himself and the client, granting him the freedom to create a unique response to a subject without the pressure to compromise on his own vision. "Editorial allows you to have an edge to what you are saying" he reveals. Here, it is clear that Magee is driven by a fierce commitment to produce work that he believes in, and create images that resonate with his own singular voice.

I am curious, with such a substantive backlog, to discover if Magee has particular pieces he is proudest of. He hesitates, thinking back over his career, before concluding that the work he created for some of the most prolific publications, such as the front covers of Time Magazine, where the pressure is high and there is a sense of personal challenge, have been amongst the highlights. Magee also sights some of his most recent work, divulging that for him it is important not rely on previous success, revealing himself an artist striving to continually improve and expand his abilities.

It is this professional drive that led him toward film. Having achieved all that he desired in editorial illustration, Magee began creating short animations and line action experiments for galleries and exhibitions. These films are playful and highly experimental, often subverting cultural and social norms. Seven years ago, these experiments attracted the eye of friend and comedian Bill Bailey. Since 2008, Magee has created films, large scale video art and multimedia works for Bailey's tours.

Magee is currently in the midst of collaborating with Bailey once again, as well as creating his own feature length film and embarking on a moving image project, involving micro-movies and blipverts. It seems that the great diversity in his work is in part founded on a sense of innovation and sharp intellect. Magee is aware that the illustration industry is rapidly evolving as work increasingly migrates online. As the field develops, Magee's short animated pieces, which can capture and hold the attention of the digital viewer, appear an intelligent and far-sighted move toward continuing success in the industry.

While Magee stays focused on the progression of his own career, he also shows a sensitive awareness of local community. He recently produced a short film for Future4me, an outstanding project working to integrate vulnerable young people into society after leaving care and custody. His fourteen-year residence in Bristol appears instrumental to his acknowledgement of community. During his time there, Magee worked closely with the Watershed, a cultural hub housing films, gigs and experimental arts, which brings local people together, encouraging a cross fertilisation of culture and creativity. I ask what he thinks of the artistic community in Stroud, whether this was a factor in his move here from Bristol in 2011. "I had a background sense of there being interesting organisations dotted around" he explains "It is amazing how many people actually living around here are film-makers, artists, musicians, of quite a high calibre. But maybe Stroud could do with a hub more akin to the Watershed model" Magee admits. As the sun threads higher into the sky, we consider the idea of Stroud having such a centre, through which those with exceptional artistic talent such as Magee could come together across our valleys and low-slung hills to thrive through the support of a central space.

For further examples of Joe's work visit his website at periphery.co.uk

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Rebecca Mills was born in Stroud and has lived in the nearby valleys all her life. Following a BA Hons in English Literature, she worked locally as an editor and English tutor. She now spends her time travelling, reading, freelance writing and instagramming her miniature dachshund: mini_moose_esq



Thatcher
Personal Collection



George Orwell
TimeOut Magazine



Bill Bailey
Royal Albert Hall London



Neurotic Imposter
The Guardian

ART LISTINGS

The Blue Room Gallery

EVERY FRI & SAT

Oliver Vivian: Lucidity

Oliver Vivian's Lucidity Exhibition continues with colourful expressive abstracts in oils on canvas, evoking the primal forces of the natural world 10am-3pm

Gallery Pangolin

**SAT 26TH SEPT -
FRI 6TH NOV**

**Lynn Chadwick:
Draughtsman**

Despite Chadwick's well-established reputation as one of the most important Modern British sculptors, 'Lynn Chadwick: draughtsman' is the first major exhibition to focus on his mastery of line in two dimensions. The exhibition brings together an impressive collection of drawings, including 'Teddy Boy & Girl IV' (1955) and 'Teddy Boy & Girl V' (1955), first shown at the 1956 Venice Biennale, where Chadwick was awarded The International Prize for Sculpture. Chadwick employed an impressive range of techniques and media in order to create different effects in his two-dimensional work: bold, spiky ink lines in 'Study for Dance' (1957), subtle monochrome ink and wash in 'Study for High Wind' (1980), innovative use of wax-resist with coloured wash and ink in 'Study for Beast' (1958), and lively, expressive woodblock monoprints and surprisingly bright colour with linear ink details in 'Standing Man' (1961) Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat 10am-1pm

**MON 16TH NOV -
FRI 18TH DEC**

Christmas Cracker!

Gallery Pangolin's popular annual Christmas exhibition returns with a

special focus on sculptors' jewellery.

