CAIRDE SLIGO ARTS FESTIVAL



JULY 6 - 13, 2024

cairdefestival.com

We are grateful for the generous support of funders, partners, sponsors & patrons

Principal Funders

Public funders

Collaborative Partners:

Blue Raincoat Theatre Company, Con Brio, Hamilton Gallery, Hawk's Well Theatre, Hazelwood House, Juniper Barn, The Model, The Nest, Sligo City Hall, Sligo Library, Sligo Traveller Support Group, Sligo Volunteer Centre, Temple House, Yeats Society Sligo, Irish Street Arts, Circus and Spectacle Network.

Corporate Partners

Business Sponsors

Brian Mullins Insurance
Image Framers
Rachel Murray Eyecare
Shells Cafe & Little Shop
Revert Design
Atlantic Dental Care
Thomas Connolly Sligo

Patrons

Cairde Orga

Eileen and Ray Monahan
John & Lisa Monahan
Louis McManus

Cairde Iontacha

Joe McGowan, Sligo Heritage
Ciaran, Louise & Luca McCauley
Terence Herron &
Kate MacDonagh

Cairde Deasa

Annemarie Conneely
Sally O'Donoghue
Karen Joyce & Joe Keyes
Kate Kenny
Ann Clinton
Deirdre Finnerty

Cairde

Caroline Forde
Deirdre O'Keeffe
Sebastian Spendrup
Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited
Lisa White
Lynn O'Connor

Brochure Image: Nicola Moran in Twisted Lane's *Prologue.* Image by Cian Flynn.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Cairde Sligo Arts Festival, our eight-day cultural adventure featuring world premieres of new artistic work across an eclectic feast of theatre, music, visual arts, circus, spectacle and discussion. We invite you to join us for magical experiences in unique locations, to participate in thought-provoking discussions, and to encounter extraordinary art in your every day. As always, our heartfelt appreciation goes to everyone who makes this festival possible; we couldn't do it without you.

FESTIVAL TEAM

Director: Tara McGowan
Administrator: Stéphanie Pawula
Production Managers: Barry McKinney, Maurice Power
Communications: Sustainable PR, Bowe Communications
Communications Co-ordinator: Cayla Williams
Design: Revert Design
Project Coordinators: Aaron Robinson, Hannah Dobson, Patrick Curley
Sound Engineers: Ray Duffy, Taf Hassam, Ray McAndrews, Danny Young
Cairde Visual Committee: Lizzie Kinsella, Bettina Seitz, Emma Stroude, Michael Wann & Steve Wickham
Production Crew: Terry Markey, Chan Kin, Anika Baarhs, Gillian NiChaisaide, Valli Schäfer, Pete Vamos

Volunteer Coordinators: Amy O'Hara, Sandy Porter
Festival Photographers / Film: Cian Flynn, Anna Leask, Peter Martin

Hereditas Facilitator & Curator: Seamus Nolan
Hereditas Research: Niamh Moriarty

Sincere thank you to the many volunteers who come on board and make the festival happen, and A Big Thank You to Dicky Gabel for many years as Park Fest Crew.

Board of Directors:
Chair Jennifer O'Donovan, Mark Garry, Niall Henry, Lucia Macari, Elske Rahill

How to Book

Through our website: cairdefestival.com
In person or on the phone through our box office partner:

HAWK'S WELL THEATRE

Hawk's Well Theatre
2 Temple St, Sligo, F91 EDE9
071 – 916 1518

Scan to Book

Make a Donation

We work year-round to deliver a world-class arts festival in Sligo & every donation helps us to create unique artistic experiences. We are a not-for-profit registered charity organisation. Thank you for your support.

Scan to Donate



The Woman in Yellow by Neil Jack Alphonsus, Cat and the Moon Award@ Cairde Visual 2023

CAIRDE VISUAL

Open Submission Exhibition

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July to Sat 31 Aug | Mon to Sat 10 am to 5pm
Official Opening at The Model, Sat 06 July | 4pm
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hamilton Gallery, Castle St

Cairde Visual makes a welcome return this year to the Hamilton Gallery, Sligo. Now in its 9th edition, this dynamic and vibrant open exhibition will feature a range of work from both Irish and international artists across all media. Cairde Visual is an artist-led initiative which has been founded and facilitated by Sligo-based artists.

Thank you to our selection panel, **Emma Stroude**, **Michael Wann** and **Steve Wickham**.

Thank you also to the following for their generous support through the provision of the following awards:

Hamilton Gallery: Solo or duo exhibition
The Model: Artist Residency Award

Thank you to our outgoing Cairde Visual Committee: Barra Cassidy, Cormac O'Leary, Marilin North, Lorna Watkins and Heidi Wickham



MODERN NATURE

Outdoor photography exhibition curated by Yvette Monahan featuring artists Sean Breithaupt, Robert Ellis, Stephen Gill and Miriam O'Connor

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 to Sat 31 Aug
Open All Day
Official opening The Model,
Sat 06 July, 4pm
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Rosses Point Village Green

Coney Island, Sat 06 July 11.30am to 2pm: Join the curator and artists for a walk and talk event on Coney Island which will feature a series of readings by the four photographers which reflect the themes and concepts explored in the exhibition.
See website for more details

This exhibition explores how **Modern Nature** is represented through photography today. It takes the late filmmaker, writer, gardener, artist and activist Derek Jarman's (1942- 1994) autobiographical canvas of the intermingling of art and life as its title and point of departure.

