SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE

Fringe Programme August 2024

Welcome!

Throughout the year, the Scottish Storytelling Centre offers a platform for storytellers, musicians, dancers and all creative minds to explore cultures and traditions, old and new, in Scotland today.

For the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2024, we have curated a high-quality programme which reflects the energy and variety of our year-round offer. Some of these exciting new performances have been developed in partnership with the Scottish International Storytelling Festival, and we are delighted to feature two Made in Scotland showcase events as well as the return of some sellout favourites from previous years. Our range of enhanced performances including BSL interpreted, relaxed and captioned shows can be found on pg.16.

Whether seeing a show, browsing our bookshop or refreshing yourself at the Haggis Box Café, the Scottish Storytelling Centre is the perfect place for locals,



families and visitors to meet for a creative and authentic Edinburgh experience.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Booking

A booking fee of £1.50 per transaction (not per ticket) is charged to all bookings from the Storytelling Centre's Box Office. No booking fee is applied to tickets purchased in person.

- Storytelling Centre Supporter prices
- Particularly suitable for children and families

Families welcome

Baby changing facilities are available and we are a Breastfeeding Friendly venue.

Box Office

0131 556 9579

Open 10am-9pm

Calendar Key

Accessibility

Fringe Box Office

0131 226 0000

edfringe.com

preview

Open 9am - 9pm

All performance spaces are accessible to wheelchair users and contain hearing loops. Accessible performances are listed on pg.16 and highlighted in the event listings for relevant shows.

Please let us know if you would like any of our publications in a different format or if you need assistance when visiting us. A full copy of our Access Statement is available on our website.

show

2for1



 Time 10:30am (35mins)

 Full price £10

 Concessions £8 (£32 family) (£7.50 🏂)

 Preview £6

Grow

SUITCASE STORYTELLING COMPANY

Double the fun for more of the family in this brand-blooming-new version of the 2023 sell-out smash-hit! Join in with a sun song, hose kerfuffle and plenty of clowning around, celebrating nature and things that grow. Ideal for little gardeners aged 2-6, but everyone welcome. Featured in the Guardian's Top Five Children's Shows of Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

'Heart-warming' ★★★★ (SKINNY) `Delightful' ★★★★ (BROADWAYWORLD.COM)

2for1 Mon 5 & Tue 6 Aug Ages 0-6yrs 😚 Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Sing Along with the Fairy Song

JANIS MACKAY

Sing along with the fairy song, dress up if you like and sprinkle some magic with award-winning children's author and storyteller Janis Mackay as she invites the fairies of forest and garden to listen to her stories. Inspired by Janis' book *The Fairy Song* (Floris Books), this fun, enchanting and magical performance of storytelling and song is perfect for 3-8 year olds.

Time 11:45am (55mins) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£40 Family) (£9.50 炎) Preview £8 2for1 Mon 5 & Tue 6 Aug Ages 3+ 😚 Venue Netherbow Theatre

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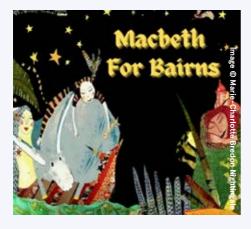
The Tree and Her Tale JESS AQUILINA

The story of a friendship between a Boy and a magical storytelling Tree. Each day the Tree tells her tales to the Boy, until the cruel Winds arrive and rid the Tree of all her leaves and their stories, leaving her broken and bare. It is now down to the Boy to protect his friend at all costs. Combining puppetry, music and storytelling, this wholesome show celebrates the importance of friendship and supporting one another.

Time 12pm (55mins) Full price £10 Concessions £8 (£32 family) (£7.50 🍣) Preview £6

2for1 Mon 5 & Tue 6 Aug Ages 3+ 🕞 Venue George Mackay Brown Library

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Macbeth for Bairns

LITTLE SUPERNOVAS

Join award-winning storyteller Brooke Dunbar for an immersive, sensory, theatrical version of Macbeth complete with bubbles! A whimsical and comic adaptation of the Bard for bairns aged 0-4 years.

Time 12pm (50mins) Full price £10 Concessions £8 (£32 family) (£7.50 🍣)

Ages 0+ 😚 Venue George Mackay Brown Library

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LIFE

MARIA MACDONELL

Estelle models for the Artist. Despite decades of experience, she has never sat for a session like this. What happens when she can't stand sitting any longer?

