

Oxford
Road
Corridor

CASTLEFIELD GALLERY AT 40.
ITS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

STEP ABOARD A JOURNEY INTO BRITISH
IDENTITY WITH KEISHA THOMPSON'S 14%

RECLAIM THE NIGHT WITH UNIVERSITY OF
MANCHESTER STUDENTS' UNION

Autumn Edition



ISSUE 4 OCT 2023

Boasty

a new kind of aristocracy
—Charles Beaudelaire, 'The Painter of Modern Life'

I run my fingers over the embossed
lines of electric red, white, and black check,
& feel the velvet touch me

in my dreams. I & I a rude boy, see me
in ma clean suit & shine brogues &
trilby hat a kotch 'pon di side,

with bright, bold, bombastic
colour, I & I a fashion aristocrat,
boasty inna my soul.

I want to tell you: there's pressure
behind this style you know,
for I&I come from a set o' people

who done know how fi dress up.
Yes, we West Indian people
we insist on

dressing up. Call us extra,
but we sartorially fit, we
too fashionable & full of it,

this vibration forever elevatin' we
beyond the crowd – call it
swag.

Jason Allen-Paisant

Jason Allen-Paisant is an award-winning poet, writer and scholar. His collection include *Thinking with Trees*, which won the OCM Bocas Prize for Poetry, and *Self-Portrait as Othello*, which has been short-listed for the Forward Prize for Best Collection 2023. *Boasty* is one of three poems co-commissioned by Manchester Literature Festival and Manchester Art Gallery to mark the 200th anniversary of the Gallery.

Manchester Literature Festival takes place between 14–28 Oct at venues across Oxford Road. Book tickets at manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Welcome

Oxford Road Corridor stretches south from St. Peter's Square as far as Whitworth Park, extending either side to Upper Brook Street and into Hulme. Within this square mile, two of the UK's largest universities and a university NHS foundation trust work beside the city's digital, technology and life science businesses to deliver innovation for Manchester and beyond.

Around Oxford Road you can find many of Manchester's iconic venues and cultural spaces alongside the institutions that cultivate the next generation of artists and creatives.

There is a thriving nightlife with exciting new neighbourhoods which bring an abundance of cafés, restaurants and bars. Nestled between the beautiful architecture and landmarks are historic parks and contemporary green spaces.

Here is a taste of what's happening here this autumn ...

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Stand up! March on! Reclaim The Night

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER STUDENTS' UNION TELLS
US ABOUT THIS YEAR'S THEME, *CONVINCE ME NOT*

The heartbeat of the Reclaim The Night campaign is the march itself, which takes place during the week of 27th November from Owens Park in Fallowfield to a rally at the Students' Union on Oxford Road. It's a powerful event that gathers people from all walks of life, uniting under the banner of safety and equality. The march serves as a megaphone, projecting the campaign's message across the community. The movement also encompasses other tactics, such as power mapping and lobbying, to create a comprehensive impact.

The objective is clear: to ensure that every participant understands the purpose behind their steps. The campaign urges students to know precisely why they are marching – for the safety of women, girls, and marginalised genders. The campaign seeks to foster a deep connection between the participants and the cause they're championing through education and engagement.

This year's Reclaim The Night focuses on lobbying to tackle the still incredibly stigmatised issue of sexual coercion. Many are unaware of its status as a reportable crime. With so many different types of coercion, from harassment to guilt-tripping, lying to fear and intimidation, and how power imbalances can come into play, much of it goes unchecked and unchallenged. The march calls for all to recognise a greater need for signposting and access to support services, improvements to the reporting process, and unity across local charities, businesses and universities to amplify the message condemning this behaviour across all corners of society. By transforming this movement from a University of Manchester campaign into a community-wide endeavour, we want to multiply our impact.

The heart of this year's campaign beats for more than just the University of Manchester – it beats for all Manchester universities and communities.

This campaign seeks to weave a tapestry of collaboration that transcends institutions and embraces the community as a whole. The involvement of local charities and businesses becomes a catalyst, propelling the message of safety and empowerment into every nook and cranny. This isn't just about raising awareness but building a movement that transcends boundaries. Every effort is focused on ensuring that the message of safety for women, girls, and marginalised genders saturates every level of society. It's not just about awareness; it's about driving meaningful change.