As Derek Jarman explained to the painter Maggi Hambling, his interests did not entirely square with those of a stately Victorian naturalist. *Ah, I understand completely*, she replied. *You've discovered modern nature*. Jarman wrote about the unlikely oasis he created in an unforgiving physical and psychological landscape.

Yvette has invited four photographers who explore notions of Modern Nature, including interrelated personal, political, scientific and psychological concerns.



JACK BUTLER YEATS

The Wandering Gaze / An Misló Swuner

In partnership with The Model. Curated by Dr. Julie Brazil

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July – Sept 28, Tues to Sat 11 am to 5pm
Official opening Sat 06 July, 4pm
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Model, The Mall Sligo

Image Credit: Jack B. Yeats, In Capel Street, Dublin, 1923. Collection Crawford Art Gallery, Cork. © Estate of Jack B. Yeats. All rights reserved, DACS London / IVARO Dublin 2024

The Wandering Gaze presents a collection of images relative to Travelling people in the work of Jack Butler Yeats. Highlighting Yeats' keen observations of diversity amongst nomadic groups within Irish society in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the exhibition includes sketchbook drawings, illustrated prints, watercolour and oil paintings.

The exhibition was developed with participants from the Sligo Traveller Support Group working with the writer and Traveller Culture Collections Development Officer in the National Museum, Oein DeBhairduin. Artworks are included from the Niland Collection the National Gallery of Ireland, Limerick City Gallery of Art, The Hugh Lane Gallery, The Crawford Museum, IMMA, the University of Galway and private collections. This exhibition is part of the Hereditas Project, a collaborative arts project led by artist Séamus Nolan in collaboration with Sligo Traveller Support Group and funded by The Arts Council of Ireland's Art: 2023 Centenary Programme. Research by Niamh Moriarty.



'Rest' Pigment on Hahnemuhle Photo Rag, by Leanne McDonagh 2011

BAFUSHIA

(a physically bound process of forward movement)

In partnership with The Model

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July – Sept 28, Tues to Sat, 11 am to 5pm
Official opening Sat 06 July, 4pm
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Model, The Mall Sligo

Participating artists: Chloe McDonagh, Dave McDonagh, Francesca Hutchinson, Leanne McDonagh, Phien O'Phien, Tommy Rhattigan and William Cauley.

This exhibition is part of the Hereditas Project funded by The Arts Council of Ireland's Art: 2023 Centenary Programme

Bafushia is a word from the Traveller Cant language that conveys a physically bound term of forward movement. The exhibition title arose while exploring Jack Butler Yeats's images of Travellers with Oein DeBhairduin and participants from the Sligo Traveller Support Group. Through collective interpretation, the word was translated from the Yeats drawing 'Telling the Cards' (1898), where it was written down. In this context, Bafushia could also be used as a word for divining the future, 'telling forward', and for seeking out and imagining what lies ahead.

The exhibition consists of contemporary artists who share heritage within the Travelling community. What is important about this selection of artists however is the relevance and criticality of the work that they make. A criticality that is simultaneously rooted in personal experience, but also advocates for the sharing of diverse knowledge, experience and reflection.



SINÉAD GLEESON

In conversation with Una Mannion on her debut novel **Hagstone**

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July | 6pm
Duration: 75 minutes
Admission: €12
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Yeats Building, Hyde Bridge

On a wild and rugged island cut off and isolated to some, artist Nell feels the island is her home. It is the source of inspiration for her art, rooted in landscape, folklore and the feminine. The mysterious Inions, a commune of women who have travelled there from all over the world, consider it a place of refuge and safety, of solace in nature. One day, a letter arrives at Nell's door from the reclusive Inions who invite Nell into the commune for a commission to produce a magnificent art piece to celebrate their long history. In its creation, Nell will discover things about the community and about herself that will challenge everything she thought she knew.
Beautifully written, prescient and eerily haunting, **Sinéad Gleeson's** fiction debut takes in the darker side of human nature and the mysteries of faith and the natural world.

Sínead joins us in conversation with Una Mannion to discuss her haunting debut novel, *Hagstone*, published in April 2024.



FELIP CARBONELL'S RUMBA EXPERIENCE

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July | 8pm
Duration: 90 minutes (plus break)
Admission: €16 (€25 with entrance to Model Late Night)
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hawk's Well Theatre, Temple St.

Felip Carbonell's Rumba Experience is a lively music show suitable for all ages and conducive to spontaneous dancing. The music performed is mainly Catalan Rumba, a musical style created and developed by the Catalan Gypsy Community in Barcelona City at the beginning of the 1960s. The show also includes musical incursions into other Latin music styles from Spain, the Spanish-speaking part of the Caribbean and other parts of South America.

The band's line-up includes some of the most experienced and talented musicians in the region: **Eddie McFarlane** on guitar, **Eddie Lynch** on keyboard, **Eddie Lee** on bass, **Ken McDonald** on percussion, **Paula Riera** on vocals and **Felip Carbonell** on guitar and vocals. They will make sure the audience leaves the venue with a big smile. The songs are sung in Spanish and Catalan but the high tempo rhythms will make you forget about language barriers and will transport you to a Mediterranean holiday for a couple of hours.



