

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to issue 55 of Good On Paper – your free monthly guide to music concerts, art exhibitions, theatre productions, comedy shows, film screenings and literature events in Stroud...

Ahhh....Hidden Notes – our new annual venture is over and we slide gently back into our own form of normality. It will return next year so do keep a keen eye on hiddennotes.co.uk for announcements!

We are now also working on our annual Good On Paper Party which returns in 2020 for its fifth (!) outing on Sat 1st February – venue and full line-up to be announced later this month...

Until then flick the pages, plan your month of cultural excursions that Stroud deftly hands out each month and don't forget to subscribe if you would like a digital version or a monthly copy through your letterbox...

Long live the printed word.

Alex and Adam

FRONT COVER: Andrew Wood CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Lorna Jenkins, Christopher Taylor, Paul Harper, Anna Bailey, Jo Leahy, Uta Baldauf, Katharina Child and Nikki Owen

NEXT MONTH: Stroud Book Festival, Katie Fforde, Tom Percival, Andrew Wood and much morel

EDITOR Advertising/Editorial/Listings: alex@goodonpaper.info

DESIGNArtwork and DesignAdam Hinksadam@goodonpaper.info

 ONLINE
 FACEBOOK
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#55 | Oct 2019 MUSIC



Grove, Stroud Shindig

A strong statement for the new look Subscription Rooms. But if anyone's going to do it, Hugh Phillimore, co-chair of The Sub Rooms Trust, who has organised Oxfordshire's Cornbury Festival for the last 16 years, is just the man. With an address book including everyone from Taylor Swift and Lily Allen, to Rod Stewart and Sting, he's focused on improving the visitor experience to the iconic building in the centre of Stroud...

It's been five months since ownership of the Subscription Rooms was passed from the District Council to Stroud Town Council and a trust was set-up to oversee the running of the building, and the trustees have some exciting plans.

First, the trustees had to get some admin out the way, attending "a lot of dry council meetings" before focusing on booking some eclectic acts. "We're now grappling with three major issues: making sure we properly run a venue in terms of making sure everything is working; making sure we have a programme of stuff people want to come and see; and following up on all of these grants that everyone talks about, but that actually are quite hard to come by. Grants are quite a long-term project, but actually a bit of a refurb and some great bookings is the short-term way forward." Hugh explains on a sunny Saturday afternoon.

A grand Cotswold stone building on George Street, the Subscription Rooms was built in 1833 funded by public subscription. In July 2017, Stroud District Council announced plans to sell it, by tender, with a guide price of £600,000, causing uproar among locals.

Members of Stroud's Subscription
Rooms Trust spent over a year seeking
advice prior to the building being saved,
pouring over accounts and projections,
and perhaps most importantly, listening
to what people from around the district
want to see happen to The Subs.
Hugh describes it as an "incredibly
challenging time for us all".

"The two biggest complaints about the sub rooms seem to be that the sound is shit and you can't get a drink," Hugh said candidly. "So, we've had some acoustic testing done and we've got a plan for a whole new acoustic treatment for the ballroom."

"We know that not only have we got to get people into the building, but we've got to get people leaving the building saying, 'god they sounded great' and 'that wine hasn't given me and instant headache'. They're fairly simple things but the Sub Rooms has consistently not handled them. Everyone keeps harking back to The Beatles who played twice in 1962. Weirdly enough they had less people the second time round, probably because the sound was so shit the first time. From '62 to now is a long time to wait to sort the sound out," he laughs.

But despite all of the hard work by the volunteer trustees, whose impressive resumes include work at some of the biggest and most respected venues in the country, the team recognise that the building would not be where it is without the fierce support of the town.

To thank the hundreds of people who fought to save the building, the trustees have decided to launch a new annual event for the town, Stroud Shindig, a mega-party which will be held each year in the historic building at the heart of the town's creative community.

The big event will be held on Friday, October 18, and the evening will feature dozens of bands, performers, artists and DJs who are nationally acclaimed, but all have some association with the town. "We're going to have a huge party and we want to invite everyone to join us - even if you haven't been in The Subs for years, or ever, this is your chance to come and see what all the fuss is about," says Hugh. "And those who are a little more familiar with the building will definitely be surprised by what we have in store."

Acts announced for the epic event include Stroud favourites Boss Morris, Jonny Fluffypunk and Thee Ones - with some very special guests - as well as Eva Lazarus, and the Mighty John Street Ska Orchestra appearing with MCs Grove and JPDL following their extraordinary collaboration at WOMAD Festival this year. "The shindig will

showcase some extraordinary talent, artists and performers who people will be familiar with from festival stages, or BBC 6 Music, as well as rising stars from the area," says Hugh. "And that is what this building is for - a place where the people can come together to dance, hear great music, debate, learn - or just have a nice cup of tea and a slice of cake!"

Realising what a vital role programming would play in the future success of the venue the trustees have put together a new creative committee who will be ensuring that all tastes are catered for

The plan seems to be paying off - a recent show by comedian Reginald D Hunter quickly sold out, soul legend PP Arnold's show in October looks set to follow, and Dr John Cooper Clarke's December date has just a handful of tickets left.

"Our new creative committee are brainstorming everything from the needlepoint society to wrestling," Hugh joked. "I know people say you shouldn't really have wrestling or boxing, but I believe we should have everything apart from beheadings. We should have the under-fives origami class, as well as the pensioners lunch, and everything in between."

Hugh has been in Stroud for about seven years, moving here with his wife, renowned artist Nicola Grellier, after a long stint in London. He describes his day job as: "Arranging for superstars such as Lionel Richie to play at people's birthday parties."

"For the last 30 years or so I have done slightly ridiculous gigs around the world. I am old enough to have worked with Sinatra, and stupid enough to have worked with the Sex Pistols, and everything else in between. Now I work with Gregory Porter, Jamie Cullum, Lily Allen or Sting - I put them into pretty extraordinary situations and say sorry a lot afterwards. It's not a bad day job.

but it meant I wasn't in Stroud very much. Now I'm hoping to be here more, and I want to use my time and energy to really benefit the town."

Whether it's Taylor Swift's personal assistant or Barbara Streisand's manager, Hugh says people always answer his calls because "they think I come bearing millions of pounds to book their artists for glitzy parties... When they find out it's a favour for the Sub Rooms obviously they react slightly differently," he laughs.

Before leaving to finalise plans for another star-studded party Hugh shares his vision for The Subs. "I want it to serve the community, to provide fantastic art, entertainment and music that people will travel from miles around to enjoy," he says, grinning widely.

"It'll be the best warm-up venue in the country - a jewel in Stroud's crown, representing the diverse, quirky audience with interesting and diverse performances. Whether you're launching a new comedy show or it's The Waterboys new tour, artists will be testing their material in Stroud. And of course we'll also be giving space to knitting workshops, and providing pensioners' with lunch for a fiver."

Can they do it? "God knows. But I tell you what, we're giving it a jolly good try."

For further information and forthcoming events visit **thesubrooms.co.uk**. The Stroud Shindig takes place on Friday, October 18, tickets from £12 available on-line or call 01453 796880.

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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. Instragram:

@lornapaintsandwrites

MUSIC #55 | Oct 2019

LEVERET

By Christopher Taylor

With Leveret releasing their fourth album 'Diversions' in March of this year, it had been four albums in as many years for the three piece consisting of Sam Sweeney (fiddle), Andy Cutting (melodeon) and Rob Harbron (concertina) - a band with pedigree and a serious work ethic.

Stroud is the home of two of their members and I caught up with Sam prior to their eagerly awaited return this month for the launch of a new concert series at Lansdown Hall...



How did the band start?

Andy, Rob and I had long admired each other's playing and in about 2012 the three of us ended up playing with a folk singer called Fay Hield for a few years. Every night, we would do an instrumental set in each half of the gig, playing tunes together with no prior arrangement or thought as to how the tunes would go. We had a shared repertoire of traditional tunes and a shared enthusiasm for playing stuff on stage that was very much in the moment and not planned, so that was that - each night the tunes would come out differently. After a while we decided we would love to spend a lot more time playing tunes together in this way, relying solely on collective intuition and musicality, playing mainly traditional folk tunes in a non-arranged way.

You have been pretty prolific in your output with your fourth album 'Diversions' released back in March this year, how does the process work with the three of you in composing the songs?

A lot of our repertoire is traditional i.e. written by 'Anon' between the 17th and 20th centuries, 'collected' and/ or written down at some point in a book. We also play a fair number of our own tunes as well and the process of putting our music together is identical whether tunes are contemporary or centuries old. We tend to get together, more often than not in Stroud (where Rob and I live), and we just play for a

couple of days, with a curry and a few beers somewhere in the middle. We will often play one little tune for half an hour or forty five minutes without stopping, just to explore every corner of it and work out where it can take us. Once we've done that with a load of new repertoire, we go and make an album and do some gigs. There's no talking or planning involved, and no strict rehearsal procedure. It's all about knowing the notes of each melody inside out and then having fun with it in front of an audience. We always say that playing with Leveret is 90% listening and 10% playing - if we listen to each other, not just to ourselves, we can end up making some very exciting

Do you set themes for the albums to give you a focus to write to?

For the first two albums, we didn't have a theme. They were just a mix of traditional and modern tunes. For Inventions we decided to set ourselves the challenge of writing every melody ourselves, just to get ourselves out of our comfort zone and move in a different direction. It was great fun to do that, but we decided to go back to totally traditional for Diversions as we'd spent the intervening year finding a huge number of a great old tunes that nobody was playing and we wanted to breathe some life into them and get them into circulation. It's a really rewarding thing when people send us messages or come up to us at gigs and say that our repertoire is being played

in their local pub sessions. That's part of our mission, I guess - to expand the traditional repertoire being played by English folkies. Back to the question, we have already got themes for the next two albums planned!

I know the three of you have various other projects that you work on, do you find that those other influences help bring different dynamics into Leveret?

If you were to count all the bands the members of Leveret have been in over their careers, it would exceed twenty, maybe even thirty. We have all played in duos, trios, quartets, big bands, bands with singers, artists from other genres, I could go on... What's great about Leveret is that it feels like everything we have ever done and all the music we have made and absorbed over the years, in any line up, is present in Leveret. Leveret's musicality isn't a result of listening solely to traditional music for our whole lives, in fact far from it! We are all fans of lots of different forms of music. I like to think that Leveret is just three people communicating through the language of music... it just happens that our raw material is English folk music, because that's what we've been brought up with. I hope that doesn't sound too pretentious! It's just music.

You are playing at the Lansdown Hall this month which is the launch of a new concert series - can you tell us more about these plans, and also

what to expect from a Leveret live performance?

We wanted to try and make a concert series of some of our favourite artists on the folk scene, to try and bring more great folk music to Stroud. We also want to offer some support slots to young and emerging talent in the folk world, which there is plenty of at the moment! So we are launching the series on October 5th and we will hopefully put a concert on every two or three months or so, so keep an eye out for gigs in January, March and May 2020. We are talking to some artists right now, but can't confirm anything as yet! As for Leveret's performance on October 5th... you can expect lovely tunes, new and old, played on fiddle, English concertina and diatonic button accordion. We've played classical music festivals, jazz venues and countless folk gigs, and as such we attract fans of all types of music, so come along and get immersed in some spontaneous, in the moment folk

Leveret will perform at Lansdown Hall on Saturday 5th October at 7:30pm with tickets available from **eventbrite**. **co.uk** at just £15 or £10 for under 25's.