The Reclaim The Night campaign is an open invitation to be part of a movement that seeks to rewrite the narrative of safety and empowerment. It's a call to action that resonates with individuals who believe in equality and security for all. You can contribute by participating in the march, engaging in discussions, and supporting the campaign's initiatives. By joining this movement, you become a catalyst for change, a force that dismantles fear and paves the way for a brighter, safer future.

The Reclaim The Night campaign led by the University of Manchester Students' Union is more than just a single event. Through the march, lobbying efforts, and community involvement, it seeks to ingrain its message in the collective consciousness. It is an opportunity to be part of a movement that dares to challenge norms and create a world where safety is a birthright, not a privilege.

Stand up, march on, and reclaim the night for everyone.

Aisha Akram
Wellbeing & Liberation Officer
University of Manchester Students' Union



NORTH TAPROOM



Earlier this year, well-loved independent Leeds-based brewery, North, opened their highly anticipated first taproom in Manchester. Ian Jones went along to see what it's all about.

06



© Nathan Whittaker

North Taproom sits at the heart of Circle Square, serving everything from small-batch craft ale to high-end cocktails alongside a well-designed menu of Asian street food.

The bar might be relatively new, opening in early 2023, but the history of North Taproom stretches back to the late nineties when owners John and Christian opened their first bar in Leeds, going on to open multiple locations around the UK. These

together, with some top-tier reds, whites and rosés – all reasonably priced – and a tempting section dedicated to natural and orange wines.

The food menu maintains this level of quality. Headed up by the wildly popular Little Bao Boy street food vendor, the North staff also have input into the menu, leading to remarkable dishes such as the Thai red curry noodle broth on the summer specials menu.

guys are in it for the long haul, and it shows. The staff here are among the best in Manchester – friendly, cheerful, and always keen to help, whether recommending a new beer or giving a treat to a visiting dog.

Despite its smart modern looks – all high ceilings, huge windows and sleek design features – this laid-back relaxed atmosphere means North Taproom has the pleasing feel of an old-school pub. You'll drink among a huge range of people, including post-work drinkers, tourists, students and ale experts. Everyone's welcome, making it ideal for anything from weekend drinks to birthday gatherings.

Of course, the big draw is the drinks menu. Beer lovers will be in heaven thanks to the ever-changing and vast menu of ales, both on tap and from the wall of fridges (sold at shop prices if you want to take them away).

Prefer grapes over hops? The wine list is small but expertly put

As for bao buns, the salt & pepper aubergine is an unmissable option, thanks to show-stopping sriracha and hoisin sauce, but the authentic gyozas, crunchy oyster mushroom bites and beautiful fresh salads are all worth exploring. Pleasingly, the menu showcases plenty of top-tier vegan dishes, delivering a wealth of powerful flavours in ethical, plant-based form.

Astonishingly, each of these hearty dishes comes in at around the £5 mark, often less. And there's even a lunchtime deal where you can get two bao buns and a pint for a mere tenner.

North Taproom doesn't put a foot wrong. From drinks to food, everything is pitch-perfect. Throw in a great-looking venue, friendly staff and a welcoming atmosphere, and this is a place you'll want to return to over and over again.

Ian Jones / @IanDJonesnet

07

14%

Set against the frenzy of the Lionesses' success, this brand new multi-sensory play at Contact invites you on a journey inside the confines of a post-match train carriage.

KEISHA THOMPSON GIVES US
THE BIG MATCH BUILD-UP

Keisha Thompson © Audrey Albert



Lauren Fitzpatrick © Craig Fleming



©Paddy Clugston



I love football. I played a lot of it as a young girl in primary school. Thank goodness I went to a school that was encouraging in that way. It shocked me when I got to high school to learn that so many of my female peers did not get the opportunity to do things like football at their schools.

Catapult ten years ahead to the brilliant poet, Hollie McNish telling me about the Dick Kerr Ladies and the ban on women's football after the war. They were drawing crowds of tens of thousands then the FA shut it down. Whenever I find out about things like this, they sit with me. I know they will appear in my work when the time is right.

So, 14%. How did it come about?

