

## YOUR **VISIT**

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Monday to Friday: 9:30am-5pm Box Office is closed for lunch: 2-2:30pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm Opens 1 hour before shows

#### **HOW TO BOOK**

Book Online: www.riverbank.ie

Phone: 045 448327

#### **GALLERIES**

We have two dedicated gallery spaces for our visual art exhibitions

McKenna Gallery is located on the lower level, which is accessible by both stairs and lift.

Children's Gallery is on the ground floor level adjacent to the café space.

As part of our visual arts programme we host a number of artist talks. All our visual arts events are free of charge, including the artist talks.

#### **GET IN TOUCH**

Phone: 045 448327

Email: boxoffice@riverbank.ie Website: www.riverbank.ie Address: Main Street, Newbridge.

Co. Kildare, W12 D962

#### PARKING

There is on-street parking which is paid parking from 9.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday inclusive. Parking outside of these hours is free.

More information at riverbank ie/our-location

#### CAFÉ

The Strand Café is open Monday - Saturday, 9am-4pm and one hour before events.

#### **ACCESSIBILITY**

Riverbank Arts Centre aims to make our patrons' visit as eniovable as possible.

The building is accessible via a ramp to the right of the building.

Our lower levels including McKenna Gallery and Auditorium are accessible via lift

#### **FUNDING**

Riverbank Arts Centre is funded by Kildare County Council and The Arts Council.

Our cinema screenings are in association with accessCINEMA, Europa Cinemas, IFI and DIFF.

#### SOCIAL

Keep up to date with everything we do

















#### **WELCOME TO 2025!**

Welcome to our bumper Spring programme of visual arts, music, theatre, comedy, cinema, family events, schools' events and workshops.

We begin the year, as always, with our First Fortnight programme, please join us for a workshop or event. This annual national festival offers an important opportunity for artists and audiences to engage with and explore mental health and offers a welcome for many at a particularly challenging time of the year.

Our family & schools programme includes the world premiere of Jess Rowell's **Other Worlds** (p.12), an immersive dance and live music performance, designed for teenagers with additional needs. We are very proud to be a supporting partner of this exciting new production.

We are thrilled to partner once again with curator Kasia Elaisz on the **Kildare Jazz Festival** (p.6-7) in April and look forward to the exciting line-up of performances and workshops.

Whether you are joining us for comedy, theatre or music, we hope you enjoy the thrill of a live performance at Riverbank this season.

Caroline, Matt, Theresa, Helen and the Riverbank team



#### MEET THE COVER ILLUSTRATOR

Kate Escolin is an Illustrator and Arts facilitator. Her work can be identified by its bright and playful colour palettes paired with friendly characters. As well as her visual art, Kate also teaches various visual art workshops with a focus on Zine and Comic Making for all ages around Ireland. Kate is an active member in the art community hosting events such as Sketchbook Club at Riverbank Arts Centre and is an organiser for the Dublin Comic Arts Festival.

Website: kateescolin.com Instagram: @tinygreens

### AT A GLANCE

JANUARY					
WORKSHOP	Online Creative Writing Workshop for Long Haulers with Nell Regan	09/01 & 16/01	11am	PWYC	p.12
VISUAL ART	Life Under the Cloak by Aideen Cross	11/01-15/03		Free	p.10
FAMILY	Other Worlds by Jess Rowell Dance	Sat 11th	12pm & 2pm	€10	p.12
WORKSHOP	Mark Making Workshop with Martina McDonald	Mon 13th	6:30pm	€10	p.13
SCHOOLS	Other Worlds by Jess Rowell Dance	13/01-15/01	10:30am & 12:30pm	€8	p.43
WORKSHOP	Sketchbook Club with Kate Escolin	Thurs 16th	7pm	PWYC	p.14
SPECIAL SCREENING	The Days of Trees	Thurs 16th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.14
WORKSHOP	Mixed Media Collage Workshop with Martina McDonald	Fri 17th	3:30pm	€10	p.13
WORKSHOP	Mindful Colouring Book Workshop with Martina McDonald	Fri 17th	6:30pm	€10	p.13
THEATRE	Little John Nee - Zeitgesit Jukebox	Fri 17th	8pm	€18/€16	p.15
WORKSHOP	Print Workshop with Sandra McAllister (5-8 years)	Sat 18th	10am	€10	p.15
FAMILY	Movement & Mindfullness	Sat 18th	11am & 12:15pm	€10	p.16
WORKSHOP	Online Creative Writing Workshop for Teenagers	Sat 18th	11am	PWYC	p.16
WORKSHOP	Print Workshop with Sandra McAllister (9-12 years)	Sat 18th	12pm	€10	p.15
LOCAL ARTS	Purple Door Presents STEREO	Sat 18th	7pm	Free	p.17
CINEMA	The Outrun	Mon 20th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.17
COMEDY	Pat & Faye Shortt Knuckle Down	Fri 24th	8pm	€30	p.18
WORKSHOP	Raise Your Spear	Sat 25th	11am	€10	p.18
WORKSHOP	Moving Words	Sat 25th	Various	Free	p.19
WORKSHOP	Wet Felting with Tamzen Lundy	Sat 25th	12pm & 2pm	Free	p.19
FAMILY SHOW	StrongWomen Science	Sat 25th	6pm	Free	p.19
VISUAL ART	Beauty Myths by Olga Anacka	01/02-1	19/04	Free	p.11
CINEMA	Small Things Like These	Mon 27th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.20
THEATRE	Seift	Tues 28th	8pm	Free	p.20
COMEDY	Deirdre O'Kane - O'Kaning It	Thurs 30th	8pm	€30	p.21
MUSIC	Songwriters 'In the Round' Brigid's Day Special	Fri 31st	8pm	€18/€15	p.21

FEBRUARY					
WORKSHOP	Sketchbook Club with Kate Escolin	Thurs 6th	7pm	PWYC	p.14
COMEDY	Chris Kent Offline	Thurs 6th	8pm	€25	p.22
MUSIC	Jerry Fish - Dreaming of Daniel Tour	Fri 7th	8pm	€25	p.22
THEATRE	Paddy Cullivan's The Murder of Michael Collins	Sat 8th	8pm	€20/€18	p.23
CINEMA	Power Alley	Mon 10th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.23
SCHOOLS	IFI Screening: The Fantastic Three	Tues 11th	10am	€6	p.44
SCHOOLS	IFI Screening: The Teacher's Lounge	Tues 11th	12pm	€6	p.44
MUSIC	Music Network: Derek Hickey, Liz & Yvonne Kane and Macdara Ó Faoláin	Fri 14th	8pm	€18/€15	p.24
WORKSHOP	Fabric Friends Workshop with Textile Artist Aideen Cross	Sat 15th	2pm	€15	p.24
LOCAL ARTS	Route 66 Big Band	Sat 15th	8pm	€22/€20	p.25
FAMILY	The Speks	Sun 16th	2pm	€12/€44	p.25
CINEMA	Anora	Mon 17th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.26
FAMILY	Moxie Brawl Presents Punk Alley	Fri 21st	2pm	€10/€36	p.26
COMEDY	Bernard O'Shea - Desperate House Husband	Sat 22nd	8pm	€22	p.27
CINEMA	Sing Sing	Mon 24th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.27
SCHOOLS	IFI Screening: La Suprema	Tues 25th	10am	€6	p.44
LOCAL ARTS	Curragh Community College Presents Legally Blonde	26/02-27/02	8pm	€15/€10	p.28
MUSIC	This Flight Tonight - The Songs of Joni Mitchell	Fri 28th	8pm	€25	p.28

## AT A GLANCE

	MARCH				
THEATRE	Up Till Dawn Presents Pucked by Cathal Ryan	Sat 1st	8pm	€20/€18	p.29
CINEMA	Memoir of a Snail	Mon 3rd	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.29
SCHOOLS	IFI Screening: Neneh Superstar	Tues 4th	10am	€6	p.44
WORKSHOP	Sketchbook Club with Kate Escolin	Thurs 6th	7pm	PWYC	p.14
MUSIC	Gemma Hayes	Thurs 6th	8pm	€25	p.30
WORKSHOP	Graphic Notation - Music Workshop with Wildwood	Fri 7th	6pm	€25	p.30
MUSIC	Wildwood	Fri 7th	8pm	€18/€15	p.31
FAMILY	Joe the Magician - Live!	Sun 9th	2pm	€16	p.31
CINEMA	Bird	Mon 10th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.32
MUSIC	The Devil's Spine Band	Fri 14th	8pm	€20/€18	p.32
FAMILY	Kyle Riley: Little Folk - On Tour	Sat 15th	12pm	€10/€36	p.33
COMEDY	Shane Daniel Byrne - Trouble Denim	Sat 15th	8pm	€24	p.33
YOUTH THEATRE	Kildare Youth Theatre Presents Mia and the Fish	19/03-20/03	8pm	€10/€5	p.34
FAMILY CINEMA	The Wild Robot	Sat 22nd	2pm	€4	p.34
COMEDY	David O'Doherty - Tiny Piano Man	Sat 22nd	8pm	€23	p.35
CINEMA	All We Imagine As Light	Mon 24th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.35
SCHOOLS	IFI Screening: Love & Revolution	Tues 25th	10am	€6	p.44
SCHOOLS	Ger Carey - Psycho Spaghetti	Wed 26th	11am	€12	p.43
COMEDY	Emma Doran - Dilemma!	Wed 26th	8pm	€27	p.36
THEATRE	Chicken	Thurs 27th	8pm	€20/€18	p.36
MUSIC	On the Road Again - An Evening with Fiachna Ó Broanáin, Tom Dunne & Alan Connor	Sat 29th	8pm	€30	p.37
CINEMA	Hard Truths	Mon 31st	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.37

