



GALLERY PANGOLIN

A warm welcome awaits visitors to Gallery Pangolin, a world-class sculpture gallery set on the slopes of the Cotswold escarpment in the village of Chalford.

One of the few galleries to specialise in sculpture and related works on paper, the gallery has a renowned reputation for works of quality and excellence by both Modern and contemporary artists.



9 CHALFORD IND. ESTATE
CHALFORD
GLOS
GL6 8NT
01453 889765
www.gallery-pangolin.com

'In the Mix' exhibition continues throughout October

Please visit our website for viewing appointment details

EDITOR'S NOTE

WELCOME TO ISSUE 65 OF GOOD ON PAPER...

FOLLOWING OUR CROWDFUNDER AND THE UPSURGE IN SUBSCRIBERS WE ARE BACK AND HERE TO STAY...OUR PREVIOUS STOCKISTS ARE GRADUALLY REOPENING AND WE'VE ADDED SOME NEW ONES ALONG THE WAY!

This month sees the return of the Stroud Theatre Festival and the rescheduled Select Trail, the Sub Rooms reopen their doors with a maze of illuminated tunnels and hidden rooms bathed in colour, streets artists take over Gallery 1673 at the Clay Loft, Studio 18 complete their epic Art Shelter project, SVA continue their exhibitions at John Street with an inspiring collection by this month's cover artist Nick Grellier and the Prince Albert provides us with a thirty nine track playlist...

Sounds like Stroud is back too.

We hope this issue gives you all a brief respite from the world.

Long live the printed word.

Alex Hobbs and Adam Hinks

Good On Paper

FRONT COVER: Nick Grellier

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Adam Jones, Sean Roe, Sarah Dixon, Paul Harper and Lucy White

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NEXT MONTH: Stroud Book Festival, Mermaid Chunky, The Prince Albert, Stroud Short Stories and much more...

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COVER ARTIST

NO BACKBONE IS NUMBER 229 OF THE YEAR LONG DRAWING AND COLLAGE PROJECT 366 MADE BETWEEN SUMMERS 2019 AND 2020 BY STROUD ARTIST NICK GRELLIER. THE WORKS MEANDER THROUGH PERSONAL, POLITICAL, FUNNY AND SAD MUSINGS ON DAILY LIFE. NO BACKBONE (19 X 19CM COLLAGE AND INK, JAN 15TH 2020) HINTS AT THINGS FALLING APART. LITTLE DID WE KNOW. THE DRAWING IS SHORTLISTED AT TRINITY BUOY WHARF DRAWING PRIZE 2020 AND WILL TRAVEL TO VARIOUS UK VENUES FROM OCT 2ND.

NICK GRELLIER

[INSTAGRAM.COM/NICK_GRELLIER](https://www.instagram.com/nick_grellier)

[NICOLAGRELLIER.CO.UK](http://nicolagrellier.co.uk)

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NEWS

Arts and culture news from across the Stroud District

ART

THREE STOREYS

A new centre for creative working, called Three Storeys, is due to open in Nailsworth in early 2021, at the former Comrades Club. Three Storeys will include:



Storey Makers - Artist/Maker studios on the top floor, Multi Storey - Shared spaces on the ground floor, including a relaxed café space called 'The Plot', and a large gallery/workshop room called 'The Setting', Storey Book - Adaptable work areas for flexible coworking on the lower ground floor, including a separate, bookable meeting room...To find out more email info@threestoreys.co.uk. Closing date for studio applications is the 5th October.

threestoreys.co.uk

TYNDALE ARTS WEEK

Tyndale Arts Week returns to Dursley across the weekend of the 3rd - 5th Oct. All though a slimmed down version it will showcase 35 local artists and makers



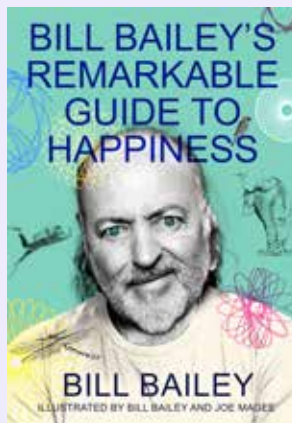
across 4 venues; Kingshill House, the Tabernacle, Dursley Methodist Church and St James' Church. Exhibiting artists include Richard Edmunds, Sylvia Elsbury, Noreen Jafar, Jem O'Carroll, Angela Scrivin and many more...

tyndaleartsweek.co.uk

BOOKS

JOE MAGEE

Award winning illustrator and filmmaker Joe Magee continues his long standing collaboration with Bill Bailey this month on his latest book 'Bill Bailey's Remarkable Guide To Happiness'. Due to be published on the 15th October via Quercus it features illustrations by both Magee and Bailey. What makes us happy? Is there a knack to it? Is it the joy of playing a round of crazy golf, or of just being in a forest? In this beautiful and uplifting book, Bill Bailey explores all this and more while delving into the nature of happiness, all in his own, remarkable, way. From paddleboarding down the Thames in a Santa hat, to wild swimming in a glacial river and cooking sausages on a campfire, Bill revels in the exhilaration of the outdoors, as well as the quieter pleasures of letter-writing, or of simple reflection. Packed with wisdom and humour, Bill Bailey aims for the heart of pure joy and contentment – and how we can all achieve it.



periphery.co.uk billbailey.co.uk

ANTHONY NANSON AND KIRSTY HARTSIOTIS

How do you survive a mermaid's curse? Where lurks the immortal cat? Who cooks old boots in a stew? Is treasure really buried down under May Hill? Dive into these tales from forest, vale and high blue hill, on a journey that will take you far into the past, deep into other worlds and through the seasons of the year – all without leaving Gloucestershire! Strange and fabulous stories from all over the county are brought to life in Gloucestershire Folk Tales For Children by Stroud storytellers Anthony Nanson and Kirsty Hartsiotis.



thehistorypress.co.uk

MUSIC

ANDREW HEATH

Soundscape artist and composer Andrew Heath released a brand new 11 track album last month. The Alchemist's Muse (featuring cover artwork by Zoe Heath)



is a process-led body of work that further explores his obsession with minimalism, texture, tone and the detritus that litters our sound field such as radio static or mechanical noises. The album also features bass clarinet by Bill Howgego and poet Maria Stadnika re-voices her work on a completely new version of 'The Garden Reveals Itself'.

andrewheath.co.uk

MERMAID CHUNKY

Following the release of their infectious debut single Gemini Girls in September, Mermaid Chunky have just

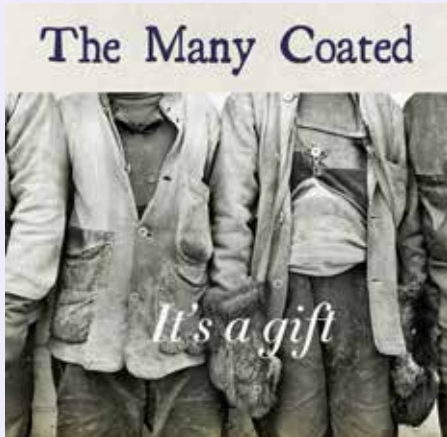


announced details of their debut album...Recorded and produced by Capitol K (Flamingods/Snapped Ankles/The Comet Is Coming/Alabaster DePlume/Deerhunter) at the Total Refreshment Centre in London VEST will be released on the 6th November via independent record label Faith and Industry. Find out more in next month's issue...

mermaidchunky.org.uk

THE MANY COATED

After meeting by chance just 11 months ago the formidable song writing team that has become The Many Coated are releasing an EP on the 2nd of October.



Robbie had just moved to the area after the painful breakup of another band and was looking for somewhere to utilize the lifetime of skills he had built up making records, Dan was in a similar boat, just down from London looking for a creative break. Sometimes magic just happens. Available on all streaming platforms *It's A Gift* is their debut EP, watch out for the second in late November and an album or maybe two in the new year...

FILM

FLUFFYPUNK



Following its recent screenings at the Good On Paper Party, Swindon Independent Film Festival and Little Wing Film Festival, *Fluffypunk* directed by Thomas Harman heads to the Bolton Film Festival on Monday 19th October. Documenting the insecurities, instabilities, and conflicts which plague the life of a performer, Jonny Fluffypunk (aka Jon Seagrave) shares how trying to balance the responsibilities of parenthood, artistic integrity, and personal happiness is anything but fluffy! Featuring Jon's mentor and friend 'The Godfather of alternative comedy' comedian and writer Tony Allen and fellow Stroud based stand-up poet Elvis McGonagall. Head to boltonfilmfestival.com for further details on how to watch it at home. Jonny Fluffypunk will also be appearing at this month's Stroud Theatre Festival with his first ever show for children - the End of the Pier.

Jonnyfluffypunk.co.uk / thomasharmanmedia.com

THE PRINCE ALBERT PLAYLIST

A two hours and thirty four minute, thirty nine track Spotify Playlist by the Prince Albert...

