

LATER THIS YEAR

THE END, THE BEGINNING AND THE MUSIC IN BETWEEN

# THE LAST FIVE YEARS

WRITTEN AND COMPOSED BY  
JASON ROBERT BROWN

DIRECTED BY  
HUGO TREBELS  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
LESLEY OLIVIA VAN EGMOND

TUESDAY 17TH  
TO SATURDAY 21ST  
SEPTEMBER 2024



## STABLES THEATRE ART GALLERY

Open Mon-Sat 10.30am -1pm and prior to performances

Monday 1 April to Saturday 1 June

**Blooming Lovely** Mark Fisher

Meet the artist Saturday 6 April: 11am to 1pm

Renowned artist and tutor Mark Fisher captures the glorious palette of shapes and colours in our local landscape. Ceramics by Esme Fisher.

Monday 3 June to Saturday 27 July

**My Eclectic Mix** Catherine Scott

Meet the artist Saturday 8 June: 11am to 1pm

Art has played a large part in local artist Catherine Scott's recovery from a brain injury caused by encephalitis: "It has taken me from rock bottom to a pebble shore and more..."

Monday 29 July to Saturday 28 September

**Scenes and People** Arthur Parry (1914-1999)

Meet the artist's widow, Heather, Saturday 10 August: 11am to 1pm

Arthur Parry painted seascapes, landscapes, people and portraits, birds and animals. This exhibition features many of his favourite subjects.

Design: Cliff Brooker

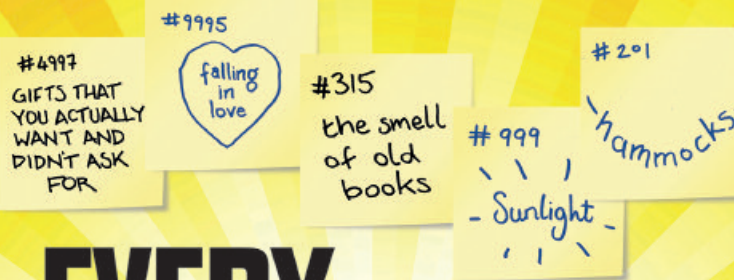


STABLES  
THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE

Sponsored by



# WHAT'S ON

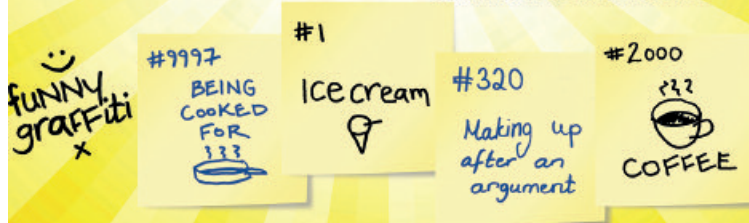


# EVERY BRILLIANT

BY DUNCAN MACMILLAN  
WITH JONNY DONAHOE

# THING

STARTS THURSDAY 9 MAY



1066  
Country

# MAY TO AUGUST 2024

[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)

## BOOKINGS & MEMBERSHIP

### BOX OFFICE 01424 423221

See website for opening times, online bookings (no booking fee) and concessions/group discount details:

[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

Offline: cash, cheques payable to Stables Trust Ltd, major debit/credit cards and Stables gift tokens.

Online:

[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk): major debit/credit cards.

### REFUNDS AND EXCHANGES

Please check the details of your tickets for accuracy. For our refunds or exchanges policy please see the email which accompanies your tickets.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership costs £15 per year (£3 under-18s). Members enjoy a discount of up to £5 on most shows. Full details from the box office.

### PARKING

The theatre car park is free to patrons attending the theatre. There is a public car park on The Bourne and on-street parking (regulations apply).

### DISABILITY ACCESS (SEE PLAN)

Rows A and B are suitable for disabled people (with mobility, visual or hearing impairments) and their helpers. There are spaces for wheelchair users in row A, which can be accessed without any stairs. There are two steps up to row B. There is a wheelchair-accessible toilet on the ground floor. Platform lifts, for a wheelchair user or one seated person, provide access to the Gwen Watford Gallery and theatre bar.

The Stables Theatre and Arts Centre  
The Bourne, Hastings TN34 3BD

Tel 01424 423221 [www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk) Reg Charity No 211361



Information in this publication believed to be correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change.

