

A 5-DAY IMMERSIVE COMBINED ARTS FESTIVAL



A
CURIOUS
TOWN

DREAMS

31 May - 4 June 2023

WORKSHOPS
CURIOUS CABINET OF DREAMS

PERFORMERS

WALKABOUT

STORYTELLING

MUSIC

DRAG BINGO

COMEDY


POETRY

CABARET

IMMERSIVE

ART

Festival Timetable

Saturday 27th	Sunday 28th	Wednesday 31st	Thursday 1st	Friday 2nd	Saturday 3rd	Sunday 4th
			09:30-11:00 Daydreaming through Drama (Age 7-10)		10:00-12:00 Improv for Adults with Richard Vranck	09:30-10:30 Yoga with Dogs
			11:15-12:30 Drama of Dreams (Age 11-14)	10:00-13:00 Little Mashers' Curious Kids Takeover - Session One	10:30-12:30 Creative Bookbinding	10:00-11:30 'Everything Happens' Workshop with Richard Layzell
			11:30-12:30 Dream Mapping for Kids		12:00-16:00 Performance Saturday	11:00-12:00 & 13:00-14:00 Caribbean Folktales Drop-In
12:00-14:30 Paint the Festival, Drop-In	13:00-15:00 Create Festival Art, Drop-In with Radiator Arts		13:30-18:30 "Peculiar Arcana" Linocutting		13:30-15:00 Steel Drums Free Drop-In	11:00-16:00 Sunday Shindig in Gotham Alley
			14:30-15:30 Dress Up and Draw Drop-In	14:00-17:00 Little Mashers' Curious Kids Takeover - Session Two	16:00-17:00 Steel Drums for Beginners	15:00-16:00 Dreamweavers Sensory Storytelling
					16:00-18:00 Needle Felting Workshop	16:00-20:00 Audiotrope Live Music Takeover
		17:30-19:00 Dream Mapping Adults Workshop			17:30-18:30 Steel Drums, Intermediate	16:30-18:30 Valerie Lightheart 'Psychic' Spiritualist
	18:00-22:30 Beyond the Duvet: Festival Opening Night		19:00-20:30 Hastings Art School Exhibition Viewing	19:30-22:30 Curious Cabaret!	18:00-19:30 Smutty Letter Writing	20:00-20:30 Drag Clown Show with Heather Duster
18:00-20:30 Creative Dressing, Flower Crowns & Cocktails	21:15-22:30 "Crystalline Dreams" Sound Bath	20:00-22:00 Drag Bingo with Heather Duster	22:00-01:30 Curious Cabaret Afterparty		20:00-22:30 Nocturnal Emmissaries: A Night of Comedy	20:30-21:30 Dancing with DJ Dollymix

Welcome to your Curious Town

Curious Agenda CIC brings you their first immersive 'A Curious Town' combined arts festival. Join us this May & June 2023 to make Hastings the world's first 'Curious Town'!

A 5-day + festival bursting with curiosities • performance • artwork • installations • cabaret • comedy • storytelling • poetry • music • aerialists • workshops • kids activities • dancing and more!!

Bringing together around 100 Artists and Performers to create around the theme of **Dreams**, this is a festival created by this Curious Town for its Curious Community.

It's time for this Curious Town to Dream...

"Curiosity— asking questions— isn't just a way of understanding the world. It's a way of changing it."

Brian Grazer



Get your tickets at acurioustown.co.uk
53 Caynbridge Road, Hastings, England, TN34 1DT



CURIOUS
AGENDA

Curious Agenda CIC is an inspiring, creative social enterprise that focuses on developing everyone's natural curiosity. We believe that curiosity is the key to creating healthier, more joyful communities.

Curious Agenda works to ignite a sense of wonder and put curiosity at the top of the agenda!

We are all curious about different things, so Curious Agenda have curated a festival program that is colourful and varied to inspire the whole community.

Whether you are into art, comedy, learning something new, dressing up, playing, or lying in bed this festival has something for you.

Observer Building

Festival Maps

Gotham Alley



Immersive Exhibition Space

Explore the immersive event spaces of the Observer Building and Gotham Alley and get lost in a land of dreams!

Observer Building

Enter through the **Head Office of your Subconscious**. Which way will you go? Are you a **Night Tripper** or a **Daydreamer**? Hush hush, do I spy a beach hut?

Whichever path you choose will eventually bring you to the creaking door of our Giant **Curiosity Cabinet of Dreams**. What will you discover inside?

Ignite your sense of wonder as you explore the curious artwork within our curiosity cabinet event space, created by a myriad of artists from near and far.

Will you choose to lay your head on one of the four **beds**? Or is it a piece of art? You can decide as you listen to the **audio installation** connected to each art bed, that will immerse you in your imagination.

Tap into your inner child as you **dress up** and become a character from your dreams and choose one of the many **photo areas** to immortalise that moment.

Any children will also be able to explore their own immersive art experience as they are transported to a fairytale land on our turreted **castle bed**. Their imagination can run free as they raid the **dressing up box**, try out some **crafts** or sail away on our **boat bed** for a quieter, thoughtful experience.

