

# GOOD ON PAPER

**ISSUE  
#60**

**Inside:**

**Stroud Film  
Festival**

**The Wayzgoose  
Printers Fair**

**Sound  
Records**

**+**

**Robyn Pete | The Rat Affair | Hannah Persaud**

*'lightly touching the earth back'*

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*The exhibition is accompanied  
by an illustrated catalogue  
photography by Steve Russell Studios  
text by Sara Baume*

Wrens Nest 2009, Clear Cast Resin and Nest, Unique, 25 x 25.5 x 21 cm

# EDITOR'S NOTE

**Welcome to Issue 60 of Good On Paper – your free monthly guide to music concerts, art exhibitions, theatre productions, comedy shows, film screenings and literature events in Stroud...**

And the Good On Paper Party came, sold out and went! We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the performers including the Giffords Circus Band, Hip Yak Poetry Shack (Liv Torc, Chris Redmond, Jonny Fluffypunk + 12 poet slammers!), Maja Lena, Dave Ayre Ensemble, Alex Box and Derrick McLean + all the film directors for allowing us to screen their amazing short films, our GOP Cover artists, Stroud Brewery (George Withy, Greg Pilley and team!), Jack Page, Kit Page and Nikoletta Monyok.

Following our annual celebration we are excited to announce that our new venture Hidden Notes also returns this year to St Laurence Church on Sat 26th – Sun 27th September for vol.2. We have just released the first batch of weekend tickets and our headliners which include none other than Penguin Café for Saturday and Jonny Greenwood with Katherine Tinker and Oliver Coates on the Sunday.... For further info including tickets visit [hiddennotes.co.uk](http://hiddennotes.co.uk)

But for now give yer eyes a break from pixels/endless scrolling and read on dear reader for Stroud hath as ever much to give thou...

Long live the printed word.

Alex and Adam

**FRONT COVER:** Joe Magee **CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:** Jane Millichip, Judith Gunn, Ben Wardle, Tom Berry, Lorna Jenkins and Caroline Sanderson  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY:** Emilie Sandy

**NEXT MONTH:** Festival Guide 2020, Records Store Day, The Achievers, Earth Week, Stroud Short Stories, Dan Rawlings and more...!

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**Theo Deproost**

An exhibition of photography exploring secrets of the museum stores

Museum in the Park

**Lost In Time**

Opening Event  
2pm - 4pm  
Sat 14th March  
Free Admission

Museum in the Park logo

Open Tues to Sun  
[museuminthepark.org.uk](http://museuminthepark.org.uk)

14th March - 26th April

# STROUD FILM FESTIVAL 2020

By Jane Millichip

**Stroud Film Festival 2020 is a rare thing, a genuinely independent film festival. Here, on our doorstep. In a world of blockbuster comic book franchises and studio marketing budgets, this is no mean feat.**

Backed by the BFI, Stroud Town Council and local businesses, SFF is now in its 6th year. Unlike other top-down festivals, it is a collaboration between 12 independent organisations and venues that curate their own programmes, resulting in a menu of such range to appeal to even the most diverse palettes. The 2020 line-up is entertaining without being obvious; and challenging without being pretentious.

SFF is also unusually immersive and inclusive. Young and old are invited to shoot their own films, provide input into others' films, bring their own projector, meet the filmmakers, ride a half pipe, or simply dress up.

Co-directors Andy Freedman and Jo Bousfield are passionate about the community value of public screenings, and they recognise the importance of events like this to emerging talent.

They also both relish the democratic manner in which the festival comes together. "I really think it's unique," says Bousfield, "maybe because this is a small town, the venues can talk, collaborate."

So, here are some of this year's many highlights:

## IMMERSIVE

Immersive cinema meets e-sports in the inaugural Rush Film Fest! Grab your board, pop an olly, and head to Rush Skate Park to catch a 'sick' evening of action sports docs and shorts.

More refined cinemagoers can join Crosby and Sinatra for Lansdown Film Clubs' screening of 1956 classic *High Society*. Glam up with black tie and pearls, and quaff vintage cocktails from Hollywood's post-prohibition heyday. Hic...

If you have never seen a silent movie with live musical accompaniment, then book tickets for William Wellman's

*Beggars of Life*. Country music luminary Kate Lissauer and bluegrass guitarist Jason Tittle will serenade you while you watch one of Hollywood's first feminist rebels. Louise Brooks' young woman on the run in a male-dominated underworld shook priggish moviegoers to their pious cores when the film launched in 1928.

## AWARD-WINNING

Bafta-winner, *Bait*, is an intimate portrait of a Cornish community wrestling with unwelcome change. Martin is a fisherman struggling with a sense of displacement after his brother re-purposed his fishing boat as a tourist tripper. In a neat collaboration with *Atelier*, *Soup Versammlung* will offer soup and conversation with Bait producers Kate Byers and Linn Waite before the screening at Lansdown.

The selection from Wotton-Under-Edge's *Electric Picture House* is typically thought-provoking and high-quality. Noah Baumbach's multi-award-winning drama, *Marriage Story*, is notable for its brutal honesty in the heart-wrenching, hand-wringing machinations of a divorcing couple. Never maudlin, and strangely uplifting.

Portrait of a Woman on Fire, written and directed by the brilliant Céline Sciamma, is a beautifully disquieting romance, set in 18th century Brittany, where a female painter and her muse form a bond that challenges societal norms. Credit goes to the *Electric* for unearthing this woefully overlooked recent gem.

## RARE GEMS

The folks at Stroud Brewery also deserve a medal for digging out the unremittingly charming French animation *Belleville Rendez Vous* from 2003, by comic book artist Sylvain Chomet. If you like the surrealist



slapstick of Jacques Tati, you will love this. So, order a Tom Long, sit back, and smile.

While we're on an uplifting vibe, check out the Aretha Franklin documentary feature *Amazing Grace*. This film was unwatchable until recently because the footage was out of synch with the sound. In 2018, wizards of digital technology fixed the glitch, and now this time capsule classic is released in all its Aretha gospel glory.

Another treat for film historians is the work of Stroud animator Harold Whittaker and the former Stroud animation studio Halas and Batchelor, which will be showcased across several events at the Museum in the Park, including the 1954 Orwell classic *Animal Farm*.

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Top tips for the tiddlers are Aardman Model Making Workshops at the Museum in the Park and the Willy Wonka (1971 version) chocolate and gob-stopper fest, courtesy of Strictly Cinema.

## TAKE PART

At the Goods Shed, Hollywood director and Stroud local, Mark Jobst, leads an innovative pitch-in-progress event for *Home*, his musical about three young homeless people in Bristol. Jobst, whose recent credits include *The Witcher*, will narrate his film idea, accompanied by a live performance of the music and movement that infuse the story. If sharing work-in-progress were not unusual enough, Jobst will also invite the live audience to contribute ideas to his pitch. I put it to him that it takes a brave - or foolhardy - filmmaker to submit work-in-progress to public scrutiny. "We can be all too exclusive in the film business," says Jobst. "If I

am going to do this properly, I want to throw it open and engage with people. With this subject matter, it can't be too pat." Jobst, rather disarmingly, admits to being both nervous and excited by the experiment.

There's also nothing safe about the winner of Stroud Shortcuts, the pitch competition for 16-25s, says filmmaker and mentor Joe Magee. "I was excited by originality of the idea," says Magee, of 16-year-old Louis Gardner's winning submission. Magee and Gardner shot the 90 second film in February.

Aspiring young filmmakers at Flies on the Wall youth theatre have also made 10 short films for the Festival, and budding 'Scorceses' of all ages are invited to take part in the 60 Second Film challenge on 14/15 March, when this year's theme will be revealed. Selected entries will premiere on the big screen at Film Stroud on 20 March, alongside the Shortcuts winning film.

If projecting films is more your bag, then BYOB Bring Your Own Beamer at Studio 18 invites you to join this DIY one-nighter in which artists and enthusiasts will bring their own projectors to screen a dizzying array of films on every surface; walls, floors, ceilings. Register your interest via the SFF website.

### LOCAL HEROES

Cultural preservation is juxtaposed with the perpetual change of modern living in the award-winning feature, Blackbird, written by Nailsworth-based filmmaker Robyn Pete. A Q&A with Pete and her collaborators follows the screening, organised by the Stroud Women Filmmakers Collective and Atelier.

Stroud filmmakers and founders of The Good Grief Project, Jimmy Edmonds and Jane Harris, have curated an evening of films exploring love and death, The Language of Grief, hosted by Open House. Edmonds' and Harris' non-judgemental and genuinely curious approach to bereavement debunk this culturally suppressed subject.

Beyond Solastalgia at Hawkwood asks climate experts to contemplate a sustainable future. Peter Moseley's film also celebrates the work and life of Polly Higgins, Stroud-based environmental campaigner, who died last year.

And finally, SFF pays tribute to Rick Vick, another Stroud hero who died last year. Vick is remembered for the huge contribution he has made to film culture in the local community.

As I said, Stroud Film Festival is a rare thing. Please support it in all its wondrous and manifold guises, not least because of the wondrously talented people and manifold organisations behind this brilliant event. Enjoy.

For further information including the full programme and tickets visit [stroudfilmfestival.org](http://stroudfilmfestival.org)

A former journalist, Jane has worked in the international TV business for more than 20 years, across production, commissioning and distribution. She is now Chief Commercial Officer of Sky Studios.



# WHAT'S ON AT SFF2020

**FRI 21ST FEB**

**Home -**  
SVA Goods Shed

**THURS 27TH FEB**

**Marriage Story**  
Electric Picture House,  
Wotton-Under Edge

**SUN 1ST**

**Refugees On Film**  
Museum in the Park

**TUES 3RD MAR -**

**SUN 31ST MAY**  
**Collections Showcase:**  
**Harold Whitaker**  
Museum in the Park

**FRI 6TH MAR**

**Blackbird**  
Atelier

**SAT 7TH**

**The Language of Grief**  
Open House

**SUN 8TH**

**Festival Launch**  
The Prince Albert

**SUN 8TH**

**Lansdown Film Club Presents:**  
**Amazing Grace**  
Lansdown Hall

**WEDS 11TH**

**Animal Farm**  
Museum in the Park

**WEDS 11TH**

**Peanut Butter Falcon**  
Electric Picture House,  
Wotton-Under-Edge

**WEDS 11TH**

**Southern Journey (Revisited)**  
Hawkwood College

**THURS 12TH**

**Eight Grade**  
Electric Picture House,  
Wotton-Under-Edge

**THURS 12TH**

**Working For Victory**  
Museum in the Park

**THURS 12TH**

**Stroud Film Society Presents:**  
**The Street**  
Open House

**FRI 13TH**

**New Creatives**  
SVA Goods Shed

**SAT 14TH**

**Stroud's 60 Second Film Challenge**

**SAT 14TH**

**Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf**  
Museum in the Park

**SAT 14TH**

**Lansdown Film Club Presents:**  
**High Society**  
Lansdown Hall

**SAT 14TH - SAT 21ST**

**Film Posters Reinterpreted**  
The Sub Rooms

**SUN 15TH**

**Aardman Model Making Workshop**  
Museum in the Park

**SUN 15TH**

**Opening the Earth and the South West Fibreshed Project**  
Atelier

**SUN 15TH**

**Lansdown Film Club Presents:**  
**Beggars of Life w/ Live Soundtrack**  
Lansdown Hall

**MON 16TH**

**Rush Film Fest**  
Rush Skate Park

**TUES 17TH**

**The Edge of Wonder: Your Health Is In Your Gut**  
Atelier

**WEDS 18TH**

**Tales from Hoffnung and Ruddigore**  
Museum in the Park

**WEDS 18TH**

**Belleville Rendez-Vous**  
Stroud Brewery

**THURS 19TH**

**Beyond Solastalgia: Reimagining the Future**  
Hawkwood College

**FRI 20TH**

**Film Stroud**  
Lansdown Hall

**SAT 21ST**

**Strictly Cinema Presents:**  
**Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory**  
Lansdown Hall

**SUN 22ND**

**Soup Versammlung: Meet the Producers of Bait**  
Atelier

**SUN 22ND**

**Lansdown Film Club Presents:**  
**Bait**  
Lansdown Hall

**WEDS 25TH**

**The Halas and Batchelor Short Film Collection**  
Museum in the Park

**THURS 26TH**

**Portrait of A Lady On Fire -**  
Electric Picture House, Wotton-Under-Edge

**SAT 28TH**

**Closing Event: BYOB - Bring Your Own Beamer**  
Studio 18



# ROBYN PETE

By Judith Gunn

**“There is no such thing as a gap year in South Africa,” says filmmaker Robyn Pete. “but I did really want to travel. I thought ‘I’ve got a degree I have made a feature film I want to go to the UK and work for the BBC’.”**

## **What could go wrong?**

Robyn’s career in film started after she completed a degree in Drama at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. She signed up for an MA course and with 2,000 rand in hand (approximately \$200) made a film, a feature no less. “And I came out with change!” she says. “I think that’s when I fell in love with filmmaking. It was filmed on video, we had to do everything, we had to shoot it ourselves, we had to edit it ourselves...just me and two first-years who helped out. I think it was great to wear many hats and learn what everybody does.”