RÍOGHNACH CONNOLLY & HONEYFEET

Followed by DJ Will Softly - In partnership with the Model Late Nights

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 06 July | 10pm
Duration: 4 hours
Admission: €16 (€25 with entrance to Felip Carbonnell)
Age Suitability: 18+
Venue: The Model, The Mall

BBC Radio 2 Folk Singer of the Year, **Ríoghnach Connolly's** taste for musical adventure is eclectic.

Along with her companion players, **Honeyfeet**, they collectively drive a broad terrain of musical textures from esoteric protest songs to foot-tapping and floor-thumping dance rhythms – some call their sound a mash-up between folk hop and barrelhouse pop.

Armagh-born Connolly draws from a breadth of styles and folk traditions across the world. In her voice, you can hear Sean-nós, west African griot ululation and American deep-south resonance. Honeyfeet's heavy sound spans from the bountiful to the subtle, with everything from big-band swing to Alabama blues-tinged folk.

Alongside Ríoghnach, the Honeyfeet lineup is **Lorien Garth Edwards**, bass; **Ellis Davies**, guitar; **John Ellis**, keyboards; **Biff Roxby**, brass; and **Phil Howley**, drums.



CAIRDE IN THE PARK

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sun 07 July | 1 to 6pm
Duration: 5 hours
Admission: Free (Donations welcome)
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Peace Park, Entrance through The Lungy or Cathedral Car Park

Join us in Sligo's Peace Park for a fun-filled day of circus, music, interactive games and workshops. Delight in breathtaking doubles trapeze, aerial arts and duo acrobatics with **Doris & Mabel's Book Club** by **Sanita Circus**, or revel in the one-man, multi-skilled, multi-character carnival of craziness of **Cabaret Uno!** Explore the theme of Joy with Púca Puppets! Make simple colourful puppets and devise together how they might dance and fly through the park.

Enjoy musical performances by the **Dollys and Dukes Uke Super Group, Noteorious 4 Barbershop Quartet, Stephen O'Dowd** and **Aremoja Drummers & Dancers**. We're also delighted to welcome back **Will Softly's** famous One World Disco for kids! Sample the selection of delicious locally produced food and refreshments on offer, or browse our flea market stall. There is so much to do, so bring your friends, your picnic blanket and a readiness to have a wonderful day out!



CLAUDIA SCHWAB

Went To Walk ALBUM LAUNCH

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sun 07 July | 7pm
Duration: 70 minutes
Admission: €16
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Methodist Church, Wine St., Sligo

Join Sligo-based Austrian violinist, singer, yodeller and composer **Claudia Schwab** for an intimate solo setup of violin, vocals, piano and loops.

Born out of solitary forest, seaside and mountain dwellings during lockdown, the album marks a return to the origins of Claudia's composing practices: a world of sound that she could create and retreat to entirely on her own. Never shy of crossing borders between genres, traditions and conventions, this introspective body of folk-inspired songs with experimental elements tells of unfinished love stories, the yearning to be left alone, or diverse 'what if' scenarios of re-crafting our lifestyles.

Claudia has produced two solo CDs: Amber Sands (2014) and Attic Mornings (2017). She was commissioned to write for the National Concert Hall in collaboration with Sounding the Feminists in 2019 and was awarded a Next Generation Bursary Award from the Irish Arts Council (2019).



TWISTED LANE

Prologue

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Sun 07 July | 9:30pm
Mon 08 July | 9:30pm
Duration: 75 minutes
Admission: €16 / €12 /
Group of 4 €50
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Temple House Estate, Sligo

The performance takes place outdoors in a forested area at dusk with low lighting. Pathways are uneven and muddy in places. There is one set of steps (which can be avoided). Please contact us if you have any questions about your specific accessibility needs.

Prologue is an outdoor immersive performance.

A circus is rumoured to appear in the forest on the outskirts of town every year. No one knows exactly who they are or where they come from. Enter the forest as darkness starts to fall to find out if they arrive this year.

Prologue invites the audience to become voyeurs to the backstage world of a travelling circus. The audience are autonomous to choose their own path through the circus encampment, by following characters and exploring spaces they will discover more than the performance of the circus, they will uncover the stories of the people who live in this world.

Prologue explores ideas of the connection between circus and landscape, of community, transience and temporality.



CABARET UNO

Rural Tour of Sligo

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Mon, July 8, 3pm | Mullaghmore Green
Tues July 9, 3pm | Rosses Point Village Green
Thurs July 11, 3pm & 10pm | Ballymote Castle
Fri 12 July, 3pm | Strandhill Celtic
Duration: 40 minutes
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages

Step into the wonderful world of **Cabaret UNO**. A one-man multi-skilled, multi-character carnival of craziness.

An amazing array of acts, incredible images and surprises await you. Watch in wonder and guffaw as a performer in a cage-like cubic structure, performs feats and follies like a badly trained circus monkey.

A tour de force of comedy and circus with plenty of sequence! Cabaret UNO is a fast-paced yet intimate, life-affirming experience. A show like you have never seen before!



JOHN WALSH

Ireland's leading Flamenco Guitarist

In partnership with Con Brio

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Mon 08 July | 6pm
(Post-concert Dinner from 7.30pm (optional)
Duration: 60 minutes
Admission:
Concert Ticket €16
Concert + Dinner €55
Age Suitability: 16+
Venue: Markree Castle

A journey through the world of the Flamenco guitar, the concert will feature original Flamenco music by **John Walsh** from his 2020 album 'Irlandalucía' as well as arrangements from his recent tour of Ballet Ireland's 'Carmen' and a tribute to the late Maestro Paco de Lucía.