WED 1 MAY

7.30PM

## Peter Knight's Gigspanner

In the wake of his departure from Steeleye Span, Peter Knight turned his attention to the Gigspanner Trio establishing their reputation as one of the most genuinely ground-breaking forces on the British folk scene, inspiring *Maverick* magazine to write "Gigspanner are pushing at the boundaries, and in the process are making some of the most beautiful music the genre has to offer." They take self-penned material along with music rooted in the British Isles and beyond, and with the flick of a bow, a finely chosen chord or slip of a beat, produce richly atmospheric arrangements "with notes seemingly plucked from the stars and rhythms from the equator." *Spiral Earth*.



All tickets £22

FRI 3 & SAT 4 MAY

7.30PM

Clair/Obscur Theatre presents

## Mary Shelley The Making of a Monster

October 1840: Gothic writer Mary Shelley is making her first pilgrimage back to Europe in 20 years in defiance of her father-in-law's express wishes.

Has Mary the courage to confront the past as she returns to Lake Geneva, her birthplace as a writer and of her most famous novel *Frankenstein*? And will she find the solace she seeks among Villa Diodati's rooms, terraces and vineyards where she, Percy Shelley and Byron spent that unforgettable summer?

"Was I the same person who had lived there, the companion of the dead?"



£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

[www.stablestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stablestheatre.co.uk)



The Paul Gunn Ensemble present

## A Beekeeper's Garden

Music for Cello, Piano, Saxophone,  
Six-String Contrabass and Percussion

Paul Gunn writes music and songs for cello and five-piece band with Latin and Baroque influences. He is joined by Helen Thomas of The London Philharmonic Orchestra on cello, local saxophone star Gregory Heath and Leslee Booth on bass – who toured the UK with legendary Jazz singer Billy Eckstine. Guyanese percussionist David Rohoman, formerly with Ian Dury's Kilburn and the High Roads, completes this very diverse line up to create a unique sound.

Expect intriguing melodies, rhythmically infectious, imaginative and uplifting pieces.

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

THU 9 TO SAT 11 MAY

7.30PM

The Stables Theatre presents

## Every Brilliant Thing

by Duncan MacMillan  
with Jonny Donahoe

When your Mum's in hospital and Dad says she finds it hard to be happy, what can a seven-year-old do?

*Every Brilliant Thing* is a play that shines an hilarious, compassionate light on what it means to be human. It pulls back the curtain on what it's like to be a child of a suicidal mother and the lengths we go for those we love. It explores depression and hope, uncertainty and change, confusion and joy, heartbreak and anger, relationships and solitude, risk and resistance, guilt and forgiveness.

*Directed by Helen Black.  
Audience participation invited.*

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50



The Stables Theatre presents

# GAME PLAN

BY ALAN AYCKBOURN



Former businesswoman Lynette has fallen on hard times. Her million-pound business has collapsed and her ex-husband has run off with the intern. Her daughter, Sorrel, takes matters into her own hands and advertises herself online – but a visit from the retired owner of a dry cleaner business doesn't go to plan.

*Game Plan* is set in the throes of the early noughties where Nokia phones and pink champagne are the backdrop to an uncomfortable, dark-hearted farce of cracked morality, where everything is up for sale.

*Directed by Ross Drury*

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

SAT 1 JUNE

7.30PM

Hastings Philharmonic  
Orchestra presents

## L'Histoire du Soldat

by Igor Stravinsky

The Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra performs one of Stravinsky's masterpieces in a staged production directed by Marcio da Silva. The production will tell Charles Ferdinand Ramuz's story using stage acting, puppeteering and a minimalist set. It will be performed in English and French with English surtitles.

£15  
Members/concessions £12







## Everything's a Song

Jason McNiff returns to the Stables

Following his sell-out show in 2023 with Gabriel Moreno, troubadour Jason McNiff now celebrates the release of his ninth album, "Everything's a Song", featuring a host of stellar local music talent.

