

Scottish Storytelling Centre

Oct-Dec
2018

EVENTS

WORKSHOPS



TRACS TRADITIONAL
ARTS + CULTURE
SCOTLAND



Box Office 0131 556 9579

www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com

43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR

'The story is told eye to eye, mind to mind and heart to heart'

Scottish Traveller proverb



The Scottish Storytelling Centre is free to enter, with a small charge for entry to John Knox House and varying prices for events. The Centre includes the Storytelling Café, Netherbow Theatre, Storytelling Court, George Mackay Brown Library, Exhibition space and a Bookshop. In 2018 the Centre was awarded Best Performing Arts Venue at the Sunday Herald Culture Awards.



Families are welcome!

Highchairs and baby changing facilities are available. Events with this symbol are particularly suitable for children and families.



The Centre is accessible

Accessible to wheelchair users, there are audio loops in our performance areas and Braille signage throughout. Please let us know if you'd like any of our publications in a different format or if you need assistance once you're here. A full copy of our Access Statement is available on our website.



BOX OFFICE Phone: 0131 556 9579
Online: www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com
reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com
In Person: Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm



A booking fee of £1 per transaction is charged for online & phone bookings.
No booking fee is applied to tickets purchased in person from the Centre's Box Office.



We try our hardest to make sure all details are correct, but to avoid disappointment please check with the box office. **Sometimes the Centre's exhibition space is not accessible to the public because of a private function. Please call ahead to check.**

TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland SC043009) is the national network for traditional arts currently based at the **Scottish Storytelling Centre**. www.tracscotland.org

SUPPORT US!

BECOME A STORYTELLING CENTRE SUPPORTER FOR ONLY £30 PER YEAR

Benefits include:

- Discounts on Storytelling Centre events
- 10% discount in our bookshop
- 10% discount in the Storytelling Café
- Invites to special events
- A quarterly mailing of our What's On guide (by post if desired)
- Contributing to the development & work of the SSC

Please call 0131 556 9579 or email supporters@scottishstorytellingcentre.com for further information. Ticket discounts are subject to availability, T&Cs apply.

Storytelling Centre Supporter Prices (SCS)



Wed 12 Sep, 3, 17 Oct, 7, 21 Nov, 12 Dec | 7pm (2hrs)
£5 (£3) (£2.50 SCS)

Edinbal Dance Workshops: An Introduction to European Folk Dancing

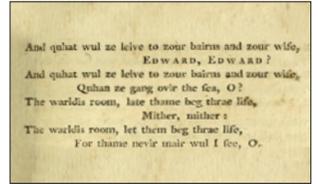
From the lyrical mazurka and the smooth waltz, or the social and energetic Breton dances to the rhythmic schottische, these workshops will introduce you to the European version of ceilidh dancing - bal folk! The workshops are independent from each other and suitable for complete beginners with a mixture of teaching, social dancing and live music. Light shoes with smooth soles recommended.



Fri 21 Sep | 8pm (2hrs 30) | By donation (suggest £5/£4)

The World's Room

The celebrated traditional singing club comes to a new home at the Waverley Bar, St Mary's Street. The opening night of the new season welcomes from the Scottish Borders **Elsa Lemaitre & Friends**.



Wed 3 Oct | 7pm (1hr 15) | £6 (£4) (£3.50 SCS)

Robert Cunninghame Graham: The Uncrowned King of Scotland

Known as 'Don Roberto' because of his Spanish blood and impetuous life-style, R. B. Cunninghame Graham's mark on Scotland is indelible. After an early period as an adventurer, he was the first socialist in the Westminster Parliament and was gaoled after assailing the police on Bloody Sunday 1887. He later became the founder and president of the first Labour Party and President of the Scottish National Party. In between times he achieved literary fame as well. Led by biographer Laurence Davies, the RCG Society opens up an extraordinary life and legacy.



Thu 4 Oct | 7.30pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

Stories on the Way

The nights are drawing in and our wonderful apprentice storytellers whet the Halloween appetite with ghosties, witches and things that go bump in the night. Be surprised, enchanted and inspired!



Fri 5 Oct | 7.30pm (1hr 30) | £5 (£3) (£2.50 SCS)

After the Rain: George Gunn's New and Selected Poems 1991 - 2016

An evening of poetry, song and music from Caithness to launch After the Rain, highly acclaimed writer **George Gunn's** new collection. Gunn's writing is distinctive, with an urgent sense of people and place, demonstrated in this powerful new work. 'There is a salty, windswept goodness... A poet of energy and lyricism. Fearless.' (Anne Macleod, Scotland On Sunday)

Photo © Christine Gunn

Wed 10 Oct | 7.30pm (2hrs) | £6 (£5.50 SCS)

Real Talk: Storytelling for Wellbeing

An evening of storytelling, connection and honesty, creating a safe space to speak about one of our most beautiful assets, our minds! Attendees are offered an opportunity to gain insight and understanding into the individual experiences of the speakers. Supported by the Mental Health Foundation, Sense of Belonging Arts Programme.