Gotham Alley

Enter the wild and weird Gotham Alley, full of **artwork** to spot, **curious installations** and **immersive experiences**!

As part of A Curious Town Dreams, Gotham Alley is being transformed into an array of curios. If you walk down the **Curiosity Trail**, what can you spot? Can you find the different creatures and artistic oddities made by brilliant local artists?

Visit the **Woodland Cave** fit for a sleepy fae, and have a lie down on the **'living bed'** interwoven with plants and flora. Or walk through **Ottopia**, the black and white striped cave filled with monochrome madness, courtesy of the innovative and elaborate Otter Produces.

Whether it's making some noise at the **Sonic Garden**, visiting the **Boho Boudoir** for Tarot or Poetry, the **Hastings Art School Exhibition** or the carnival corner, or feasting your ears and eyes on the dreamy **live music** and **performance**... There's always something to entertain down Gotham Alley.



WORKSHOPS

PAINTING THE FESTIVAL



WORKSHOPS



WORKSHOPS



Paint The Festival

27 May | 12:00-14:30 | The Common Room, Eagle House
27-29 Cambridge Rd, Hastings TN34 1DJ

FREE drop in

Come and join Curious Agenda in painting some of the creations that will become part of the festival.

A variety of fun painting activities for all ages will be available, including unicorn puppets, tablecloths and even our Community Art Bed!

Join in and then see your work displayed in the festival for all to see...

Créate Festival Art - with Radiator Arts

28 May | 13:00-15:00 | Art in the Park, Alexandra Park, Lower Park Rd, St Helen's Park Rd, Hastings TN34 2LQ

FREE drop in

What do dreams look like?! Come and join Radiator Arts to create 'dream catchers' 'thought clouds' and 'imagination wands' to be used in the festival.

Or create a mystical creature with us to live in a cave...Using found foliage and clay, we'll help you make a creature that can dwell in our Woodland cave for the Curious Dreams Festival. All materials provided, children must be accompanied, all ages including adults!

Radiator Arts is a talented team of artists, designers, performers and volunteers with experience and skills in a wide range of media and disciplines.

Créative Dréssing, Flower Crown Making & Cocktails

28 May | 18:00-20:30 | Hair & Hound, 196 Queens Rd, Hastings TN34 1RG

Earlybird £20, General Admission £24

Join us on Bank Holiday Sunday for an evening of fun Creative Dressing, Flower Crown Making, Cocktails with a hint of Burlesque!

Join the founder of Anna Dominoes Millinery Tess for an easy, fun workshop making flower wreaths in a choice of summery colours.

All materials included.

Join Laura Jane, stylist and founder of the Belle Empire Boutique in Tunbridge Wells while she guides us towards experimentation and encourages our playful side during this workshop in the hope that we will all step a little closer towards curating our own 'curious' and expressive selves! Watch out for an appearance by Laura's alter ego, stunning burlesque performer, Belle Lauralai.

Cocktails by the fabulous Hair and Hound!

27
MAY

28
MAY

Opening Night

31
MAY

Wednesday 31st May

Beyond the Duvet

The Sound Apothecary



Tom Pleasant



Esther Springett



Becca Horn

The Shadow Travellers

Observer Building, Hastings
Doors 6pm

Be transported into the world of your subconscious with Storytelling, Live Dream Drawing, Walkabout Performers, Immersive Art Installations, a dreamy Sound Bath + more...



Beyond the Duvet: Festival Opening Night

SHOWS

31 May | 18:00-22:30 | Observer Building
Earlybird £16, General Admission £20

Curious about what lies Beyond the Duvet?

Be transported into the world of your subconscious on the festival Opening Night with Bedtime Stories for Adults, Live Dream Drawing, Walkabout Performers, Immersive Art Installations, a dreamy Sound Bath + more

Make sure to get there early to grab a map to explore the space, leading to dreamy and curious local artworks, and immersive spaces in which walkabout performers will bring you into their curious stories, or find a corner to have a jam in your jim jams. Which bed will you choose to rest your weary head?

Lay down and be transported into the world of your subconscious with storytelling from The Shadow Travellers and Tom Pleasant. Where will they take you?

Have you ever had a dream so vivid that you wanted to turn it into art? Find Esther Springett, our Live Dream Illustrator, to turn the dreams in your head into reality!

Don't forget to visit Valerie Lighthead, who will listen to your dreams, process them through her divine channels and present them back to you through the medium of interpretive dance, mime and good ole charades.

And finish off the evening with a dreamy sound bath by The Sound Apothecary. It's time for this most Curious Town to Dream...

Midnight snacks will be available (all night, for those of us who were never able to wait).

Dress Code: Jimjams, nighties and robes encouraged

WORKSHOPS

THE SOUND APOTHECARY
Sound Bath



"Crystalline Dreams" Sound Bath

31 May | 21:15-22:15 | Observer Building
Earlybird £10, General Admission £14, Comfy bed for 2 £35

You are invited to enter the Sound Apothecary for a curiously dreamy crystal singing bowl sound bath experience. Part of Beyond the Duvet Opening Night, but can book separately.