"A triumph of English Americana"  
*Time Out*

"An Immense talent"

*Janice Long, BBC Radio 2*

"Superb finger-picking folkie"

*MOJO*

£13.50

Members/concessions £8.50

TUE 4 JUNE

7.30PM

Printers Playhouse Productions present

## FML

by John Berry and Elly Tipping

A dark comedy has arisen from the ashes, like a phoenix from the fire – or a depressed pigeon has shat on your shoulder. What should you do? Complain? Take the dog for walk? Have a cup of tea? Or drive off Beachy Head? Whichever, first see this show. *FML* is about four Eastbournians taking an hour out of their bonkers lives to try to make sense of their existence. Love, sex and drugs. It's all in there, kinda. When things get tough *FML* looks to explore and discuss some of our steepest challenges whilst thoroughly taking the piss. What's not to like?

*Not suitable for under-18s*



£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

Fetch Theatre presents

## Two Fools

by John Knowles



Two of Shakespeare's Fools meet on a bridge, one intending to jump, the other to leap (as in the Tarot's Fool). But all is not as it seems in this dark comedy, which explores the role of the fool in art, theatre, religion and politics. From the pen of award-winning writer John Knowles comes another play in his series exploring characters from Shakespeare in a modern and post-play context.

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

FRI 7 JUNE

7.30PM

Home Live Art/Knotty Performance Festival presents

## Out

by Ray Young

*Out* is a duet – a conversation between two bodies which carves out a new kind of space, reclaiming Jamaican Dancehall and celebrating queerness. It is inspired by ongoing global struggles for LGBTQIA+ rights and, using music and movement, embraces personal, political and cultural dissonance. It smashes through our colonial histories to reimagine, reclaim and celebrate our delicious queer future. *Out* is run by Home Live Art and is included in the *Black Joy Exhibition* programme at Hastings Museum and Art Gallery.

£15; Members/concessions £10





# The Silence of Snow: The Life of Patrick Hamilton

Written and performed by Mark Farrelly



Mark Farrelly (*Quentin Crisp: Naked Hope, Howard's End, Jarman*) presents this riveting solo show portraying one of the great writers of the inter-war years. Patrick Hamilton was a dazzling success, producing hit plays *Rope* (filmed by Hitchcock) *Gaslight* (which gave us the modern term "gaslighting"), and classic novels *Hangover Square* and *The Slaves of Solitude*. But he was also an alcoholic, whose wit darkened as his inner and outer worlds collapsed. *The Silence of Snow* entertains and challenges, asking: why do so many of us get through life without feeling we ever truly knew another person?

Directed by Linda Marlowe

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

FRI 28 JUNE TO SAT 6 JULY

7.30PM

The Chicago Heights Drama Group presents  
Fri 28, Sat 29 June and Wed 3 to Sat 6 July

# The Miss Firecracker Contest

Beth Henley's Southern Gothic Comedy

Having grown up with abandonment issues and living with a checkered past, Carnelle longs for acceptance. She thinks that winning a local beauty contest will restore her reputation and make her into somebody in her small Mississippi town. Family and friends are a dysfunctional bunch who tackle life in their own peculiar ways. A former beauty queen cousin, Elain, comes to offer advice (but also to run away from her husband and children). Elain's brother, Delmount, has returned from a mental institution to sell the family home and provide Carnelle another way out of her unhappy life. Carnelle's seamstress, sweet and strange Popeye, also enters into the chaos to offer advice, but falls in love with Delmount. What can Carnelle and the others learn from the chaos?



£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50

Renaissance Theatre Company presents

Sun 14, 2.30pm; Tue 16 to Fri 19, 7.30pm; Sat 20, 2.30 & 7.30pm

# Betty Blue Eyes

Music by George Stiles

Lyrics by Anthony Drewe



This delightful musical, set in post-war Britain, tells the comedic tale of a small town's uproar when a pig named Betty becomes the focal point of a royal event. Based on the screenplay *A Private Function* by Alan Bennett and featuring a score that captures the essence of the 1940s, *Betty Blue Eyes* will transport you to an era of witty humour and infectious tunes. Join us for an unforgettable show where unexpected twists and toe-tapping melodies collide – truly a theatrical delight not to be missed!