Pre-pandemic, I was encouraged to write a new piece of work following the success of my solo show, *Man on the Moon*. It was an interesting time for football. Women's football was getting traction. The discussions around racism in British football was palpable. It was becoming increasingly difficult to remove political conversations from the football forum.

On a personal level, my partner at the time was really into football. It made me realise how much I had missed. I had stopped engaging with it as a viewer and a player. How and when did this happen? Why have I never felt comfortable enough to go to a football match? How is it that I'm a proud Manc, in a city known for its brilliant football and yet I do not feel like I can be a part of this culture? When I tried to confront these ideas, I could not help but think about many of the unpleasant experiences I had experienced in public spaces with football fans. And thus, it was time. I knew what I wanted my next piece to be about.

I really enjoy writing about restrictions and taboos. So, when I was prompted to consider writing a piece that I could submit to *The Bruntwood Prize*

for *Playwriting*, 14% was it. I was quite proud that it got long-listed since it was only the second draft. My thoughts were still inchoate but what can you do? A deadline is a deadline. I was super appreciative of the feedback I received, and it spurred me on to continue getting support to develop it.

In 2020, Talawa provided me with a week of support with a director and a brilliant cast. We had so much fun researching and developing the piece. However, it also happened the day after the Euro Cup final when Rashford, Sancho and Saka missed their penalties. The tension in the air was undeniable. It became even more apparent to me how urgent and relevant this piece was.

I brought the piece with me to Contact when I started as the Artistic Director. I reached out to a fiery emerging producer, Cece, to take it to the presentation stage. It has been such a joy working with her and a supersonic creative team: Nathan Powell, Tom Leah and Alison Erika Forde to name a few.

Lauren Fitzpatrick, previous Contact

Young Company actor and multi-disciplinary performer is the lead. Some of you might have seen her on *Eastenders*. Others might have seen her throwing shapes at various festivals. She is a dream. I am honoured that she is playing the role of Nadia - a female footballer who is pregnant. As she sits on a train from London to Manchester, she is trapped with some football fans. The claustrophobic journey makes her confront her sense of Britishness. And more pressingly, how she can pass this on to her unborn child. As I mentioned, I like tackling big topics but in a fun way.

So, this piece is smelly. It's loud. It's active. Coming?

Keisha Thompson
Artistic Director/CEO, Contact

14% is on at Contact from 14-28 October
Book tickets at contactmcr.com

THE SAL

The Salutation is one of Manchester's most historic pubs - thriving right in the heart of the Oxford Road Corridor for over 200 years.

Filled to the brim with history, The Sal provides hearty food, fun and unique events, and an impressive range of craft beer, cider, soft drinks and spirits. Partnered with Bollington Brewing co, you'll find a relaxing space with vintage and homely décor and even a secret beer garden.

Currently, the pub lies in the centre of the Manchester Metropolitan University campus and, as of the last ten years, has been run by their Students' Union (although its doors are always open to everyone). The building dates back to as early as the 1820s; it has continued to serve students, locals and tourists over the years, providing a meeting place for societies and a space for friends to mingle. The Union works with the pub to host socials and events, giving the pub new life as it has become a hot spot for many students to relax and unwind.

The Sal's vast history has seen visitors from all walks of life, from famous writers to local comedians. English writer and poet Charlotte Brontë is best known for her passionate and celebrated novel 'Jane Eyre', which she began writing while staying on Boundary Street in 1846. You can find a historic blue

plaque detailing her visit on the exterior wall of The Sal.

In more recent years, legendary post-punk band The Fall used the pub to film a music video for their 2007 single Reformation. Featuring front man and vocalist Mark E. Smith, the video showcases the exterior of the historic building, as well as some shots across the first floor, which now operates as a large, bookable function space.

The pub has hosted comedian and musician Chris Sievey on several occasions. Sievey is best known for his comedic persona, Frank Sidebottom. The character's final performance at The Salutation was back in 2010, which you can track down on YouTube.

Like many places around Oxford Road, The Sal has been a champion of music. Today, the pub finds room for more niche, less expected sounds. Regular folk sessions are an opportunity to huddle around the fireplace for a hearty night of live folk music. Local musicians perform a range of traditional, warm, rhythmic and acoustic sets every Monday. There's no divide between the performers and the audience, creating a heart-warming, intimate evening.