The pure frequencies of crystal singing bowls encourage the mind to drop into Theta brainwaves, the realm of the dream state, subconscious and deep relaxation. Let's get dreamy....

The Sound Apothecary is a concept created by Maria Christofi, a graduate of The British Academy of Sound Therapy to represent the medicinal power of vibrational sound.

WORKSHOPS

Dream Mapping Workshop



Dream Mapping for Adults

31 May | 17:30-19:00 | Rose Cottage, Gotham Alley
Earlybird £10, General Admission £12

In this workshop we will explore the idea of Dream Cartography - creating a map of our own dreamworld. Often in dreams we find ourselves inhabiting a personal dream-realm which seems to encode our history and psyche into the very fabric of the archaeological structures, stations, watery habitats, geological features, human and animal forms incorporated into it. Dream mapping can reveal a lot about our own inner workings; our recurring themes and motifs, and the nature of dreaming itself.

1
JUNE

WORKSHOPS



Dream Mapping for Kids

1 June | 11:30-12:30 | Observer Building Cafe
Earlybird £5, General Admission £7

In this workshop we will talk about our experiences in dreams and think about how it is possible to become actively aware in the dreamstate and consciously explore and change our dream stories and worlds.

As an experiment we will design a DREAM THEME PARK and actively imagine ourselves there. Using dream incubation techniques, we will set ourselves the task of visiting the theme park we have designed in our dreams.

WORKSHOPS



Daydreaming through Drama (aged 7-10)

1 June | 09:30-11:00 | Observer Building
Earlybird £5, General Admission £7

Open to kids aged 7-10, this workshop by Ruby Russell will get everyone using their imaginations and daydreaming abilities to create characters, stories and dramatic twists!

The group will then be working with little prompts to collaboratively weave a story about 'The Island'... and create a fictional world.

Drinks and snacks will be provided for a mid-session break.

Ruby is an actor and writer who has recently returned from working as a Drama teacher in the UAE, alongside pursuing acting projects of her own.

WORKSHOPS



Drama of Dreams (aged 11-14)

1 June | 11:15-12:30 | Observer Building
Earlybird £5, General Admission £7

This workshop will get everyone using their imaginations and having fun. In drama we explore complex interpersonal dynamics. Let's get curious about this year's theme of DREAMS and dive deep into its limitless well of possibilities!

Louise Watts is an experienced drama teacher for LAMDA, KS3 and private clients. She also works as a multidisciplinary artist in visual and performing arts fusing skills in performance, costume, wigs, makeup, set painting and illustration with her interest in interactive and immersive experiences.



WORKSHOPS



adult event
suitable for 14+

'Peculiar Arcana' Lino Cutting Workshop

1 June | 13:30-16:30 | Rose Cottage, Gotham Alley
Earlybird £18, General Admission £22

Ever had a tarot reading, or wondered about the beauty of a tarot card?

Explore the world of lino printing and tarot with artist Alexi Marshall. Design your very own card and bring it to life by block printing. Through the magic of creativity we will be turning our hopes and dreams into your very own deck of printed lino cards.

In this workshop you will learn the techniques of linocut printmaking to produce your own prints and leave the workshop with a deck unlike any other - your 'peculiar arcana.'

WORKSHOPS



Dress-up and Draw

1 June | drop-in between 14:30-15:30 | Observer Building
FREE drop in

A playful costumed life drawing session for children and families with Revolting Arts Club. Dress up in a costume and strike a pose! Or let your creativity run free through your drawing.

Materials provided. All ages and artistic capabilities welcome.



EXHIBITION

Hastings Art School
High Quality Accessible Arts Education



Degree/Post-Grad/Professional level discourse
A fraction of the rest of a traditional art school.

Hastings Art School Exhibition Private View

1 June | 19:00-20:30 | Rose Cottage,
Gotham Alley
FREE drop in

Hastings Art School is a local, accessible alternative to a traditional art school model designed to help artists develop their practice in a critical, collaborative environment.

This exhibition, in the space where we hold our seminars and crits, showcases some of the curious explorations of artists whilst on the programme. It marks a period of collective focus on examining our roles as artists, a playful and challenging adventure diving deeper into our individual practices, and a critical eye leaving no stone unexamined. We are all different from the people who arrived 10 weeks ago, and this collection of work represents our curious journey together.



Drag Bingo with Heather Duster

1 June | 20:00-22:30 Doors 7pm | Observer Building
Earlybird £11, General Admission £14, VIP bed for two with bubbly £38

Are you ready for an evening of glitzy balls, raucous laughter, cheeky bingo calls, dancing, music and drag performance?? It's Bingo but not as you know it! Bigger, Shinier, Draggier. Bring your pals, or bring your Nan to a Bingo experience like no other!

- 17 - Drag Queen!
- 39 - bottle of wine!
- 26 - Get your tix! (before they go!)

London and Hastings Drag Artist and Theatre Maker Heather Duster, and Model and Drag Artist Kikiara, will have you on your feet and dancing quicker than you can say HOUSE at our 'A Curious Town Dreams' Festival DRAG BINGO night!

There will be a DJ for that celebratory dance, after you win those fabulous bingo PRIZES!