The screening was a success. “It did well for me, people laughed where they should have done, bless the actors there was no rehearsal it was just ‘please can you show up and perform at this time.’” She graduated top of the class! The next step was to save enough to come to the UK.

Waitressing is a traditional preparation for a media career and it provided Robyn with the opportunity, not just to raise money, but to meet Brits. She bagged any table seating someone with a British accent, once she had

served them their vinaloos she would find an opportunity to “sing her little song” to them about how she was hoping to work in the UK in film and media, and after many vinaloos, on the penultimate night...“there were two Brits in and I went over and sung my little song and they happened to be working for the BBC!” Details swapped, contacts made future assured...

Through her contacts Robyn spent some time on a film set and got a job working for the APA (Advertising Producers Association). She began to shoot film again. She entered the Straight 8 competition, shot a short film on a Super 8 cartridge given to her by the competition and won a screening in the Cannes Lions selection...“that was a really lovely taste of where film can take you” she recalls.

But it was the London Film School that gave her the breakthrough she needed, by now married and living in the UK, she took the PostGrad course and she met a producer (James Barrett) who had been working with Jamie Chambers on a short film titled When The Song Dies. This short film was to

inform their main objective which was to make a feature film. Robyn came on board as screen writer and first assistant director. She worked through the draft scene by scene, with the director, to produce the screenplay and then, as first AD, called the shots. “On the set itself I send out the call sheets. I make sure the director is ready and the cinematographer is ready, and the sound people are ready and I say ‘roll sound’, ‘roll camera’ and the director calls action. It worked well for me having written the script”.

Blackbird was the film and “it was made on a beautiful shoestring”. Its theme was to explore the loss of culture through the eyes of a young man trying to remember the oral tradition and the songs and stories of a Scottish community before the songs disappear.

The film also brought a more literal meaning to the phrase cliff hanger. It was a fraught night shoot on a beach. The fire was lit, the cameras ready. The Scottish summer night is only four hours long, so time was crucial, and then the producer had to head back up from the beach to get some supplies “so he got in his car but he had to go up this coastal path in the dark.” Robyn recalls, filming was frenetic and the dawn on its way. “I could see his tail lights go up the path from the beach.” Then. “I got a radio call from him... ‘Robyn I need you to call off the shoot! I need you to send everyone up here I’m hanging from the cliff in my car.’ I looked up and I could see his tail lights...”. A cliff hanger indeed, but no producers were harmed in the making of Blackbird and the film’s scenes on the beach made it to completion.

Since then Robyn co-wrote a script

which won \$15,000 dollars and resulted in the short film 13 starring James Harkness. It won best production at the UnderWire Film Festival.

A trailer and some fundraising raised finance for the charity Duchenne UK and Robyn is preparing a documentary about four women who are dealing with the impact of Duchenne’s Muscular Dystrophy on the lives of their children. Meanwhile a script for a new feature Seeds of Love (co-writer Dave Fadash) was shortlisted for the Euro Script Competition.

“I really enjoy learning, I really enjoy being the auteur, I think that’s why sometimes the short format suits me, because I do like the writing, and the editing, and I do like finding the stories.” Robyn is regular contributor to the Stroud Women Filmmakers Collective and works with Cheltenham Arts Award.

Blackbird’s title is from a song by Martyn Bennett part of the community in Scotland where the film and the documentary were made. It was nominated for the Michael Powell Award in Edinburgh, won Best Picture at the Catskill Mountains Film Festival and will be screened at Atelier on Friday 6th March as part of this year’s Stroud Film Festival.

For tickets and further information visit [stroudfilmfestival.org](http://stroudfilmfestival.org)

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**Judith Gunn is a frustrated screenwriter and the author of Dostoyevsky: A Life of Contradiction. She has two stories in the latest edition of Stroud Short Stories and is the creator of online educational content and books. She does this while tutoring students online and writing the great novel. [judithgunn.com](http://judithgunn.com)**

# THEATRE/ DANCE LISTINGS

## COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

**THURS 19TH – SAT 21ST/THURS 26TH – SAT 28TH**

**The Cotswold Players: Nell Gwynn**

Set in 1660s London, Jessica Swale's *Nell Gwynn* is a wonderfully entertaining homage to an extraordinary woman and her remarkable life. After more than a decade of rigid Puritanical rule, the Monarchy has been restored and the theatre doors are thrown open once again. King Charles II, an avid theatre-goer and notorious seducer, then revolutionises the theatrical world by permitting women on the stage. From inauspicious roots in a back-street brothel, Nell's life moves from an orange-seller to becoming one of the first women on stage; to becoming the favourite mistress of King Charles II. Nell's irreverent and irrepressible spirit brings chaos yet huge success to the Drury Lane Theatre Company. However, can it protect her from the dangers lurking within the newly-restored Royal Court? Full of comedy, plenty of live music, love and heartache, *Nell Gwynn* celebrates a life as vivid and colourful as anything fiction could invent! 7:30pm £12/£8 under 18

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

## ST LAURENCE CHURCH HALL

**THURS 5TH**

**Journeyman Theatre: Lock Down**

*Lock Down*, commissioned by Positive Justice Gloucestershire, is a play by the renowned Journeyman Theatre, now on their 4th visit to Stroud. It tells the story of Ron and Kathy. Ron is an elderly lifer and Kathy new to prison chaplaincy. It's a strange bond they develop but important to both of them. Through the prism of life inside, Kathy is forced to go on a journey of discovery and Ron is her guide. *Lock Down* explores the hidden plight of the elderly and infirm inside UK's jails and asks some big questions about how the system is coping with this ever increasing problem. As Ron is fond of saying 'There is no system. That is the system.' 7:30pm

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

## THE SUB ROOMS

**FRI 6TH**

**Offstage Theatre Group: I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again...Again!**

Performed on stage in classic radio comedy style with live music and sound effects, The Offstage Theatre Group recreates the anarchic and deliciously surreal cult comedy show that laid waste to BBC Radio in the 1960s and 1970s. Featuring actress and TV presenter Lisa Maxwell – known for being one of ITV's *Loose Women*, as well as her roles on *The Bill*, *Eastenders* and *Hollyoaks!* Stand by for wicked parodies, glorious puns and silly ditties. It's full-frontal radio, live on stage – with the unmistakable strains of

the Angus Prune Tune (and the unavoidable smells of sing-a-long-a-gibbon-stuffing). 8pm £17.50

**SAT 7TH**

**Ceilidh: Juice**

With a 40-year history spanning two generations, Juice is a highly-experienced Ceilidh band from Wales. They specialise in traditional dance music from Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and the other European Celtic nations. Amongst their many accolades, Juice has been described as "The best jigs and reels Ceilidh band in the UK". They know what they are doing, love to play, and always delight their audiences. 8pm £12.50/£6.50

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

## PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

**FRI 20TH**

**Outside the Club**

*Outside the Club* is a collaboration between two circus schools; Circomedia and NNCA and three remarkable jugglers - Ben Nicholson, Charles Brockbank and Robin Dale. Many of you will remember Robin from his show *What Does Stuff Do* from Prema's summer programme in 2019. His performance style is accessible, playful, funny and massively engaging with huge appeal to audiences of all ages; therefore a great night out for the whole family! Suitable for those over the age of 8. 7:30pm £10/£7concs/£8friends/£56concs/£23family/£20concs/£15otd

**SUN 29TH**

**Touched Theatre: Little Monster**

*Little Monster* explores difference, fear and friendship, using the magic of shadows, live songs and the unique, loveable puppets for which the amazing Touched Theatre are so renowned. Face your fears and find your friends. Ideal for young theatre goers over the age of three! 11am £8/£6concs/£7friends/£5concs/£20family/£18concs/£12otd

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

# FILM LISTINGS

## LANSDOWN HALL

**FRI 13TH**

**Seed Bank Presents: Seed – the Untold Story**

Presented to you by Stroud Community Seedbank and Transition Stroud. In the last century, 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. *Seed: The Untold Story* is a harrowing and heartening story about reluctant heroes rekindling a lost connection to our most treasured resource and reviving a culture connected to seeds. Before the film, there will be a short talk from one of the Seed Guardians who can shine a light on seed saving in your local area. There will be a chance for questions after the film. Tea and light refreshments will also be available. 6:30pm £5 (suggested donation)

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

## OPEN HOUSE

**THURS 5TH**

**Stroud Film Society Presents: BlackKkKlansman**

Spike Lee won the Oscar for best script for his film about police officer Ron Stallworth. Back in the 1970's, black officer Stallworth and white partner Flip Zimmerman managed to infiltrate the Ku Klux Klan, at great personal risk. Spike Lee's intelligent script (which veers between humour and tension) manages to draw parallels between the racism of that time and modern America. 7:30pm £6

**THURS 26TH**

**Stroud Film Society Presents: Divine Order**

Did you know that Switzerland denied women the right to vote until the early 1970's? The social changes of the 1960's seemed to have passed sleepy Switzerland by, however a growing movement of disaffected women are preparing to rise up. One such woman is Nora (an excellent Marie Leuenberger) who changes from a mother and wife to a campaigner for rights. Winner of the audience award at the Tribeca Film Festival. 7:30pm £6

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

## STROUD BREWERY

**THURS 5TH**

**Stroud Brewery Adventure Film Night**

A collection of outdoor adventure films to inspire and intrigue. This is a regular sell out event so get your

tickets early! 7:30pm £5 (all proceeds go towards the Antony Nolan Trust.)

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

## ARKELL COMMUNITY CENTRE NAILSWORTH

**FRI 13TH**

**Nailsworth Film Club Presents: Shoplifters**

On the margins of Tokyo, a 'family' of dysfunctional outsiders live together and supplement their meagre incomes with a routine of petty theft. This changes when they take in and shelter a neglected young girl and their motives and habits come under much closer scrutiny. Hard-hitting social comment on modern Japan but told with tenderness and gentle humour. 7:30pm £6

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

## PAINSWICK CENTRE

**FRI 6TH**

**Wick-Flix Presents: The Good Liar**

Dame Helen Mirren and Sir Ian McKellen star in this crime thriller as a wealthy widow and a career con artist, with a plot full of twists, bluffs and double-bluffs. Director Bill Condon 'distills from the McKellen-Mirren team an energy that is devastating' (The Observer); 'they are an enormous pleasure to watch, individually and playing off each other on screen for the first time in their decades-long careers' (LA Times). 7pm £7otd (includes a free drink!)

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



ARTS CENTRE

COMEDY IS BACK!

MARCH 21 8PM



Join the Goods Shed Comedy Club with more mirth and merriment from James Cook, Andy White and fresh from Britain's Got Talent El Baldiniho! Join them for a night of adult humour Tickets in advance £10/on the door £12.50

[www.shed-arts.co.uk](http://www.shed-arts.co.uk)



# SOUND RECORDS

By Ben Wardle

**“I come here mostly on a Wednesday from Cheltenham, have a nice little bowl of soup and a pot of tea at Star Anise first, then I end up taking away a big bundle of records. It’s a great day out!”**

Image by Emilie Sandy

Excitedly flipping through an enormous pile of freshly-delivered Japanese second-hand vinyl, Spencer, a man in his mid-50s, is clearly besotted with Sound Records. GOP is here to talk to joint owners Tom Berry and Sean Roe who in March will celebrate the shop’s second birthday. For vinyl obsessives like Spencer - and indeed this writer - it’s hard to imagine that there was once a time when Sound Records didn’t exist. But since it opened at the bottom of Gloucester Street in 2018, it’s seamlessly entered into the fabric of Stroud despite the fact that the town already has one of the South West’s most established and beloved record shops, Trading Post.

So what’s special about Sound Records?

Sean leaps in first “I think we have a diverse collection of records, they’re well organised - and they’re pretty cheap! We love records and the music that we’re selling, so we can actually talk about the stuff.” “Exactly,” adds Tom, “I think sometimes people come to the shop and they don’t necessarily know what they want - they have an

idea of the sort of thing they are after but they want us to guide them towards what they might like. So they’ll say something like ‘I really liked that Middle Eastern tune have you got more like it?’ - and our role would be to find something that has the same feel but maybe takes them somewhere different. I guess one of the biggest selling points of the shop is our knowledge really. We’re very different people too, that’s our greatest strength: I’m structured and organized; Sean’s a lot more esoteric and creative; I’m more fluent in dance music, hip hop, contemporary music and classic rock.” “And I’m from the experimental side,” adds Sean, “jazz, but not just bebop, free jazz as well; I’m also pretty strong on African music as well as old school electronica from the 50s and 60s. There’s a lot of crossover too - we both love world music, Arabic music, reggae and afrobeat.”