£15; Members/concessions £12

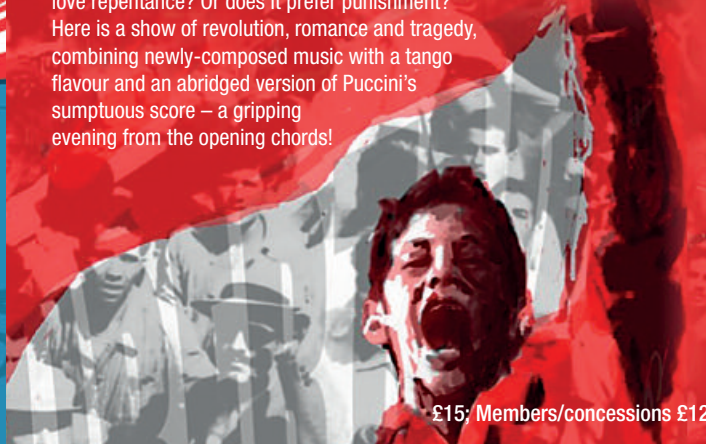
TUE 23 & WED 24 JULY

7.30PM

Prologue Opera presents

# Becoming Tosca

Catholicism and the appeal of dictatorship are never far from the surface in Puccini's *Tosca*. Can religion or revolution change human nature? *Becoming Tosca* relocates the action to a country founded on Jesuit colonisation, where religion jostles with capitalism and self-interest; a society seeking solutions to all-pervasive inequalities and oppression. Does the church love repentance? Or does it prefer punishment? Here is a show of revolution, romance and tragedy, combining newly-composed music with a tango flavour and an abridged version of Puccini's sumptuous score – a gripping evening from the opening chords!



£15; Members/concessions £12



THU 25 JULY

7.30PM

Home Live Art presents

# Benched

by Tink Flaherty

Since 2018, Tink has been taking their bench to public locations across the country and inviting strangers to sit with them in a quest to find authentic forms of connection. *Benched* is a unique exploration of human relationships – the formative and defining ones with those close to us, and the incidental meetings with strangers that stop us in our tracks. Through their unique style of transgentle storytelling, Tink shows the power of offering undivided attention. Prepare for a tender, spontaneous and uncompromising insight into Tink's world, told through mementos, stories and improvised exchanges.

*Benched* is programmed by Home Live Art for Trans Pride Hastings. 1

£15; Members/concessions £10



FRI 26 & SAT 27 JULY

7.30PM

Blue Devil presents

# Blue Blood CANCELLED or How to Kill Your Way to The Top

Allow outcast Gabriel Jones to introduce you to the eccentric and despicable members of the wealthy and illustrious Gascoyne family – his family. Witness Gabriel's scandalous adventures and murderous revenge as he indulges himself in the most ruthless style of social climbing.

*Blue Blood*, an enthralling new play based on the classic novel that inspired the beloved Ealing comedy *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, returns to The Stables after a sell-out show in the summer of 2023.

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50



FRI 9 & SAT 10 AUGUST

7.30PM

1066 Youth Theatre presents  
Fri 9, 7.30pm; Sat 10, 3pm & 7.30pm

# Shakespeare Now: Villain Villain!

Enter a world of conspiracy and intrigue, rebellion and revenge, treachery and deceit. This year's Youth Theatre show takes a gripping journey around some of The Bard's most dangerous characters – and those who aim to defeat them! Vibrant and haunting, *Villain Villain!* is an intoxicating blend of unforgettable Shakespearean moments performed with dynamic energy.

The directing team includes trained directors from Mountview Drama School and Royal Shakespeare Company educational specialists.

Directed by Niall Whitehead  
and Barbara Ward

£13.50; Members/concessions £8.50



FRI 30 AUGUST TO SAT 7 SEPTEMBER

The Stables Theatre presents  
Sun 1 Sept at 2.30pm · No performance Monday

# The Murder of My Aunt

A black comedy by Peter Eyre

Following the death of his parents, Edward Powell has moved to Wales where he now lives with his aunt in her secluded cottage. It is a lonely existence and they spend much of their time in an endless battle for

supremacy – until one day he decides that enough is enough: he will end the conflict by killing her off. A comic tale of poisoning, electrocution and carefully arranged accidents, *The Murder of My Aunt* was one of the winners of the Stables Theatre New Writing Competition 2022.

Directed by Lyndsey Meer

£13.50  
Members/concessions £8.50