Artists include Anthony Abrahams, Harold Ambellan, Kenneth Armitage, David Bailey, Nick Bibby, John Bridgeman, Ralph Brown, Jon Buck, Ann Christopher, Geoffrey Clarke, Lynn Chadwick, Terence Coventry, Abigail Fallis, Steven Gregory, Jonathan Kingdon, Alistair Mackie, Charlotte Mayer, Bernard Meadows, Breon O'Casey, Peter Randall-Page, Lorraine Robbins, Almut Tebbenhoff Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat 10am-1pm gallery-pangolin.com

GPC Printmakers Gallery

**SAT 24TH OCT -
FRI 6TH NOV**

Susie Harding

Susie Harding's three foot square canvases done in ink, charcoal and pastel are inspired by the Extreme Poses Life Class held by Paul Fowler at Griffin Mill. They explore the idea of the body as container and contained and its' physical extension into space Tues-Sun 11am-5pm

**SAT 14TH/21ST/28 -
SUN 15TH/22ND/29TH**

Affordable Print Show

Framed and unframed prints, as well as printed gifts (including notebooks, wrapping paper & cards), live print demos and studio visits, along with mince pies & mugs of tea! 11am-5pm gpcq.co.uk

Lansdown Hall

MON 2ND - SUN 8TH

**Rick Burgess: From The Sea
To The Land Beyond**

A collection of atmospheric vistas and found abstracts, taken mostly at or near the coast. Rick takes inspiration

more from painters than from other photographers, and as a result, his work has a distinctive painterly feel. He is much more interested in atmosphere and colour than the subject itself, and so shadows, rocks, moss and lava flows all feature, along with more obvious subjects... Mon 2-4:30pm/Tues-Sat 10am-4:30pm/Sun 10am-12pm

MON 9TH - SAT 11TH

**Rita Long & Karl Crabham:
Capture**

Two artists exploring the use of mixed media to capture their personal observations of natural forms and human behavior. This work is the result of deep exploration around processes of creativity and identity, alongside the influences these have on the development of an artist's practice Mon (private view) 6-8pm/Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

lansdownhall.org

The Line Gallery – SVA

FRI 6TH - SAT 21ST

Ragna Mouritzen

A Danish based artist whose work pairs two dimensional drawings and three dimensional plaster based sculptures Fri 6th Private View (6-9pm)/Weds 4th Danish 'Pudding & Film' night (7-10pm)/Sat 7th Artist Talk (11am-12pm)/Sat 21st Fold mirror painting workshop (11am-3pm)

23RD NOV - 1ST DEC

Sam Marsh

Sam Marsh describes his painting style as a 'soup' of colour. His bold work is often painted on unusually shaped canvases Fri 27th Private View (6-9pm)/Fri + Sat 10am-5pm linegallery.co.uk

Museum In The Park

**SAT 3RD OCT -
SUN 8TH NOV**

Dail Behennah: Fieldwork

FIELDWORK n. Practical work conducted by a researcher in the natural environment, rather than in a laboratory or office Oxford Dictionary.

This exhibition is about journeys: firstly the process of leaving a special place; secondly documenting walks there; and thirdly a creative journey to find new materials and processes. Accompanied by a weekend masterclass with Dail Behennah on the 10th and 11th October, creative 'Nature Table' activities for all ages and hands-on learning sessions for schools. A beautiful book, published by Ruthin Craft Centre, will be on sale in the Museum shop, price £12. To reserve a copy email: museum@stroud.gov.uk Tues-Fri 10am-4pm/Sat-Sun 11am-4pm

**SAT 14TH NOV -
SUN 6TH DEC**

**Sarah Brooker
& Mariette Voke**

Sarah Brooker and Mariette Voke share a love of collecting intriguing and quirky everyday objects. They also share a love of museums, especially local museums where stories of everyday life are told through objects from times gone by. This exhibition brings together small, intricately detailed watercolours and larger oil paintings by Mariette and beautiful, colourful hand rolled felt hangings and framed pieces by Sarah. It also includes new work inspired by The Museum in the Park's unique collections Tues-Fri 10am-4pm/Sat-Sun 11am-4pm museuminthepark.org.uk

SVA

FRIDAY 6TH/13TH
/20TH/27TH

Art Hubs

Regular Friday morning coffee breaks for artists and friends. Meet up, make connections, talk projects 11am-12pm
sva.org.uk