It’s true, there’s nothing that music fans like more than discovering new music via the traditional route of human interaction - something the world of Spotify algorithms just can’t compete with. Since they’ve moved into their

bigger premises at the top of the High Street, the shop has become a social hub for music fans, “The new location is fantastic, - we can stock a lot more records and now customers can spend quality time in here, have a cup of tea and explore - we’ve got listening stations, we host live events; we’re right in the heart of the Stroud community; we get teenagers coming in and buying The Cure or Paul Simon’s Graceland.”

So is it like that scene in High Fidelity where John Cusack whispers, “I will now sell five copies of The Three EPs by The Beta Band” by just playing it in the shop? “Absolutely,” says Sean, “We put records on and they sell - it happens with Talking Heads’ Remain In Light as well as Speaking in Tongues - people know Burning Down The House and the rest of side one but when you put the other side on they start nodding their heads and asking ‘what’s this?’”

“There’s an album called Rat by a local act called The Rat Affair and whenever we put that on there’s a lot of interest,” says Tom, “we’ve sold loads of that by playing it.”

Of course one of the key things about

Sound Records is that it’s about 75% second hand vinyl. Sure, they’ll order new releases if they like them (Tom shows me this week’s delicious haul of Soul Jazz compilations, the new Tame Impala album and a Sam Cooke re-release) but most of their stock comes from us, the public, when we decide to part ways with our discs, so they have to be gentle. “Selling a collection often coincides with a major life event,” says Tom, “maybe someone’s got divorced or a family member has passed away, so when you’re approaching people to buy records you have to be sensitive. You’re very conscious of the fact that people are giving away their whole life history or their partner’s life history. So it can be very emotional - sometimes people are in tears...” “One woman asked us to take photographs of all the records she was selling so that she could remember what she had,” adds Sean. Has it ever got awkward? “There was an incident,” he explains, “where someone actually gave away their partner’s life history. She came in the next morning demanding her records back because her husband had sold them! We gave them back, of course.”





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With records being so personal, have they ever discovered any long-forgotten mementos in a collection? “Well, there was a ‘herbal’ roll-up and a pubic hair in a copy of the Beatles White Album!” laughs Tom. “Or it may have just been a bristle from a paintbrush...” adds Sean with a raised eyebrow.

So how are they going to celebrate their second birthday? “Well, for our first birthday we had a great show with The Orb at the Goods Shed,” says Tom. “We’re very excited about the show this year; we want our party every year to be a reflection of what we are doing in the shop. Musically, we think Flamingods are very much in sync with what we’re all about: exotic but melodic. Plus, we’ve got an amazing supporting bill: Graham Dunning, who’s going to make techno from household objects; Dubbu and Mendoza - who are two of Stroud’s best DJs; Moina Moin and of course Woolheads, who are an electro groove megaparty!” Sean looks mildly uncomfortable but also slightly chuffed at his partner’s bigging up of his own band which also includes local poet/performance artist Uta Baldauf.

Any plans for Year Three? “A record label,” says Sean without hesitation.

Like Soul Jazz or Honest Johns, we want to do current stuff as well as historical releases and compilations.” “Whatever we do,” says Tom, “it’s going to be eclectic. We’re never going to be pigeonholed into one genre...”

Throughout our conversation, Spencer has been looking through the Japanese vinyl and is now ready to pay. He’s a jazz and blues fan but Sean and Tom have clearly blown his mind and his choices reflect this. As I turn to leave he says, “This shop has helped to introduce me to all sorts of other music like reggae, punk, post punk, world music particularly Brazilian music and afrobeat. It’s just such a fantastic eclectic selection.” Sound Records, how long can we keep it a secret?

Sound Records Presents: Flamingods takes place at the SVA Goods Shed on Saturday 28th March. Tickets start from just £10 (for under 25’s) and are available now from Sound Records, SVA John Street and on-line at [sva.org.uk](http://sva.org.uk)

**Ben Wardle is a writer and lecturer in Music Business at University of Gloucestershire.**

# Sound Records Recommended Listening:

## Tom Berry



**1.**  
**Alabaster deplume: To Cy and Lee Instrumentals Vol 1 (Lost Map)**  
Musical poetry from the label run by Prince Albert regulars Pictish Trail



**2.**  
**Caribou: Suddenly (Merge)**  
Dan Snaith’s electronica moniker

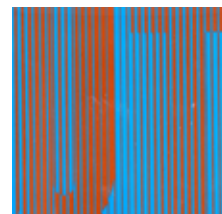


**3.**  
**Gill Scott Heron: We’re New Again - A Reimagining by Makaya McCraven (XL)**  
The Chicago “beat scientist” remixes SH’s final album

## Sean Roe



**1.**  
**Mogadisco: Dancing Mogadishu (Somalia 1972 - 1991) (Analog Africa)**  
Compilation of Somalian disco



**2.**  
**Ut: In Gut’s House (reissue) (Out Records)**  
New York female pre Sonic Youth punk grunge



**3.**  
**Angel Bat Dawid: The Oracle (International Anthem)**  
Chicago clarinetist mixes free jazz with black life documentation



# THE RAT — AFFAIR

By Tom Berry

**Imagine a show that encompasses puppetry, music and theatre. A story with adult themes but appropriate for children as well. A story without words which enables the listener to form their own version of the narrative – such a show is RAT and it comes to Stroud this month...**

Born out of a collaboration of two musicians on the set of a stage version of *We're Going On A Bear Hunt*, *The Rat Affair* project has been in gestation for over two years. Stroud resident Joe Carey (saxophone) and Cornishman Louis Gulliver King (piano, accordion) met through a shared love of Eastern European music and the groundbreaking production of *Shockheaded Peter* by The Tiger Lillies devised theatre. Once the idea of developing a similar concept-based show based around *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* was born, the initial draft of the show was written by Louis almost immediately. The pair worked with other musicians over an intensive week to develop the storytelling and, this in turn drove the music.

Already an album, now a stage show and ultimately a book, this is very much a multi-media project. As the first piece of the jigsaw, the album is a triumph. Recorded at the legendary Sawmill Studios in Fowey and pressed on vinyl as well as available digitally, the record soon

became one of Sound Records' albums of 2019. It first reached our ears when Joe brought it into the shop last summer. We put it on and within an hour we'd sold a couple of copies to interested customers drawn in by an unlikely but fantastic combination of soul, soundtrack, klezmer and rock. The record works very well as a standalone piece or as a sound-track to the story itself. As 2020 arrives however, it is the story that has become the primary focus as the project moves into the stage show phase.

Integral to the live show are three other musicians, double bassist/guitarist Eliot Allison, drummer and vo-calist Roger Luxton and Alyssa Lynch whose violin underpins so many of the most memorable passages. There is clearly a desire to bring a 'gig' mentality to the storytelling, to bring a gig audience to a theatre show and vice versa. Louis readily admits that if he gets a whoop of recognition for any of the pieces of music on the upcoming eleven date tour based on what people have

heard on the record, his work is done!

There are also a couple of puppeteers, lighting and sound technicians to help bring the story to life and, in particular, the simple but beautiful drawings of Ailsa Dalling, which gives the whole project its unique character. Lino prints of Ailsa's drawings are put onto acetates to illustrate the story and provide the audience with pointers to the narrative. Joining Ailsa on stage will be puppeteer Nix Wood, the pair have worked alongside each other for many years, and will be creating the visual world of RAT.

On one level the story of the *Pied Piper* is very simple – a town is infested with rats and a piper is employed to take them away – but actually there are a number of more adult themes that the story explores – greed, migration, generational gaps and ostracized communities are just a few of the narratives that the team expect their audience to consider.

The show has already played to receptive audiences in Cornwall

and will visit Stroud before taking in Bristol, Wolverhampton and other locations before a possible wider tour and even festival dates in the future. The show will literally evolve as it is performed each night with enough flexibility in the storytelling to enable different outcomes if that feels appropriate at any time.

What comes next for the group is as yet unclear but there are plenty of ideas in the pipeline. In the mean-time we have a unique opportunity to see a project which has involved over twenty people in its inception and is continuing to mutate. Whether you love theatre, storytelling or just damn good music you'd be a fool to miss its arrival at the SVA Goods Shed on Wednesday 4th March.

Tickets available from [sva.org.uk](http://sva.org.uk) and visit [therataffair.com](http://therataffair.com) for further info.

**Tom Berry is a record shop proprietor, DJ and Minnie Riperton obsessive. He can be found propping up the counter at Sound Records at 31 High St.**

# MUSIC LISTINGS

## ALE HOUSE

### FRI 6TH

#### The Rockers

Authentic sounding rockabilly, dismantling and re-arranging some of the biggest chart-toppers and pop classics they could think of, stripping them down and hot-rodging them just as back yard mechanics did to '32 Fords in the 1950's. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 13TH

#### Limelight

Classic and progressive covers. 8:30pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Mekon Man

Garage rockabilly with its roots in the juke joints of the Medway Delta, the band formed after moonshine fuelled sessions on the verandas of their hidden shotgun shacks in the Stroud valleys. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 26TH

#### Ale House Jazz

The Split Tone Quartet featuring American born saxophonist Craig Crofton and celebrated guitarist Matt Hopkins. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 27TH

#### Liam Ward Band

Original harp-driven rhythm and blues. 8:30pm Free

## BOX VILLAGE HALL

### SUN 29TH

#### The Great Cabaret Safari

The 'effortlessly funny' ShooShooBaby, have been appreciated by audiences all over the world, earning them a reputation for their excellent singing and musicianship. Expect water-tight harmonising on a wonderful array of razorsharp original cabaret songs, alongside music by Queen, Louis Prima, Ennio Morricone and The Proclaimers. 7:30pm

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

## THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

### THURS 5TH

#### Open Mic Night

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

### THURS 12TH

#### BYO Vinyl

Bring your own vinyl! LP's and singles and the Sceptre will play them... 8:30pm Free

### FRI 13TH

#### Howlin Mat

Flaming hot blues guitar... 8:30pm Free

### TUES 17TH

#### St Patricks Day

Live music from the pubs own Hairy Craic plus cheap Guinness and Whiskey... Open from 3pm Free

### FRI 20TH

#### Texas Tic Fever

Moonshine fuelled Americana. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 26TH

#### Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish Acoustic Session with Tim Potts. 8pm Free

### SAT 28TH

#### Crooked Stylus Crooked Equinox

DJ Night with DJ Darius and friends. 8:30pm Free

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

## HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

### THURS 26TH

#### Created @ Hawkwood

Informal concert resulting from a week-long Artist Residency with Matthew Barley, internationally known cellist, improviser, arranger and artistic director. His musical world is focused on projects that connect people in different ways, blurring the boundaries between genres and people. Alongside is Abel Selaocoe who is redefining the parameters of cello, moving seamlessly between genres and styles. 8pm (by donation to Hawkwood Bursary Fund)

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

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

### SAT 28TH

#### Stroud Symphony Orchestra

Stroud Symphony Orchestra return to the Holy Trinity Church to perform Overture, Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss, Sibelius Violin Concerto with soloist John Pearce. 7:30pm £12/£10concs from the Sub Rooms

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

## LANSDOWN HALL

### SAT 28TH

#### Chris Wood

For the third concert in their series, Leveret presents Chris Wood. In a world of soundbites and distractions Wood is a truth seeker. His writing is permeated with love and wry intelligence, uplifting and challenging as he celebrates the sheer one-thing-after-anotherness of life. Tom Robinson and Chris Difford are fans while Stick in The Wheel and The Unthanks look to him as an influence. Winner of 6 BBC Folk Awards, he's played with The Royal Shakespeare Company and was a key member of The Imagined Village along with Billy Bragg and Martin Carthy. 7:30pm £16.50/£12 under 30 from [eventbrite.co.uk](http://eventbrite.co.uk)

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

## LITTLE VIC

### SUN 8TH

#### Barny's Live Music: Alden Patterson Dashwood

Monthly music night, special guest Alden Patterson Dashwood with MC Kieran Archer. Floor spots available! 7:15pm £4(suggested donation)

### SUN 22ND

#### Barny's Live Music: Concert Evening

Line up tba soon!