SHOWS

Want to go on a Curious Adventure?

Pick Up a Copy of our beautiful STORY TRAIL map and go on a Curious Story Quest around Hastings Old Town accompanied by an audio story by award-winning storytellers. Fun for all ages!

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!!

Pick up a copy of the Curious Chronicle, a fun newspaper full of local faces, dreamy stories, curious things to learn and do and much more...

Both the Story Trail Map and Curious Chronicle are free and available around town and at the early festival events from 28th May!

THE CURIOUS CHRONICLE



* Family Events *

Curious Kids Festival Takeover by Little Mashers

2
JUNE

WORKSHOPS



LITTLE MASHER?
CURIOS KIDS
as part of **CURIOSUS** festival

7 WORKSHOPS!
Friday 2nd June

Session 1 - 10:00-13:00
Session 2 - 14:00-17:00
Observer Building and Gotham Alley
£18 (£2 for an Adult Ticket) Family
concession £35 (1 Adult, 2 Children)

The Curious Kids Festival takeover is an immersive, child centric day which aims to provide young people with a diverse programme of "curiously creative" activities run by experienced local artists.

Each child will be given a Curiosity Passport on entry to prompt them to explore the space, take part in all the activities on offer and create their own collection of festival memorabilia to take home.

The festival will be split into two sessions from 10-1pm and then from 2-5pm, so that families can have the opportunity to explore as many of the activities as possible.



Little Mashers

Each child will be invited to screen print their own, personalised festival T-shirt, based on the theme of CURIOSITY and using an array of stencils, stamps and fluorescent inks. The kids can then explore the "curious space installation" using 2D shapes and UV light to allow them to see their artwork in a different light.

A creative children's company run by partners Clare Tomlinson and Andrew Davies who utilise their design backgrounds to create unique interactive products for kids. Over the last 15 years they have been running print workshops in galleries, schools and at festivals to share their passion for print.



Zeroh

ZEROH are local artists who work across a number of disciplines to create public facing artworks.

Zeroh will be engaging participants to create a moth using markings based on native species, inspired by colour and patterns, which will then be digitised and added to an animated installation to be exhibited in the OB on Saturday June 3rd.



Loulou Cousins

Lou makes large, 3D structures, tiny automata, and lots more in between - all in cardboard, a resource she feels is totally underrated.

This workshop is collage based, finding, and creating funny people using a mixture of body parts and other strange objects that have been collected. For this workshop the participants will be cutting out and making jointed little people with collage, cardboard, glue, and split pins.



Anna Atkinson

Anna runs myth and fairytale-based art workshops exploring metaphor through story for both adults and children.

In this workshop children will be invited to create their own mini jam jar diorama based on Victorian curiosity cabinets. Using miniature toy figures, old doll house pieces, recycled rubbish, natural materials and playdough, children can create their own mini universe, figure or scene. A moment frozen in time in 3-D materials, to be taken home and treasured.



Janey Moffatt

Janey Moffatt fuses fine art with craft techniques for her work at The Crafttivation Factory, bringing art activities to everyone, especially those who face barriers.

Eye Spy! Design a giant eye inspired badge from black card and neon UV paper, shape punch cutters, scissors and plenty of imagination. You can wear it and hang it up at home when you're done.



Marie Louise +
Paper Lab

Have fun using drawing machines and create your own giant structures!

Marie-Louise Miller leads creative play and imaginative problem solving for curious minds of all ages. Creating large-scale immersive 3D drawing, drawing machines and superstructures using strong but lightweight paper stixx made from recycled newspaper and secured with ties.



Makedo

Makedo is a series of safe cardboard construction tools purposely designed for kids to imagine and build the world they want to see. Using a simple cardboard box kids can create their own curious creatures or objects during this freeform activity that will help spark their imagination and highlight the potential and value of this humble, everyday material. This workshop will be run by young creative facilitators currently studying at college.



A CURIOUS TOWN DREAMS

Cabaret

MUSIC

Comedy

ART

Castle bed

Drag
Bingo

Hush hush...
Beach huts

ZZZ

Workshops

Woodland Bed Cave

Once upon a time...

Cabaret Night

2
JUNE

CURIOUS CABARET!



Friday 2nd June 2023
 Observer Building, Hastings
Doors 7pm

Walkabout Performers

Benjam Barelli John Stockley
 Esme Sarfas Sophi Bubble Louise Watts



Afterparty at The
 Printworks
 with DJ Remi Vibesman

SHOWS

Curious Cabaret!

2 June | 20:00-22:30 (+ afterparty) Doors 7pm | Observer Building & Gotham Alley
 Tickets from £18, go to our website for all ticket options
 Tickets include entry to afterparty

Fire dancers, drag, burlesque, aerial, songs, comedy, walkabout performers, afterparty + more! Be transported on a journey at this curious night of cabaret across multiple venues, filled with performers that will make your jaw drop, your cheeks blush and your belly jiggle with laughter. A spectacle to remember, anything goes at the Curious Cabaret...

The Curious Cabaret will be hosted by The Duchess and Son.