APRIL						
SCHOOLS	Kildare Youth Theatre Presents The Crucible	01/04-02/04	10am	€6	p.43	
YOUTH THEATRE	Kildare Youth Theatre Presents The Crucible	01/04-02/04	7pm	€10/€6	p.38	
MUSIC	Neil Ó Lochlainn's Immram	Thurs 3rd	8pm	€18/€15	p.38	
MUSIC	Kildare Jazz Festival	04/04-06/04		various	p.6-7	
MUSIC	Music Network Presents Plínio Fernandes	Sat 5th	7pm	€18/€15	p.39	
CINEMA	Crossing	Mon 7th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.39	
WORKSHOP	Sketchbook Club with Kate Escolin	Thurs 10th	7pm	PWYC	p.14	
COMEDY	Enya Martin - Is It Just Me?	Fri 11th	8pm	€25	p.40	
MUSIC	Jack L	Sat 12th	8pm	€28.50	p.40	
CINEMA	Maria	Mon 14th	8pm	€7/€9/€5	p.41	
THEATRE	Big Guerilla Productions Present Indigestion	Fri 18th	8pm	€18/€16	p.41	
FAMILY CINEMA	The Boy and the Heron	Sat 19th	2pm	€4	p.42	
WORKSHOP	BrickFlicks Stop Motion Animation Camp	22/04-25/04	10am-2pm	€110	p.42	
VISUAL ART	Cat Crainn agus Madraí Uisce / Treecats and Waterdogs	22/03-14/06		Free	p.43	
SCHOOLS	The Lottery by Dan Colley	Mon 28th	10am & 12pm	Free	p.42	
SCHOOLS	Lyngo Theatre Presents The Little Prince	Wed 30th	10am & 12pm	€6	p.42	

#### FRI 4TH APRIL

# EMERGING ACT CHOSEN THROUGH AN OPEN CALL PROCESS

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS

**OPEN CALL ACT** 

7pm

Riverbank Auditorium



LEOPOLDO OSIO QUINTET
9.15pm
Riverbank Auditorium
Tickets £12



DRUMMING WORKSHOP WITH TOM QUINN 12pm

Newbridge Town Hall Tickets €5



ORLANDO MOLINA &
ALICIA GARCIA
2pm

Piverhank Fover

Riverbank Foyel Free Event



INCLUDE WORKSHOPS)
TICKETS ON SALE NOW



CONOR GUILFOYLE QUARTET 3.30pm

Riverbank Auditorium Tickets €12

#### SAT 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL



MUSIC NETWORK PRESENTS PLINIO FERNANDES 7pm

Tickets €18/€15

SUN 6TH APRIL



ALESSANDRA AZEVEDO AFRO-BRAZILIAN DANCE WORKSHOP 12pm

Newbridge Town Hall Tickets €5



ROW E - MUSIC GENERATION KILDARE JAZZ ENSEMBLE 4.15pm

Riverbank Auditorium Free event, booking essential



CAMILLE BERTAULT & DAVID HELBOCK
9.15pm
Riverbank Auditorium



TA TUM TUM!
& CEOL CONNECTED
2pm

Riverbank Auditorium Tickets €5



MARK REDMOND & CHRIS COLLOTON TRIO 7pm

Tickets €12

## **OUR OTHER WORK**

#### **UP IN THE CLOUDS**

We are delighted to be co-producers of Anna Newell's new show, **Up In The Clouds**, a chilled-out adventure for children and young people with complex/profound needs. Performed to just three audience members at a time at a time, **Up In The Clouds** is full of exquisite live harmony singing and gentle object play, designed so that the performers can respond to each individual young person. Anna Newell Theatre Adventures will present a 10-week nationwide tour of **Up In The Clouds** in Spring 2025, including performances in Kildare schools.





#### THE LOTTERY

Our multiannual artist in residence Dan Colley is creating a brand new work this April, which will preview to our schools and family audience. **The Lottery** is inspired by Jorge Luis Borges' short story 'The Lottery in Babylon', about a place where everyone's status in society is reassigned every two months by a lottery. In Babylon everyone has lived countless lives, each dictated by the luck of a draw. **The Lottery** is supported by The Arts Council.

#### **MUSIC NETWORK**

Our programme partners Music Network are presenting a two-day training course at Riverbank for professional musicians working in all genres. Supported by Kildare County Council Arts Service and led by industry professionals, the course will offer practical tips and support on a range of topics including preparing stage plans and technical specs, pitching your idea, navigating contracts and insurance, preparing your press kit and creating digital content for promotion. The two-day course takes place on 21st & 22nd Jan and costs €20. See www. musicnetwork.ie for booking details.



Photo by Keith Wiseman

## **OUR OTHER WORK**



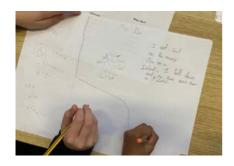
#### FIGHTING WORDS

We are proud to be the Kildare partner of Fighting Words and in 2024 just under 600 pupils from 25 classes took part in our FW programme. Special congrats to St Conleth's Community College Newbridge on their Fighting Words publication! For more about Fighting Words see **fightingwords.ie** 

#### VR YOUTH THEATRE PROJECT

The VR Youth Theatre Project, developed by Dr. Néill O'Dwyer of Trinity College Dublin's Department of Drama, investigates theatre in a Virtual Reality space. Riverbank Arts Centre is hosting sessions with participants from Kildare Youth Theatre, who will explore the possibilities of developing, rehearsing and presenting theatre using this technology. Néill O'Dwyer is a Research Fellow and the Principal Investigator "Performative Investigations into Extended and Augmented Reality Technologies" (PIX-ART), in the School of Creative Arts (SCA) at Trinity College Dublin (TCD).





#### **GIVE A POEM, GET A POEM**

We were delighted to take part in **Give a Poem, Get a Poem**, an initiative by LIVE Network. Children from St. Brigid's PS, Kildare Town took part in creative writing workshops with poet Nell Regan. Each child transcribed a poem to specially designed cards which we distributed, with a batch posted to the other schools participating, so that every child who wrote a poem, got one as a gift in return.



#### LIFE UNDER THE CLOAK

BY AIDEEN CROSS

Children's Gallery Monday 11 January - Saturday 15 March Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5pm | Saturday 10am - 4pm Admission Free



**Life Under the Cloak** is an exhibition of textile art that was created by over 300 primary school students from 10 Kildare primary schools in collaboration with local Textile Artist/Designer Aideen Cross

This art work explores the life and legacy of Saint Brigid and discovers the connections she has to local areas.

The young students and their teachers, guided by Aideen Cross, researched the history and legacy of Brigid's inspiring life, reflecting on her achievements, feminine strengths and the much-loved folklore stories, all while learning new skills and gaining a real sense of place.

Each of these textile art projects were child-led, from the ideas and design, to each and every stitch, showing us that given the opportunity and a little guidance what magnificent creativity can be produced within our local schools.

This exhibition is made possible thanks to the teachers, staff and students from Bunscoil Bhríde Rathangan; Scoil Bhríde Milltown; Scoil Bhríde Athgarvan; St Brigid's Primary School Kildare; Scoil Eimhín Naofa Monasterevin; Scoil Bhríde Kill; Scoil Bhríde Kilcullen; St Brigid's NS Ballysax; Scoil Bhríde NS Nurney; and Scoil Bhríde Clane.

These projects were made possible with funding from Kildare County Council, Brigid 1500 and Creative Ireland Bursary Award 2022.

Aideen will host **Fabric Friends Workshop** on Saturday 15 February. See p.24 for more info!



## BEAUTY MYTHS BY OLGA ANACKA

McKenna Gallery Saturday 15 February - Saturday 19 April Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5pm | Saturday 10am - 4pm Admission Free



**Beauty Myths** is a collaborative project between Olga Anacka and Riverbank Arts Centre, inviting the artist to undertake an Art Residency, Open Studio, and Exhibition at the McKenna Gallery.

With **Beauty Myths** Olga questions how to reconcile people's ideas and experience of femininity. In her practice, Olga Anacka explores the cultural systems that appropriate and objectify the female body. She references ways in which the female body is often scrutinized, seen as an object for beauty, comfort or pleasure. Often at odds with the body's natural processes.

Over two weeks in February, Olga invites members of the public to join her in the McKenna Gallery during her Artist Residency, where she will be creating new artworks and engaging in conversation with invited guests. During this time, Olga will create an original tapestry in collaboration with visitors, centered on the theme of female beauty and femininity. These new works will then form an exhibition for viewers to explore and interact with.