Upper Lock Café

SUN 27TH SEPT -
SUN 29TH NOV

June Styles

June Styles believes there comes a time to explore who we think we are creatively. Art is something she always thought only others could do. Her pictures are an attempt, and ask the eternal question, 'What is art?' Mon-Sat 10am-4pm/Sun 10am-3pm
upperlockcafe.co.uk

Prema Arts Centre - Uley

MON 9TH NOV -
SUN 13TH DEC

Clare Halifax

Clare Halifax's various print techniques have afforded her the ability to portray urban and coastal scenes with an intricacy and opulent detail which demand closer inspection of each individual piece 10am-4pm

MON 9TH NOV -
SUN 13TH DEC

Eve Coy

Whilst bringing up her daughters Eve has been constantly illustrating their family life, documenting the magic of childhood as inspiration for children's stories. She joins Prema this autumn as one of our new artists in residence 10am-4pm

MON 9TH NOV -
SUN 13TH DEC

Sophie Buckley

Please welcome our second new artist in residence. Sophie is a textiles artist who uses both crochet and needle-felting to re-create animals in miniature, whether making the creature herself, or teaching others in workshop settings 10am-4pm
prema.org.uk

Studio Maru - Dursley

NOV - FRI 25TH DEC

Maru Christmas Fayre

Featuring arts, crafts, knitwear and jewellery from Nimpy Clothing, Anna Brooke, Jill Hancock, David King and more... Mon-Sat 10am-5pm/Closed Weds & Sun
studiomaru.uk



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Ring Anthony Abrahams

CLEO

MUSSI

"I HAVE BEEN LIVING AND WORKING IN STROUD OVER THE LAST SEVENTEEN YEARS AND THOUGH I INSTALL AND EXHIBIT MOSAICS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY I HAVE ALSO HAD SOME GREAT LOCAL COMMISSIONS INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION 'ODE TO ED' (EDUCATION AND EDWARD BAWDEN) IN THE EDUCATION ROOM AS PART OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT AT PREMA ARTS, ULEY. A CRAZY CAT WITH BASKETS OF CREATURES AND OODLES OF CREATIVE ENERGY."

The autumn is a great time to focus my energy on work, everyone back to college or school and therefore fewer distractions. I usually try to get a large proportion of pieces made in September to December so that I can do the dreaded grouting, the cement finish (or mud pie making as I call it). Grouting is best achieved before the frost, snow and cold wet weather sets in. I do all my grouting outside, so the warm spring and autumn days are perfect for that. Summer is too hot as the cement sets too quickly and I always find the time from January until March the least productive as I think creativity needs at least 17 degrees of natural heat and decent light levels to get the right dynamics.

My current commission is for a London based solar panel company 'Primrose Solar' and consists of a life size green workman with

conductive solar panel rod and a Mussi menagerie in green pastures below for their main boardroom. It's the perfect commission following on from 'All Consuming' an installation which was exhibited both at The Museum in The Park, Stroud and at The Saatchi Gallery in London. The 80 or more pieces developed as an observation on man's evolution within our environment and our impact on the environment and each other. From 'Microbial Soup' and 'Mitochondrial Eve' we go through a narrative of life size figures exploring energy, food and fuel consumption, agricultural practice, water, alternative energy and finally the 'Savings Bank for the Genome' on our perfectly formed 'Spaceship Earth' -our Ark."

mussimosaics.co.uk

Forthcoming Exhibition

SAT 21ST - SUN 22ND

Frogmarsh Mill, South Woodchester with guest exhibitors Abbot and Elwood from St Ives



THEATRE PREVIEWS

BY JOHN BASSETT

**NOVEMBER OFFERS A FIREWORK
OF THEATRE IN STROUD WITH
EVERYTHING FROM DRAMAS
ABOUT THE FIRST WORLD WAR
TO LIVELY COMEDIES FEATURING
ALL OF DICKENS WORK.**

On Sunday 1st the highly acclaimed Daylight Theatre will be presenting a half term treat performing *The Pharaoh's Son* at the Museum in the Park. With their inimitable style families can experience ancient Egypt with comedy, puppets and mysteries to solve.

On Friday 13th at the Old Town hall, Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company present their powerful new work looking at the ill fated battle for Remembrance Day of Gallipoli. Gallipoli: A Forgotten Story or Two uses actual testimonies from the battle to tell the emotional stories of not only the ANZAC soldiers who were there but British soldiers too. This one hour, one man show is presented in collaboration with Five Valleys War Researchers.