LIFE is a play and an active drawing class. Pencil and paper are provided and some on-stage tickets are available seated at easels. You can participate, or simply watch the story emerge.

Time 1:15pm (31 Jul-10 Aug) & 5pm (18-26 Aug) | (1hr 5) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎) Preview £8

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2for1 Tue 6 Aug BSL Tue 20 Aug Relaxed Thu 22 Aug Ages 12+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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*Benjamin Franklin's Edinburgh Walking Tours also available to book via website.

Time 1:15pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 Preview £8 2for1 Mon 5 Aug

An American Love Letter to Edinburgh RICK CONTE

Benjamin Franklin loved Edinburgh. He visited in 1759 and 1771, making pals with all the luminaries of the time and enjoying lively debates in the Old Town's famous Oyster Club. In this funny and informative show, Rick Conte (*The Man Who Planted Trees*) tells the tale of his countryman's Scottish enlightenment, echoing his own experiences of the city that took him in 35 years ago and has yet to spit him out. Directed by Andy Cannon.

Captioned Sat 17 Aug Relaxed Fri 9 Aug Ages 12+ Venue Netherbow Theatre



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Animate Lands: A Celtic Mythic Cycle

DOUGIE MACKAY & FREYA RAE

A journey through the storied soul of Scotland. Tales of ancient bards, wily druids, shapeshifters, wildlings and warrior poets are brought to life in a contemporary storytelling style with live music. This fresh and joyful take on Celtic lore and Scotland's landscape was a sell-out hit at the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2022 and Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

★★★★↓ (THEQR.CO.UK) ★★★★ (ALLEDINBURGHTHEATRE.COM)

Time 1:15pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£48 family) (£11.50 🍣) Ages 8+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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★ ★ ★ ★ (THEQR.CO.UK)

Time 3:15pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Preview £8 2for1 Tue 6 Aug

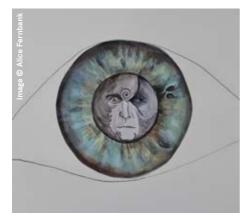
Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence

JAMES STEDMAN

1988. One boy is growing up in myth and magic, unaware that Section 28, prohibiting the "promotion of homosexuality", is moving to silence his tale and those of anyone like him. Combining traditional fairy tales and original poetry, with help from a grumpy frog, storyteller James Stedman takes a heartfelt, slightly irreverent look at our history. Directed by Molly Naylor. Originally commissioned for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2023.

Relaxed Thu 8RCaptioned Sun 18CarAges 14+Venue Netherbow TheatreInfo Contains distressing or potentially
triggering themes, strong language/swearing

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Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing

ALICE FERNBANK

A proton beam of radiation is fired into Alice's eye. Ultraviolet auroras appear in her vision. An unexpected moment of beauty in a cancer treatment centre in the Wirral opens the doorway to a mythical world of Norse gods and their epic quests in the pursuit of "seeing".

Originally commissioned for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2023.

Time 3:15pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎) Preview £8 2for1 Mon 5 Aug Captioned Sun 11 Aug Ages 12+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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The Other

THE OTHER

From Scotland, Iran, Chile, Brazil, Yemen and Syria comes a multimedia performance exploring culture and displacement. Nine musicians, a dancer, a visual artist and a filmmaker, some with lived experience of forced displacement, come together to explore the music, stories and experiences of their different cultures. A vibrant and moving experience.

madeinscotlandshowcase.com

Time 3.15pm (14 & 15 Aug) & 6.45pm (16 Aug) | (1hr) Ages 12+ Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Relaxed Thu 15 Aug Venue Netherbow Theatre САР

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Don Quixote Rides Again

INÉS ÁLVAREZ VILLA & DANIELO OLIVERA

Spanish storyteller Inés Álvarez Villa brings the iconic adventures of Don Quixote to life accompanied by flamenco musician Danielo Olivera. A spellbinding storytelling experience that will transport you to the heart of Spanish culture. Originally commissioned for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2023.

'Utterly enchanting' ★ ★ 🛧 🛧 (THEQR.CO.UK)

Time 5pm (1hr) Ages 12+ Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎) Preview £8 2for1 Tue 6 Aug Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Mairi Campbell: Living Stone

Mairi encounters a 400-million-yearold stone, revealing layer upon layer of mystery and resonance. Song, violin, sound and word combine in an odyssey that unifies lineage, land and pulse. Join Mairi for a feast of image, music and word that brings the living stone to life! Music co-devised with Dave Gray, directed and co-created by Kath Burlinson.