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

## THE PRINCE ALBERT

### SUN 1ST

#### The Undercover Hippy

A rare treat to catch Billy Rowan, aka The Undercover Hippy, giving an intimate solo performance, an opportunity to hear the songs in their rawest form, up close and personal. One of Billy's biggest strengths is the way he manages to pack his songs full of political and social commentary whilst at the same time remaining playful and uplifting, and this playfulness is even more apparent in an acoustic setting. Covering topics from fake news, internet privacy and the U.S. election, to nappy wearing barristers and best friends trying to snog your mum, his performance takes you on a rollercoaster of storytelling and thought provoking protest pieces. 8:30pm £12adv from [tickettailor.com](http://tickettailor.com)

### MON 2ND

#### Singing Group

Monthly meeting of likeminded singers and storytellers. 8pm Free

### THURS 5TH

#### Sefrial

With influences as diverse as John Zorn, Medeski Martin and Wood, and Tin Hat, Sefrial is the brain-child of rising star Sophie Stockham. With a saxophone-heavy front line featuring the energy and lyricism of Sophie's alto, complemented by the unmistakable sound and brilliance of Jake McMurchie on tenor, groove and invention is provided by the chief composer Matt Brown on drums, under-pinned by the warm sound of Greg Cordez on bass. The band is completed by the distinctive Joe Wilkins on guitar, who blends the blues and energy of Jimi Hendrix with the subtlety of Bill Frisell or Marc Ribot. 8:45pm Free

### SAT 7TH

#### Orphic

New acoustic jazz quartet based in Bristol, UK. Includes members of Sefrial, Get The Blessing, Dakhla Brass, Modulus III, We Are Leif. Playing tunes by the likes of Johnny Dyani, Joshua Redman, Thelonious Monk and the Art Ensemble of Chicago. 9pm Free

### FRI 13TH

#### The Magpies

The Magpies formed in their hometown of York, initially a duo project between Bella Gaffney and Polly Bolton, until the line-up expanded to a quartet joining forces with acclaimed cellist Sarah Smout and fiddle ace Holly Brandon. They each draw on their transatlantic influences to create a unique blend of Celtic and bluegrass folk, transporting audiences to distant lands and capturing imaginations with their enthralling live show. 9pm Free

### SAT 14TH

#### Biscuit Head and the Biscuit Badgers

Faster than a speeding puffin, more chocolatey than a chocolate labrador, descending from apes (if they are tall enough) Biscuithead and the Biscuit Badgers release your ears to play backgammon undisturbed. Tuba,

piano, drums, ukulele, tickling and rubbing your senses into a fun stew. Enjoy yourselves, if you can; they are greater than you think. 9:30pm Free

### SUN 15TH

#### Katey Brooks

With her new album Revolute newly released, the mercurial songstress is more determined than ever to do things her own way. Revolute isn't just an album - it's an awakening for both artist and listener. The wider music scene will be watching the rise of this once-a-generation talent. 8:30pm £12 from [ticketweb.co.uk](http://ticketweb.co.uk)

### WEDS 18TH

#### Jon Wilks

Acoustic guitarist, folk strummer and singer-songwriter, based near Winchester also part of The Grizzly Folk "one of the best of the New Wave of Folk Blokes", says fRoots Mag, adding, "As a guitar player and arranger of traditional songs, Jon already deserves speaking of in the same breath as your Simpsons and your Morays." 8:45pm Free

### THURS 19TH

#### Swamp Stomp String Band

Not your average Americana band. Twangy Banjos, driving guitars, scratchy washboards and a thudding double bass sit behind anything from drinking songs that will have the room stomping their feet and shooting tequila to ballads that will break even the most toughest folk, to ragtime songs of bar fights and gambling. Taking a mixture of Jazz, Country, Swing, Blues and Ragtime - it is safe to say their music is there to be enjoyed by people young and old, rich or poor, or who just love to stomp their feet and have a ho-down. 8:30pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Slate Trio

Albert favourite and maverick guitar hero Neil Smith (This Is The Kit, Milon, The Brackish) brings his new instrumental trio with truly exceptional drummer Matthew Jones (Zun Zun Egui, The Brackish) and bassist Pete Gibbs (Bloom Collective, Count Bobo) to Stroud for a first visit. Expect energy, angularity, and shards of genius. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 27TH

#### Marmalade

Fabulous new funk soul disco band from Norwich. That's all we can say for now but they are playing their first gigs around the country and stopping at the Albert for a night... Hurrah! 9pm Free

### SAT 28TH

#### Alcuna Wilds

British/Dutch band based in the Netherlands. The band creates atmospheric trip-rock music, combining ambient soundscapes, driving beats and strong melodic riffs, with rich, melancholic vocals and observant, reflective lyrics. Formed of members from both sides of the North Sea, their diverse influences contribute to their distinctive sound. 8:30pm Free

### SUN 29TH

#### Dave Ayre's Baroque Night

The music of Bach, Vivaldi, Handel and other brilliant composers played beautifully by a wonderful ensemble

of professional musicians and 400 year old rounds sung superbly by an enthusiastic audience are just two reasons why Dave Ayre's Baroque Night is so highly regarded by music lovers from all backgrounds. And it's in Stroud's pub of the year! 8pm £13.50adv

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

#### STAR ANISE

#### SUN 29TH

##### Sunday Selections

Music lovers unite, come down to the new monthly reggae and dub night in cozy Star Anise. Selectas spinning vinyl all evening, accompanied by live instruments and singers. Powered by two 15 inch bass bins. Come and have a dance on your Sunday evening, nice vibes all round. Licenced bar. Under 16s to be accompanied by an adult. 6pm

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

#### STROUD BREWERY

#### TUES 3RD/10TH/17TH/24TH/31ST

##### Open Mic Night

Stroud Brewery's weekly open mic night. Poets, comedians, jugglers, ventriloquists, mimes, magicians and (statistically) musicians are welcome to take the stage! 15 - 20 minute sets depending on time. If you're not a performer then clap loudly, sing along, laugh at the jokes and have a blooming good time. Family friendly(ish). 7:30pm Free

#### FRI 6TH

##### Thee Ones

Legendary Stroud favourites Thee Ones play in Stroud Brewery's balcony bar, playing original soul, jazz, R&B and 60s Hammond beats. This energetic live band has been known to whip crowds into a serious party with their Latin rhythms and incredible dance moves... Not to be missed! 7:30pm Free

#### SAT 7TH

##### Bob Porter Project

Stroud based Americana group - 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. 8pm Free

#### THURS 12TH

##### Bagelites

Local folk talent playing traditional English folk and gypsy tunes... All acoustic, the traditional way! 8pm Free

#### SAT 14TH

##### The Whiteshillbillies

The Whiteshillbillies return to the Brewery for another night of high-energy bluegrass, country and rock'n roll. This six piece enjoy their music and as we know from the last time they played here, the audience certainly does too. 8pm Free

#### SAT 21ST

##### Ne'er Cast A Clout

Play their own songs straight from the heart. Music that weaves through strands of folk, roots and blues, reflecting on the ups and downs of life and our interconnectedness with nature. 8pm Free

#### FRI 27TH

##### Overproof DJ's

Stroud Brewery's monthly instalment of the Overproof DJ's spinning the very best of, raregroove and Latin to reggae and hip hop. Always a great way to start your weekend!! 6pm Free

#### SAT 28TH

##### Lewis Clark

Talented songwriter playing a range of originals and covers taking inspiration from folk to blues. 8pm Free

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

#### THE SUB ROOMS

#### FRI 13TH

##### Steve Davis and Kavus Torabi

World Snooker Champion Steve Davis comes to Stroud for a 2.5 hour DJ set! Steve will be playing an eclectic blend of psychedelia and techno assisted by his DJ partner Kavus Torabi from Gong. "One of the joys of the last few years in the music industry has been the rise and rise of Steve Davis as one of the most well-loved and respected DJs and radio hosts in the country." Drowned in Sound 9pm £11.50-£13.50

#### SAT 14TH

##### Trading Post Presents: Don Letts

Don Letts' reputation has been firmly established in both the film and music world by a substantial body of work from the late 70's through the 80's, 90's and well into the millennium. In 2003 he won a Grammy for his documentary 'Westway To The World'. He came to notoriety in the late 70's as the DJ that single handedly turned a whole generation of punks onto reggae. It was whilst as a DJ at the first punk club 'The Roxy' in 1977, that Don adopted the punk D.I.Y ethic and began to make his first film 'The Punk Rock Movie'. Shot on Super-8mm, it is the only documentary on the U.K punk scene with Sex Pistols, The Clash and many others. 8pm £15.50

#### THURS 19TH

##### Keith James Concert for A Changing World

Unique and timeless songs of vision, question and change. Words that reverberate with the tenacity of human spirit in these current times of brooding disquiet, fractured societies and civil unrest. Songs that have changed history and moved millions of people to do things they never thought possible. Included in this concert are songs written by Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Paul Simon, Joni Mitchell, Cat Stevens, Nina Simone, Leonard Cohen and Keith. For this concert, the original living writers of each song have been asked to compose powerful brand new verses that stand proud in the 21st century against this current wave of crises. 8pm £15.50

#### SUN 22ND

##### Stroud Refugee Aid Choir: Handel's Messiah

Stroud Refugee Aid Choir returns with a performance of Messiah. The Choir will be joined by Capriol Chamber Orchestra and four excellent local soloists. The conducting will be a double act, shared between Hugh Barton and Jon Trim. Capriol will start the concert with Handel's overture. The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba.

Stroud Refugee Aid Choir is an open access community choir of 100 singers. This year they are giving to Save the Children's Yemen and Syria appeal and Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (GARAS). 7:30pm £12.50

#### SAT 28TH

##### SubTrax Presents: Father Funk and WBBL

Father Funks bass driven funk tracks and eclectic, tongue in cheek DJ sets are world renowned - landing him sets at the likes of Glastonbury Festival, Shambhala Music Festival, Boomtown Fair, Rainbow Serpent Festival and clubs all over the world. WBBL specialises in beats bigger than Ben Nevis and basslines chunkier than that milk you forgot to throw out last week... 9pm £13.50

#### SUN 29TH

##### ThumbSucker Presents: Marika Hackman

Marika Hackman had a sensational 2019 with the release of her latest album Any Human Friend. An unashamedly sensual, sexual and sweary new record, don't miss Marika perform live as she returns to her raw, evocative best. Intrigue is at the heart of Marika Hackman's music but there's something gloriously attainable about her as an artist - her commitment to touring and meeting with a receptive audience who are searching for the very same antidotes to the challenges of modern life. 8pm £16.50

#### THURS 31ST

##### The Fun Lovin' Crime Writers

Having temporarily put down their pens and picked up guitars, this crime-writing super-group - Mark Billingham, Val McDermid, Chris Brookmyre, Luca Veste, Doug Johnstone and Stuart Neville - happily murder much-loved songs by The Clash, Elvis Costello, Hank Williams, The Beatles, Talking Heads, The Jam, Johnny Cash and many others who are currently considering legal action. Between them, they have sold over 20 million books worldwide and won every major crime-writing award, but now they're rocking out on the stage instead of the page and performing killer tunes in a series of roof-removing shows at major festivals and rock venues. Murder on the dancefloor is guaranteed... 8pm £21

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

#### SVA

#### WEDS 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

##### 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 £10td (John Street)

#### WEDS 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

##### Flamenco Workshop

Open it to anyone interested to learn about flamenco in general so anyone can join either clapping, playing cajon or singing. Contributions welcome. Every Weds (term time only) 7:30pm (John Street)

#### WEDS 4TH

##### The Rat Affair Presents: RAT

The Pied Piper of Hamelin reimaged through live music and shadow

puppetry. Amidst a musical score that shifts between sensationally boisterous Eastern European folk and sparse reflective piano works, RAT tells the tale of a curious man who offers to rid a corrupt town in crisis by driving its vermin infestation away. It questions the very nature of theatre by removing speech from the narrative, choosing instead to adopt the use of exquisite puppetry and projection to present a powerful spectacle of light and sound. Suitable for audiences 10+ 7:30pm £7adv from SVA/£8.40(plus booking fee) online (Goods Shed)

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

##### John St Social

Come and watch Izzy Martini turn those beans into creamy espresso martinis at the John Street Social. Happy hour specials from 6pm. Plus an eclectic vinyl and visual mix by guest DJs. 6pm

#### THURS 12TH

##### Stroud Jazz Sessions: Dom Franks

This month Stroud Jazz Sessions presents Dom Franks as their jazz-smoking special guest!! With saccharine bebop licks edging into funky dives and samba sways, Dom is a 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 14TH

##### Round up #4: Yama Warashi

A new monthly event at The Goods Shed Round Up sees Bristol group Ishmael Ensemble team up with d&b audiotechnik for a unique 360 degree soundscape experience. Formed by Bristol-based Japanese artist Yoshino Shigihara, Yama Warashi create a dreamy evocative sound, inspired by Japanese folk, dance music, free jazz and African music with a slice of electric psychedelia. With a sound that is rooted in jazz Ishmael Ensemble combine brass, beats and a "swirling blizzard of electronics" (Clash) to create mesmerizing soundscapes. The brainchild of multi-instrumentalist & producer Pete Cunningham a.k.a. Ishmael, the band have quickly caught the attention of influential tastemakers such as Gilles Peterson, Tom Robinson and just about everyone else. 8pm £10-£20 (Goods Shed)