Cairde is delighted to team up with Markree Castle to offer a special 3-course post-concert dinner for audiences. You have the choice to buy concert-only tickets or concert + dinner tickets. Dinner tickets are limited, so reserve yours early!

John Walsh is Ireland's leading Flamenco Guitarist. For the last 14 years, John has been at the forefront of Flamenco in Ireland as a performer, composer and educator. He has been featured on National television & radio and composed music for the National Ballet of Ireland and Riverdance amongst others.



GAMMY

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Mon 08 July | 8pm
Tue 09 July | 8pm
Duration: 70 minutes
Admission: €16
Age Suitability: 16+
Venue: The Factory Performance space, Lower Quay St.

GAMMY is stuck. GAMMY never grew up. GAMMY got left behind.

All puppy fat, pimples and missing teeth at 31. Working in the same old shop. Today is different, today something is finally going to happen.

A tragicomedy, GAMMY is a visceral rural Irish portrait of lost potential, raw and fearless in its excavation of generational trauma, inexpression and female rage.

Written by: Kate Finegan
Directed by: Laura Sheeran
Script Dramaturg: Wayne Jordan
Performed by: Eimear Keating
Lighting and Set Design: Zia Bergin Holly
Original Music and Sound Design: Laura Sheeran



DEE ARMSTRONG

With Diarmuid and Lughaidh Armstrong Mayock

EVENT DETAILS

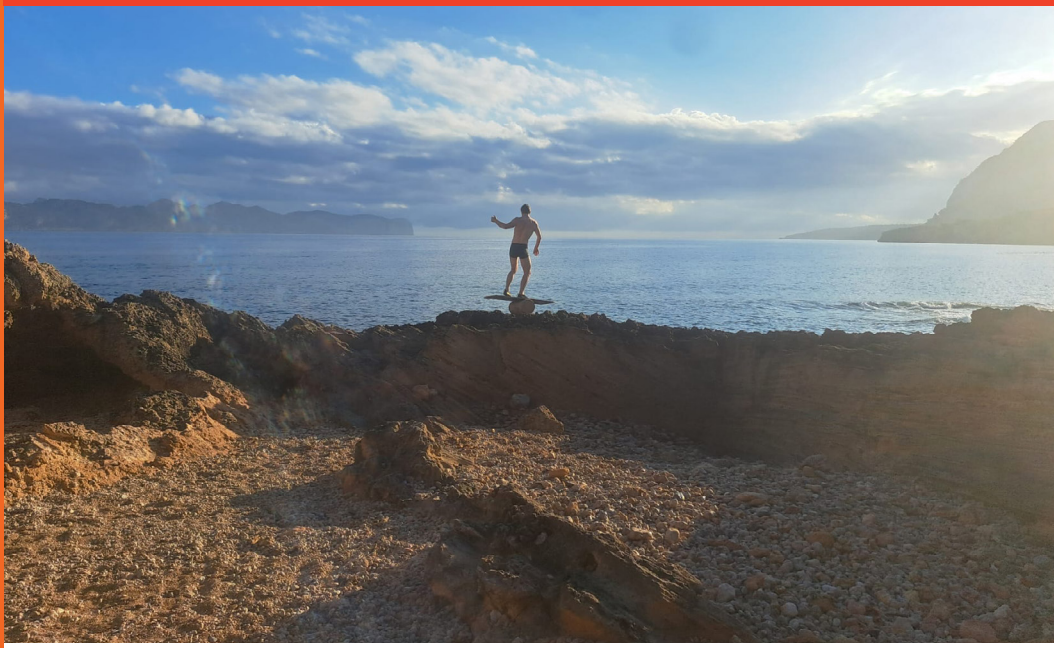
Times + Dates:
Tues 09 July, 9.30pm
Duration: 90 minutes + break
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: 18+
Venues: Thomas Connolly Bar

Dee Armstrong is a fiddle player and composer with a long career as a key member of Kíla, a solo artist, and a collaborator. She has composed music for TV and film, notably for Cartoon Saloon's Song of the Sea and Wolf Walkers. Dee plans to release her mastered solo album later this year.

Diarmuid Armstrong Mayock is a professional contemporary dancer who has performed with Irish Modern Dance Theatre, Liz Roche Company, and Attic Projects. He created his first full-length dance theatre performance, Texture Like Sun, for Dublin Fringe 2023. Diarmuid also plays the 5-string banjo.

Lughaidh Armstrong Mayock graduated with first-class honours in Music from BIMM. He is a musician, songwriter, composer, and teacher, and a founding member of Sky Atlas, where he is the lead guitarist and singer.

Experience the rare and beautiful opportunity to hear Dee and her sons Diarmuid and Lughaidh play music together.



KÜß (KISS)

Zirkus Morsa

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Wed 10 July | 8am
Thurs 11 July | 7pm
Duration: 35 minutes
Admission: €15 (under 18s €12)
group of 4 €50
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Streedagh Beach

A panoramic view by the sea facing the horizon.

A classical piano soundtrack.

A man appears from the water with a board; a raft, some form of primitive luggage?

Curious, nimble, comical, innocent; the man takes his first steps on new ground. But he will soon go on and leave the place exactly as he has found it. A stretch of coastland, the same as it was a thousand years ago.
A performance featuring circus, dance and clown.