Newbury Productions bring Dickens Abridged to the Subscription Rooms on Friday 20th. This lively production from Adam Long one half of the creators of the Reduced Shakespeare Company promises a high-speed comic journey through Dickens' Greatest Hits, including *Oliver Twist*, *Great Expectations* (complete with flaming bride), *David Copperfield*, *Bleak House* (in less than sixty seconds!), *A Tale of Two Cities* (featuring a fully functioning guillotine), *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Old Curiosity Shop* and, of course... *A Christmas Carol*.



And as if one Christmas Carol wasn't enough the Cotswold Playhouse will be presenting The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society version of *A Christmas Carol* from Tuesday 24th to Saturday 28th. Expect a classic to be massacred as there is dissension in the ranks against the formidable Mrs Reece, who believes that she runs this wonderfully awful amateur dramatic society, alongside moments of sheer inventiveness and possible disaster in this send up of bad amateur dramatics.



Hexagon Theatre Company are celebrating 30 years of performing entertaining and thought-provoking plays in Stroud with *Pyrenees* by David Greig at the Lansdown Hall on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th. High in the Pyrenees, a middle-aged man is found unconscious in the snow. In one hand he clasps a briefcase full of euros; in the other, the scallop-shell traditionally carried by pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela. He has no papers, no passport, and no memory of who he is or how he got there. And he speaks English. David Greig's play received high acclaim described as "Ibsen meets Rattigan with a touch of the surreal" by The Scotsman.

John Bassett is an actor, writer and the director of Stroud Theatre Festival and Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company

Cotswold Playhouse

TUES 24TH - SAT 28TH

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society:

A Christmas Carol

7:30pm £12

cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

Museum In The Park

SUN 1ST

Daylight Theatre Company:
The Pharaoh's Son

3pm £6adults/£4children Booking necessary, please call on 01453 763394

museuminthepark.org.uk

Subscription Rooms

FRI 20TH

Newbury Productions Ltd:
Dickens Abridged

7:30pm £16/£14concs

SAT 21ST

Commedia dell'Arte Workshop
with Cheryl Parmenter

fast paced requiring a good level of fitness and stamina and will culminate in the performance of a scenario to friends and family. This is an intensive one-day workshop for those with some experience of working with Commedia dell'Arte masks (16+) 10am-4pm £35 Booking essential contact the Subscription Rooms on 01453 760 900 subscriptionrooms.org.uk

Lansdown Hall

FRI 27TH - SAT 28TH

Hexagon Theatre Company:
Pyrenees

7:30-10pm £10adv

Subscription Rooms

lansdownhall.org

Old Town Hall

FRI 13TH

Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company present *Gallipoli: A Forgotten Story or Two...*

7:30pm (Doors open at 6.30 for exhibition by Five Valley's War Researchers) £5/£4concs available from Sub Rooms TIC or online at spanielworks.co.uk

Create a traditional Commedia dell'Arte play in a day! The characters and their relationships will be the starting point to create a plot that can then be expanded through improvisation, devising and physical storytelling. You will develop your skills in comedy, characterisation and stagecraft and use devices and techniques such as lazzi, grommelot and slapstick. The day is entirely practical and

NATSUKO

KONO

AND THE HISTORY OF BUTOH

BY SEAN ROE



Image by Tamara Kis

BERLIN BASED BUTOH DANCER NATSUKO KONO WILL BE PERFORMING AT THE SVA THIS MONTH AND WILL BE RUNNING A DANCE WORKSHOP THE DAY AFTER AT THE LANSDOWN GALLERY - WHAT IS THIS UNIQUE JAPANESE DANCE FORM AND WHAT ARE ITS ORIGINS?

Butoh was thrust upon an unsuspecting audience in Tokyo in 1959 with a performance titled *Kinjiki* (Forbidden Colours) by the dancer Tatsumi Hijikata. The original name he chose to describe this new extreme form of dance was *Ankoku Butoh* which translates as "dance of utter darkness" but over time, this was shortened simply to Butoh.

Drawing inspiration from Surrealism, German Expressionist dance, and the writings of outsiders Genet and Artaud, Hijikata had a radical and subversive agenda. He wanted to challenge preconceived notions of what dance was by creating a new primordial aesthetic that emphasized a greater intimacy with the ground and earthiness. He also wanted to empower dancers regardless of their body shape or age, to create their own personalized dance no matter how idiosyncratic - by channelling their deepest and darkest feelings.