Come and meet Olga and talk about **Beauty Myths** during Open Studio Saturdays 1 & 8 February, 12pm-3pm Official Opening Saturday 15 February at 6pm – all welcome

## JANUARY FIRST FORTNIGHT





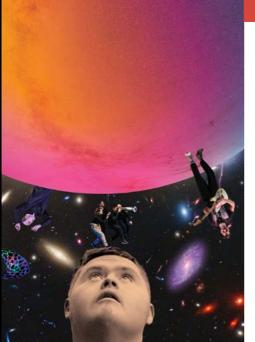
#### **WORKSHOP**

## ONLINE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP FOR LONG HAULERS WITH NELL REGAN

Thursday 9 & 16 January, 11am Pay What You Can - Free/€5/€10

Join us for two relaxed and paced online writing workshops designed to support people with Long Covid (as well as other isolating health conditions such as ME/CFS) No writing experience necessary - just a pen, paper and a photo of something/somewhere in nature that you love.

The workshop will be paced for brain fog, and aims to help with concentration, spark joy and create connections. A firefly moment of recovery. If on the day you are having a crash/ relapse, please feel free to join from bed and just listen. Sessions designed and run by poet Nell Regan, who is herself recovering from Long Covid.



#### **FAMILY**

#### OTHER WORLDS

BY JESS ROWELL DANCE

Saturday 11 January, 12pm & 2pm Tickets €10

An immersive dance and live music performance designed specifically for teenagers with additional needs

Get ready for this epic other-worldly adventure as we embark on a quest through curious worlds, transporting us into new dimensions. Courageous characters, intriguing instruments, spectacular sights, scents, and textures weave together to create an unforgettable sensory-rich, theatrical experience. Join us on a music and movement adventure on the way to our final destination... the Cosmic Dance Party, a celebration in our very own utopia!

This production features a cast of four dancers and a live musician.

Suitable for young persons with additional needs aged 13-18 years and up to three family members.



## JANUARY FIRST FORTNIGHT



#### **WORKSHOP**

#### MARK MAKING WORKSHOP

WITH MARTINA MCDONALD Monday 13 January, 6:30pm Tickets €10

Join visual artist Martina McDonald for an evening of mark making. In this workshop participants will be encouraged to create a mess with art materials such as paint, pastels, chalks, markers and more.

The practice of mark making is simple, fun and often calming. Martina will guide participants through a range of ways to create different marks and textures on paper. With the aim of creating art 'just for the fun of it', this workshop is for anybody looking to get creative without expectations of a finished piece. Participants are reminded that this is a messy workshop. Please bring an apron if you can!



#### **WORKSHOP**

## MIXED MEDIA COLLAGE WORKSHOP

WITH MARTINA MCDONALD Friday 17 January, 3:30pm Tickets €10

With this fun, tactile workshop, Martina will guide participants in exploring the art of collage. The process is the more rewarding part of collaging - playing with layouts, colours and textures. This

workshop will be engaging and experimental. Encouraging participants to create unique collages in a relaxed environment. Participants can expect to get creative with textured papers, magazines, fabric, textiles, pastels...not to mention the fuzzy pipe-cleaners!



#### **WORKSHOP**

#### DIY MINDFUL COLOURING BOOK WITH MARTINA MCDONALD Friday 17 January, 6:30pm

Tickets €10

Artist Martina McDonald will guide participants through a series of drawing activities and group sketching techniques – bringing these together to create your very own colouring book to take home.

Drawing and colouring are great ways to relax and get creative, helping to melt away stress and it gives you a fun way to clear your mind. Whether it's inside or outside the lines!



## JANUARY FIRST FORTNIGHT





#### **WORKSHOP**

#### SKETCHBOOK CLUB

WITH KATE ESCOLIN

Thursday 16 January, 7pm Thursday 6 February, 7pm Thursday 6 March, 7pm Thursday 10 April, 7pm PWYC − Free/€5/€10

**Sketchbook Club** is a monthly event that encourages fun and playful art-making whilst also building a community of new, old, professional or hobby artists! The goal is to provide a cheap (or free) safe space to create art in a relaxed environment. Make some art, make a friend, or just unwind on a Thursday evening.

All art materials are provided but feel free to bring your own sketchbook.

Kate Escolin is an artist whose illustration work consists of soft rounded forms, paired with bright colour palettes and playful line art. Her comics focus on human connection and navigating the world around her, with an emphasis on showing emotional honesty.



#### **SPECIAL SCREENING**

#### THE DAYS OF TREES

Thursday 16 January, 8pm
Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

In this highly original, IFTA Award-winning feature documentary, Tomás, a middle-aged film producer, embarks on a journey of discovery with his friend and colleague, film director, Alan. As they progress, we witness first-hand Tomás's unearthing of fresh and startling childhood happenings which had somehow eluded his memory. What follows is a profound pilgrimage towards uncovering how sporadic crises in adulthood, amidst an otherwise 'normal' life, had their roots in sophisticated sexual abuse by Christian Brothers in the late 1960s.

**The Days of Trees** reunites director Alan Gilsenan and producer Tomás Hardiman to complete the third in their loose trilogy with the acclaimed *Meetings with Ivor* and *The Meeting*.

Includes post-show Q&A with Director Alan Gilsenan

Directed by Alan Gilsenan | 90 mins | Cert 16 | English language



## JANUARY FIRST FORTNIGHT



#### **THEATRE**

## ZEITGEIST JUKEBOX

Friday 17 January, 8pm Tickets €18/€16

On a night such as this, some folk meet up at an old warehouse in response to a notice on a lamppost. An invitation to join the oddest band that ever was in the making of the greatest album of the twenty-first century. Primitive recording equipment sits ready for use; the clock ticks...it's now or never. **Zeitgeist Jukebox** is an immersive theatre experience framed by Little John Nee's masterful storytelling; a soulful antidote to the disconnection of our times, and a testament to the healing power of music.

Sit back, relax and laugh. Should the music move you, jump up and join the band.



#### **WORKSHOP**

#### **PRINT WORKSHOP**

WITH SANDRA MCALLISTER

Saturday 18 January, 10am & 12pm

Tickets €10

Designed especially for children, participants will be encouraged to visualise and create drawings about what makes them happy, what they might like to do more of, or achieve in 2025. We will then get creative make colourful poster prints together!

Children will be guided by the artist to transfer their drawings to foam, carving out their designs using pencils, which will then be printed in colour. The finished piece will be an individual poster they can put up in their bedroom or at home, as a reminder of their hopes for the year to come.

10am - 5-8 years 12pm - 9-12 years

Duration: 90 mins



## JANUARY FIRST FORTNIGHT





#### **FAMILY**

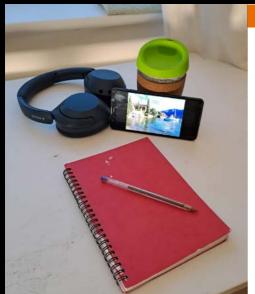
## MOVEMENT AND MINDFULNESS Saturday 18 January, 11am & 12:15pm Tickets €10 (child & adult)

Join the Aquatic Yogi (Paul Donnelly) for an engaging and playful yoga session designed to build strength, self-awareness, and confidence. This guided flow will not only awaken the body and mind but also inspire a sense of identity and empowerment in your little ones.

Paul will be joined by Siân Quill on the day who will encourage you to dive into a world of imagination with a lively poetry reading session tailored for you and your child. Through rhythmic verses and creative wordplay, kids will discover the joy of language and storytelling.

This fun-filled workshop combines movement and words, encouraging children to express themselves and grow comfortable in their own skin while having fun!

This is an inclusive event, noise defenders and sensory toys available or feel free to bring your own!



#### **WORKSHOP**

## ONLINE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGERS

Saturday 18 January, 11am Pay What You Can, Free/€5/€10

Join us for a relaxed online creative writing workshop designed for teens with Long Covid (and other energy limiting conditions like ME/CFS) No experience necessary, just bring a willingness to play, a pen, piece of paper, and a picture on your phone of your favourite place.

The workshop will be paced for brain fog and aims to help with concentration, spark joy and create connection. If you are having a dip on the day, feel free to just join us from bed and just listen in. Designed & led by Nell Regan, poet, writer and teacher; herself recovering from Long Covid.





#### **LOCAL ARTS**

#### **STEREO**

Saturday 18 January, 7pm Free event, booking essential

**STEREO** is a performance with live music by Purple Door which explores the themes of identity and categorisation, with a focus on challenging stereotypes.

Purple Door, led by Kasia Eliasz, is an inclusive performing group dedicated to creating a welcoming space for artistic and social dialogue. Our mission is to cultivate an environment that encourages perpetual, critical learning and exploration at the intersection of Performing Arts and various artistic genres. Through sounds, movements, words, and visual arts, we celebrate the diverse creative expressions of young individuals with Down syndrome, showcasing the boundless potential within this vibrant community.

Supported by Kildare County Council Arts Service's First Fortnight Award 2024, in partnership with First Fortnight.



#### THE OUTRUN

Monday 20 January, 8pm Tickets & 7 (early bird) / & 9 (on door) / & 5 (student)

After 10 years of spiralling into addiction in London, Rona returns home to the far-flung Orkney Islands in Scotland, hoping to maintain her recovery. Attempting to reconcile her complex family history as well as her destructive past behaviours, she takes a job with a wildlife conservation charity allowing her to connect with the nature of her childhood home.

Nora Fingscheidt (System Crasher) presents a vivid adaptation of Amy Liptrot's personal memoir of addiction, powered by an extraordinary central performance from Saoirse Ronan. She beautifully portrays Rona's fragility and grit as she journeys from destruction to serenity.