KÜS is created by **Moritz Böhm** and **Ophélie Gateau** and performed by Moritz Böhm for the circus company **Zirkus Morsa.**



OEIN DEBHAIRDUIN

The Slug & the Snail and other Traveller tales

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Tue 09 July | 3.00pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Sligo Library, Stephen St.

Award-winning author **Oein DeBhairduin** illustrated a short story about self-acceptance and pride from a member of the Irish Traveller nomadic ethnic minority. Drawn from the Irish Traveller oral storytelling tradition, DeBhairduin's tale, The Slug & the Snail, is a gentle allegory about difference, self-acceptance and different ways of seeing the world. This inclusive, heartening short story has won Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week, Book Trust Book of the Month and Book Trust Northern Ireland Book of the day.

Oein DeBhairduin is a writer, activist and educator with a passion for preserving the beauty of Traveller tales, sayings, retellings and historic exchanges. He is the Traveller Culture Collections Development Officer with the National Museum of Ireland and seeks to pair community activism with cultural celebration, recalling old tales with fresh modern connections and, most of all, he wishes to rekindle the hearth fires of a shared kinship.

MOONSTRUCK / LE GEALAÍ

Join us for a special poetry and film event to celebrate July's approaching Mead Moon, also known in Celtic folklore as Claiming Moon or Herb Moon. New moons were once linked to the rabbit and the hare, as both symbols of fertility and rebirth, though a person who falls asleep under a new moon may become '**Moonstruck!**'

This event showcases works-in-progress by filmmaker **Laura Sheeran** and poet **Annemarie Ní Churreáin**, in discussion with **Dani Gill**, Director of The Lighthouse Project, drawing on inspiration from magical creatures, myths, rituals and time-travel stories of Coney Island.

EVENT DETAILS
Times + Dates: Wed July 10 | 6pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: €12
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: National Surf Centre, Strandhill



GREENBIRDFLYING

Immerse yourself in an afternoon of music and poetry with alt-folk trio **GreenBirdFlying** and Sligo poet **Mary Branley.**

The concert is a unique opportunity to experience the results of their ongoing collaboration, featuring original songs and spoken word backed by melodic soundscapes with **Cliodhna Quinlan** (fiddle and vocals), **Mark Murphy** (piano, guitar and mandolin), **Mandi Frankham** (lead vocals) and **Mary Branley** (poetry).

EVENT DETAILS
Times + Dates: Wed July 10 | 1pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hawk's Well Theatre, Temple St.





JOAN CATALÁ

Idiófona

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Wed 10 July | 7pm
Thurs 11 July | 7pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: €15 (under 18s €12)
group of 4 €50
Age Suitability: 10+
Venue: Hazelwood House

An original, joyous and inventive new work of street theatre by award winning Catalan street theatre creator, **Joan Català.**

Idiofòna centres on the use of 30 iron tubes. **Joán Catala** works with these tubes to engage the audience in a series of playful exercises which eventually leads to the audience running together *'into the future'.* Here the audience jointly create a giant visual sound installation, setting the scene for a conversation between man and matter.

A perambulatory piece of street theatre which breaks down barriers and offers an opportunity to co-create a highly memorable, entertaining experience and be a part of something which is thoughtful, intelligent and fun.

Idiofòna is an attempt to make light of toughness, to find harmony amidst noise and to build a common vibration. It is an ode to the pleasure of shared experience.



CLUBLANDIA

An inclusive and accessible club night for adults

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Wed 10 July | 7pm
Duration: 3 hours
Admission: €8
Age Suitability: 18+
Venue: The Garavogue Bar, The Weir

Clublandia is Sligo's fully inclusive night club which takes place quarterly and is run by **Sligo Centre for Independent Living and Good Times**.

Embracing the trend of an early night out, Clublandia allows you to have a brilliant evening on the dance floor and still be tucked into bed nice and early!

Cairde Sligo Arts Festival is delighted to collaborate with Clublandia to present a special festival edition. Get ready for a night of high-energy disco-funk, dance extravaganza, with smatterings of pop and rock, from the 70s right through to the present day with live band **The MASS band** & **DJ Doolittle** with extra fun on the night through walkabout acts and **Amy's Amazing Dress Up Booth.**



AROUND HERE, THE BIRDS PLANT THE TREES

New work by Natalia Beylis

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Wed 10 July | 8pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: €16
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: The Factory Performance Space, Lower Quay St.

As a musician, **Natalia Beylis** revolves somewhere between a sonic storyteller and a multi-instrumental explorer. Her solo compositions and improvisations are a unique calling of a Ukrainian-born, American-raised, Irish-settled subconscious.

The latest composition by Natalia, **'Around Here, The Birds Plant The Trees,'** began with five musicians gathered together within a field to listen -- to the creatures rustling in the undergrowth, to the wind making the oak leaves dance, to the lone distant curlew and themselves; their breathing, their heartbeats and their place within it all. We invite the audience to join us at this starting point and to explore the past, present and possible futures of a single field.

Featuring: **Tóla Custy** Fiddle, **Ultan O'Brien** Viola, **Eimear Reidy** Cello, **Willie Stewart** Percussion, **Natalia Beylis** Live Sound Collage and Objects.



MAKING WAVES

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Wed 10 July 9.30 to 12.30pm
Duration: 180 minutes
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: 18+
Venue: Swagman Bar, Wine St.