Thu 11 Oct | 7pm (2hrs) | £5 (£4.50 SCS) | 14+

Café Voices: Jacobites Tales

Stuart McHardy presents tales from one of Scotland's most iconic times. There was much more to Scottish Jacobitism than following Bonnie Prince Charlie, with these stories showing that history itself has much to learn from traditions handed down by word of mouth since Culloden. The Centre's monthly storytelling night, with an open-floor section for storytellers to tell their own tales.



Fri 12 Oct | 8pm (2hrs 30) | By donation (suggest £5/£4)

The World's Room

The 'muckle sangs' of the Scots ballad tradition, and the bothy ballads of the rural north east. Enjoy the singing of **Susie Allen**, join in the choruses or even contribute a song yourself at Edinburgh's monthly traditional singing night. Upstairs at the Waverley Bar, St Mary's St.



Tue 16 Oct | 10am & 11.30am (40mins) | £5 per child | 2-5yrs

Tiny Tales: Under the Sea

Let's take a trip to the seaside with storyteller **Lorna Shields**. What will we find on the beach and will we be brave enough to go under the sea? A wonderful interactive session for little ones, with puppets, props and lots of well-known nursery rhymes throughout.



Thu 18 Oct, Fri 16 Nov, Fri 21 Dec | 7.30pm (2hrs 30) | £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

Loud Poets

One of the UK's most successful spoken word collectives, Loud Poets return with their monthly showcase of the UK's top spoken word talent. This is make some noise, fist-thumping, pint-drinking, side-tickling, heart-wrenching poetry. This is poetry for the masses. 'Throughout there's a humour, poignancy and most of all a confidence which serves to inspire.' (*Scotsman*).



Thu 18 Oct **Loud Poets: Lions and Tigers and Bears, oh my!**

Fri 16 Nov **Loud Poets: Expecto Patronum**

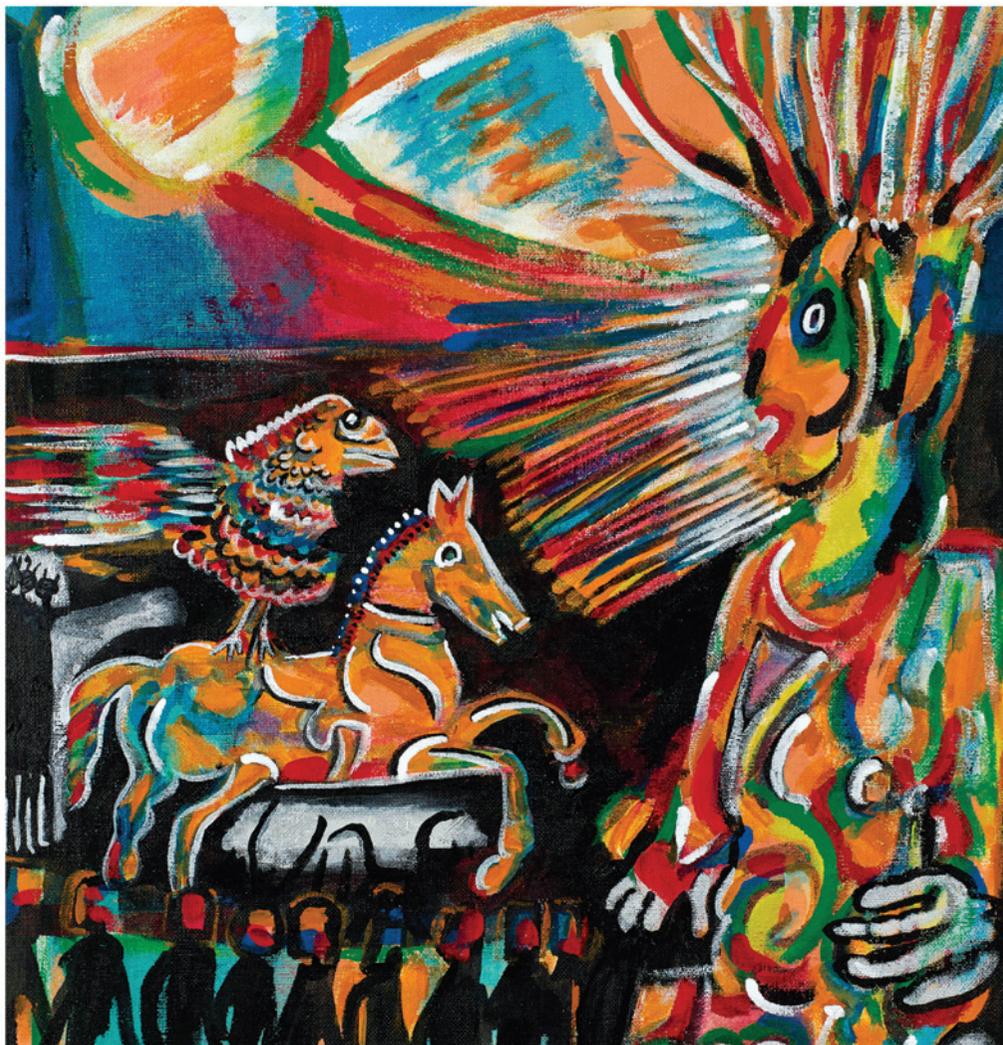
Fri 21 Dec **Loud Poets: ...So Be Good for Goodness Sake**