Visit **lansdownhall.org** and **leveretband.com** for further info, news and updates.

Christopher Taylor is a creative producer in the advertising and marketing industry, also specialising in film and music presenting for TV and Radio. - weareaudiophiles.com #55 | Oct 2019 **MUSIC LISTINGS**

MUSIC LISTINGS

ALE HOUSE

SAT 5TH

Bacchus plays rock, rock'n'roll, rhythm blues and blues in a wide-ranging repertoire that includes many of your guitar favourites along with their own songs. 8:30pm Free

FRI 11TH

Bob Porter Project

An Americana band from Stroud offering a fine blend of mellow Alt Country and gritty Roots Rock. Often described as music with a growl and twang 'The Project' offer up a mix of originals and covers. 8:30pm Free

SAT 19TH

Liam Ward Band

Get your mojo working with the epic harp-driven sounds of vintage American dance music: Chicago blues, west coast swing and funky, soulful roots music, 8:30pm Free

THURS 24TH

Dave Ayre Tric

Double bass wizard Dave Ayre and his trio returns to the Ale House for another spectacular jazz evening...8:30pm Free

SAT 26TH

Singer/songwriter Stuart Earl started writing songs in 2001. He formed 'EARL' with Lyndon Webb and wrote the songs for his 1st album 'My name is Earl -The Album'. The duo expanded into a 4 piece band and regularly play gigs and festivals across the country. Based in South West and Wales they play acoustic and slide guitars and a mixture of original songs covering Americana, country and blues. 8:30pm

CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND ART

FRI 18TH

Room to Improv (vol. 1)

A new (regular) Free Jazz and experimental music event brought to you by Sound Records held at the Centre for Science and Art. The opening event features high octane improvising trio Mick Beck, Dom Lash and Paul Hession and Simon McCorry on Cello and Electronics. Further performers to be announced - keep ears peeled! 7:30pm £5adv from Sound Records/£6otd

facebook.com/soundrecordsstroud

THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

FRI 4TH

Teas Tick Fever

Moonshine fuelled Americana. 8:30pm

THURS 10TH

Open Mic Night

Hosted by Stroud's own Americana troubadour the Rev. Stretch. All welcome! 8pm Free

FRI 11TH

Dave Purple

Bluesy funky and rock style originals and covers, 8:30pm Free

FRI 18TH

Will Killeen

Celtic Roots with American Blues. 8:30pm Free

FRI 25TH

Woo Town Hillbillies

Rockin' the Joint till the Cows come home! 8:30pm Free

THURS 31ST

Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish Acoustic Session with Tim Potts. 8pm Free

crownandsceptrestroud.com

GALGOS LATINO

SAT 19TH

Bongo Mondo

Sean and Tom from Sound Records return with a bag packed full of musical gems from Lebanon, Nigeria, Japan and, of course, Venezuela, as well as many more dancefloor fillers from across the globe. The cocktails will be flowing, the shirts will loud and the dancing joyful - join us at this free event and get there early to ensure entry...10pm

galgos.co.uk

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SAT 12TH

Capriol Chamber Orchestra

The Capriol Chamber Orchestra return to Stroud's Holy Trinity Church for performances of Beethoven's Piano Concerto no 5 'the Emperor' ft, soloist James Brawn and King Stephen Overture Symphony no 1. 7:30pm £12/£10concs/Children under 16 free £1 reduction on advance tickets available now from the Sub Rooms.

capriolorchestra.co.uk

LANSDOWN HALL

SAT 5TH

Leveret

Leveret is a unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians. Andy Cutting, Sam Sweeney and Rob Harbron are each regarded as exceptional performers and masters of their instruments. Together their performances combine consummate musicianship, compelling delivery and

captivating spontaneity. Leveret return to Stroud for the first time since their sell out Sub Rooms gig in 2015. The band are launching their own concert series, starting with their own gig, then inviting three different artists throughout 2020. 7:30pm £15/£10 under 25's from eventbrite.co.uk

lansdownhall.org

LITTLEVIC

SUN 13TH

Barney's Live Music: Si Barron

Monthly music club at the Little Vic, with special quest plus floor spots... This month's guest features Si Barron. 7:45pm Free (suggested donation £4)

SUN 27TH

Barney's Live Music Concert Night

Artist TBC! Check facebook page for updates...7:30pm

facebook.com/BarnysLiveMusic

THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

SAT 5TH

Sounds for A Small Space: Bell Lungs, Scotton Drive

Phonsonic hosts an intimate and eclectic live music evening with guests. Bell Lungs is a talented singer and multi-instrumentalist mixing ambient, dream pop, folk and drone music. Scotton Drive creates improvised ambient soundscapes, exploring ideas of stillness and solitude by combining and manipulating traditional textile patterns, folk songs, punch cards and music boxes. 7:30pm £5/£7.50adv/£10otd

museuminthepark.org.uk

THE PRINCE ALBERT

THURS 3RD

Tim Grimm

Tim Grimm is a bit of a Renaissance man in the performing arts world. He has for the past 15 years, blended his love for song writing, travel, and the storytelling of acting (theatre, film and television). 8:30pm Free

SAT 5TH

Cao Laru

A group of travelling artists coming from France and Brazil that, after 3 vears of touring in 20 countries from Eastern Europe to Latin America and



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collecting a lot of influences, releases in 2019 their third album "Fronteiras" ("borderlines"). A concert full of polyphonic singing, exotic rhythms, pump-manouches, scenic interaction and an ensemble of acoustic and electric instruments without boundaries. 8:30pm Free

SUN 6TH

Mik Artistik Ego Trip

Mik Artistik is a poet, performer, artist and comedian. With his compadre Jonny Flockton on guitars and a selection of well-heeled bass players, they travel from city to city, frightening and delighting adults and children with their special brand of joyous madness. Mik played a staggering 13 gigs at this year's Glastonbury Festival, and the Beeb made a rather fab film about him. Look him up on Youtube. Or just come and see them. 7:30pm £12adv from ticketweb, the Albert or Trading Post

TUES 8TH

Alessi's Ark

Alessi's Ark has been a gradual burning, shimmering process built upon years of experimentation, travel, resilience and triumph. "Finely crafted folk is elevated towards greatness by the stunning voice of Alessi Laurent-Marke" – Clash. 8:30pm Free

THURS 10TH

The Strays

The Strays are pushing rock 'n' roll to its limit, fusing a multitude of genres to create a unique vintage sound with a gritty, modern edge. Signed to Western Star Records and described as No Doubt meets Imelda May, front woman Stella Sonic leads this slick, nomadic 4 piece as they blaze their way across the country. Their debut album 'Drop Out Zone' has been touted as 'The most exciting album of the year' by BBC Radio's Rock n Roll Heaven. 8:30pm Free

FRI 11TH

Scott Mickelson

Artist/producer from San Francisco.
Scott's debut release Flickering was on the Grammy ballot for Best Folk Album and Best Roots Music Performance.
"Flickering, a buoyant composition showcasing that Mickelson's offers undeniable musical charm and instrumental dexterity." - Glide Magazine. 8:30pm Free

SAT 12TH

Alice Wallace, Broken Bones Matilda

Alice Wallace draws on some powerful female influences like Emmylou Harris and Linda Ronstadt. Not only are these powerhouses heard throughout her music, but she is invoking their fierce independent spirits and paying it forward for female artists. First UK tour and hoping for a crazy Saturday night in Stroud...Support from Broken Bones Matilda offering up sterling vocal showmanship and incomparable songwriting. 8:30pm Free

THURS 17TH

Open Mic

Stroud's original Open Mic night. All welcome. Originals encouraged. If this is Election night then check the

website...8pm Free

SAT 19TH

DB Party Band

For one night only the Albert welcome the best band to ever come down the A46 from a small industrial estate in Nailsworth. Born for One Weekend Only - The Dogs Bollocks End of the World Party Band. Consisting of oldies and newbies, and Elvis as well as Cliff and apparently some bloke called Noel may be playing too (not sure if that's Gallagher or some kind of Blobby character) but what the Albert can assure you is you will never see this band again. Anywhere. Well, they doubt they'll invite them back! This band of twelve even feature a four piece brass section. Hold on to your hounds!! 8:30pm Free

THURS 24TH

Isaac Birituro and the Rail Abandon

A collaboration between Ghanaian xylophone master Isaac Birituro and Leeds-based producer and singersongwriter Sonny Johns aka The Rail Abandon. The lead single taken from this project is the uplifting 'Yesu Yan Yan', which was actually the very first song Isaac played to his new musical partner. A perfect marriage of brass, reed and wind instruments, backed by abundant percussion, a resonant bass-line and The Kalba Birifore Choir, it is also the opening track of the album and fittingly so, as it translates to "welcome!" 8:30pm Free

SAT 26TH

Shoot the Moon

A seven piece, no nonsense, in your face, Ska Punk power house from the South-west, UK. Their live set is a mix of naughty brass hooks, throbbing bass lines, filthy guitar riffs and jokes that you probably won't get, or laugh at, because they're not funny. 8:30pm Free

SUN 27TH

Baroque Night

Dave Ayre and his magical team of professional musicians conjure up a mystical mix to delight the ears and touch the heart. All the bangers from the Baroque era, from Brahms to Liszt. Some customer participation is encouraged. Classical music in an informal setting as it was written to be enjoyed. 8pm £13.50adv (this event always sells out so make sure you buy a ticket!)

WEDS 30TH

Little Geneva

The Bristol dwelling Little Geneva was born out of a conversation between the Doherty brothers, Dave and Chris. Having been stalwarts of the UK contemporary blues scene for over a decade, they decided to get back on stage together, as part of a genuinely exciting live band. The group consists of five extremely experienced and seasoned musicians/performers, some playing under monikers and are all very gifted, who know how to listen, as well as, play their instruments. 8:30pm Free

THURS 31ST

Halloween Open Mic

Further info announced soon...Check

website for updates!

theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

SOUND RECORDS

SAT 5TH - SAT 26TH

In Store DJ Sets

Sound Records continues their in store live DJ performances throughout the month on Saturdays 1-3pm. Sat 5th Pamestine/Sat 12th DJ JK/Sat 19th Graham/Sat 26th TBC...Free

facebook.com/soundrecordsstroud

ST LAURENCE CHURCH

FRI 4TH

The Raga Babas

Dance and meditate to live devotional music with the exceptional Raga Babas...7pm £10 (suggested donation)

SAT 5TH

Lekan Babalola's Sacred Funk Quintet ft. Kate Luxmoore

Kate Luxmoore has been interpreting what she terms the "English Songbook" through a fusion of jazz, urban grooves and African rhythms, marrying together the harmonies and melodies of English folk with the rolling, poly-rhythms of Yoruba grooves to create an upbeat. iazz infused set that also includes original compositions. Here, she is joined by twice Grammy award winning Nigerian percussionist, Lekan Babalola and by professional storyteller Pyn Stockman, who draws freely on tales from the oral tradition - folktales, wonder tales, epics and myths and gives them a contemporary twist.

THURS 31ST

Revolution in Song: A Night at the Opera?