With a pounding soundtrack, a kinetic visual style and intricate narrative structure, this extraordinarily moving film is redemptive, cathartic and utterly riveting.

Directed by Nora Fingscheidt | 116 mins | Cert 15A | English language







#### COMEDY

#### PAT & FAYE SHORTT KNUCKLE DOWN

Friday 24 January, 8pm Tickets €30

Due to popular demand, Pat and Faye Shortt return to Riverbank with the final leg of the tour. The show is a collection of mad characters that won over audiences in venues throughout Ireland, Northern Ireland and the UK.

**Knuckle Down** shows off the incredible talent of these two performers, as they glide seamlessly from stand up to hilarious characterisation of everyday Irish people. They have the genius of taking every day ordinary situations and making us laugh at the mundane.

The sharp wit and physical comedy genius of this comedic duo will have you in pain with laughter. Don't miss this final opportunity to catch this hilarious sell-out show before it closes.



#### **WORKSHOP**

## RAISE YOUR SPEAR Saturday 25 January, 11am Tickets €10

Raise Your Spear is an LGBTQ+ allyship project designed by writer and artist Dani Gill. Based on a poem from her second collection (Lessons in Kindness, Salmon Poetry, April 2023), the project involves a workshop and discussion around identity and community. Join an exploration of what it means to speak, to be, and to accept. Participants will be given a 'base' spear, in the workshop to engrave and customise. While all spears will be the same size, they will be personal to the maker, and the words engraved on them will be unique to the self-expression of the individual. Come with an open heart and curiosity and mindfully reflect on the themes of belonging and self-expression.

Join Dani Gill in the McKenna Gallery from 1pm to 2.30pm for some conversation and admiration of the spears created during the **Raise Your Spear** workshops.

# Brigid Spirit of Kildare family fun Day



Saturday 25th January

#### **PERFORMANCE & WORKSHOP**

**MOVING WORDS** FIN AND THE WICKED **FAIRY OF TARA** BY SELMA DANIEL 10am, 11:30am and 1pm





WORKSHOP

**WET FELT MAKING** WITH TAMZEN LUNDY 12pm and 2pm





**FAMILY SHOW** 

STRONGWOMEN SCIENCE 6pm





FREE EVENTS, ADVANCED BOOKING ESSENTIAL!

A celebratory day of free family events as part of Brigid 2025 - Spirit of Kildare festival, funded by Kildare County Council.



#### **CINEMA**

#### SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE

Monday 27 January, 8pm

Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

New Ross, 1985. Bill Furlong is a hard-working coal merchant, doing his best to support his family amid the challenging conditions of 1980s Ireland. In the lead-up to Christmas, Bill makes a morning delivery to the local convent. There, an encounter with one of the convent's traumatised residents shakes him to his very core. It forces him to ask questions about the nuns' conduct that nobody else dares say aloud.

Based on Claire Keegan's novel, **Small Things Like These** explores one man's efforts to confront the culture of silence and complicity in Catholic Ireland. Starring Cillian Murphy in his first leading role since his Oscar-winning turn in *Oppenheimer*, the film also features Emily Watson as the convent's powerful Mother Superior.

Directed by Tim Mielants | 96 mins | Cert 12 | English language



#### **THEATRE**

#### **SEIFT**

#### Tuesday 28 January, 8pm Free event

**Seift** is a bi-lingual play about political grifting, the repurposing of language, and Irish identity. It's about familial relationships, media narratives, and the concept of notions. As Aodh's job mirrors a country with a collapsing image of itself, Seift seeks to ask when exactly are we going to do anything to change it?

Join Scaoilte Theatre as they present a rehearsed reading of their latest play Seift, as they continue to develop the work for stage, and explore topics that are more important now than ever.

Supported by Kildare County Council Arts Service, and Roscommon County Council Creative Ireland Programme, an all-of-Government five-year initiative, which places creativity at the centre of public policy. Further information from creativeireland.gov.ie and ireland.ie



#### COMEDY

#### DEIRDRE O'KANE O'KANING IT

Thursday 30 January, 8pm Tickets €30

Comedic fireball Deirdre O'Kane is mad for road, mercilessly mining hilarity from the human condition. Will she conquer the chaos or revel in it? Tame the mayhem or "O'Kane it"? Either way you're in for a night of relentless laughs fuelled by warped personal insight!



#### MUSIC

#### SONGWRITERS 'IN THE ROUND' BRIGID'S DAY SPECIAL

WITH MEGAN O'NEILL, SIVE AND HEIDI TALBOT

Friday 31 January, 8pm Tickets €18/€15

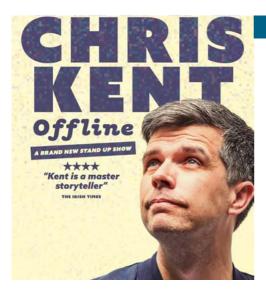
Riverbank Arts Centre is delighted to present this special event to celebrate Imbolc and Brigid's Day. This unique event will feature three of Kildare's finest female singer-songwriters: Megan O'Neill, Sive and Heidi Talbot, in an 'In The Round' style.

Songwriters 'In the Round' style shows originated in Nashville, Tennessee at the Bluebird Café, where it is now a hallmark tradition. This adored style of gig usually features 3-5 songwriters, taking turns singing their own original material and sharing the stories behind their songs.

Get ready for this cosy, informal and conversational night – where these three incredible Irish singer-songwriters will get personal, have fun on stage and let you in on some beloved stories and tales from their lives.

SCAN TO SEE ALL OUR UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS!





#### **COMEDY**

#### CHRIS KENT OFFLINE

Thursday 6 February, 8pm Tickets €25

Cork's own Chris Kent returns with a brand-new show **Offline**. He tries to give up the internet and navigate life without asking his phone what to eat, where to go or how to get home. He longs for a simpler time of playing 'Snake' and constructing emojis himself. Now that he has hit 40 years of age, he wonders if he can ever go back to thinking for himself. Join him on a journey that will either make him or break him.

The Irish Times - "Kent is a master storyteller" Dubliner Magazine - "Carefree comedic bullseye"



#### MUSIC

#### JERRY FISH DREAMING OF DANIEL TOUR

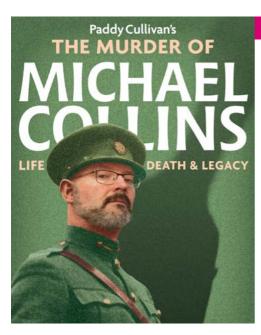
Friday 7 February, 8pm Tickets €25

Jerry Fish, indie legend, showman extraordinaire and ringmaster of exceptional renown, is back with his first LP in 15 years. The new album entitled *Dreaming of Daniel* feat. MayKay (Fight Like Apes) is a labour of love for Jerry, featuring songs by the late, great Daniel Johnston.

Join Jerry Fish as he embarks on the *Dreaming* of *Daniel* album tour. Performing songs from the new album, alongside a selection of his greatest hits, in a celebration of his unique artistry and the life of one of Ireland's greatest showmen.

# SCAN TO SEE ALL OUR UPCOMING COMEDY EVENTS!





#### **THEATRE**

PADDY CULLIVAN'S
THE MURDER OF
MICHAEL COLLINS
Saturday 8 February, 8pm
Tickets €20/€18

Paddy Cullivan, well-known from RTÉ's Late Late Show House Band, presents a fascinating and controversial exploration of one of the most pivotal moments in Irish history—the assassination of Michael Collins. **The Murder of Michael Collins** takes audiences on a gripping, multimedia journey through historical evidence, political intrigue, and shocking revelations. This show is not just a retelling of history but an eye-opening investigation into one of Ireland's most enduring mysteries.

Through historical documents, photographs, audio-visuals, and live music, Paddy draws the audience deep into the dark twists and turns of Irish history, presenting fresh insights and challenging commonly held views.



#### **CINEMA**

## POWER ALLEY Monday 10 February, 8pm Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

This punky and electrifying debut feature from Lilah Halla sees 17-year-old volleyball player Sofia – who is about to be offered a dream scholarship to a college in Chile – discover she is pregnant. She attempts to access an abortion, which is illegal in Brazil, but becomes the target for a religious fundamentalist group who attempt to stop her at all costs - including making her situation public.

Sofia experiences hate crimes and sees her life and her family's livelihood threatened, but neither she nor those who love her are willing to surrender. As Sofia and her allies resist and challenge an oppressive present, they create a path toward a free future. Together they are powerful in this rebellious triumph.

Directed by Lillah Halla | 92 mins | Cert CLUB | Spanish & Portuguese with English subtitles



**MUSIC** 

MUSIC NETWORK PRESENTS:

#### DEREK HICKEY, LIZ & YVONNE KANE AND MACDARA Ó FAOLÁIN

Friday 14 February, 8pm Tickets €18/€15

Music Network kicks off 2025 with a celebration of the very best of Irish traditional music.

This exciting tour brings together four of Ireland's most celebrated traditional musicians: Derek Hickey, TG4 Gradam Ceoil 2024 Musician of the Year, Liz and Yvonne Kane (The Kane Sisters), TG4 Gradam Ceoil 2024 Group of the Year, and Macdara Ó Faoláin, TG4 Gradam Ceoil 2024 Young Musician of the Year.