GROWING STORIES



SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL 2018

19-31 OCTOBER | SISF.ORG.UK



Fri 26 Oct | 7.30pm (2hrs 30) | By donation (suggest £5/£4)

Festival Guid Crack: Sailing Through Stories

On this special Storytelling Festival gathering, we invite you to share stories linked to places, starting with Scotland and its most remote islands, then going around the world. Will we get lost or find connecting threads? Hosted by storyteller **Ian Stephen**. Edinburgh's monthly storytelling night at the Waverley Bar, St. Mary's St.



Photo © Peter Dibdin



Fri 2 Nov | 7pm (1hr talk) | £7 (£6.50 SCS)

Cearcall Chalum: Guthan Uibhist (Uist Voices)

Am bliadhna, mar chuimhneachan air Calum Camshron is gus Bliadhna nan Òigrigh a chomharrachadh, thèid òraid le Pàdruig Moireasdan a chumail ann an Ionad Beul-aithris na h-Alba, le cuirm-chiùil às dèidh làimhe ann an Canon's Gait, le ceòl aig Kathleen NicAonghais is aoghean shònraichte eile. Gheibhear a-steach dhan dà thachartas leis an ticead ga cheannach aig Ionad a' Bheul-aithris. Gheibhear ticead airson na cuirme-chiùil a-mhàin aig an Canon's Gait, aig an doras as dèidh na h-òraid.

This year, in memory of Calum Cameron, and to celebrate the Year of Young People, the Centre hosts a talk from Pàdruig Morrison as part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig. This event will be followed by a Bothan concert at The Canon's Gait, featuring Kathleen MacInnes and special guests. Tickets purchased at the Storytelling Centre give entry for both events. Tickets for the concert only can be purchased on the door at The Canon's Gait.

Sat 3 Nov | 1pm (1hr 45) | £5 per child | 3-12yrs

Afri-Adventures: Storytelling & Film Screening



The annual **African in Motion** family day will take children on adventures across Africa through storytelling and film. The amazing Scottish-Kenyan storyteller, **Mara Menzies**, will transport them to real and imaginary worlds through inspiring tales. The storytelling will be followed by a selection of short animation films from various African countries.



Sat 3 Nov, Sat 24 Nov, Sat 29 Dec | 8pm (2hrs) | £12 (£10) (£9.50 SCS)

Men with Coconuts & Friends

The award-winning musical improv comedy troupe are joined by new and established improvisers and sketch comedians as they present two hours of off-the-cuff scenes and original sketch comedy. 'One of the best improv shows I've seen. Skilful and hysterical.' (*Jo Caulfield*) Winner: Spirit of the Fringe Award (*Prague Fringe 2016*).



Photo © Ryan Buchanan

Wed 7 Nov - Sun 9 Dec

Hortari: Forgotten Explorers and Seekers

Displaying the original paintings and stories from her book *Hortari*, author and illustrator **Marie-Alice Harel** invites you on a journey in the company of unlikely adventurers. Her imagined characters remind us that we are all defining our own quests, often taking us to unexpected places, whether it be on the other side of the world or in a remote corner of our backyard.



Baschil Pellin © Marie-Alice Harel

Wed 7 Nov | 6pm (1hr 30) | Free

Hortari: Launch Event

Come celebrate the launch of the *Hortari* exhibition with the artist Marie-Alice Harel, who will also be launching her special *Hortari* illustrated book by signing personal copies and talking through her process.