A look at the idea of revolution through song - from Beethoven to Sondheim via Wagner and Debussy - with mezzosoprano Clare McCaldin, baritone Paul Sheehan and pianist Paul Turner. A unique and engaging musical evening as part of Stroud Festival's year celebrating 'Revolution in the Arts' (see stroudfestival.org/events/revolution-in-song) 7:30pm £15/£10under 25's and music students in adv from ticketsource.co.uk/stroud-festival /£17otd/£12cones

stlaurencefuture.org.uk

STROUD BREWERY

THURS 3RD

Five Valleys Sessions

Local musicians meet at Stroud Brewery on the first Thursday of the month to play traditional folk tunes, mostly from Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, France with a smattering of Danish and North American tunes. 8pm Free

SAT 5TH

Extinction Rebellion FunRaiser

Come and have fun, laugh, dance, be entertained, bring your kids as there's loads for them to do. As well as kicking back and having fun with friends and family this FunRaiser is also a call to arms for the next Rebellion that starts

on Monday 7th October, So get your rebel rousing party clothes on. Let's come together and celebrate before we march on London.. Balcony Bar: JSSO Project, Up the Bug, Steve Ashley, Elvis McGonagall, XR auction Xtravaganza, Liv Torc and Shagufta Igbal (Burning Eye Books), Cecilia Delatori, Richard Lindesay, Jo Khimba, Piranha Poetry, Texas Tick Fever, NJ Gardiner. Compère by Jonny Fluffypunk. The Gallery: Children's Storytelling Workshop, Children's Drumming Workshop, Face Painting, Children Singing Workshop, T-Shirt Printing, Badge Making...From midday Entry fee by donation

THURS 10TH

Bagelites

Every second Thursday of the month, local musicians gather to play folk and gypsy style traditional tunes. Come along and enjoy the atmosphere. 8pm

SAT 12TH

John Broomhall

A talented and sparky jazz keyboardist and one half of EDM/jazz hybrid music artist String Theory (Modularity) signed to Bradley Zero['s Rhythm Section International label. Expect highly agreeable jazz vibes with a side helping of gospel, soul and funk influences plus guest musicians. 8pm Free

SAT 26TH

Wildwood Jack

A unique acoustic guitar and ukulele duo from Kent. Their melodic songs blend the acoustic guitar and ukulele with outstanding fingerstyle playing drawing influences from folk, country and world music.8pm Free

stroudbrewery.co.uk

THE SUB ROOMS

FRI 4TH

PP Arnold featuring Steve Cradock

Iconic soul songstress PP Arnold will be joined by Ocean Colour Scene guitarist Steve Craddock when she performs at The Sub Rooms. 'First Lady of Soul' PP Arnold will perform an unmissable night of powerful soul classics from her solo career including "The First Cut is the Deepest", "Angel of the Morning" and "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow". 8pm from £21.50

SAT 5TH

Ceilidh - Captain Swing

Come and try English Ceilidh. It's a lively, energetic, and upbeat version of English barn or country dancing. It is fast, friendly, great fun and a wonderful way to meet new people. The music is from a variety of traditions including folk, roots, jazz and rock. Captain Swing are a five piece English ceilidh band who play exciting and dynamic music which is sure to get your feet moving! 8pm from £6.50

SUN 6TH

Buddy Holly & The Cricketers

This breath-taking show has rock 'n' rolled audiences across the globe from Cardiff to California, Barking to Bangkok and Swindon to Sweden and is guaranteed to have everyone









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singing along to the music and dancing in the aisles. It stars some of the finest actor-musicians in the UK whose combined West End credits include Buddy, Lennon, Forbidden Planet and Jailhouse Rock. 7:30pm From £19

FRI 11TH

Jive Dance

A fantastic opportunity to come and take part in an evening of swing jive with some additional jazz steps and tricks! 7:30pm £8

SAT 12TH

Mad Dog Mcrea

Mad Dog Mcrea blend a unique mixture of folk rock, pop, gypsy jazz, bluegrass and 'shake your ass' music. From self-penned songs of adventure, drinking, love and life, to traditional songs of gypsies, fairies, legless pirates and black flies – Mad Dog never fail to capture their audience with their infectious songs. In constant demand and having played just about every festival and two-bit, jibe-arsed dive in Christendom, Mad Dog Mcrea are, in every sense of the word, a live, band. 8pm £16.50

FRI 18TH

Stroud Shindia

Stroud favourites Boss Morris, Jonny Fluffypunk and Thee Ones, with some very special guests, as well as Booty Bass, Eva Lazarus and the Mighty John Street Ska Orchestra who will be appearing with MCs Grove and JPDL. Don't miss a special pop-up Wild Boar Gin Lounge where DJs Darius (Crooked Stylus), Dubbu and Mendoza (Overproof), Frank Situation (Situationism), Jag Patel (Global Beats) and Monobrow (Sound Records) will be spinning the very best tracks while you sip on your favourite cocktail. 8pm From £12

SAT 19TH

EUCO: Romantic Music for Strings

The European Union Chamber
Orchestra gave its first concerts in
1981 and soon gained a worldwide
reputation as a musical ambassador
for the European Union. The Chamber
Orchestra annually perform around
40 concerts and have played in 73
countries to-date. Recent soloists
include Nicola Benedetti, Alison Balsam
and Julian Lloyd Webber. 7:30pm £9.50

FRI 25TH

Stop Ecocide: Pretty Things' Phil May and Dick Taylor

With special guests Arthur Brown, The Grimshaws and Rupert Brown! Legendary 60s rock band The Pretty Things were revered by David Bowie, Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison, and are said to be the first people to hear Sgt Pepper when the Beatles recorded next door to them at Abbey Road. For this show Phil and Dick are teaming up with the equally legendary Arthur Brown whose hit single "Fire" sold over one million copies when it was released in 1968. 8:15pm £21.50

SAT 26TH

Return of the Living Mockers

Pavinyl and Solidkick Nick have risen

again for another night of hoodoo.

"Mockers' nights are typified by an audience from all walks of life and ages, an infamous drumming monkey, Teddy Girls dancing in Go Go cages and a final song, Zorba The Greek, which brings the whole dance floor together for a final dance." Stroud News & Journal .This time they are joined by the 'Rumble-Freakbeats' that are OH! GUNQUT! 9pm From £7

MON 28TH

Pop Divas Live!

Get ready for the best songs from all your favourite female stars in one fabulous fun-packed show. Little Mix will cast some Black Magic and Taylor Swift will Shake It Off as four enormously talented girls bring you up close and personal with the greatest female pop performers of today. Meghan Trainor, Ariana Grande, Beyoncé and Rihanna will all be dropping in to the biggest Pop Party ever so make sure vou're there! With dazzling choreography, state of the art videos and superb vocals Pop Divas Live! is the perfect pop concert experience for the little divas in your life. 3pm £15

thesubrooms.co.uk

SVA

WEDS 2ND/9TH/16TH/23RD/30TH

Funk-In Sessions

Best live Funk Jam in town ...FUNK Only...Nothing but the Funk! All are welcome to listen or perform! Every Wednesday night. 8pm £1otd (John Street)

WEDS 2ND/9TH/16TH/23RD/30TH

Flamenco Workshop

Open it to anyone interested to learn about flamenco in general so anyone can join either with guitars, clapping, playing cajon or singing. Upstairs in SVA. 7:30pm (term-time only!) Pay what you feel

FRI 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

John Street Social Club

It's back! John Street Social is a series of weekly Friday night club socials hosted by different artists each week with visuals and audio to share. Everyone welcome. 5pm

THURS 10TH

Stroud Jazz Sessions: Dom Franks

Dom Franks as our jazz-smoking special guest!! With saccharine bebop licks edging into funky dives and samba sways, Dom is our jazz-fine sugar-fine saxophone hero from Cheltenham. With his 3rd album being pressed, come hear him effortlessly channel Strayhorn, Coltrane and Shorter.8pm £5otd/£3musicians (John Street)

SAT 26TH

SVA Halloween Party

Save the date. Expect surprises. Check website for news and updates! 10pm

sva.org.uk

CHRIST CHURCH NAILSWORTH

SUN 27TH

Bristol Ensemble Tea Time Concerts

October's concert as part of the teatime series of chamber recitals at Christ Church, Nailsworth includes Vaughan Williams' beautifully transcendent work for solo violin The Lark Ascending and his arrangement of the lilting melody Greensleeves. Roger Armstrong is the soloist in Vivaldi's lively Flute Concerto, and joins other principals from the Bristol Ensemble to perform a flute sextet by the contemporary Australianborn composer John Carmichael.3pm £10otd

bristolensemble.com

RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH

FRI 18TH

The Rheingans Sisters

Fiddle-singers and multiinstrumentalists Rowan and Anna Rheingans grew up in the Peak District, surrounded by traditional music, and were encouraged to pick up the fiddle by their musician mother and violinmaker father from an early age. The sisters have spent a significant amount of time studying fiddle music in France, Sweden and Norway; they pull a range of influences from both northern and southern European fiddle traditions into their own interpretations, compositions and arrangements. 8pm £15/£13concs

rmt.org

CHANTRY CENTRE DURSLEY

SAT 26TH

Dursley DJ Collective

Anyone is welcome to play their music, whatever ability, format and all genres, as long as you can dance to it! Otherwise come along and dance the night away with great music, licensed bar and friendly people...

chantrycentre.org

PAINSWICK CENTRE

WEDS 23RD

Jack Rutter

Jack Rutter is a BBC Award winning singer, guitarist and multi-instrumentalist. His set features a range of well-known and rare traditional songs from a variety of sources, delivered with guitar and bouzouki, that complement his signature 'honest, unaffected vocals'. 7:30pm £12

painswickcentre.com

PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

SAT 12TH

Anne Niepold and Riccardo Tesi

Solo performances from two extraordinarily gifted and influential European musicians in one concert. Together these two luminaries offer us an evening of electrifying squeezebox wonder. Make sure you don't miss this early autumn gig and a rare chance to get up-close to two astonishing musicians! £12/£9concs/£10friends/

£8concs/£15otd

prema.org.uk

UNDER THE EDGE ARTS WOTTON UNDER EDGE

SAT 5TH

The Schmoozenbergs

Conjuring up the mood of 1930s Paris, fused with the energy of a campfire jam session, The Schmoozenbergs' uplifting gypsy jazz music will put a smile on your face and a bounce in your step. 8pm £11.50/£9.50concs

FRI 11TH

SCJC Jazz Jam

Bringing the benefit of jazz as an art form to the local community and to multiple levels of ability. All instruments/vocalists will be made welcome. If you can play the blues and want to have a crack at jazz – this is for you! If you want to come and just listen that is fine too. Jazz Jam Sessions are led by John Cook, Shairon Lloyd, Peter Neale and J.I Shaw 8pm Free

SAT 12TH

Alan Burke

Widely regarded as one of the finest ballad singers of his genera-tion and possesses an almost inexhaustible repertoire of traditional, contemporary and self-penned songs in both the English and Irish languages. 8pm £11.50/£9.50

SAT 26TH

British Summer Time Ends ft. South Cotswolds Jazz Club Players

On the weekend of 26-27 October most people in the UK will have had an extra hour in bed, as the clocks go back to mark the end of British Summer Time. British Summer Time Ends features the South Cotswolds Jazz Club Players, who are all regulars of the Second Friday Jazz Jams at UTEA. Shairon Lloyd will be providing powerful and luxurious vocals on such classics like Route 66, Sway and Let's Do It - Let's Fall In Love. 8pm £9.50/£7.50

utea.org.uk

TETBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL

SAT 28TH SEPT - SUN 7TH OCT

Tetbury Music Festival is set to bring another sensational array of world renowned artists to St Marys' Church and the Good Shed. This year's programme includes one of Britain's best loved sopranos Dame Felicity Lott, 'the poet of the keyboard' Pavel Kolesnikov, the Piano Trio of Tom Poster, Guy and Magnus Johnston, British vocal ensemble VOCES8 and one of the world's leading ensembles Arcangelo. Come and be enchanted.

tetburymusicfestival.org

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PERISCOPE:

THE EXPLORER'S DREAM

By Paul Harper

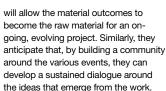
The Explorer's Dream is the latest manifestation of Periscope, an on-going collaborative project led by artists Emily Joy and Alison Cockcroft. Working as Periscope, they create immersive, accessible workshops in which people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities are encouraged to participate unselfconsciously in creative processes.