The raw and visceral early work of Hijikata, was counterbalanced by the more ethereal and feminine dancing of Kazuo Ohno who had been an early collaborator with Hijikata, but his work became more spiritual and less confrontational. Ohno was an immensely important figure, a teacher who influenced many younger dancers.

Through the 1970s and 1980s a new influx of performers had a transformational affect on the form of the dance. Some performances were highly theatrical while others more elemental or abstract. Japanese Butoh dance companies like Sankai Juku instantly recognizable by their white all over body makeup and shaved heads, performed in major centres in Europe and in the USA helping Butoh to become a major international borderless dance phenomenon.

Natsuko Kono first encountered Butoh when she was a studying dance at Birkbeck, University of London in 2005, where she attended a workshop run by Fran Barbe. Natsuko says that she was struck by the hidden beauty and sincerity of Fran's teaching and at that moment she felt that she could develop both as a dancer and as a person, through Butoh.

It took Natsuko seven years of training with Fran Barber, Katsura Kan and Tadashi Endo as well as studying body awareness through the Noguchi Taiso method for her to begin creating her own solo dance pieces, and to consider running her own workshops.

As a 'New Era' Butoh performer the accent in her solo work has shifted from the subversive quality of Hijikata's original concepts, following a more holistic approach. She believes that "...the physical body, mind, imagination, and energy or 'vital life force' are all aspects of a unified performer that need to be developed to the highest possible level." Through the workshops that she runs she can explore some of the concepts behind Butoh - to develop what she calls "the performer's whole instrument" and to realize "the deep parts of our humanity which may have been neglected in our current perspectives of reality".

It was at The Moving Bodies Butoh Festival in Dublin in May 2015 that Natsuko met Stroud based dancer Alan Frank where they both attended workshops together. Alan is currently involved in establishing a Butoh workshop here in Stroud and has been instrumental in getting Natsuko to perform here, to help expand the Butoh network in the UK.

Alan's view is that Butoh can be seen as a "meditational integrative healing form of exercise that values the way we each move uniquely." Crucially he feels that "there is no right or wrong in Butoh, no steps to learn and that it suits people of all ages or abilities." This feeling is echoed by Natsuko who believes that it is important to note that "Butoh is not only for dancers and it's not an art form exclusive to dance, it is an open concept through which each artist working in all forms can find their own inspiration."

Natsuko Kono performs at the SVA on Friday 6th November for an evening of Japanese dance, music and videos. Doors open at 7.30pm and the performance starts at 9pm. Entrance is free

The workshop takes place at the Lansdown Hall on Saturday 7th November from 1.30 to 5.30pm £25/£20 concessions - contact Alan Frank on 01453 762887 to book a place on this and future workshops or if you are interested in finding out more about Butoh.

natsuko-kono.wix.com/urbanbutoh

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Sean Roe is a Stroud based artist and musician. He runs JunKroom Records, an extremely small outlet for exceptional and unusual music



STROUD SHORT STORIES ANTHOLOGY

BY LEAH GRANT

**IT'S SUNDAY MORNING AND
TODAY I'M TRAVELLING
TO EIGHTY DIFFERENT WORLDS.
I DON'T NEED MY PASSPORT.
MY SUITCASES ARE DUSTY
AND BARE. A STRONG CUP
OF TEA AND PERHAPS AN EVEN
STRONGER EMOTIONAL RESOLVE
ARE THE ONLY REQUIREMENTS
NECESSARY FOR THE JOURNEY.
AND SO, I SIT DOWN AND BEGIN.**

The Stroud Short Stories Anthology is so much more than just a book; it's a collection of aspirations, an echo of multiple attempts, a memory of endless hours spent honing and crafting, editing and correcting. Every story within the Anthology's 235 pages complements the next, not in terms of genre or style, but rather as a series of narratives that - whilst remaining original and individualistic - create a satisfying sense of wholeness.

As an aspiring writer myself, I understand how difficult it can be to create a captivating short story - the number of half-written tales that have been disregarded on my computer are too many to think about! A limited word length means the writer must find a balance between description and plot whilst still considering characterisation, voice, theme, setting and point of view. It is not an easy task to undertake with many variables that can quickly distract the reader from the story. And yet, the diverse subject matter tackled within the Stroud Short Stories Anthology, as well as the variety of sentiments navigated and explored within varying word limitations, is testimony to the talent and dexterity of every author published within the book.