Sat 10 Nov | 11am (1hr) | £8 (£6) (£24) (£5.50 SCS) | 7+

Puffin



By Snap Elastic

Why do clouds multiply in inexplicable ways? Why do sand eels just disappear from the sea? In an uncertain world, a girl meets a puffin and a puffin meets a girl. Through their friendship they learn how to deal with change, even climate change. A classic 'girl meets puffin' story for everyone 7+.



Photo © Brian Hartley

Sat 10 Nov | 2pm (1hr 30) | Free (ticketed)

Hamish Henderson Lecture: Cogadh no Sìth? War or Peace? Hamish Henderson, Jock Duncan and the Voicings of War

by Professor Gary West, Chair of Scottish Ethnology, University of Edinburgh

As we gather to remember and pay tribute to Hamish Henderson, we also mark the centenary of the end of one global war, aware of course that it was a short-lived peace. Hamish Henderson and folksinger Jock Duncan both fought in the next major world conflict, and both have left us powerful voicings of the Scottish experience of war. Reflecting on the poetics of these legacies, Gary West argues that both men have contributed significantly to the creative process of bearing witness and of 'remembering'. Part of the **Carrying Stream Festival**.

Tue 13 Nov | 10am & 11.30am (40mins) | £5 per child | 2-5yrs

Tiny Tales: Peek and Boo and You!



In this session of stories, rhymes and song we take a peek at creatures that go "Boo!" and "To Whit Towhooo!" and at those who go bump in the night... Bring your scariest growl and come find out whose bravest of all. With storyteller **Beth Cross**.



Tue 13 Nov | 7pm (3hrs) | £15 (£13) (£12.50 SCS)

The Scotland Catalan Film Festival: La Chana / Taconeo Flamenco Performance

The Scotland Catalan Film Festival (SCAT) opening night showcases the Scottish premiere of La Chana, an award-winning documentary film about flamenco legend La Chana. The film will be preceded by a cuadro flamenco performance and drinks to celebrate the opening of the Festival. Tickets only available from www.cinemaattic.com



Thu 15 Nov | 7pm (2hrs) | £5 (£4.50 SCS)

Café Voices: Away We Go

Tales of travel and adventure with guest storyteller **Janis Mackay**, who has travelled the world (well, some of it...) sharing and writing stories. The Centre's monthly storytelling session, with an open-floor section for storytellers to tell their own tales, all in the relaxed surroundings of the Storytelling Court.



Fri 16 Nov | 8pm (2hrs 30) | By donation (suggest £5/£4)

The World's Room

Edinburgh's monthly traditional singing night, with a guest singer and plenty of contributions from the floor. Upstairs at the Waverley Bar, St Mary's St.

Sat 17 Nov | 7.30pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

Threshold

Tales and tunes of transition and transformation for these liminal times. Join **Anne Hunter** and **Beverley Casebow** as they look to the edgelands and explore the spaces in between.



image © Anne Hunter

Tue 20 Nov | 7pm (1hr) | £3 (£2.50 SCS) | 16+

Book Week Scotland Poetry Slam 2018

Join top poets **Nadine Aisha Jassat**, **Michael Pedersen**, **Tom Pow**, and **JL Williams** as they do battle on the theme of *Rebel* for the 2018 Book Week Scotland Poetry Slam title. Co-hosted with Edinburgh City of Literature, this promises to be a pulsating night of competitive live poetry.



Wed 21 Nov | 7.30pm (2hrs) £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

Songbirds in the City

Join the Edinburgh song and story group Songbirds in the City for an evening of tweets (the old-fashioned variety) and a marriage of tales and tunes inspired by our oh-so-inspirational feathered friends. Be swift! A proportion of proceeds from this performance will be donated to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Wed 21, Thu 22 & Fri 23 Nov | 7pm (50 mins) | £7 (£5) (£4.50 SCS) per day | 12+

Year of Sham: Stories in a Time of Madness

Written and Read by Donald Smith

In this sequence of subversive comedies *Year of Sham* upends the lies that Scotland tells itself, along with the powerbrokers and hypocrites who manipulate them. Treacherous times produce fake news and fake history, but also farce. From Galloway to Glencoe, Edinburgh to London, pomposity is punctured, and duplicity exposed in a catalogue of mishaps. Enjoy Scotland's untold Brexit chronicles.

Wed 21: The Irish Hoard

An unexpected discovery in Whithorn leads to mayhem and a latter-day heist.

Thu 22: Return to Clachaig

A Marketing guru falls into a deadly time trap in Glencoe, while back in Edinburgh...

Fri 23: Destiny Stane

The biggest fake of all finally comes good when the real Stone turns up, like an unexploded bomb, under Westminster

Sat 24 Nov | 11am (1hr) | £5 per child | 4+



Hortari: Family Fun

Join artist **Marie-Alice Harel** for a fun morning for all the family, creating your own animal explorers, using a mixture of collage and drawing techniques.