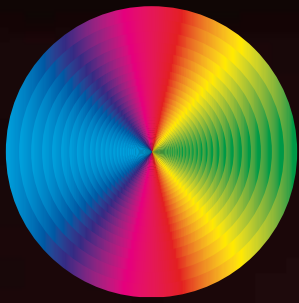
"We had great fun getting this list together and were literally shocked at the breadth of music that we have had in the pub. Most of these tracks were performed by the artists in the Prince Albert when they played here with the exception of the Beans On Toast track, but Save The Music is a poignant anthem that is so relevant to the now. Many cds have been trawled through, and vinyl that we have collected from performers here but this is a selection of what is available on Spotify. The Magpies were the last band that played here in March. Two of the artists didn't do an actual gig in the pub, but it was a special night when Mike Scott of The Waterboys came from a session after doing a literary gig in the town and fancied playing some music so where else could he go? Slow Club turned up at an Open Mic night and we were delighted when they performed as Charles and Diana and tested out a couple of songs they had written while staying in Rodborough..." Lotte Lyster Connolly

SEARCH ON SPOTIFY FOR 'GOOD ON PAPER - THE PRINCE ALBERT PLAYLIST' OR SCAN THE QR CODE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE COLUMN...

1. **Cate Ferris:** Doll On A Music Box
2. **This Is The Kit:** Waterproof
3. **Alash Ensemble:** Oglunga (For My Son)
4. **Mad Dog Mcrea:** Johnny No Legs
5. **Tankus the Henge:** Smiling Makes the Day Go Quicker
6. **Truckstop Honeymoon:** Home Is Not A Hotel
7. **Les Triaboliques:** Ledmo
8. **Hot Feet:** Sedation
9. **Ed Dowie:** Richard!
10. **Alabaster DePlume:** Be Nice To People
11. **Alessi's Ark:** Wives
12. **Sweet Baboo:** The Morse Code For Love Is Beep, Beep, Beep Beep, The Binary Code Is One One
13. **Rozi Plain:** Friend City
14. **Pictish Trail:** After Life
15. **Applewood Road:** Applewood Road
16. **Steve Poltz:** Trash
17. **Luka Bloom:** You Couldn't Have Come At A Better Time
18. **Glenn Tilbrook and the Fluffers:** Still
19. **Katy J Pearson:** Tonight
20. **47 Soul:** Intro To Shamstep
21. **Soccer96 w/ Alabaster DePlume:** I Was Gonna Fight Fascism
22. **Sophonie:** Photographs
23. **Mik Artistik's Ego Trip:** Plastic Fox
24. **Mesadorm:** Easy
25. **Beans On Toast:** Save the Music
26. **Alcatraz Swim Team:** This Little World (Brian Ffar Mix)
27. **The Turbans:** Zawi
28. **Nizlopi:** JCB
29. **Chinese Burn:** Shut Your Mouth
30. **Leonie Evans:** Distractions
31. **Cocos Lovers:** Emily
32. **Yama Warashi:** Quagmire Moon
33. **Gideon Conn:** The Modern Age
34. **The Magpies:** Catharsis
35. **The Undercover Hippy:** Borders
36. **Emily and the Woods:** Helios
37. **The Waterboys:** Fisherman's Blues
38. **Slow Club:** Complete Surrender
39. **Emily Barker and the Red Clay Halo:** Bones

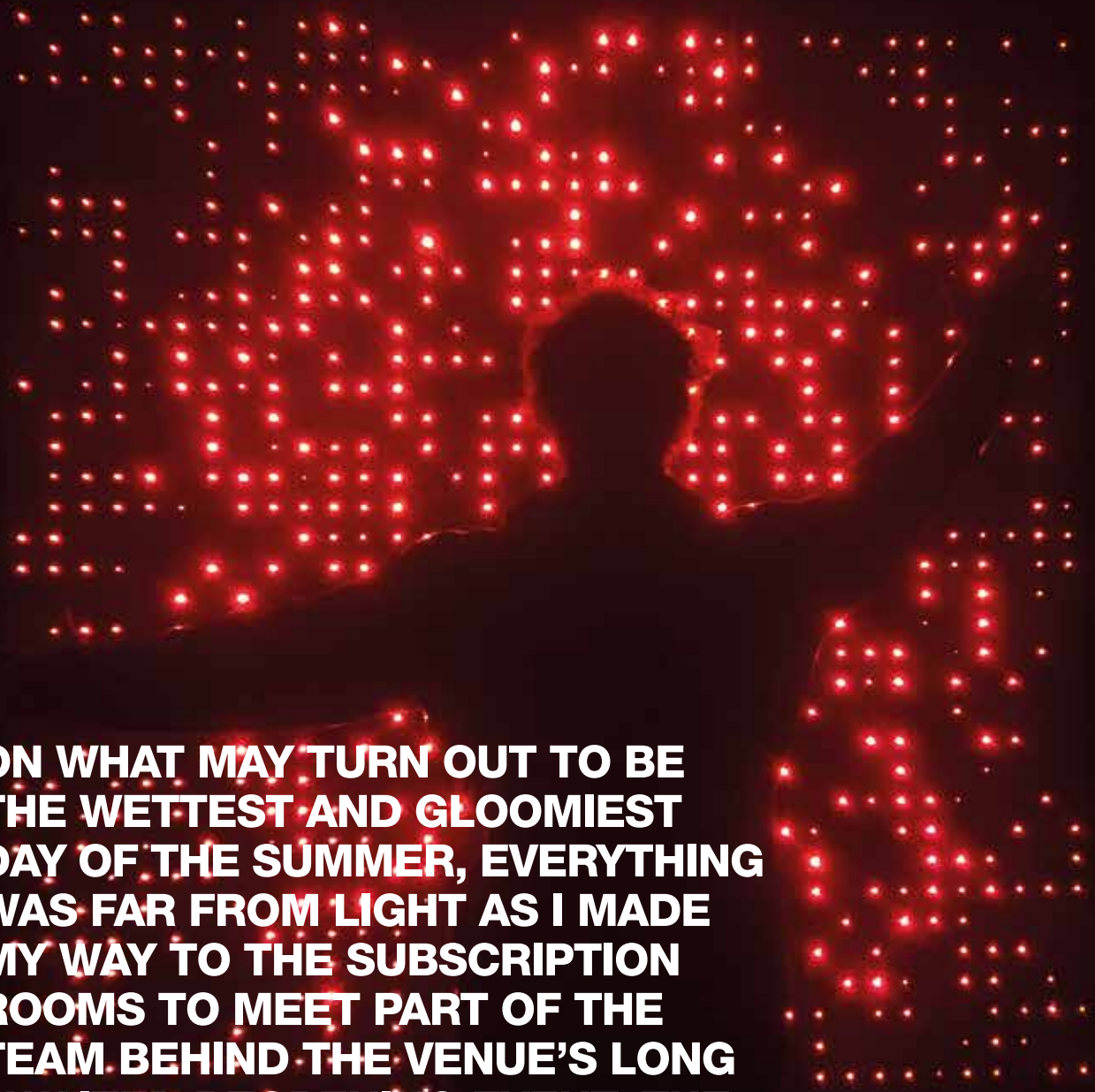
SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA TO ACCESS THE PLAYLIST!



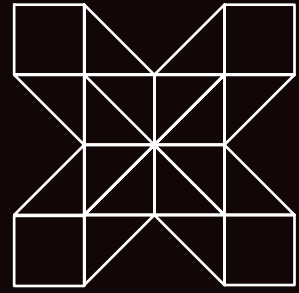


THE SUB ROOMS: EVERYTHING IS LIGHT

BY ADAM JONES



ON WHAT MAY TURN OUT TO BE THE WETTEST AND GLOOMIEST DAY OF THE SUMMER, EVERYTHING WAS FAR FROM LIGHT AS I MADE MY WAY TO THE SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS TO MEET PART OF THE TEAM BEHIND THE VENUE'S LONG AWAITED REOPENING EVENT: THE HUGELY EXCITING AND SLIGHTLY BONKERS NEW PROJECT, EVERYTHING IS LIGHT.



Having announced back in March 2019 that the much loved venue would henceforth be managed by The Stroud Subscription Rooms Trust, the team have set about reinvigorating The Sub Rooms as a community venue at the heart of Stroud. Of course between then and now we've seen a pandemic wipe out all best laid plans and that this has hit venues especially hard is self evident. So what does the near future look like for a Covid-conscious venue?

Offering a glimpse of their ambitious plans were Simon Vincent (the man behind the racks at Trading Post Records), proudly one of the newly appointed trustees for the Sub Rooms, as well as Jack Wimperis- artist and the visionary lighting designer behind Everything Is Light.

The genesis of Everything Is Light can be traced back to Worthy Farm, where Jack had been working on both the lighting design for the Pyramid Stage, as well as an interactive light installation inside connected shipping containers as part of Shangri-La's creative playground at this year's Glastonbury Festival. Those plans were scuppered by you-know-what but rather than seeing his hard work gathering dust, the Subs team got to thinking of an experimental way to offer a safely distanced gig unlike any other and showcase Jack's genius for lighting. Jack tells me, "When it became apparent that we would not be able to go back to normal we had a discussion about our options. The atmosphere at a traditional gig would be rubbish if you have to physically distance, that's not what we go to gigs for, we go for a sense of belonging within a crowd and a true experience. So we realised we needed to do it some other way where you are still distanced but without sacrificing the atmosphere."