Making Waves began as an annual DJ party on International Women's Day and evolved into a collective of womxn and underrepresented DJs and selectors in Sligo since 2023.

Founded by Edel Doherty of Spilt Milk Festival and Vera Schliebitz, co-founder of Fulacht Fiadh Cafe, the collective gained support from peers and organisers, fostering a vibrant music and DJ scene in Sligo. This community spirit has sparked various DJ nights, providing a platform for music lovers and selectors of all experience levels. Making Waves promotes inclusion, encouragement and a love of music.

DJ V: Expect an audio odyssey of rare grooves and global sounds to get your body moving.
DJ-G: Bass loving Sligo native DJ-G will be taking us East and tribal for her set.
LoveSmoke: Kaya Sky (Sligo) and Misha Joe (Glasgow) explore an array of genres including Afro-Tech/House, Deep House and Disco Funk.



WANDERING VOICES

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Thurs 11 July | 1pm / 2pm / 3pm / 4pm / 5pm
Duration: Each Act is 30 minutes
Admission: €8 per act or €20 for 5 acts
Age Suitability: 18+
Venue: Various - see website for details

Wandering Voices is a trail of short performances taking place in 5 different locations with 10 different artists from around the island and close to home. Connected by the theme of Mythos and Movement, co-curators Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan and Patrick Curley have assembled a diverse group of artists across poetry, music, and cabaret who explore the theme in a short series of Acts. Each Act features two artists, is approximately 30 minutes long and will take place in different venues. Audiences can dip in and out of the trail or attend all 5 performances and be rewarded at the end with a Cairde goodie tote bag!

Wandering Voices presents the following artists
1pm Rebecca Massey & Ayehsa
2pm Ikenna & Taf Hassam
3pm Osaro & Mataplumas
4pm Chandrika Narayana Mohan & Diarmuid MacDiarmada
5pm Tara Baoth Mooney & Jess Kav
Please see our website for venue details and map.



LIBRARIES & LIBERTIES

Rehearsed reading of new work in progress

by Dr. Rosaleen McDonagh

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Thurs 11 July | 6pm
Duration: 70 minutes (30 minute reading followed by Q & A)
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: 14+
Venue: Sligo Library, Stephen St.

With **Joshua Donoghue** and **Aisling Mannion**
Directed by **Fiona McGeown**
Part of the Hereditas Project funded by the **Arts Council of Ireland's Art:2023 Arts Participation Award**

The tormented protagonist, James, cradles a genuine desire to ignite the library. His internal strife, marked by alienation and disenchantment, fuels a visceral hatred within him. Women spurn him. Leftist politics fails to captivate him. Trans people challenge him. The queer community are happier than him. Foreigners have more than him. The resilient librarian Helen stands sentinel over knowledge, freedom, and enlightenment. Her apprehension of James' demand for book censorship becomes pivotal in this unfolding drama. Initially, her attraction to James held promise, but his anger and demands evoke echoes of the book burnings of 1939 in Berlin. Helen finds herself at the epicentre of an escalating inferno, entwined with passion and far-right fascism.

Followed by an In Conversation with **Dr. Rosaleen McDonagh** hosted by academic, researcher and lecturer in social care at ATU Letterkenny **David Friel.**



TRASH TEST DUMMIES

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Thurs 11 July | 7pm
Duration: 45 minutes
Admission: €15/€10 u18s
€45 for four tickets
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hawk's Well Theatre, Temple St.

★★★★
"An hour of pure thrilling entertainment"
-Sunday Mail Edinburgh

Winners of the best Children's presentation at the Adelaide Fringe Festival 2015 and 2016, and runners up for Children's Choice Award Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2016, the **Trash Test Dummies** are as full of laughs as their bins are full of surprises. This "delightfully intelligent, highly entertaining" (Herald Sun) family adventure takes the humble household wheelie bin to new heights.

Everyone put your bins out, tonight's bin night and the Trash Test Dummies are on duty. With side-splitting slap-stick comedy, daring acrobatics and dexterous juggling these Dummies are off on an imaginative adventure that is anything but garbage. With ballet and balloons thrown in for good measure, this fast-paced hour of "adept unadulterated mischief" (The Times) delivers a dump truck full of hilarity!

Dummies Corp are the Australian leaders in circus-comedy, recognized globally for creations of quality that are intelligent, theatrical and inventive.



ADANIA SHIBLI

In conversation with Louise Kennedy

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Thurs 11 July | 8pm
Duration: 75 minutes
Admission: €12
Age Suitability: 16+
Venue: The Clayton Hotel (Pegasus Room)

Adania Shibli is a Palestinian author and essayist. Her third novel, "*Minor Detail*," translated by Elisabeth Jaquette, was published by Fitzcarraldo in 2020 and was longlisted for the 2021 International Booker Prize. It is a searing, beautiful novel meditating on war, violence, memory, and the sufferings of the Palestinian people and has been lauded as "a work of undeniable political urgency" (Stinging Fly), ".. an astonishing, major book" (John Freeman, Lithub) and "a sophisticated, oblique novel about empathy and the urge to right wrongs" (Anthony Cummins, Observer).

Adania will be in conversation with award-winning Sligo-based writer **Louise Kennedy**.