Tishina Rasskazchik © Marie-Alice Harel

Sat 24 Nov | 3pm (1hr) | £10 (£8) (£7.50 SCS) | 12+

The Cranston Fiddle

The heart breaking but ultimately uplifting story of an ordinary Scottish family at War - told through the eyes of their fiddle that accompanied them to the trenches! Selkirk based **Riddell Fiddles** featuring Scottish Traditional Music Hall of Fame Inductee, **Sheila Sapkota** on the 124-year-old fiddle present this popular multi-media World War event for one last time. Featuring an original score by **Donald Knox** and written and narrated by Haddington based storyteller **Bob Mitchell**. *This performance will also be BSL interpreted.*





St Andrew's
Fair Saturday



**Scotland's
Winter Festivals**
scotland.org/winter

Tue 27 Nov | 2pm (2hrs) | Free

Café Ceilidh:

St. Andrew's Day Celebration

Join friends from the **Scots Music Group** for an afternoon session of traditional songs, music, poems and stories. Held in the relaxed setting of the Storytelling Court. All welcome to listen or bring a tune for a turn!

Fri 30 Nov | 7.30pm (2hrs 30)

By donation (suggest £5/£4)

Guid Crack Storytelling Session

Scotland has wonderful monsters: the shapeshifting kelpie, the sea-going Meester Stoorworm, the Linton Wyrn, and of course the Loch Ness Monster... Bring along your favourite Scottish monster tales and share them with guest storyteller, **Lari Don**. Edinburgh's monthly storytelling night at the Waverley Bar, St. Mary's St.

Fri 30 Nov | 7.30pm (45mins)

£10 (£8) (£7.50 SCS)

Rivers of Our Being

CoHERE Folk Oratorio

A St. Andrew's Night

celebration of the

diversity of European

musical traditions in an

original oratorio developed by the award-

wining composer **Prof. Valdis**

Muktupavels, performed by students of

the Music Section, Newcastle University

and conducted by **Mark Sheridan**. Taking

inspiration from the rivers of Europe, the

piece invites audiences to take a unique

auditory journey across different European



cultural heritages. Developed in partnership with Heriot-Watt University, the Latvian Academy of Culture and Newcastle University. This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 693289.

Sat 1 Dec | 2.30pm (1hr 30) | £5 (£4.50 SCS)

Family Ceilidh



Come with family and friends to dance well-known Scottish dances and sing well-known songs. All the dances will be called and there will be easier circles for the littler ones. A fun introduction to sociable dancing with live music and some stories too. Part of **Scotland's Winter Festivals** celebrations. This event is also part of the **Fair Saturday** movement, a day devoted to culture and social causes.

Sat 1 Dec | 7pm (2hrs) | £15 (£13) (£12.50 SCS)

Fisherman's Feast; Sailor's Rest

A celebration of Scotland's rich cultural diversity as part of our St Andrew's Day celebrations. Enjoy a feast of one of Scotland's national dishes - Fish and Chips - along with music, song, poetry and story emphasising the diverse voices of Scotland's people, past and present. With contributions from **Gerda Stevenson, Mara Menzies, Carlos Arredondo** and more. Hosted by **Donald Smith**. Part of **Scotland's Winter Festivals** celebrations. This event is also part of the **Fair Saturday** movement, a day devoted to culture and social causes.



STRANGE TOWN
TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY

STRANGE TOWN THEATRE

Strange Town is a theatre company for young performers, celebrating their 10-year anniversary by presenting a selection from their extensive repertoire of new writing. Come and experience Strange Town and see young talent shine!



Double Bill: **Love Bites / Balisong**

Wed 5 & Sun 9 Dec | 7pm (2hrs 30)
£15 (£10) (£9.50 SCS) | 12+

Love Bites

by **Sam Siggs**

Midsummer night's eve in Edinburgh. A girl with wings and a plastic bow and arrow sits sobbing on a bench. It's been a hard day. Love. Bites.

Performed by 8-18s group.

Balisong

by **Jennifer Adam**

Balisong is a story about Finlay Richards. A name that everyone at school knows. An average 15-year-old boy who just wants to be seen. But you won't see Finn. You won't ever meet him.

Performed by 18-25s group.

Fri 7 & Sat 8 Dec | 7pm (1hr)
£9 (£6) (£5.50 SCS) | All Ages

The Knight of The Burning Pestle

by **Francis Beaumont**

Adapted by **Rebekah King**

Shakespeare's time. A troupe of actors opens their new romantic comedy; no magic, no monsters, and certainly no knights. But the audience has other ideas...