Prepare to be captivated by their exceptional artistry and musicianship, as each performer infuses their unique style, deeply rooted in their musical heritage, into this extraordinary collaboration.

Join us for an unforgettable evening with four of Ireland's finest live in concert. Simply put, you won't hear better exponents of our traditional music.



#### WORKSHOP

#### FABRIC FRIENDS WORKSHOP WITH TEXTILE ARTIST AIDEEN CROSS Saturday 15 February, 2pm Tickets €15

Join Textile Artist/Designer Aideen Cross for a creative and fun workshop where children will create a small fabric animal from some recycled materials while learning skills of hand sewing.

Participants will take a look at the local fauna of the Curragh plains for inspiration, along with exploring Aideen's current exhibition in the Children's Gallery - Life Under the Cloak (p.10), which is composed of textile art created by local primary school students.

Duration: 2 hours



#### **LOCAL ARTS**

## ROUTE 66 BIG BAND Saturday 15 February, 8pm Tickets €22/€20

Route 66 Big Band return to Riverbank Arts Centre. The sixteen-piece band has captivated audiences all over Leinster with their distinct musical style. Their repertoire spans from timeless 1940's numbers to contemporary hits, all delivered with a vibrant big band flair that promises to ignite the stage. Don't miss the opportunity to experience the magic of Route 66 Big Band live – it's a spectacle that will have you tapping your toes and swaying to the rhythm all night long!





## THE SPEKS Sunday 16 February, 2pm Tickets €12/€44 (family of 4)

**The Speks** present a lively show of nursery rhymes and sing-along songs set to acoustic Irish music which will have adults and kids jumping in their seats!

Their hand-clapping, toe-tapping, hearty-laughing show is all about life on Glasses Island – a magical island off the coast of Co. Clare where everybody wears glasses! The Speks have won a Parents' Choice music award in the US where their music has been described as "Riverdance for kids" and they encourage everyone to sing, scream, clap and dance along during their performances. This will be a great, fun event for kids aged 2 to 92!

Band members are Ed on guitar and vocals, Rafferty on banjo and vocals, Pete on accordion and vocals, Naymon on fiddle and vocals, and Ouince on flute and vocals.

GET ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS BEFORE ANYONE ELSE! SIGN UP FOR OUR E-ZINE!





#### **CINEMA**

#### **ANORA**

Monday 17 February, 8pm Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Charismatic **Anora** "Ani" Mikheeva lives in Brooklyn and works as a stripper. When Ani meets Ivan - the young, party-loving son of a rich Russian oligarch - Ivan is smitten. He starts paying Ani to become his live-in partner. After a whirlwind few weeks of excess, they get married in Vegas. Everything changes when Ivan's parents find out and send henchmen to arrange an annulment. Things swiftly turn chaotic, and Ani finds herself dragged along on a bumbling chase across New York City.

The Palme d'Or-winning **Anora** is the uproarious new comedy-drama from acclaimed filmmaker Sean Baker (*The Florida Project*). The film mixes farce and sharp class commentary to giddy effect – solidified by Mikey Madison's magnetic lead performance.

Directed by Sean Baker | 140 mins | Cert 16 | English language



#### **FAMILY**

MOXIE BRAWL PRESENTS
PUNK ALLEY
Friday 21 February, 2pm
Tickets €10 / €36 (family of 4)

**Punk Alley** is a loud, wild, and unapologetic joyride of live original punk music and high energy dance. But don't leave your adults at home – this is a punk show for everyone!

**Punk Alley** is a show full of heart that asks big questions, creating a vibrant and fun space for young people to explore what they want to use their voice to fight for. The show is fully ISL Interpreted. It's electric, live and anything could happen. We're in this together. Let's make some noise!

**Punk Alley** is suitable for the whole family, including younger children, but some elements may be most engaging for those aged 5+

Duration 45 mins



#### **COMEDY**

#### BERNARD O'SHEA DESPERATE HOUSE HUSBAND

Saturday 22 February, 8pm Tickets €22

Bernard O'Shea, the 'Desperate House Husband,' invites you on a hilarious escapade into the stay-at-home parenting world. Brace yourself for comical tales of domestic appliances with sinister intentions, yearning for a peaceful night's rest, and even covert playground reconnaissance operations. It's a laugh-out-loud journey through the trials and tribulations of modern family life!



#### **CINEMA**

#### SING SING

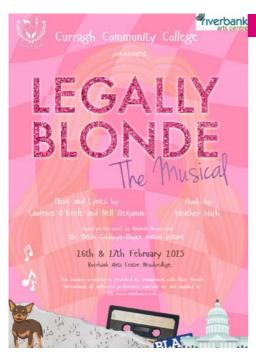
Monday 24 February, 8pm

Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Divine G (Colman Domingo), an inmate at Sing Sing prison, runs a theatre group as part of a Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA) program. Incarcerated for a crime he didn't commit; Divine and his fellow RTA members escape the reality of prison life by putting on plays. When a wary Outsider, Divine Eye, joins the group, the men decide to stage their first original comedy.

A stirring story of humanity, redemption, friendship, the power of art and the importance of community, **Sing Sing** stars an unforgettable ensemble cast of formerly incarcerated actors. The film beautifully weaves together the true-life story of friendship between the troupe and the transformative process devising a new play brings to them.

Directed by Greg Kwedar | 106 mins | Cert 15A | English language



#### **LOCAL ARTS**

CURRAGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS

#### LEGALLY BLONDE

Wednesday 26 & Thursday 27 February, 8pm Tickets €15/€10

Join us as we follow the vibrant journey of Elle Woods, a spirited sorority girl on her chaotic journey to win back her ex-boyfriend, Warner Huntington III. Leaving her glamorous life in Beverly Hills behind, Elle embarks on a bold adventure to pursue a law degree at Harvard Law School.

With the unwavering support of her sorority sisters, her insightful college mentor and her fabulous hairstylist, Elle discovers the power of law to make a difference.

As Elle navigates the challenges posed by Warner's new girlfriend, Vivienne, and her intimidating professor, Callaghan, she surprises everyone by defying expectations while staying true to herself.

Join us for a show that proves being blonde is always in style!



#### **MUSIC**

## THIS FLIGHT TONIGHT THE SONGS OF JONI MITCHELL Friday 28 February, 8pm Tickets €25

Acclaimed singer/songwriters Zervas & Pepper present **This Flight Tonight** an intimate five-piece acoustic live tribute to the music of Joni Mitchell. Featuring songs such as *California, Blue, Woodstock, Both Sides Now, Coyote, Big Yellow Taxi, A Case Of You,* and many more...

Acclaimed UK singer/songwriters Zervas & Pepper present what they consider to be the nucleus of Mitchell's work, that pivotal break-out period 1968-1976 with the voice, guitar and piano front and centre. Zervas & Pepper's five-piece band perform an intimate acoustic concert that evokes the feeling like the audience is having a private listening session at Joni's house in Laurel Canyon during the summer of love.





UP TILL DAWN PRESENTS
PUCKED

BY CATHAL RYAN
Saturday 1 March, 8pm
Tickets €20/€18

**PUCKED** is a fast paced, comedic, theatrical, oneman blockbuster! PUCKED tells the story of the young and ambitious Matty Daly. Immersed in the GAA from birth, Matty has one dream and one dream only, to play on his senior team. When Matty finally gets called up, we join him as he learns the hard way, that playing senior isn't everything it's cracked up to be. PUCKED tackles issues such as self-confidence, individualism, masculinity and ambition with humour and energy, all the while celebrating the greatest sport on earth, hurling.

Originally produced by Clonmel Junction Arts Festival and the Source Arts Centre Thurles.



#### **CINEMA**

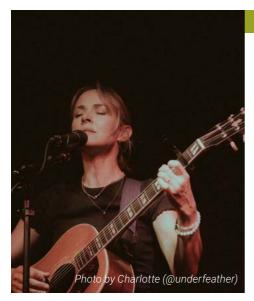
#### MEMOIR OF A SNAIL

Monday 3 March, 8pm
Tickets & 7 (early bird) / & 9 (on door) / & 5 (student)

In 1970s Australia, snail-obsessed Grace lives in a shabby apartment with her pyromaniac twin brother Gilbert and their ailing father. When their father dies, the twins are separated and sent to foster families on opposite sides of the country. As the years pass and each sibling endures a gruelling series of tragedies, disappointments and hardships, they dream of one day being reunited.

Acclaimed animation director Adam Elliot returns to the big screen with his first animated feature since 2009's Mary & Max. Memoir of a Snail proves to be another stop-motion wonder - vividly handcrafted, endlessly creative and proudly eccentric. Despite tackling often bleak and mature themes, this is a film that's full of humour, compassion and hope.

Directed by Adam Elliot | 94 mins | Cert TBC | English language



#### **MUSIC**

## GEMMA HAYES Thursday 6 March, 8pm

Tickets €25

Gemma Hayes' songs have always drawn their power from her lyrical intimacy and lucidity, juxtaposed with her penchant for experimenting with various sonic textures that embrace both the quiet and the loud.