Which is exactly what they've achieved. Split between a daytime event and evening concerts, the intrepid daytime attendee will be greeted by a series of interlocking LED-laden themed rooms that respond to sound and movement - in my sneakiest of peeks I spotted a room filled with over 7,000 recycled milk bottles lining the lacto lit walls, another space reminiscent of the interior of the command deck of a spaceship, and a neon splattered room straight out of a Pollock painting, oh, and at least one tube-lit infinity tunnel. Adding to the sensory overload and providing cohesion between these spectacles will be an app (at time of writing exact details were tbc) that will provide different ambient sounds through headphones to accompany the visuals of each room.

And that's just during the day. For the evening performances, artists will perform on a raised stage in the centre of the hall while what was a safely-distanced one-way route through the visual spectacles becomes a series of independent sealed-off themed pods in the round. One neon lit wall in each room transforms into a semi-transparent viewing screen allowing for a safe way to see the gig, and the all important crowd. Experiencing a concert with up to 8 friends to a booth in a hall full of people separated safely in their respective 'rooms' will be a truly unique sight, akin to being in the Big Brother Diary Room or a futuristic karaoke booth, but with better singing. Combined with a bespoke sound system especially rigged for this event by local audio wizards d&b audiotechnik, it adds up to an eye-and-ear-popping prospect.

As venues trickle back to some semblance of normality, the gloriously abnormal Everything Is Light (29,000 hand-placed LED lights and counting) is gleefully forging its own path and this path has been rapturously received by artists local and further afield eager to play. From key players at the Stroud Jazz Festival to internationally renowned string quartets and progressive DJs, musicians of all stripes have been champing at the bit to get back on stage; especially a stage in the centre of some fictive Blade Runner nightclub.

Jack tells me that what makes this creative venture into pandemically practical gigging so different from other recent attempts, is that unlike an online performance or the backwards-looking drive-in concert, Everything Is Light has neither the solitariness of an online gig nor the exhaust fumes of a drive-in alternative, instead prioritising the quality of the audience's experience and safety. For a relatively small town the creativity, ambition and collaborative working on display is testament to Stroud's continuing ability to punch above its weight and seek positive routes through imposing obstacles.

While other venues have gone dark during these increasingly dark times, the Sub Rooms, under new and enthusiastic management, have been busy successfully applying for grants and overseeing a dramatic update to the much loved venue: vastly improved sound for the main hall, an increased capacity, a new bar in partnership with Stroud Brewery and, perhaps most excitingly, a refitted balcony allowing alfresco audiences to enjoy the music and the evening air. All of which will hopefully attract bigger acts and more diverse audiences.

As well as improvements that most gig goers will notice immediately, it's also the subtler changes that ensure a safer, more enjoyable environment, as Simon says, "we've had the building risk assessed for Coronavirus to ensure we are doing everything possible to protect our audiences including things like installing a new air-conditioning unit which replaces the air in the ballroom seven times an hour, these changes positively affects what we can do from a health and safety perspective and expands the overall capacity for the venue."

In some ways it appears that the enforced lockdown has provided the Sub Rooms with the time and programming space needed to get these improvements right. So with a lifted lockdown and an eager audience, what does returning to "normal" look like beyond Everything Is Light? And how are they going to accomplish this not inconsiderable task? "Now that the government has given the go ahead for indoor live performances, we're in the position of being able to work out exactly what we can do in order to make it financially viable. One option might be bringing back matinee performances, whereby we can look into acts playing twice in a day, or perhaps the first performance could be at 7:30pm meaning those with children could be back by 9:30pm and the next performance starts at 10pm. So with a safe capacity split over two performances, the artists get paid, the audience gets a safe, enjoyable environment, we'll have hopefully generated some income to be put back into the Sub Rooms and everyone's happy."

In uncertain times it's nice to hear a bit of certainty, so I'll leave the final confident word on The Sub Rooms to Simon Vincent, "We'll now have a fantastic room that can be used to its full potential and is fit for purpose, a stocked bar that is fit for purpose and a revamped foyer area that is fit for purpose, we can't wait to welcome everybody back."

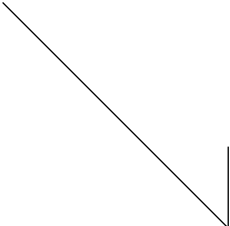
Everything Is Light takes place during October and November. For lineup announcements, news and further info visit thesubrooms.co.uk and follow the Subscriptions Rooms on facebook and instagram [@thesubrooms](https://www.instagram.com/thesubrooms) and twitter [@subroomsstroud](https://twitter.com/subroomsstroud) for regular updates.

—
ADAM JONES IS A PROFESSIONAL GARDENER AND HOBBYIST WRITER BASED IN STROUD.

SARAH NICOLLS

BY SEAN ROE

This month sees the launch of a brand new project by acclaimed local pianist and composer Sarah Nicolls. Scheduled to take place over 12 nights between the 8-25th 12 Years is inspired by the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report declaring that there were just 12 years left to change our behaviour in order to save the planet. The piece comprises 12 movements composed for Nicolls' amazing invention the Inside-Out Piano which she plays together with snippets of news headlines and conversations. On selected nights she will also be joined by climate scientists for post-show discussions. I caught up with the Stroud newcomer to find out more about her unique invention and the thought provoking project...



COULD YOU TELL US HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN IN STROUD AND WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?

We moved here on day one of lockdown! We had been looking to move West as our families are based over here. We've been visiting Stroud for several years and loved it.

DO YOU COME FROM A MUSICAL FAMILY? WHEN DID YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A MUSICIAN AND START EXPERIMENTING WITH THE SOUND OF THE PIANO?

My mum is a piano teacher! I firmly 'became' a musician when I decided to for myself - after university - but I went to music school and practised four hours a day as a teenager. I was trained classically then began to play more and more contemporary music by living composers - my friends and peers at college to start with. I played lots of music with electronics, like Luigi Nono's piece *Sofferte Onde Serene* with a backing track played through speakers facing up under the piano, and that got me into interactive music, performing wearing sensors and even inventing little robots to play the inside of the piano. Then I began reinventing the piano - to make it easier to play 'inside' the piano - pluck the strings, play harmonics, do percussive knocking, that kind of thing. As I did this, I learnt to improvise more confidently in front of

an audience and began composing. I found that in making new instruments, I wanted to discover what the instrument could do and the easiest way was to make my own pieces.

CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHAT PRECISELY AN 'INSIDE-OUT PIANO' IS? WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO CREATE IT ?

An 'Inside-Out Piano' is my own invention and it literally means that the insides are turned outwards. The 'insides' of the piano are the strings - the stuff that actually makes the sound but which no-one ever normally sees. If you think about it, all you normally see of a piano is the body, the legs, the lid. What I've done is explode the instrument and this is for two reasons. Firstly, to make more interesting sounds more easily. I am following in a long tradition of making sounds by playing directly on the piano strings, or putting objects in between the strings. But to do this kind of playing means leaning right into the grand piano and it is actually just uncomfortable! To stand in that position, you lose connection with the keyboard, the pedals, the music. The second reason is to let the audience see what is going on. When I had built the second prototype and set about starting the work of developing a lightweight piano, I realised I was making a piano that other people might want purely for logistical reasons - not for experimental music





making but simply a grand piano in the space of an upright. I am very lucky to have been funded by Innovate UK Design Foundations and after a Kickstarter last year, we're now building a carbon fibre piano with a radically innovative frame which overall should only weigh 82kg. My engineers are in Bristol and the piano builder David Klavins is in Latvia. He makes very interesting pianos, both massive and miniature.

THERE IS A LONG HISTORY OF OBJECTS BEING PLACED ON (OR WEDGED BETWEEN) THE STRINGS OF A PIANO. I'M THINKING OF JOHN CAGE AND HIS PREPARED PIANO PIECES IN PARTICULAR... WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE IMPLEMENTS OR GADGETS USED TO ALTER THE SOUND OF THE STRINGS?

My favourite things to use on the piano are: An e-bow - an electronic 'bow' which is a magnetic resonator. It sounds incredible and does the opposite of normal piano playing: the sound starts from nothing and builds. You can have a solid tone, which is just beautiful in contrast to normal piano melodies and other textures. Rubber balls - pull them down the string to sound like a whale, bounce them to create a ricochet effect. Glass ball - sounds great when pulled across the metal pins (can easily sound like thunder or running boots, especially through a delay) Wooden skewers - placed between the strings the pulled with fingers covered in rosin. Sounds incredible haunting, like a wooden flute. Piece of slate - sanded on one side, dragged across the strings - multiphonics Straws between strings - for detuning. Blutac - for muting. Very strong magnets - for multi phonics/bell-like sounds, sounds like the nuts and bolts of John Cage but much quicker to stick on! And my hands - plucking, strumming, harmonics, hitting the metal bars, etc etc!

AT WHAT POINT DID YOU DECIDE TO EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS AS PART OF YOUR PERFORMANCES?

Around 2010. It was an amazing journey to go on. I really got into the idea of playing the computer and the piano at the same time. I also used to love making computer music as a student, the squares of Cubase were so anathema to piano playing. It's such a different discipline making music by constructing it in code or software, than to play it physically and I spent several years focusing on fusing these two things. I set up the BEAM Festival for interactive music and ran the NIME Conference (New Interfaces For Musical Expression). We had lots of interesting controllers, sensors and devices. In the end though, I decided I needed to solve the problem of the shape of the acoustic piano first. Sometimes I miss effects and use Ableton Live to make up for it but mostly I can do anything I need to musically on the inside-out piano now.