#### FRI 20TH

##### WelRd Sh!T

Shhhhhhh... An evening of lowercase low key sonic explorations - with live performances by Ivy Nostrum (Paul Margree): Amateur tape sludge/low-grade noise/entry-level concrete music and Gout: Collaboration between Detritus Plates and David Sheppard - a hundred something years, almost ghosts. "It's barely music." Hosts Neil Walker and Sean Roe will spin a few records and screen a few videos before, between and after... 7:30pm £5otd/£1members (John Street)

#### SAT 21ST

##### LOSS<<<>>GAIN Presents: Playback#3 - Jónsi and Alex Somers

Jónsi and Alex Somers - Riceboy Sleeps - Live at Sydney Opera House. A world-first surround-sound presentation of the landmark ambient album with full orchestra and choir. The Sydney Opera House performance

# CROWN AND SCEPTRE



## MARCH EVENTS

Wednesday 4th	<b>STEAK NIGHT</b>	Booking Essential from 6pm - 7pm
Thursday 5th	<b>OPEN MIC NIGHT</b>	Hosted by Reverend Stretch All are Welcome from 8pm
Saturday 7th	<b>ENGLAND v WALES</b>	6 NATIONS Rugby Live Kick-off at 4:45pm
Thursday 12th	<b>BRING YOUR OWN VINYL</b>	Play your own LPs and Singles on the HiFi From 8:00pm
Friday 13th	<b>CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP HOWLIN' MATT Live</b>	Sweepstakes Available Flamin Hot Blue Guitar From 8:30pm
Saturday 14th	<b>ITALY v ENGLAND</b>	6 NATIONS Rugby Live Kick-off at 2:45pm
Tuesday 17th	<b>ST PATRICKS DAY</b>	Music from the Hairy Craic Cheap Guinness and Whiskey
Thursday 19th	<b>PROBABLY THE BEST COMEDY NIGHT IN THE WORLD</b>	Comedy Hosted by Gavin Pond, Staring Nigel Lovell and many more. Live from 8pm
Friday 20th	<b>TEXAS TICK FEVER Live</b>	Moonshine Filled Americana From 8:30pm
Wednesday 25th	<b>THE CURRY LOUNGE</b>	Taste of the East by Reverend Stretch Bookings from 6pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 26th	<b>RODDAS HAIRY CRAIC Live</b>	Irish Acoustic Sessions with Tim Potts - Live from 8pm
Saturday 28th	<b>CROOKED STYLUS</b>	Crooked Equinox with DJ Darius Live from 8pm until Late
Monday 30th	<b>MEAT FREE MONDAY</b>	Inspired Vegetarian Cuisine by Erin Bookings from 6pm - 7:30pm

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BRISTOL ENSEMBLE

# Tea-Time Concerts

Christ Church, Nailsworth  
Sunday 22 March at 3pm

Beethoven Piano Trio in D Op.70 'Ghost'  
Fauré Piano Trio in D minor Op.120

The professional musicians of the Bristol Ensemble perform Beethoven's 'Ghost' trio, full of Gothic brooding, together with Fauré's elegiac D minor piano trio.

TICKETS £10 on the door  
[www.bristolensemble.com](http://www.bristolensemble.com)

in July 2019 was the world premiere, featuring brand new arrangements from David Handler (Le Poisson Rouge, NYC) and Robert Ames (London Contemporary Orchestra) to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the classic 2009 album. Performed by Sydney Opera House Orchestra and Choir. The third in a series of immersive listening experiences presented by sound designer David Sheppard and music industry veteran John Best. Presented using d&b audiotechnik Soundscape. 8pm £4-£6 (Goods Shed)

**SAT 28TH****Sound Records Presents: Flamingods**

Sound records present a psychedelic spectacular to mark their second birthday in partnership with SVA. Headlining this very special event are international psych explorers Flamingods who released their celebratory fourth album 'Levitation' in 2019. Inspired largely by the disco, funk and psychedelic sounds coming out of the Middle East and South Asia in the 70s, the album channels these influences through a vision soaked in mysticism, positivity and sun-drenched imagery. In support is Graham Dunning's Mechanical Techno, an extraordinarily eccentric and wonderful musical contraption. Opening the evening are Woolheads featuring the closely knitted pairing of Sound Records' very own Sean Roe and performance artist and poet Uta Baldauf. Very special DJ guests on the night are Stroud's very own Dubbu and Mendoza, the duo who masterminded Stroud Block Party play a riotous mix of reggae, soul, funk and hip hop. The closing set of the night is provided by another Stroudie, Moïna Moin who will keep us grooving to the early hours with her unique mix of afro, disco and house. 8pm £15-£20 (Goods Shed)

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

**TRINITY ROOMS****SAT 14TH****Stroud Sacred Music Festival Presents: Susie Ro and Ravi Ji – Sound Journey**

Join two talented world musicians for a deeply nourishing and uplifting evening of original heart songs, improvised creations, prayer and celebration! Delicious refreshments before and after by Juiciful. 7pm £12adv from eventbrite.co.uk/£10concs/£15otd

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

**CHRIST CHURCH NAILSWORTH****SUN 22ND****Bristol Ensemble Tea Time Concerts**

The professional musicians of the Bristol Ensemble perform Beethoven's 'Ghost' trio, full of Gothic brooding, together with Fauré's elegiac D minor piano trio...3pm £10otd

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

**MINCHINHAMPTON COTSWOLD CLUB****THURS 5TH/12TH/19TH/26TH****Minchinhampton Folk Club**

Minchinhampton Folk Club meets every Thursday evening at the Minchinhampton Cotswold Club, 11 High Street, Minchinhampton. Folk,

Country, Blues, pop, anything goes. Regular spotlights, guests and theme nights. Check website for up-to-date listings. 8pm £2 (donation)

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

**RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH****SAT 21ST****Salt House**

Salt House is Jenny Sturgeon, Ewan MacPherson and Lauren MacColl. A sense of place captured in sound, their album Undersong has been praised by fRoots for bringing startling freshness to the British tradition with songs that murmur of Scandinavia and Scotland. 8pm £12/£7concs

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

**ST MARY'S CHURCH NORTH WOODCHESTER****SAT 28TH****The Cappella Singers: Music for Passiontide**

Works by Hildegard of Bingen, Victoria, Sheppard, Sweelinck and Schütz, plus a setting of the Lord's Prayer by Rimsky-Korsakov, choral pieces by Stanford, Duruflé and Mark Blatchly, and organ solos with music by Bach and Brahms. £10adv/£12.50otd

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

**PAINSWICK CENTRE****FRI 20TH****Canton Acre Promotions Presents: Megson**

Four times nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and double winners of the Spiral Earth Awards, Megson, aka Stu and Debbie Hanna, draw heavily on their Teesside heritage to create a truly unique brand of folk music. 2019 saw the release of their much anticipated new studio album Contradichshun gaining them even more critical acclaim. 7:30pm £15 from [cantonacrepromotions@gmail.com](mailto:cantonacrepromotions@gmail.com)

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

**ST MARY'S CHURCH PAINSWICK****SAT 21ST****Painswick Music Society Presents: Tasmin Little and Piers Lane**

Tasmin Little is one of today's leading international violinists and has performed in some of the most prestigious venues in the world. She will be stepping down from the concert platform this summer after around 2000 performances over 30 years. 3pm £20/£5 children and students.

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

**PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY****FRI 6TH****Songwriters Circle w/ Greg Hancock, Alex Seel and Madeleine Harwood**

Three prominent UK singer-songwriters take to the stage to share their compositions. Greg Hancock has a solid reputation as one of the UK's most original songwriters and skilful guitarists. Alex Seel's songs go right to the heart of the matter. Whether he's exploring themes of love, life or modern society, he weaves his

deceptively gentle lyrics around subtle and sophisticated melodies and song structures. Madeleine Harwood impresses audiences with her beautiful and expressive voice and emotive song writing...7:30pm £12/£9concs/£10friends/£8concs/£16otd

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

**CARPENTERS ARMS MISERDEN****WEDS 4TH****Bill Taylor and Martin Vogwell**

Bill Taylor will be joined by Folklaw's Martin Vogwell performing traditional and contemporary songs and ballads. Rich vocals and harmonies with guitar and mandolin accompaniments. 8pm Free

**WEDS 11TH****Wildwood Jack**

Wildwood Jack are a totally unique acoustic guitar and ukulele duo from Kent. Having sold their home in 2013 to hit the road and tour the world they bring a heart-warming and adventurous spirit to their music and to audiences wherever they play. Enjoy wonderful interplay between guitar

and ukulele. 8pm Free

**WEDS 18TH****Banshee**

Three piece folk band from the Forest of Dean playing mainly Celtic songs and tunes on a large selection of instruments. 8pm Free

**WEDS 25TH****Shaggy Dog Raconteurs**

Gloucestershire based American Folk/Country Blues/Americana quartet with a dash of Bluegrass and Ragtime. They have original melodies to make your grandmother blush and your grandfather whistle. 8pm Free

[thecarps-miserden.co.uk](http://thecarps-miserden.co.uk)

**UNDER THE EDGE ARTS WOTTON UNDER EDGE****SAT 7TH****RSVP Bhangra**

RSVP is spearheading the renaissance of live Bhangra in the UK. From massive stages at Glastonbury (12 years) and Womad (4 years), to concert venues across the UK and Europe, they're always guaranteed to get everyone dancing. 8pm £10.50/£9.50concs

**FRI 13TH****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. 8pm Free

**SAT 14TH****The Charlton Blues Kings**

A 5 piece rhythm 'n' blues band from Gloucestershire, the Blues Kings serve up an energetic mix of Jump & Swing Blues that will soon have you out of your seats and dancing the night away. 8pm £10.50/£8.50concs

**SAT 21ST****Tom McConville with David Newey**

Award winning fiddle player and singer Tom McConville is internationally renowned for his fiery, heart-stopping performances. Winner of the BBC Folk Musician of the Year in 2009, he is truly the most original fiddle player in the UK. Blending traditional music from his home town of Newcastle with Irish, American and Scottish influences, he creates a sound that has jazz, folk, bluegrass and classical influence. 8pm £15.50

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



## OUT NOW: SAM SWEENEY UNEARTH REPEAT

After embarking on a solo career, releasing his debut solo album *The Unfinished Violin* on Island Records and touring it to sell-out crowds in 2019, Sam is releasing his highly anticipated second solo album, *Unearth Repeat*, on Hudson Records in March 2020.

Moving on from his five year connection to the First World War, which inspired his first album and captured the nation's hearts through appearances on Antiques Roadshow and BBC Breakfast, alongside BBC Radio 2, 3, 4 and 6Music, Sam is making music on his own terms, with a stellar line up of his favourite musicians and a massive sound.

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



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Letts**

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MUSIC

**The Fun Lovin'  
Crime Writers**

Tues 31st Mar | 8pm  
£21

# THE WAYZZGOOSE PRINTERS FAIR

By Lorna Jenkins

**A Wayzgoose was at one time an entertainment given by a master printer to his workmen each year on or about St Bartholomew's Day (24 August). It marked the traditional end of summer and the start of the season of working by candlelight. Later, the word came to refer to an annual outing and dinner for the staff of a printing works or the printers on a newspaper.**

Nowadays, it refers to any kind of celebration, exhibition or event in the printing world, and more specifically for us, it's a letterpress exhibition, sale and party at Stroud Brewery on March 7-8, showcasing the area's crème de la crème of the inky world of letterpress.

Organised by renowned letterpress poet and writer Dennis Gould with book designer and graphic artist Lucy Guenot, plus others, this year's Wayzgoose will include artists and craftspeople such as John Furnival, Andrew Morrison, Otto Goble, Nick Pride, Imi Maufe and of course Dennis and Lucy themselves who met through Kitty Crossley, a fellow printmaker who will also feature in the fair.

Dennis is a famous face in Stroud, his workshop tucked away next to Star Anise Café. His story is such that an entire issue of Good on Paper could be devoted to him, and indeed his personal story has been featured on these pages previously. Born in Burton-On-Trent and raised in Derbyshire it includes a stint in the army, campaigning for nuclear disarmament, a brief spell in prison, and poetry. He came to Stroud in 1989 to visit his friend, fellow peace activist John Marjoram. Nowadays you can find him on Saturdays selling his works at

the Shambles market.

He started letterpress printing in 1991 after meeting John Grice, who established Evergreen Press in the 1980s in Stonehouse. "Before Tesco was built by Stratford Park there was a tree sit in and I wrote a poem called Stroud Eye Views about the trees and John printed it. Two weeks later I bought a letterpress," Dennis explains.