After moving to London in 2020 with her family, Gemma found the spark that reignited her passion for songwriting which would result in her sixth studio album *Blind Faith* 

Released to great acclaim in late September 2024, with Mojo Magazine hailing it as "...the album of her career...", *Blind Faith* has delighted old fans and won new followers



#### **WORKSHOP**

## GRAPHIC NOTATION MUSIC WORKSHOP WITH WILDWOOD

Friday 7 March, 6pm

Tickets €25 (includes ticket to 8pm performance)

Join two of Ireland's finest contemporary musicians (Deirdre O'Leary and Alex Petcu) as they explore graphic notation, the peculiar practice of interpreting visual symbols, shapes and imagery as the score for a musical piece.

This one-off workshop is open to musicians and non-musicians alike (feel free to bring your instrument) and is a chance to get a close-up of the workings of piccolo and bass clarinets and a sprawling array of percussion instruments. Deirdre and Alex will show some notable examples of graphic notation, and how they are interpreted; and workshop participants will also have the chance to create their own graphic score, and have it interpreted live!





#### WILDWOOD Friday 7 March, 8pm Tickets €18/€15

Bass clarinettist, Deirdre O'Leary, and percussionist, Alex Petcu came together in 2021 to create a programme of funky rhythms and wildly beautiful sounds, full of eccentricity and wit. A new duo with big plans, Alex and Deirdre have played together for many years in Crash Ensemble and other groups. They share a dynamic energy and a passion for innovative performances.

An Irish musician of Romanian origin, Alex Petcu has quickly established himself both nationally and internationally as a percussionist of the finest calibre.

Clarinet and bass clarinettist Deirdre O'Leary is best known for her energy on stage and her sensitivity as a chamber and orchestral musician. She has performed extensively with Crash Ensemble, Cassiopeia Wind Quintet and the National Symphony Orchestra, among many other groups.



#### **FAMILY**

#### **JOE THE MAGICIAN LIVE**

#### Sunday 9 March, 2pm Tickets €16

It's Joe the Magician from RTÉjr! And he's bringing his spectacular children's comedy magic and illusion show back to Riverbank for an afternoon of mind-boggling fun!

Joe's show fuses laugh out loud comedy magic with absolutely jaw dropping spectacular illusions live on stage. It's a rollercoaster theatrical ride that reinvents children's entertainment. A flying table, magical friendly ghosts, a live snowstorm, lie detector test... are just a hint of what you can expect! Although it's a kids' magic show the grown-ups love it just as much! Joe's hugely popular TV show *Dizzy Deliveries* is the most watched show on RTÉjr AND the most streamed show on the RTÉ Player! Joe plays a magical delivery man who uses Lamh sign. Now in its second season.

Early booking is advised as all of Joe's previous tour dates have sold out in Ireland and the U.K. including the 3Olympia. Dublin!





#### BIRD

Monday 10 March, 8pm
Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Gravesend, England. 12-year-old Bailey lives in a dilapidated apartment with her caring but immature father Bug. When Bug abruptly announces he's marrying his girlfriend, a furious Bailey runs away and spends the night outdoors. The next morning, she meets a mysterious stranger named **Bird** who is searching for his own parents. It's a chance encounter that sets off a series of strange and lifechanging events for Bailey and those around her.

The latest film from acclaimed filmmaker Andrea Arnold (Fish Tank, American Honey) elegantly combines social and magical realism in this unusual and heartfelt film. Bird is beautifully shot, boasts a killer soundtrack of smartly-utilised pophits, and features exceptional performances from Barry Keoghan, Franz Rogowski and newcomer Nykiya Adams.

Directed by Andrea Arnold | 119 mins | Cert 15A | English language



#### **MUSIC**

## THE DEVIL'S SPINE BAND Friday 14 March, 8pm Tickets €20/€18

Leaning heavily into the genre of 'Dark Cabaret,' **The Devil's Spine Band** takes its lead from Oscar Wilde's 1882 trip to Leadville Colorado, then explores all things 'Cowboy' and 'Wilde-West' in an Americana explosion heavily tinged with Knight's unique innovative flair. The music features settings of a few of Wilde's poems together with original lyrics- It's edgy stuff; improvisational, rockin', by times ambient electronic and by times a whoopin' and a hollerin' kind of an affair, that will take the audience on a unique journey with some of Ireland's finest musicians and performers.

Much of the music was co-written with Ireland's finest living blues guitarist Ed Deane (Skid Row. Frankie Miller Band, Dana Gillespie).



#### **FAMILY**

#### KYLE RILEY LITTLE FOLK - ON THE ROAD

Saturday 15 March, 12pm Tickets €10 (single) / €36 (family of 4)

**Little Folk- On the Road** is perfectly suited for 2-7yr olds and their adults. Featuring his awardwinning children's music, catchy kids tunes and proper sing-a-long songs, it's super fun for the whole family.

It's a foot stomping, hand clapping, and jumping good time!

The fun doesn't stop when the show ends, each child gets a little musical goody bag so they can join in during the show and then take some of the experience home.

Kyle's been writing and performing children's music for over 10 years. He's toured Ireland and abroad bringing his entertaining and engaging show to thousands of families

So, bring your rock toddlers, your little boppers, and cool kids to Kyle's one of a kind family concert.



#### **COMEDY**

## SHANE DANIEL BYRNE TROUBLE DENIM

Saturday 15 March, 8pm Tickets €24

This Irish fella is back after BURSTING onto the Irish scene in 2024. Shane Daniel Byrne is on fire; fresh from sell-out touring in Ireland, UK and Australia.

Pop in and join him for his spicy new show about Jeans, Jackets and Jesus Christ. Expect honeysweet and coffee-bitter from this award-winning comedian.

"Shane Daniel Byrne is very, very funny."- Broadway World.

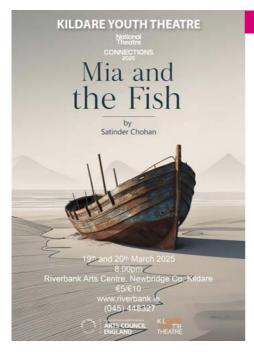
"My favourite new Irish comedian for many years." -David O' Doherty

"Shane Daniel Byrne is my favourite" - Irish Examiner

★★★★ Broadway World



"Superb as always" GCN Magazine



#### YOUTH THEATRE

KILDARE YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

#### MIA AND THE FISH

Wednesday 19 & Thursday 20 March, 8pm Tickets €10/€5

The story explores the challenges of displacement and the immigrant experience and inspires reflection on our shared responsibility to protect each other and the environment. Faced with an apocalyptic storm and an uncertain future, a group of young refugees and friends must struggle to survive in a new world while protecting each other. Directed by Yakup Bas and Halit Kayacan, this production is one of over 400 being staged across Ireland and the UK as part of the National Theatre (UK) Connections programme. Crooked House has taken part with Kildare Youth Theatre in this programme since 2023, staging over 50 new plays for teenagers by contemporary playwrights. The cast of 11 young people come from all over Kildare, many performing for the first time with Kildare Youth Theatre.



#### **FAMILY CINEMA**

#### THE WILD ROBOT

Saturday 22 March, 2pm Tickets €4

From DreamWorks Animation comes a new adaptation of a literary sensation, Peter Brown's beloved, award-winning, #1 New York Times bestseller, The Wild Robot.

The epic adventure follows the journey of a robot—ROZZUM unit 7134, "Roz" for short — that is shipwrecked on an uninhabited island and must learn to adapt to the harsh surroundings, gradually building relationships with the animals on the island and becoming the adoptive parent of an orphaned gosling.

Directed by Chris Sanders | 101 mins | Cert PG English language



#### **COMEDY**

#### DAVID O'DOHERTY TINY PIANO MAN Saturday 22 March, 8pm Tickets €23

The disheveled prince of €10 eBay keyboards tries to make you feel alive with a new pageant of laughter, song and occasionally getting up from a chair. It's gonna be a big one.

Star of 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown (Channel 4), Live At The Apollo (BBC) and Along For the Ride with David O'Doherty (Channel 4).



#### **CINEMA**

#### ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT

Monday 24 March, 8pm

Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Nurses Prabha and Anu share an apartment in Mumbai. Prabha's husband moved abroad years previously and no longer contacts her. Despite that, she remains loyal to him and rejects the romantic advances of a friendly doctor working in her hospital. Outgoing Anu, meanwhile, is in a passionate relationship with Shiaz - a relationship she keeps secret as it's socially taboo for her to date a Muslim. When Prabha and Anu travel to a coastal village to help a friend relocate, their experiences there spark moments of discovery and revelation.

Payal Kapadia's remarkable fiction debut is a poetic portrait of two women's lives in contemporary India. This is a film that overflows with empathy and respect for its characters.

Directed by Payal Kapadia | 118 mins | Cert CLUB | Hindi with English subtitles





# EMMA DORAN DILEMMA! Wednesday 26 March, 8pm Tickets £27

It's the post-apocalyptic world. There's only one contraceptive pill left. Do you give it to your 19-year-old daughter or keep it for yourself? Is it better to be a 40-year-old grandmother or a 40-year-old new mum?

These are the dilemmas facing Emma Doran aged 39 and 7/8s, even though the most obvious outcome is neither. If turning 40 is the start of something new, what is it the end of? ... ah here, where's me vape?

Emma Doran is one of the most exciting standups to emerge from these shores in years. She's crammed so much into the last 20 years of her life that she is now officially the voice of 3 generations.