The Explorer's Dream will investigate ideas about the wilderness - by drawing attention to the hidden, wild corners within the familiar urban townscape, but also the internalized wilderness of our imaginations. Emily and Alison want us to re-imagine conventional narratives that posit the wild in opposition to the cultivated, the human. In evoking the image of the nineteenth century explorer they invite us to think about the wilderness. both as a fearful, uncomfortable place, and as a rich source of possibility, a place in which we can lose ourselves in a positive sense, and from which we might return transformed. As with much of their previous work they are encouraging us to look at the world in new ways, to refresh our vision and to construct new stories.

The project will take place over a month and has various aspects, taking place across three separate venues: Periscope will take over an empty shop (the location to be confirmed) in the town-centre, which will be the focal point for workshops and an open space where everyone is welcome to drop in and participate; the young artists group MOULD, based at SVA will develop an exhibition that will re-present and re-interpret the material generated by

the event space, opening up another conversation and layer of storytelling - the invitation to MOULD has been extended to include any young artists or creatives who wish to take part: a young film-maker, Nielsan Abbott, has been commissioned to make a short film in response to the project, and there will be a one-day symposium that will pick up on the project themes: What happens when we see our surroundings differently, when our dreams are unrestricted; what doors are opened; how might the world be remade, what changes are possible? For the symposium, Emily and Alison have put together a programme of exciting thinkers with a range of perspectives who will lead discussion around these questions and explore models of creative engagement that can enable individuals and communities to reimagine social and cultural narratives. The symposium will take place in the SVA Goods Shed and, in keeping with Periscope's hands-on, participatory and inclusive ethos, will include making activities as well as debate, presentations and contemplation.

Emily and Alison are hoping that the more expansive timeframe of The Explorer's Dream will help them to foster wider participation, and that it



As with all of Periscope's projects, The Explorer's Dream is underpinned by a philosophy of openness and accessibility. This comes out of their extensive experience of running workshops, where they have observed that many people hang back from engaging fully in the activity - too self aware to relax and have a go. A main barrier is the fear that they might be expected to make something and that that will be exposing in some way - that a lack of skill or knowledge will be revealed and judged. They felt that people were denying themselves the pleasures and satisfactions that flow from making art for fear of being tested as artists. This led them to develop methods that focus on encouraging creative participation rather than aesthetic outcomes. They create theatrical environments, laid out with props, and information that might suggest, but not narrowly define, a narrative - and art materials that invite, but don't demand, involvement, People are welcome to drop in and stay for as little or as long as they want and are encouraged to interact in any way that they feel comfortable. Some people might simply become absorbed in reading or playing with the source material, or they might be prompted to have a go at getting more actively involved - quietly drawing, or engaging in a more dynamic making process. The aim is to afford the kind of rewards that come from making art, but also to

encourage participants to look closely at and reflect on their environment – unburdened of any anxieties about meeting any kind of technical or aesthetic standard. Having created the right conditions, and an atmosphere of creativity, The Explorer's Dream will start a conversation about how we can see our familiar surrounding differently and, by extension, gently address questions about accepted social and cultural narratives surrounding place, community and creativity.

Participants will be invited to join that conversation, to draw, make and collect, to imagine wandering in unexplored lands, to discover the strange in the familiar, to collect and germinate seeds to grow a wilderness in Stroud, to contribute stories and create an evolving collaborative space.

The Explorer's Dream opens on the 4th of October and will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday throughout October from 10am to 4pm. Entry is free and open to all.

The symposium takes place on Sunday the 27th of October at the Brunel Goods Shed. Tickets are available from SVA and online at sva.org.uk

For further information including the full programme visit **periscoics. wordpress.com**

Paul Harper has a wide range of experience of working in the arts. He was a founding director of Alias Arts and is Vice-chair of the Forest of Dean Sculpture Trust. He currently combines writing, research and teaching with consultancy in the visual arts and crafts.



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One thing I love about this job is discovering how many fresh young voices Stroud contributes to the UK's creative scene. Stroud College graduate Robin Watkins-Davis is already making a name for herself with her award-winning combination of performance art and figure painting.

The way she presents the human body and the shapes it is capable of creating is at times eerie, often ineffable, but always striking. As the country's youngest qualified yoga instructor, she has worked with schools and prisons to open up the discussion about art and yoga's effect on mental health, and this October she is bringing her successful project SHIFT to Stroud's own St Laurence church for a week of collaborative creative showcases. "SHIFT is a fine art and photography project," Robin explains, "investigating how art & movement practices can act as tools to transform one's mental health."

The SHIFT Project is primarily based in St Laurence's church, and will run from 12-18th October. The church will house an interactive art installation, developed by Robin at Stroud College-where she is Artist in Residence—with mentorship from art tutors. Simon Packard and John Stadnicki. "Varying sizes of Perspex, some of which has been reused from old bus shelters and stretched to 6-foot-tall, dangle from a large cube box. On the Perspex are intricate prints capturing figures, movement and the magnificence of the human form. The work is backlit with special battery powered lights from CORE lighting."

The installation provides a backdrop to various performances, including 2FacedDance's 'Power'—a new dance production choreographed by Alleyne Dance, which explores our relationship with authority and control. School of Larks, who worked with Gifford's Circus this year, will also showcase a spectacular aerial display. The acts will be accompanied by live music, including performances from Andrew Heath—celebrated composer of ambient soundscapes—in collaboration with Simon McCorry and Phonsonic. "Andrew came over in early summer to have tea," Robin tells me, "and we talked about how music and art transforms our lives. There was so

much natural synergy that it inspired me to put on a whole program of workshops and performances so that people can experience transformation through the arts for themselves. He was excited about the project, and he's come up with the idea of doing a 'long duration piece' running for 5 hours with Simon McCorry and Phonsonic. This will happen on Saturday 12th from 10am till 3pm, so be sure to pop by when you're at the Saturday farmers' market!"

Creative workshops for body printing, illustration, sculpture and Japanese zen art will run throughout the week, as well as classes in circus skills, yoga, contemporary dance, and martial arts with Nailsworth's Nutshell Studios

Looking at everything SHIFT has to offer, it's unsurprising to learn that the body's relationship with art plays a key role in inspiring Robin's work. "I've used both [art and yoga] to support my own mental health," she says. "I created this project to share a range of arts practices that can support people's mental health and well-being."

When asked what first inspired her to start combining the two, she says the key moment came while she was at college. "I was in a dilemma of which one do I chose, which path do I go on? My art tutor Simon Packard said, 'Well why don't you do both!' I slept on it and reflected on why I was passionate about both art forms and came down to a simple word: shift. As in, I feel a shift in emotion and mindset after spending time doing art and yoga. That word was the birth of this project, and the artwork came about through experimentation, research, and making mistakes that ended up creating a new way of working."

She tells me that she wanted to be an artist for as long as she can remember. "For many years at school it was the only thing I was so-called 'good' at. I was lucky to have parents that really encouraged my creativity, #55 | Oct 2019 ARTS



taking me to extra circular arts, and in Year 6 they provided two art tutors to give me private lessons, which then helped me get two art scholarships where I had the opportunity to be taught by the chief examiner for Fine Art in the UK."

Robin explains that a project of this nature is in continuous development, but she hopes to take it on tour soon. "I'm working on a very exciting yoga project involving schools, the county council and the NHS. So, I'll be spending some time developing that and delivering the first pilot at

Bournside School in Cheltenham."

Ah, my alma mater. We used to spend our study periods stealing Yazoos from the common room and gambling away our lunch money, but if there's one thing that made a real impact, it was those teachers who really threw themselves into their subject—I have no doubt that Robin's clear drive and passion for her craft will be instantly infectious with today's students

"Travelling is also on my radar," she says. "I'm originally from Tasmania so I want to go back to my birthplace and spend a few months with my Grandparents on their vegetable and fruit farm."

When it comes to offering advice to fellow young creatives, Robin believes firmly in making the most of local courses. "There are so many creative people in Stroud and Gloucestershire, and so many charities that you can network with, and they all really want to support emerging creatives, so I say dream big, voice your dream, be prepared for hard work and watch what happens!"

The SHIFT Project runs from 12th-18th October at St Laurence's church. For more information about the project, visit **shiftmovement.art**. To keep up with Robin and her work, find her on Instagram **@rart.insta** or Facebook **@robinwatkinsdavisart**

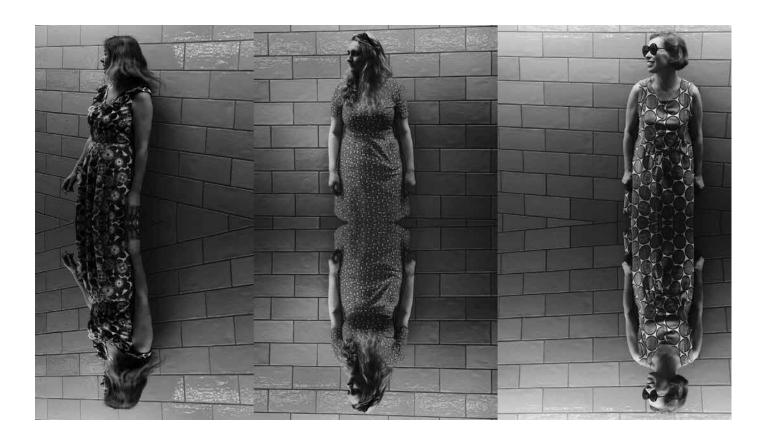
Anna Bailey is a freelance journalist and illustrator based in the Cotswolds. She enjoys foreign cinema, cider drinking, and outrunning her student loan repayments.







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BERLINER ZEITGEIST

By Uta Baldauf, Jo Leahy and Katharina Child

Three different perspectives, three different histories and three different nationalities.

<u>JO</u> LEAHY:

I'd always wanted to go to Berlin and remember I was hitchhiking between Amsterdam and Paris in November 1989 when I heard the news of the Berlin Wall coming down. I didn't know then how easy it would have been to change my route and head towards Berlin, so I just kept heading south. Since then, this enigmatic city of artistic freedom has always been lodged in my curious mind so visiting Berlin in June with Kat and Uta, as part of the Berliner Zeitgeist project, was such a perfect way to discover this city. Three different perspectives, three different histories and three different nationalities.

Visiting the Holzmarkt, a riverside venue, marketplace and garden was a fantastic introduction to Berlin. We felt like we were at a Glastonbury Festival rather than in the middle of a city. The next day we visited a local flea market before catching the Carnival of Cultures, originally started as a political statement against xenophobic clashes in 1996, with over 4,000 participants from all parts of the world.