Follow-up to Pulse and Auld Lang Syne: 'Incredible storyteller... voice is like no other' (EDINBURGHGUIDE.COM) 'Wonderfully crafted show' ★★★★ (ALLEDINBURGHTHEATRE.COM)

Time 5pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Preview £8 2for1 Mon 5 Aug Audio described Fri 23 Aug Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre Info Contains references to addiction AD

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Time 6:45pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) 2for1 Tue 6 Aug

STUMPED

STUMPED

A brand-new miniature opera exploring deforestation through five ancient stories about what happens when you mess with trees, alternating with conversations between internet forum users working overnight. Gradually, the two worlds begin to merge. Ideally suited to both existing opera fans and newbies. Performed by a stellar cast and ending with a short reflection from an invited forest expert.

madeinscotlandshowcase.com

BSL Tue 6 Aug Relaxed Fri 2 Aug Ages 12+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Time 6:45pm (1hr 20) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🎒) 2for1 Mon 5 Aug

Thunderstruck

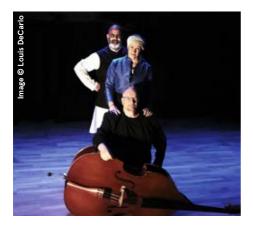
DAVID COLVIN

The Herald Angel award-winning smash hit of modern Scottish theatre returns to the Edinburgh Fringe for a fifth successive year. The tragic, comic and epic tale of the greatest bagpiper that ever lived, who rocked tradition, flew beyond the summit of his art and changed Scottish music forever. Whatever notions you have of bagpipes, leave them at the door.

'A stunning, staggering piece of modern Scottish folk theatre' * * * * * (BRITISHTHEATREGUIDE.INFO)

- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (THEQR.CO.UK)
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (ALLEDINBURGHTHEATRE.COM)

Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre Info Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes, strong language/swearing



Shadow Walking

PETER CHAND, RUTH KIRKPATRICK & TOM LYNE

Acclaimed storytellers Peter Chand and Ruth Kirkpatrick seek to excavate stories not often told, bringing them out of the shadows and onto centre stage. Accompanied by a unique jazz score from musician Tom Lyne on double bass, this walk in the shadows is one you won't want to miss. Originally commissioned for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2023.

'Two storytellers at the height of their power' ★ ★ ★ ★ (THEQR.CO.UK)

Time 6.45pm (10 Aug) & 8.45pm (11–14 Aug) | (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Orpheus/Orfeo

DAN SERRIDGE, NEIL WOOD & HEATHER CARTWRIGHT

The story of Orpheus and Eurydice gets a Scottish twist in this dark and dangerous telling of the famous Greek myth as the Shetland ballad of King Orfeo swirls into the murky depths of Hades' underworld. Storyteller Daniel Serridge, harpist Neil Wood and balladeer Heather Cartwright take you deep below the earth and back again, pushing you forward, dragging you home and demanding that you don't look back! Originally commissioned for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2023.

'a thrilling, emotional journey' *** * * * *** (THEQR.CO.UK)

Time 6:45pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Loud Poets: Best of Fringe

Showcasing the top spoken word talent the Fringe has to offer – from the laugh-outloud funny, through the wonderfully surreal, to the thoughtful and emotional, Loud Poets continue to prove that spoken word has something for everyone. Each show features a unique line-up and Loud Poets' classic fist-thumping, pint-drinking, sidetickling, heart-wrenching style of spoken word. This is poetry for the masses!

'The most reliably entertaining spoken word show at the Fringe' (THEWEEREVIEW.COM)

Time 8:45pm (1hr 30) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎)

Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Time 8:45pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 2for1 Mon 5 & Tue 6 Aug

Stupid Sexy Poem Show rj hunter

The subversive and powerful debut hour from RJ Hunter (Loud Poets Grand Slam Champion 2023). Responding to their experience as an emerging artist in the public eye, this award-winning poet is ready to give you a big fat smattering of their signature stupid, sexy style in this spoken-word-comedy-cabaret! Expect hilarity, heartache and hubris in this poetry show like no other.

'The future voice of spoken word' ★★★★ (CORRBLIMEY.UK)

Ages 16+ Venue Netherbow Theatre Info Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes, strong language/swearing

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No One is Coming sinéad o'brien/wandering stories

Award-winning storytelling performance about a mother and daughter, a love letter she'll never send. Encompassing Irish folklore, anecdotes, myths, funny stories and tough truths. A rollercoaster experience inside a fun (if slightly traumatised) Irish woman's brain. Directed by Sahand Sahebdivani.