#### **THEATRE**

## CHICKEN Thursday 27 March, 8pm Tickets €20/€18

Don Murphy is a proud Irish man, a hopeless ketamine addict and one of his generation's greatest actors. He also happens to be a chicken. Across one fateful night, the feathered Oscar winner shares his star-studded story with an intimate audience - from getting his big break, to his first bird on bird sexual experience, to navigating life in the celebrity spotlight. But along the way Don will be confronted with some harsh truths about himself, chicken kind and humankind.

Winner of Best Performer Dublin Fringe 2024, Lustrum Award Edinburgh Fringe 2023, and Filipa Braganca Award Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

Presented by Fringe First winning Irish company Sunday's Child.

Duration: 1 hour

Age restriction – strictly 14+ years.





# ON THE ROAD AGAIN AN EVENING WITH FIACHNA Ó BRAONÁIN, TOM DUNNE & ALAN CONNOR Saturday 29 March, 8pm Tickets €30

**On The Road Again** promises to be a fun evening of songs and stories as Fiachna Ó Braonáin (Hothouse Flowers), Tom Dunne (Something Happens) & Alan Connor (Something Happens & The Late Late Show House Band) hit the road together.

Despite having shared stages across the world over several decades, Tom and Fiachna had never performed together, until they were invited to do so on RTÉ Radio 1's Ray Darcy Show. Fiachna and Tom had a ball and loved it so much that they decided to make it happen again. Multi-instrumentalist Alan Connor was then drafted in to add some piano, guitar and percussion to the dynamic duo!





## HARD TRUTHS Monday 31 March, 8pm Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Present-day London. Middle-aged sisters Pansy and Chantal could not be more different. Chantal is cheerful and empathetic. Pansy, on the other hand, is argumentative, hypersensitive and full of anger. with her husband Curtley and grown-up son Moses bearing the brunt of her emotional outbursts. As Mother's Day approaches, things are at breaking point, unless Chantal can somehow help her sister. Acclaimed director Mike Leigh returns to contemporary London for this character-driven family drama. An exceptional cast, led by Jean-Baptiste (Oscar-nominated in Leigh's Secrets & Lies), breathe life into the family's characters, providing a dynamic that is complex, layered and nuanced. At turns tough, darkly funny and hugely compassionate. Hard Truths never feels contrived or melodramatic. Easily one of Leigh's best.

Directed by Mike Leigh | 97 mins | Cert 12A English language

### **APRIL**



#### YOUTH THEATRE

KILDARE YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS
THE CRUCIBLE

Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 April, 7pm Tickets €10/€6

Kildare Youth Theatre presents Arthur Miller's powerful play which explores the dangers of mass hysteria, political corruption, and the scapegoating of vulnerable individuals. Set during the Salem witch trials, it reveals how fear and power dynamics can destroy lives, offering a sharp critique of societal control and the consequences of injustice.

School performances also available, see p.43 for more information



#### **MUSIC**

# NEILÓ LOCHLAINN'S IMMRAM Thursday 3 April, 8pm Tickets €18/€15

**Immram** is a suite of poems by Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill first published in her collection *Feis* (1991). In 2019 Neil Ó Lochlainn was commissioned by Paddy Bushe and the Amergin Solstice Poetry Gathering to set the poems to music and the resulting suite of music was premiered at the festival in Waterville in 2021.

The music combines influences from Irish traditional music and the sean-nós singing tradition, jazz/improvised music and contemporary classical music to create an innovative post-genre style of contemporary Irish chamber music. The musicians are some of the most highly regarded young musicians in Ireland today.

'Immram' roughly translates as 'Voyage' and is a type of story found commonly in mythological Irish writing describing a protagonist's journey by sea to the otherworld and the adventures during their voyage.



#### **MUSIC**

### MUSICNETWORK PRESENTS PLÍNIO FERNANDES

Saturday 5 April, 7pm Tickets €18/€15

Born and raised in São Paulo, Plínio blends the tradition of classical guitar with the rich, rhythmic vibrancy of Brazilian folk music. Known for his mesmerising performances and versatility, his playing ranges from the delicate works of Bach to the exuberance of Brazilian melodies, delivering each with heart and expressive brilliance.

An exclusive Decca Gold recording artist, Plínio's debut album Saudade topped the Billboard Traditional Classical Albums Chart and he is a regular collaborator with highly acclaimed artists such as Lang Lang and Sheku Kanneh-Mason. He has performed in concert halls around the world, including renowned venues such as London's Royal Albert Hall and Radio City Music Hall in New York, and made his BBC Proms debut in 2024.

Join us for an enthralling performance by this exceptionally talented artist this April.



#### CINEMA

## CROSSING Monday 7 April, 8pm Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

In a Georgian backwater, retired teacher Lia turns up on the doorstep of her neighbour: affable, aimless Achi. She's trying to find her niece Tekla, a twenty-something trans woman who was regretfully banished years before. Achi claims he knows where she is: in Istanbul. With a half-baked plan and very little money, their search for Tekla sparks some soul-searching within them both, while their journey attracts both suspicion and generosity.

From acclaimed director Levan Akin (And Then We Danced), **Crossing** is a moving and tender tale of identity, acceptance and unlikely connection that transcends borders and generations. Humanistic and compassionate, Akin's third feature is a heartfelt portrayal of overcoming the degrees of separation that divide us.

Directed by Levan Akin | 106 mins | Cert 15A | Georgian/Turkish with English subtitles



#### **COMEDY**

# ENYA MARTIN IS IT JUST ME? Friday 11 April, 8pm Tickets €25

Martin's new show, "Is it just me?" is Enya's search for answers......Is it just my relationship that's like this? Was it just my upbringing that has me this way? Is it just me who experiences this on holiday!? And finally, where she gets most of her inspiration.... Am I the only one with friends like this, on and offline!?

Join Enya Martin as she brings her unforgettable comedy show 'Is It Just Me' across seven venues in Ireland, this Spring.

"Enya Is A Comedic Machine" - Joanne McNally



#### MUSIC

### JACK LUKEMAN PRESENTS: UNBROKEN SONGS 2025

Saturday 12 April, 8pm Tickets €28.50

Join Jack Lukeman for an unforgettable evening celebrating resilience, hope, love, and dreams through his extraordinary musical journey. **Unbroken Songs** draw from Jack's 30-year career, during which he uplifted spirits and touched hearts worldwide, performing through joyful and challenging times.

This show features a thoughtfully curated collection of songs, blending timeless melodies with Celtic soul. With themes of perseverance, love, and the enduring strength of dreams, **Unbroken Songs** captures the essence of Jack's musical legacy. The show will offer fans a powerful emotional journey from the bold energy of tracks like *Georgie Boy, If We Only Have Love*, and *Keep Dancing*, to the reflective depth of Open Your Borders and the life-affirming Wicked Way.



#### **CINEMA**

## MARIA Monday 14 April, 8pm Tickets €7 (early bird) / €9 (on door) / €5 (student)

Continuing his run of acclaimed and original biopics (Spencer, Jackie), in **Maria** Pablo Larraín explores who Maria Callas (Angelina Jolie) really was, away from the fame and tabloid headlines. Reimagining Callas' final days as her health was failing, Larrain shows us the famed soprano as she wanders around a picturesque Paris recounting the highs and lows of her life to a revering journalist.

Angelina Jolie gives a transforming performance, capturing the tumultuous, beautiful and tragic story of the life of the world's greatest female opera singer through memories, friends, and, most importantly, her singing.

Directed by Pablo Larraín | 123 mins | Cert 12A | English language



#### **THEATRE**

### BIG GUERILLA PRODUCTIONS PRESENT INDIGESTION

#### Friday 18 April, 8pm Tickets €18/€16

This play has been described as sensitive, hilarious, intelligent, absolutely compelling and refreshingly forthright. A man, whose name we never hear, tells us his story of a life, always slightly out of his control

The madness of a simple rural man, a man shipped off to London at the age of 17... who goes through bouts of depression, obesity and anger issues... finds and loses love, comes back to Ireland to more misfortune and mayhem, and yet there is HOPE. This is a story full of hope, where laughter and tears join hands and race us through fifty years of a life, not much different to our own. This is Seamus O'Rourke doing what he does best, storytelling.

Written and performed by Seamus O'Rourke.



#### **FAMILY CINEMA**

## THE BOY AND THE HERON Saturday 19 April, 2pm Tickets €4

Japan, 1943. Following the death of his mother, 12-year-old Mahito moves to the countryside to live with his father and new stepmother in a sprawling estate. There, Mahito draws the attention of a mysterious and mischievous grey heron. The bird lures Mahito to a magical alternate realm with the promise that Mahito's mother is still alive there. The young boy sets off on an adventure through a dazzling but dangerous world.

Studio Ghibli's latest animated wonder marks the long-awaited return of legendary Hayao Miyazaki. Here, the master director mixes a thoughtful, emotionally complex coming-ofage story with beautiful, otherworldly fantasy. It has welcome echoes of classics like Spirited Away, while still overflowing with wondrous images and ideas all its own.