A visit to the Stasi museum, located in the former grounds of the GDR Ministry for State Security headquarters, gave us an illuminating glimpse into Berlin's history, as we learned about the 'psychological harassment' strategies used to get individuals to conform, comply and convert them into informants on their friends and family. From the volume of material destroyed in the final days of the regime, it is believed that there could have been as many as 500,000 informers.

Art exhibition highlights were the Bauhaus Archive, Joseph Beuys at Hamburger Bahnhof and the urban planning designs, such as one project titled 'Buy Berlin Back' by architecture students at the Universität der Künste Berlin.

A late night visit to Tresor, a techno club, set in an abandoned power plant, was a memorable experience, with it's labyrinth of concrete passages and basement vaults filled with a thick fog of dry ice. This was followed the next day by a visit to Berlin Kraftwerk, a stunning adjacent architectural space used for exhibitions and performances.

As is often the case it's the people you meet that often resonant the most. We had a very inspiring conversation with Dimitri Hegemann, who spoke about Tresor and Kraftwerk Berlin, which #55 | Oct 2019 ARTS

he set up - as well as his campaign 'Happy Locals' which seeks to energize smaller towns. We met Anke and Chris, who produced 'Berlin Wonderland' a book which documents the visionaries, techno parties, art galleries and riots that made Berlin a magnet. We also met with Robin Schllenberg, from Klunkerkranich, a rooftop club, with one Berlin's best views, that transforms during the day from a family gathering place into an evening club that helped revitalize

In July we invited these four Berliners to come to Stroud, to share their stories which have been critical in shaping contemporary Berlin. The talk, hosted by Charles Landry, attracted over 150 people to the Goods Shed.

The research trip and talks with our Berlin friends have given me a greater understanding about how personal politics is and the effects of cultural repression and ideological oppression. This project has grown beyond being an investigation into Berlin's history, and has become a creative response at a time of critical political transition, in a time of Brexit, to build positive connections between artists and communities across Europe.

<u>UTA</u> BALDAUF:

I was born in East Germany, 45 minutes drive from Berlin. I was 7 when the Wall came down. My mother was 8 when the wall was built. My grandmother was 19 when the second World War started. I left Germany when I was 17. I turned 34, 3 days after the Brexit vote. We all carry pieces of history.

The Berliner Zeitgeist idea started last autumn. One day while driving home I listened to a radio programme about the fall of the Berlin Wall and the show Radio100. It told how a radio show had a deep effect on people's lives before the Wall came down. A few weeks later I listened to a programme about Poland and how hostile it has become for some artists. I have been feeling paralysed by the recent political landscape in the UK. I reflected on my family's past in the context of a huge political transition. This inspired me to use my freedom of expression to mark the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall as an indirect response to Brexit and to start a conversation about the effects that politics have on everyone's life.

Every historical event is a part of another with plural realities. Nothing is black and white. My experience of the Fall of the Berlin Wall was that everything changed and yet it was like it was happening to me, instead of

with me. Since starting this project people have told me their memories and relationships to the Wall. The Berliner Zeitgeist project is growing and is taking many exciting paths. And instead of feeling paralysed I am able to share an ongoing conversation about shared historical experience.

<u>KATHARINA</u> CHILD:

Our programme this autumn investigates an historic event that took place 30 years ago in another country, Germany, but the event felt like a signal of change on a European if not global scale. Many of the events will bring a bit of Germany to Stroud. Some of them don't have a direct link to the Fall of the Wall but they give us a sense of location, community, history and culture that shaped the event 30 years ago. It is European history...and therefore also our history.

The Berliner Zeitgeist project is supported by Charles Landry who is an international authority on the use of imagination and creativity in urban change. He invented the concept of the Creative City as an urban policy tool which became a global movement and helps cities make the most of their potential by triggering inventiveness and thinking. "My parents, both journalists, lived in Berlin and escaped to Britain before the war and so my connection to the city is deep. I returned to Germany with them in the 1960s for most of my schooling. Those German links were reinforced when I was asked to become a Robert Bosch Fellow in Berlin and so have lived on and off there over the last couple of years. So when the SVA talked about a Berlin programme in 2019 I loved the idea, especially since I have been thinking that Berlin and Stroud have something in common odd as that may sound. They are both quite alternative, they both want to do right by the world, they both have a lively creative scene. That's why I did a talk 'Creative Stroud Berlin: An unusual couple' and subsequently invited some of my Berlin friends who have shaped the contemporary city to Stroud. They loved Stroud and could see the connection and they will be back if that's OK with Stroud...

For further info and to find out about forthcoming Berliner Zeitgeist events visit **sva.org.uk** and **atelierstroud.co.uk**



Bobsairport, Philipp von Recklinghausen

BERLINER ZEITGEIST EVENTS

OCTOBER:

Sat 12th Falling With Uta Performance night (Atelier)

Sat 12th German Film Programme 7 different German films at 6 different venues...

Fri 18th Ania Pilpenko Berlin comes to Stroud, snapshot of the future City. A talk by Ania Pilpenko founder of the Holzmarkt. (SVA)

Fri 25th A Creative Thread Stroud to Berlin with Mikala Ritzeu (Atelier)

NOVEMBER:

Fri 1st - Fri 15th Falling Walls Mail art exhibition (John Street Gallery, SVA)

Sat 9th Wall Walks With Stuart Butler from Radical Stroud and Angela Findlay (Park Gardens)

Sat 9th Fall of the Wall Club Night DJ's and live music...(SVA)

Fri 15th Angela Findlay Germany's post-WW2 culture of apology and atonement. (John Street Gallery, SVA)

Weds 20th Stroud Radical Reading Group Postwar to post-wall (Atelier)

DECEMBER:

Weds 4th - Tues 10th Falling Walls Mail art exhibition (Nau Arts, Cheltenham)

Sun 8th Sophie Wardle Falling Walls come to Cheltenham with Sophie Wardle (Nau Arts, Cheltenham)

For further info and booking visit: atelierstroud.co.uk/Berliner-zeitgeist



Bobsairport, Philipp von Recklinghausen

ARTS LISTINGS #55 | Oct 2019

ARTS LISTINGS

ATELIER

16

FRI 25TH

Soup Versammlung - A Creative Thread - Stroud to Berlin with Mikala Ritzeu

The Red thread between Stroud and Berlin. Mikala Ritzau will explore together with the guest, how it feels to have an identity shared with different nationalities and places. How Does Mikala find the creative link between Stroud and Berlin? 7pm £8

atelierstroud.co.uk

ART OF CLAY

Clay Sinclair

Provocative post-pop paintings on Perspex by local/international artist Clay Sinclair situated at 48 High Street. Plus prints for those on a budget and People's Republic of Stroud tat for those joining the revolution. Open Mon – Fri 11am-5pm/ Sat 10am-5pm

claysinclair.com

THE CLAY LOFT

SAT 14TH SEPT - FRI 11TH OCT

Ruthanne Tudball, Mark Griffiths and Ben Boswell

New ceramic works by Ruthanne Tudball and Mark Griffiths as well as photographs by Ben Boswell; a potter's photographer. Ben has photographed Britain's most prominent potters for more than 30 years. He will be exhibiting a selection of 30 of his images. Ruthanne and Mark are two of the UK's leading contemporary potters. Both have fired kilns specifically for this exhibition which will feature more than 150 pieces of exquisite ceramics. All items will be for sale. Fri-Sun 10am-5pm/ Tues - Thurs by appointment: tom@ theclayloft.co.uk

theclayloft.co.uk

DUFFLE VINTAGE

As well as stocking vintage furniture and clothing Patrick's shop acts as a revolving gallery for local artists creating a unique and unconventional exhibition space. Currently showing works by Melvyn Warren-Smith, Dan Rawlings, Steven Hubbard, Zoe Heath, Susan Kester, Haruko Boot, Nick Purcell, Jo Caslin and Emily Seffar plus Lazy Dog Box guitars and Revelray custom guitars by Gordon Simpson. Mon –Sat 10am-6:30pm/Sun 10am-6pm

facebook.com/dufflevintage

ELVERS STUDIO

SEPT - TBA

The Circle and the Plank

A change is afoot...Circle and Plank exhibition continues until the end of September when the last picture show will end. The gallery will continue on selling bizarre and covert jewellery by Tristana for the treatment of the ghosts of infinity. Resurrecting the designs of Pirates and Vikings using

natural and unnatural stones with metal shafts of light to make charisma and ornament... The show begins again with also a resurrected range of constructivist mirrors hand gilded glass and wooden compositions of exotica from the history of frames .

facebook.com/Elversstudio

FENCE GALLERY

Alyssa Dabbs Art

Fence Gallery is run by Alyssa Dabbs and showcases her work. Alyssa is a Fine Artist from Cheltenham who has sold work worldwide and has been represented by a gallery internationally and more recently in central London. Alyssa works on a large scale creating abstract paintings that have been shown in British Vogue. Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm

alyssadabbsart.com

GALLERY PANGOLIN

MON 9TH SEPT - SAT 26TH OCT

Modern Sculptor's Prints

This autumn, Gallery Pangolin's annual exhibition of works on paper is devoted to prints by Modern sculptors, including Kenneth Armitage, Lynn Chadwick, Geoffrey Clarke and Elisabeth Frink. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/ Sat 10am-1pm

gallery-pangolin.com

LANSDOWN HALL

TUES 1ST - SAT 12TH

Millie Wood Swanepoel: YEHWAH = A Moment In Time

When the stars are aligned, that is the moment of creation, gives the piece its energy and soul. When Millie makes her one off pieces she believes each one is unique, cannot be replicated even if the subject matter is the same. Her inspiration is a combination of life in Zimbabwe and England, the environment, connecting with her subconscious, her inner spirit, it is part of her life's journey that she would like to share with you...Tues – Sat 10am-5pm/Sun 6th 11am-4pm

TUES 15TH - SUN 20TH

Birth of Dub

Dubumentary exploration into the power of positive affirmations, vibrations, manifestation and conscious elevation with emphasis rooted in sound-system culture curated by Cheroona Sievey.

Collective works by UK based artists. 10am – 5pm/Closing night view Fri 18th 7-11pm

MON 21ST - SAT 26TH

Viewpoints: A Year of Looking

Stan Giles works within the landscape, producing work from direct observation and engagement with specific sites. He is concerned with the representation of the rural idyll in contemporary practice, the traditional contexts of landscape painting and how the impact of human activity affects and changes locations. The starting point for these works is a question: what is contemporary landscape painting? Artists are now making work in the landscape, some of these have a huge environmental impact, others deteriorate with time but all change a viewpoint. In making

these pieces, the landscape is viewed and recorded at different times, seasons and viewpoints, sometimes all in one piece. All work is mixed media. Some of the work has been exhibited in a local wood and in a collaboration with musicians at the Royal Birmingham Music Conservatoire. Walks on the Cotswold Way and the South West Coast Path inspire much of the work. 10am-5pm

TUES 29TH OCT – MON 4TH NOV

Pani, Pahar: Waters of the Himalayas

This informative photography exhibition by local environmental photographer, Toby Smith, explores the dynamic landscapes and escalating water crises of the Indian and Nepali Himalayas. It combines contemporary documentary work with archival prints alongside academic research from The Cambridge University Department of Geography, Indian and Nepali researchers. The exhibition is part of the 2019 ESRC Festival of Science. The project presents the rapid changes and interdependence of human and physical geography across these incredible landscapes. An evening event on the 4th November will discuss the striking similarities of technical challenges and ecological solutions found in both Indian Hill Stations and the wider Stroud area since the dramatic floods of 2007. 10am - 5pm

lansdownhall.org

THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

SAT 5TH OCT - SUN 3RD NOV

Noela Bewry, Sue Rae and Maggie Shaw: Edge of Vision

This exhibition showcases the work of three abstract artists, Noela Bewry, Sue Rae and the late Maggie Shaw.