Fresh from the depths of Eschaton (New York City's immersive lockdown sensation) The Duchess is an irreverent and ageless impresario who will probe your deepest, darkest secrets whilst taking you to the deepest depths of desire.

Her son (internationally renowned Des O'Connor) is the ultimate cabaret MC...devoted to your pleasure in every way. You will be eased through the evening by his velvet tones and disarming charm.

The Curious Cabaret will feature some of the finest performers in the South East. With a line up bursting at the seams with spectacular talent this is a night not to be missed!

Be prepared to gasp at the shocking revelations, join in with the risqué singalongs, be amazed by aerial talents and captivated by the contortion of our melting pot of performers.

Hang on, there's more...Ever seen a singing mermaid? Or flames coming out of a saxophone? You will now!

Our walkabout performers will guide you into Gotham Alley for an unforgettable finale that will leave you hyped up for more...

Keep that energy and buzz of the show going with some afterparty dancing in Printworks to beats and floor-fillers with DJ Remi Vibesman, accompanied by fabulous walkabout performers and dancers, of course.

Access to the Cabaret Afterparty at Printworks is included in the price of the ticket.

For more information about our superb line up of acts visit the website!

SHOWS



Cabaret Afterparty at Printworks

2 June | 22:00-01:30 | Printworks, Gotham Alley
 £5 Earlybird, £7 General Admission

Following on from our curious Cabaret Night, we are keeping the fun going at a Printworks afterparty. Join us for a night of awesome music with DJ Remi Vibesman and walkabout performers and dancers!

Arrive before 10.30pm to catch fire & aerial performance, and more, in Gotham Alley.

Afterparty included in Cabaret tickets, but can be purchased separately.



3
JUNE



WORKSHOPS



Improv for Adults with Richard Vrančh

3 June | 10:00-12:00 | Observer Building
£12 General Admission, low-income offer £6

Richard's improv comedy workshop will show visitors how to listen, share and play with the aim to empower them to not be afraid to look silly!

Richard Vrančh improvises comedy in, Guinness World Record holding, The Comedy Store Players, Paul Merton's Impro Chums and the Stephen Frost Impro Allstars. He also performs as a stand-up comic and actor and has written plays, animations and films. He improvised stories with Sylvester McCoy on BBC1 for Jackanory and he's been hosting improvisation workshops for many years.

WORKSHOPS



Bookbinding with Loulou Cousin

3 June | 10:30-12:30 | Observer Building Cafe
Earlybird £16, General Admission £18, low-income offer £10

This workshop will teach you all about simple book binding, using coloured paper and collage. The books contain secret envelopes to hold secret messages that can be gifted or developed into artists' books. All materials included.

Loulou Cousin works freelance as an art teacher with kids and adults. She makes large 3D structures and tiny automata, or small, joyful books, and lots more in between - all in cardboard.

WORKSHOPS



Needle Felting with Rebecca Child

3 June | 16:00-18:00 | Observer Building Cafe
Earlybird £18, General Admission £22

Working with roving merino wool and Romney Marsh wool and using a barbed needle felting tool you will create a 3 dimensional decorative animal which will be mounted on a base.

We will start with the workshop learning about the equipment and basic methods of needle felting on a square of felt as a tester piece and then we will work our way up to our animal and decorate our display base.

Building up the 3D shape takes time and is a very relaxing and meditative practice which is very addictive!

All equipment and materials provided.

WORKSHOPS



Steel Drums Drop In

3 June | 13:30-15:00 | Observer Building
FREE Drop In

family event
Suitable for 6+

Talented musician & music teacher Jim Bernardi is running two workshops later in the day, so this is for children and families, or those who would prefer to just pop in and try it. Drop-in for free and have a go at the brilliant and funky instrument that is the steel drums! Fun for adults and children alike, there will also be percussion instruments at hand for those too little to reach the steel pans.

Age 6+ at parent/guardian's discretion.

Steel Drums for Beginners

3 June | 16:00-17:00 | Observer Building
Tickets £10

Jim Bernardi (worldmusicworkshops.co.uk) will guide you through this fun workshop on the steelpan drums and other percussion instruments. You will not only have fun trying these unusual and beautiful instruments and learn the basics, but you will also be able to play a tune by the end.

If you have attended one of Jim's workshops in the past, or already have experience playing the steelpan drums, the intermediate session is right for you.

Steel Drums Intermediate

3 June | 17:30-18:30 | Observer Building
Tickets £10

If you have attended one of Jim's workshops in the past, or have already tried playing the steelpan drums before, the intermediate session is right for you. Jim will take the group through some basic reminders, and then get you all playing some uplifting tunes!

WORKSHOPS



Smutty Letter Writing: A filthy, flirtatious lost art.

3 June | 18:00-19:30 | Rose Cottage, Gotham Alley
Earlybird £14, normal ticket £16

Join the raunchy revolution: say no to the fast and flaccid romance of the digital age, as we revive the lost art of the smutty letter!

Enjoy a selection of salacious readings of choice smut from yesteryear, and be guided through some fun and flirtatious exercises to get you penning some letters of your own... Brush away the dust of shame, judgement, and unexpressed desire and explore what it means to unleash your love, lust, and longing in epistolary form!