'Stellar. This is storytelling as it should be' ★★★★★ (HERALD)

'Mesmeric to watch' * * * * (CORRBLIMEY.UK)

Venue Netherbow Theatre Info Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes, strong language/swearing

Time 8:45pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 🍣) Ages 16+

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Queer Folks' Tales

TURAN ALI & SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE

The 5-star hit LGBTQ+ storytelling show returns for its second Fringe; camper, fruitier and queerer than ever! Host Turan Ali scours the Fringe for a fresh queer lineup every show to share hilarious, surprising, sobering tales, songs and epic poems.

'A brilliant evening of storytelling... If you weren't there, you should have been!' ★★★★ (SCOTSGAYARTS.COM)

'an utterly fabulous celebration' ★★★★ (THEQR.CO.UK)

'Edinburgh's most vibrant, authentic, and exciting storytelling event'

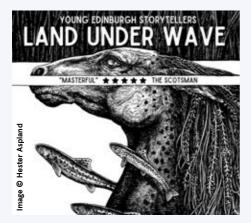
 $\star \star \star \star \star \star$ (THE WEE REVIEW)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (BROADWAYBABY.COM)

Ages 16+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

Time 8:45pm (2hrs) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎)

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Land Under Wave young edinburgh storytellers

Three storytellers, trapped in the Otherworld, must perform their music and stories to earn their freedom. Which deserves to return to the human realm? The fair folk in the audience must decide!

'A magical journey... masterful' *** * * * *** (SCOTSMAN)

Time 8:45pm (1hr) Full price £14 Concessions £12 (£11.50 炎) Ages 14+ Venue Netherbow Theatre

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Traditional Tales from Scotland

SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE

Join some of Scotland's best storytellers as they share their favourite traditional tales from near and far. From fairies and selkies to castles and kelpies, these stories have inspired writers, storytellers and artists throughout the centuries. A relaxed session with a different storyteller each day, sharing wonderful, wise and occasionally wild stories!

Time 2pm (1hr) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£9.50 炎) Ages 12+ Venue George Mackay Brown Library

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Robert Burns: A Celebration

ANNE HUNTER & BOB MITCHELL

Storytellers Anne Hunter and Bob Mitchell present a high-octane rendition of some of Robert Burns' best-known and bestloved works. An exciting presentation of song, poetry, anecdote and narrative, this is a show created by enthusiasts for an audience of Burns devotees and inquisitive newcomers alike. An ideal introduction to this remarkable son of Scotland.

Time 3:45pm (1hr) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£9.50 炎) Ages 12+ Venue George Mackay Brown Library

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Time 3:45pm (1hr) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£9.50 炎)

Táin

YOUNG EDINBURGH STORYTELLERS

A cursed army, two twisted lovers, a mighty hero, and a magnificent bull set in motion a terrible war which shapes the landscape and defines the heroic age of Ireland... In this modern retelling of Ireland's most ancient and beloved myth, Young Edinburgh Storytellers Mark Borthwick and David Hughes weave together music and myth, blood and laughter, gender and magic, to explore the dark delights of the Táin Bó Cúailnge.

Preview £8 Ages 14+ Venue George Mackay Brown Library



Time 5:30pm (1hr)

Relaxed Fri 16 Aug

Concessions £10 (£9.50 🍰)

Full price £12

Preview £8

Hero/Banlaoch

SINÉAD O'BRIEN

Growing up, Sinéad's Dad was a hero right out of the Irish myths he told his daughter - stories of warriors, shapeshifters and magic wells. But as Sinéad grows up and her father relapses into addiction, they are both forced to re-examine the stories they told themselves. Expertly combining Irish epics with personal stories. A sequel-of-sorts to 2023's No One Is Coming.

★ ★ ★ ★ (EDFESTMAG.COM)

'a natural born storyteller' (VOICEMAG.UK)

Ages 14+

Venue George Mackay Brown Library Info Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes, strong language/swearing

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Time 3.45pm (4 Aug) & 5.30pm (7–18 Aug) | (1hr) Full price £12

Gie's Peace MORNA BURDON

From a Nobel Peace prize-winner in Australia to a child raised in a Scottish peace camp to a Ukrainian Theatre Company who rehearsed in an air raid shelter, Morna Burdon returns with her captivating show highlighting women's peace activism. Combining inspirational storytelling with evocative songs of protest, this show presents entrancing stories of courage and daring alongside the tragic realities of war. Sell-out show 2023.