They exhibited several times together and their various starting points for abstract painting included landscape, atmosphere, musical forms and structures, memories and emotional impulses. This selection brings together a diverse range of work, taking the audience to the edges of visual experiences. Sue Rae and Noela Bewry will be hosting a free, drop in 'walk and talk' gallery session on Sunday 13th October between 2pm and 4pm. They will also be running two creative collage workshops (see website for further info and advance booking).

museuminthepark.org.uk

ST LAURENCE CHURCH

SAT 12TH - FRI 18TH

Shift

An exploration of movement and making art with the body, that transforms the way we feel and behave. Presented by Robin Watkins-Davis her 'Shift' art Installation will act as a backdrop and set the scene for outreach projects, participatory workshops based on the arts and well-being, and high quality collaborative performances in music, dance and contemporary art.

stlaurencefuture.org.uk

STEVE RUSSELL GALLERY

SAT 11TH MAY - TBC NOV

Stereoscopic Vision: A Spotlight on the Chameleons of Rwenzori

A series of mesmerising and unique photographs of chameleons taken by Steve Russell in the Rwenzori Mountains in Africa...11am -4pm (show continues until mid-November.)

steverussellgallery.com

FOR POSTAL AND DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS WISIT:

GOODONPAPER.INFO



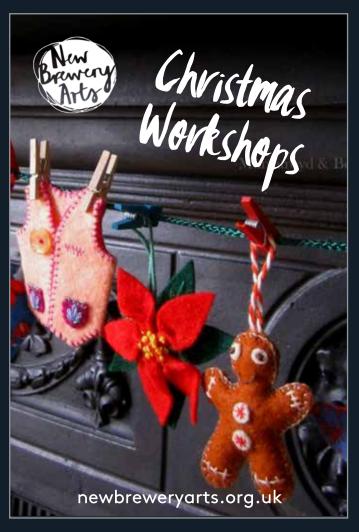
पानी, पहाड़



Pani, Pahar

Waters of the Himalayas

Exhibition 29 Oct - 4 Nov 1000-1700





edge of vision



Museum in the Park

Saturday 5th October - Sunday 3rd November
Tuesday to Friday 10 am to 4.30 pm
Saturday & Sunday 11am to 4.30 pm
Closed Mondays

This exhibition showcases the work of three abstract artists. Noela Bewry, Sue Rae and Maggie Shaw have exhibited together on several occasions. Their various starting points for abstract painting such as, landscape, atmosphere, musical forms and structures, memories and emotional impulses, bring together a diverse range of work taking the audience to the edges of visual experiences.

Events: In conjunction with this exhibition.

'Walk & Talk' Sue & Noela will host this session. Sunday 13th October 2 - 4 pm.

Collage Workshop for Adults: Saturday 19th October 2 - 4.30pm.

Collage Workshop for Children: Half-term Holiday

Wednesday 30th October 10.30 - 12.30.

Museum in the Park: Stratford Road Stroud GL5 4AF

18 ARTS LISTINGS #55 | Oct 2019

STUDIO 18

FRI 20TH SEPT - MON 7TH OCT

25 and Under Open Exhibition

Studio 18 explores the next generational wave of creative expression in this dynamic show featuring work from artists aged 25 and under. Spanning medium such as film, installation, sculpture and a full range of visual art. Open weekends 10am – 5pm and weekdays by appointment.

facebook.com/Studio18Stroud

SVA

FRI 20TH SEPT - SAT 12TH OCT

Artist in Residence: Milligan Beaumont

Milligan Beaumont artist in residence, will be working on a special commission to be exhibited next year in London and welcomes fellow embroiderers to take part in beading her newest epic kimono. When graduate designer Milligan (better known by her designer moniker, Milbo) showcased her Central St. Martins BA collection of kimono hoodies she received rave reviews and wideranging industry support. The kimono collection went on tour with Christina Aguilera last year and she fell in love with them so much that she decided to buy them. SVA is very pleased to be able to support Milligan through the use of the gallery space to make her next signature piece of work. (John

FRI 4TH -TUES 29TH

The Explorer's Dream: Public Creative Space

The Explorer's Dream is Periscope's newest free, drop-in immersive creative event for all ages. The public are invited to make, look, draw, and share stories around the theme of our relationship with our familiar surroundings of Stroud and with ideas of wilderness and exploration. (Stroud Town Centre venue to be revealed!)

TUES 8TH

Collective Mixer

The second networking event of the online collaboration forum; Collective. Welcoming individuals from all areas of art and media to take part in an evening of discussion, showcase and realisation. Run by young people, aimed at anyone who wants to make a positive contribution to inspire and enrich creativity. All welcome. Join the group on Facebook: search for thinkcollective. 6pm Free (John Street)

FRI 18TH

Berlin Comes to Stroud: Snapshots from the Future City

Ania Pilipenko is co-founder of the Holzmarkt project. Since 2013 she has been the chair of the Cooperative for Urban Creativity, which involves investors and philanthropists in the development and construction of the Holzmarkt village in Berlin. She is co-initiator of re:kreators, the European network of city makers, and founder of the Players of Change conference, a platform to represent and support creative urban projects and sustainable ideas for city spaces in Berlin. This talk is part of Berliner Zeigeist and Creative Spaces ,Creating Communities in Stroud. 6:30pm £5adv/£6otd (John Street)

SAT 19TH - SAT 26TH

The Explorer's Dream Exhibition

As part of the Periscope's newest immersive project they are inviting young artists and creatives to collaborate in a three week project curating an exhibition of work made in Periscope's public, immersive creative space in Stroud. Fri and Sat 10am-4pm (John Street Gallery)

FRI 25TH

Mothers Who Make Monthly Meet-up

Mothers Who Make is a monthly peer support group for mothers who are artists & makers, in any discipline and at any stage on their creative paths. Upstairs in SVA. For more information please email:rebeccakstapleford@live.co.uk. 10:30am (John Street)

SUN 27TH

The Explorer's Dream: Going Wandering - A Symposium

A one-day symposium exploring how different models of creative engagement enable individuals and communities to reimagine social and cultural narratives. Contributors include Dougald Hine (Dark Mountain, Home), Jane Sillis (Engage), Wendy Russell (Playwork). Sophie Christophy and Rowan Salim (radical educators). The symposium will include a bring and share lunch, and children are invited to participate. Under 16s can come for free, accompanied by a paying adult. 10am-4pm Early bird: £20 from SVA John Street/£25 online - From 1st Oct £25 from SVA John Street/£30 online. Concessions available for those in financial hardship: please contact Periscope on periscopics@hotmail.com. (Goods Shed)

sva.org.uk

RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH

WEDS 2ND - SUN 27

Kate Boccaccini Meadows: Quality Is Never An Accident

In this exhibition of contemporary painting artist Kate Boccaccini Meadows takes Ruskin's centuries old 'law' and applies it to her belongings. Painted in an archival style using watercolour and gouache, they reference Ruskin's own studies of nature

WEDS 30TH OCT -TUES 26TH NOV

Tony Donaghy: Fugitive Elements

These paintings were made, intuitively, in studio over a two- month time span in 2011. This 'spontaneous' expression emerged after eleven years of solitary annual visits to the Bosherston region of Pembrokeshire.

rmt.ora

PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

TUES 10TH SEPT – SAT 19TH OCT Carole Bury

Emerging out of landscape, the paper structures from artist Carole Bury are complemented with drawn responses to their origin. Built on the traditions of embroidery, her machine stitched paper textiles share the sensitive, descriptive gestures of her drawn line.

TUES 10TH SEPT - SAT 19TH OCT

James Pilston

Jim's work is bold, colourful and

playful, full of intrigue and mystery – he relishes creating something magical from a variety of materials that may be discovered in skips and bins up and down the country. His work is powerfully influenced by the stories, pictures, films and children's television of his Cotswold childhood in the 1970s.

TUES 10TH SEPT - SAT 19TH OCT

Matt Pilston

Sculptor Matt Pilston creates 3D work which tells its own story and has its own sense of life and animation. Making things seems to have held a fascination for Matt since childhood – the smells of plasticine, balsa glue and hot solder and the riotous aesthetics of old cornflakes packets, poster paint and Sellotape. His choice of materials is now perhaps a little more sophisticated; incorporating plasticine, plaster, resin, pigments and reclaimed wood.

prema.org.uk

TYNDALE ARTS WEEK

SAT 5TH - SUN 6TH

Founded in 2017, Tyndale Arts Week showcases the best work from local artists and makers from the Dursley area. These include painters, photographers, sculptors and those who work in textiles, ceramics, glass, mosaics and much more. The work will be exhibited in a collection of shared venues in and around the town including Kingshill House, Tabernacle Community Rooms, Barn Owl Gallery, The Methodist Church, St James Church, The Tashi Centre and Studio Maru.

tyndaleartsweek.co.uk

NEWARK PARK

WEDS 4TH SEPT - SUN 3RD NOV

Wool and Water Festival: Treasures from the Canal

Stroud Artists Books have created fascinating artworks in response the the archives of the Stroudwater Navigation Archive Company. They have responded to hand written minutes books with wax seals, letters for and against the construction of the canal, photographs and maps. Some of these items in the Gloucestershire Archives date back to the early 1700's and some are very fragile. National Trust entry applies.

nationaltrust.org/newark-park

NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE CIRENCESTER

SAT 31ST AUG - SUN 27TH OCT

Loud and Clear

Loud and Clear presents work by some of the finest glass artists working in Britain, selected by the National Glass Centre. The National Glass Centre's expertise brings glass to New Brewery Arts in a way never seen before. Work ranges from floating glass panels etched with photographs, to brightly coloured vessels, to extraordinary sculpture. Mon – Sat 9am-5pm/Sun 10am-4pm

newbreweryarts.org.uk

FOR ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOPS AND COURSES VISIT:

Atelier

atelierstroud.co.uk

The Clay Loft

theclayloft.co.uk

Craft at the Centre craftatthecentre.com

Gloucestershire Printmaking Cooperative

gpchq.co.uk

Hawkwood College

hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

Imagine Therapeutic Arts imagine-therapeutic-arts.co.uk

Kendrick Street Gallery

kendrickstgallery.co.uk

Make It Studios

makeitstudios.com

Pegasus Art

pegasusart.co.uk

The Sculpture Studio

thesculpturestudio.co.uk

Sit Select

Stroud College

sgscol.ac.uk

Stroud Valley Artspace

sva.org.uk

Victoria Works Studio

victoriaworksstudios.co.uk

New Brewery Arts newbreweryarts.org.uk

Prema Arts Centre

prema.org.uk

#55 | Oct 2019 THEATRE/DANCE/FILM LISTINGS

THEATRE/ DANCE LISTINGS

BRITISH SCHOOL HALL

FRI 11TH

Bittersweet Playback Theatre

Playback Theatre is a unique form of improvised theatre that invites a personal moment or story from the audience which is then enacted on the spot by our team. Come and see your stories brought to life...7:30pm £6/£5concs

makeshifttheatre.co.uk

COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

THURS 10TH - SAT 12TH/WEDS 16TH - SAT 19TH

The Cotswold Players: Julius Caesar

This contemporary production underlines the terrible timelessness of Shakespeare's great classic. Set in an unspecified European country, it whisks us from the backstreets of the capital to the homes of the rich and famous, to the seat of sovereign power, and finally to the town whose war-ravaged streets provide the setting for the final showdown. It contains scenes of violence, blood, gunfire and explosions. This is Julius Caesar as you have never seen it before: stripped back, fast-moving, up-to-date, full of surprises, and packed with modern technology. 7:30pm £12/£8 under 18's

cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

BARN THEATRE CIRENCESTER

WEDS 2ND OCT - SAT 2ND NOV

Daddy Long Legs

Based on the classic novel by Jean Webster that inspired the 1955 movie starring Fred Astaire. Daddy Long Legs is an uplifting piece of theatre that questions identity whilst highlighting the importance of education, imagination and love.