Cum on your own, with a lover, or a friend! This workshop is for all 18+ romantics and filthbags, regardless of gender, sexuality, or relationship status. All confidence levels welcome. Materials supplied



Performance Saturday

FREE
Events

3
JUNE

SHOWS



12:00-16:00
**Observer Building
& Gotham Alley**
FREE Drop In

Explore a range of wonderful performances from celebrated artists, ranging from poetry and aerial to comedy and the unusual.

Take some time to explore the event spaces of the Observer Building and Gotham Alley, and drop in on some fabulous free performances whilst there!

WORKSHOPS

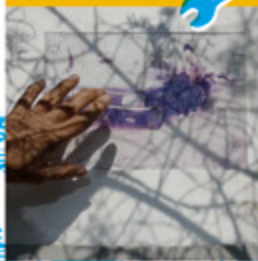


Poems Made from Words Found in the Bin

3 June | 12:00-16:00 | Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Poems Made from Words Found in the Bin is part performance, part creative writing workshop, and a digital art intervention. Members of the public are invited to join Rhiannon in creating poems made from shredded documents, which are then animated and added to a growing collection on the Slow GIF Movement channel on Giphy, allowing your poem to be read and shared globally.

WORKSHOPS



The Slope: Richard Layzell Performance

3 June | 12:30-13:00 | Observer Building
FREE Drop In

The Slope is about expectation and surprise, finding Korea in a London suburb, a different kind of silence in a Seoul library, where the old cars are hidden, a failed song by PSY and how to build your own noraebang.

This is a performance art piece by celebrated artist Richard Layzell. Richard has shown at most of the UK's public galleries and museums, including Tate Britain and Southbank Centre, and is an innovator in performance and expanded media.

SHOWS



Naomi Wood Aerial Hoop

3 June | 13:55-14:10 | Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Naomi is a multi-disciplinary performance artist merging the circus with storytelling and cabaret with poetry. She creates pieces that incite riotous acts of joyful disobedience celebrating empowerment and rebellion.

SHOWS



Doctor Ann Alyssis: Fruit & Veg Therapy

3 June | 13:00-13:45 and 14:15-15:00 | Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Doctor Ann is a master psychoanalyst who has perfected a technique they call 'Vegetale Psyche Matching' (common name: Fruit and Veg Therapy). Patients are requested to select from a perfectly innocent-looking fruit and veg bowl. Ann will use this selection to 'dig deep' into the root cause of their human pain.

SHOWS



Intimate Poetry Experience with Poetry Brothel

3 June | 15:00-16:00 | Rose Cottage, Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Join us for a special multi-sensory pop-up performance with Naomi Wood and Debra Watson with nature poems & poems of place.

A 10 minute unique, intimate, immersive poetic experience for 6 - 8 people at a time.

The Poetry Brothel Hastings is a performance poetry collective who also run popular poetry nights.

SHOWS



Sonic Garden

3 June | 12:00-16:00 (and Sunday 11:00-16:00) | Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Come and explore The Sonic Garden, an interactive installation of homemade instruments and sound making items suitable for all ages.

Lifesize is a Hastings based community interest company specialising in creating accessible, inclusive, experimental, and low-cost music making tools and activities. Working in partnership with local schools and community groups they provide unique opportunities to design and build instruments, compose, and play music.

Nocturnal Emissaries: A Night of Sensational Comedy

3
JUNE

SHOWS

COMEDY NIGHT

Nocturnal Emissaries
A Night of Sensational Comedy

Hosted by Juliet Brando

Doors 7pm
SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

Observer Building, Hastings
Scan QR code or visit our website for tickets

Andrew Harston
Cat Scully
Katie Mitchell
Nick Revell
Jack Diamond
Richie Rands

20:00-22:30

Observer Building & Gotham Alley
£12 Earlybird, £16 General Admission
VIP Double Bed for 2 including bottle of bubbles £50

Everyone will want to stay up for Nocturnal Emissaries, the ultimate pyjama party!

This eclectic evening of stand-up and musical comedy features a dream line-up, and you'll be laughing long after your bedtime. Wear what you like, though there will be a prize for the best nightwear, so don your favourite jim jams if you dare!

Join your host Juliet Brando, the Mistress of Ceremonies; succubus of your sweetest dreams, or sleep paralysis demon of your nightmares.



Katie Mitchell

"A bottomless well of whimsy, with immaculately crafted jokes"
- Blizzard Comedy

Katie Mitchell is a queer working class comic who grew up on a council estate and began comedy in sixth form in 2016, moving up the circuit quickly. She started breaking into paid work in 2019, as a runner-up Rising Star at the Midlands Comedy Awards. That year, she was also signed to Ingenious Fools talent agency just in time for the pandemic. She is alternative yet pervasive, revelling in main-stream comedy environments where her infectious, joyful and silly work is a delight on any line-up.



Cat Scully

Hailing from Canada, Cat Scully is a stand-up who observes UK life with buoyancy of spirit ... and regret. After ending up in Eastbourne, Cat took up comedy as a creative outlet and quickly found her voice on the Brighton circuit. Funny Women regional finalist and So You Think You're Funny semi-finalist.