Curated by the Performance Research Group at Manchester School of Art, *Bunker Talks* are a regular event at The Salutation. Each month, the talks create space for critical encounters, presentations, provocation and dialogue by inviting guest speakers from theatre, visual art, film making and more. It's a unique opportunity to learn about local people and industries by listening to their life experiences and stories of their practice first-hand.

Other regular nights at The Sal celebrate more unique yet wonderful genres of art and individuality. The first floor space is often used by students to host art exhibitions, film viewings, plays, choir performances and karaoke nights. Thursdays are for speed quizzing, where fun and laughter temper the friendly competition in a lively, classic pub atmosphere.

The pub is a local institution, from its historical past to its latest chapter as part of Manchester Metropolitan University's Students Union. The Sal is one of the most beautiful examples of a traditional pub, with its period features inside and out perfectly capturing something of Manchester's northern soul.



Castlefield Gallery

40 Years of the Future

NEXT YEAR CASTLEFIELD GALLERY WILL
CELEBRATE ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY AND
IS LOOKING TO ITS PAST IN ORDER TO
THINK ABOUT THE PRESENT, AND
WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD.

When Castlefield Gallery opened in 1984, it was the first dedicated contemporary art space in Manchester and only the second in the UK outside of London. The gallery was founded by MASA (Manchester Artists Studio Association): a group of former Manchester Polytechnic students who felt they weren't seeing the artists they wanted to in Manchester and decided to change that. They were also keen to support artists based in the North West region. For the last 39 years, we have been working with both artists based in the region and from the wider world in order to explore what it means to make the art of our time.

The first articles written about the gallery

acknowledge that contemporary art spaces can be daunting places to visit, but that knowledgeable, welcoming staff and a programme of talks and workshops could combat that. Today, we deliver a mixture of in person and online events, exhibitions and resources that offer audiences different ways to engage with what we do – and whenever you visit us you will still be greeted by someone

more than happy to talk about what we have on. In an article for *The Artful Reporter* curator Jill Morgan praised Sheila Seal (the first person to take on the role of 'Gallery Organiser') and other MASA members for having a work ethic that went against '...the romantic popular view of the artist as an isolated genius or a privileged amateur dabbler' (April, 1984). A sentiment still close to our hearts today. We believe the gallery is a place where people can come to experience the world differently, not escape from it.

Our ambition also continues to be for Manchester to be a place where artists can live and work and have international careers. This

sees us working closely with artists, often over long periods of time to support the development of their practice. This autumn, the gallery will be taken over by new sculptures, built in-situ, by Omid Asadi (Oct 15 2023 – Jan 21 2024), inspired by the struggle to find a sense of belonging in a fast changing world where his former family homes have been lost to both war and so-called development. Asadi is an

'Our ambition continues to be for Manchester to be a place where artists can live and work and have international careers'



artist we have worked with over several years, initially as a Manchester School of Art Mentee then through group exhibitions, events, academic research projects and art fairs, leading to this - his first major UK solo show.

To mark the 40th anniversary of the gallery's first exhibition (John Hoyland, *Recent Paintings*, March – April, 1984) we are excited to be welcoming back some of the large scale abstract paintings that exemplify the works shown in that first year of the gallery programme.

Including works by John Hoyland, Sarah Feinmann, Tricia Gillman and Gary Wragg, which will be shown alongside later works by those artists and four more painters who we have gotten to know more recently: Robin Megannity, Azraa Motala, Jamie Kirk and Katie Tomlinson. Whether you are a committed painting enthusiast or simply curious about what painting can do, this exhibition will deliver a rich dialogue around the past, present and future of painting. This dialogue also has wider implications for thinking about individual expression, the power of imagery and the politics of representation.