The world of letterpress has "completely changed" since Dennis began. "In 1991-92 there were mostly the old private presses, you know they had their letterpress machines and type and it reminded me of how the old booksellers used to be. All the old booksellers used to hate paperback, paperback books were seen as cheap and would bring ordinary people into the bookshop and they hated it, so it's similar with the old printers, they were slightly snuffy about things like post guards. I mean I am generalizing. The man at the Whittington Press – John Randale – is the opposite, he includes and encourages everyone else. He is the letterpress man in the country who just happens to be in Cheltenham."

Lucy completed a masters in Multi-Disciplinary Printmaking at the

University of the West of England, and is a member of the Gloucestershire Printmaking Cooperative (GPC) in Thrupp.

There are more than 16 letterpress printers in the Stroud Brewery event, and almost all live in or have a connection to Stroud. This seems rather a lot of people for what was a little-known discipline? "In Stroud I think it's because there's such a good artistic community, so there are things like the Stroud Artists Book Group and quite a few of those members use letterpress. I am part of the GPC and we've got letterpress there. All of these places they end up linking up and people keep in touch. Of course, Dennis himself is a bit of a club figure himself and so people know him, because he is so generous with his time, space and gives gifts so much," Lucy tells me.

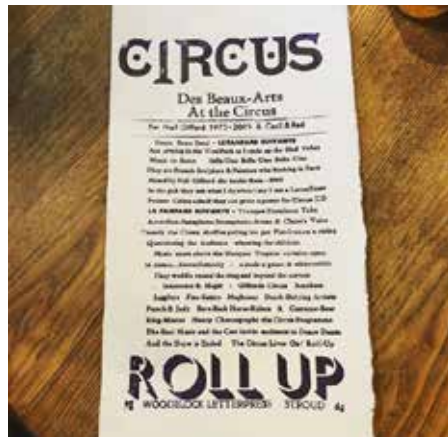
"There is an international network of letterpress printers, and there are many more than one would imagine," Dennis adds. "A lot of them aren't members of any group. There is an Oxford Guild of Letterpress printers, which many belong to. Perhaps every other town has a letter press printer, if not more than one. Most of them print private press books, that are more limited edition, but there

is a new generation. A lot of young women who are letterpress printers, you can see they can be independent by printing, making cards and posters and doing what we call 'jobbing printing' – every day printing – and that's a whole new wave. I've been to several art schools talking about letterpress where they've put it back in. Most art schools have got letterpress that they kept, and now they're using as a contrast to computer design."

It can't be a coincidence that the craft is enjoying a resurgence as our lives have become more engulfed by screens and digital products. Dennis agrees: "There is a resurgence of craft because of the computer, the screen, which are virtual, crafts give self-confidence, but also of course you are using your body as well as your mind. I think there is a great need. Everyone needs to do something physical, and sadly now in society most people don't get the chance, unless you do take up an art or a craft of passion."

"Touch is very important in printing isn't it, the feel of the paper, all of the senses really – when you're rolling out the paper the hiss of the ink has to be right, you've got to get the right sound so you know you've got the right amount of ink, the smell, it's just very sensual in





**“What distinguishes it from computer design, even with distressed letters on the computer, is that the inks are denser, so the black is blacker than you could ever get on a computer, and the red is redder and so on. It used to be called the black art, letterpress, not because it was devilish, but because of the ink,”**

**Dennis Gould**

a way and is an antidote to the screen which can be so isolating,” Lucy adds.

“What distinguishes it from computer design, even with distressed letters on the computer, is that the inks are denser, so the black is blacker than you could ever get on a computer, and the red is redder and so on. It used to be called the black art, letterpress, not because it was devilish, but because of the ink,” Dennis says.

“Setting type is very meditative isn’t it,” Lucy gestures to Dennis’ piles of printed work in front of us. “You can’t rush it, you have to concentrate. With printmaking the process is as much the pleasure of it as the final product. The wooden letters are so beautiful they are lovely objects in themselves, they are very pleasing to work with.”

Is it also that we are excited by the imperfect? In an Instagram-perfected world Dennis and Lucy’s work is a beautiful antidote, the occasional smudge making it all the more charming. “Yes, but if you say that to the fine printers they would be horrified you see, by my work!” laughs Dennis. “Badly printed wooden type that’s the absolutely horror. There’s a divide,” Lucy explains, “I think the difference

is that we come to it from an artist or craftsman side,” Dennis says. “I was a writer so technically I knew nothing, and I wasn’t interested originally in the technical side, although I am now, I just wanted to produce the work. Ironically, it is what people like, but it is what fine printers hate! John recognized what I was doing and what other craft artists were doing, even though our printing, in their eyes, is appalling, you know. I am pleased when it comes out clear, but I am not concentrating on that, whereas the fine printers do. But there’s this whole network now of printers who are primarily artists and printers who are doing their own designs and their own art and posters. It has grown considerably.”

The Waygoose Printers Fair takes place at Stroud Brewery on March 7-8, 12-4pm and includes cards, posters, books, printing equipment and a letterpress exhibition.

**Lorna Jenkins is an editor and freelance journalist from Stroud. She also paints and sells her work during Stroud Open Studios and in Made in Stroud. Instagram: @lornapaintsandwrites**

# ARTS LISTINGS

## 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. Weds – Sat 10am-5pm

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

## CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND ART

### SUN 15TH

#### Drop-in Art History Talk: Rodin

Keith Symonds will be presenting a fully illustrated talk on the fascinating life and works of Auguste Rodin, whose sculptures of the human figure are firmly rooted in the western tradition but also belong to the modern era. 2-4pm £10/£8concs (incl tea and biscuits during the break)

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

## 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](http://facebook.com/dufflevintage)

## ELVERS STUDIO

Coming up soon an exhibition of eclectic mirrors and frames, unusual designs you'll see nowhere else plus mounted originals in Elvers Studio 'Art Sale' during February and March... As always unique handmade jewellery and other objects of interest all created and designed by Tristana, plus commissions are always welcome. Tues-Fri 10am-3pm/Sat 11am-4pm

[facebook.com/elversstudio](http://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](http://alyssadabbsart.com)

## GALLERY PANGOLIN

### SAT 7TH MAR – SAT 18TH APR

#### Ellis O'Connell: Lightly Touching the Earth Back

Ireland's pre-eminent sculptor, Ellis O'Connell's inspirations are drawn from a wide range of sources natural or man-made, including archaeology, architecture, plants and things she collects while travelling or hill walking by the sea near her home. 'lightly touching the earth back' showcases O'Connell's beautiful maquettes and her poetic use of materials, including bronze, stainless steel, silver, resin and found objects. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat 10am-1pm

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

## LANSDOWN HALL

### TUES 10TH – SAT 14TH

#### Wild Art: ReConnect Befriending

An exhibition of nature-based art by Wild Lives Art Group – enabling people affected by stroke and other long term health conditions. The Wild Lives group meet weekly in Stroud and support each other, under the guidance of an artist, to create art inspired by nature. 10am – 5pm

### TUES 24TH – SAT 28TH

#### Observations: Stroud Life Drawing

'Observations' is a group art exhibition which showcases the very varied creative work undertaken by artists who attend Stroud Life Drawing's twice-weekly sessions at the Centre for Science and Art. It will be their ninth group exhibition and the most varied and interesting so far. In addition to figure studies, there will be plenty of landscapes, still-life, portraits, ceramics and other works in a wide variety of media. The walls of the gallery will be covered with approximately one hundred pictures, making the show well worth a visit. 10am-4:30pm

### TUES 31ST MAR – SUN 5TH APR

#### Journey

Journey is an exhibition by local artists on the theme of travel, in its widest sense. The artists will showcase their work through examples of photography, painting, print and sculpture. Each will be unique and personal to the artist. 10am-5pm/Private View Tues 31st 6-8pm

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

## MUSEUM IN THE PARK

### SAT 25TH JAN - SUN 8TH MAR

#### Val Hunt: Endangered and Extinct

An exhibition of work by creative recycling artist Val Hunt. With inspiration, ingenuity, humour and skill, artist Val Hunt has created a fascinating selection of large and small sculptural pieces which are both appealing and informative. Animals, exotic birds, fish, dinosaurs and species of flora, all on the edge or now extinct, have been made from a selection of throwaway materials, especially Val's

favourite medium, drinks can metal. This colourful and thought provoking exhibition presents a subtle message about recycling and preservation, raising awareness of why the creatures on show are endangered or extinct and why species are disappearing from our planet at such an alarming rate. Admission free, many works available to purchase. Tues - Fri 10am-4:30pm/Sat - Sun 11am-4:30pm

### SAT 25TH JAN – SUN 8TH MAR

#### Art Made for Cotswold's Rare Grasslands

This exhibition shows artworks made by members of the public in celebration of the beautiful and increasingly rare limestone grasslands of the Cotswolds. Each piece of work has been created on paper handmade by artist Joanna Callaghan using wildflowers and grasses typical of local chalk grasslands. Children and adults took a piece of the handmade paper and using natural art materials made an image showing what this wonderful natural habitat meant to them. The beautiful and varied pieces of art were all made as part of the Limestone Living Legacies Project run by Bank from the Brink. Tues - Fri 10am-4:30pm/Sat - Sun 11am-4:30pm

### SAT 25TH JAN – SUN 5TH APR

#### Mike Hawkes: Pictorial Artist

The first display in The Space (a new display area available for use by the community), tells the story of Mike Hawkes who worked as a sign artist for nearly 40 years. During the 28 years he was employed by Whitbread he worked on about a 1000 signs for public houses and inns. He continued as a freelancer for a further 10 years from his studio in Whiteway. The display includes images and articles demonstrating his work. Tues - Fri 10am-4:30pm/Sat - Sun 11am-4:30pm

### SAT 25TH JAN – SUN 5TH APR

#### Recent Acquisitions: SCAR

Stroud Campaign Against the Ring Road were a group of local people who fought against plans to build a road, that would have divided Stroud and demolished listed buildings. On display are highlights from an archive of over 150 newspaper clippings, documents and plans which tell this story. Tues - Fri 10am-4:30pm/Sat - Sun 11am-4:30pm

### SAT 14TH MAR – SUN 26TH APR

#### Theo Deproost: Lost In Time

An exhibition of photography exploring the secrets of the Museum's stores. Theo Deproost is a still-life and landscape photographer based in London. He grew up in Stroud and has fond memories of visiting the Museum when it was still in Lansdown. Since 2017, he has been exploring our stored collection and taking photographs, with the aim of sharing some of its weird and wonderful (and usually hidden) artefacts with the wider public. Theo strives for an exploratory and imaginative approach to viewing the world around us. One of his key

objectives is to break down a subject to its core components of shape, texture and colour and present it to the viewer in an unconventional and compelling way. In this exhibition you will encounter geological specimens, tropical butterflies and a selection of objects that have been collected by, or donated to, the Museum over the last century. The objects, and Theo's images, range from the beautiful, to the slightly unsavoury, to the frankly bizarre. Sat 14th 2-4pm Meet the Photographer + opening drinks. Tues - Fri 10am-4:30pm/Sat - Sun 11am-4:30pm

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

## NELSON TRUST HUB ACADEMY

### SAT 14TH

#### Creative Courses Open Day

The Nelson Trust are delighted to invite you to their free Creative Courses Open Day to celebrate the launch of their upcoming courses. From textiles and upcycling, to yoga and acupuncture, you'll be sure to find something that captures your creativity...With copious amounts of cake on offer too, what's not to love? 10am-4pm

[recoveryhub.co.uk/hub-academy](http://recoveryhub.co.uk/hub-academy)

## SOUND RECORDS

### SAT 14TH – SAT 28TH

#### Graham Dunning: Modified Records

Modifying, retexturing and repurposing records has been part of Graham Dunning's practice since he began working with records in 2008. In the run up to his Mechanical Techno performance at SVA Goods Shed on 28th March - we will exhibit some examples of the "repurposed" vinyl he uses in his performances. 10am-5:30pm (closed Tues and Sun)

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

## STROUD BREWERY

### SAT 7TH – SUN 8TH

#### The Wayzgoose Printers Fair

Cards, posters, books, printing equipment and letterpress exhibition. Ft. John Furnival, Lucy Guenot, Dennis Gould, Andrew Morrison, Otto Gobey, Pat Randle, Tom Mayo, Kitty Crossley, Nick Pride, Rod Shaw, Christine Felce, Fran Christen, Angie Butler, Imi Maufe, John Grice, Stan Lane and more... 12-4pm

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

## STUDIO 18

### SAT 28TH

#### Stroud Film Festival Closing Event: Bring Your Own Beamer

BYOB is an international movement of DIY one-night-exhibitions where artists collaborate on-site to create an installation of moving image. Films are simultaneously projected around the walls, in every corner, floor, ceiling...

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### UPCOMING

#### The Poetics of Architecture | 12 Mar

Deepen your awareness of the poetic aspects of spatial design.