To pick a favourite would be unfair. In fact, to compare these stories at all would completely

defeat the object of Stroud Short Stories and the reason why the event, and ultimately the anthology, was created. In case you don't already know, let me give you some background information on what is fast-becoming a defining event in Stroud's creative calendar: In 2011, inspired by story-reading events held in Brighton, writer and comedian Bill Jones founded Stroud Short Stories, an evening designed to encourage and inspire local writers. After submitting their entries to the event, selected authors were asked to read their stories aloud in front of an audience at Stroud Valleys Artspace - a daunting task for any writer, but one that proved immensely popular. Bill continued to successfully run the biannual event for the next two years, as well as incorporating two themed evenings across Halloween and Valentine's.

In January 2014, John Holland took over as organiser and in his introduction to the anthology, John explains that it is the confidence garnered from reading in front of an audience that makes participation in an SSS event such a valuable experience for both aspiring and established authors. As a former entrant himself, John also understands how inspiring it can be to watch others read their work aloud: "Before I started writing I attended SSS events. I sat, along with fifty or so others, in the dark, in a positive but relaxed atmosphere, being read to by the authors of truly imaginative, clever, creative stories. It was/is truly magical. For the 2012 spooky night event I submitted a story to Bill Jones. I had written very little at that time, and it was only my second competitive success, and my first time reading in front of an audience. Although I was terrified, the whole experience gave me confidence and I continue to write, and indeed to read to audiences."

Many of the 57 writers published in the Stroud Short Stories Anthology are from Stroud and subsequently the book has become not just a tribute to its authors, but a celebration of the imagination and creativity of our small town. From realistic to surrealistic, from the heartfelt to the disturbed, every story takes us on a journey

and whether it's experiencing rail travel from the perspective of two aliens in Trog and Kron Almost Get it Right by Philip Douch, or feeling a daughter's frustration as she argues with her mother in Rommy Collingwood's Family Business, each narrative has the ability to hook the reader's interest and force them into a new world.

Almost all of the ten stories selected at each of the nine SSS events across the last four years features in this anthology. Expect to dip in for five minutes and come out twenty minutes later a different person. Expect tears. Expect laughter. Expect inspiration.

- The Anthology is now on sale and can be purchased from Trading Post (£10) or online from www.lulu.com (£8 plus postage)
- The next SSS event will be held on Sunday 15th November at Stroud Valleys Artspace in John Street, Stroud (doors open at 7:30pm, to start at 8pm). Writers from Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire have already submitted their spooky entries for the tenth SSS event which is a special 'Eerie Evening.' Writers selected to read at the event will be chosen by Monday 2nd November. Tickets are £6 in advance and will be available from Trading Post in Kendrick Street or via SVA's website (sva.org.uk). Keep an eye on the SSS website (stroudshortstories.blogspot.co.uk) for more information about when tickets will go on sale.
- If you're a writer and want to get involved, the next SSS event will be held in spring 2016 - submissions will open early next year.

Leah Grant is a writer and photographer with a keen interest in art and literature. On her blog, Bellyful of Art, you can find reviews of exhibitions, installations, dance performances and literary events as well as her own lovingly created pieces of short fiction

LITERATURE LISTINGS

Ale House

**WEDS 4TH/11TH
/18TH/25TH**

Rick Vick: Writing Group

A weekly writing group run by Stroud Festival's Rick Vick. Discover your hidden voice, all welcome! 7-9pm £5 for further information contact Rick on 07973 225 694

Hawkwood College

SUN 8TH

Jay Ramsay: Poetic Edges

Jay Ramsay is the author and co-author of over 30 books, whose work has been praised by Ted Hughes, Kathleen Raine and Robert Bly. This course will help you to find new possibilities of expression through the written word working with a series of brilliant original exercises to extend your receptivity and imagination. Suitable for all levels of experience 9am-5pm £65 (including delicious lunch and refreshments) hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