DOES IMPROVISATION PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN YOUR PERFORMANCES? I WONDERED ALSO IF YOU ENJOY COLLABORATING WITH OTHER MUSICIANS?

Yes, I do improvisation gigs but recently have focused more on composing pieces which I can repeat. I'm improvising in the Marsden Jazz Festival in a film coming out shortly, with a cellist, where we performed to no-one next to a reservoir and were recorded by the excellent sound artist Jez Riley French. I do collaborate but more with experts from other fields who I get to mentor me for my solo shows - like climate scientists or film script writers.

WITH REGARDS TO YOUR NEW PROJECT 12 YEARS THAT ADDRESSES THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY THE WORLD IS FACING, COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT THE ORIGIN AND INTENTIONS OF THE PIECE

This is my personal emergency response to the IPCC Special Report in 2018, where we were told that we had 12 years to radically change our behaviour (specifically, to halve global emissions) to save the planet. I wanted to make a recital to give an audience time and space to think about the climate and ecological emergency and to leave with a tangible sense of what could be done. To that end, the programme notes also offer ideas and were written with an environmental campaigner. I also had a climate scientist from the MET Office and a film script writer as mentors. The Inside-Out Piano perfectly resonates the organic and potentially cataclysmic nature of the emergency whilst also tenderly cradling tentative hope. All of the music is my original composition and the piano melodies and textures interweave with phone calls between three fictional characters challenging each other to either worry less or do more. We also hear environmental experts, survivors escaping from a wildfire, a glacier melting and eloquent speeches from Greta Thunberg.

THE PROJECT RUNS OVER 12 NIGHTS, STARTING IN BRISTOL ON 8TH OCTOBER AND ENDING IN EXETER ON 23RD. ARE THE PERFORMANCES DIFFERENT? WHAT CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE EACH NIGHT ?

The performances are the same but the post-show discussions are different on different nights, as are the lengths of the streams. On the venue-hosted nights (you can choose to support your nearest venue) the stream is only available at 7.30pm. Thus, you're in an audience and straight afterwards, on Zoom all together, we'll have a discussion with a local climate expert. In Bristol, I team up with the brilliant Prof Rich Pancost, Director of the Cabot Institute for the Environment and Dr Alix Dietzel, who specialises in climate justice and policy. If you go for a public stream, these are 20 hours long, so you can watch when is convenient (and even from different time zones).

THE PERFORMANCES ARE ALL STREAMED LIVE, COULD YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT HOW THE AUDIENCE CAN VIEW THE PERFORMANCES AND THE TECHNOLOGY INVOLVED IN BROADCASTING THE SHOWS?

We'll be using hidden webpages which then direct you to the stream. The public streams are 'pay what you decide', so I really hope this flexibility of time and money means more people can watch. Once you've registered for a ticket, you'll get sent a link and instructions!

I IMAGINE YOU ARE EXTREMELY BUSY PREPARING FOR THIS PROJECT, ARE THERE ANY OTHER NEW PROJECTS OR COLLABORATIONS LINED UP IN THE NEAR FUTURE OR ANY RECORDINGS YOU'LL BE RELEASING SOON?

The future is completely uncertain for performers like me. What I'll be doing now is focusing on building the new lightweight piano and becoming a good guardian of our patch of land in Stroud. I feel like there are really exciting things ahead for the second half of my life, and probably less about travelling about doing gigs and more about creating space for interesting connections to form and cross-discipline learning to happen...

For further information on the 12 Years project and to purchase tickets for the online performances visit sounduk.net/events/12-Years-Sarah-Nicolls-12-Streams and sarahnicolls.com for news, updates and releases.

—
SEAN ROE PERFORMS IN WOOLHEADS WITH UTA BALDAUF AND RUNS INDEPENDENT RECORD SHOP SOUND RECORDS WITH TOM MONOBROW. DOUBLE BASSIST WITH BLOOD BLISTERS, CAT LOVER.

SELECT TRAIL

BY SARAH DIXON

With so many events cancelled this year, the Stroud arts scene has taken a huge hit. Our many artists and performers have of course been finding ways to stay creative but are much less visible than we might like them to be - so it's cheering news that the Select Trail is going ahead this month. It will allow us an inspiring glimpse into the private workspaces of some of the artists and craftspeople making beauty in the valleys, thanks to the efforts of Lizzi Walton and Select Arts.

The UK decided to go into lockdown just as the Select brochures, packed with beautiful photographs of this year's participants, went to print. "Of course, we just had to cancel everything, at very short notice, all that I had planned for May including a fantastic festival" Lizzi tells me over a coffee at Woodruffs organic cafe. "We surveyed the artists and made a decision to reschedule for the two October weekends, 17-18th and 24-25th."

Select Arts is known for showcasing the participating artists with high quality brochures and photography. Designed by Chris Bailey, with commissioned photographers, they bring a strong look to the festival and trail events each year. Instead of the print brochure there is now a beautiful online version, created by designer Chris who has been creating the brochures for print and digital in a longstanding collaboration with Lizzi and Select Arts.

About 75 artists are showing at venues all around the Stroud area including the Centre for Science and Art at Craft at the Centre, Victoria Works in Chalford,

Gloucestershire Printmakers Cooperative and Pegasus Art at Griffin Mill. Artists are also showing in Horsley, Randwick, Painswick, Miserden and Woodchester as well as the towns of Stroud and Nailsworth so this is a great chance to do some exploring of the area and take in the hills and villages as well as the art.

You can visit favourites such as basket maker Susan Early and mosaic artist Cleo Mussi at Frogmarsh Mill, pottery at the fabulous Clay Loft with Tom Jackson and fresh talent such as the artists showing at Craft at the Centre offering pottery, sculpture, metal work, and jewellery. Each artist has their own page on the Trail website, as well as full contact details in the brochure. The artists and venues are adapting to offer covid-safe studio space but you can also make appointments directly with the artists, if you prefer to avoid the weekend dates.

Lockdown and the ensuing complex mix of restrictions have impacted all of us of course, and for director Lizzi Walton it's also resulted in this being the last Select Arts



STROUD VALLEYS IS VERY LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A RICH, DIVERSE AND CREATIVE BODY OF ARTISTS WORKING AND LIVING HERE. LONG MAY IT LAST.

Lizzi Walton





event she will be organising: she has announced she will be stepping down.

Lizzi set up the renowned textile trail and festival close to 20 years ago as Stroud International Textiles. She has brought a unique passion for contemporary crafts and the visual arts in particular, and seen the organisation through several incarnations, changes and much growth. "We began by highlighting the textile history and culture of Stroud, and over the years we've expanded to include a wider range of contemporary craft and art practices. I have had the pleasure to work with international leading artists as well as locally based artists over the years and curated many inspiring exhibitions with innovative artists/makers exhibiting. I must say it has been exciting and a pleasure to bring such talent to Stroud where the public can see and enjoy their work outside major city galleries. In the early years it was these big names in the visual arts that placed Select Arts on a national platform and attracted so many visitors to the town. We've seen up to thousands of visitors a year from all over the UK and abroad. I have also commissioned a lot of new work, and that has been a joy and truly wonderful to see new work emerge from mutual discussion. Another exciting thread has been conferences and seminars where lively debate took place and bringing leading speakers to Stroud has been amazing and a privilege."

I ask Lizzi if the pandemic and its impacts have been part of this decision - "For me the Lockdown has made space for silence and being still, and I have found it to be special. I have loved connecting in a new way with nature and find that I want to explore and connect to what is happening out there with nature and wildlife. People are sometimes frightened of silence. Lockdown has been about doing what is of value. It has been an honour to head a successful arts organisation that has contributed so much to the area and support so many artists but the lockdown has given me time to reflect and it is time to move on - to embrace something different, let go and put Select Art Trail in fresh hands. I hope to be presenting independent events in the future. Chris Bailey is staying on as the designer and the Trail is going to be back next year."

Any words of advice for the new manager of Select Arts? "The person who is planning on taking over the reins of the Select Trail needs no advice as she will bring fresh new ideas and thinking. I will be here to help in any way but I want her to just fly with the Trail and inject her own

thoughts and innovation. It would be great if people in the Stroud area come out to support local talent, especially as there will be fewer travelling in from elsewhere this year. The Trail artists create such wonderful work and I can honestly say that to support them with their careers has been enjoyable. I wish every one of them well and the Stroud Valleys is very lucky to have such a rich, diverse and creative body of artists working and living here. Long may it last."

It's really heartening to see Select Trail going ahead and I for one will be looking to find some creative treasure to keep me inspired through the winter months. It's been a privilege for me to work alongside Lizzi with digital support in the past 10 years or so. I am sure many others will be joining me in offering deep gratitude for all she has brought to celebrate the talent here and contribute so much to making Stroud an inspiring, vibrant and nourishing place to live.