#### Naked Voice with Chloe Goodchild | 15-19 Mar

Your voice as gateway into presence.

#### Harmonic Temple Retreat | 3-5 Apr

Nourish your inner self through harmony singing.

#### Handbuilt Pottery | 4 -5 Apr

Create your own beautiful "bowl of light".

#### The Vessel & the Weaving | 3 May

Illustrated talk part of Stroud's international Select Trail and Festival 2020

#### The Wild Scribe | 22 - 24 May

Immerse yourself in the power of nature.



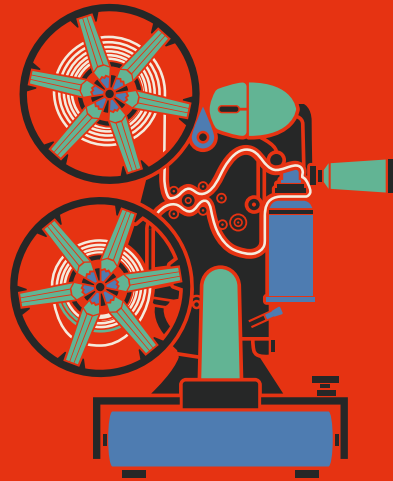
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An exhibition of alternative film posters  
created by Stroud based Artists & Illustrators



## FILM POSTERS REINTERPRETED 2020

The Sub Rooms from Sat 14th to Sat 21st March  
FREE ENTRY PRINTS ON SALE

STROUD  
FILM  
FESTIVAL  
2020  
[stroudfilmfestival.org](http://stroudfilmfestival.org)



FEATURING WORKS BY

Joe Magee Ery Burns Mark Levy Marcus Walters  
Hannah Dyson Adam Hinks Imogen Harvey Lewis  
Tom Percival Nicola Grellier Rosalie Darien-Jones

WORLD CINEMA

## FREE Soil School Sessions



PLAY INVENT DISCOVER LEARN

Fridays and Saturdays AM  
(April 3rd - May 17th)

10min walk  
from Stroud

BOOK NOW

[www.stroudmicrodairy.co.uk/muddy-fingers](http://www.stroudmicrodairy.co.uk/muddy-fingers)

The £5 deposit (to  
prevent no-shows) will  
be reimbursed.

STROUD  
MICRO  
DAIRY



## THE BARREL STORE

Boutique hostel accommodation in Cirencester  
Passivhaus | Exclusive Hire | Group Rates | Support a Charity  
[thebarrelstore.co.uk](http://thebarrelstore.co.uk)



BYOB Stroud will present work from artists and film-makers who responded to the events open call in Jan 2020. Curated by Anna Cady. Participants email info@stroudfilmfestival.org. Got a film and a projector? It's free. They welcome visual experiments, animations, DIY, cutting edge video art...come and share what you've created! 7:30-9:30pm followed by DJ set by Loco Dooms. £5/£6otd

stroudfilmfestival.org

#### THE SUB ROOMS

**SAT 14TH – SAT 21ST**

**Stroud Film Festival: Film Posters Reinterpreted**

Back for a third year, Film Posters Reinterpreted is an exhibition of alternative film posters created by Stroud based Artists and Illustrators. Using the theme of World Cinema, an amazingly diverse selection of local talent will be on show with prints available for sale from £20. Featuring original works by Joe Magee, Ery Burns, Mark Levy, Marcus Walters, Hannah Dyson, Adam Hinks, Imogen Harvey-Lewis, Tom Percival and Rosalie Darien-Jones. Private view Fri 13th 6-9pm

thesubrooms.co.uk

#### SVJ JOHN STREET GALLERY

**FRI 6TH – SUN 8TH**

**Artist in Residence: Freya Tate**

Freya Tate will be in residence with her recent collection of drawings from her time at the Royal School of Drawing in London.

**FRI 13TH – SUN 15TH**

**Artist in Residence: Ann-Margreth Bohl - Sonido**

Ann-Margreth Bohl sculptor/installation artist has recorded animal and human sounds during a recent residency to La Palma/ Canaries. This weekend she is drawing to these sounds and editing sound data into a piece that will be performed as a sound-installation later this year.

**FRI 20TH – SUN 22ND**

**Jo Casling Artist in Residence: Jo Casling – Perimeters**

New work exploring boundaries. Recycled paintings using bitumen, oil paint, and ink.

**28TH MARCH – 4TH APRIL**

**Olivia Bouzyk and Tomasz A Kowalski: The Garden**

Come and enjoy The Garden! A collection of work new and old, gathered together by young artists Olivia Bouzyk and Tomasz A Kowalski. A new show inviting you to come and rest in the sun of a beautiful spring garden brimming with prints. Let old inkings fade away whilst you come and enjoy a place without preconceptions. Enter our conceptual garden and contemplate our works as if you were in the real garden; exciting your senses with the colours, shapes, and textures. Opening night Sat 28th March 6-9pm. Exhibition open Thurs 2nd – Sat 4th April 10am-3pm

sva.org.uk

#### PEGASUS

**THURS 26TH**

**Art Talk: Five Colourful Histories w/ Kassia St Clair**

Author of bestselling book 'The Secret Lives of Colour' Kassia has given talks at the V&A, the National Portrait Gallery...and now Pegasus Art! Join Kassia as she shares the history of five pigments, revealing fascinating historical and cultural facts. The worlds blackest black, Klein blue, the deadly power of white, a political shade of orange, think pink...and Stroud Scarlet. Love colour? Don't miss this Art Talk! Glass of fizz & nibbles included. 6-8pm £20

pegasusart.co.uk

#### RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH

**TUES 18TH FEB – SUN 8TH MAR**

**Jessie James: Tuft**

This is an exhibition of vibrant and dynamic work by artist, printmaker and tufter, Jessie James. Based in Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, Jessie is currently designing and making hand-tufted rugs based on her cross stitch and screen print collections at Studio Tuft.

**TUES 10TH – SUN 29TH**

**Still Lives by Rebecca Donaghy**

Rebecca Donaghy is a Bristol based artist. She paints still lives which are influenced by the French artist Braque. This group of paintings connect with his decorative still lives on small tables; a development from Rebecca's white urban landscapes shown at Ruskin Mill two years ago.

rmt.org

#### RED DOT GALLERY PAINSWICK

**WEDS 19TH FEB – TUES 3RD MAR**

**Paintings by Pete Collins**

Pete creates intriguing and visually very pleasing abstracts in oils allowing the paint to give incredible texture as well as fabulous colour coordination and contrast. 10am -4pm

**WEDS 4TH – TUES 17TH**

**Ann Bate Williams**

Ann's style is extravagant, free and abstract with moments of exquisite detail. Her images entice and delight. 10am-4pm

**WEDS 18TH MAR – TUES 28TH APR**

**Melvyn Warren-Smith**

A highly sought after illustrator for books by Catherine Cookson, Maeve Binchy, Edwina Curry and many more, his works are romantic with an ethereal realism; rich and utterly enthralling. 10am-4pm reddotpainswick.co.uk

#### WET PAINT GALLERY

**THURS 13TH FEB – SAT 14TH MAR**

**Spring Art Sale**

Wetpaint Gallery, Chalford is holding a major Art Sale of original artwork, limited edition prints, giclee prints, photographs and much more with up to 70% off selected artworks and many more works greatly discounted. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity and visit the gallery to view and buy. Weds-Sat 10:30am – 4:30pm

wetpaintgalleryonline.com

#### PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

**TUES 3RD MAR – SAT 11TH APR**

**Molly Lemon**

Molly Lemon is a printmaker who works from her home studio in Wotton under Edge. In 2015 she graduated from Winchester School of Art with a degree in fine art. Specialising in the traditional printmaking technique of wood engraving, her work is driven by a fascination with British wildlife and natural forms in the landscape. Tues-Fri 10:30am – 5pm

**TUES 3RD MAR – SAT 11TH APR**

**Tracey Elphick**

Artist Tracey Elphick can be found most days creating a prolific and diverse output of painting from her beautiful studio at New Brewery Arts in Cirencester. Her work is varied; portraying distinctive street scenes from Gloucestershire towns, seascapes and harbour views (brimming with memories from her years living in Cornwall) and still life both in acrylics and oils. Tues-Fri 10:30am – 5pm

**TUES 3RD MAR – SAT 11TH APR**

**Anton Christian**

The journey of an artist is not always a case of a straight line from A to B! Artist Anton Christian studied both fine art and graphic design back in the mid to late 1970s. He now creates highly detailed facades constructed from the humblest of materials, often found or recycled odds and ends but the resultant work is astonishing in its detail, delightful in its intricacy and

testament to the precision and eye for details from a maker who still taps into his initial training! Tues-Fri 10:30am – 5pm

prema.org.uk

#### NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE CIRENCESTER

**SAT 11TH JAN – SUN 15TH MAR**

**Traces**

'Traces' is an exhibition of new work by Quilt Art on the broad themes of memory and the power of stitch. It was inspired by the life and textile art of Mary Fogg, a founder member of the group and influential quilt artist, who died in 2016 at the age of 95. Her graphic and ground-breaking work was well known for its use of colour and texture which she achieved by strip-piecing a wide variety of fabrics, often recycled, such as wool, silk and linen.

Quilt Art was founded in Britain in 1985 to develop the quilt as an artistic medium and promote its recognition as an art form. Its 19 members are all leading practitioners who exhibit nationally and internationally. Mon-Sat 9am-5pm/Closed Sundays until 22nd March

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

**Make It Studios**

makeitstudios.com

**Pegasus Art**

pegasusart.co.uk

**The Sculpture Studio**

thesculpturestudio.co.uk

**Sit Select**

sitselect.org

**Stroud College**

sgscol.ac.uk

**Stroud Valley Artspace**

sva.org.uk

**Studio3stroud**

facebook.com/studio3stroud

**Victoria Works Studio**

victoriaworksstudios.co.uk

**New Brewery Arts**

newbreweryarts.org.uk

**Prema Arts Centre**

prema.org.uk

# HANNAH PERSAUD

By Caroline Sanderson

**Hard evidence that Stroud is now the short story capital of the world comes from local novelist Hannah Persaud. I discover that she once came runner-up in a national short story competition to a guy called John Holland, famous in these parts for being the doyen of Stroud Short Stories. “It was amazing: there were around 800-900 entries, all judged anonymously; and John won, and I came second”, Hannah tells me over morning coffee.**

Not to be outdone, Hannah went on to win several short story competitions in her own right. Now her debut novel, “The Codes of Love” is being published by classy independent, Muswell Press. Set both in London and rural Wales, it’s a portrait of the ‘seem-to-have-it-all’ marriage of Ryan and Emily. Behind the happy headlines however, trouble is brewing in the shape of the free-spirited Ada who represents the freedom Emily has been striving for, and the escape from convention that Ryan didn’t know he wanted. The novel is hugely impressive: I’ve rarely read a more charged account of contemporary human relationships.

Appropriately given Hannah’s short story pedigree, the origins of “The Codes of Love” lie a prize-winning story she wrote entitled “Cyfannedd Fach”. This then became the name of the Welsh cottage where Ryan and Ada hole up to conduct their affair, and is based on a real location. “It’s a place I went to with my family in the middle of the Welsh mountains. It’s totally remote and I completely love it. I started writing the story there and finished it when I got home”.

A strong sense of place is one of the essential components of a Hannah Persaud novel. Setting, she says, is hugely important to everything she writes. “Other writers get inspiration from a character or something they

overhear, but for me it always starts with a place and only then do I insert the characters”. Hannah is currently at work on her second novel, inspired by the atmospheric location of The Convent in Woodchester.

The genesis for this location, location, location approach lies perhaps in Hannah’s unusually peripatetic upbringing. Born in Yorkshire the eldest of three siblings, she lived in Devon until her “restless” teacher parents announced they were moving to Nepal. “I was 11 and had never been on a plane before. And then suddenly we were moving to Kathmandu. I remember driving out of the airport along a road lined with cows and dogs, and thinking: where IS this place? It was such a culture shock”. Hannah lived in Nepal until she was 16, attending a Christian missionary school (“that was an interesting experience as I’m not religious at all”) and then went to an American Christian boarding school in Uttar Pradesh in India to study for her A levels. “It was so remote: an 8 hour bus ride from Delhi up into the mountains. My mum dropped me off and left me standing on the side of a mountain”. After five months however, the school stopped teaching the courses Hannah wanted to study and she eventually completed her 6th form education at a state school in Oxfordshire before going to Oxford Brookes University to study English and Publishing.



Ironically Hannah rejected publishing as a career, believing it to be too competitive and cut-throat; but now finds herself in the even more competitive business of being a published author (she also works part-time as a fund-raiser in the charity sector). She moved to Stroud with her husband and two now teenage children in 2009, having come know the area because her formerly restless parents decided to retire here.