Lansdown Hall

SUN 22ND

Stephen Jenkinson: Money and the Soul

A talk by Stephen Jenkinson based on his book 'Money and the Soul's Desires', a meditation on our relationship with money. Money rarely gets the attention it deserves from us. What is the origin of the dread so many of us experience in money matters? Where does money get its power to provoke conflict and discord? Is it even possible to live a soulful, authentic life in the presence of money? 7-9:30pm £9adv and discounts for multiple purchases available at moneyandsoul.co.uk/£10otd

lansdownhall.org

Museum In The Park

SUN 8TH

Words of War

In less than an hour, the readings comprising 'Words of War' allow voices from the First World War to speak for themselves through poetry, personal letters and music: progressing from the heady days of recruitment to the desperate aftermath in which there were no real winners. National pride and local sacrifice. Presented by Steven Deproost with music performed by Rebecca Dellow. 3pm £7/£5friends Booking is necessary, please call 01453 763394

museuminthepark.org.uk

Rodborough Community Hall

SAT 28TH

Stroud Artist's Book Group

A group of practising artists and other creative individuals with an interest in Artists' Books who have been meeting monthly at the SVA for the last two years. Although this meeting is a celebration of their 2nd anniversary, they extend a warm welcome to those curious about artists' books and book makers. It includes a bring and buy stall for all the wonderful things to do with making artists' books and demonstrations by members of one page folded book forms. To find out more email Elaine Knight at elaineknight93@hotmail.com 11am-4pm £5otd (incl. tea/coffee/biscuits)

facebook.com/groups/stroudartistsbooks

Subscription Rooms

FRI 27TH

Stroud Out Loud!

Stroud's monthly spoken word showcase including poetry, storytelling, stand-up and monologues! Celebrate free speech with this entertaining open mic event 7pm Free (donations welcome!) subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA

SAT 14TH

Blurt

Album and book launch with Blurt's return to Stroud plus Ted Milton reading from his new book 'The Milton Text Book' See p4-5 for further info! £6adv from Trading Post or SVA website/£8otd

FRI 27TH

Miserable Malcolm & Uta Baldauf host John Street Social

"Lonely This Christmas" - a special pre-Christmas Social Night of Woe. Stroud's gloomiest poet, Miserable Malcolm invites you to share your stories of terrible Christmases past in a 'confessional open mic' (poems and songs also welcome) while Uta will be spinning some festive discs and giving a performance befitting the oncoming Christmas darkness. Do you feel a terrible sense of doom as the Christmas approaches? This is the night for you! 7-11pm £1 membership otd (John Street)

sva.org.uk

Ruskin Mill - Nailsworth

SAT 21ST

Storytelling with Fiona Eadie

Fiona will be telling stories for all ages (5 to 105!) at Ruskin Mill on Saturday mornings, with the next monthly event taking place on the 19th Dec. Everyone welcome to come and listen 10:30am-12:30pm £4adults/£3 children/£10 family ticket

For further information, or to book, please call 01453 834793 or email fiona@fionaeadie.td.co.uk

rmt.org

New Brewery Arts Centre - Cirencester

WEDS 4TH

Creative Writing with Rona Laycock

This will be five weeks of lively discussion, learning skills and developing ideas. The sessions will encourage you to try new

techniques and develop skills you already have as we work together to create a portfolio of writing styles and genres. Suitable for all abilities Wednesdays 1:30-4:30pm £95

SAT 14TH

Travel Writing with Rona Laycock

A workshop that will help you use your holiday experiences to create articles for magazines as well as interesting settings for holiday fiction 10am-4pm £75

TUES 24TH

Writers in the Brewery

A regular event that takes place on the last Tuesday of the month in the cafe. Share your work or just sit back, sip your drink and listen to others. Everyone is welcome 7-9pm £4 (inc. free tea and coffee; other drinks at bar prices)

newbreweryarts.org.uk

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COMEDY

BY CHRIS HEAD

THIS MONTH AT HAWKWOOD

COLLEGE I AM RUNNING A ONE-DAY

INTRODUCTION TO WRITING AND

PERFORMING STAND-UP COMEDY.

PEOPLE OFTEN ASK 'HOW ON EARTH

DO YOU TEACH STAND-UP?'

THERE ARE IN FACT ALL SORTS OF

TECHNIQUES YOU CAN DEVELOP.

IN THIS ARTICLE I TOUCH ON A FEW,

FOCUSING ON JUXTAPOSITIONS.



With a juxtaposition you have two worlds. You are taking some aspect of world A and colliding it with world B. My old friend and colleague Barry Ferns runs a comedy show at the Edinburgh Fringe that takes place on the top of Arthur's Seat, the dramatic extinct volcano that offers amazing views over the city to those hardy enough to climb it. This is in itself a comedic juxtaposition. Taking all the familiar aspects of a comedy night (World A) and playing them out at the top of a windswept hill (World B).