Performed by 11-14s (Friday group).

Fri 7 & Sat 8 Dec | 9pm (1hr)
£9 (£6) (£5.50 SCS) | All Ages

1001 Nights at Widow Twankey's B&B

By **Duncan Kidd**

Four baddies scheming. Three genies gurning. Two B'n'Bs competing. And a Magic Lamp in widow's bra Cup-D! It all adds up to Super-Fantastical-Panto-Spectastical!

Performed by 11-14s (Wednesday group).

Sat 8 & Sun 9 Dec | 3pm (1hr)
£9 (£6) (£5.50 SCS) | All Ages

Aladdin

by **Tim Primrose**

In a distant land, the Evil Magician Abanazar is up to no good. Only Aladdin can stop him... with the help of some rather unusual friends...

Performed by 8-10s group.



Thu 6 Dec | 7.30pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

A Winter Warmer

On the day of the feast of St Nicolas, patron saint of brewers, pawnbrokers and repentant thieves, you are welcome to join storytellers from Edinburgh's Burgh Blatherers for an evening of stories from Scotland and around the world. From heart-warming yarns to chilling winter tales, all accompanied by mulled wine and mince pies!



Tue 11 Dec | 10am & 11.30am (40mins) | £5 per child | 2-5yrs

Tiny Tales: Winter Tales to Tickle Tiny Tots

Wiggle your hands and jiggle your toes, Anne is taking your wee ones on a storytelling journey - off we go!! Snuggled in the cosy storytelling bothy, join acclaimed tots tale teller **Anne Pitcher** with her playful puppets, curious sound makers and singalong songs, all rounded off with a warming wee ceilidh dance.



photo © stark-images.co.uk

Thu 13 Dec - Sat 26 Jan

Now You See It, Now You Don't: An Exhibition of Photographic Illusions

Prepare to be mesmerised by the uncanny illusionists from **Edinburgh Young Carers**. In collaboration with **MagicFest** and **Professor Richard Wiseman** they will be creating magic in a photo! Join us on a journey of discovery where the old history of Edinburgh and the magic of young minds collide! Witness the magic at the Storytelling Centre and unlock the secrets at Museum of Childhood.



photo © Alex Hutchinson

Thu 13 Dec | 7pm (2hrs) | £5 (£4.50 SCS)

Café Voices: Adventscafé

Take a conscious time-out from the Christmas build-up and come along to our monthly storytelling night, with guest storyteller **Anna Lehr**. Adventscafé is a German tradition where people gather on the four weekends of advent for a cosy get-together to escape the commercial pre-Christmas chaos and tell stories, sing songs and drink mulled wine by candlelight. Held in the relaxed surroundings of the Storytelling Court, with an open-floor section for storytellers to tell their own tales.



Fri 14 Dec | 7.30pm (1hr 45) | £10 (£8) (£7.50 SCS)

After the Armistice: Love and Loss, Christmas 1918

Armistice celebrations brought together Elizabeth Johnston, Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps, and Donald Cameron, Canadian Highlander. The relationship was tragically cut short when she fell from the tower of a church in Rouen, Christmas Day 1918. This remarkable story which links two families to this day is narrated with original live music and images.



Fri 14 Dec (3pm) & Sat 15 Dec (11am & 3pm) | 1hr
£8 (£6) (£24) (£5.50 SCS) | 3+

Hansel & Gretel



Crumbs! It's Christmas! Macastory go deep into the forest with a panto-tastic version of Hansel & Gretel for all the family! There's lots of weird and wonderful characters to meet, sing-along songs and a magical finale where Gretel goes head-to-head with the Witch in a winner-takes-all Great Panto Bake Off! So, set that oven to 220c and get ready for some tasty storytelling fun this Christmas!



Sat 15 Dec | 2pm (2hrs) | £16 | 8-15yrs

Creative Writing Workshop for Children



'Twas the Night before Christmas... Come along and write a short story for Christmas, a festive poem or a winter's tale.

Join award winning author **Janis Mackay** (Magnus Fin, Accidental Time Traveller and more) and get into the Christmas mood with a fun creative writing workshop.

Sat 15 Dec | 7.30pm (2hrs) | £10 (£8) (£7.50 SCS)

Nine Tales and Carols

Taking their inspiration from A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College Chapel, **Beverley Bryant** and **Heather Yule** bring the Christmas Story alive through story, song and music. Join them, and a host of friends, as they delight in this special time of year. There's plenty of opportunity to join in with your favourite carols too!



photo © David McIntosh

Fri 21 & Sat 22 Dec | 11am & 2.30pm (1hr)

£6 (£4) (£16) (£3.50 SCS) | 4+

Stories Round the Tree



Join storytellers **Bea Ferguson** and **Jack Martin** for a magical Christmas afternoon of wintry tales, all gathered round the Centre's Christmas tree.