The second essential component of a Hannah Persaud novel is her preference for playing with point of view and time frame. “The Codes of Love” alternates in the telling between Emily and Ryan, and also plays fast and loose with the sequence of events. The effect is to keep the reader planted up on their toes, a quality I personally find invigorating in any novel. “I wanted to tell Emily and Ryan’s story from both their perspectives but I didn’t want to just repeat the same scenes which is why the novel is structured as it is. I really love books and TV dramas that play with time sequence; and which try and give you a more rounded picture of how the plot evolves from the point of view of different characters”.

And finally, a Hannah Persaud novel will always include an element of noir: I confess that there were times when I got quite spooked by “The Codes of Love”, particularly when reading the chapters set in Wales. “I really love darkness”, confirms its author. “The Codes of Love could easily have been darker still: I would really love to write a super dark novel one day”.

Those who prefer an uplifting read shouldn’t let this put them off. “The

Codes of Love” is an accomplished debut about the complexities of human relationships. It’s also a shining example of the catalyst that short stories – while a worthy genre in their own right – can provide for aspiring novelists in need of both practice and resilience. “I think short story writing is a really good way to practise the craft of writing”, reflects Hannah. “And the process of entering competitions is also a good grounding, both because of the feedback you get, and because of the rejections. When I started writing and I wasn’t getting anywhere in competitions, I used to take it really badly, doubting myself and thinking: I’m never going to write anything again”. But reader, she did.

“The Codes of Love” by Hannah Persaud is published on 5th March by Muswell Press ([muswell-press.co.uk](http://muswell-press.co.uk))



Hannah will be appearing at Tetbury Book Festival on Sunday 3rd May, and at Chalfest on Saturday 18th July. For further news and updates visit

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

Caroline Sanderson is the Associate Editor of the Bookseller, the editor of the Authors Licensing and Collecting Society’s monthly magazine the ALCS News and the Programme Director of the Stroud Book Festival. She is also the author of five published non-fiction books. @CaroSanderson

## LITERATURE/ SPOKEN WORD LISTINGS

### ALE HOUSE

#### MON 9TH

**Piranha Poetry:** Sharon Larkin, Jonathan Robert Muirhead

Sharon Larkin: Sharon organizes Poetry Café Refreshed in Cheltenham, is Gloucestershire's Stanza Representative and runs Eithon Bridge Publications. Jonathan Robert Muirhead: A Scottish Poet who lives in Swindon. His style can veer from scary to sad, from furious to funny and from scathing to sweet. Hosted by Gary Death. 7:30pm Free

### THE EXCHANGE

#### WEDS 18TH

**Stroud Radical Reading Group: Fat Activism**

What's Fat Activism? By Charlotte Cooper as part of the SRRG 2020 series on "Praxis: Activism, Social Movements and Revolution". SRRG will explore what we can learn from the history of fat activism, as well as touching on how we can unpick the ways we've been shaped by harmful, moralising discourses around food and weight that surround us. 7:30pm Free

[stroudradicalreading.wordpress.com](http://stroudradicalreading.wordpress.com)

### HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

#### TUES 3RD – SAT 28TH

**Kickstart Your Novel: From Idea to Page in Eight Weeks with Tessa Harris**

Aimed at eager beginners, this evening course will cover all the basic aspects of novel writing, including researching, creating great characters and editing, to possibly seeing your work in print. Classes will meet on Tuesday evenings for eight weeks. Tessa Harris is the author of nine published historical crime novels, covering the 18th and 19th centuries. She holds an MA in History from Oxford University and a qualification in teaching creative writing to adults. She delivers talks to libraries, literary festivals and historical venues. She is also a journalist, a former magazine editor, a playwright and a screenwriter. 7:30pm £100

#### THURS 12TH

**The Poetics of Architecture**

This one-day workshop will encourage you to deepen your awareness of the poetic aspects of spatial design, allowing you to begin to see your surroundings in a new light and introduce you to a critical understanding of the way we inhabit architectural space. 9:30am-5pm £95

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

### LANSDOWN HALL

#### SUN 22ND

**Zen Brush Work with Andre Christie**

Zen Brush work is a combination of meditation light tia chi type exercise and calligraphy. The brushwork itself is practised on the floor in large scale

and focuses on the chosen subject which can be a single character or series of characters to create the finished work. Andre Christie brings together this form of brushwork drawn from his experience in China-Japan and the UK. 10am-12:30pm £20 (incl. materials)

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

### THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

#### THURS 5TH

**Thursday Afternoon Talk: Joanna Callaghan and Jennifer Gilbert**

Joanna Callaghan and Jennifer Gilbert: Conservation and Creativity in the Cotswolds. 2-3:30pm £5

#### THURS 12TH

**Thursday Afternoon Talk: Juliet Shipman**

Juliet Shipman introduces a screening of 'Working for Victory', living memories of Stroud District during WW2. 2- 3:30pm £5

#### THURS 19TH

**Thursday Afternoon Talk: Steve Marshfield**

Steve Marshfield: Caught on Camera...Stroud Buildings Before Renovation. 2-3:30pm £5

#### THURS 26TH

**Thursday Afternoon Talk: Dr. Stephen L'Normand**

Dr. Stephen L'Normand BA MA Th.D: A Brief History of the Guild of Stonemasons and Their Presence in the South West. 2-3:30pm £5

#### THURS 26TH

**Poetry at the Museum: Mark Huband, Duana Humphrey and Jacqui Stearn**

The March reading will focus on the work of three Stroud poets. Mark Huband's new pamphlet is a series of short, polished reflections on his experience as the Labour Party candidate in the 2019 General Election. The poems were written as the campaign progressed and were polished and revised following the result. They are honest, angry and personal, and they offer a true insight to the experience and to the workings of democracy in practice. Diana Humphrey's poetry is a little lighter, dealing with good humour and insight with the experience of life in Stroud. Jacqui Stearn's poetry explores the spiritual dimension to our engagement with the countryside, with landscape and with the wild. All the new pamphlets will be available for sale. Everyone is welcome, especially those who would like to discuss their inclusion in forthcoming Stroud Poets pamphlets. 7:30pm Free

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

### SILVER ROOMS CAFÉ

#### SUN 1ST

**An Afternoon of Rick Vick's Poetry**

A celebration in Rick's words. Come along to the Silver Rooms Cafe (nee Black Book) Nelson St, for an afternoon reading of the works of Rick Vick. If you loved him, liked him, didn't know the bloke, now's the chance to hear his voice. Listen, read, drink tea and eat cake. This is what friendship and Sunday's are for. 2-4pm Free (contact Eley on [pinksniiper@live.co.uk](mailto:pinksniiper@live.co.uk) for further

details)

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

### ST LAURENCE CHURCH HALL

#### THURS 19TH

**Stroud Local History Society Talk: The Ricardos of Minchinhampton by Di Wall**

Ricardo Road in Minchinhampton was named for the Ricardo family who lived at Gatcombe Park and bought the Manor Lordship. The first Ricardo owner was David, an influential economist and politician whose son David was elected as Stroud's MP in 1832. They owned Minchinhampton Common and the Market House, founded churches and schools and three brothers went to war. Doors open and introductory slide-show from 7pm, talk 7:30pm Non-members always welcome - £3.50 on the door

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

### STAR ANISE

#### FRI 13TH

**Coffee House Meeting: Regenerative Agriculture with Kees Frederiks of Stroud Micro Dairy**

The Climate and Ecological Emergency requires radical ideas and change, perhaps most importantly in the way we farm for both food production and land management. "We believe that we farm better when we work with nature. We take a regenerative approach to farming, which means we promote plant and soil health through biodiversity and the balance of natural systems." Come along and join the discussion. 7:30pm Free (donations welcome)

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

### WYCLIFFE COLLEGE

#### THURS 12TH

**Simon Armitage**

Simon Armitage will be at Wycliffe's Sibly Hall for an evening of poetry, reading for an hour from his extensive body of poetry and conduct a Q&A with the audience. Yellow Light Bookshop will be present should you wish to purchase a book and obtain a personal dedication. Armitage is the UK Poet Laureate and was elected Oxford Professor of Poetry (2015-2019). His numerous accolades include the 2018 Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry and an Ivor Novello Award for song-writing in the BAFTA-winning film, Feltham Sings. His poetry has been part of GCSE and A level studies in this country for nearly two decades now. Armitage also writes extensively for theatre, television and radio, and is the author of two novels and the non-fiction bestsellers All Points North, Walking Home and Walking Away. He was appointed Professor of Poetry at Leeds University in 2017. 7:30pm £5

[wycliffe.co.uk/armitage](http://wycliffe.co.uk/armitage)

### RUSKIN MILL NAILSWORTH

#### SAT 21ST

**Stories for All with Fiona Eadie**

Come and join Fiona round the fire and enjoy listening to stories

from all over the world ...Some old, some new and all enthralling tales, fabulous fables or elaborate lies..10:30am £4/£5/£12family

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

### PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

#### TUES 24TH

**No Rhyme No Reason**

Join words together in jaunty ways, find humour in the most surprising of syntactical locations in this wonderful energetic wordy workshop of poetry like never before! Sarah Erskine will show you how to loosen up, silence the inner critic and create playful poetry. 7pm £18/£17concs/£16friends/£15concs

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

## COMEDY LISTINGS

### THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

#### THURS 19TH

**Probably the Best Comedy Night in the World!**

The Crown and Sceptre's monthly showcase of up and coming comedy talent with Nigel Lovell headlining and the inimitable Gavin Pond as MC...8pm Free

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

### STROUD BREWERY

#### THURS 26TH

**CrazyBird Comedy Club: Scott Bennett, Matt Bragg, Kevin Daniel and MC Geoff Whiting**

The CrazyBird Comedy Club returns to the Stroud Brewery ft. headliner Scott Bennet - "a Yorkshire live wire with an undeniable no nonsense logic" and support from Matt Bragg, Kevin Daniel, Julia Stenton and MC Geoff Whiting. 7pm £12.50 from Trading Post or crazybirdcomedy@gmail.com (This is a regular sell out event so please get your tickets early to make sure you don't miss out!)

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

### SVA

#### SAT 7TH

**Mr Fluffypunk's Penny Gaff With Rob Auton**

The Penny Gaff is back! After too long off, they are getting back on their feet. And what better way to move from dormancy back into the glorious vortex that is being, than with the annual visit of their old friend Rob Auton, with The Time Show. 'The Time Show' is a comedy/theatre/spoken word show about time. It is suitable for people who know of time. Following on from his shows about the colour yellow, the sky, faces, water, sleep, hair and talking, award winning writer and performer Rob Auton turns his attention to time. The second-best-reviewed show in the whole of the Edinburgh Festival 2019!! Bristol-based Malaika Kegode, poet, promoter, spoken word artist and ukelele - wielder will also be performing. 7:30pm £8.50-£12 (Goods Shed)

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

# SECRET ARTIST 2020

**As part of Stroud School of Art's 160th year celebration, we would like to engage local and national creatives to contribute towards our 'Secret Artist' charity opportunity.**

**We need you!**

**The work you create will be exhibited alongside others at the Museum in the Park, Stroud and then bought anonymously by members of the public, for a set fee to raise money.**

Proceeds raised will support our underprivileged students, to enable them to travel with us on our future study trips, under the name of 'The Colwell Fund'.

This fund is in memory of our ex-student, Alex Colwell, who we sadly lost in 2019. We want to commemorate his time spent with us and his appreciation of travel, freedom and exploration. By being a part of this, you will be making a difference to young people's lives.

**Email: [ssoa@sgscol.ac.uk](mailto:ssoa@sgscol.ac.uk)**

**Phone: 01453 761117**

**Insta: [@stroud\\_school\\_of\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/stroud_school_of_art)**

**FB: [facebook.com/160StroudSchoolofArt](https://www.facebook.com/160StroudSchoolofArt)**



What would you need to do?

- Simply fill the front side of a postcard with something creative. No brief, just do you!
- Sign the back of the card in the spot provided
- Return the postcard to us using the return envelope provided.
- Deadline May 5th.

**Below is the email address with which to register your interest and to organise the sending of the postcard through the mail.**

We look forward to hearing from you.



Thursday 12th March 2020, 19:30



Wycliffe

# Simon Armitage

*An evening of poetry with the new poet laureate*

“Armitage  
reinvigorates  
the genre  
with *gusto*”  
- *The Guardian*

“...He  
moves  
both  
to *laughter*  
and  
to *tears*”  
- *Evening Standard*

“Accomplished,  
ambitious  
popular”  
- *The Telegraph*

A limited number of tickets have been made available to the public, priced at £5.

[www.wycliffe.co.uk/armitage](http://www.wycliffe.co.uk/armitage)

Wycliffe College Senior School, Bath Road, Stonehouse GL10 2JQ