.....
The Select Trail featuring open studios and artist led exhibitions will take place on the weekends of the 17th-18th and 24th-25th October. Visit sitsselect.org for news, updates and the full programme with online brochure. You can also follow the Ground Works and Landlinks project presented in partnership with Kel Portman at groundworks.org.uk

2021 will see the Select Arts creative journey continue, as Director Lizzi Walton hands over her wonderful legacy to a new team. Responding to the shifting cultural landscape, Select Arts will deliver an exciting program that maintains the Trail for future generations to enjoy, while exploring new directions with the same creative integrity that has made Select a unique platform for artists internationally... Look out for updates on the website and newsletter over these coming months.

—
SARAH DIXON IS AN ARTIST AND COACH, INTERESTED IN HOW WE CAN BUILD HEALTHIER CULTURES - CREATIVEDIGITALHUMAN.COM

GALLERY

1673 :

NEW

FORMS

BY PAUL HARPER

Between Stroud and Nailsworth the A46 snakes along the bottom of the valley. Interspersed with leafy green hedgerows and hillsides there is a jumble of industrial units: modern tin sheds rub shoulders with older brick and stone mill-buildings and workshops. Between an MOT testing centre and the Renishaw factory a sign on one of the older buildings identifies one of the Valleys newest creative clusters, The Clay Loft.



The Maker Space phenomenon has grown exponentially over the last few years, a shift in the arts and crafts ecology in response to the changing economic and political context. They have been closely associated with an alternative urban culture of artists and makers and with post-industrial inner-city regeneration. But they are also part of the on-going identity of the Stroud Valleys. They seem to thrive here, providing workspace, support and shared resources for artists and craftspeople, but also playing a part in community building, place-making and as hubs for learning.

I've visited the Clay Loft a couple of times during open studios and have been impressed by the quality of the space. The view from the road doesn't tell you much about what to expect. Approached from the rear, there is a thriving cabinet making workshop, Hyde and Gallagher. From here, a flight of unpromising industrial steps lead you up to an open terrace, surrounded by small workshops housing a variety of businesses. The terrace is furnished with benches and tables and the feel of the place is one of purposefulness tempered by relaxed conviviality. Facing you at the end is the Clay Loft itself, a fully equipped ceramic studio offering classes and

ceramic resources that can be used on a membership basis. Leading off the side of the terrace, up a staircase is Gallery 1673, a large, light filled exhibition space.

The Gallery has been used for shows during open studios and as temporary office space, but until now it's fair to say that it has been an under exploited asset. However, all of that is about to change. From November it will host a programme of exhibitions curated by Tim Woolner (also known as Epok) and James Gallagher (one of the partners in the furniture workshop).

Tim and James have made the move to the area over the last couple of years - coming from Bristol where they were immersed in the graffiti art scene. They came seeking rural calm, but they also bring a restless creative spirit and wanted space to make work away from the pressures of city life. They remain very well connected with contemporary street artists, and this will be the focus of their programme.

I have to confess that graffiti art is something that I have only been peripherally attentive to until now. The kind of graffiti that covers the bridges and backsides of



buildings visible from my train as I travel into London has become a ubiquitous and integral part of the visual buzz of the cityscape. It is part of the energy of the city. I'm glad that it is there, but, whilst a particular piece can be eye catching, and whilst I sometimes wonder how the artist managed to reach a particular site, it is rarely surprising or especially absorbing.

Graffiti has its roots in street culture. Often associated with vandalism or with protest, it belongs to an on-going, ever evolving tradition that has been traced back to ancient Greece and beyond. Made rapidly, for fear of getting caught, and sometimes in precarious locations, graffiti can have a raw energy. It can have a vivid and inventive aesthetic and it has come to be recognised as an authentic form of expression, particularly for artists who are otherwise marginalised. The combination of authenticity, energy and the air of illicit, underground practice has attracted the interest of the artworld. Some (strikingly few) graffiti artists have made the cross-over into the mainstream and some artists have, in turn, drawn on the rich visual language of graffiti and borrowed some of its outsider status and rebellious credibility – too often by incorporating tags and graphic motifs in to their paintings in ways that are formulaic or clichéd – with some notable exceptions of course.

So, encountering the work of James and Tim is a kind of revelation for me. All of the artists that they will be showing have distinctive styles whilst having some characteristics in common. The work is mostly architectural in scale, and it shares a strongly structural, bold and dynamic approach to composition. There is an ambition and an intention that is way beyond the random tags that I've seen from my train. They all evoke the Futurist's preoccupations with speed and the transformation of human experience in a mechanized world.

Tim's paintings, with their overlapping planes and geometric shapes, their sense of movement and disintegration, are reminiscent of analytical Cubism. There is a looping fluidity to his forms. In some, the ghost of their calligraphic origins can be picked out, but language is fragmented into abstract forms.

James creates painterly, blurred fields of murky colour, overlaid with sharply defined arching lines and angular forms that could represent architectural plans or mathematical diagrams. The palate is muted and they have a mood of dystopian science fiction about them.

For their first exhibition at the 1673 Gallery, alongside their own work, they will be showing Kleiner Shames, Berol and Shikha Kuhn.

Kleiner Shames arranges simple forms and bright colours into optical, abstract arrangements that call to mind Matisse cut outs or the dramatically disrupted effects of the dazzle camouflage used on ships in the First World War.

These contrast with Shikha's monochrome abstracts, which layer looser forms into densely structured compositions – sometimes collaging torn paper shapes, emphasizing an almost sculptural 3 dimensionality in the work.

Berol's ink drawings remind me of a strand of distinctly English modernism seen in the surreal, abstracted forms of Graham Sutherland. They are like imagined futuristic buildings or industrial structures morphing into organic forms. In some there is a certain humorous quality to their wonky geometry and cartoonish imagery, but others have a darkly futuristic, almost political, charge.

Tim and James don't have any formal training in art, but they have the curiosity, enthusiasm and energy of autodidacts. They have a free and easy familiarity with art history, snaffling inspiration from wherever they find it and incorporating it into their distinctive artistic visions. They are excited by possibilities, feeding off each other. I am struck by their spirit of openness, the obvious pleasure they find in making work, and by the atmosphere of mutual support that they generate. Shikha, who has a successful career as a portrait photographer, says that it is down to James's encouragement that she has taken up and persevered with her painting. Tim, meanwhile, describes a collaborative, improvisational approach to making graffiti that is collaborative – based on mutual respect for each other's skill and experience and a certain generosity of spirit. He evokes jazz musicians improvising on a theme – an artist will make a mark and then step back for someone else to respond.

In launching a new programme for Gallery 1673, Tim and James are drawing on all of the qualities that they bring to their other creative work. It will be great to see this space re-animated.

Work by all of the artists showing in the New Forms exhibition can be seen via their Instagram links [@tim_woolner_art](#) [@James_gallagher_art](#) [@kleiner_shames](#) [@berol_meltdown](#) and [@shikhakuehn](#)

The Gallery launch was scheduled for this month, but due to the latest Government response to the pandemic, it will now open on the 13th November running for two weeks with an online booking system. Follow Gallery 1673 on instagram [@gallery_1673](#) for further news and updates.

PAUL HARPER HAS A WIDE RANGE OF EXPERIENCE OF WORKING IN THE ARTS. HE WAS A FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF ALIAS ARTS AND IS VICE-CHAIR OF THE FOREST OF DEAN SCULPTURE TRUST. HE CURRENTLY COMBINES WRITING, RESEARCH AND TEACHING WITH CONSULTANCY IN THE VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.



NICK GRELLIER

Each day she walks the dog. There's always something insignificant or enormous swirling around in her head. Sometimes she knows what she's going to draw but often it just happens. She talks to herself, pissed off about what someone said or reliving the touch of a hand. She walks past someone on the road and they don't say hello; or they stop and talk. The politician has had yet another dangerously idiotic rant; it's on the news, over and over. She wants to walk out of her life. She loves her life right now, today.

On June 1st 2019 she made a quick, necessarily bad (not to set the bar too high) collage and pencil image which said NO EXIT. We were in the throes of Brexit at that point. Who knew what was coming next. Life was up and down, maybe things were starting to fall apart. It wasn't easy to talk about any of it but she could make one small drawing a day and no one would particularly notice what she was doing. Admittedly they were posted on instagram every day so there was a chance that they might scratch an itch somewhere. They scratched hers anyway.

Out of nowhere the only news is the Virus. Talk of Brexit has almost stopped. We're not allowed to touch, see or breathe each other. Old people and young people are in limbo. No one really knows what's going on. Still the nutter keeps ranting. She keeps on drawing. They've got a rhythm by now, sometimes they're a bit crap but every now and then she really likes one.

Time stretches backwards as well as forwards, it's better to look at it this way. It's always today.

.....
From June 1st 2019 Nick Grellier made one small drawing every day for an intense and perplexing year. Via the transitory state of 'today' the drawings meander through personal experience and collective concerns, with shapes, marks, text and figures staging physical touch, habits, communication and human relationships. They were posted daily on Instagram with a running commentary of titles, hashtags and interactions which were often humorous and sometimes sad. The drawings will be shown in their entirety in her exhibition Today: 366 Drawings at SVA, John Street from Friday 2nd until Sun 18th October. Nick will be working in the gallery during opening hours and is taking part in three talks about drawing during the exhibition: Bad Drawing, Mighty Pencil and A Slight Increase In Happiness. A limited edition book of the drawings is for sale.