Fri 21 Dec | 7pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6) (£5.50 SCS)

Art of the Storyteller: Midwinter Music

David Francis and **Janis Mackay** share evening of seasonal stories and songs. Drawing on their experiences and inspirations from storytelling past and present, they cast a midwinter spell as Christmas approaches. For related workshop see pg.19.

Fri 28 & Sat 29 Dec | 11am (4hrs 30) | £8 (both days), £5 (day ticket) | Adults & 7+

The Burdies



Celebrate midwinter stories, songs and folk traditions by creating and developing a Folk play! A chance for all the family to participate in dance, drama, costume making and music before performing the final piece together at 3pm on Sat 29th. Light refreshments provided. See related workshop on pg.19.



Fri 28 Dec | 7.30pm (2hrs 30)

By donation (suggest £5/£4)

Guid Crack Storytelling Session

At the darkest time of the year in the dead of winter our need for stories is at its greatest. Guest storyteller **James Spence** shares some seasonal tales, designed to spellbind, tickle the imagination and warm the heart. Coorie-in from the cold and gather round the hearth with friends old and new at the last Guid Crack Club of the year. Edinburgh's monthly storytelling night continues at the Waverley Bar, St. Mary's St.



Workshops & Development Days Living Culture & Traditions

Presented by TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland)



A feast of participatory culture for anyone involved in arts, education & community work.

Rediscover imagination's power to enliven, educate & transform.

TO BOOK WORKSHOP PLACES AT THE STORYTELLING CENTRE

Phone: 0131 556 9579

Online: www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com

In Person: **Mon - Sat**, 10am-6pm

We require five working days' notice of cancellation to guarantee a refund. You will receive an email reminder of your booking & a full programme in the week preceding the workshop.

ALL WORKSHOPS HELD AT SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

PLANNING ON ATTENDING MORE THAN ONE WORKSHOP?

For discounted rates on workshops become a member of the **Traditional Music Forum**, the **Scottish Storytelling Forum** or the **Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland**. For details visit www.tracscotland.org

photo © Lewis Loening



Sat 6 Oct | 1.30pm (2hrs 30) | Free (ticketed) | Development

Archiving for All

University of Edinburgh, Main Library,
George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LJ

Join us at **The University of Edinburgh** for a workshop on how to manage archives for groups and individuals. **Rachel Hosker**, Deputy Head of Special Collections and Archives Manager, will provide tips and best practice for storing, cataloguing and digitising archives of different formats and provide advice on places of support to manage your collections. Session will take place in The Centre for Research Collections. Book in advance through Scottish Storytelling Centre.



photo © Peter Dibdin

Sat 13 Oct | 10.30am (6hrs)
£24 (£18 Forum Members) | Storytelling

Starting with Stories 1

A hands-on, practical introduction to live storytelling and the associated skills. Storyteller and educator **Claire McNicol** leads this participatory session for anyone curious about discovering and developing their own storytelling talent. Let out your inner storyteller and learn to craft your skills.

Fri 19 - Wed 31 Oct | Various Storytelling & Development

Scottish International Storytelling Festival

Alongside fantastic events, the SISF showcase includes many workshops and development opportunities for traditional arts. Please see www.sisf.org.uk for details.



Project Smok © Samuel Hurt

Sun 4 Nov | 2pm (3hrs) & 7.30pm (2hrs)
£12 (Gig & Talk), £5 (Talk only), (£10 Gig only)
Combined ticket price is only available in advance, not on the day.

Trad Talk: Beyond the Music Challenges, Pitfalls & Highs of the Scottish Folk Music Scene

National Piping Centre,
30-34 McPhater St, Glasgow G4 0HW
The easy, and fun, bit of being a folk musician is creating the music, but where do we go from here? This Trad Talk, of special interest to early-career musicians, will focus on the challenges that musicians experience beyond music-making, with talks from professionals in the field, including **Craig Corse** (TwentyTwo Promotions), **Rachel Newton** (The Shee, The Furrow Collective) and **Gregor Mackenzie** (Killin' Music Festival). Then join us for the evening gig with **Project Smok**, pushing traditional music to new edges of improvisation and rhythm.

Watch out also this month for the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland AGM and Development Day – details will be on TRACS website. Contact info@tdfs.org



Wed 7 Nov | 4pm (2hrs 30) | Free (ticketed)
Development

Heritage & Sustainable Communities

Presentation and discussion led by the Intercultural Research Centre, Heriot-Watt University. Researchers from across Scotland and beyond explore what changes are needed to support marginalised communities and their heritage. Part of the **Festival of Social Sciences**. Further events will follow as part of the **European Year of Cultural Heritage**. Register on Eventbrite.