In the summer of next year, we will have a group show of work by Jeffrey Knopf (a former Salford Scholar: a graduate mentee scheme we run with the University of Salford), Theo Simpson and Hope Strickland (Jul – Sep 2024). A sculptor, a photographer and a film maker who are committed to their respective disciplines but also keen to work with them in expanded and none traditional ways. With 3D printed manipulated scans of ancient artefacts, materials that relate to the history of the British economy and landscape, archival footage and historic documentation these artists investigate our deep and complex relationships with the

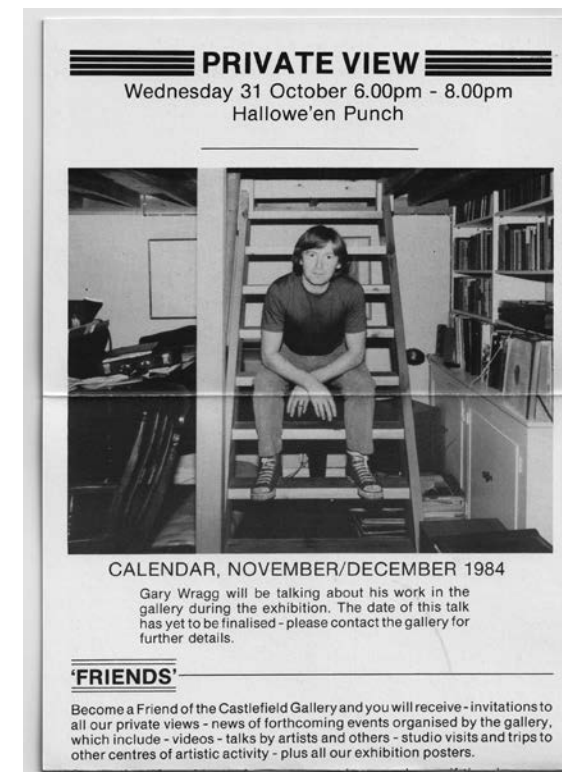
past, present and future. The exhibition will be an opportunity for us to acknowledge that history isn't the same for everyone; that amongst the artists we work with and the people that visit us, the past is felt and experienced differently.

Also in those first articles written about the gallery, there is repeated mention of the difficult political and financial context of the 1980s, which sounds disappointingly similar to the current situation.

In February next year, Rowland Hill will transform the gallery into an immersive nightclub-esque installation. Among other things this solo exhibition will reference Hill's love of 90's Euphoria and the strange sense of melancholy she finds, particularly in the lyrics, of that music genre. A sense of melancholy perhaps intensified by the hindsight of the intervening years. I remember the popular feeling in the 90s that we had arrived, that a much better more equal world was just around the corner. Whether deeply personal, overtly political or focused on more

material artistic development it is thanks to the artists I have worked with at Castlefield Gallery that I can no longer see that 90s belief without recognising the privilege and naivety that was part of it. However, if we are to get out of the political feedback loop of the present, we will need to rekindle some of that 90s spirit and the spirit MASA had a decade before, all be it informed by multiple other pasts and presents. Perhaps as we look back over the last 40 years, Castlefield Gallery and the work of those mentioned above is also a good place to start bringing about the future.

Matthew Pendergast
Curator and Deputy Director, Castlefield Gallery





PEPPERCORN RENT

A small but significant ceremony takes place between the Pankhurst Centre & Manchester University NHS Trust each year that reflects an important historic agreement between the two organisations.

Emmeline Pankhurst was born in Manchester, and she and her family lived at number 62 Nelson Street from 1898 until 1907. The first meeting of the movement that became known as the Suffragettes took place in the parlour of this house. Today, the house has been transformed into a museum where visitors can learn the story of women's fight for the right to vote.

The building sits in the Oxford Road Campus of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Europe's largest healthcare and research campus. Each year, the Pankhurst Centre pays a peppercorn rent in the form of a suffragette sash to its landlord. The ceremony has taken place for over 30 years, with a handmade sash in the iconic colours of the suffragette movement, white, purple and green, exchanged on each occasion.

This year's presentation was particularly poignant as it marked 120 years since the Women's Social and Political Union, which would become known as the Suffragettes, was founded. The sash was presented to the Chairman of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Kathy Cowell OBE DL, by the Chair of the Pankhurst Trust, Caroline Roberts-Cherry, and CEO of the Pankhurst Trust, Gail Heath.

The presentation occurred under the watchful eye of Emmeline Pankhurst's St Peter's Square statue. The sculpture was erected in 2018 and marked the 100th anniversary of the Representation of the People Act, in which some women first won the right to vote in Britain. That day, thousands marched down Oxford Road chanting 'deeds not words' as they made their way to the unveiling of Hazel Reeves' statue, *Rise up, women*.