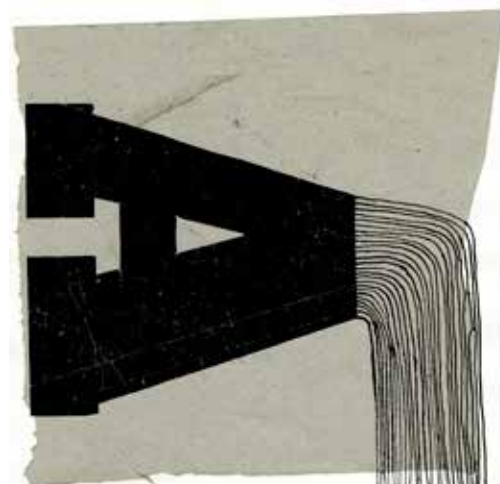
For further information visit sva.org.uk and follow Nick on instagram @[nick_grellier](https://www.instagram.com/nick_grellier) for examples of her work and details about talks.



Fun



Strong Women Grow Forests



A Pocalypse



Earth



Space Invader



Staying Alert



Irrational Plausible Fear



Very Very Bad



CH ch ch

ART SHELTER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY OLLIE HARDY

Inspired by an anonymous 'vandal' who made alterations to the Brewery Lane bus shelter last year, Brimscombe and Thrupp Parish Council commissioned Studio 18 to revamp the bus shelters on the A419 London Road into inspiring and engaging art installations. The Brewery Lane bus stop transformation - which included the addition of a comfy chair, book shelf, ornaments, pictures, bunting and lighting - hit the local and national newspapers as a quirky feel-good story.

Eleven bus stops have now been transformed into public works of art forming a trail along London Road, feeding creatively into the Brimscombe and Thrupp community. The 'Art Shelters' are designed to bring a little joy and also carry a message either through environmental care or celebration of local community and nature, using reclaimed material wherever possible. The eye-catching bus stops even caught the attention of the BBC who recently came down to find out more about the project and interview some of the artists involved.

Studio 18 and Brimscombe and Thrupp Parish Council invite you to take the Art Shelter trail to revel in the wonderfully creative and immersive installations in what were once dreary bus stops.

For further information and updates follow Studio 18 on facebook and instagram @Studio18Stroud



1 **Wonderland by Kazz Hollick and Isa Clee**
Bowbridge Bus Depot Bus Stop

Welcome to the Magical Wonderland Bowbridge Bus Depot Perikaleidoscope Bus Stop! It's all the fun of the fair as you step into a world of blue skies, fluffy clouds, rainbows and magical mirrors. See the world from a different perspective while you wait. Kazz is a visual artist who started with photography at Brighton University, then on returning to Stroud and working with a variety of artists and musicians, has experimented with mixed media and community/public installations. Isa has always been fascinated by shiny, twinkly, reflective, vision altering materials. Her work involves creating tiny sparkly worlds inside beautiful wooden boxes to delight and intrigue the viewer. In an increasingly hectic and challenging modern world, her aim is to make people smile with a moment of magical whimsy.



3 **Thrupp Cathedrale by Gavin McClafferty**
Kingfisher Business Park Bus Stop

Taking his cue from the "dazzle patterns" of the first world war and inverting the idea of camouflage, using a mixture of donated paints, found wood and site hoarding, Gavin has transformed this bus shelter into a beautiful and iconic feature, reminiscent of the blue tin church that once resided nearby this stop. Growing up in London, Gavin's art career started in 1989, creating huge portable murals for the burgeoning underground dance and rave scene. He now has his studio in Stroud; an artists' enclave that plays host to many leading curators, writers and artists.



5 **Musical Chairs by Alice Sheppard Fidler**
Brewery Lane Bus Stop

Alice's shelter draws attention to the building's original materials by colouring and outlining the bricks in bright, bold colours, and accentuates its form through the use of strong lines that mimic a simple drawing. The colour palette highlights certain aspects of the area's heritage: red for Stroudwater Scarlet cloth, blue for the rivers and canals, and white for sheep's wool. The interior of the shelter is adorned with artwork created by Year Six students from Thrupp School. Local illustrator Hannah Shaw worked on a project with the students to create artwork inspired by local wildlife. Using discarded and recycled materials, Alice Sheppard Fidler makes site-specific installations that enable new narratives to emerge alongside those that are stored within her chosen materials. These often large-scale installations seek to question the relationship with self and others in an age when people are spending more time than ever away from other people, in the digital realm. Bailey Paints of Griffin Mill, London Rd, Stroud, has kindly sponsored this shelter.



2 **A Dog's Night Out by Freya Tate**
Griffin Mill Estate Bus Stop

Freya's bus shelter honours Stroud's unique and rich history, particularly focusing on its incredibly strong sense of community and passion for social issues. Her design celebrates the human figure, incorporating elements of movement and dance which are fundamental themes in her work. Freya Tate is interested in the representation of the figure/body in its practical state and emotional duality, stemming from her work as a musician and life model.



4 **The Little Raindrop by Ghost Sung**
Brewery Lane Bus Stop

Ghost Sung's bus shelter illustrates the story of the water cycle. This environmental beauty parallels the cycle of life, work, love, loss, rejuvenation. Lessons are learnt or mistakes are repeated. Ghost Sung writes stories. He is an award winning film and television director and is now experimenting with the written word as art. He is inspired by the joy of childhood and the wonder of science.



6 Nature v Motor by Megan Medley
Studio 18

Megan's bus stop encapsulates the profound effect that traffic congestion and pollution has on the environment and local wildlife. The endless building of roads to accommodate the ever-increasing number of cars strips the countryside of the biodiversity that is vital to our health, wellbeing, culture and economy. Her design incorporates harsh scrap metal with delicate nature, demonstrating the balance we need to find in our lives and the impact it has on the natural world. Megan Medley is a sculptor who has primarily worked in resin. She has made several light sculptures using remnants from natural history such as skulls, horns and shells. The natural world has been a continual thread throughout her work. The sculptures for the bus stop are her first scrap metal sculptures.



8 Everyday People by Albie Lucas
War Memorial Bus Stop

Creating black and white portraits of mill workers (men, women and children) taken from local archives, Albie Lucas draws a parallel between the everyday people working in the mills of the Five Valleys with modern everyday people travelling by bus to get to work, school or to the shops. Albie's artwork focuses on what it feels like to be living, not glorifying any happiness or sadness, each are the same. This is what drives him to make drawings, not just to express his emotions but to express emotion itself.



10 How to Finesse a Stagecoach by Loco Dooms
Toadsmoor Bus Stop

Taking inspiration from romantic era paintings and contemporary fashion designers, Loco Dooms has created a beautifully surreal collage of the Five Valleys. Juxtaposing romantic vista paintings with modern images, this ethereal portrayal of the surrounding area with its luminescent imagery encapsulates the natural beauty all around us. Producer and Videographer Loco Dooms has been working in the visual and audio fields for most of his adult career, releasing a lot of house and techno records whilst making music videos for drill artists throughout London.



7 Invitation to Play by Zac Walsh and Nathan Morgan
War Memorial Bus Stop

Sculptor Nathan Morgan teams up with Studio 18's Zac Walsh to create an interactive abstraction exploring line, colour, form and harmony while inviting the public to create their own anonymous abstract pieces at the bus stop. These pieces will then form an exhibition at Studio 18. Zac is Studio 18 Director and founder with a long career in illustration and fine art, exhibiting internationally and generally trying to buzz people out. Nathan has found his way to sculpture through carpentry where he was commissioned by high end industry in the States for bespoke installations; also setting up art collectives in Kentucky, he's finally found his way to Studio 18.



9 Golden Valley Connections by Ruth Hickson and Rachel McDonnell
Bourne Estate Bus Stop

Colourful, bold and fun, this bus stop reflects the community and environment in which it sits. The beauty of the natural environment contrasts and complements the commercial man made structures - this is the story of our area and something to be proud of - the unending ingenuity and creativity of its residents. The dots represent connections between the community, the environment, the industrial heritage of the area and the thriving small businesses. Ruth Hickson is an illustrator and printmaker based in Chalford Hill. Inspired by maps and a love of planning routes and exploring the world around her, she uses a mixture of traditional lino cutting and digital techniques to create colourful, bold and fun illustrated maps and prints. Rachel McDonnell is a painter based at Victoria Works in Chalford. Ideas about the environment, climate, and place are central to her work, which is currently focused on landscape, particularly trees.



11 The Dead Industry Club by Eleanor Harper
Toadsmoor Bus Stop

Brimscombe is no longer reliant upon its iron foundries, cloth mills and boat builders for its income. Through her sign painting, Eleanor's shelter celebrates a forgotten heyday of businesses now defunct but so meaningful to the people of the areas past, and where we are today. Eleanor has created a 'ghost sign' for Phoenix Ironworks - the foundry that was in existence in Brimscombe in the 1800's. Eleanor is a sign painter currently based in Stroud. She specialises in hand lettering and sign writing and has worked with corporate companies, events and individuals that prefer the unique touch that brush work has to offer.