PETER BRODERICK

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Thurs 11 July | 8pm
Duration: 60 minutes
Admission: €14
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Abhainn Studio, Enniscrone

Come along for an unforgettable evening as **Peter Broderick** takes centre stage for an intimate solo performance set in a unique space. Renowned for keeping audiences on their toes, Broderick's shows are a delightful blend of surprise and skill. From solo piano pieces to mesmerising singer-songwriter compositions, his multi-instrumentalist palette includes guitar, fiddle, voice, keyboards and even musical saws.

Raised in Oregon, USA, Broderick's musical journey began at the age of seven. With a drive to cultivate a sense of wonder towards music, he continually explores new avenues of expression. Prepare to be enchanted by sound and leave his performance with a full heart and a twinkle in your eyes.



KING | SHRINE

Emma Martin / United Fall

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Fri 12 July 6pm
Sat 13 July 3pm and 8pm
Duration: 40 minutes
Admission: €18 / U. 18 €12
Age Suitability: 12+
Venue: The Factory Performance Space, Lower Quay St.

SHRINE acts as a grotto-like space, comprising a room size installation of sculpture, light and sound and is available to view **Fri 2 to 4pm and Sat 12 to 2pm**

KING | SHRINE is an immersive performance-installation work by acclaimed choreographer **Emma Martin** that evokes a shrine-like space with sculpture, light, sound and a highly physical dance performed by Mufutau Yusuf accompanied by a live soundscape by Mick Donohoe, aka T-WOC. Performed to great acclaim at the Dublin Dance Festival and VISUAL in 2023, KING | SHRINE was conceived as a ceremony for the end of the world as we know it, asking audiences to reflect on the current chaos of our world whilst being present in the simple act of gathering and dancing. This piece is part of a larger project by Martin entitled **Dark Days Need Ceremony**, a work about 'endings and new beginnings.'

Created by Emma Martin in collaboration with:
Dancer: Mufutau Yusuf (Junior) | **Music and Sound:** Mick Donohoe | **Light and Visual Design Conception:** Katie Davenport, Stephen Dodd, Emma Martin. | **Text:** Emma Martin with some contributions from Wayne Jordan | **Voice:** Hilary Woods



UNVEILED

In partnership with Hawk's Well Theatre

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Fri 12 July | 7pm
Duration: 120 minutes (with break)
Admission: €12
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hawk's Well Theatre, Temple St.

A unique opportunity to see four brand-new performances across different artistic disciplines:

Barbarian by Bob Kelly and Diarmuid Armstrong. Set in a rural Garda Barracks, the performance delves into themes of masculinity, family and authority and promises a rich fusion of contemporary dance and physical theater.

Wonderhorse by Miriam Needham is a play inspired by the true story of Clever Hans, a horse who lived in Berlin in the early 1900s and became famous for his apparent ability to perform mathematical equations.

Through Our Eyes by Charmaine Matonsi and Wasekera Sekerani explores personal experiences of leaving home and the familiar to make a fresh start in a new country.

One Hundred Thousand Years by Ashton is a vertical dance-theatre work exploring land and time. We travel from a tiny snail in the crevice of an ancient cliff to the birthplace of stars in an unfathomable nebula via an existential crisis in the ham aisle of Lidl.



NEW JACKSON LIVE & DJ SET

With Turn It On, Stephen James Smith & Vixens Nouveau

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Fri 12 July | 8pm to 1 am
Duration: 5 hours
Admission: €28
Age Suitability: +18
Venue: Juniper Barn, Ballymote

Don't miss this evening of music, creativity and stunning surroundings with Irish sonic innovator **New Jackson**, who will share a live performance followed by a late-night DJ set at the beautiful escape of Juniper Barn.

New Jackson, the performance alias of Irish musician **David Kitt**, produces an anything-goes electronic sound driven by a hardware-obsessed vision of rhythm further clarified by his unrivalled songwriter's nous, impassioned love of ecstatic dance music and adventurous experimentation in the studio.

Joining New Jackson are Sligo vinyl DJs **Turn It On**, aerial fire performers **Vixen's Nouveau** and acclaimed poet **Stephen James Smith**. Prepare for an evening of electronic music, eclectic tunes, mesmerising fire spectacles and spoken word. GG's Food Truck will be on site to keep the energies up!



BIG CHEEKS

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Fri July 12 | 9:30pm
Duration: 3 hours
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: + 18
Venue: Furey's Pub, Bridge St.

BIG CHEEKS is a Rwandan DJ based in Dublin, Ireland, who brings an infectious energy to any event with groovy and body-shaking selections from Afrobeats to R&B, Hip-hop, Dancehall, Balie Funk, Amapiano and much more.

Previously, she has played at Beyond the Pale, All Together Now, Electric Picnic and The Museum of Literature (moli) summer garden party. You can find her at Yamamori Tengu, where she plays sporadically, at Lucky's bar, and at endless parties, big and small.



BRRR BRRR BRRR

Vintage record + tape fair

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 13 July | 2–6pm
Duration: 4 hours
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Yeats Building (outdoor café area), Hyde Bridge

BRRR BRRR BRRR serves an afternoon of all things music: live DJs, original pressings, and second-hand deals, all celebrating independent record shops, labels, and producers on the island of Ireland.

Expect buckets of music (records, CDs, tapes), special guest DJs and bargains galore!