barntheatre.org.uk

FILM LISTINGS

LANSDOWN HALL

SUN 13TH

Lansdown Film Club and Berliner Zeitgeist Presents: Ali – Fear Eats the Soul

Directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, the iconoclastic force-of-nature who scorched a path through 1970s cinema with a relentless surge of great works, Fear Eats the Soul is a classic melodrama about the unlikely romance between a German pensioner and a Moroccan immigrant. 7:30pm £6/£5concs (under 18's £3)/£2 annual membership

SUN 27TH

Lansdown Film Club Presents: Nureyev

This striking and moving documentary

from BAFTA nominated directors, Jacqui and David Morris, traces the extraordinary life of Rudolf Nureyev, the most famous male dancer that transcended fame in the dance world to become a pop culture icon of his time. It charts his rise from humble beginnings, to his eventual defection to the West, an event that shocked the world. 7:30pm £6/£5concs (under 18's £3)/£2 annual membership

lansdownhall.org

OPEN HOUSE

THURS 3RD

Stroud Film Society Presents: Styx

Rike (a mesmerising Susanne Wolff) is a tough paramedic who has a unique plan for a holiday. She plans to sail single handed from Gibraltar to the Ascension Islands. On that journey Rike will encounter something that will change her life forever. Susanne Wolff gives an incredible performance which should have been more lauded in a film which leaves you with the question – what would you do under these circumstances? 7:30pm £6 guest ticket (membership available)

stroudfilmsoicety.org

THE PRINCE ALBERT

WEDS 9TH

Berliner Zeitgeist Presents: Roger Waters - The Wall - Live in Berlin

The Wall – Live in Berlin was a live concert performance by Roger Waters and numerous guest artists, of the Pink Floyd studio album The Wall, itself largely written by Waters during his time with the band. The show was held in Berlin on 21 July 1990, to commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall eight months earlier.7:30pm £5 (headphone hire)

theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

STROUD BREWERY

WEDS 9TH

Stroud Brewery Film Club: The Go Between

A tale of torrid and forbidden love between a couple in the Victorian English countryside starring Julie Christie and Alan Bates. Oscars for Best Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress and Actor, 1971. 7:30pm £6

WEDS 23RD

Berliner Zeitgeist Presents: The Tin Drum

1979 film adaptation of the novel of the same name by Günter Grass. It was directed and co-written by Volker Schlöndorff and was mostly shot in West Germany.7:30pm

stroudbrewery.co.uk

ARKELL COMMUNITY CENTRE NAILSWORTH

FRI 25TH

Nailsworth Film Club Presents: Leave

War veteran Will and his teenage daughter, Tom, have been living peacefully 'off-the-grid' for years in the forests of Portland, Oregon, when a small mistake leads to them being discovered. Their idyllic life is shattered as social services take over

their care. After clashing with their new surroundings, they set off on a difficult journey back to their wild homeland. This is a powerful, yet understated film, which is as much about Tom growing up as it is about Will's yearning for isolation. 7:30pm £6

nailsworthfilmclub.co.uk

PAINSWICK CENTRE

FRI 4TH

Wick-Flix Presents: Green Book

Set in 1962, the film follows a road trip across the still heavily racially segregated American Deep South by the sophisticated African-American classical pianist, Don Shirley, and his hired very New York born and bred Italian American driver, Tony "Lip" Vallelonga. The two start off poles apart, but gradually grow to respect each other as each challenges the other to view life from a different perspective. A brilliant script with plenty of funny moments makes this an endearing feel good film that shows how relationships can transcend engrained prejudice.7pm £7 (incl. a free drink!)

painswickcentre.com

ELECTRIC PICTURE HOUSE WOTTON UNDER EDGE

TUES 1ST/THURS 3RD/SAT 5TH

National Theatre Live: Fleabag

See the hilarious, award-winning, onewoman show that inspired the BBC's hit TV series Fleabag, broadcast live to cinemas from London's West End.

WEDS 2ND

Roger Waters Us + Them

Roger Waters, co-founder, creative force and songwriter behind Pink Floyd, presents his highly anticipated film, Us + Them, featuring state-of-the-art visual production and breath-taking sound in this unmissable cinema event. 8:15pm

THURS 17TH

National Theatre Live: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Shakespeare's most famous romantic comedy will be captured live from the Bridge Theatre in London. Gwendoline Christie (Game of Thrones), Oliver Chris (Green Wing, NT Live: Young Marx), David Moorst (NT Live: Allelujah!) and Hammed Animashaun (The Barber Shop Chronicles) lead the cast as Titania, Oberon, Puck and Bottom. 7:30pm

wottoncinema.com

FOR POSTAL AND DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS WISIT:

GOODONPAPER.INFO

LITERATURE #55 | Oct 2019

ROBERT LOUIS KREAMER

By Nikki Owen

In 1977, American Robert Louis
Kreamer, at the age of just twenty,
took a break from his university studies
to undertake an epic nine-thousandmile overland journey from Munich to
Kathmandu. With his camera and his
journal, he recorded and recounted
his journey, wanderings and musings
through cities and countries that
are now considered inaccessible
and too dangerous for the modern
backpacking tourist.

Originally from Tucson, Arizona, now after living in Stroud for 15 years as a painter and carer, Robert's epic journey is being published. Entitled, The Hippie Trail (After Europe, Turn Left), this fascinating book documents Kreamer's search for universal truth and the meaning of life as he visits places such as Beirut, Damascus, Tehran and Kabul, revealing not just incredible tales of what and who he saw, but it also shines a spotlight on a seemingly lost era of freedom, openness, tolerance, and promise.

I caught up with Robert to find out more about his utterly compelling new book and discover the true tales of what really happened out there all that time ago...

Your book and your travels sound amazing - where did your original need to roam and travel come from?

When I was 14 years old, I read the lines from Rudyard Kipling that went, "For the world is wondrous large, Seven seas from marge to marge, And it holds a vast of various kinds of man. And the wildest dreams of Kew Are the facts of Kathmandu." I was hooked and knew someday I had to see Kathmandu for myself...

How did publishing this (amazing) book come about?

I was working in a local Vape shop and after listening to someone tell of their travels I quipped "Did I ever tell you about the time back in 1977 when I invaded Afghanistan armed with a hash pipe and a camera?" A young man listening to this asked if I had written any of it down. I told him I had kept a journal and had made a feeble attempt to type up a few chapters. He asked if he could see them. I said yes and he turned out to be an editor for a local publisher, Fonthill Media.

You took a break in 1977 when you were twenty-two to undertake an epic nine-thousand-mile overland journey from Munich to Kathmandu. What gave you the idea to do this and how did you travel?

At the time it seemed everyone was going overland to India, so it didn't seem that big a deal. I was 20 years old at the time and I got a job driving a Mercedes Benz dump truck from Munich to Damascus in Syria for money. After that, I was hitchhiking and sleeping rough sometimes until the weather turned cold and I used local buses and trains to get around. I used cheap local hotels, slept in train stations and was even sleeping rough sometimes in India. I was on a tight budget and just trying to take it all in as the world was rolling by. I had with me a rather large Kummerly and Frev fold-up road map of the Middle East I purchased before leaving West Germany, so my goal was always a hundred miles or so down the road and I just made my way from city to city, village to town, and border to border.

With your camera and journal, you recorded and recounted your journey, wanderings and musings. How did documenting everything in this way help you as you travelled?

Looking back on it I think it kept me focused on getting to Kathmandu. There were a lot of distractions and an infinite number of side trips to navigate. Keeping a journal made me take a good look at myself as well. I was tempted to rewrite my 20-year-old self into something less silly at times while working on this book. The photographs are a mix of holiday snaps and some carefully composed landscapes. I was a serious photographer back then with my own darkroom. The original manuscript had around 150 photographs, but my publisher wanted it paired down to around 80. The problem I did not count on was the further east I travelled, the more attention taking out my camera garnered. It was an issue I keep addressing in my book.

You went through cities and countries that are now inaccessible and too dangerous for the modern backpacking tourist. What was your most dangerous moment and where?

There were a few. I was chased out of a village in Pakistan when what seemed like the whole village turned out to greet me with a barrage of stones. Getting into a fistfight with a mob of drunk men in New Delhi when trying to stop them molesting women. Being out after curfew in Beirut and having Syrian troops drawing their weapons and threating to shoot as I was scurrying back to my hotel. The real danger was the westerner junkie fellow travellers who were out of money and looking for an easy mark. For the most part, I was able to swan across the Middle East, doing things like hitchhiking and sleeping rough in Iran while freely admitting to being an American when asked. As a rule, I tried to dress like a local and keep low key to blend in. At times I became very grubby and some of my clothes were fairly threadbare and I looked like a vagabond. One tends to go unnoticed when one appears rather poor. Some of these stories are in my book and some are not. My publisher wanted my manuscript chopped from 120 thousand words to 80 thousand. It rolls in at 83 thousand words. But I left a lot of the good, the bad and the ugly in. I seemed to have spent a lot of my

time on this journey smoking a lot of cannabis as well.

What was the best place you visited and why?

There were many. The Great Buddha of Bamiyan in Afghanistan, the near-empty and pristine beaches of Sri Lanka, the ruins of Petra, the list is long and near impossible to choose from. But if I had to choose it would be Kathmandu. Why? As it turns out, the wildest dreams of Kew are indeed the facts of Kathmandu.

And the worst and why?

One of the worst places was the border between Jordan and the Israeli occupied West Bank. The Jordanian soldiers were armed with American weapons, driving American jeeps and tanks and the Israelis were armed with American weapons, driving American jeeps and tanks. Even their uniforms were the same at that time. The only difference was one side was a darker hue of green than the other. The arms seller was the same. I remember the sight of that really shocked me.

How long did the whole journey take?

It seemed to take years, but I covered nine thousand miles in nine months.

My book was originally called "Nine thousand miles to Kathmandu".

What did you do once the journey was over?

I met an amazing German girl, helped her paint her flat then moved back to the US. No one I knew back then was even remotely interested in my journey.

How has this journey shaped your life today?

I think it made me see the world as more of a place of possibilities if one is open-minded.

What advice would you give to students wanting to travel today?

Dress like the locals and eat like the locals to blend in. Be respectful and polite and aware and low key. Travel with a friend so someone has your back. Ask the fellow travellers you meet about the road ahead. Be careful of people spiking your food and drink.

How do you think the world has changed since your days of travelling in the seventies?