Josie Long has become a regular act at these annual gigs and I saw her play the first of them where she did a lovely piece of material (later captured on her first live DVD "Trying is Good") that features a great juxtaposition.

She talks about going to the swimming pool in Edinburgh, looking down from the gallery over the pool and seeing that there is a kids' floating obstacle course in the water. She says: "There were lots of very little children, very tentatively trying to navigate their way across

it. Then at the side of the pool there was a man... whose job it was... was to stand there... with a powerful hose. Just picking them off. Getting rid of the weak." Notice first off how it's carefully constructed to build to the reveal of the man with the powerful hose. Also we might speculate that some of the children were quite boisterous but it makes for a funnier image that they are all 'tentative' (the set-up) and then more of a dramatic switch when we get to the hose reveal (the punch).

Then she adds: "which is one thing until you realize that's his job." This then sets up the juxtaposition. She imagines that at dinner parties people ask him "Euan, what do you do for a living?" And she has him reply in a posh Edinburgh accent: "Oh me? I hose children off a floating assault course. That's what I do. How long have I been doing it? Twenty-five years, I'm the best in the business." Note how the question is the set-up and the answer the punch.

And the juxtaposition here is between the absurdity of the swimming pool job (World A) and a profession (World B) where you could be recognized as 'best in the business' and have a twenty-five year career: as a lawyer for example or a surgeon.

At the start of his first stand-up DVD "Cosmic Jam" Bill Bailey asks: "Who photographs kebabs?" This no doubt would have been born one night in a fast food outlet seeing the photographs on the menu and suddenly wondering who took them. Like the Josie Long piece he has observed an absurd job and he also goes on to speculate about the person who does it. He asks:

"Is that some guy who had illusions of being a great fashion photographer or a wartime correspondent? And gradually the work didn't come in, he needed the bills paying and he met some bloke down the pub who said "I tell you what you can make some money on the old snack food circuit."

Notice the bathos here. The grandiosity of his dreams being built up (set-up) only to be knocked down at the end with the 'snack food circuit' (punch). Bill Bailey goes on: "And you meet this guy in the pub and you ask him what he does and he says cagily, "Oh I'm a photographer". Which sets off a dialogue: 'What sort of things do you do?'... 'Oh I'm freelance, just freelance stuff'." (set-up). Then Bailey imagines: "After about six or seven pints he's going: 'I do your basic doner, shish, pie and chips, saveloy and chips...' (punch).

Bailey develops the idea with a soft-porn (World A)/ fast food photography (World B) juxtaposition: "You can imagine it. He's in a little attic somewhere with a kebab on a cushion. "Yeah go on yeah" (he leers) "You're loving it you little minx, come on you know you want it, give me more you saucy little minx'."



Got it? That's how comic juxtapositions work. Come along to Hawkwood to try your hand at juxtapositions along with set-up/ punch, bathos and more. One week later you can then see pro comics putting the techniques into action at the new Crazy Bird comedy night at Stroud Brewery. Among the acts are David Tsonos who is a Canadian living in the UK and so is himself a living juxtaposition of two cultures...

.....

Chris Head has established himself as one of the UK's leading comedy coaches and has nearly twenty years' experience as a director of live comedy. Visit chrishead.com for further info

Hawkwood College

SUN 22ND

Stand-up Comedy:
Introductory Day With Chris Head

Try out stand-up comedy in a supportive, friendly environment. Learn writing and performing techniques. Loads of transferable skills for speaking 9:30am-5pm £65 (includes lunch)
hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

Stroud Brewery

SUN 29TH

CrazyBird Comedy Night

Acts include resident host Geoff Whiting "He ad-libbed brilliantly and hooked the audience". Evening Standard, David Tsonos "Had the crowd roaring" The Stand, Edinburgh and the legendary Tim Clark "An unsung hero of stand-up comedy" The Guardian
Doors & Bar opens at 5pm/Show starts at 8pm £12.50adv from Stroud Brewery & Made in Stroud
Tickets can also be reserved from Nick Bird on 07967214477 or crazybirdcomedy@gmail.com
stroudbrewery.co.uk

Subscription Rooms

SUN 1ST

Jethro

Armed with nothing more than a microphone and delivered to you in a warm Cornish accent, Jethro has the rare ability to paint hilarious pictures in the minds of his audience 7:30pm £20
subscriptionrooms.org.uk

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