Sat 10 Nov | 10.30am (6hrs)
£24 (£18 Forum Members) | Storytelling

Starting with Stories 2

A hands-on introduction to live storytelling and the associated skills, with leading storyteller and trainer **Fiona Herbert**. This participative session takes you a step further in developing your own storytelling talent in various contexts and situations. Let out your inner storyteller at work and in play; and learn to hone your skills.

Sun 11 Nov | 9.30am (7hrs 30)
£25 (£20 Forum Members)

Dreaming Bread & Skyrrie Stanes

A Celebration of Scottish Folk Magic & Community Traditions

A day celebrating Scottish folk magic and community traditions hosted by the **Taibhsear Collective** who are launching their album *Tales of The Taibhsear*. The day features presentations by **Jess Smith**, **Dr Julian Goodare**, **Claire Hewitt**, **Dr Valentina Bold** and **Ross Parish**, with workshops on herbal use, mead-making, folk magic, traditional crafts and much more.

Sat 24 Nov | 10.30am (6hrs)

£24 (£18 Forum Members) | Storytelling

Vikings! Games, Myths & Stories

Games from the Viking age with tales of famous Vikings and myths from Nordic Mythology. **Svend-Erik Engh** is a certified game master and will lead story games to engage children and adults. Participants will then have the opportunity to learn and tell their own Viking story.

Fri 30 Nov | 10.30am (6hrs)

£24 (£18 Forum Members) | Development

Bridging the Gaps: Stories Between Languages, Genders & Cultures



This day will explore how storytelling reaches across barriers of language and culture to unite people through shared imagination or experience. It opens **Scotland's Winter Festivals**, celebrating a diverse and connected Scotland on St Andrew's Day. **Svend Erik-Engh** will explore non-verbal storytelling; **Annie George** showcases theatre-making from an unvoiced



perspective; **Ella Leith** will facilitate a session on BSL and communication between d/Deaf and hearing communities and **Alice Fernbank** will open up language learning through stories.

Sat 1 Dec | 10.30am (6hrs) | £20 (£17 Forum Members) | Dance

Step Dance and Puir à Beul

Collaborative Workshop for Singers & Dancers

Join **Sophie Stephenson** and **Joy Dunlop** for a combined song and dance workshop. Explore the relationship between Gaelic song and Scottish step dance traditions, with a focus on phrasing and rhythm between singer and dancer. Participants will learn both Gaelic puir à beul (mouth music) and Scottish step dance, leaving them able to both sing and dance for their supper! Open to all singers and dancers regardless of experience. Participants will take part in all aspects of the workshop, so bring a bottle of water and a pair of hard-soled shoes.



Photo © Jorge Fernandez Mayoral

Sat 8 Dec | 2pm (2hrs 30)
£12 (£10 Forum Members) | Drama

The Burdies: Stories, Songs & Folk Drama for Midwinter

A participative guide to producing and performing folk dramas. This session focusses on *The Burdies* which is based on Scottish and Irish midwinter traditions about Wrens and Robins. Those attending will have the opportunity, if they wish, to help lead a workshop between Christmas and New Year. Led by **Stan Reeves**, **Jan Bee Brown** and **Donald Smith**. See related event on pg.15.

Fri 21 Dec | 4pm (2hrs)
£12 (£10 Forum Members) | Storytelling

Art of The Storyteller: Midwinter Stories & Songs

What are the skills, experiences and inspirations that drive contemporary storytelling? Seasonal celebration and the environment remain compelling inspirations. **David Francis** and **Janis Mackay** open a discussion on the arts of midwinter storytelling for storytellers of all kinds, with sandwiches and tea included. This session is followed by a performance in the Art of the Storyteller series at 7pm - see pg.15 for details.

John Knox House Step Inside History

'Beautiful historic medieval beauty'

(TripAdvisor)

Enter this ornate 15th century building and discover the conflicts of the Royal Mile's oldest house. Walk in the footsteps of the famous inhabitants and hear the drama of Scotland's Reformation unfold in every room. Look out for the tricks and traps to fool intruders, hunt for the devil hiding in The Oak Room ceiling and try your hand at our portrait puzzles that have stumped many visitors in the past...



The Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity No. SC011553

JOHN KNOX HOUSE

Open Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm

Last entry 5.30pm

Admission: £5 Adult | £4 Concession | £1 Children 7+ | Under 7s free

Large group? Get in touch & arrange a tour for your group 0131 556 9579.

0131 556 9579

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