`Intimate... but a core of steel' (ALLEDINBURGHTHEATRE.COM)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (NORTHWESTENDUK.COM)

Concessions £10 (£9.50 炎) Ages 14+ Venue George Mackay Brown Library

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Time 8pm (55mins) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£9.50 🍣) Preview £8 Relaxed 8 Aug

Rogues So Banished

New South Wales, 1790. The penal colony is on the brink of starvation. Three convicts escape with murderous intentions in hope of a reward. But as they become lost and dragged deeper into the forest, it's clear they are trapped in a nightmare of their own making... Told in the demotic slang of the era, writer and actor Paul Case's visceral new solo show breaks new ground in horror whilst taking you on a bloody journey into the dark depths of Australia's history.

Ages 18+

Venue George Mackay Brown Library Info Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes, strong language/swearing



Do Not Look Away: The Story of Medusa

Look closer at the story of Medusa... the image of a monster with snakes for hair and a gaze that turns men to stone. But how did Medusa come to be? And what of the hero who slayed her? A moving storytelling performance with live musical accompaniment from Dimitris Kounatiadis.

'Canny and sharp... There is something special here' *** * * *** (CORRBLIMEY.UK)

Time 8pm (1hr) Full price £12 Concessions £10 (£9.50 炎)

Ages 14+ Venue George Mackay Brown Library Info Contains reference to sexual assault

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Exhibition: Living Stone

In 2023, Mairi Campbell embarked on an odyssey in image inspired by a 400 million-year-old millstone found on the island of Lismore. This exhibition of her paintings explores themes from her show Living Stone, performed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre throughout August.

Exhibition Daily Time 10am-8pm

Price Free (non ticketed) **Venue** Storytelling Court

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Address to a Haggis

HAGGIS BOX CAFE & SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE

'Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face...' Where better to hear Robert Burns' famous poem Address to a Haggis than at the Haggis Box Café in the Scottish Storytelling Centre! Drop-in to hear a different surprise performer each day deliver a rousing rendition of Burns' ode to the Great Chieftain o' the Puddin-race.

Time 1:30pm (15mins) Price Free (non ticketed) Venue Storytelling Court

Enhanced Performances

If you have any specific questions about these performances, or if you wish to discuss any access requirements prior to your visit, please email us at **reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com** or call us on **0131 556 9579**.

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CAP

BSL Signed Performances

Tue 6 Aug 6:45pm STUMPED

Tue 20 Aug 5pm LIFE

Captioned Performances

Sun 11 Aug 3:15pm Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing

Sat 17 Aug 1:15pm An American Love Letter to Edinburgh

Sun 18 Aug 3:15pm Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence

Audio Described Performances



Fri 23 Aug 5pm Mairi Campbell: Living Stone

Relaxed Performances

Thu 8 Aug 3:15pm Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence

Thu 8 Aug 8pm Rogues So Banished

Fri 9 Aug 1:15pm An American Love Letter to Edinburgh

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Thu 15 Aug 3:15pm The Other

Fri 16 Aug 5:30pm Hero/Banlaoch

Thu 22 Aug 5pm LIFE

Touch Tours

Available on all performance days for the following shows. Please contact Reception at least 24 hours ahead of the show to book.

STUMPED

Hero/Banlaoch

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Haggis, Neeps & Tatties Traditional, Vegetarian & Vegan (NGCI)

> Coffee, Scotch Eggs, Quiche, Soup, Ice Cream, Local Beers, Cakes & Traybakes

> > Sit in or Take away

Find us on the Royal Mile in the Scottish Storytelling Centre 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh

Open Daily from 10am





John Knox House

Step inside the history of one of Edinburgh's oldest buildings

Extended Fringe Opening Hours

10am - 7.30pm Wed 31 Jul - Mon 26 Aug

43-45 High St, Edinburgh EH1 1SR



Support Us

Become a Storytelling Centre Supporter for only £30 per year. Benefits include;

- Discounts on Storytelling Centre events (look for 🍣 symbol)
- 10% discount in our bookshop

- 10% discount in our Café
- Invites to special events

Please call 0131 556 9579 or email supporters@scottishstorytellingcentre.com for further information. T&Cs apply.







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