Juliet Brando



Andrew Harston

New to the comedy game, Andrew is a musician turned improvisational comic. Reaching to the crowd for words and inspiration he asks you to be involved with the process of creation - who knows what will come forth!



Nick Revell

"sublimely surreal" - Gillian Reynolds, Sunday Times

Headliner Nick Revell started writing satirical and topical material for BBC Radio and TV in the late '70s on shows like Weekending, The News Huddlines and Not the Nine O'Clock News, before beginning his stand-up career at The Comedy Store in 1980. Writer and performer of sitcoms, sketch shows and stand-up including The Nick Revell Show, Drop the Dead Donkey, The Million Pound Radio Show and most recently BrokenDreamCatcher, which will return for a third series on BBC R4 in 2023.

Awards include International Emmys and BAFTAs for Drop the Dead Donkey, and Sony Radio, British Comedy, and Writers' Guild awards and a Silver Rose of Montreux for various other programmes, and a Perrier Award nomination. He is one of two people who have twice been voted Favourite Act at the Laugharne Literary Festival. He also co-created topical podcast No Pressure to be Funny, hosted by James O'Brien.



Jack Diamond

Jack Diamond, sometimes performing as Rusty Chance, began performing musical standup and comedy storytelling in Brighton in 2017, after their Americana band, the Nelly Canes, split up. They featured in the Brighton Fringe 2018 and busked their show on the streets of Edinburgh 2019.



Richie Rands

Richie Rands is a Sussex based comedian, writer and Pub Quiz host with a talent for weaving half remembered facts and half true anecdotes into compelling comedy stories. Richie's work has been heard on BBC Radio 4 Extra and BBC Scotland, and he is a regular guest on the history podcast It Just So Happened.

WORKSHOPS



Yoga with Dogs

4 June | 9:30-10:30 | Observer Building
Tickets £6

What's better than a dreamy yoga session where you move your body, still your mind and leave feeling all brand new? All of the above, plus a dog of course! Bring along your well behaved pup to join you on the mat for a laughter-filled yoga practice that you get to share with your furry best friend.

No dog to bring along, not a problem! Come along and enjoy the class anyway. Interactions with dogs have been proven extremely beneficial to our mental wellbeing. Interacting with animals can provide stress-relieving physiological benefits and helps an individual experience more positive emotions.

WORKSHOPS



family event
suitable for 6+

'Everything Happens' workshop with Richard Layzell

4 June | 10:00-11:30 | Rose Cottage and Gotham Alley
Earlybird £8, General Admission £10, Children £6

Everything Happens is a workshop about perception and discovery. Is looking the same as seeing? How do we relate to physical space? Can adults experience the world as children? What is the vagus nerve? We will see what we find.

For people of all ages. **This workshop is perfect for adults, but also suitable for children 6+.** The outcomes will vary from person to person and be also dictated by the group.

SHOWS



Caribbean Folktales

4 June | 11:00-12:00 and 13:00-14:00 | Observer Building
FREE Drop In

With a sprinkle of sunshine and a dash of sea breeze, join Professional Storyteller Wendy Shearer for tales of tricksters and shape-shifters across the Caribbean Sea.

SHOWS



Sonic Garden

4 June | 11:00-16:00 | Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Come and explore The Sonic Garden, an interactive installation of homemade instruments and sound making items suitable for all ages.

Lifese is a Hastings based community interest company specialising in creating accessible, inclusive, experimental, and low-cost music making tools and activities. Working in partnership with local schools and community groups they provide unique opportunities to design and build instruments, compose, and play music.

Sunday Shindig

Music & Performance in Gotham Alley

FREE
Events

4
JUNE

SHOWS



Curious Mini Market

11:30 - 16:00
Gotham Alley
FREE Drop In

Explore Gotham Alley's art and installations and take in some fabulous free performances.

Enjoy a selection of musical talent, from jazz violin, to acoustic guitar, vintage songs and even a singing mermaid! Prepare to be bewitched as Naomi takes to the air and both shocked & amused by your fruit & veg therapy session with Doctor Ann Alyssis. Visit Rose Cottage to discover art by Hastings Art School in one room, then receive a Tarot Reading in the tapestry-draped room next door.

11:30 - 12:00
& 12:30-13:00

Ann Alyssis - Fruit & Veg 'Therapy'

11:30 - 15:30

Tarot Readings in Rose Cottage

12:00 - 12:25

Hope Benson - Music

12:40 - 13:10

Esme - Singing Mermaid

13:25 - 13:40

Naomi Wood - Aerial Hoop

13:45 - 14:15

Montague Armstrong - Music

14:20 - 14:50

Sam Brown - Jazz Violinist

11:30 - 16:00

Market

12:00-14:00

Face Painting

12:20 - 12:50

Montague Armstrong

12:50 - 13:20

Sam Brown

14:50 - 15:20

SHE choir



A Curious Conclusion: Dreamweavers

4
JUNE

SHOWS



A CURIOUS CONCLUSION
OBSERVER BUILDING, HASTINGS



AUDIOTROPE TAKEOVER
LIVE PERFORMANCE FROM
CORDELIA GARTSIDE • RESHAD RAHMAN • GEORGE DEWHURST • BAD PEDESTRIAN



HEATHER DUSTER DRAG CLOWN PERFORMANCE

15:00-21:30
Doors 14:40
Observer Building
Tickets: £9 Earlybird, £13 General Release

A Curious Conclusion to the festival, bringing together a myriad of different performers and disciplines! There will be sensory storytelling for adults, followed by an Audiotrope takeover with a specially curated selection of Hastings musical talent. Heather Duster will then clean up with her Drag Clown show, before the festival closes with some dancing to DJ Dollymix. Read below to find out more about the curious characters in the mix - you are in for a Curious Delight!