STROUD _THEATRE FESTIVAL

BY LUCY WHITE



OUTSIDE, INSIDE AND ONLINE
- THAT'S THE TAGLINE FOR
THIS YEAR'S STROUD THEATRE
FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL GO
AHEAD IN OCTOBER AMONG
PERHAPS SOME OF THE MOST
CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES
EVER FACED BY THE LIVE
EVENTS INDUSTRY. "ONE
REASON I WANTED TO GO
AHEAD WITH THE FESTIVAL
THIS YEAR, WAS TO PUT OUT
A BEACON OF HOPE - THAT
LIFE CAN CARRY ON," SAYS
JOHN BASSETT, FOUNDER AND
DIRECTOR OF THE FESTIVAL.



John and his team have risen bravely to the challenge, in the wake of the cancellation of several prominent theatre festivals including Barnstaple - which was a central inspiration for the Stroud event. "There are interesting dilemmas on many fronts," says John. "Some of our much-loved venues - such as The Imperial Hotel - sadly won't be available this year. But on the upside we will have some beautiful new outdoor venues for performances. Stratford Park will host performances in four different spaces, including The Orangery, the bandstand, the amphitheatre and the back lawn."

The Stroud Theatre Festival prides itself on a loyal, returning local audience. "We are aware that, this year, some of those regular audience members might not feel as comfortable attending live events. Maybe they are shielding or have a family member who is. So we are really pleased to be able to make performances available online." Online events will be ticketed, at £3 each, making them half the price of attending a live show. This revenue will go to the performers, at a time when the

arts are really under pressure, so the festival are encouraging audiences to show solidarity and encouragement for performers by purchasing tickets. Online theatre shows will be filmed and then released to audiences the following day.

I asked John what measures will be in place to comply with Covid guidelines for the live shows. "The most important thing for us is to make sure that everyone - performers, audiences, volunteers doing box office - is safe. We want everyone to be able to relax and have a good time." The theatre festival has been certified "Covid Good-to-Go", with safety precautions in place, such as hand sanitiser at entry and exit points, socially distance performances, table service from bars, and audiences seated in household "bubbles". Everyone will need to wear a mask indoors, but outdoor events will not require this. In addition volunteers will be taking everyone's temperature as they come in and cleaning down entire venues in between each show.

In past years, the festival has been largely self-sustaining, with £1 from

every ticket sold going to pay for venues and the rest going straight to performers. This year the new online element - plus the requirements of setting up Covid-secure venues outdoors - has significantly increased running costs. Happily, the event is supported by funding from the Arts Council of England, which will cover extra expenses like filming and hosting online events, headset microphones for Covid-secure performances and additional lighting for outdoor venues. Beyond these adaptations, they are also making use of the funding to increase access to performances by bringing in a BSL interpreter to sign performances.

Since its origin 8 years ago, the festival has stuck to an ethos of diversity and inclusiveness. Rather than curating the programme, organisers throw the doors open and welcome as many companies as possible from those who apply. The result is a diverse and dynamic celebration of largely local talent, peppered with performances from companies who travel in from farther afield. This year's Covid- inspired format extension, to include online performances, allows the team to cast their net even wider. Last year's festival attracted over 40 companies to perform, and past festivals have seen a strong trend of returning companies and audiences year after year. "This year we thought we might get a handful of brave companies signing up - but so far we have 25!" John tells me.

This year's programme will be, as always, a splendid celebration of Gloucestershire talent, with about seventy percent of companies coming from the local area. "We have so much homegrown talent in Gloucestershire - performers, writers, actors, musicians and poets," says John, "but we tend to get forgotten for Bristol. So many young performers go away to train in Bristol or London and don't come back." Since moving to the area, John has been a tireless advocate of the Gloucestershire arts scene. He recalls challenging ACE budget allocations one year, when Gloucestershire had been largely overlooked: "I called them up and said 'Look, 70% of your budget for the South West has gone to Bristol and barely

anything to Gloucester'. I think that's representative of the lack of recognition of what's going on around here."

Shows include a host of topical entertainment - such as 'Absolutely NOT The New Normal' presented by pd Productions, a one-man show about a zombie apocalypse in Cornwall (Apocalypse Kernow, OMF Theatre), an exploration of death (And So, Now That You're Dead - Foulisfair Theatre), and a satire from John's own theatre company, Spaniel in The Works, exploring the mystifying appearance on the political scene of one Dmitri Kominski who is oddly determined to 'Get Breakfast Done'.

Other highlights include shows themed around the great myths and creations of our human history and modern times, like 'Messages from the Gods' by Dramestics Theatre, and 'Beowulf Needs You' by Anthony Haddon. Finally, audiences can enjoy some good old escapism with performances such as 'Journey Into Space' from Knapsack Productions, which brings us an immersive experience of one literal escape route, and 'The Spirit of Woodstock' performed by Something Underground.

Stroud Theatre Festival are extremely grateful for the generous in-kind support they have received from Stroud District Council, Lansdown Hall and a host of other local venues and volunteers. Now the invitation is to you, the people of Stroud and the Five Valleys, to roll up roll up, buy your tickets, and enjoy the festival! The show must go on...

This year's festival takes place on the weekend of the 2nd - 4th October. A full programme and information about ticket sales are available online at stroudtheatrefestival.co.uk

LUCY WHITE IS A FREELANCE WRITER, FACILITATOR AND COACH BASED IN NAILSWORTH. LUCY HAS OVER A DECADE OF EXPERIENCE AND IS CURRENTLY WORKING PRIMARILY WITH CLIENTS FROM THE ARTS, PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, LEADERSHIP AND ORGANISATIONAL LEARNING - DRAWING ON CAREER EXPERIENCE IN THESE SECTORS. GLOWINGPHRASES.COM

ART LISTINGS

GALLERY PANGOLIN

FRI 14TH AUG - SAT 14TH NOV

In the Mix

A changing mix of sculpture, prints and drawings by gallery artists including: Anthony Abrahams, Jon Buck, Lynn Chadwick, Halima Cassell, Ann Christopher, Terence Coventry, Sue Freeborough, Anita Mandl, Charlotte Mayer, Ellis O'Connell, Almuth Tebbenhoff and Deborah van der Beek. The gallery is open by appointment, please contact Sally or Cath to book a viewing.

gallery-pangolin.com

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PRINTMAKING COOPERATIVE

SAT 17TH - SUN 18TH/SAT 24TH-SUN 25TH

Printmaking Exhibition

Over 17 print makers will be exhibiting at the Print-makers Gallery & studio. Demos on woodblock printing, lino cutting, Etching, open studios and more over the 2 weekends. 10am-4:30pm

gpchq.co.uk

HALLIDAYS MILL GALLERY

THURS 3RD SEPT - SAT 3RD OCT

Aboriginal Art UK: Sacred Places

On 3rd September, Aboriginal Art UK will be launching 'Sacred Spaces', an exhibition of Indigenous Australian art. This show will focus on works inspired by areas of the outback that are considered sacred by Aboriginal tribes. 10:35am - 4:30pm

SAT 31ST OCT - SAT 5TH DEC

Anita Ford: Spirit Faces

The process of 'Psychic automatism' for Anita Ford (1948-2018) involved shadowing part of the brain in order to achieve a non judgemental platform on which to work; the reality of life meets subconscious expression.

hallidaysmillgallery.com

LANSDOWN HALL

WEDS 30TH SEPT - MON 5TH OCT

At Eye Level: Mark Mawer, Andrew Morrison, Maria Stradnicka, John Stradnicka

'At Eye Level' is a book, it is also an exhibition, it is also a meeting place for four friends. The book opens dialogue and collaboration between poet, painter, printer and photographer which gravitates towards interdependent yet autonomous responses to each other's particular focus within the political. The title 'At Eye Level' references both measuring and aligning (theodolite eye) but also our unique human viewpoint with it's near and far focus – both minutiae and overview.

TUES 20TH - MON 26TH OCT

Paul Edwards and Stan Giles: Going With The Flow

One year on the banks of the River Severn. An exhibition of drawing, paintings, photographs and friendship. 10:30am-4pm

lansdownhall.org

THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

TUES 25TH AUG - TBC

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 the museum's 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. Book your visit online or call 01453 763394.