'It was an honour as Chair of the Pankhurst Trust to hand over our rent, a suffragette sash, to our

landlord, MFT. It's always inspiring being in the presence of Emmeline's statue, and Kathy and I reflected on her bravery and vision', said Caroline Roberts-Cherry.

The peppercorn rent is a reflection of MFT's support for the Pankhurst Trust, which includes the two working together to develop a maintenance plan that will support the challenges faced in maintaining a Grade II* listed building and allow them to continue sharing the story of the Pankhurst family and inspire visitors to action.

'I'm very proud that our trust is home to the Pankhurst Centre, an institution built by women, for women, which has a tremendous historical legacy and continues vital work today', said Kathy Cowell. 'The sash represents an ever-constant call to equality – as women, we have come such a long way, but the journey is not yet complete; Emmeline is pointing off into the distance, as that is where we still need to go, ahead to full equality.'

Gail Heath added 'Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters set out to change the course of history, all from a small house in radical Manchester, the Pankhurst Centre. She would be proud to know that the activism she inspired continues to this day through our heritage and equalities work and our mission to end violence against women and girls through Manchester Women's Aid.'

The heritage centre is open to the general public from 11am until 4pm on Thursdays and Sundays. You can discover the home lives of Emmeline Pankhurst and her family and how Emmeline's experience of radical politics in Manchester led her to begin her fight for equality.

Autumn 2023

Autumn is a busy time around Oxford Road with a packed cultural calendar. We only have space to list just a handful of the best things to see and do, so we encourage you to discover more of the cultural offerings online.

The Bridgewater Hall is home to The Hallé, Manchester Camerata and BBC Philharmonic orchestras, and alongside RNCM, they host hundreds of concerts throughout the year. There are also lunchtime concerts at the venues and at the Martin Harris Centre.

Manchester is a UNESCO City of Literature, and Oxford Road sits at the centre of the lit community. Look out for events at Central Library, the International Anthony Burgess Foundation, Blackwell's Bookshop and Manchester Poetry Library.

Since HOME opened in 2015, they have welcomed four million visitors, and there are always events happening there, including the best line-up of independent and art house cinema in the city.

Follow us on socials and visit oxfordroadcorridor.com for the latest. Please double-check listings online before making a journey, as all events are subject to change.

Exhibitions

MIF23: ECONOMICS THE BLOCKBUSTER

The Whitworth
Until 23 Oct
A research and exhibition project, developed with Alliance Manchester Business School and Factory International.

(UN)DEFINING QUEER

The Whitworth
Until 26 Nov
(Un)Defining Queer delves into the Whitworth's collection to examine how we can use a queer lens to define what the term 'queer' means.

GOLDEN MUMMIES OF EGYPT

Manchester Museum
Until 31 Dec
Golden Mummies of Egypt, Manchester Museum's re-opening exhibition, is a one-of-a-kind cultural experience.

TRACES OF DISPLACEMENT

The Whitworth
Until 7 Jan '24
Traces of Displacement uses the Whitworth's collection to address one of the major humanitarian concerns – forced displacement.

MARKETING THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL

Central Library
Until 15 Jan '24
Marketing the Manchester Ship Canal showcases original publicity material and print adverts created as marketing for the Port of Manchester.

ALBRECHT DÜRER'S MATERIAL WORLD

The Whitworth
Until 10 Mar '24
The first major exhibition of the Whitworth's outstanding Dürer collection in over half a century featuring woodcuts, etchings, and engravings.

A TALE OF MANCHESTER LIFE

Elizabeth Gaskell's House
Until 4 Apr '24
Explore how the Victorian writer presented Manchester and its people through her novels and short stories, and the impact she had through her writing.

A FINE TOOTHED COMB CURATED BY LUBAINA HIMID

HOME
7 Oct – 7 Jan '24
New commissions by Turner Prize-winning artist Lubaina Himid as well as artists Magda Stawarska, Rebecca Chesney and Tracy Hill, *A Fine Toothed Comb* will centre on unearthing hidden layers within the city of Manchester.