Directed by Hayao Miyazaki | 124 mins | Cert 12A | English



#### WORKSHOP

### BRICKFLICKS STOP MOTION ANIMATION CAMP

Tuesday 22-Friday 25 April, 10am-2pm Tickets €110

In this special **BrickFlicks Stop Motion Animation Camp**, learn all the basics of how to animate in stop motion using your favourite LEGO character

Shoot spells, fight superheroes, blast rockets or fall through portals, use your imagination to make your very own movies.

With plenty of hands-on learning and simple demonstrations, Createschool will take you on a journey from having a cool idea to making it into an awesome movie. You will learn the different elements of stop motion animation as well as how to create a set, storyboard and plan for your movie, which you will then film, edit, and present.



#### CAT CRAINN AGUS MADRAÍ UISCE / TREECATS AND WATERDOGS

AN EXHIBITION BY CORRINA ASKIN WITH MANCHÁN MAGAN

Children's Gallery
Saturday 22 March-Saturday 14 June
Monday-Friday 9:30am-5pm | Saturday 10am-4pm
Admission Free



This original exhibition explores words for nature and our connection with the natural world. Corrina's vibrant artwork combines with a bilingual soundscape by Manchán, to form an exciting, playful exhibition for young people aged 4-12 years. The exhibition will be accompanied by an engagement programme for schools and families including tours, treasure trails and workshops.

"Is deis iontach é Cat Crainn agus Madraí Uisce le mealltacht agus aoibhneas focail Gaeilge don nádúr a roinnt leis an t-aos óg. Tuigimid go léir an tábhacht atá le teacht ar shlíte le leanaí a mhealladh i dtreo beoicht agus draíocht ár dteanga dhúchais – braithim go gcabhródh an togra seo go mór leis an cuspóir seo." Manchán Magan, scríbhneoir

"Cat Crainn agus Madraí Uisce is a wonderful opportunity to share the allure and beauty of Irish words for nature with young people. We all recognise the importance of finding ways to engage children in the vibrancy and magic of our native tongue – I feel this project will greatly aid this aim." Manchán Magan, writer

Co-commissioned by Riverbank Arts Centre, Linenhall Arts Centre and Kildare County Council Library Service.

## SCHOOL EVENTS



#### **GREY MATTER**

Wednesday 9
Thursday 10 April, 10am & 12pm
Tickets €6 (teachers free)

2ND CLASS & UP



## THE LOTTERY BY DAN COLLEY

Monday 28 April, 10am & 12pm Preview – free event

1ST-6TH CLASS



## LYNGO THEATRE PRESENTS THE LITTLE PRINCE

Wednesday 30 April 10am & 12pm Tickets €6 (teachers free)

JUNIOR INFANTS & UP

## SCHOOL EVENTS



JESS ROWELL DANCE PRESENTS OTHER WORLDS

Monday 13-Wednesday 15 January, 10:30am & 12:30pm Tickets €8 per student (teachers free)

LIVE PERFORMANCE



GER CAREY PSYCHO SPAGHETTI

Wednesday 26 March, 11am Tickets €12 (teachers free)

TY COMEDY SHOW



KILDARE YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS THE CRUCIBLE

Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 April, 10am Tickets €6 (teachers free)

THEATRE



KILDARE YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS MACBETH

Tuesday 13-Thursday 15 May 11am & 7pm Tickets €6 (teachers free) THEATRE

### **IFI SCREENINGS**



#### THE FANTASTIC THREE

Tuesday 11 February, 10am

2023 | France | Drama | 95 mins | Directed by Michaël Dichter | 15+ years Senior Cycle French



#### THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE

Tuesday 11 February, 12pm

2023 | Germany | Drama | 98 mins | Directed by Ilker Çatak | Cert 12A Senior Cycle German



#### LA SUPREMA

Tuesday 25 February, 10am

2023 | Columbia | 83 mins | Drama | Directed by Felipe Holguín | 12+ years Junior Cycle Spanish



#### **NENEH SUPERSTAR**

Tuesday 4 March, 10am

2022 | France | Drama | 95 mins | Directed by Ramzi Ben Sliman | 12+ years Junior Cycle French



#### **LOVE & REVOLUTION**

Tuesday 25 March, 10am

2023 | Spain | Drama | 106 mins | Directed by Alejandro Marín | 15+ years Senior Cycle Spanish

TICKETS €6 | TEACHERS FREE

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH IFI EDUCATION







#### FIGHTING WORDS

Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge is the Kildare Partner of Fighting Words. We present creative writing workshops for primary and secondary schools. Fighting Words Workshops are always free of charge to the participants. These workshops will be conducted in our venue, or in your classroom by an experienced Fighting Words tutor, Pierina Campbell, and supported by 2-3 volunteers from Riverbank's Fighting Words team. The workshop will last 2 hours and we request that the teacher is present throughout. We can also offer Fighting Words workshops as Gaeilge, led by Ola Majekodunmi.

Contact theresa@riverbank.ie to find out more.

#### **GALLERY TOURS**

We are delighted to continue to offer free guided tours of our exhibitions to school groups this season! For Leaving Cert students **Beauty Myths** by Olga Anacka (p.11), which will comprise of an art residency, open studio, and exhibition, questions how to reconcile people's ideas and experience of femininity.

Primary school students are invited to attend **Life Under the Cloak** by Aideen Cross (p.10) which is an exhibition of textile art that was created by over 300 primary school students from 10 Kildare primary schools in collaboration with the artist.

In March Riverbank will present an original exhibition exploring words for nature and our connection with the natural world. **Cat Crainn agus Madraí Uisce** features vibrant artwork by Corrina Askin and a bilingual soundscape by Manchán Magan (p.43).

In addition to guided tours, we will also be offering educational resources which will be accessible via our Education Portal. Guided gallery tours are free of charge and must be booked in advance.

Email theresa@riverbank.ie to book your tour in now!

#### **Gift Vouchers**

The perfect gift for the music, theatre or cinema fan in your life! We have vouchers for:



€50 • €100 •

Riverbank Arts Centre Gift Vouchers are valid for all event tickets and can be redeemed online or by phone/in person

through our Box Office.

Ideal for birthdays or as a thank you gift, let someone pick their own perfect present of a night out to see their favourite band, a cinema date or a family ticket to the theatre.



#### **VENUE DIRECTOR**

#### PROGRAMME MANAGER

#### **MARKETING & PR MANAGER**

#### **BOX OFFICE & FOH MANAGER**

#### **TECHNICAL MANAGER**

#### **BOX OFFICE ASSISTANT**

#### COMMUNITY & PARTICIPATION OFFICER

#### **BOARD**

#### **NETWORKS**

#### **CURATOR FOR ENGAGEMENT (VISUAL ARTS)**

### **COMING NEXT SEASON**



**TALK** 

MICHAEL HARDING Friday 9 & Saturday 10 May, 8pm Tickets €25



#### **MUSIC**

THE CLASSIC BEATLES Saturday 31 May, 8pm Tickets €27



#### **COMEDY**

ANNE GILDEA **FURTHER ADVENTURES** IN WOMANING Saturday 27 September, 8pm Tickets €23



#### **EARLY YEARS**

BABYLOVESMUSIC Wed 11 & Thurs 12 June 10am, 11.15am, 12.30pm Tickets €10 (Adult & Baby)

### **ON SALE NOW**

OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9AM - 4PM & ONE HOUR BEFORE EVENTS





The Strand Café wishes all our customers a Happy New Year.

We look forward to welcoming new and returning customers in 2025.

Daytime Menu | Children's Menu | Evening Drinks Menu Available

## **Arts & Creative Charter for Older People**

The Arts & Creative Charter for Older People aims to increase and enrich the experiences and confidence of older arts participants, audiences and artists in their engagement with arts organisations in Ireland.

In displaying this Charter, we set out our commitments in relation to engaging with older people.





#### These are our commitments:

- We welcome older people.
- We eliminate barriers to older people's participation in and enjoyment of our activities and aim to ensure that our buildings, online activities, programming, communications and information are as accessible as possible to the broadest range of older people.
- We seek the active participation and feedback of older people in relation to all that we do.
- We reject ageist language and commit to communicating clearly and openly with and about older people.
- We create and support opportunities for diverse communities to collaborate and create together in all aspects of our work.
- We invest in older people's creativity and involvement.
- We foreground the participation and value of older people in our communications.
- We ensure that all our employment, commissioning, funding, volunteering, learning and collaboration opportunities are fair and inclusive of older people.



For further information contact: Age & Opportunity Arts t+353 (0)1 805 7713 | earts@ageandopportunity.ie

www.bealtaine.ie www.ageandopportunity.ie













### HIGHLIGHT FROM LAST SEASON



Our Children's Gallery hosted a very special exhibition this season: **Dwelling by Caoimhe McGuckin.** This exhibition explored the art of worldmaking; a process that nurtures agency, belonging and selfhood where household objects are reimagined to reflect the simple yet profound nature of children's daydreams. From a 'Magpie Clock' to a 'Stick CV' and a 'Hide Hole' to a 'Kanga Moo' Caoimhe's exhibition underscored the boundless creativity of children and highlighted the importance of nurturing imaginative capacities within the spaces they inhabit daily. Caoimhe explored themes such as identity, belonging, agency and storytelling to create an exhibition which not only captured children's imaginations, but seemed to bottle those aspects of creativity which are lost as we grow older.

'Dwelling' was co-commissioned by Riverbank Arts Centre and Kildare County Council Arts Service.