SHOWS

Audiotrope: Live Music Takeover

4 June | 16:00-20:00 | Observer Building

4.00-4.30 | **Bad Pedestrians**

Their first performance, this young band from Hastings is new on the scene. With so much potential and a great new sound, come check them out and help support your local home-grown talent. @bad.pedestrian.band

4.50-5.30 | **Reshad Rahman**

An anchor of the local music scene Reshad is loved by many as a songwriter/guitarist with vocals as smooth as silk. @ohreshadmusic

5.50-6.35 | **George Dewhurst**

2022 Audiotrope studio session participant George Dewhurst is a favourite with BBC Introducing. His mellow voice and really well written lyrics are a joy to behold - so come see this singer perform live as part of this Audiotrope takeover. @dewhurstgeorge

6.55-7.40 | **Cordelia Gartside**

Cordelia's beautiful voice with melodic folk/rock/indie music influences is unmissable. Lyric lead, her songs tell stories, creating space for reflection, nostalgia and anger. Cordelia is up for the Emerging Talent Competition at Glastonbury 2023 so catch her quick before she rises to super fame.



SHOWS



Dreamweavers - Adventures in Sensory Storytelling

4 June | 15:00-16:00 | Observer Building

Dreamweavers combine improvised storytelling, hypnosis and a mesmerising electronic soundtrack created live in the moment to take you on a journey into your mind. 14+

SHOWS



Drag Clown Show with Heather Duster

4 June | 20:00-20:30 | Observer Building

Leave your dirt and grime at the door and get ready for some sparkling fresh drag as Heather Duster sweeps the stage!

A special Hastings premier of Heather's one woman drag clown show. There's no stain too tough for this clown to handle! So leave your dirt and grime at the door and soak up this polished performance!

SHOWS



Valene Lighthouse - in backroom

4 June | 16.30-18.30 | Observer Building - backroom

Don't forget to visit Valerie Lighthouse, mystic, psychic spiritualist and interpreter of messages from beyond this world. Using her unique skills Val will listen to your dreams, process them through her divine channels and present them back to you through the medium of interpretive dance, mime and good ole charades.

SHOWS



Dancing with DJ Dollymix

4 June | 20:30-21:30 | Observer Building

Join DJ Dollymix to keep the party going! Following on from a night of sensory storytelling, live music and drag, end the night with some good old dancing.

The lovely Artists

Esme Sarfas
Sophie Malpas
Esther Springett
Jess Hislop
Ness Mann
2eyesblind
Mark Daniels
Dave Reading
Kate Bruce
Peter Quinell
Lorna Crabbe
Jude Montague
China Girl
Charlotte Rose
Emma Hundleby
Rose Johnson
Rebecca Child
Tristan Lathey
Michelle Mildenhall
Susan Diamond
Dawn Timmins
Neonita
Claire Blandy

Rosie Richardson
Nancy Odufona
Lydia Addison
Eclectic
Photography
Sarah Ward
Louise Watts
Bill Greenhead
Nancy C
Juliet Brando
Julianna Jarvinen
Ella Guru
Cheryl Humphries
Anna-Liisa Lewis
Ruby Russell
Baz Yellow
Laurie Piper
Adam Shaw
Toni Gabb
Christina Drust
Radiator Arts
Loulou Cousin
Curious Agenda



Thank
You!

Thank you to all the fabulous Creatives and people of Hastings who are getting CURIOS with us!

Thank you to the collaborators who have offered us their time and enthusiasm, and to everyone who has echoed our zest for curiosity.

A big thank you too to the Chalk Cliff Trust, Simonsen Foundation, Sweet & Dandy, Kings Stationers and Hastings Commons for their support in making this festival happen.

And the biggest thank you of all to YOU, the people who decide to experience our festival with us. Without you, we're just a curious bunch in an empty room.

Stay Curious,
Curious Agenda



CURIOS
AGENDA



CABARET ✨ IMMERSIVE ART ✨ DRAG BINGO ✨

POETRY ✨

COMEDY ✨

DREAMS ✨

CABINET OF

CURIOUS

WORKSHOPS ✨



CURIOUS
ADMONA



OB
OBSERVER
BUILDING

MUSIC ✨

STORYTELLING ✨

WALKABOUT ✨

PERFORMERS ✨

Get your tickets at acurioustown.co.uk

53 Cambridge Road, Hastings, England, TN34 1DT