SAT 17TH - SUN 25TH

Select Trail Textile Artists Exhibition

As part of the Select Trail three Textile artists and designers will be exhibiting in the wonderful Museum Garden Pavilion. Sue Bradley is a knitwear designer who creates unique and decorative garments. Liz Lippiatt is a textile designer and traditional printer of fine cloth, well known for exquisite silk devoré velvets, she also prints on natural linens and cottons for interiors. Jenny Bicat designs and prints exquisite fabrics which she uses to make individual garments, fashion accessories and interior textiles. Sat-Sun 11am-4:30pm/Tues 20th + Thurs 22nd 10am-4:30pm/Weds 21st + Fri 23rd 1:30-4:30pm All visitors will need to book online or call the Museum on 01453 763394. See sitselect.org for further info.

museuminthepark.org.uk

SELECT TRAIL

SAT 17TH - SUN 18TH/SAT 24TH- SUN 25TH

Open Studios and Artist Led Exhibitions

The rescheduled 2020 Select Trail will be taking place over the weekends of 17th 18th 24th and 25th October. Local and Guest artists will be opening their studios and curating their own exhibitions across the Five Valleys. Artists taking part have been busy

creating new work for you to see and enjoy, buy and commission and they look forward to welcoming you back in a safe, relaxed space. Enjoy jewellery, stained glass, painting, pottery, textiles, paper, willow weaving and more. Come and say hello, everyone taking part looks forward to welcoming you. There may be changes to some studios and you will be asked to observe Covid safety rules. If you prefer do contact the artist and book an appointment. All details in the online Brochure.

sitselect.org

STUDIO 18

SAT 17TH OCT - SUN 1ST NOV

Albie Lucas: This is Not Enough To Sustain You

Studio 18 resident artist and rising star Albie Lucas puts on his first solo show. Albie's artwork focuses on what it feels like to be living, not glorifying any happiness or sadness, each are the same. This is what drives him to make drawings, not just to express his emotions but to express emotion itself. Exhibition launch 17th Oct at 7pm, free entry.

facebook.com/Studio18Stroud

SVA

FRI 2ND - SUN 18TH

Nick Grellier: Today - 366 Drawings

From June 1st 2019 Nick Grellier made one small drawing every day for an intense and perplexing year. Via the transitory state of 'today' the drawings meander through personal experience and collective concerns, with shapes, marks, text and figures staging physical touch, habits, communication and human relationships. They were posted daily on Instagram with a running commentary of titles, hashtags and interactions which were often humorous and sometimes sad. Nick will be working in the gallery during the 2 weeks and will invite visitors to contribute to a communal drawing on the theme of TODAY. There will be a limited edition book of the sketches for sale. Plus the accompanying art book "TODAY 285 of 366 drawings/collage made between 1/6/19 and 31/5/30". It includes an extract from 'Cheer Up, Love' Nick Grellier and intro by Jean Taylor (AKA Roy Voss). Visit SVA website for further information, opening times and talks.

sva.org.uk

PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

THURS 3RD SEPT - SAT 17TH OCT
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.

THURS 3RD SEPT - THURS 15TH OCT
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!

prema.org.uk

NEW BREWERY ARTS CIRENCESTER

SAT 1ST AUG - SAT 3RD OCT
A Language of Clay

Group show presenting the work of ceramic artists Justine Allison, Anne Gibbs, Kate Haywood, Lisa Krigel, Ingrid Murphy and Zoe Preece, each approaching the qualities of clay from varying perspectives and with differing intentions. United by a tenacious and considered approach, their works illustrate a rich spectrum of contemporary ceramic practice.

SAT 24TH OCT - THURS 24TH DEC
A Crafted Christmas

Christmas gifts and homeware from the best UK craftspeople. Give something special in 2020, hand-made made with skill, chosen with thought – future heirlooms that will really mean something...

newbreweryarts.org.uk

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**PAINTING FLOWERS IN
WATERCOLOUR**

£75, Fri 23rd Oct, 10am-4pm.

This workshop is a day dedicated to the beautiful art of painting flowers. We will cover the basics of botanical illustration, watercolours and observational drawing in a room full of blooms.

Materials, flowers and cafe voucher provided!
To book or for more information please visit the Goods Shed website.



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LISTINGS

FILM

LANDSDOWN HALL

SUN 11TH

Lansdown Film Club Presents: Bait + Q&A

A Stroud Film Festival event that was postponed in March due to lockdown. Tension rises to breaking point in a Cornwall fishing village when the local citizens are crowded out by tourists... Two screenings: 5:30pm followed by Q&A from the producers, 8pm with introduction from the producers. £6/£5 in adv from trybooking.co.uk/PAJ. (Maximum seating in Lansdown Hall is now 48. It is advisable to book in advance, but you can try your luck on the door on the night)

SUN 25TH

Lansdown Film Club Presents: Blinded By the Light

British comedy-drama film, inspired by the life of journalist Sarfraz Manzoor and his love of the works of Bruce Springsteen. Set in Luton in 1987 Thatcherite Britain, the film tells the coming-of-age story of Javed, a British-Pakistani Muslim. The 2019 film was widely popular. 7:30pm £6/£5 in adv from trybooking.co.uk/UDM

lansdownhall.org

ELECTRIC PICTUREHOUSE WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

FRI 2ND/SUN 4TH

Rocks

British drama. 15-year-old Rocks fears that she and her little brother Emmanuel will be taken into care and forced apart if anyone finds out that their mother has left them to fend for themselves. 7:30pm

SAT 3RD/TUES 6TH/THURS 8TH

The Broken Hearts Gallery

Romantic comedy. After she gets dumped by her latest boyfriend, Lucy is inspired to create The Broken Heart Gallery, a pop-up space for the items love has left behind. 7.30pm

SAT 17TH/SUN 18TH

Michael Ball & Alfie Boe: Back Together

The world's ultimate musical duo, Michael Ball and Alfie Boe are 'Back Together' and set to delight cinema audiences up and down the country with the final show of their UK tour at the O2 Arena. 2pm

wottoncinema.com

LITERATURE/ SPOKEN WORD

HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

THURS 15TH

RSA Talk: The Good Ancestor

Come and listen to a leading

philosopher and best selling author who is always entertaining and engaging. His newly published book *The Good Ancestor* argues that the greatest challenge we face is not climate change, extreme inequality or terrorism: it is our inability to think long term. Roman Krznaric is one of Britain's leading social philosophers whose books, including *Empathy*, *The Wonderbox* and *How to Find Fulfilling Work*, have been published in more than 20 languages. Roman's writings have been widely influential amongst political and ecological campaigners, education reformers, social entrepreneurs and designers. This is his fourth visit to Hawkwood. £5-£10 (suggested donation).

hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

TUES 6TH

Writing for Wellbeing

This evening come along and explore how writing techniques and methods can be a way to help support emotional wellbeing. Led by the brilliant Sarah Erskine this workshop can help you unlock and encourage your creativity by exploring and experimenting with writing in a fun and interactive way. 7-9pm £18/£16concs

WEDS 14TH

Modern Calligraphy

Join Emma Barnes from Emerald Paper Design for evening's beginners' guide to modern calligraphy. All the basics will be covered such as using essential tools, mark-making and alphabet drills you will then move on to entire words using your preferred script. 7-9pm £26/£24concs

SAT 24TH

Foundational Calligraphy

Be part of the back to 'slow' movement and come and join calligraphy artist and Teacher, Adele Dark for the day. Explore the use of the square-edged nib pen and ink to create beautiful, Round/Foundational Hand traditional lower case script. 10am-4pm £38/£35concs

prema.org.uk

MUSIC

BANDIT MUSIC PROJECTS

MON 26TH - FRI 29TH

BandiT is a four-day songwriter and band workshop for 60 to 70 students aged 8 to 17. Students throughout the community come together to form bands and to be creative in songwriting and performing. The prime function of the workshop is to give young people from all backgrounds the opportunity to gain experience in musicianship, creative songwriting and performance skills. Also, alongside the music workshop we also provide around 5

to 10 places for older students to gain work experience in stage management, live sound, PA setup and lighting. We have been developing this over the last to bandit workshops.

banditmusicprojects.co.uk

LANDSDOWN HALL

SAT 31ST OCT - SUN 1ST NOV

Flies On The Wall Youth Theatre: George George George

Flies On The Wall Youth Theatre present the film version of their exciting play 'George George George'. Set in Regency England where class and privilege clash chaotically with crime and poverty, 40 vibrant fully costumes young actors present a film version of this play with songs. Sat 31st 11am-2pm/5:30-8pm Sun 1st 11am-1:30pm Tickets in adv from trybooking.co.uk/TVM

lansdownhall.org

STROUD THEATRE FESTIVAL

FRI 2ND - SUN 4TH

From October 2nd to 4th Stroud will play host to it's annual theatre festival, the largest in Gloucestershire with 25 companies bringing a range of shows including award winning plays, serious dramas, exclusive premieres of new works, comedies, satire, children's shows and music to the town. To reach those who may be vulnerable or self isolating the festival will also include an online element including live streaming and films made by local performers both in and out of lockdown. The outside performances are centred on Stratford Park with four different sites in the park hosting shows. See website for full programme, news and updates.

stroudtheatrefestival.co.uk

ONLINE

DEEPBED RADIO

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

deepbedradio.org

GROUNDWORKS

Ground Works and #Landlinks walks. Ground Works has been working with a host of national and international artists, writers and poets whose inspiration and concern is for our landscape and environment. Through engagement with various art media, practises and approaches, the

participating artists were encouraged to take solo synchronised #Landlink walks and share their experiences and inspired work. Follow the online news, images, films and artist conversations. Presented by Select Arts- Lizzi Walton and Kel Portman - Walking the Land.

groundworks.org.uk

RAW UMBER STUDIOS

Raw UMBER Studios are running regular, free online portrait and figure drawing sessions. They're a chance to draw or paint from high resolution photographs at the same time every week. The videos mimic a traditional / portrait drawing session. Tutor Lizet Dingemans joins in, does a demonstration, and gives hints and tips. At the end of the session Raw UMBER give you a link where you can download the photographs from so you can continue working on your drawings.

rawumberstudios.com

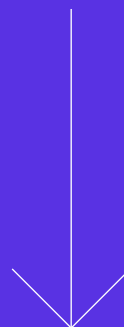
STROUD LOVE RADIO

Stroud Love Radio is a local live and interactive 'pirate radio meets chatroom'.

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

facebook.com/stroudlockdownradio

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