MANCHESTER ART FAIR

Manchester Central
17–19 Nov
A curated mix of galleries and independent artists, blurring the boundaries between traditional and contemporary, creating a friendly, unpretentious and uniquely Northern art-buying experience.

OMID ASADI

Castlefield Gallery
25 Nov – 7 Apr '24
The first major UK solo exhibition by Omid Asad features new large scale sculptural work exploring loss, memory and belonging. See page 14.

MATERIAL POWER PALESTINIAN EMBROIDERY

The Whitworth
25 Nov – 7 Apr '24
Material Power explores the historical life and contemporary significance of Palestinian embroidered dress.

Stage

DUAL

HOME
4–5 Oct
One woman, two passports, and two names: Peyvand is British. Parisa is Iranian.

KATHY AND STELLA SOLVE A MURDER!

HOME
5–21 Oct
The hilarious comedy musical from the Olivier Award-winners behind *Fleabag*.

MANCHESTER LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Various
7–22 Oct
Hear from inspirational writers and artists including Zadie Smith, Thurston Moore and Jeremy Deller.

NEW DAWN FADES

RNCM
13–14 Oct
A new, re-energised, and vibrant staging of *New Dawn Fades: A Play About Joy Division and Manchester*.

14%

Contact
14–28 Oct
This tilting play will be a kick to the senses. Funny, frank and fragrant. See page 8.

TOXIC

HOME
18–28 Oct
Manchester 2016. In the middle of a hot and sweaty queer warehouse party, two damaged hearts collide.

AKRAM KHAN'S GISELLE

Palace Theatre
19–21 Oct
Giselle returns to the Palace Theatre, where it premièred as a Factory International trailblazer in 2016.

BROWN BOYS SWIM

Contact
25–28 Oct
Best friends Mohsen and Kash are gearing up for the biggest night of their lives – Jess Denver's pool party. There's just one problem...they can't swim.

HOT ORANGE

Contact
28–30 Oct
Hot Orange follows Amina and Tandeki as they navigate what it takes to sustain love and friendship beyond childhood idealism - and the moment you fall in love.

BEAUTIFUL THING

HOME
31 Oct–11 Nov
30th anniversary revival of Jonathan Harvey's iconic, coming-out and coming-of-age story set in the nineties.

MARK THOMAS IN ENGLAND & SON

HOME
31 Oct–4 Nov
A one-man play written specifically for the award-winning political comedian Mark Thomas by award-winning playwright Ed Edwards

HAMILTON

Palace Theatre
11 Nov – 24 Feb '24
Wait for it no longer, the multi award-winning masterpiece by Lin-Manuel Miranda finally comes to Manchester.

THIS KIND OF BLACK

HOME
15–18 Nov
A coming-of-age tale set in 1990s Moss Side, a stone's throw from conflict and violence.

TRUTH'S A DOG MUST TO KENNEL

Contact
16 Nov
In this extraordinary new solo work, Tim Crouch draws on ideas of virtual reality to send the character back to the wreckage of the world they left.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (1936)

HOME
28 Nov–2 Dec
Following a sell-out run in March, this hit production returns to Manchester.

LITTLE WOMEN

HOME
8–23 Dec
Anne-Marie Casey's adaptation of the classic story offers an exciting theatrical experience filled with laughter, tears, and a lifting of the spirits

CINDERELLA

Contact
9–31 Dec
eight-freestyle's panto returns with a girl-power spin on the rags-to-riches tale of *Cinderella*, and this time, they're teaming up with Contact Young Company.

THE SNOW MAIDEN: RIMSKY-KORSAKOV

RNCM
10–16 Dec
Sung in an English translation by Christopher Cowell, this well-known folklore tale tells of the mythical Snow Maiden and her desire to leave the icy grip of her parents, Father Frost and Mother Spring, to live amongst mortals in an isolated village.