#55 | Oct 2019 LITERATURE

That list would be way too long as well. In some ways, the world is getting more insular and right-wing and intolerant. However, with cheap airfare as the norm, people can fly halfway around the world on the cheap and set down almost anywhere without the rigours of overland travel. Trip advisor used to be the people you struck up a conversation with on the border to get ideas and information about what may lie ahead. World travellers don't seem to interact in the ways they used to. Also, I am careful about revealing my nationality these days. I have lied about that more than once in recent years.

Who's the biggest inspiration in your life and why?

That would have to be my wife. She is kind and forgiving, and whip-smart and well-read (on average at least 40 books a year), well-travelled and when people meet her, they like her a lot. I strive to keep up. She is my better three quarters as opposed to my better half.

What's the most important lesson life has taught you?

That for most people on this planet life is brutal and short, so any happiness you can find you should go for it. Try to leave the gaslighters behind and believe in yourself.

What are your next book publishing plans?

I am currently working on a couple of projects that are in the research stage. One is the true story of how through arrogance, lies and conceit, one man started a ten-year war with the Apache tribe of the American Southwest, that cost many lives and how this man ended up being praised and rewarded in his own lifetime. Another one is about the contents of a famous photograph and what it depicts and yet another is a novel about the Medici. I have been an oil painter for many years, so I always have a couple of canvases on the go as well.

The Hippie Trail (After Europe, Turn Left) is out now via Fonthill Media (fonthill. media) and available on-line and in all good book shops.

Nikki Owen is an author and writer. Her third and final book in the Project Trilogy – The Girl Who Ran (Harper Collins), is out now. Follow her on twitter @nikkiwriter and nikkiowenauthor.com



View from the hotel, Beirut, Lebanon. (R. L. Kreamer, Kodachrome 35-mm print film, © 1977, 2019)



Hoping on a bus in the dusty town of Landi Kotel, Pakistan. (R. L. Kreamer, Kodachrome 35-mm print film, © 1977, 2019)



Tea with the Bedouin, Sinai. (R. L. Kreamer, Cibachrome 35-mm slide film. © 1977, 2019)



The Great Buddha of Bamiyan, Afghanistan. In 1221 Genghis Khan and his armies swept through the Vale of Bamiyan and killed thousands of Buddhist monks but spared the statues. In the 15th and 18th centuries various attempts to destroy the statues were made by using cannon and artillery fire. Built in 554 CE, it was destroyed in 2001 by the Taliban leader Mohammed Omar. (R. L. Kreamer, Kodachrome 35-mm print film, © 1977, 2019)

LITERATURE/SPOKEN WORD LISTINGS #55 | Oct 2019

<u>LITERATURE</u> LISTINGS

ATELIER

22

SAT 12TH

Berliner Zeitgeist Presents: Falling with Uta

As part of the Berlin Zeitgeist programme, East German born artist Uta Baldauf is putting on a performance event. Uta will be responding to the theme FALLING with a poetic performance art piece and she is hosting the evening. Uta has invited writer and poet Maria Stadnicka, performer Brend Waite and musician Mike Adcock to respond to the theme of falling in they own creative practice. Come and be part of an eclectic and intriguing evening. You never know what you might fall into. Tickets are limited. There will be a bar and time to chat and hang out after. 7:30pm £8

WEDS 23RD

Stroud Radical Reading Group: Antonio Gramsci

As part of a series on Culture, Memory and Resistance, Stroud Radical Reading Group will discuss work by Antonio Gramsci for its October 2019 session. Events are free to attend but the SRRG ask for a donation of £2-3 from anyone who can afford it to cover venue costs. They aim to make the sessions a welcoming space for anyone interested in the topic, you do not need to have a university education or have ever been to a reading group before, and they even welcome people who have not read the text but would like to listen! 7:30pm

atelierstroud.co.uk

ALE HOUSE

MON 14TH

Piranha Poetry: Nick Lovell, Nimue Brown, Jason Conway

Prior to the main performances Piranha Poetry will be teaming up with Transition Stroud for a poetry workshop at 6pm. Headliner Nick Lovell is a part time commentator, full time optimist, half arsed anarchist and occasional poet. When not shouting commentaries at greyhounds as they race for the line he shouts poetry at audiences as they race for the exits. Nimue Brown will be leading the Transition Stroud-Culture Shift workshop. No previous experience is required to join in. Nimue's set focuses on re-enchantment and remembering our place in the natural world. Jason Conway is a passionate eco-poet, artist and designer based in Stroud, Gloucestershire with a deep connection with nature and uses the pen name of The Ink Warrior. Hosted by Gary Death. Workshop 6pm/Main event 7:30pm Free

HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

FRI 4TH

Free, Equal and Mutual: Rebalancing Society for the Common Good

What kind of society do we want? How do we get there? You are invited to explore how to create a more free, equal, mutual and sustainable society with Martin Large. The talk draws on Martin's newly published book of the same title which will also be available to purchase on the night. 8pm £7/£5concs

THURS 17TH

Meet the Changemakers: Hawkwood and the RSA

This event will give you an opportunity to meet the changemakers that will come to Hawkwood as part of a "Changemaker Residency". An opportunity to learn about their work, the motivations behind it and to be inspired by the way in which they respond to challenges they are working through. 7:30pm Free (RSVP online via Eventbrite)

hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

LANSDOWN HALL

FRI 11TH

Molly Scott Cato MEP Talk: Eat for the Climate!

Re-imagine the future of land, food and farming as a solution to climate change with Molly Scott Cato, MEP, a member of the European Parliament's agriculture committee and Oakbrook young farmers. How can agroecological farming address the climate emergency? How can land absorb and hold carbon? How can we protect soils and enhance animal welfare? How are Stroud young farmers practicing regenerative farming at Oakbrook? 7:30pm £7.50/£5concs from trybooking.co.uk/MAK

lansdownhall.org

LEWIS AND WOOD

SAT 19TH

Yellow Lighted Bookshop Presents: Barron and Larcher Textile Designers

A free and informal evening celebrating Painswick's iconic 1930's textile printers Phyllis Barron & Dorothy Larcher. This event is being hosted by the marvellous Lewis and Wood at their showroom in Woodchester. Author and textile designer Sarah Burns will be joining us to tell the inspiring story behind Barron & Larcher's unique creative partnership and how they developed their unique block printed fabrics through many wonderful experiments, disappointments and discoveries. As part of this event Sarah will be giving a demo of block printing with natural dyes. Her book will be available for sale and she will sign and chat with people about both Barron and Larcher, and her own work. 7pm (free but pre-booking advised via ticketsource. . co.uk/yellowlightedbookshop)

yellow-lightedbookshop.co.uk

THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

THURS 31ST

The Thinning Veil: Tales and Songs for Halloween

In Celtic tradition, Halloween – or Samhain – is a time when the veil between this world and the invisible world becomes thin, and there's a traffic of beings between the two worlds. Anthony Nanson and Chantelle Smith of Fire Springs present stories and songs about the faeries, ghosts and uncanny creatures that may slip through the veil at this liminal time. 8pm £7.50/£5concs (to book call 01453 763394)

museuminthepark.org.uk

OPEN HOUSE

SUN 27TH

Stroud Story Party

Stroud Story Party is back, featuring

local people sharing true personal stories on theme "in the nick of time!" 3pm Free (donations welcome!)

facebook.com/storypartystroud

ST LAURENCE CHURCH HALL

THURS 17TH

Heavens Archaeology with Neil Baker

The Heavens Archaeological Research Project (HARP) is an independent local archaeology initiative that has been investigating an area east of Stroud known locally as the 'Heavens'. Hear Neil talk about the project and the 2000 year history of the Heavens. 7pm (doors open and introductory slide-show) / 7:30pm (talk) £3.50otd (non-members welcome)

stlaurencefuture.org.uk

STAR ANISE ARTS CAFÉ

FRI 18TH

Coffee House Meeting: Climate Emergency - Notes from the Rebellion

The 7th October has been announced by Extinction Rebellion as the beginning of a new phase, to declare "The Truth". So what's going on? No one can argue that Extinction Rebellion have not changed the conversation, and in an incredibly short time. In the midst of the UK's own political turmoil increased energy is needed to keep sight of the most important issues of our time. Come along to discuss, listen and share stories from the recent events. 7:30pm Free (donations welcome)

staranisecafe.co.uk

STROUD BREWERY

THURS 3RD

Brewery Book Club

After a great deal of interest was expressed within the local community, a monthly Book Club has been arranged at the new Stroud Brewery Bar. The group meet every 1st Thursday of the month at 7pm. It is an open group and everyone is welcome to come along and join in the discussion. This month's read TBC!

SAT 5TH

Extinction Rebellion FunRaiser

Come and have fun, laugh, dance, be entertained, bring your kids as there's loads for them to do. As well as kicking back and having fun with friends and family this FunRaiser is also a call to arms for the next Rebellion that starts on Monday 7th October. So get your rebel rousing party clothes on. Let's come together and celebrate before we march on London.. Balcony Bar: JSSO Project, Up the Bug, Steve Ashley, Elvis McGonagall, XR auction Xtravaganza, Liv Torc and Shagufta Iqbal (Burning Eye Books), Cecilia Delatori. Richard Lindesay, Jo Khimba, Piranha Poetry, Texas Tick Fever, NJ Gardiner. Compère by Jonny Fluffypunk.
The Gallery: Children's Storytelling
Workshop, Children's Drumming
Workshop, Face Painting, Children
Singing Workshop, T-Shirt Printing,
Badge Making...12pm Entry fee by donation

stroudbrewery.co.uk

RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH

FRI 4TH

Soundings: Reverberations from the

Edge of the Wild

A performance exploring our relationship with nature, wilding the land and rewilding ourselves. Following the wolf, the nightingale, the wildwood and the auroch through stories, spoken word, music and song. Fiona Eadie and Jude Smith: stories and spoken word; Nicola Hillary and Sue O'Driscoll, fiddle and song with the recorded voices of other beings. 8pm £5

SAT 26TH

Rusking Mill Storytelling Morning

Come and enjoy the wonder, wit, mystery and magic of stories from all over the world with storyteller Fiona Eadie. Stories are for everyone - adults without children are as welcome as children with adults. Just turn up, no need to book! 10:30am £5adult/£4child/£12family (suggested minimum age is 5).

rmt.org

ST GEORGES CHURCH NAILSWORTH

WEDS 30TH

Yellow Lighted Bookshop Presents: Rob Hopkins – From What Is To What If

Rob Hopkins is the founder of the international Transition Towns movement, and in his new book asks why true creative, positive thinking is in decline - but also asserts that this approach is more important now than ever, and suggests ways our communities can revive and reclaim it. From 'What Is to What If' is a call to action to reclaim and unleash our collective imagination, told through the stories of individuals and communities around the world who are doing it now, as we speak, and witnessing often rapid and dramatic change for the better. Ticket holders will receive a £5 discount off Rob's new book on the evening. 7pm £6-£7.50 from ticketsource.co.uk

yellow-lightedbookshop.co.uk

COMEDY LISTINGS

THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

THURS 19TH

Probably the Best Ladies Comedy Night in the World!

It's Ladies Night! Come on down for some of the best local female talent plus headliner - number one poet, rapper part time car washer and Paintballer; Odours Vex (aka Angie Belcher) - all held together by the inimitable Gavin Pond...8pm Free

crownandsceptrestroud.com



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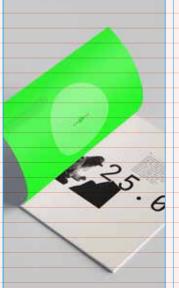
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