The Shadowman, Mixed Media & Glass Globe by Rebecca Massey

ARD VOLTAS WORKSHOPS

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Fri 12 July | 3pm
DJ Workshop 12 to 3pm
Sound Workshop 3.30 to 5.30
Duration: Various
Admission: DJ Workshop €8
Sound Workshop €8
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Ard Voltas Art Space, Clancy's Yard, off main street, Ballisodare

12.00 - 15.00: DJ Workshop with DJ collective Making Waves.

Learn the basics of how to DJ using vinyl or digital decks in an inclusive and friendly atmosphere with DJs and co-founders of the Making Waves collective: Edel Doherty And Vera Schliebitz

15.30 - 17.30: Join an experimental sound workshop with Diarmuid MacDiarmada. Bring small instruments, noise-makers or just your voice and limbs and explore the nature of sound and fun ways to organize it. This workshop will culminate in an improvising DIY orchestra jamming with an experimental DJ set from Diarmuid. It should be rambunctious.

ArdVoltas is an artist-led studio space in Clancy's Yard, off main street, Ballisodare.



THE AIR BETWEEN US

Chloe Loftus & Rodney Bell

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates:
Fri 12 July | 3pm
Sat 13 July | 3pm & 9pm
Duration: 25 minutes
Admission: Free
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Queen Maeve Square, Stephen St., Sligo

Aerial masterclass with Chloe Loftus and Rodney Bell
Supported by ISACS
See website for details

An inimitable and mesmerising duet, spiralling into the air, harnessing their differences and strengths into dance.

The Air Between Us is a joyful aerial collaboration created and performed by acclaimed dancer and choreographer **Chloe Loftus** and award-winning Māori dance artist **Rodney Bell**, who performs in his wheelchair. Arriving at this point in time from diverse backgrounds and life experiences, they explore our innate capacity to exist in symbiotic harmony, with each other and our environment.

Using a unique counterweighted system, this extraordinary dance soars above and captivates your imagination.

The duo have been touring *The Air Between Us* to international acclaim, including New Zealand, Sydney, Seoul, Cardiff and London.



BOUBACAR TRAORÉ

The Godfather of popular Malian music

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 13 July | 8pm
Duration: 90 minutes + break
Age Suitability: 12+
Admission: €25 / €12.50 Under 18s with Music Generation Sligo
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Hawk's Well Theatre, Temple St.

Since the passing of the godfathers of Malian blues, Ali Farka Touré and Lobi Traoré, Boubacar 'Karkar' Traoré has emerged as the torchbearer of the genre. With a deep, husky voice suffused with nostalgia, Karkar stands as a testament to this rich tradition.

While his music is often categorized as blues in Europe, his unique, inimitable guitar technique draws inspiration from his native roots, particularly the kora, a 21-string harp-flute. In his melodies, the Niger and Mississippi seem to converge, intertwining the blues legacy of the southern United States, reminiscent of Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, and Blind Willie McTell, with the essence of Malian traditional music.

Boubacar Traoré – guitar, vocals
Vincent Bucher – harmonica
Jérémie Diarra – percussion



MAEVE, WARRIOR QUEEN

A Community Celebratory Procession

EVENT DETAILS

Times + Dates: Sat 13 July | 10pm
Duration: 60 minutes
Admission: FREE
Age Suitability: All Ages
Venue: Starting outside Sligo City Hall, moving into Queen Maeve Square

Join us to celebrate Sligo communities, our new civic space and the heritage of our ancestral Queen of Connacht, Queen Maeve. Cairde has brought together artists **Dee Armstrong**, **Ben Lucent**, **Hannah Dobson** and **Niamh O'Brien** to work with youth groups from **Cranmore Community Co-op**, **County Sligo Youth Theatre** and other youth groups who will be joined by **Community Samba Drummers** and **Aremoja Drummers and Dancers** to create a celebratory procession along our river into Queen Maeve Square, culminating in a fire and aerial performance by newly formed spectacle company, **VolkiDána**.

The procession will start outside Sligo City Hall at 10pm
With Funding from Creative Ireland, Sligo.

Join us afterwards for a closing party with **DJ Mick T Woc** in Swagman Bar.



JUMPSTART RESIDENCY

Ashton is our JumpStart artist in residence for 2023 /24.

Jumpstart is a two-year artistic and sectoral mentoring programme for an aerial artist in partnership with Earagail Arts Festival, Irish Aerial Dance Festival and Irish Street Arts Circus and Spectacle Network. Funded by the Arts Council of Ireland.



IRIS INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE RESIDENCY

Rob Heaslip and Kristyn Fontanella

A new international residency project in partnership with Earagail Arts Festival, FiraTàrrega and the Irish Street Arts, Circus and Spectacle (ISACS) Network supported by the Arts Council of Ireland's International Residency Investment Scheme. Focussing on creating work in outdoor spaces, artists Rob Heaslip and Kristyn Fontanella will be working with Catalan artists Joan Català and Kamchatka in an international exchange taking place in Tàrrega, Sligo, and Donegal in 2024.



HEREDITAS RESIDENCY

In partnership with The Model, Visual Artist Francesca Hutchinson is in residence for the period of two weeks where she will facilitate an art camp for teenagers in The Model's Education Room.

Francesca will also exhibit work as part of 'Bafushia' in The Model's West Gallery. This residency is funded by The Arts Council of Ireland's Art:2023 Centenary Programme.

CAIRDE
SLIGO ARTS
FESTIVAL

the arts council an chomhairle ealaíon funding festivals

cairdefestival.com