Classical

BBC PHILHARMONIC BEETHOVEN’S FIFTH
Bridgewater Hall 7 Oct
JASDEEP SINGH DEGUN
RNCM 8 Oct
RICHARD GOODE
RNCM 10 Oct
BBC PHILHARMONIC ANNA THORVALDSOTTIR
The Bridgewater Hall 14 Oct
THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI: FILM SCREENING WITH LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT
RNCM 25 Oct
THE HALLÉ: THOMAS ADÈS CONDUCTS
The Bridgewater Hall 26 Oct
THE HALLÉ RUSH HOUR: PROKOFIEV AND DEBUSSY
The Bridgewater Hall 9 Nov
TERJE ISUNGSET ICE QUARTET
RNCM 10 Nov
BEETHOVEN FIVE SONATAS
RNCM 14 Nov
BBC PHILHARMONIC WITH SIR ANDREW DAVIS
The Bridgewater Hall 2 Dec
THE HALLÉ: JEFF MILLS
The Bridgewater Hall 7 Dec

Gigs

THE HOOSIERS
Gorilla 3 Oct
GANG OF FOUR
The Ritz 4 Oct
THE PSYCHOTIC MONKS
Canvas 6 Oct
METALHEADZ
Joshua Brooks 7 Oct
KING KRULE
Manchester Academy 7 Oct
ASH & THE SUBWAYS
The Ritz 10 Oct
KEG
Yes 12 Oct
LITTLE MAN TATE
The Ritz 13 Oct
HAIRCUT 100
The Ritz 18 Oct
WESTERMAN
Canvas 18 Oct
LARRY JUNE
Gorilla 20 Oct
BONNY DOON
Yes 21 Oct

PROTOMARTYR
Yes 23 Oct
JOHN CAROLL KIRBY
Yes 24 Oct
ALABAMA 3
The Ritz 25 Oct
STONEBWOY
Canvas 25 Oct
DREAM NAILS
Canvas 27 Oct
THE SHERLOCKS
Manchester Academy 27 Oct
DEADLETTER
Yes 27 Oct
WREST
Deaf Institute 28 Oct
YOUNG FATHERS
Manchester Academy 28 Oct
BAR ITALIA
Yes 31 Oct
SLOWDIVE
The Ritz 31 Oct
SOFIA KOURTESIS
Canvas 3 Nov

PERSONAL TRAINER
Deaf Institute 4 Nov
ODEL/ACTRIZ
Yes 4 Nov
BLEACH LAB
Canvas 4 Nov
TIGERCLUB
Gorilla 5 Nov
MEDIUM BUILD
Deaf Institute 6 Nov
SNÖÖPER
Yes 6 Nov
NORAH JONES
Bridgewater Hall 7 Nov
GOTTS STREET PARK
Yes 10 Nov
COREY TAYLOR
Manchester Academy 11 Nov
YOUTH LAGOON
Yes 13 Nov
THE GROGANS
Canvas 15 Nov
WILLIAM PRINCE
Deaf Institute 15 Nov

RATBOYS
Yes 16 Nov
BILLY STRINGS
Manchester Academy 17 Nov
BARRY CAN’T SWIM
Canvas 17 Nov
EMBRACE
Manchester Academy 18 Nov
JODY WISTERNOFF, BRAXTON & CARINA LAWRENCE B2B
Joshua Brooks 18 Nov
GONG + OZRIC TENTACLES
The Ritz 19 Nov
IDA MAE
Deaf Institute 21 Nov
M24
Canvas 23 Nov
YAZMIN LACEY
Yes 23 Nov
THIS IS THE KIT
Manchester Academy 24 Nov
GEORGIA
Canvas 25 Nov
SUNDARA KARMA
The Ritz 26 Nov

HOLLY WALKER
Yes 30 Nov
M60
Manchester Academy 2 Dec
STARSAILOR
The Ritz 1 Dec
DADI FREYR
Manchester Academy 5 Dec
GILLA BAND
Yes 5 Dec
GOGOL BORDELLO
Manchester Academy 6 Dec
CRYWANK
Canvas 7 Dec
FLYTE
Gorilla 9 Dec
YEAR’S END FESTIVAL
Various 9 Dec
FUN LOVIN’ CRIMINALS
The Ritz 10 Dec
TEN TONNES
Gorilla 13 Dec
THE VASELINES
Deaf Insitute 8 Jan ‘24

Oxford Road Corridor



Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)
Nemesis (The Great Fortune), c.1501
Photo: Michael Pollard

Albrecht Dürer's material world
The Whitworth
Until 10 Mar 2024

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